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**District judge issues preliminary injunction against gun ban**

A U.S. district judge on Friday issued a preliminary injunction against Illinois' "assault weapons" ban.

U.S. District Judge Stephen M. McGlynn issued the opinion, noting Illinois has plenty of gun laws already on the books that need to be enforced.

The case, *Barnett v. Raoul*, is a consolidation of many suits filed against the Protect Illinois Communities Act (PICA). Plaintiffs in the consolidated cases requested a preliminary injunction under the Federal Rule of Civil Procedures to prevent PICA enforcement until a final determination is made on the law's constitutionality.

Defendants in the case include Gov. Jay Robert Pritzker, Attorney General Kwame Raoul, and Brendan Kelly, Illinois State Police Director.

In his opinion, McGlynn noted that PICA was crafted after an Independence Day celebration in Highland Park. During a parade, "a senseless tragedy occurred involving firearms and multiple parade-goers were killed and wounded," McGlynn wrote.

Proponents of PICA cited the Highland Park incident as an impetus for passing the law, which placed sweeping restrictions and outright bans on the sale, purchase, manufacture, delivery, importation, and possession of many firearms, magazines, attachments, stocks and grips," he wrote, adding the law was immediately challenged as unconstitutional.

McGlynn cited two cases heard by the U.S. Supreme Court, *Bruen* and *Heller*, in his opinion, writing, "As Americans, we have every reason to celebrate our rights and freedoms, especially on Independence Day. Can the senseless crimes of a relative few be so despicable to justify the infringement of the constitutional rights of law-abiding individuals in hopes that such crimes will then abate or, at least, not be as horrific? More specifically, can PICA be harmonized with the Second Amendment of the United States Constitution and with *Bruen*? That is the issue before this Court. The simple answer at this stage in the proceedings is "likely no."

"The Supreme Court in *Bruen* and *Heller* held that citizens have a constitutional right to own and possess firearms and may use them for self-defense. PICA seems to be written in spite of the clear directives in *Bruen* and *Heller*, not in conformity with them. Whether well intentioned, brilliant, or arrogant, no state may enact a law that denies its citizens rights that the Constitution guarantees them. Even legislation that may enjoy the support of a majority of its citizens must fail if it violates the constitutional rights of fellow citizens. For the reasons fully set out below, the overly broad reach of PICA commands that the injunctive relief requested by Plaintiffs be granted."

McGlynn was appointed to the U.S. District Court of Southern Illinois in September 2020.

**Cheeseburgers for Paradise**  
 From 5 p.m.- close every Tuesday, we're donating \$5 of each dine-in cheeseburger to a local church.  
 This week's church is  
**First Presbyterian Church**  
*Kids Meals not included, Limited to 1 cheeseburger/person*  
**Rossville Family Restaurant**  
 715 S. Chicago, Rossville (217) 748-6201

**Briefly**

**HMA activities**

**Women's Morning Donut Group** meets at 8:15 a.m. every Wednesday in the large room at Hoopeston Multi Agency, 206 S. First Ave. Come join us!

**Card group meets** Wednesday for euchre starting 12:30.  
 For more information on Multi Agency programs, call (217) 283-5544 or stop by 206 S. First Ave.

**At the library**

Upcoming events at Hoopeston Public Library include:  
**Littles @ the Library**, 10:30 a.m. Tuesdays. Pre-school story, craft and playtime for children from birth to age 5 and their caregivers.  
**Builders Club** Like Legos? 3:30 p.m. Thursday. For kids of all ages.  
**HPL Seed Library** is open for the season. Stop by and "check out" a few packets of seeds as you make plans for your flower and vegetable gardens. Donations of leftover packaged seeds are still being accepted.  
 For more information on library programs, call (217) 283-6711 or visit 110 N. Fourth St.

**Free pet spay/neutering offered**

Hoopeston Animal Rescue Team (HART) recently received funding for a free spay/neuter voucher program to allow Hoopeston residents to get their pets "fixed" for free!  
 For details, and information on how to apply, please call HART at 217-283-0779 from 1-5 p.m.. If you get the answering machine, please leave your name and phone number so we can return your call.

**Photo sought**

ISO: Photo of the Himalaya ride that was present at the Hoopeston Sweet corn festival around the years 2008-2011. Photo must include the rides backdrop art and must be a clear photo (can read the Art's text). Photo should be emailed to: [412apartment2022@gmail.com](mailto:412apartment2022@gmail.com). A \$50 reward (Venmo or Zelle) and much thanks will be delivered to the provider.

## City council approves civic center, infrastructure projects

The McFerrer Park Civic Center is getting an update, thanks to action taken at the April 18 Hoopeston City Council meeting.

Alderman unanimously approved a \$6,000 quote from Carter's Floor Sanding and Refinishing of Rantoul, requested by Ald. Rachelle Miller.

Miller took over civic center improvements after Kyle Richards' resignation from the council was announced.

Miller said the work includes prepping the floor, sanding it, filling gouges and three coats of polyurethane. The work is expected to take two to three days and be completed by the end of July.

"By sanding and refinishing the stage floor at this moment, the stage will be brought to a safe and quality condition, ensuring it's prepared for the upcoming Sweetcorn Festival," she said.

In other business, the council unanimously approved a request from Ald. Stephen Eyrich to fund water and sewer lines for the West Maple St. extension. The project, estimated at \$300,000, is about half the \$600,000 budgeted for one-time expenses in the department's FY 2024 budget.

At least four parcels in the block - part of the Silver

Bros. addition to Hoopeston - are expected to be used for residential development. According to county records, the property is classified as vacant lots-land.

