

Hoopeston Lions Club
**Pancake
 & Sausage Day**



Saturday, Feb. 2
 Hoopeston American Legion
 Tickets: \$4. Under 6 free
 Whole hog sausage available, \$2/lb.,
 bulk or patties

North Fork Conservation Club



Friday 11 a.m.-7 p.m.
 At the club
 Fish, chicken, shrimp & clam dinners
 plus 2 sides **\$5.50**

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Phone/Fax:
 (217) 283-9348
 Email:
publish@justthefacts.tm

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Warm weather, economy force lay-offs at Schumacher plant

A warm winter and cheaper labor costs in Mexico will result in the loss of about 20 jobs at the Schumacher Electric plant in Hoopeston.

Employees in the transformer and material prep department of the battery charger plant will be laid off over the next one to four months, said plant manager Craig Lawson. The workers will join 40 laid off two weeks ago due to the economy and the weather, he said.

Laid off employees were all hourly workers. "We really don't have that many salaried people in the building now," Lawson said.

Those who have been or will be laid off may get assistance from the NAFTA and Trade Adjustment Assistance programs. Assistance may include job training and assistance, extended unemployment benefits and relocation, but it may take several weeks for the company to learn if it was approved

for the program, Lawson said.

Even if more traditional winter weather appears, Lawson does not expect many, if any, employees to be recalled. "It's a pretty seasonal business," he said.

Low battery charger sales have resulted in decreased production at the plant. With the work force available at the beginning of the year, Lawson said 7,000 units could be produced weekly. Production is currently less than half that amount. "We've been hit pretty hard here since the middle of December," he said.

Schumacher Electric has two manufacturing plants, in Hoopeston and in Mexico. The company has transitioned jobs to Mexico for about three years because of reduced labor costs, Lawson said.

Despite that, the plant will remain open, at least for now. "There are no plans (to close the plant) at this time," he said.

Workshop participant may win free DACC semester tuition

DANVILLE—One person who attends a financial aid workshop at Danville Area Community College Monday will win free tuition for one semester at the school.

DACC will host a free financial aid workshop from 6-8 p.m. Monday in the Bremer Theater. Participants will register for the free tuition at the beginning of the workshop and must be present to win.

The workshop will help college-bound students and parents complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) with individual assistance from DACC financial aid professionals.

The U.S. Department of Education provides the FAFSA, free of charge, on the Internet at www.fafsa.ed.gov and in paper form to high schools,

colleges and libraries. Completing the FAFSA accurately and on time is the first and most important step in obtaining state and federal financial aid.

Families will need to bring all completed or estimated 2001 income tax forms, as well as any other asset information, to complete the 2002-03 FAFSA.

FAFSA workshops are being held statewide during February, which is Financial Aid/Admissions Awareness Month (FAAM). FAAM provides resources and services that help thousands of Illinois residents make college plans, focusing on the college admission and financial aid processes.

For more information about the FAFSA workshop or FAAM, call Ellen Frost, DACC assistant director of financial aid, at (217) 443-8891.

Tacos

Just \$1 each, 5-8 p.m.
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**And on the Internet at
www.justthefacts.tm**



Steak Fry

Friday, Feb. 1
5:30-8 p.m.

American Legion

502 E. Penn, Hoopeston
No carry-outs


Don't be left out!

List your organization's information on

The most widely-read on-line source for Hoopeston happenings!

hoopeston.org

Email: additions@hoopeston.org
Mail to P.O. Box 441, Hoopeston, IL 60942





COMPTON'S Sports Bar & Grill

has not been sold!

Steve invites you to try our new catfish dinner Friday & Saturday nights.
Our pit is still open!
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GAIL LANE owner


Evil twin asks for community assistance in keeping sister from being ‘locked up for good’

Editor's Note: Lourdine took the afternoon off to lament the lack of snow this winter. Her evil twin, Sardine, is filling in for her.

Yes, I know, it's been a while since I've written but you know how it is...the holidays and all of that, plus that simpering sister of mine hardly ever lets me near the keyboard. But she's gone now and I have a favor to ask of you.

On Feb. 20, Lourdine, along with some other do-gooders around town, are going to be “locked up for good” to raise money for the Muscular Dystrophy Association. She's supposed to raise at least \$1,000 before they'll spring her.

At first I thought “hey, great. She'll be gone for at least



The Second Cup

by LOURDINE FLOREK

a week trying to raise that much.” I envisioned having her house to myself, plopping on the couch to nibble bon-bons and watch “Days of Our Lives.”

But then it hit me. If she's not here to do her work, the little witch will expect me to do it for her. That means doing all kinds of things I don't want to do. I

mean scribbling a column is one thing but I bet she'd expect me to go to a city council meeting or type bowling scores. All those numbers give me the willies and she knows it. And while I'm typing my fingers to the bone, what's she going to be doing? Calling people on the phone, trying to raise money and having a good time.

She's doing this on purpose just to get me to work around here. But I'm telling you, her plan isn't going to work, no sirree Bob! I am not going to do this paper while she's off yakking on the phone and having refreshments!

I figure if at least some of you are willing to make a contribution to MDA, Lourdine won't have to sit in jail so long and she can come back here and do her own darn work. So what I'd like you to do is make out a

Police News



A **33-year-old** Hoopeston woman reported Monday that someone broke a window in the 500 block of west Penn.

Michelle Cothren, 38, of 302 W. Penn, was arrested at 10:19 p.m. Monday at Rtes. 1 and 9, charged with driving under the influence of alcohol and illegal transportation of alcohol. She was released on her license and \$100 cash bond.

Fire call

The Hoopeston Fire Department was called at 4:59 p.m. Monday to a car on fire on 1650 East Rd.

Weather



Rain today. High 40. Tonight, rain, freezing rain. Low 32. Tomorrow, chance of rain turning to snow. High 35, low 29.

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

check to MDA and send it to me, Sardine, at P.O. Box 441, Hoopeston, IL 60942.

She's got this little form here where she can take credit card donations too, so if you want to do it that way, call (217) 283-9348. Make sure you ask for me because I don't want her finding out what I'm doing. She's probably looking forward to having some time away from here and dang nab it, I'm not going to stand for it!

If you see me on the street, I'll gladly take cash donations, too. Anything to keep Lourdine here and working!

Please, please, please contribute today. Your donations are tax deductible and will not only help the Muscular Dystrophy Association but will also keep me from having to do her work.

And to be honest, you really don't want to see this paper if I have to put it out by myself!

Classifieds

ADULT CARE

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

APARTMENTS FOR RENT

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

AUCTIONS

Home to be auctioned. 640 E. McCracken. 2 bedrooms, new windows, sound roof, 65'x 165' lot, 31'x41' garage, good neighborhood. Sat., Feb. 2, 10:30 a.m. DeWitt Auction Co., Hoopeston. Bill DeWitt #040000372. Call for showing, (217) 283-7161. 23-32

HOUSES FOR RENT

3 bedroom house for rent in Hoopeston. Deposit. No pets. (217) 283-7996.

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