

Sunday, Nov 6 Noon-4 3714 N. Vermilion St., Danville Refreshments, Specials, Door Prizes Hope to see you there!



Make it a Good Morning! Masonic Lodge 709 AF & AM

Fall Breakfast

5:30-11 a.m. Saturday, Nov. 5

Biscuits & gravy, sausage, eggs cooked to order, toast, coffee, juice

\$5 per person - Carry outs welcome 206 W. Orange, Hoopeston

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Mon.: Pump Bowl

Tues.: Mosticelli, cottage cheese & garlic toast

Wed.: Taco Salad

Thurs.: Chicken fried steak, mashed potatoes,

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Fri.: Ribeye Sandwich & Broccoli Cauliflower Salad Come in & try your luck with our LIVE VIDEO GAMING! Email:



Thursday, November 3, 2016

Hoopeston's only locally-owned daily news publication!

P.O. Box 441, Hoopeston IL 60942 www.justthefacts.net

Hoopeston residents speak out against dispatching change

A change in emergency dispatching is going to get another look from officials after scores of residents turned out Tuesday to voice their concerns.

More than 80 residents - including off-duty police officers, dispatchers and firemen - attended Tuesday's Hoopeston City Council meeting to express their fears and frustrations with a change that went into effect September 12, under which Vermilion County does all dispatching for Hoopeston ambulance, fire and police.

The change came about because more than \$100,000 in new fees were going to be applied to Hoopeston if it remained a 911 answering point, Mayor Bill Crusinberry explained to the audience.

Hoopeston has been a 911 answering point for decades. It and Vermilion County served as back-ups for each other's systems.

That changed after Vermilion County Emergency Telephone Service Board, which oversees 911 communications, decided to have Champaign County's METCAD as its backup.

Crusinberry told residents that even if Hoopeston paid the fees, it might be incorporated into the county system as part of a consolidation effort by the Illinois State Police.

Illinois' 911 system, previously under the Illinois Commerce Commission, is now under the auspices of the Illinois State Police, which has consolidated dispatching for its districts throughout the state. For example, District 10, based in Pesotum which covers Vermilion and neighboring counties, along with District 21 in Ashkum and District 8 in Peoria, are dispatched from District 6, based in McLean County.

The plan originally called for Hoopeston to lose only 911 calls. Because of increased cell phone use and because cell phone 911 calls have always gone to Vermilion County, Vermilion County was already handling about 85 percent of Hoopeston's 911 calls, officials have said.

Lourdine Florek, Owner

A last-minute change sent all Hoopeston dispatching to Vermilion County, including nonemergency calls made to 283-5196, which are immediately transferred to Vermilion County.

It is that point that grates on Hoopeston police and

"Every single, solitary call that comes in to us, whether it's a loose dog...or a crime in progress, every single solitary call goes to Danville," said Ron Cade, HPD investigator. "We have zero dispatch in this town."

Cade, a critic of the change, called state 911 officials and said that despite what local officials were told, each county may have two 911 answering points. "You didn't have to do anything," he told the council.

Furthermore, Cade said he spoke to Cindy Barbera-Brielle, Illinois 911 administrator, who told him the matter is a local one and should be decided at that level.

Third shift dispatcher Teresa Hayes said a call will come in on 283-5196 and an officer will be in the radio room but he cannot respond until he is dispatched by Vermilion County. When Hoopeston dispatched, she said, as soon as an officer had the location, he was on the way and she would continue dispatching information to him as he went, getting help to the caller sooner. "Vermilion doesn't do that," she

Response times are a concern of both authorities and residents, who cited examples of longer dispatch

See DISPATCH on other side

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Dispatch continued from other side

times.

Rosanna Kelnhofer said on Halloween, a person suffered a head injury at the VFW and waited 25 minutes for emergency personnel.

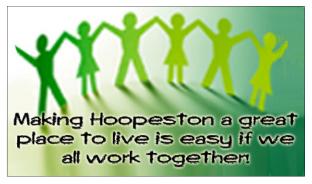
LT Garrett reported that someone came into his daughter-in-law's house and pistol whipped her in front of her children recently. She called Garrett, who, in turn, called Vermilion dispatch. A simulcast with information on the crime was sent to area police departments...but not Hoopeston, he said.

