


 **Hoopeston Express Lube**
 Stop. Go. Pennzoil.
\$300 OFF (Hoopeston Plaza)
 Expires 5/31/03 **Any**

Every man needs one!
 Makita 1/2", 12 v.
Hammer Drill
\$149⁰⁰
 w/case, 2 batteries, charger
 **Olympic**

On April 1, vote for
JEAN MINICK 
 for
Hoopeston City Council
 ✓ Former Grant Township trustee
 ✓ Business Owner
 ✓ Grant Township Election Judge
 ✓ Has attended

Lourdine Florek
 owner/publisher
Just the Facts[©]
Thursday, March 6, 2003
 Hoopeston's only locally-owned daily news publication
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www.justthefacts.net

Internet service switch causes problems for local residents

Some area customers are wondering whether their onramp to the information superhighway has been closed.

Friday, many customers of the Danville Sol Tec office received a letter from Cooke Technologies saying they would provide internet service in-house rather than through Sol Tec in Champaign. The change became effective Saturday morning.

It caused problems for some customers, who complained about the late notification while from Cooke Technologies. Others reported that they were unable to

reach some of their favorite internet sites on the new service.

The short notice was necessary in order not to have internet disconnected, said Cooke Technologies president Allen Cooke.

In December, Cooke Group, parent company of Cooke Technologies, learned fees paid to Sol Tec, Champaign, would increase. "We felt it was necessary for our own economic survival to go it alone," Cooke said.

See INTERNET on other side

Briefly

Multi Agency receives grant

The Hoopeston Multi Agency has received a \$1,000 matching grant from the Walmart Foundation.

The grant matches funds raised at a recent spaghetti supper, said Betty Shaffer, Multi Agency executive director. The money will be used to expand senior programs and for Teen Reach, she said.

Tiny Tots

"Wiggly Tales" is the theme of this week's Tiny Tots story program 10:30 a.m. Friday at the Hoopeston Public Library children's room.

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

Sweetheart Dinner

The Hoopeston Area Sweetheart Dinner has been rescheduled for 12:30 p.m. Friday, March 7. The event was cancelled last Friday due to the weather.

Seniors do not need to call in reservations again. School officials will use the current registration list.

Photos needed

The Hoopeston Public Library is requesting

photos from the early 1950s including weddings, picnics, Fourth of July celebrations at the park, church groups, scout groups, sports events, farming, school events and parades. Especially sought are photos of the nighttime Sweet Corn Festival Parade.

Anyone with photos is asked to call Lou Graham at (217) 283-6711. All photos will be returned.

Cholesterol screenings

Hoopeston Regional Health Center will hold free monthly cholesterol, glucose and blood pressure screenings from 7-10:30 a.m. Tuesday. For more information, call Charlene Drawdy at (217) 283-4243.

Civic Center walking

The McFerren Park Civic Center is now open seven days a week for walkers. The building is open 5:30 a.m.-7 p.m. Mon.-Fri. and 6 a.m.-7 p.m. Sat. and Sun.

Pony/Colt League

There will be a meeting for the Pony / Colt summer baseball leagues on Tuesday, March 11 at 7 p.m. at the AmerenCIPS building in Hoopeston. Anyone interested in coaching or volunteering is urged to

The Candle Topper you leave on while the Jar Candle is burning.
Lots of new ones came today!
Flowers & Gifts by Molly Culbert
 702 W. Main, Hoopeston 283-5578 Open 7 Days

<p>TAX SERVICE PLUS</p> <p>Tax Preparation Electronic Filing Fast Tax Refunds Available Call for details Walk-ins are also welcome</p> <p>307 1/2 E. Main St. Hoopeston, IL 60942</p>	<p>R&G SERVICES GAIL LANE, EA</p> <p>Phone: (217) 283-6990 Fax: (217) 283-4429</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Year round tax service •Payroll & Bookkeeping Service •FOID, Fax & Notary Service •Customized Business Services
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 **Steak Fry**
 Friday 5:30-8 p.m.
American Legion
 502 E. Penn, Hoopeston

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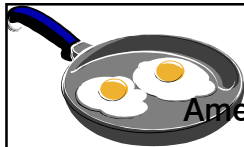
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Each Office Is Independently Owned And Operated.

