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 Tuesday, January 31, 2017
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Jed Rayls gets a hug from Hoopeston Fire Chief Joel Bird, as Rita Rayls-Wagoner and Jared Rayls look on. Rayls' brother, Jon Rayls, was posthumously honored as Fireman of the Year at Sunday's Community Awards ceremony. See related picture on other side.

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Service to Hoopeston in 2016 rewarded at awards ceremony

"I wish I could shake his hand one more time and give him this award."
 Those were Hoopeston Fire Chief Joel Bird's words as he announced that Jon Rayls was named 2016 Fireman of the Year.
 That honor, and several others, were presented Sunday afternoon during the annual Community Awards ceremony, held at the Lorraine Theatre.

"Every year, it's a difficult decision," Bird said, telling a little bit about the winner without releasing his name. Bird spoke of how Mr. Rayls would be the first to volunteer to do things that needed to be done and that when he heard "20 Engine 5" on the radio, he knew everything would be set up and ready to roll to a fire.
 After naming Jon-Rayls as the winner, Mr. Rayls' See AWARDS on other side

NEW lineup at VFW

- **Wednesday: Buddy Burgers & Chicken Wings, 5-8**
- **Thursday: Tacos, 5-8**
- **Friday: Buddy Burgers & Tenderloins, 5-8**

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Maggie's on the Move
 2-year-old Chocolate Lab
"Maggie" Danner
 Possible sighting west of Hoopeston on Rt. 9, west of the Rtes. 1 and 9 intersection, and Wednesday night on North 6th Ave. by the old Vermilion Iron crossing on the east side. Maggie is afraid and will run if chased. If you see here, please call **anytime: (217) 474-1438 or (217) 474-8326** or contact Hoopeston Animal Rescue or Vermilion County Animal Control.
We want our baby home!





Winners at Sunday's awards ceremony included, front from left: Brandi Totheroh, Sandy Lewis, Rita Rayls, Valarie Hinkle, Miss Hoopeston Autumn Layden, Teresa Hayes, Jenna Brown, Mary Adams, Sherry Klemme, Elizabeth Silver and back, Alex Houmes, Jared Rayls, Jed Rayls, Brad Hardcastle, Mitch Lankford, Roger Uden, Chad Thomas, Larry Baughn.

Awards continued from other side

mother, Rita Rayls-Wagoner, and brothers, Jed and Jared, came to the stage to accept the award.

Hoopeston Police Chief Mark Dollinger followed Bird, to present Police Department Employee of the Year. "How do you follow that," he asked.

Drollinger presented the award, another of the Hoopeston Jaycees service awards, to the police department's dispatchers, giving a brief history of the current status of the department and commenting on support the community has given in the issue. "For that, we're grateful," he

said, calling dispatchers "the backbone of law enforcement."

Other winners at the event were:

Hoopeston Jaycees

Odell Crabtree Associate of the Year: Brett Rush

Jaycee of the Year: Mitch Lankford

National Sweetcorn Festival Chairman: PJ Clingenpeel

Jaycee Service Awards

EMA Volunteer of the Year: Chad Thomas

Distinguished Service Award: Elizabeth Silver

Hoopeston Chamber of Commerce

Community Service Award: Hoopeston Parks Department

Food Service Award: Monical's Pizza

Business of the Year: WHPO

President's Award: Alex Houmes

Save the Lorraine Foundation

Outstanding Service Award: Randy Shields

Hoopeston Chronicle

Citizen of the Year: Sherry Klemme

From the Blotter

No tickets or injuries were reported in an accident at 12:18 a.m. Sunday in the 500 block of East Main. Police said Kyle Ramos, of Hoopeston, in a 2012 Chevrolet utility, struck a parked 2016 Chevrolet truck owned by Roberto Arredondo of Grand Rapids, Mich.

Obituaries

ALLEN - Ethel M. (Schroeder) Allen, 91, of Milford,, died Saturday, Jan. 28, 2017 at Iroquois Memorial Hospital, Watseka. Visitation will be 4-7 p.m. Tuesday and 9:30 a.m. until the 10:30 a.m. funeral Wednesday at Knapp Funeral Home, Milford. Burial will be in Maple Grove Cemetery, Milford. Memorials are suggested to Milford United Methodist Church or Milford Ambulance Department.

TABIN - Kay L. (Rosborg) Tabin, 63, of Mahomet, formerly of Hoopeston, died Saturday, Jan. 28, 2017 at home. Visitation will be 9 a.m. until the 11 a.m. memorial service Tuesday at Mahomet United Methodist Church, 1302 E. South Mahomet Rd. Private family burial will be at a later date. Memorials are suggested to Champaign County Humane Society or donor's choice. Blair-Owens Funeral Home, Mahomet, is handling arrangements.

Weather

Mostly cloudy today. High 40. Tonight, chance of flurries. Low 28. Tomorrow, partly sunny. High 35, low 18.

Classifieds

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