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Just the Facts

Friday, July 7, 2017

Hoopeston's only locally-owned daily news publication!
P.O. Box 441, Hoopeston IL 60942

www.justthefacts.net

Mark Drollinger, Hoopeston police chief loses cancer battle

"Be kind to one another."

Hoopeston Police Chief Mark Drollinger said those words many times, both in person and on Facebook.

Over the last many months, people have shown how kind they can be, offering prayers and support during his battle with oral cancer.

At 6:54 a.m. Thursday, after a hard-fought battle, Chief Drollinger lost that battle.

In March 2016, Chief Drollinger was diagnosed with Stage 4 cancer of the mandible (jaw), news that he shared on Facebook.

Since then, the chief took his story to a wider audience, doing interviews with area papers, radio stations and television stations to spread the word about oral cancers.

On July 9, 2016, Chief Drollinger underwent surgery to remove a tumor and his right jawbone, replacing it with part of his right tibia.

Surgery was followed by radiation and chemotherapy at the Carle Cancer Center in Danville. In March, Chief Drollinger and Susie Ward traveled to the Taussig Cancer Institute in Cleveland, Ohio, hoping for a miracle.

Chief Drollinger lost his hair, but not his sense of humor. He was determined to live not as a cancer victim but as someone living with cancer. The song "Live Like You Were Dying" by Tim McGraw's became his mantra. He



Photo courtesy of Carl Ankenbrand

Mark Drollinger as grand marshall of the 2016 National Sweetcorn Festival Parade.

continued to work light duty as he was able. On St. Patrick's Day, he married Ward, whom he considered his best friend and soul mate.

Also in March, the couple went on an extended southern vacation, including New Orleans, a place Chief Drollinger loved so much, he christened his local home The Redneck Quarter reminders of the French Quarter in New Orleans.

In April, friends, family and colleagues gathered at Hoopeston American Legion for a party with the chief. On April 22, he celebrated his 54th birthday with friends and golfing.

Chief Drollinger's fight carried on, taking a heavier toll.

Trips to the police station became fewer and of shorter duration, as he allowed Sgt. Jim DeWitt to take on some of the responsibility.

It was only at the last, as the pain intensified, that Chief Drollinger was placed in hospice care and took advantage of the pain relief available through that program.

Last weekend, to honor the man who been Hoopeston Police Chief since January 5, 1999, businesses and organizations with outdoor signs honored Chief Drollinger for his service, with variations of "Thanks, Chief" throughout Hoopeston.

Funeral arrangements for Chief Drollinger are pending at Anderson Funeral Home, Hoopeston.

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Friday: Cod sandwich or dinner, Ribeyes and Ribs

Saturday: Prime Rib, Ribeyes and Ribs 4:30-8:30

Open Bowling
All day Friday, Saturday 12-close
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915 E Orange, Hoopeston, 217-283-6229

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Classes begin September 5, 2017

Quality program, staff & facility!

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HUBBARD TRAIL COUNTRY CLUB

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Reservations encouraged: (217) 748-6521

Friday, July 7 5 p.m.-9 p.m.

Tonight's Special
Catfish or
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Community Youth Center

907 W. Main, Hoopeston

Open Fridays & Saturdays,
7-10 p.m. for all high school kids

Games•Movies•Refreshments•Homework Help

Supported by community non-profit organizations

Just the Facts
will not be printed
Monday.
Publication will resume
Tuesday.

Obituaries

TROXEL - Stephan W. Troxel, 57, of Hoopeston, died at 4:46 a.m. Tuesday, July 4, 2017 at home. He will be cremated and graveside service held at 12:30 p.m. Tuesday, July 11, 2017 at Floral Hill Cemetery. Memorials are suggested to Hoopeston Community Church of the Nazarene, 402 E. Honeywell Ave., Hoopeston IL 60942.

Briefly

Hydrant flushing

Hoopeston workers will flush hydrants on Fridays throughout the summer, weather permitting.

Music in the Park

Rankin United Methodist Church will sponsor Music in the Park Saturday at Rankin Centennial Park. Free hot-dogs, chips, soft drinks and cookies will be served start-

ing at 5 p.m., followed by The Allen Quartet in concert from 6-8 p.m.

Weather

Chance of thunderstorms today. High 86. Tonight, partly cloudy. Low 60. Tomorrow, Sunny. High 80, low 60. Sunday, mostly sunny, then chance of storms. High 83, low 64. Monday, partly sunny, chance of storms late. High 85, low 67.

Classifieds

APARTMENTS FOR RENT

Honeywell Apartments: 2 BR, includes water, heat, pest control, off street parking (815) 984-4513

HELP WANTED

Our growing chiropractic office in Hoopeston is looking for an employee who enjoys talking with people and getting out in the public. Must be dependable, team oriented, and have a flexible schedule. Are you that person? This position consists of marketing and sales duties and is a full time position. Please send resume to: Box C, Just the Facts, P.O. Box 441, Hoopeston IL 60942.

Custodian position for Circle Academy Vermilion in Rossville. 20 hours per wee, \$11/hour. Kitchen aide, \$8.50/hour, 15-20 hours/week. Please pick up an application at Mustard Seed Christian Daycare or by email, cdouglass@wigi.us

Hoopeston Area CUSD #11 has an opening for a Personal Aide at John Greer Elementary for the 2017-18 school year. Applications are available online only at Hoopeston Area CUSD's website, www.hoopeston.k12.il.us

HOUSES FOR SALE

414 E. Chestnut St., Hoopeston. \$49,900. 2 bedroom home w/2 car detached garage. Completely remodeled interior. Call today for a showing 217-304-0972

RUMMAGE SALES

HOPESTON: 418 S. Fourth St. in alley. Moving sale. Household items, furniture, bikes, DVDs, sport stuff, clothing. Fri. 8-noon, Sat. 7-10am.

HOPESTON: 709 E. Maple. Fri., 12-5, Sat. 8-? ALL items \$1 each. Women's/men's plus. Girls 10/12-women's S/M. Boys 7/8-10/12. Household items.

ROSSVILLE: 514 E. Attica. Fri. & Sat., 8-1. Rabbit hutch, 16" auto wheels, charcoal grill, 20" boy's bike, toys, boy & girl clothes size 8-young adult medium. Lots more!



Hail to the Chief

As Hoopeston Police Chief Mark Drollinger was placed in hospice care last week, several locations in Hoopeston showed support and gratitude for his years of service to the city with variations of "Thanks Chief." Chief Drollinger died early Thursday morning.