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**Hoopeston library one of five to get on-line with state grant**

Patrons of four area libraries will be able to travel in cyberspace next year, thanks to a state grant.

The libraries, in Hoopeston, Cissna Park, Watseka and Sheldon, and the Central Citizens Library District in Clifton will receive \$88,000 to establish a link between the communities and to the Internet, said Lou Graham, Hoopeston Public Library head librarian.

Graham made the announcement at Monday's Community Involvement Committee meeting.

Four of the sites - Hoopeston, Cissna Park, Watseka and Clifton - will have servers, computers that can be accessed by people with other computers, Graham said.

The program is designed to "create a presence for this area in cyberspace," Graham said. "We will offer unique community information."

Graham stressed the program is not designed to compete with businesses providing Internet service, but rather to provide information on each of the communities. And when a person reaches a site about one of the communities, he will automatically receive information on the others.

At least during the grant phase of the project, local residents with home computers will be able to use the program because the grant will pay for several modems to connect users to the Internet.

That may change when grant money is exhausted and the library becomes financially responsible for the entire program, Graham said.

Designed to help participating libraries, the program may benefit host communities, as well. "I would like to think it's going to make a difference in economic development," Graham said.

Businesses and organizations in each of the communities will be encouraged to create home pages, computer pages that contain information about the business or

**Briefly**

**Old newspapers to give away**

The Hoopeston Public Library has old newspapers to dispose of. Any group that collects newspapers may have them.

For more information, call head librarian Lou Graham at (217) 283-6711.

**Children's Christmas party planned**

The Hoopeston Multi Agency, in conjunction with the Hoopeston Jaycees, will host a children's Christmas party from 1-4 p.m. Dec. 21 at the Multi Agency, 206 S. First Ave.

Parents are welcome to attend the party, which is open to all Hoopeston area children.

No gifts will be exchanged, but food will be available and a deejay will provide fun for the party. Admission is free.

For more information, call (217) 283-5544.

**Food for Fines**


The Hoopeston Public Library is once again helping the Grant Township Food Cupboard.

From now until Jan. 3, 1997, the library will accept nonperishable food or paper products in lieu of fines for overdue materials. Each item donated will equal \$1 toward the fine.

All items collected will be donated to the Food Cupboard.

**See GRANT on other side**

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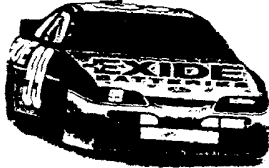
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### **Grant** continued from other side

group. To make that happen, the library will sponsor some type of educational program on creating home pages, Graham said.

Installation on the system is expected to begin in February.

In other community news, some Hoopeston Area grade school students are getting extra help with their homework and earning a little extra money, as well.

The Hoopeston Multi Agency has started a tutoring program which pairs volunteer teachers with students who need extra help. The students spend time doing homework and community work and receive \$2 per night for their efforts, said agency director Chalmers Flint.

"We're really looking for students who aren't really motivated," Flint said.

The program is currently open to students in first through sixth grades and was funded with a \$50 donation from teachers. Flint said he will ask the Hoopeston Education Association for additional funding

when it is needed and may request more teacher volunteers.

Currently, teachers Robin Chesnut, Cheryl Pugh and Angie Hampton are working with students in the program, he said.

Flint also spoke about the Christmas party the agency will sponsor in conjunction with the Hoopeston Jaycees.

The party, open to Hoopeston children will be held from 1-4 p.m. Dec. 21 at the Multi Agency, 206 S. First Ave.

Hot dogs and barbecue sandwiches will be served and music will be provided by Dave Barker, deejay with Maui Club.

Finally, the Hoopeston Chamber of Commerce is coordinating a Community Christmas Sing from 5:30-6:30 p.m. Dec. 18. The event is open to individuals, youth groups and adult choirs.

For more information, call Judi Benjamin at the chamber at 283-7873.

### **Obituaries**

**BAUER** - George C. Bauer, 82, of Paxton, formerly of Hoopeston, died at 6:30 a.m. Sunday, Dec. 8, 1996, at Gibson City Community Hospital. Funeral services will be at 10 a.m. Wednesday at the Apostolic Christian Church, Cissna Park. Burial will be in Apostolic Christian Cemetery, Cissna Park. Visitation will be 4-8 p.m. Tuesday at Knapp-Miller Funeral Home, Paxton, and one hour before services Wednesday at the church. A small memorial service will follow visitation at the funeral home Tuesday. Memorials may be made to Galilean Children's Home of Liberty, Ky. or Frontier Nursing Service, Wendover, Ky.

**ERICKSON** - C. Elmer "Swede" Erickson, 80, of Hoopeston, died at 7:20 a.m. Monday, Dec. 9, 1996, at Hoopeston Community Memorial Hospital. Funeral services will be at 11 a.m. Thursday at the Hamilton-Orr Funeral Home. Burial will be in Floral Hill Cemetery. Visitation will be 6-8 p.m. Wednesday at the funeral home. In lieu of flowers, memorials are suggested to the American Cancer Society.

**McELHANEY** - Doris A. McElhaney, 55, of Hoopeston, died at 6:20 a.m. Saturday, Dec. 7, 1996, at her residence. Graveside funeral services will be held at 10:30 a.m. Tuesday at Danville National Cemetery. There will be no visitation. Memorials are suggested to Carle Hospice at Danville. Hamilton-Orr Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.

### **Police News**



The Hoopeston Fire Department was called at 5:22 p.m. Sunday to a grease fire at 321 W. Main.

A resident there was treated for burns at Hoopeston Community Memorial Hospital.

The fire department was called at 8:56 a.m. Monday to Illinois Landfills Inc. site in Hoopeston for a truck on fire.

### **Weather**



Mostly cloudy, warmer today. High near 55. Tonight, cloudy. Low near 35. Tomorrow, scattered showers and thunderstorms. High near 57, low near 50.

### **Performance**

**Diesel Service**

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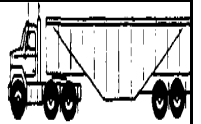
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