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Another incident with a long response time occurred when the Rod's Home and Auto building collapsed on October 12. The person who reported the collapse said it took 30 minutes for police to arrive and a second call had to be made to dispatch the fire department, said Greg Bertram, business owner.

Local dispatchers also know the landmarks and what they used to be. For example, someone recently reported an incident at Unger's Jewelry, which is now H&R Block, Cade said.

Dispatchers do more than just send officers to calls, said Officer Jeremy Welch. They also file paperwork,

field other types of calls and when officers are on patrol, keep watch on any prisoner in the holding cell. Without a dispatcher there, an officer would have to remain the building to keep watch, he said.

Fire Chief Joel Bird said that before making a request for new equipment, his firefighters are expected to do due diligence on their request. "Please do your due diligence for us," he said.

Alderman Carl Ankenbrand apologized for not doing due diligence, believing that calls to 283-5196 would still be dispatched locally.

Alderwoman Lourdine Florek, a member of the

police committee, also apologized.

Saying "changes need to be made," Crusinberry said he would call Sheriff Pat Hartshorn on Wednesday to get the ball rolling. "This isn't what I thought it would be," he said of the change.

While some in the audience demanded immediate action, Crusinberry said the council could not vote on any changes because such a vote was not on the meeting agenda.

Crusinberry added that a special meeting might be called before the next regular meeting on November 15.



Aldermen Bill McElhaney and Carl Ankenbrand listen as Robin Lawson speaks during Tuesday night's council meeting. Lawson and several others addressed the council about concerns with recent changes in dispatching local police, fire and ambulance calls.



I believe that Northern Vermilion County needs to have a strong voice. I will fight to bring essential public services that we expect and deserve.

DARREN DUNCAN IS ENDORSED BY:

State Senator

Jason Barickman

State Representative **Tom Bennett**

Former State Senator

Judy Myers

County Sheriff
Pat Hartshorn

County Treasurer Sue Stine

County Clerk
Cathy Jenkins

County Recorder **Dave Stone**

County Assessor Matt Long

Dist. 1 County Board Members

Larry Baughn

Todd Johnson

State's Attorney Elect

Jacqueline Lacy

Former County Sheriff Gene Hughes Former County Chairman
Gary Weinard

Mayor Dick Queen

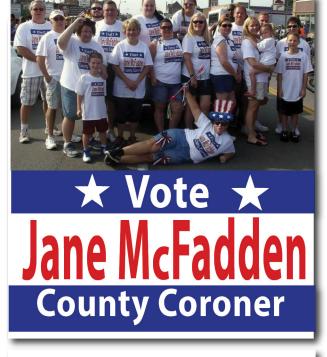
Mayor Bill Cruisenberry

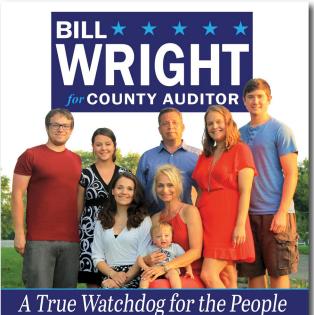
Former Mayor **Terry Prillaman**

Community Leaders
Bill Nichols
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BINGO

7 p.m. every Thursday
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American Legion

502 E. Penn



Rossville Family Restaurant

715 S. Chicago

Lunch & Dinner

Saturday, Nov. 5 and Sunday Nov. 6 Pulled Pork Butt, Pork Ribs & Beef Sirloin

-Briefly

Shimkus rep to be in Hoopeston

A representative of Congressman John Shimkus (R, Illinois-15) will hold office hours in Hoopeston on Thursday. The representative will be at Hoopeston City Hall, 301 W. Main, from 1-2:30 p.m.

Shimkus said holding such office hours allows constituents to meet face to face with Shimkus' staff instead of over the telephone or having to travel to Danville. "The staff person will be able to handle any issue you may have regarding my office or the federal government," he said.

Those who cannot attend in person may contact Shim-kus' office at (618) 288-7190. Constituents requiring special accommodations should call at least 48 hours before the event.

