

A half price winter sale  
BEFORE  
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## Several recipients surprised at Hoopeston annual awards

Robin Lawson is not usually at a loss for words. Whether she's in Global Fashions or running up and down Mr. B's Café, Lawson serves news and optimism with orders of burgers and fries.

But at Sunday's Community Awards ceremony, the Citizen of the Year award winner was momentarily gob smacked.

Lawson thought she was at the event because coworker  
**See AWARDS on other side**



Above, Brad Hardcastle with Susie Drollinger after she accepted Hoopeston Jaycees' Police Officer of the Year Award, presented posthumously to Drollinger's husband, long-time Chief Mark Drollinger. Right, Robin Lawson gives thanks for being named Citizen of the Year.



**Smoked BBQ**  
at

**Rossville Family Restaurant**

715 S. Chicago

*Lunch & Dinner*

*Saturday, Feb. 3<sup>rd</sup> and Sunday Feb. 4<sup>th</sup>*

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**Awards** continued from other side

Don Kaeb was getting an award. The look of surprise started when her name was announced by Chronicle editor Jordan Crook, who presented the award, and lasted throughout her walk down the aisle to the stage and for several seconds once there.

The award honors “citizens who go above and beyond,” Crook said. In listing Lawson’s criteria for the award,

which includes her love for Hoopeston, volunteerism and her work rallying support to return dispatching to Hoopeston last year, he said.

“Oh my,” Lawson finally said. “I don’t do this for this,” she said, motioning to herself. “I do this for this,” sweeping her hand over the assembled Hoopeston citizenry attending the ceremony. “Thank you, thank you, thank

you.”

Lawson was not alone in her surprise. Leon Polson, named Odell Crabtree Jaycee Associate of the Year, thought he was there to honor a family member. Another person not usually at a loss for words - emcee Scott Hudson described Polson as “always willing to share his opinions - Polson simply said “Thanks to everyone. Have a

great day” before exiting the stage.

Other awards and recipients included:

**Jaycee awards**  
President’s Award: Brad Hardcastle  
Jaycee of the Year: Jacy Samet

**Chamber of Commerce awards**  
Community Service Award: Hoopeston Multi Agency  
Food Service Award: Pizza King  
Business of the Year: Anthem Chevrolet  
President’s Award: Bill Nicholls

**Jaycee Service Awards**  
EMA Volunteer of the Year: Eric Miller  
Firefighter of the Year: Troy Stevens  
Police Department Employee of the Year: Mark Drollinger  
Distinguished Service Award: Alex Houmes

**Briefly**  
**Surprise 70th birthday bash**

A surprise birthday party for Gary Warf will be held at 7 p.m. February 3 at Fast Lanes. Friends are invited to stop by the open house-style celebration.

**Sweetheart Banquet**

The 27th annual HAHS Student Council Sweetheart Banquet will be held at 1 p.m. Friday, Feb. 9 in the high school gym. Hoopeston Area and Rossville senior citizens are invited. Please call (217) 283-6661 with your name and number in your party by February 2.

**Weather**

Sunny today. High 32. Tonight, mostly cloudy, breezy. Low 26. Tomorrow, mostly cloudy, breezy, chance of rain/snow late. High 44, low 28.

**Classifieds**

**HELP WANTED**

Full time chiropractic assistant needed for our busy, growing office. A great personality is a must, strong phone and computer skills helpful. Candidate must be a people person and a team player. Please send resume to Box J, c/o Just the Facts, P.O. Box 441, Hoopeston IL 60942.

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From Sunday’s Community Awards Banquet, pictured are, front from left, Leon Polson, Marlene and Carl Shipman, Sandy Lewis, Brandi Totheroh, Stacy and Dave McFadden and Bill Nicholls; middle, Nick Brown, Madie Brown, Susie Drollinger, Tom Cici, Alex Houmes; and back, Eric Miller, Brad Hardcastle, Troy Stevens, Robin Lawson, Valarie Hinkle, Miss Hoopeston Karsen Root and Jacy Samet.