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 Lourdine Florek, owner

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**Friday, December 30, 2016**  
 Hoopeston's only locally-owned daily news publication  
 P.O. Box 441, Hoopeston, IL. 60942 [www.justthefacts.net](http://www.justthefacts.net)

Ring in 2017 with us!  
**Hoopeston VFW**  
 428 W. Orange, Hoopeston

**Lazer & Lights DJ Don Coffey**  
 8 p.m.-1 a.m.

**Dinner 4-8 p.m.**  
 12 oz. ribeye, choice of potato, roll, green  
 beans \$15 per person or  
 Chicken breast dinner \$10 per person

 **Hoopeston**   
**American Legion**

G<sub>2</sub> A<sub>1</sub> M<sub>3</sub> E<sub>1</sub> N<sub>1</sub> I<sub>1</sub> G<sub>2</sub> H<sub>4</sub> T<sub>1</sub>

**December 31st**  
**Bring an appetizer!** 



# A look back at 2016

It's hard to pick a single word to describe a year, but one most often used by Hoopeston residents this year seems to be the word "loss."

Several business closings took place or were announced, the closing of a landmark was decided and the area lost community leaders and friends in 2016.

Economic conditions resulted in the closing of two businesses this year: Cellular One's September closing was announced in July, while Joyce's Then Now & Beyond, which opened in November 2015, closed in October.

Two other business closings were announced but have not yet happened. Shopko officials announced in November that its Hoopeston store will close in January 2017 and last week it was announced that Hoopeston Pizza Hut will close December 31.

Rod's Home and Auto stopped transacting business in October after part of the building collapsed. A decision to remain closed, rebuild or relocate has not been announced.

This year will also be remembered as the final year students will attend Honeywell School after the school board voted in June to shutter the school, built

in 1927, due to the cost of needed repairs and updates.

The area said lost several leaders and friends in 2016, including former Hoopeston Police Officer Roger Beaty on February 9; long-time teacher Rita Dean on March 15 and fireman Jon Rayls on April 2.

In September, the area lost two stalwarts - former alderman and civic leader Randy Carter on September 9 and long-time Rossville and Hoopeston businesswoman, Molly Culbert on September 23.

October saw the passing of Carol Flint, who made her mark as Grant Township supervisor and former first lady of Hoopeston, on October 18.

In November, Hoopeston said goodbye to the Rev. Lewis Mershon, retired pastor at First Church of God and retired Hoopeston Police Department chaplain.

This month, Marvin Leigh's death on December 2 left holes in both the East Lynn and Hoopeston communities as residents remembered his life of service.

Milford suffered two major losses this year with the passing on September 15 of former teacher, coach and athletic director Sam Fanning and in the early morning hours of November 13,

See 2016 on other side



Joyce Allen opened Joyce's Then, Now & Beyond in 2015 and closed it this year.

**LOST DOG**  
 2-year-old  
 Chocolate Lab  
 "Maggie"  
 Danner



Last seen over the weekend in the Penfield area on Rt. 136 East of the Oasis, just west of the county line.

She is a rescue dog and extremely scared. She will run if chased.

If seen, please call  
**(217) 474-1438 or (217) 474-8326**  
 or contact Hoopeston Animal Rescue or Vermillion County Animal Control.

**Tedd's Beverage Shop**  
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**START 2017 OFF RIGHT!**  
**FAST LANES**

Reservations are encouraged for  
**New Year's Eve dinner.**  
 Serving Choice of Prime Rib, Ribeye,  
 Grilled Chicken Breast or Shrimp  
 Serving 4-8:30 p.m.

Also taking reservations for  
**7-8-9 Pin Tournament**  
 Come in and sign up your group & reserve your lane!  
**Family Bowling Saturday 10 a.m.-6 pm.**  
**Music by Yesterday's Country 8:30-12:30**

Open Bowling all day Monday, Jan. 2!  
**The PIT STOP**  
 Friday night come in for Cod, Ribeye  
 and RIBS, along with full menu!



## 2016 continued from other side

owner of Milford Family Restaurant, Jesus "Jesse" Cintora was shot after going to the restaurant in response to a burglar alarm.

Nineteen-year-old Randy White, of Milford, was charged with first degree murder in connection with Mr. Cintora's death. White has pleaded not guilty and remains in jail in lieu of \$1 million bond.

Some major stories from this year will continue into 2017. One is the issue of police dispatching in Hoop-eston.

After serving as a backup dispatching center for Vermilion County for decades, Hoopeston stopped that function in September after being told 911 an- swering centers in Illinois were consolidating.

Since then, dispatchers, police officers, firemen and residents have urged the council to reinstate dis- patching.

City and county officials are currently working out the details that will be necessary to return dispatching duties.

Another story that will be decided in the new year is who will head the Hoopeston Area School District when Hank Hornbeck retires next year.

District officials used the Illinois Association of School Boards to search for qualified candidates. The school board interviewed four candidates but did not come to agreement on any of them.

A second search was started; applica- tions for that search will close January 20, 2017.

Another story on the radar for the new year include work to fix the flood- ing problem on Hoopeston's northeast side. After studies of sewer lines in the area, a plan has been drawn up and funding in the way of a low-interest loan is being sought.



Molly and Jimmy Culbert enjoy the 2015 Homecoming parade from the comfort of the Heritage Health van in this 2016 photo. Molly died this year at the age of 92.



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### Briefly

#### New Year's closings

Hoopeston Public Library will be closed Saturday and reopen with regular hours on Monday.

Just the Facts will not be printed Mondays, Jan. 2. Pub- lication will resume Tuesday, Jan. 3.

#### Obituaries

**HASSELBRING** - Helen M. (Cluver) Hasselbring, 91, of Cissna Park, died Monday, Dec. 26, 2016 at Watseka Rehab & Health Care Center. Visitation will be 4-7 p.m. Friday at Knapp Funeral Home, Cissna Park and 10 a.m. until the 11 a.m. funeral Saturday at Immanuel Lutheran Church, Idaville. Burial will be in Immanuel Lutheran Cemetery, Idaville. Memorials are suggested to the church or cemetery.

#### Weather

Partly sunny today. High 34o. Tonight, partly cloudy. Low 30. Tomorrow, mostly cloudy. High 42, low 23. Sunday, mostly sunny. High 38, low 33. Monday, rain likely. High 46, low 36.

#### WMD drawing

December winners in the Women Making a Differ- ence drawing are: \$50, Robin Smith; \$30, Steve Dalton and \$20, Kathy Stevens.

## Classifieds

#### HELP WANTED

Part-time CNA, for all shifts must be able to work Holidays and weekends. Apply in person at Autumn Fields Adult Commu- nity 325 E Orange St Hoopeston.

#### HOUSES FOR RENT

UPPER LEVEL DUPLEX AVAIL: JAN. 1. 726 S. Third St. 3 BR, 1 bath w/large living room, kitchen. In and outside entry. Garage, stove and fridge and water furnished. \$425 plus secu- rity dep. References. Call (217) 304-3477.

#### VEHICLES FOR SALE

2012 red go cart, very good condition, 125cc engine, clutchless 3 speed with reverse, electric start, 4 wheel disk brakes. \$899. Call (815) 984-3741.

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