More information is available at **shimkus.house.gov**.

Miracle Tree signups

Signups for the Miracle Tree/Santa Cares Too/Toys for Kids will be 9-11 a.m. November 7-10 at Grant Town-

ship office, Parents will need to bring proof of address and proof of their children with them.

No late sign ups will be allowed.

HMA senior dance

A senior dance will be held from 6-8:30 pm. Saturday, Nov. 5 at Hoopeston Multi Agency, 206 S. First Ave., with music by Bev & Company of Danville.

Bring a covered dish, your favorite dessert or anything to snack on and share with friends.

Admission is \$5 per person.

Upcoming events at the library

Upcoming events at Hoopeston Public Library include:

Thursday, Nov. 3, 3:30-4:30 p.m.

Builders Club, for kids in grades K-6, can enjoy an hour of free building fun with Legos and other materials.

Monday, Nov. 7, 10 a.m.

Coffee and Coloring where adults can relax, enjoy coffee and good conversation while creating something beautiful to take home. Materials are provided or bring

your own. **Wednesda**

Wednesday, Nov. 9, 1:30 p.m.

Cinema Classics @ the Library, in honor of Veterans Day, will present the World War II classic, "Sands of Iwo Jima" starring John Wayne. This is for adults only Popcorn and soft drinks will be available.

For information on any program call the library, (217) 283-6711.

Maple fundraiser winners

Recent winners in the Maple Madness fundraiser are: October 29, Bob Huffman, Danville, \$25; October 30, Aaron Swinford Danville, \$25; and October 31, Rachel Gillins, Hoopeston, \$500.

Classifieds

APARTMENTS FOR RENT

Hoopeston: 721 W. Orange. Clean, quiet 2 BR. Available November 1. \$400/mo. plus utilities, deposit. References require. Mike (312) 371-8585

2 BR, washer/dryer hookup, high efficiency furnace. \$374/mo. (217) 283-7439

HOUSES FOR RENT

2 bedroom duplex for rent in Hoopeston. Central air, garage, refrigerator and stove included. Laundry hook ups in the basement. No smoking, No pets. References and security deposit required. \$440 per month. Call 217-304-6547 for more information and application.

3 BR, 1½ bath, laundry room, very nice hone. 1 car garage. \$600/mo. (217) 283-7439

MISCELLANEOUS FOR SALE

Singer sewing machine (treadle) \$150. 7 ft. slim cardinal Christmas tree From Molly's \$75. 217 748-4189

RUMMAGE SALES

HOOPESTON: 845 E. Washington. Fri. & Sat., 8-2. Moving sale - household, furniture, garden tools, power tools & more!

Old is COLD!

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Just the Facts classified.

Email publish@justthefacts.net or call (217) 283-9348 to place your ad!

Court Dispositions

September 8

Bradley Thompson, Hoopeston, owner's duties charge dismissed.

Alexander Davis, Hoopeston, fined \$280 for restrictions of burning trash; status hearing October 6.

Aaron Linares, Hoopeston, fined \$280 for disorderly conduct; status hearing October 6.

Devon Laubscher, Cissna Park, battery case dismissed.

Bradley Ray, Rossville, general nuisance charge dismissed.

Obituaries

SWIM - Anna Swim,, 89, of Hoopeston, died at 2:15 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 1, 2016 at Heritage Health, Hoopeston. Arrangements are pending at Anderson Funeral Home, Hoopeston.

Weather

Decreasing clouds today. High 63. Tonight, mostly clear. Low 41. Tomorrow, sunny. High 59, low 43.

Robert Ferrell, Hoopeston, found guilty of theft, fined \$280; status hearing October 6.

October 6

Christopher Staats, Hoopeston, failed to appear, found guilty by default; sentencing November 3.

Theodore Cano, Hoopeston, general nuisance case dismissed.

Theodore Cano, Hoopeston, pleaded guilty to owners duties, fined \$180 or 22 hours public service work; status hearing November 3.

Express Employment Professionals

is accepting applications for possible immediate openings in Hoopeston and Watseka.

Warehouse General Labor Machine Operators

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Kevin Nelson @ 217-283-7771 ext. 236

to set up an appointment.