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Open Friday 8:30 - 7  
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Saturday 8 - 4 p.m. Sunday 12 - 3

**THE SEWING BOUTIQUE**

Open Friday 9 a.m.- 7 p.m.  
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*Rhonda's Baskets*

Open Friday 10 a.m.- 7 p.m.  
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**WEBER'S Hallmark SHOP**  
Open Friday 9 a.m.- 7 p.m.  
Sat. 9 - 5 Closed Sun.

**Countryside Mini Mall**

Open Friday 9 a.m.- 7 p.m.  
Saturday 9 - 4:30 Closed Sunday

Lourdine Florek  
owner/publisher

**Just the facts®**

Thursday, Dec. 19, 1996

Hoopeston's only locally-owned daily news publication!

Phone:  
(217) 283-9348

**Elmo doll will tickle local youngster's fancy after drawing**

The "Tickle Me Elmo" doll, as scarce as a white Christmas in southern California, will be tickling a local child's fancy this Christmas.

An area business owner, who wishes to remain anonymous, donated a "Tickle Me Elmo" doll to WHPO radio in Hoopeston. The station sold the doll during last Saturday's Action Auction, with proceeds going to the Hoopeston Jaycees Toys for Tots program.

King Motors was the winning bidder, paying \$1,000 for the red, stuffed Sesame Street character that giggles, then shakes when tickled.

"I didn't even know what a Tickle Me Elmo was until Saturday morning, said dealership owner Ron King.

King will give the doll away in a drawing at 11 a. m. Christmas Eve. Those interested in winning the doll must stop by the dealership, at 701 E. Main, to register.

King said he is donating the doll because the people of Hoopeston have received his business well. "I came here two years ago and everybody's been so good to me," he said. "Business has been great and I

wanted to give something back."

The doll's original owner, the anonymous businessman, got the doll from his wife, who bought the doll for their two-year-old son, said WHPO on-air personality Becky Buss. "He said he complained about the price when she bought it," Buss said. "It was \$27."

The man decided that because his son would not miss the doll and decided to donate it to the station for the Toys for Tots program.

Bidding for the doll began at \$50 Saturday morning. "A lot of individuals really wanted it for their children," Buss said. King bid \$200, knocking out most individuals, except for Steven Rapp, a Milford-area farmer, who stayed in a bidding war with King, bidding \$800.

Buss said King called the station and asked if they would sell it for \$1,000. Rapp, given a chance to increase his bid, dropped out.

The bidding created a mini telethon as WHPO listeners called in pledges for Toys for Tots. Rapp donated \$200, followed by pledges from listeners in \$25, \$30 and \$50 amounts. "It was just one of those

**Briefly**

**Correction**

It was incorrectly reported in Wednesday's edition that sand is included with luminaria supplies. It is not. Just the Facts regrets the error.

**Parent group to meet**

Family Involvement for Excellence In Education will meet at 6:30 p.m. Thursday in the high school cafeteria. That meeting will be followed by a Hoopeston Area school board meeting at 7:30.

All parents are encouraged to attend.

**Santa says thank-you**

Santa Claus, who has been feeling under the weather lately, received some get-well letters from Maple School students in Mrs. Butzow's kindergarten class and Mrs. Overbey and Mrs. Lockhart's first graders.

Santa wanted to tell students he is feeling much better, thanks to all their warm wishes.


*Cold out there?*

We'll deliver your  
poinsettias and  
Christmas  
arrangements

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**Everything under \$2**

Final Clearance at the former  
Paper House,  
214 E. Main, Hoopeston

Figurines, ornaments, glassware - \$2  
Cards, 10/\$1, Wrapping paper, 3/\$1  
Open 10-5 Fri., 10-3 Sat. ONLY  
**Store fixtures also for sale**

