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Thursday, June 12, 2003

Hoopeston's only locally-owned daily news publication

P.O. Box 441, Hoopeston, IL. 60942

www.justthefacts.net

Price Less grocery stores to change hands at end of month

After 24 years, Tom and Betty Maire are selling their Hoopeston and Danville grocery stores.

Price-Less Foods will have new owners, effective June 30.

The stores are being purchased by Knarf & Kram, Inc. The company is owned by Frank Smith of Charleston, who will manage the Hoopeston store, and Mark Elliott of Mattoon, who will manage the Danville operation.

The Bakery, which the Maires also own, has not been sold.

Work on the sale began about a year ago, Smith said. It was articles of clothing that brought it about.

Smith and Maire were associated with the same warehouse and met at a golf outing. Smith was famous for wearing clothing from corporate vendors. "I always said if it wasn't for the vendors, I wouldn't have any clothes," Smith said.

Maire teased Smith about his wardrobe and about two years ago, sent him a Price-Less jacket.

Smith and Elliott heard about a Hoopeston grocery store that was for sale and when Smith found out it was Maire's, the men decided to purchase it.

The Maires will remain with the store "as long as we're needed," said Maire, who will be the meat department manager.

Maire started in the grocery business in 1961, with a small IGA store in Danville, in a time when neighborhood grocery stores flourished. "Then along came the supermarkets," which caused many small stores to close, he said.

In 1979, Maire opened the Hoopeston location in what had been a closed Grab-It-Here store. The grocery was then affiliated with Save-A-Lot before becoming Price-Less Foods. He opened the



TOM and BETTY MAIRE

Danville store the same year.

The decision to sell was made because "it's time," said the 65-year-old Maire. "I'm putting in seven days a week. Time's getting shorter."

Maire's son, Jeff, who had worked at the stores, did not want to take them over. "I don't blame him," Maire said. "He'd been in the grocery business since he was about four years old."

The new owners will fit the community, he said. "They're personable," he said. "They're young enough to be aggressive and they've been in the grocery business a long time."

Smith said no changes are planned at the Hoopeston store. The Danville store's hours will change to reflect those in Hoopeston. Price-Less is open from 7

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17. Knight's title

19. Young goat



A 59-year-old Hoopeston woman reported Tuesday that someone took her purse from her car while it was parked in the 100 block of North Market. The purse was later found with the contacts in-

New Books at the Library



Non-fiction:

The College Board Scholarship Handbook, 2003

guage Visual Dictionary Back with Food: Use Nutrition to Heal

rican Dietetic Association Guide to Better eslie Bonci

How to Save Money Everyday by Ellie Kay A Simple Choice: a Practical Guide for Saving Your Time, Money and Sanity by Deborah Taylor-Hough

The Complete Book of Home Inspection by Norman Becker

tact.

Police News

Charlene S. Hofer, 42, of 528 W. Elm, was ticketed for failing to yield at a marked intersection after an accident at 7:30 p.m. Tuesday.

Police said Hofer, in a 1986 Ford F-150 truck, was southbound on Third Ave. at West Maple when she collided with a 1996 Ford Windstar driven by Gloria S. Colunga of Hoopeston.

Police reported that the Hoopeston Ambulance Service was called to the scene but the drivers and all passengers refused treatment.

A 38-year-old Hoopeston man reported Wednesday that someone took an air tank from his

Weather



Chance of thunderstorms today. High 80. Tonight, partly cloudy. Low 62. Tomorrow, chance of thunderstorms. High 82, low 62.

For current weather conditions, (217) 283-6221.

39. Loiter 20. Early language 22. Punctuation mark 42. Menagerie 44. Contort 23. Large tank 24. Woe is me! 46. Billow 47. Region 25. Roman emperor 48. Assemble 26. Actor Guinness 49. Small bed 27. Cab 50. Miss Gardner 29. Actor Falk 32. Deep hole 51. Crash (into) 34. Cupboard 52. Chaotic crowd 55. Mrs. Kettle 37. Prickle; sting

Classifieds

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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RUMMAGE SALES

616 E. McCracken, Hoopeston. Sat., 8-1. Scanner, chair, luggage, tiller & other numerous items.

623 E. Maple, Hoopeston. Fri., June 13, 8 a.m.-2 p.m. Brand name clothes: women's teen girls, infant boys; baby furniture, toys, misc.

628 W. Maple, Hoopeston. Fri., 8-4, Sat. 8-noon. In garage. Rain or shine. Large family sale. Clothes, especially large women, kids, men's, coats, dishes, toys, videos, furniture, misc.

212 Stufflebeam, Rossville. Fri. & Sat., 8-? Household, clothes, golf clubs, comforter sets, loft bed, books, blankets, throw pil-

Fri. & Sat., 8-? Men's, Women's, Boys 7-16, Girls 6x-12, boy newborn-18 mths. Clean clothes! Toys, PCs, Heaters, Christmas, kitchen, Complete set of bedding (jungle) baby swing, car seat. More to add! 2 ½ miles west on Thompson. Watch for signs!

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