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Council addresses motel concerns, liquor, sewage questions

Owners of downtown businesses will have to wait a little longer for answers to questions about the Downtown Motel.

The motel, the scene of a March 9 shooting, came under fire at the March 18 council meeting because registered sex offenders live there. Joyce Allen, owner of Allen Accounting and the H&R Block franchise, as well as City Chef owner Gary Wilson, spoke at the March meeting. They, along with City Chef co-owner Dustin Tarter were at Tuesday night's meeting, hoping for answers.

Allen said she had received no response from officials about possible zoning or health and safety ordinance violations discussed at the March meeting.

Mayor Bill Crusinberry said city attor-



JOYCE ALLEN

ney Andrew Mudd has been researching the matter and plans to talk to other municipal attorneys who have dealt with similar situations. Then Mudd, along with Crusinberry, Zoning Officer John Holt and Police Chief Mark Drollinger are expected to come up with a solution.

Tarter was happy to hear progress is being made. "It is imperative that we reach a solution," he said. He called City Chef "the canary in the coal mine" of downtown, saying if it cannot be saved, other businesses may not open in the area.

If existing ordinances are ineffective to fix the problem "I fully advocate restructuring" the laws, he said.

In unrelated business, Crusinberry addressed a petition submitted at the

See **COUNCIL** on other side

♪ We're off to see the Wizard, the Wonderful Wizard of Oz ♪

Hoopeston Area High School will present *The Wizard of Oz* at 7 p.m. Friday and Saturday in the high school auditorium.

The show is directed by Diana Judy; student directed by Theresa Samet; and vocal director is Rochelle Morgeson.

Dorothy Gale, played by Holly Morgeson, is an orphaned girl unhappy with her drab existence on her aunt and uncle's dusty Kansas farm. She yearns to travel "over the rainbow" to a different world. She gets her wish when a tornado whisks her and her little dog, Toto (Tanzie Gossett) to the land of Oz.

Having offended the Wicked Witch of the West

(Savana Curry), Dorothy is protected from the old crone's wrath by the ruby slippers she wears. Glinda, the Good Witch (Jaidi Gossett) suggests Dorothy head down the Yellow Brick Road to the Emerald City, guarded by Chelsea Gossett, where dwells the all-powerful Wizard of Oz (Matt Oyer).

En route, she befriends a scarecrow (Ashley Morgan), a Tin Man (Lane Huls) and a Cowardly Lion (Kelsey Vines).

The high school cast also includes Brenna Deck, Lacey Geddes, Gage Glotzbach, Shania Goble, Adrienne Houmes, Sarah Houmes, Audrey Hackney, Kam-

See **WIZARD** on other side

Here's what's showing at the
Little Lorraine
The Hobbit An Unexpected Journey
 Friday 6 p.m., Saturday 2 and 6 p.m. Sunday 5 p.m.
The Encounter 2 Paradise Lost
 Sunday 2 p.m.
 Freewill donations accepted at all showings.
 Concessions available. Proceeds to save the Lorraine Theatre.
 Come out and support the Save the Lorraine Foundation!

Tune in at
 5 p.m. tonight-
 Hoopeston Happenings
 featuring Dr. Alice Jacobs
 DACC President
 on WHPO!

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Olympic Hardware
 516 N. Dixie Hwy., Hoopeston
 (217) 283-5186 Open Sundays
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Hoopeston American Legion
502 E. Penn



Texas Hold 'Em
Sunday, April 6 \$50 buy-in
Registration at noon, play starts at 1
Free food provided!
Check out our gaming machines.

VFW Menu
Orange & 4th Ave., Hoopeston
Wednesday Wings
5-8 p.m. 50¢ each
Thirsty Thursdays & Tacos 5-8 p.m.
\$1.25 domestic beers, \$2 imports
NFCC Fish Fry Fridays 11 a.m.-7 p.m.
Come out and support your VFW!

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Police News

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Two Rankin men were arrested after a traffic stop at 2:57 a.m. Tuesday at Sixth St. and Young. Eugene G. Forbes, 19, and Brent L. Baker, 26, were each charged with possession of drug paraphernalia and released on a notice to appear in Hoopeston City Court.

Council continued from other side

March 18 meeting which contained signatures of more than 600 people who support a full liquor license for Hoopeston Marathon.

Currently, the business is licensed to sell beer and wine.

“We’ve visited this issue before,” Crusinberry said, adding the ordinance would have to be amended to grant the request. He said if a council member was willing to bring up an ordinance change at the next meeting, Crusinberry would direct Mudd to write a suggested change.

Alderman Carl Ankenbrand said he liked the previous suggestion, which would have increased the number of Class A packaged liquor licenses from two to five.

