


Just in time for the holidays!
14K Princess Cut Diamond Ring \$239 

Register for our Christmas drawing!
Ungers Jewelry
 314 E. Main St., Hoopeston



\$ Payday when YOU need it! \$

Payday Advances
 Open Monday 10 a.m.-5 p.m.
 Tuesday-Friday 10 a.m.-6 p.m.
 Saturday 9 a.m.-noon
LEW Financial, Inc.
 620 S. Eighth Ave., Hoopeston (217) 283-6839

Special of the Week
1993 Chevy Lumina 
 67,000 miles
 Local trade
 Was \$5,999. **NOW JUST \$5,500!!!**
See Chalmers at
Jerry Urich Motors, Inc.
 301 S. Dixie Highway Hoopeston (217) 283-6888

 **Christmas Tree Sale**
 Rtes. 1 & 9 at former
 Carnival Video building
 Mon.-Fri., 4-7 p.m.
 Sat., 10-7, Sun. 1-6 p.m.
Small trees \$20, large \$25
Visit Santa noon-2 p.m. Saturday
 Treats will be available for purchase during Santa's visit.

Lourdine Florek
 owner/publisher

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Merchants report brisk start to holiday shopping season

Economic experts may say the U.S. is in the midst of a recession and that consumer confidence is down, but the local holiday economy is going well, according to Hoopeston retailers.

Thanksgiving weekend, traditionally the busiest shopping weekend of the year, went better than expected for many merchants.

Pamida and Dollar General stores reported strong sales.

Dollar General nearly doubled sales from the same weekend last year, said assistant manager Betty Kopcha. This is the second Christmas season for the store at its Rt. 1 location.

At Pamida, "we didn't feel the crunch of the downward spiral in the economy," said manager Melissa Carlson. "We were swamped all weekend."

Clothing sales were strong, too. "It wasn't as bad as I thought it would be," said Robin Lawson of Global Fashions. "It was slow in the morning but I had people

See HOLIDAY on other side

Briefly

Yearbooks, photos available
 Hoopeston Area Yearbook / Camera Club will sell old photos for 10 cents each and old yearbooks (\$20.00-\$35 depending on the year) at the boys basketball game on Saturday. starting at 6 p.m.
 Those with questions may contact Carl Ankenbrand at (217) 283-6661.

Walk to feature more homes
 The Rossville-Alvin High School Class of 2004 has updated its list of homes for the annual Christmas Walk. Featured will be the homes of: Mr. and Mrs. Jim Bernard, 37848 St. Rt. 1, Hoopeston; and in Rossville, Laura Hufford, 209 Gilbert; Don Frazier, 100 Stufflebeam Drive; Mr. and Mrs. Bill Ray, 3A Watson Drive; Mr. and Mrs. George Walter, 213 Perry Street; and the United Methodist Church, 116 Maple.
 Walk tickets are \$10 and are available at any of the homes or at selected businesses.

Children's room to be closed
 The Hoopeston Public Library children's room will not be open to the public on Friday, Nov. 30. Books may be returned to the main circulation desk. The rest of the library will remain open.

Book fair set
 Hoopeston Area Middle School will host a Scholastic Book Fair from 7:30 a.m.-5 p.m. on school days from Nov. 30 to Dec. 5 in the middle school library. The fair will feature books, toys and other items for all ages.
 Tuesday, Dec. 4 will be Family Night from 5-7 p.m.


Homework help
 Need help with homework?
 Free tutoring is just one of the many activities offered by the Hoopeston Multi Agency's Teen Reach program, from 3:30-7 p.m. Monday-Friday. Teen Reach is for children 9-17.

Other activities include snacks, evening meal, safe environment, fun, friendship, life skills, speakers, arts and crafts, games, pizza parties, family events and social time.
 For more information, call 283-5544 or stop in the Multi Agency, 206 S. First Ave.

Chili/BBQ supper
 Hoopeston Area High School cheerleaders will sponsor a chili and/or pork BBQ supper from 6 p.m. until tip-off of the Hoopeston/Schlarman basketball game on Saturday, Dec. 1 in the high school cafeteria.


In the Spirit of Christmas
 We've put Baby Jesus in the manger in our Rosemary tree, wreaths and cemetery sprays.
Flowers & Gifts by Molly Culbert
 702 W. Main, Hoopeston 283-5578 Open 7 Days

**Out of cash?
 See our lending officers!**

Hoopeston's 
Community Bank
 Member FDIC

Salt Sale
 Morton yellow bag
\$3⁹⁹
 with HVC

 Hoopeston Plaza
 Rtes. 1 & 9, Hoopeston

Carolina Votives
 Discontinued and a great Stocking Stuffer idea at only 75¢ each.
 Vanilla, Christmas pine, cinnamon & many more!

