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# Just the Facts<sup>®</sup>

**Wednesday, June 8, 2016**  
 Hoopeston's only locally-owned daily news publication  
 P.O. Box 441, Hoopeston, IL. 60942 [www.justthefacts.net](http://www.justthefacts.net)

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Rep. Tom Bennett (R-106) meets with area residents at a Hoopeston Town Hall Monday evening.

## Bennett gives, gets answers from residents at town meeting

About 17 people covered a wide range of issues with Illinois Rep. Tom Bennett at a town hall meeting Monday evening.

Bennett, Republican representative for the 106th District, met with citizens at Hoopeston City Hall, where he covered topics including the lack of a state budget, the power House Speaker Mike Madigan wields and other issues at the state level.

Telling the audience that he thought his previous experience with State Farm in disaster recovery would be

helpful as a legislator, now he thinks "disaster, yes. Recovery, no."

The General Assembly adjourned on May 31, Bennett said, adding "some important work got done but a lot did not."

One problem at the state level is the lack of trust between officials. "(Speaker) Madigan and (Gov. Bruce) Rauner don't trust each other and it goes all the way down," he said, although, "from what I hear, (Madigan)

See BENNETT on other side

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## Briefly

### Head Start applications

East Central Illinois Community Action Agency is accepting applications for Head Start Birth to Five services for the 2016-17 program year. Applications will be taken from 8 a.m.-3 p.m. Monday-Friday at Hoopeston Head Start Center at First Christian Church, 502 E. Main. To schedule an appointment, call (217) 283-6474.

### Golf cart inspection/rally

The fourth and final golf cart inspection will be held at Hoopeston City Hall from 11 a.m.-1 p.m. Saturday. Please bring proof of insurance.

A signup for the Golf Cart Nostalgia Rally, to be held June 18, will be available at the inspection. Details on the rally will be available at the inspection.

### Music in the Park

Rankin United Methodist Church will present Music

### Bennett continued from other side

loves the challenge of Rauner.”

Democrat leaders continue to want to spend more and tax more, while Republicans want to hold the line on spending and hold off a tax increase.

On a positive note, Bennett said a handful of Republican and Democrat representatives and senators continue to meet with Rauner to hammer out solutions on issues such as pensions, property tax, the budget and others. “Good things are going to happen,” he said.

Citizens also questioned Bennett on possible closure of some Illinois nuclear power plants; a planned bike trail from Danville to Urbana, school funding and others.

Bennett said most school districts do not have enough money to operate for a full year and that some people suggest schools “keep their doors closed and force the legislature to do something.”

Speaking about Chicago, “can you imagine if schools didn’t open and 600,000 kids weren’t in school? It absolutely does not have to be that way,” he said.

Regarding closing the Clinton power plant before its time, “do we want to do that,” he asked. Nuclear power adds no carbon and is one way Illinois is able to offer low-cost energy, “one of the assets that we have.”

Bennett asked the audience their thoughts on legalizing marijuana. As legislators are asked to consider legal-

izing it, Bennett is hearing that heroin is a big problem in Illinois and wondered whether marijuana was a gateway to harder drugs.

No audience member voiced approval of legalizing pot, although some suggested that if legislators smoked or ingested it, they might get along better and accomplish more in Springfield.

Robert Geddes, Lovejoy Township road commissioner, said his brother lives on Colorado, where pot is legal, and that legalization has had a negative effect.

Trevor Hurt, of rural Wellington, said people he knows at college seem more likely to smoke pot, thinking “they’re going to legalize it anyway, so we might as well.” Hurt said he is against legalizing it.

Resident Charlie Smith asked whether, when faced with the tax revenue marijuana sales could generate, the legislature could turn it down.

Bennett did not know how legislators would vote but supposed legalized marijuana could result in higher social services costs, already one of the sectors that takes a large chunk of public tax dollars.

### Health screenings

Hoopeston Lions Club will host a hearing bus and diabetic retinopathy screening from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Thursday, June 16 at the west parking lot at Carle Hoopeston Regional Health Center. Residents are encouraged to take advantage of the free screenings.

### Historical Society meeting

Hoopeston Historical Society will meet Monday, June 20, 6:30 p.m. at Treasured Roots Flower Shop, 701 W.

Penn St., for its monthly meeting.

Dues of \$5 are now due and can be paid that night or by mailing them to: Attention: Carol Hicks, Secretary, Hoopeston Historical Society, 326 W. Orange St., Hoopeston, IL 60942.

## Classifieds

### HELP WANTED

#### Elevator Worker

Archer Daniels Midland Company (ADM), a world leader in agricultural processing, is currently seeking candidates for **elevator workers** at our Hoopeston, IL location. Responsibilities include, but are not limited to: loading and unloading trucks; operating a grain dryer; assisting with grain handling; conducting general housekeeping duties; and performing general maintenance. Flexibility to work overtime and weekends is required. Successful completion of a pre-employment drug screen, medical/respirator questionnaires and background check is required. Interested candidates should apply online at [www.adm.com/careers](http://www.adm.com/careers).

ADM is an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Employer for minorities, females, protected veterans and individuals with a disability.

Rossville Family Restaurant (Merita's) is hiring experienced cooks and servers. Apply in person and ask for application at 715 S. Chicago St., Rossville.

Part time office assistant position in Hoopeston. Secretarial and phone skills, multi-tasking a must. Proficient in Microsoft Office. Send resumes to Box C, c/o Just the Facts, P.O. Box 441, Hoopeston IL 60942.

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## Weather

Sunny today. High 74. Tonight, mostly clear. Low 54. Tomorrow, chance of thunderstorms. High 81, low 67.