

Fish Fry
5-8 p.m. Friday
American Legion
502 E. Penn, Hoopeston
Fish Dinner \$5.50 Shrimp Dinner \$6.50,
Chicken Dinner \$7.00, ribs: half rack \$8.50,
full rack \$16.
Tax & Tip not included



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owner/publisher

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Local man turns career downturn into new business venture

Bob Galloway is a good example of the adage "when life hands you lemons, make lemonade."

Galloway lost three jobs in eight years due to companies downsizing and, due to his age, the prospect of finding another position was dim. So the 55-year-old Hoopeston resident opened his own machine shop.

Galloway Machine Shop opened recently at 409 E. Honeywell.

Galloway, who worked in machine shops at Joan of Arc and Stokely, repairs farm equipment and mechanisms that drive conveyors and as well as creates individualized tools for farmers and others that meet specific needs.

The shop has a lathe for cutting bar stock, two milling machines, drill presses and grinders. "We're starting small," Galloway said.

Missing from the shop is any computer equipment, often used in machine shops to design and make parts. Mass-produced piecework is not something that will be coming out of Galloway's shop. Using a drafting table he purchased in 1969, Galloway designs the specialized tools and replacement parts he makes. Orders for larger quantities will be referred to Production Tooling, also of Hoopeston, he said.

Galloway hopes the timing is right for the new business. He is encouraged because farmers are readying their equipment for spring work and because of positive reports of economic indicators. "The economy, according to the newspaper, is turning around," he said. The recovery may take a while to trickle down to Hoopeston,



Photo by Lourdine Florek
Bob Galloway uses a lathe in his new business, Galloway Machine Shop.

however.

Still, a slow local economy may benefit Galloway as some manufacturing firms have laid off shop workers. "Most companies have means of repairing things in a jiffy to get going but not to repair it right," he said. "That's where I come in. If they've laid off their people, they don't have anyone to do it so they're going to be farming it out."

Doing work for companies, whether in Hoopeston or in larger communities such as Bloomington and Champaign, will be cost-effective for customers, Galloway said. "They'll get a top quality job for a good rate," he said.

See VENTURE on other side

**Onion sets
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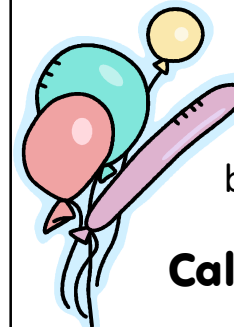
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4-8 p.m. Saturday, March 16
Rossville American Legion Home
104 Thompson Ave.
Spaghetti, sauce, salad, garlic bread, dessert
Adults \$5, 6-12 \$3, under 6 free
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Drink of the Month
Bloody Mary in a Garden
12 oz. mug \$2
Wednesdays: \$1.25 beer, free pool, shelled peanuts. Free jukebox after 9 p.m.

STAR LODGE 709 AF & AM
Sausage & Egg Breakfast
Orange juice, toast & coffee
5:30-11 a.m. Saturday, Oct. 27
at the Masonic Temple on
Rt. 9, Hoopeston
\$4 donation





Photo by Lourdine Florek

Scholarly competition
Members of Watseka Community High School’s Scholastic Bowl team take on Hoopeston Area’s squad recently. Pictured are, from left, Janessa Styck, Adam Elliott, Sam Martin, Lucas Elliott for Watseka, an unidentified Fisher team member and Zach Spear, Cody Strawser, Diana Wininger, Tony Burch and Jeremiah Rohwedder for Hoopeston Area. Watseka beat Hoopeston 165-135 and also defeated Fisher, 115-80. Hoopeston Area also defeated Fischer 150-125.

Venture *continued from other side*

Starting a new business wasn’t Galloway’s first choice of employment. After getting laid off from Schrock Cabinets in Arthur, he sent resumes to companies in three states hoping to find work. He found none, and decided to open the shop.

“It’s a gamble,” Galloway said. “It’s a risk. It’s one I need to take because I’ve been downsized three times in the last eight years. I’m here to tell you age discrimination is alive and well. You just can’t prove it.”

Galloway has been around machining and creating gadgets since he was a youngster working with his father, who was an engineer. His background includes an associates degree in mechanical technology from what was Danville Junior College and years of experience.

In discussing opening the machine shop with his wife, Cookie, Galloway said he told her he had to “get back to what I know how to do,” he said.

And if, by chance, the shop doesn’t work out, Galloway has a backup plan. “I told my wife if it works, we’ll make a nice living and if not, we’ll go belly up and go to

Florida,” he said, laughing. “She said ‘no problem.’”

Galloway Machine Shop can be reached at (217) 283-6924.

Show choir is 5th at Watseka
The Hoopeston Area High School show choir, New Direction, finished fifth of 11 schools at a contest Saturday in Watseka. Anna Reutter received the outstanding performer award.

The middle school show choir performed Friday. Andrea Crothers received the Outstanding Performer Award.

Weather


Becoming mostly sunny today. High 53. Tonight, partly cloudy. Low 35. Tomorrow, increasing clouds. High 58, low 42.

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

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Upper 2 bedroom apt. in Rossville. Heat, water furnished. \$360/mo plus deposit. (217) 748-6803. 71-77
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