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Thursday Trivia/Friday Feast
Be first to call 283-9348 between
8 and 8:30 a.m. to win a
FREE Friday lunch.

Today's question What is onomatopoeia?

Last week's winner: Lou Ann Warner

Tomorrow's lunch provided by:

Coffee Cup

Last week's answer: Dark turkey meat has more calories than white.

Lourdine Florek editor



Susan Comstock ad manager

Thursday, December 8, 1994

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

Hoopeston dispatchers get new communications system

Hoopeston Police Department dispatchers got an early Christmas gift this year.

Two state-of-the-art console was installed Tuesday. The consoles allow the dispatcher to communicate with Hoopeston and Rossville police, fire and ambulance personnel with the touch of a button.

"This is a long way from Mayberry, RFD, when I started here," said dispatcher Brenda Gaither. "I just feel like I'm downtown now. There isn't anything I don't like about it."

The consoles have features unavailable in the previous handset system. For example, with the old system, weather warnings had to be repeated for fire, police and ambulance, said police chief Orval Kaag.

With the new system's simultaneous broadcast capabilities, agencies can be notified with one

page.

Also, with the old system, dispatchers had to flip switches to change from Hoopeston to Rossville frequencies. That has been eliminated with the consoles.

Scanner owners will notice a change in the page tones, to a more high-tech sound which has been compared to a car alarm or Star Wars effect.

The system can be expanded to include headset telephones. Gailther said. Also, more frequencies can be added.

Gaither said the new system has not been difficult to learn. "I thought it would be, but it wasn't:" she said. "It was new and anything new is scary, but it was really easy."

The system cost slightly more than \$33,000. Half the amount was paid by the city with the other half coming from 9-1-1 funds.

Fewer local children requiring miracles this Christmas

A better economic climate is affecting an area Christmas program.

The Miracle Tree program, sponsored by Grant Township officials, has fewer participants this year.

The Miracle Tree includes information on children who need help making Christmas bright.

Local residents select the name of a child and purchase needed gifts for him or her. This year, trees are located at Pamida and Weber Drug Store.

This year, only 112 names were submitted during the screening process, down from 155 last year, and significantly down from the all-time

high of 209 in 1990.

That fewer names were submitted surprised Carol Flint, Grant Township supervisor and overseer of the program. "I really predicted we'd have more this year, but I was wrong," she said, adding the decreased number is due in part to more people working.

Another reason for the decrease, she said, is that children in families who participated in previous years are getting older.

In 1991, the program was limited to children aged 12 or under. "Everybody's perception is of the bright-eyed child with eyes as big as dia See MIRACLE on other side

Poinsettia Special

Starts Thursday
Cash & Carry \$14.98 - \$10
Great NEW low price Hanging Basket
Poinsettias cash & carry \$12
(If these are charged, decorated or delivered, they are regular price) No early sales

Flowers & Gifts by Molly Culbert

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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

Guns, pistols, rifles and shotguns. Reasonable (217) 283-7918 431-432

Classified rates: \$2.50/day up to 15 words \$1/each additional 5 words. CALL 217-283-9348 WITH YOUR AD!

Up & Coming

Legion auxiliary meeting

The Rossville American Legion Auxiliary will meet at 6 p.m. Dec. 13 at the Feedbag Restaurant for their Christmas party and \$3 gift exchange. For reservations, call Marge at 748-6694 by Dec. 10.

Varsity chorus on television

The Hoopeston Area senior high varsity chorus will make a television appearance following tonight's 6 p.m. news on channel 15 (channel 6

for cable viewers).

Christmas concerts scheduled

Christmas concerts for Hoopeston Area schools are: 2 p.m. Dec. 11, junior high bands and choruses, junior high gym; 3 p.m. Dec. 11, senior high bands and choruses, junior high gym; elementary band and chorus, 7:30 p.m. Dec. 13, John Greer Grade School.

Music Booster calendars will be on sale at all concerts. Everyone is invited to attend.



Police News



No tickets or injuries were reported in a onevehicle accident at 3.15 p.m. Tuesday.

Avisahi Solis of Ambia, Inc., was westbound on Route 9 when he went off the shoulder of the eastbound lane, then steered to the left, going across Route 9, into a ditch and stopping in a driveway.

Miracle continued from other side

monds," Flint said.

Although the program is primarily for young children, Flint said some residents will especially request older children.

And while screening was done in November and early December, most years, a family or two will be added at the last minute.

Latecomers have never gone without gifts be cause "we still have our safety net of people who will take care of someone who comes in at the last

minute," Flint said. "We always have a bail-out."

Screening will continue until Dec. 10, Flint said. Gifts will be distributed by the Hoopeston Jaycees, along with their Toys for Tots program, on Dec. 19.

Anyone who wishes to include their children's names as part of the Miracle Tree is asked to contact the township office at 283-5221.

Solis told police he must have fallen asleep at the wheel.

Wallace Peace, Jr., 22, of 508 N. Fifth St. was arrested at 7:40 p.m. Tuesday, charged with delivery of cannabis to persons under 18, child endangerment and possession of stolen property.

Peace was arrested on a complaint from parents of a minor, who alleged he gave their child drugs. A search of Peace's home turned up property fentatively identified as stolen.

Peace was taken to the Public Safety Building in Danville.

A boy's Huffy bicycle was found Wednesday at the Downtown Motel. The owner may identify and claim it at the police station.

In the hospital



Hoopeston Community Memorial Hospital Dec. 6, 1994

Admitted: Maurilio Solis, Hoopeston. Discharged: none.

Weather



Mostly cloudy today with a high in the upper 30s. Tonight, cloudy with a 50% chance of rain. Low in the low 30s. Tomorrow, light wintry mix. High near 37, low near 30.



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Still only \$25!



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