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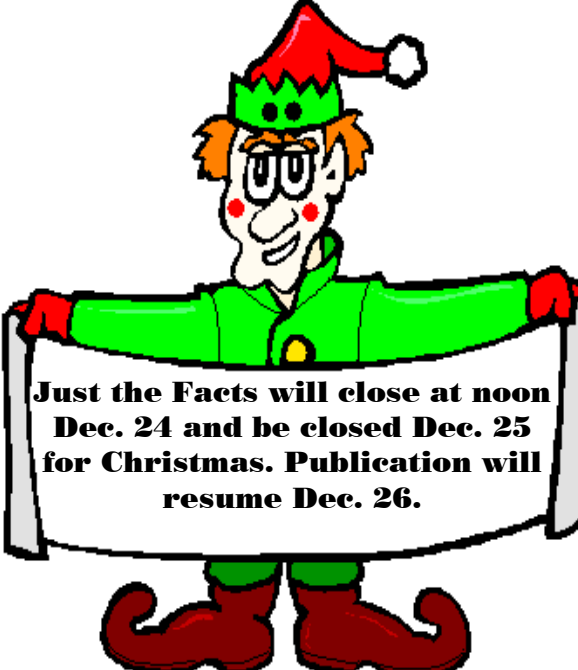
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**217-283-7306**



**Just the Facts will close at noon Dec. 24 and be closed Dec. 25 for Christmas. Publication will resume Dec. 26.**

See ELMO on other side

### **Elmo** continued from other side

things," Buss said. "People opened up their wallets. 'Tis the season," she said.

So far, the station has raised more than \$1,700 for the Jaycees' program, which is greatly appreciated, said Delores Crabtree, Toys for Tots coordinator. "It really surprised me," she said. "I expected maybe a couple hundred dollars. It just floors me that this community would product that much."

Crabtree, who has coordinated the program the last two years, said while she is surprised at the amount, she is not surprised people gave. "I'm going to brag on Hoopeston," she said. "Something like this, we

### **Police News**



**Chad M. Gossett**, 25, of 412 S. Fifth St., was arrested at 10:30 p.m. Tuesday on a McClean County warrant. He was taken to the Public Safety Building, Danville, in lieu of \$10,000 bond.

### **Obituaries**

**METZ** - Vivian B. Metz, 92, of Hoopeston, died at 4:50 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 17, 1996 at Hoopeston Community Memorial Hospital. Funeral services will be at 11 a.m. Thursday at Hamilton-Orr Funeral Home. Burial will be in Floral Hill Cemetery. Visitation will be one hour before services at the funeral home. Memorials are suggested to the United Methodist Church of

### **Thursday Trivia**



Co-sponsored by Burger King  
 Call 283-9348  
 between 8 and 8:30 a.m. today to win!  
 The winner will receive a FREE Whopper™ Value Meal from Burger King!  
 Meal must be redeemed Friday.  
 Today's question: **What is wassail?**  
 Last winner: **George Reynertson**  
 Last answer: **The Lincoln penny was the first coin to carry the likeness of a president.**

always take care of our own."

This is the second large donation of the year for the Toys for Tots program, Crabtree said, adding both were from car dealerships.

In November, Read Pontiac, Buick, Olds, Chevrolet "really kicked it off for us" with a \$1,000 donation, Crabtree said.

Buss is pleased with the results of the auction. "It's a good feeling," she said. "This is why I'm in this business. I feel like I'm really doing something for

### **Court dispositions**



**Dec. 5: Eric Farnsworth**, Lafayette, Ind., speeding; ex parte, forfeited bond.

**Kathleen Feller**, Cissna Park, speeding; pleaded by mail.

**Harold Gernand**, Hoopeston, speeding; pleaded guilty, \$75 total.

**Avery Haas**, Lafayette, Ind., speeding, \$75.

### **In the hospital**



Hoopeston Community Memorial Hospital  
 Dec. 17, 1996

Admitted: Evelyn Inman, Hoopeston.

Discharged: none.

### **Weather**



Chance of snow today. High in the low to mid teens. Tonight, snow ending. Low in the single digits. Tomorrow, cloudy. High near 16, low near 5.

## **The Most Wanted Gift Certificates**

*from*

*Flowers & Gifts by Molly Culbert*

Every child needs a

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under the tree

We've got 'em



Rts. 1 & 9, Hoopeston  
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## **Thank You**

We'd like to thank all our valued customers who've allowed us to serve them this year.

May all of you have a safe holiday and happy and prosperous New Year!



**ROGER BURTON**  
 Store Manager

214 E. Penn St.  
 Hoopeston, IL 60942 (217) 283-5571