







Plastics company opens plant in former Essex building

A firm that makes plastic products is opening in Hoopeston.

Berg Manufacturing purchased the former Essex building on Route 1 and is opening a processing and warehousing plant there, said Stanley Berg, company operations manager.

The firm makes plastic shelving for retail stores. "If you walk into the Pamida, you'll see our product," Berg said, adding the shelving is distributed nationally to such stores as Sears, Ames, Menard's, Home Depot, Linens & Things and Crate and Barrel.

The privately-owned company currently has approximately four people at the site now, gearing up to fire up a plastics compounding line in about two weeks, Berg said. A plastics extruding line is also planned for the facility. The company hopes to hire 12 to 15 employees within a year, he said. This will be the second plant for the Wheeling-based company. Hoopeston was chosen for its central location and access to highways and for its workforce. "Hoopeston appears to have a good work ethic," Berg said. "(Mayor) Bob Ault has done a good job convincing me that Hoopeston is the place to be."

Both Berg and Ault said the city did not offer incentives to attract the company.

Berg first learned of Hoopeston from a former resident, Ralph May, who owns the old Howard Industries building in Milford. That building was sold to house another plastics firm, Stateline Plastics.

Landing the plant did not happen overnight, Ault said. "We've been working with them for quite some time. It's encouraging to see something going on there."

Berg is equally enthusiastic about the expansion. "We're excited about the opportunity," he said.

Hoopeston chief lists safe holiday shopping suggestions

Like children in the Christmas song "Santa Claus is Coming to Town" holiday shoppers are reminded they "better watch out."

That was the word from Hoopeston Police Chief Mark Drollinger at Monday's Neighborhood Watch meeting. Holiday safety tips Drollinger gave include:

• always park in well-lighted areas.

• never carry too many packages that will restrict movement.

- carry keys ready to place in the door lock or use as a weapon, if necessary. Personal sirens and mace (pepper spray) are also suggested.
- look in front and back of the vehicle before opening.
- lock vehicle after getting in.
- when possible, travel in groups.

• wear bright-colored, non-cumbersome clothing and comfortable shoes.

• being aware of surroundings if talking on a cellular phone. He also suggested dialing 911 on a cell phone, then pushing the "send" button if help is needed.

- carrying blankets, flashlights and flares in vehicles. Drollinger also listed home protection tips, including:
- always locking doors and windows.
- putting home and holiday lights on timers.
- being suspicious of phone solicitors and hang-up calls.
 storing ladders in inaccessible areas.
- placing security lighting in dark areas.

• notifying police and limited numbers of people when leaving town.

See SUGGESTIONS on other side



Burger King

starts your day off right! **99¢ Croisan'wiches** Sausage, bacon or ham with egg & cheese **& French toast** No limit

No limit Rtes. 1 and 9, Hoopeston

Holiday Favorites Amish Country Hams Holiday Trays Oysters Gift Certificates Beef sticks & jerky Order your fresh turkey early Cut Up Shop

113 S. Chicago, Rossville (217) 748-6111 9-6 Mon.-Thurs. 9 -7 Fri. & Sat.



MERITA'S RESTAURANT Will be open 6 a.m.-7 p.m. Christmas Eve & 6 a.m.-2 p.m. Christmas Day Ozzie & employees wish you and yours a happy & safe holiday.







A cellular phone was reported missing Tuesday from a vehicle in the 800 block of East Penn.

Joev L. Watson, 23, of Hoopeston, was arrested at 2:35 p.m.. Tuesday at Rtes. 1 and 9. Watson, wanted on a warrant, was released on \$73 cash bond.

A 52-year-old Hoopeston man reported Tuesday that his garage was damaged by unknown people. The inci-

Clothing drive started for victims of Tuesday house fire

Area residents are being asked to contribute to a clothing drive for victims of a house fire.

A fire Tuesday afternoon destroyed the home and possessions of Pat and Tammy Longest at 728 E. Main. Although the family has insurance which will replace their belongings, they are in immediate need of clothes. Sizes needed for the six-member family include

Suggestions continued from other side

• omitting comments about being away from home on answering machines. For women who live alone, Drollinger suggested having a man record the message. • stopping mail and paper delivery

Drollinger also talked about recent cases the department has handled, including several burglaries which were solved this week. He praised Investigator Doug

Correction

Due to a technical error, the yield to maturity date was listed incorrectly in an Edward Jones ad Wednesday. The correct date is 12/01/19.

Steak Fry 6-8:30 p.m. Friday **Hubbard Trail Country Club** Steak, chicken breast or pork chop Reservations appreciated – (217) 748-6521 **Police News**

dent occurred in the 200 block of West Orange.

Three people were arrested at 9:11 p.m. Tuesday, charged with illegal transportation of alcohol.

Arrested were Bradley E. Cress, 19, of 11806 E 3900 North Rd., Hoopeston; Travis C. Lackey, 23, of 910 W. Honeywell; and Robert C. Glenn II, 22, of 311 W. Maple.

women's jeans size 7-9, 34-36 and 9-11; shirts sizes small and large; shoes size 7-8, 10-101/2 wide and 11; and men's jeans size 34x32, 16 regular slim; and 12 regular or 14 slim; shirts sizes medium, large and extra

> large; and shoe sizes $6^{1/2}$, 7 and $10^{1/2}$. Items may be taken to 725 S. First Ave., Apt. B or the Grant Township office, 525 S. Market.

Wagoner for working on his days off to solve the case. A high burglary rate coincides with a high rate of unemployment, he said. To combat that, a new work schedule will be implemented for the new year which will put more officers on the street, he said.

Neighborhood Watch will not be held in January, but will resume again in February. Drollinger plans to have speakers from several agencies, including DCFS, FBI and Bureau of Alcohol. Tobacco and Firearms.

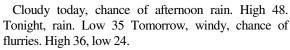
In the Hospital

Hoopeston Community Memorial Hospital Dec. 7

Admitted: Edward Irvin, Rankin; Opal Ridens, Hoopeston.

Discharged: none.

Weather



For the current weather conditions, call the Hoopeston Weather Line at (217) 283-6221.

The men were charged after a traffic stop at West Penn and College Way.

Cress was released on his driver's license; Lacky and Glenn were released on notices to appear.



Classifieds

CHILD CARE

Licensed daycare home now has full and part time openings. References available. Call Lori Wilson, (217) 283-7439 337-343

MISCELLANEOUS FOR SALE

Sears Lifestyler model 2000 treadmill, 7' artificial Christmas tree. (217) 283-6329. 342,343

Two chest of drawers. \$45 each. (217) 283-6463.

Call (217) 283-9348 to place your ad

