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Phone/Fax:  
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Email:  
publish@justthefacts.net

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**Area residents gather to pay respects to servicemen, women**

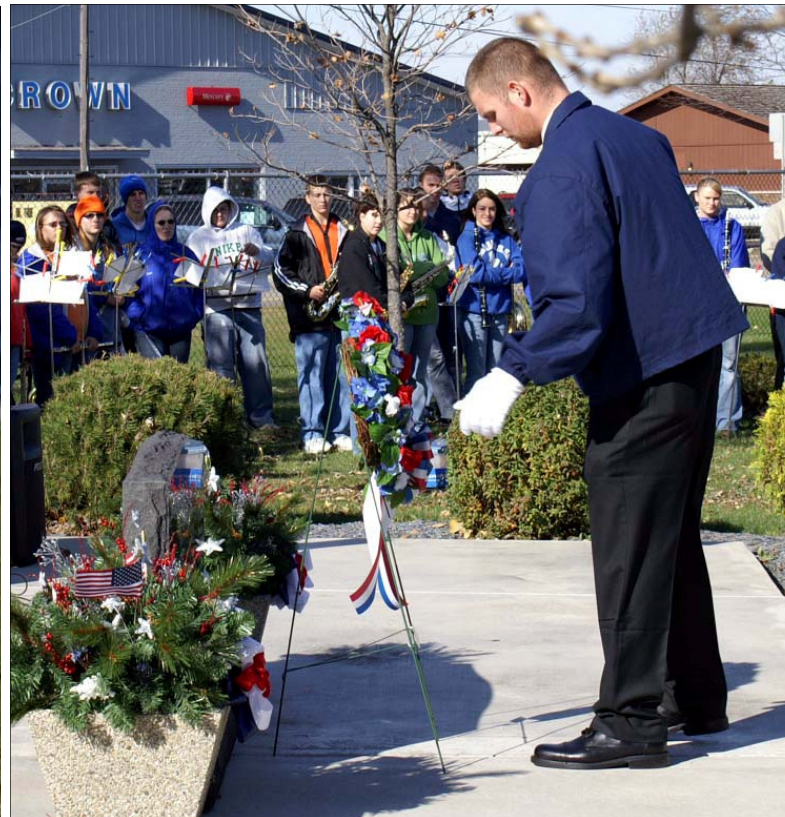
Scores of people braved strong winds Friday to honor the brave during Veterans' Day services at McFerren Park.

The Hoopeston Area High School Band opened the ceremony with music, followed by the invocation by Fr. Bo Schmitt of St. Anthony Catholic Church.

Cliff Witty, commander of the Buddy Egnew post of the V.F.W. gave the keynote address, talking about Sgt. First Class John Smoker, a friend from Witty's service days, who volunteered to serve in Iraq.

Smoker, who corresponds with Witty via e-mail,

See **SERVICE** on other side



Caitlyn Jones, (left) nearly three, enjoys the Hoopeston Area High School band during Veterans' Day activities at McFerren Park Friday. Caitlyn accompanied her grandfather, Ed Jones. Right, returning Hoopeston soldier James Allen places a wreath at the memorial for fallen soldiers during Friday's service.

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## **Obituaries**

**BERRY** - Lester A. "Sarge" Berry, 83, of Hoopeston died at 1:53 a.m. Thursday, Nov. 10, 2005 at Hoopeston Community Memorial Hospital. Funeral services will be at 2:30 p.m. Monday at Brown-Alkire Funeral Home. Burial will be in Floral Hill Cemetery with military honors by the Hoopeston American Legion and VFW posts. Visitation will be one hour before services at the funeral home. Memorials may be made to a charity of the donor's choice.

**DAVIS** - Charles Benjamin Davis, 83, of Hawthorne, Fla., formerly of Hoopeston, died at 9:58 a.m. Tuesday, Nov. 8, 2005 at University of Florida Shands Hospital, Gainesville, Fla. Private cremation will be determined at a later date. Memorials are suggested to First Christian Church, 502 E. Main St., Hoopeston, IL 60942. Worth Cremation Service of

## **Police News**



**Pam S. Crose**, 47, of 719 S. Fifth St., was arrested at 11:15 p.m. Friday at Fourth St. and McCracken. She was charged with possession of a controlled substance, possession of cannabis, possession of drug paraphernalia and no valid driver's license. She was taken to the Public Safety Building, Danville.

## **Service continued from other side**

wrote Witty that Americans do not get an accurate picture of the war from reporters. "The media has painted only a bad picture of what's going on here," Witty read, adding that the Iraqi people are happy to be experiencing democracy.

The soldiers "are dedicated to the mission," Smoker wrote. Injured service people "want to get better so they can get back to their units. It's awesome dedication and it's awesome to watch."

Witty talked about his passion for the V.F.W. "What makes me so passionate? I guess it's because I don't want anyone to forget."

He also spoke about the need for service organizations such as the V.F.W. and the American Legion, to support active soldiers, support veterans and fight for veterans' rights.

Florida, San Mateo, is in charge of arrangements.

**McCALLISTER** - Ralph Hall McAllister, 90, of rural Rossville died at 1:30 p.m. Friday, Nov. 11, 2005 at Hoopeston Nursing Home, Hoopeston. Funeral services will be at 11:30 a.m. Wednesday at Southside Church of the Nazarene, 1629 King St., Tilton. Burial will be in Spring Hill Cemetery, Danville. Visitation will be from 4 to 8:30 p.m. Tuesday at Lakeside-Barrick Funeral Chapel, 3550 N. Vermilion St., Danville. Memorials are suggested to the church or Hoopeston Nursing Home.

## **Lunch Menus**



### **CRIS/SAMS meals**

**MONDAY:** Veal steak, cream corn, peas & carrots, wheat bread, plums.

**TUESDAY:** Beef stew, applesauce, white bread, spice cake.

**WEDNESDAY:** Meatballs w/dumpling pasta, green beans, carrots, diced peaches, white bread.

**THURSDAY:** Steak fingers, loaded potato, mixed vegetables, tomato juice, wheat bread.

**FRIDAY:** Turkey breast, gravy, potatoes au gratin, peas & mushrooms, cranberry sauce, wheat rolls, pumpkin pie.

Daily, 1,200 to 1,500 veterans die in the U.S. and membership in both organizations is dwindling.

"Both of these clubs could be in jeopardy in the next few years," Witty said.

The ceremony also included a check presentation from Bud Miller to Steve Jennings who, with partner Rick Robbins, etched the final list of names into the veterans' memorial. "As of today, everything is done on it," Miller said.

## **Weather**



Chance of rain today, tonight and tomorrow. High today 51, low 43. Tomorrow, high 53, low 33.

For current weather conditions, call Hoopeston Weather Service, (217) 283-6221.

## **Flu clinics to be on schedule**

Flu clinics planned by the Vermilion County Health Department will be held as scheduled. Health officials have received the remainder of flu vaccine that they ordered for this year.

The health department was forced to delay some October flu clinics as well as clinics scheduled for earlier this month, when an expected shipment of additional flu vaccine did not arrive.

A clinic will be held on Tuesday, Nov. 15 from 9 am to 1 pm at the Hoopeston Methodist Church, 403 E Main.

Westville's flu shot clinic will be on Wednesday Nov. 16 from noon to 4 pm at the Trinity Church of Christ, 311 Moses Avenue in Westville.

Both will be open to high risk individuals and to the general public, regardless of their health status.

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