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**[www.justthefacts.tm](http://www.justthefacts.tm)**

**Hoopeston Police Department releases annual crime stats**

Hoopeston police were busy fighting crime in 2000.

The number of total crimes was down from last year, however violent crimes and drug arrests increased, according to annual statistics released by the department.

While an upswing in drug arrests may not seem like good news, Chief Mark Drollinger sees it differently. He called the 27 arrests—up from 21 in 1999—“absolutely wonderful.” “It shows we’re

more aggressive on our traffic stops. The officers are taking time to do consent searches.”

Cannabis arrests stayed nearly steady from 1999 to 2000 while violations of the hypodermic syringes and needles act dwindled from two in 1999 to none last year. Controlled substance arrests increased from one in 1999 to three in 2000.

Police seized assets in four drug cases last year. Of those, three were successful in the courts and one is pending, Drollinger said.

The number of local burglaries also decreased, which Drollinger attributed to “the increased presence of the officers.” Some higher-crime areas have received increased attention, including officer foot patrols, he said.

Of the total number of burglaries reported, 12 arrests were made, according to state figures.

See CRIME on other side

**1996-2000 Crime Comparison**

	2000	1999	1998	1997	1996
Murder	0	0	0	0	0
Sexual Assault	3	5	1	3	8
Robbery	1	0	2	1	5
Domestic Battery	16	36	17	20	16
Agg Battery	26	21	13	26	13
Burglary	56	68	48	54	57
Theft	163	163	117	123	136
Auto Theft	8	13	8	6	22
Arson	2	1	0	1	1
Vandalism	165	167	200	170	170
Drug Arrests	27	21	12	11	7
Traffic Accidents	157	165	180	192	201
Total	594	660	598	607	629

**2000 Investigation Statistics**

Total cases assigned	395
Open cases	10
Cases cleared by arrest	80
Cases referred to State's Attorney for prosecution	57
Cases referred to other authority for disposition	11
Cases closed due to victim refusing to cooperate, etc.	73
Cases carried as inactive	164
Success rate	57%

Hoopeston Lions Club

**Pancake & Sausage Day**

Saturday, Feb. 3 6 a.m.-2 p.m.

**Hoopeston American Legion**

All you can eat!

\$3.50 adults, under 6 free

Whole hog sausage available, \$2/lb.  
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**Steak Fry**

Friday, Feb. 2

5:30-8 p.m.

**American Legion**

502 E. Penn, Hoopeston  
No carry-outs

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## Briefly

### Tiny Tots

"Dr. Seuss Day" will be the theme of Tiny Tots story program at 10:30 a.m. Friday at the Hoopeston Public Library children's room. Children may wear funny or crazy hats.

Tiny Tots is open to children ages 1-4 who are accompanied by an adult.

### Benefit set

A benefit will be held for Calvin Rife from 1-8 p.m. Saturday at the Hoopeston VFW. Full Circle will play and there will be a 50/50 drawing, auction, door prizes and food. Admission is \$3 for singles and \$5 for couples.

Rife, of Hoopeston, recently underwent open heart surgery. The benefit is being held to defray medical expenses, said organizer Jenny Schramm.

### Rules of the Road

A free Rules of the Road review course will be held from 1-3 p.m. Friday, Feb. 9 at the Hoopeston city hall conference room. For more information call 283-5833.

### GED classes

Anyone interested in evening GED classes in Rossville this spring is asked to call Cathy Douglass, 748-6044 or Judy Henry, 748-6650. Deadline to sign up for the spring session offered by DACC, is Feb. 1.

### Meetings

- The Rossville-Alvin school board will meet at 12:15 p.m. Feb. 1 in the high school library. The board will discuss a resolution to appear before the property tax appeal board.
- The Hoopeston Area school board building committee will meet at 3 p.m. Feb. 1 in the superintendent's office.

## Obituaries

**KNAPP**—Earl Knapp, 75, of Cissna Park died at 10:21 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 28, 2001 at Carle Foundation Hospital, Urbana. Funeral arrangements are pending at Knapp Funeral Home, Cissna Park.

**MOORE**—Larry E. Moore, 53, of Hoopeston, died at 9:25 a.m. Sunday, Jan. 28, 2001 at home. Funeral services were at 10 a.m. Tuesday at The Cowboy Church. Burial was in Locust Grove Cemetery, Tab, Ind.

## Crime continued from other side

Aggravated battery, a violent crime, showed an increase over last year, with 26 cases in 2000 compared with 21 in 1999.

The number of thefts remained steady with 163 both in 1999 and 2000 while the number of auto thefts dropped from 13 to eight.

Twelve people were arrested for theft last year and five were charged with auto theft, according to state reports.

Last year was the first for investigation statistics to be released by the department. Of the 395 cases assigned to investigators, 57 percent were solved. The figure was determined by dividing the number of resolved cases by the total number of cases assigned, minus the number of cases still open.

The figures include crimes to which a report was made primarily for insurance purposes, such as scratched vehicles and slit tires. "To that victim, it's not a small case," Drollinger said. "It's a tragedy in

their world."

And smaller cases allow investigators to hone their skills for larger ones. "The only way you're going to get very good at the big ones is to be proficient on the smaller ones," he said.

## In the Hospital



**Hoopeston Community Memorial Hospital**  
**Jan. 29**

**Admitted:** Marvel Norton, Hoopeston.

**Discharged:** none.

## Weather



Cloudy, flurries likely today and tonight. High 35, low 23. Tomorrow, chance of light snow. High 30, low 20.

For current weather conditions, call the **Hoopeston Weather Line** at (217) 283-6221.

## Police News



A **19-year-old** Hoopeston woman reported Tuesday that someone took her 1992 white GMC Jimmy while it was parked in the 300 block of East Lincoln.

**COMPTON'S**  
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