In October 2013, the council voted 4-4 on the increase, with Crusinberry declining to break the tie.

Residents spoke for and against increasing the licenses, with one saying doing so would harm existing license-holders, while another claimed doing so would add more jobs and revenue in Hoopeston.

In other discussion, the council heard from Barb and Ron Knuth about sewage on top of the ground in a yard next to their rental property on Pine St, a problem which

Wizard continued from other side

eron Hoskins, Autumn Layden, Maddie Overton, Kelsie Platteter and Maya Webber.

The Pit Players are directed by Patrick Brooks and include Alex Alwardt, Kamie Kuhles, Bryce Leigh, Alejandra Limon, Jacinda Nunez, R. Romack, Taylor Sheppard, Tylor Stebbins, Reagan Walder and Karly VanWieringen.

The cast also includes 34 Munchkins: Alyssa Alwardt, Brea Boyer, Bryson Brewer, Kamerin Cade, Marlie Claypool, Kaitlyn Coffey, Preslee Coffey-Bogard, Brielle Crose, Jessalyn Eisenmann, Morgan Gash, Emma Glotzbach, Emma Gonzalez, Macy Hayes, Pandora Jerome, Sidda Johnson, James Justice, Matthew

A 37-year-old Hoopeston woman reported at 2:24 a.m. Tuesday that someone slashed a tire on her vehicle while it was parked in the 200 block of East Wyman.

Tyler J. Martin, 20, of Hoopeston, was arrested after an accident at 11:13 p.m. Tuesday in the 500 block of

has been going on four years, Mrs. Knuth said.

Alderman Joe Fell said the property is outside the city limits, tying officials’ hands.

Asked by Alderman Randy Carter why they don’t annex the property to the city, Mrs. Knuth said their property taxes would go up.

Mr. Knuth said the issue has been brought to the attention of the Vermilion County Health Department but they “don’t do a damn thing.”

Mrs. Knuth asked, “Don’t you think a whole yardful of s**t is bad for everyone.” She also listed other ordinance violations in the city, including someone raising chickens and another who has a cow and spreads manure on the ground.

Crusineberry said he would make phone calls about their problem but wouldn’t guarantee results.

In other business, the council:

- Heard from Crusinberry that Water Superintendent Steve Baker was first runner-up for in the Illinois Rural Water Association’s Water System Operator of the Year award. Under Baker’s supervision, the department also received honor for 2013 perfect compliance for fluorida-

Kissack, Logan Kruse, Evan Lile, Sydeny Long, Alyssa Marshall, Alexis Merrill, Josie Mobley, Emily Ray, Jessica Rigsby, Tara Sullivan, Madisyn Simmers, Trevor Swartz, Bryce Wallace, Kayden Wallace, Reagan Weber, Tobi West, Ashton Zorns and Cameron Zorns.

Admission is \$3 for adults, \$2 for students and free for senior citizens and children five and younger.

Weather

Heavy rain today. High 62. Tonight, severe thunderstorms likely. Low 50. Tomorrow, chance of showers. High 52, low 32.

West Penn. He was charged with DUI, DUI over .08 and failure to report an accident to police authority after he allegedly struck a yield sign and left the scene.

He was later found in the 400 block of East Honeywell and was taken into custody.

tion.

- Heard a request from Joyce Allen to close Main at Bank at some future date for a gospel sing and “good old-fashioned preaching.” She will bring up the request again when a date is set.

- Heard from Carter that a breakfast fundraiser will be held from 5:30 a.m.-noon April 26 at Hoopeston the Legion. Freewill donations go to the city animal shelter.

Classifieds

APARTMENTS FOR RENT

721 W. Orange St. Clean and quiet 2BR for rent. Available mid-May. Rent \$400 plus utilities and deposit. References required. Mike 312-371-8585

Newer 1 Bedroom + office or hobby room. 1 Bath with shower and tub. Freshly painted, all appliances. Eating area off the kitchen. Close to -shopping. Yard and full basement for storage. \$475 + deposit. No Smoking, No pets. 260-2546. Handicap accessible.

HELP WANTED

Immediate Opening for part time bartender – no experience needed. Must be at least 21, friendly and outgoing. Interviews 9 to noon Saturday April 5th at the Hoopeston Legion, 502 E. Penn St.. More info call: 309-825-5939.

HOUSES FOR RENT

714 W. Washington St. Hoopeston. 2 bedroom. \$425/mo. 217-474-0828

RUMMAGE SALES

Yard sale to benefit Camp Assurance. Saturday, April 5, 7-noon. Dave Johnson Farm, 12246 E 4200 North Rd., Hoopeston. Sponsored by First Baptist Church Teens to buy archery equipment to be donated to the camp.

SERVICES

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