BENEFIT

For Larry (LT) and Carol Taylor
Saturday, March 8 2 p.m.-?
Door prizes Chicken Din-
ner
Maui Club 7-11 p.m.
BJ's Pump



Rossville
American Legion

Sunday

37th Annual Rossville Antique Show & Sale



Rossville-Alvin High School
Saturday, March 8 10 a.m.-6 p.m. (CST)
Sunday, March 9 11 a.m.-4 p.m. (CST)
Over 35 dealers!

\$3 donation good for both days

Sponsored by

Rossville-Alvin Boosters

Manager: Naomi Freeman

(217) 748-6720

Food available both days.

Antique & specialty shops open downtown



Thursday Night City Men's League

Standings 2/27/03	
1. Tax Service Plus	128
	40
2. Con Agra Store Brands	
	96
	72
3. Pla-Mor Lanes	
	93
	75
4. Hoopeston Express Lube	
	85
	83
5. Team America	
	80

Bowling Scores



6. 88	
Read's	64
	94
7. Tons of Fun Band	70
	98
8. Razor's Edge	
	46
	122

High Team Handicap Game: Con Agra Store Brands 1,113, Team America 1,070, Read's 1,054; **High Team Handicap Series:** Con Agra Store Brands 3,206, Team America 3,140, Read's 3,044; **High Individual Scratch Game:** Eric Gress 278, Chet Catron 247, Roy Kohl 243; **High Individual Scratch Series:** Eric Gress 688, Doug

Wagoner 634, Chet Catron 253.
Hall of Shame: Joe Perez 111.

Everyday
Hallmark
Gift Bags
Buy 1, get 1 FREE
of equal or lesser value
excluding Easter
Hallmark
WEBER'S DRUGS &

Classifieds

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Having out of town visitors? We have two brand new 1 bedroom furnished apartments available by the night or by the week. TV, phone, utilities included. (217) 283-7996.

AUCTIONS

Thinking of having an auction?
Go to www.jonwitvoetauctioneer.com or call (217) 748-6289!

HOUSES FOR RENT

2 bedroom house w/garage. Service pets only. \$350 deposit, \$350/mo. 3 bedrooms house w/garage. \$350 deposit, \$350/mo. Service animals only. References required for each. (217) 283-5093

63-69

SERVICES

A-Right Way Rooter Service Rodding \$65. Work guaranteed. Senior citizen discount. (815) 435-2186, (815) 549-1039. 64-77

VEHICLES FOR SALE

Hey Vermilion - look: 1997 Dodge Ram 1500 Extended Cab, Laramie package short bed. V-8, 5.2 liter, 318 CID. Automatic, air, tilt, power everything, AM/FM/CD, bed liner, toolbox, tow package, aluminum wheels, oversize Michelin tires. Excellent condition. 66,000 mi. \$11,500. (217) 283-4323.

63-66

Internet continued from other side

The two firms had partnered since 1996.

Cooke said there was no good way to make the switch. "We didn't want to give them 30 days' notice. They would have shut us down," he said. The alternative was short notice to customers and the resultant confusion and problems. "You would never do this to yourself if you didn't have to," he said.

From the Sol Tec side, some customers complained about using a long distance number. That problem is expected to be rectified by Friday when an 800 number is in place, said Lanette Cannady, Sol Tec director of business development.

"We're focusing and concentrating on taking care of Sol Tec customers," she said. "We've had a lot of frantic calls and emails. As soon as we received information

about this letter and that they had developed their own company, we immediately got information to our cus-

tomers."

While the letter Cooke sent to customers indicated changes that had to be made to keep internet service, people can choose whether to stay with Sol Tec or have Cooke Technologies as an internet service provider. "Customers have a choice," she said. "If they want to stay with Sol Tec, they can."

Sol Tec has negotiated for an office in Danville and is expected to have a Hoopeston office in the near future, Cannady said.

Computer Works, which has been the local contact point for Sol Tec, is now affiliated Cooke Technologies.

There seems to be confusion between the companies, as well. The web page of another Cooke Group subsidiary, Cooke Business Products, still lists Sol Tec as its internet partner and tells customers how to connect to Sol Tec.

Despite the problems, Cooke is happy about

Weather



Partly sunny today. High 42. Tonight, partly cloudy. Low 30. Tomorrow, partly sunny. High 50, low 30.

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

Obituaries

FIFE - Richard L. Fife, 65, of Rossville, died at 11:22 p.m. EST Saturday, March 1, 2003 at Lafayette Home Hospital, Lafayette, Ind. There will be no services. Sunset Funeral Home and Cremation Center was in charge of arrangements.