



Hoopeston Jaycees ready for weekend of Christmas activities

The Hoopeston Jaycees are gearing up for their second busiest weekend of the year.

The group will collect toys from its Toys for Kids campaign on Friday and Saturday, host the annual Underprivileged Children's Christmas Party Saturday and end the weekend with the Senior Citizens Christmas Dinner Sunday.

Toys for Kids, similar to the national Toys for Tots program, collects new or clean, gently used toys for area children, said Jaycees president Michelle Gonzalez.

Collection boxes are located at Jerry's IGA, Pamida, CVS, Monical's, Weber Drugs, Community Bank's main office and Brown's Cash & Carry.

Toys will be picked up Friday and Saturday and will be distributed to less fortunate Hoopeston area children. Last year, 232 children received toys from the Toys for Kids program, a number Gonzalez expects to see increase this year. "With the economy the way it is, I think we'll have more signed up," she said.

Families for Toys for Kids are screened by Grant Township caseworker Carol Boose, who also screens for the Lions Club Christmas baskets and the township's Miracle Tree programs, Gonzalez said. Once toys are collected Saturday, the group will then swing into the children's Christmas program. The Jaycees use funds to allow underprivileged children to purchase Christmas gifts for their families. Twelve children will participate in that program, Gonzalez said.

The children are selected from a screening process done by Grant Township caseworker Carol Boose, who also screens for the Lions Club food baskets and township's Miracle Tree program.

The group's weekend ends Sunday with the Senior Citizen Christmas dinner, set for noon at the Hoopeston Multi Agency, 206 S. First Ave. Invitations have been sent to seniors who attended previous dinners. Anyone who did not receive an invitation and would like to attend is asked to call chairmen Bob and Karen Porth at 283-7459.

Money for the Christmas projects comes, in part, from the Jaycees' busiest weekend, the National Sweetcorn Festival. Other funds are raised through donations from individuals and organizations.

Anyone who would like to donate money for the Jaycees Christmas projects may call Gonzalez at (217) 283-4140.

Our poinsettias are greenhouse fresh with beautiful bows and care tags. Starting at \$4.98. *Christmas cactus, too.*

Flowers & Gifts by Molly Culbert 702 W. Main, Hoopeston 283-5578 Open 7 Days





NOTICE: Effective Thursday, Dec. 12, Vermilion Waste will no longer pick up appliances in Hoopeston.



Co-sponsored by Just the Facts Vote for your favorite yard 11 a.m.-1 p.m. Wed, Dec. 18 First place \$25, second place \$15, third place \$10.

— Briefly —

Correction

It was incorrectly reported in the Tuesday issue that drop cords should be placed under carpets. Carpets should not be used to cover extension cords.

Tiny Tots

Santa Claus will visit at this week's Tiny Tots story program at 10:30 a.m. Friday. It will be held at the Hoopeston Public Library children's room.

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

Slab to be closed

The Hoopeston city slab will be closed Saturdays beginning Dec. 14.

Weather

Partly sunny today. High 45. Tonight, cloudy. Low 32. Tomorrow, chance of rain or snow. High 40, low 30. For current weather conditions, call the **Hoopeston** Weather Line at (217) 283-6221.