Mayor Jeff Wise called it "an all or nothing project. It's either going to be farmland or it's going to be a subdivision. We're not going to do it for one lot...and then wait 10 years" to do another lot.

After further discussion, he said the decision would be a difficult one to make. "We want Hoopeston to be known as a town that builds its infrastructure," but also need to consider city finances, he said.

Votes for the civic center floor and extending the utilities were 6-0, with Kyle Richards and Jesse Gonzalez absent.

### Court Dispositions

#### March 8

**Carrie A. Demarest**, Hoopeston, appeared at status hearing for unlawful acts constituting disorder, fined \$180; status hearing April 12.

**Pierson D. Lazarov**, Hoopeston, appeared at status hearing for bicycle lighting requirements, default entered, case sent to state for further enforcement.

## Sports

### Track

Hoopeston Area High School hosted a girls-only track meet April 24, competing against Bismarck-Henning/Rossville-Alvin, Milford and Armstrong.

The Lady Blue Devils led the pack with 78 points, followed by Milford's Lady Bearcats with 25. Hoopeston Area came in third, with 22 points, and Armstrong rounded out the field with 18.

Winners in each race were:

**100m dash:** Bre Crose, HA, 12.54

**200m dash:** Bre Crose, HA, 27.34

**400m dash:** Amber-Christine Reed, BH/RA, 1:11.14

**800m run:** Aleah Potter, BH/RA, 2:32.86

**1600m run:** Aleah Potter, BH/RA, 6:00.74

**3200m run:** Cala Reifsteck, Armstrong, 16:06.21

**100m hurdles:** Aubrey Peters, BH/RA, 17.74

**300m hurdles:** Aubrey Peters, BH/RA, 52.84

**4x100m relay:** BH/RA (Aubrey Peters, Ella McFarland, Nevaeh Scott, Amber-Christine Reed), 54.84

**4x200m relay:** BH/RA (Nevaeh Scott, Ella McFarland, Natalie Thomason, Aubrey Peters), 1:56.24

**4x400m relay:** Milford (Anna McEwen, Kaydence Kuester, Jasmin Cullum, Jahni Lavicka) 4:36.44

**4x800m relay:** BH/RA (Shaley Ferrell, Kelsey LeBeane, Alivia Reifsteck, Madeline Thorlton) 12:12.07

**High Jump:** Ella McFarland, BH/RA, 1.47m

**Long jump:** Amber-Christine Reed, BH/RA, 4.35m

**Triple jump:** Ella McFarland, BH/RA, 9.94m

**Shot put:** Anna Minton, Milford, 10.02m

**Discus throw:** Anna Minton, Milford, 26.55m

### Obituaries

**SMITH** - Douglas Jeffrey Smith, 63, of Armstrong, died April 29, 2023. Visitation will be 10 a.m. until the noon celebration of his life Thursday at Blurton Funeral Home, Potomac. Burial will be in Potomac Cemetery. Memorials are suggested to American Cancer Society. Condolences may be shared at [www.blurtonfuneralhomes.com](http://www.blurtonfuneralhomes.com).

### Weather

Breezy, chance of showers today. High 64. Tonight, clouds. Low 36. Tomorrow, sunny. High 61 low 37.

For real time Hoopeston weather, visit [justthefacts.net/weather/](http://justthefacts.net/weather/).

### Softball

The Lady Cornjerkers hosted Paris Tuesday and lost, 15-9. West had three hits and Barnes had two, while Bailey had a double. Barnes and Bailey each had two ribbies, with West contributing one. She and Barnes each had a stolen base. Cundiff was the pitcher for the evening and had four strikeouts.

## Classifieds

### HELP WANTED

Aquality Solutions is looking for full-time delivery drivers skilled in efficiency, organization, and flexibility. Delivery Drivers will deliver bottled water and bagged salt to commercial and residential customers and must have knowledge or be willing to learn maintenance operations when not driving. Apply in person at 102 N 1<sup>st</sup> Ave. in Hoopeston or call us at 855-692-7824.

The City of Hoopeston is seeking applicants for a new seasonal position. The position requires the prospective applicant to work 3 days a week with the water department and 2 days a week with the parks department. The position is physically demanding. The successful candidate must have a valid driver's license and the ability to run lawn equipment, be a self-starter, reliable and dependable, and also possess the willingness to learn and the drive to constantly improve his or her skills. Applications are available at City Hall, 301 W Main St. or at [www.cityofhoopeston/employment/](http://www.cityofhoopeston/employment/). For more information, call 217-283-5833 or visit our website.

Robinson Chiropractic is looking for you, so come join our team! We have a great staff and are looking to expand it. We are hiring strong individuals who are enthusiastic with an interest in natural healthcare. Candidates will be trained to assist with patient care. We have competitive wages, paid vacation, and a Simple IRA contribution. Full time employees receive free Chiropractic care. If interested, please send resume to [trina.keller@robchiro.com](mailto:trina.keller@robchiro.com).

The Vermilion Housing Authority in Hoopeston is hiring a Maintenance Mechanic, starting pay \$20/hr. Applications available online at [www.vermilionhousing.com](http://www.vermilionhousing.com).

Silgan Containers is hiring an Electrician - Industrial/Maintenance Technician. Please apply online at: [silgancontainers.mua.hrdepartment.com/hr/ats/Posting/view/13392](http://silgancontainers.mua.hrdepartment.com/hr/ats/Posting/view/13392)

City of Hoopeston Police Department is taking applications for certified police officers/part time certification is recognized. Applications ongoing; no deadline applies for certified officers.

### MISCELLANEOUS FOR SALE

1 large chest of drawers with 6 drawers, 1 smaller with 4 drawers. Dark wood. Good condition. Make offer (217) 497-5667

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