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Lourdine Florek
editor

just the facts

Tuesday, Nov. 29, 1994

Hoopeston's only locally-owned daily news publication!
(217) 283-9348 P.O. Box 441, Hoopeston, IL. 60942

Susan Comstock
ad manager

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Merchants jolly over start of Christmas shopping season

You won't hear many "bah-humbugs" from area merchants over the start of this year's Christmas shopping season.

Friday, traditionally the busiest shopping day of the year, and the rest of the weekend were good for area merchants.

"I had a great business," said Tom Sheridan, owner of Sheridan's TV & Appliance. "I couldn't be happier. I was surprised. That's usually a weekend for malls."

Several customers bought big ticket items, including refrigerators, stoves and washers, he said. "We sold a little bit of everything."

Sandy Trimmell, owner of The Guys, was "real pleased" with weekend shopping. "Friday and Saturday were just excellent," she said.

While people often start Christmas shopping as early as October, this year, "there weren't any early shoppers," she said, adding October and the early part of November were both slow.

Trimmell, who said she is "cautiously optimistic" about the shopping season, said cooler temperatures have boosted sweater sales. Denim shirts are also popular, as are vests. "Everybody wants vests," she said.

Last weekend was "the busiest I've seen," said Tony McKinley of the Fife and Drum in Rossville. "We feel like our sales are up quite a bit."

Shoppers purchased varied items over the weekend. "Ornaments, gifts, everything went out," he said.

At Flowers & Gifts by Molly Culbert, stars of Bethlehem and lighted wreaths were the top sellers in what owner Molly Culbert called "a really

good weekend." The Homecoming open house, for former residents who return for the Thanksgiving holiday, "went especially well," she said. Even Sunday was busy, a surprise because "it was a nasty day."

Marilyn Kinnett, owner of Little Folks and Country Critters in Rossville, summed up the weekend in one word: "wonderful. We had a great weekend, probably one of the best," she said.

This year, shoppers have done a complete turnaround from the last two years, she said. During the last two seasons, shoppers concentrated more on basics, such as clothing, for gifts, but this year, "they seem to be looser. Everybody seemed more upbeat. Toys and bears are going like crazy and people are buying fewer clothes," she said.

For Bill Schuler, owner of Shuler's Flower

See SHOP on other side

SARAH'S announces winners

Winners in drawings held at S.A.R.A.H.'S. (Strength, Agility, Rehabilitation And Health Solutions) over the weekend have been announced.

Monika Holt of Hoopeston won a one-month membership at the health club. Eloise Nelson, also of Hoopeston, was chosen the winner of a three-month membership. Cheryl Overlander of Hoopeston won a six-month membership and Rhonda Borders of Hoopeston won a one-year membership.

Winners of the free Swedish massages were Donna Mills of Rossville and Evelyn Brown of Alvin.



Pancake & Sausage Day
Rossville Methodist Church

Saturday, Dec. 3

10 a.m.-5 p.m.

Donations:

\$3.50, adults

\$2.50, children under 12



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It's almost time for the EIMPC

MINI BAZAAR

Friday, Dec. 2 9 a.m.-3 p.m.
Bake Sale! Toys! Furniture! Clothing!
Decorations! Gift Items!
206 S. First Ave., Hoopeston
 The thrift shop will be closed Nov. 30-Dec. 1
 to prepare for the sale.

Classifieds

HELP WANTED

Mechanic to put rod bearing in Ford pickup truck. Not a garage (individual). Pays good. (217) 283-7918. 332-333.

Daytime help wanted, 10 a.m.-2 p.m., 11 a.m.-1 p.m. Apply in person at Burger King.

MISCELLANEOUS FOR SALE

One 90" sofa, beige and rust, one large arm chair, beige. Call Pat Regan, (217) 283-5762.

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VEHICLES FOR SALE

1985 Dodge Ram Charger. 4WD, automatic, air, new paint. \$4,800. Call (217) 283-5122.

1976 Buick LeSabre, 4-door hardtop. 86,000 actual miles. Good tires, runs good. Phone (217) 283-6432 or 283-6034. May be seen at 924 W. Young.

WANTED TO BUY

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Up & Coming

Slab open weekends

The city slab will be open to the public the next two weekends for disposing yard debris and branches only. After the weekend of Dec. 3, the site will be closed for the winter.

Chapter 1 meeting

A Chapter 1 Parents/Student/Teacher meeting will be held at 6:30 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 1, at John Greer Grade School. The program will be "Hooked on Learning." Refreshments will be served and prizes will be given.

Education sessions planned

An educational program offering GED classes,

field trips and college-credit courses will be offered at John Greer Grade School in January.

For more information or to sign up for classes, call the Chapter 1 office at 283-7038.

Miracle Tree

Names of area children on Miracle Trees at Weber's Drug Store and Pamida on Friday. Residents may select names and buy presents for the children, helping make their Christmas merry.

Music Booster meeting

The Hoopeston Area Music Boosters will meet at 7 p.m. Tuesday in the junior high chorus room. All music student parents are welcome.



Court dispositions



Nov. 3 - Jessica McIntyre, Hoopeston, disobeying a stop sign, \$95 total, three months court supervision.

Steven Rhodes, Hoopeston, uninsured, nolle prosequi improper lane usage, \$95 total.

Janet Star, Danville, speeding, pleaded guilty.

\$95.

John Williams, Hoopeston, illegal operation of a sound system, cost only, 90 days court supervision.

In the hospital



Hoopeston Community Memorial Hospital

Nov. 24, 1994

Admitted: none.

Discharged: none.

Nov. 25, 1994

Admitted: none.

Discharged: none.

Nov. 26, 1994

Admitted: Mary Hinkle, Cissna Park.

Discharged: none.

Nov. 27, 1994

Admitted: none.

Discharged: Mary Hinkle, Cissna Park.

Weather



Cloudy today. High in the low 40s. Tonight, windy, cold. Low in the mid 20s. Tomorrow, partly cloudy. High near 37, low near 25.

S.A.R.A.H.'S

FITNESS CENTER

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