

Liquor License Approved For Lacon IGA, Dan Brooks Swore In As Police Chief

by MJ Langner

Lacon IGA will soon have liquor for sale in their store. The change comes after the Lacon City Council approved the liquor license application at their meeting on Wednesday, May 13th.

This liquor license is a Class D license and allows for the sale of package liquor only, no consumption on the property.

The council also received an update regarding the Main Street road project. The \$1.1 million resurfacing project is being done in an effort to accommodate the heavy grain truck traffic who use the road daily. Mike Richetta from Chamlin and Associates told the council it is possible they could see the road paving work happen-

ing the first two weeks of June.

In other business, the board approved the appointment of Dan Brooks as Chief of Police by the mayor and an employment agreement for the position. Brooks was first appointed as acting Chief of Police in May of last year following the April 2025 expiration of Troi Palm's employment agreement.

The council also approved the Marshall County Motorcycle Club's annual Boomtacular Event. This includes an alley closure behind the three bars in downtown Lacon. Another street closure was approved for a Touch a Truck event hosted by the Lacon Public Library on June 17th. The budget for fiscal year 2027 was also approved at this meeting.

No Serious Injuries In 3-Vehicle Accident At Foot Of Lacon Bridge



On Friday, May 15th 2026 at 2:53 p.m., the Lacon Police Department responded and investigated a traffic accident involving three vehicles that occurred at Fifth St. and Marina Drive. The vehicles were driven by Luke Salo from Gladstone, Michigan, Parker Lyons of Hopewell, Illinois, and Joseph Crisp of Lacon.

The investigation indicated that the vehicles driven by Luke Salo and Parker Lyons were West bound on Fifth Street but had to slow/stop in traffic and then the vehicle driven by Joseph Crisp struck the rear end of Salo's vehicle and forced it into the rear end of Lyon's vehicle. Joseph was cited for failing to reduce speed to avoid a traffic crash.

The Lacon Sparland Fire Department and Ambulance arrived

on scene and assisted the drivers and passengers of the three vehicles, totaling 6 people. There were no serious injuries and two vehicles were towed from the scene.

River Valley Players "High School Musical On Stage" Holding Auditions

River Valley Players is proud to announce auditions for their Summer Teen show, "High School Musical, On Stage!" Auditions will be held on May 24, 2026, at 2:00 p.m. and May 26, 2026, at 6:00 p.m. at the Henry United Methodist Church at 225 Lincoln Street, Henry, Illinois. Callbacks will be held on May 28, 2026 at (Continued On Page 2)

Lacon Chamber Welcomes Faith's Fabulous Treats To Lacon



The Lacon Area Chamber of Commerce held a ribbon cutting ceremony on Friday, May 15th to welcome Lacon's newest business, Faith's Fabulous Treats, located at 410 Fifth Street in Lacon, formerly occupied by Sweet Treats.

Owners Mike and Ashley Taylor of Tiskilwa, along with their daughter Faith, purchased the building back in January of 2025 but opened Faith's Fabulous Treats on April 15th of this year. Mike

and Ashley noted that they named the business in Lacon and their ice cream business in Princeton after 2-year old Faith. "She is our miracle baby," stated Ashley, Faith's mom. "We had six failures along the way before we had her."

Along with a variety of ice cream treats, Faith's Fabulous Treats also includes a variety of combo baskets, sandwiches and appetizers as well as a Kid's Menu. The business is open seven days a

week from 11:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. except for Sunday when they will close an hour earlier at 8:00 p.m.

Pictured above from left to right is employee Britney Moore, chamber members Holly Wilson, Amanda Barnett and Ashley McMahan; owners Mike Taylor, Faith Taylor and Ashley Taylor, chamber member Shamra Behnke, employee Alissa Ahrens, chamber member Lauren Blough and cousin Randy Swartz.

County Board Approves Salary Increases

by MJ Langner

Several elected and appointed official positions will be seeing a significant salary increase in the coming year as county board members set salaries for the county clerk and recorder, treasurer, circuit clerk and supervisor of assessments for the fiscal years 2027 through 2030.

The county board is required by ordinance to set and approve salaries for the positions of clerk and recorder, treasurer and circuit clerk no less than 180 days prior to the election for these positions. Historically, the board has also set the salary of the assessor at the same time. Originally discussed at the board's April meeting, action on the salaries had been tabled in order to gather more information and possible comparisons from

nearby comparable counties.

Board Chairman Travis McGlasson provided board members at this meeting on May 14th, with a presentation offering three scenarios showing hypothetical salaries the board could set for the positions, as well as a history and more information of salaries for elected officials in Marshall County versus employees.

His scenarios included a way forward that would provide for a "full gap recovery," a second option that would meet a goal of providing a salary of \$85,000 and a third option that would see the salaries ultimately reach just over \$80,000.

A significant point for everyone when it came to setting these salaries was that due to consistent employee raises and inconsistent and sometimes non-existent rais-

es for the officials, employees are making nearly the same as the department heads. McGlasson noted that in 2019 and 2020, those officials did not receive a raise at all while employees received a two percent raise. Because of instances like this, the salary gap has become virtually nonexistent.

County Clerk and Recorder Jill Kenyon noted that employees also receive a longevity bonus every five years, something officials are not offered. With these increases, Kenyon said there is an employee making more than a department head.

"We feel an employee should not make more than a department head. There's a problem there," she stated. "When is it going to stop," she would go on to ask the board.

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 <p>Rita's Kitchen & Bar 1217 5th Street, Lacon, IL (309) 246-FOOD (3663) HOURS: Tuesday - Friday: 4:30 to 8:30 p.m.; Saturday: 4:30 to 9:30 Closed Sundays and Monday Except For Private Parties Lunch Served: Tuesday - Friday 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.</p>	<p>NIGHTLY SPECIALS</p>	<p>WEDNESDAY Wild-Wacky Wednesday 2 Meals - \$20 ♦ 1/4 Chicken (Dark) - 2 Sides ♦ Popcorn Shrimp - 2 Sides ♦ Large Spaghetti - w/Bread & Fritter</p>	<p>TUESDAY Wing Night</p>	<p>FRIDAY Fish Night</p>
		<p>THURSDAY Meat Loaf Mashed Potatoes, Green Beans or Corn, Bread & Fritter</p>	<p>SATURDAY Steak Night</p>	

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