WEBER'S Hallmark SHOP
 221 E. Main, Hoopeston (217) 283-5136

Can't



Now's the time to get those brakes fixed at a price that **WON'T BREAK YOU!**

\$5 off

Brake Service

All makes & models

Valid through Dec. 15, 2001

Only with coupon



900 West Orange, Hoopeston
(217) 283-5131 (877) 925-5131



Police News



Police are investigating a hit-and-run accident reported Monday in the 200 block of West Washington. An unidentified vehicle hit a parked 1996 Plymouth owned by Donald L. Clyden of 521 E. McCracken.

A 55-year-old Hoopeston man reported Monday that someone slashed the tires of his 1995 Dodge truck while it was parked in the 200 block of West Washington.

Edward J. Owens, 34, of 124 E. Attica, Rossville, was arrested at 11:23 p.m. Monday in the 100 block of East Attica.

Owens was charged with criminal trespass, disorderly conduct and resisting arrest. Police said Owens was on property he had previously been told to stay away from.

He was released on a notice to appear.

Four people were arrested after a traffic stop at 12:49 a.m. Tuesday at 1550 East and 4000 North roads.

Imogene Fink, 18, of 515 N. Sixth St., was charged with driving on suspension while Lucas E. Neal, 17, of 410 E. McNeil, Juan J. Acosta, 20, of 322 N. Front and Jackie C. Moser, 19, of 515 N. Sixth St., were all

charged with illegal transportation of alcohol. All were released on notices to appear.



New Books at the Library



Fiction:

Mortal Sins by Penn Williamson
Lady of Ch'iao Kuo by Laurence Yep (youth)
Swell Foop by Piers Anthony (science fiction)
Coldheart Canyon by Clive Barker
Final Witness by James Scott Bell
Hope to Die by Lawrence Block
Fleeced by Carol Higgins Clark (mystery)
Isle of Dogs by Patricia Cornwell
Speaking in Tongues by Jeffery Deaver

Grand Avenue by Joy Fielding

Non-fiction:

Of Time and Memory: a Mother's Story by Don J. Snyder
Terry Family Census 1790-1920 (2 volumes - Illinois Room)
John Adams by David G. McCullough
"Carryin' On" And Other Strange Things Southerners Do
How to Run for Local Office by Robert J. Thomas

Holiday continued from other side

in in the afternoon," she said.

Lawson said many customers were grandparents choosing to give gifts this year instead of cash, a change she attributed, in part, to the selection at her store. "They're buying MUD, LEI, Levi Silver Tabs and Aeropostale, which are all hot right now," she said.

Hardware items brought people out to shop. "We were busy Friday and Saturday," said Jim Pajor of Olympic Hardware. "We were quite busy. It was good."

At Unger Jewelry, Friday was slow but sales picked up Saturday, said owner Marilyn Unger. "I kind of thought that would happen," she said. "People go out of town to hit the big events."

Since Friday, several people have been in the store to comparison shop. "They know what they want, they're just kind of pricing," Unger said. "Others have looked already and come in and say 'I'm getting that.'"

Whether retailers believe a slow economy and the events of Sept. 11 will affect the overall season depends

on whom you ask. Despite a great weekend, Carlson said consumers are being careful, watching sales. "They're holding back but the bargains are a little better this year," she said.

Lawson, however, believes people are not letting concerns override their plans on giving. "I think people are on a spending frenzy," she said.

Many merchants agree colder temperatures might put more people in the mood for Christmas shopping. "It's hard to think about buying a sweater when it's 60 degrees outside," Lawson said. "It needs to be cold."

Weather



Mostly cloudy today, chance of rain or sleet. High 40. Tonight and tomorrow, mostly cloudy, chance of rain or snow. Low tonight, 38. Tomorrow's high 43, low 27.

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

Classifieds

ADULT CARE

Will do private care for elderly. References available. Call (217) 283-5399.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Having out of town visitors? We have two 1 bedroom furnished apartments available by the night or by the week. TV, phone, utilities included. (217) 283-7996.

APARTMENTS FOR RENT

1 bedroom apartment for rent. Utilities furnished. (217) 283-7996.

Large 2 bedroom apt. very nice, off street parking, nice neighbor, \$375 a month, deposit required with references Also, large 2 bedroom apt. electricity, heat, water furnished. Call (217) 283-7521. Please leave a message.

1 bedroom apartment for rent. Utilities furnished. (217) 283-7996.

HOMES FOR RENT

Available Dec. 1: 2 bedroom house w/2 car garage. In Hoopeston. \$350/mo., \$350 deposit. (217) 283-5093

LOST & FOUND

Black and gray tiger kitten - probably about 6 months old - at the high school. If it belongs to anyone please call 283-5993.

SERVICES

Pampered Pet Grooming. Lots of TLC. Call anytime for appointment. (217) 339-2340.

Two lady team to clean your home. 3-4 openings available in Hoopeston-Rossville area. Excellent references. (815) 889-4388.

VEHICLES FOR SALE

1976 Mercury Grand Marquis. 55,000 original miles. Very good condition. \$3,500 OBO. (217) 375-4322.

Go cart, 5 hp engine. Excellent shape. Call after 3 p.m. (217) 375-4457.

Call (217) 283-9348 to place your ad.