

## Cemetery silks for Memorial Day

Vases, monument or stone saddles,  
hanging baskets, urns, maches

*Flowers & Gifts by Molly Culbert*

702 W. Main, Hoopeston 283-5578 Open 7 Days

## Memorial Weekend Celebration at the VFW!

Saturday, May 24 2 p.m.

Hamburgers & hot dogs provided.  
Bring a covered dish & join the fun!  
Free juke box - Drink Specials  
The outside grill will be going!

## Propane Tank Exchange

**\$14.99**

with OPD Valve only



Hoopeston Plaza  
Rtes. 1 & 9  
Hoopeston

Lourdine Florek  
owner/publisher

## Just the Facts<sup>©</sup>

Phone/Fax:  
(217) 283-9348

Email:  
publish@justthefacts.net

**Thursday, May 22, 2003**

Hoopeston's only locally-owned daily news publication

**P.O. Box 441, Hoopeston, IL. 60942**

**www.justthefacts.net**



The remains of a warehouse at the Hoopeston Stokely building smolder following an early morning fire Wednesday.

## Early morning blaze destroys Stokely warehouse building

Six fire departments fought a fire early Wednesday morning at the Hoopeston Stokely plant on First Ave.

Hoopeston firemen responded to the call at about 12:15 a.m., said fire chief Greg Shipman. Smoke was coming from a warehouse but the exact location of the fire was not known until fire broke through the roof, he said.

Shipman called for mutual aid from several departments, including the Danville for its aerial truck, Ross-

ville, Wellington-Greer, Rankin and Milford. Firemen were on the scene for more than four hours knocking down the fire and were called back shortly before 9 a.m. and again at 1:30 p.m. for flare-ups.

The fire was fed by contents of the 40,000 square foot warehouse, which included new cardboard boxes and chip board divider sheets used between bright-stacked cans, said facility manager Drew Allen. The building

**See STOKELY on other side**

## Awesome and New!

Irish moss and

hard creeping baby's breath

Plentiful, fresh supply flowering annuals,  
vegetable, hanging baskets, geraniums

*Flowers & Gifts by Molly Culbert*

702 W. Main, Hoopeston 283-5578 Open 7 Days

We have  
Pool Chemicals!



## Olympic Hardware



516 N. Dixie Hwy. Hoopeston

(217) 283-5186

Open Sundays

## Manager's Spring Special

**\$2 off Oil Change**

with purchase of wiper blades or air filter



Stop. Go. Pennzoil.

**Hoopeston  
Express Lube**

(Hoopeston Plaza)

Expires 5/31/03

## Fish Fry 5-8 p.m. Friday American Legion



502 E. Penn, Hoopeston

Also ribs, chicken breast & shrimp

*Includes baked beans, slaw fries & a roll.*

**Carry-outs available 283-6312**



## Tacos are back!

Thursday 3-8 p.m.

**\$1 beer**

**V.F.W.**

Corner of Fourth Ave. & Orange, Hoopeston

## Hoopeston Rock Service

Rock: ¾" 1¼, 2". Plus landscape rock, pea gravel, sand, road pack.

Delivery/spreading available. Hours by appointment.

**Rich Stipp, owner**

(217) 283-5492 (217) 304-0884

Email rstipp1949@yahoo.com



## New Shipment Body Jewelry

For tongue, chin, brow, nose & belly

All priced \$10 for 1st piece,

\$1 for second

New bottles tanning lotion

Kids toys, books & videos

**Only in Global Fashions**

*New load of fresh bedding  
and vegetable plants!*

**20% off full flats at**

*Schuler's*

**Garden Shop**

1208 S. Second Ave., Hoopeston  
(217) 283-6681

## Stokely continued from other side

also contained the warehouse and shipping offices and labeling lines from the old Stokely plant, he said.

The fire is being investigated by the Illinois State Fire Marshall's office. A cause was not immediately available.

Firemen pulled so much water from the city water system that a water main on Bank St. broke. Water department workers were called out in the early morning hours and spent Wednesday looking for leaks and repairing the main.

Although an exact figure was not available, firemen used more than 500,000 gallons of water fighting the fire, said water superintendent Steve Baker. An extra valve was opened to allow firemen to pump enough water. Early Wednesday, city water had been treated but not filtered for rust content because of the volume used to fight the fire.

The aerial truck alone pumped 1,200 gallons per minute, Shipman said.

## Police News



**Steven A. Hargrove**, 31, of 7680 Walnut, East Lynn, was arrested at 2:43 p.m. Tuesday at Fourth Ave. and West Elm.

Hargrove, wanted on a Vermilion County traffic warrant for failure to appear, was released on \$285 bond.

A **14-year-old** boy reported Tuesday that someone took his blue and silver Z4 Schwinn bicycle from the 600 block of East Orange.

A **watch** was found Wednesday in the 300 block of West Maple. The owner may identify and claim it at the police station.

## Farming with Flowers Greenhouse

will be closed Saturday  
for graduation

**We will be open Sunday & Monday.**

**We still have a great selection of baskets  
and planters!**

**1 mile north of Floral Hill Cemetery, ¼ mile  
east on Rd. 100 N. Watch for signs!**

A damage estimate on the building was not available but Allen said it was one of the plant's original buildings, constructed in the late 1800s. It was not damaged in an explosion and fire at the main building in September 1992, he said.

Allen praised the fire department for its quick work. "They did a good job of containing it," he said. "Except for a little smoke smell, the rest of the buildings came out unscathed."

Allen said he does not expect the fire to hamper efforts to sell the plant, which was purchased in 1997 by Friday Canning, a subsidiary of Chiquita Brands International.

The plant, in which canning had gone on since the 1870s, was closed in January 1998.



Hoopeston water superintendent Steve Baker, along with Dave Hollen and Mark Donnelly work on a broken water main on Bank St. The main broke due to pressure on the line from the amount of water pumped to extinguish a fire at a Stokely warehouse Wednesday.

## Weather



Mostly sunny today. High 68. Tonight, partly cloudy. Low 43. Tomorrow, chance of showers. High 70, low 48.

For current weather conditions, (217) 283-6221.

## Sand Volleyball Leagues now forming!

- Must be 21 years old
  - 4 person team (2 men, 2 women)
  - 10 week leagues start June 4
- Wed. night league contact Jodi Coon,  
**283-9018.** Friday night league contact  
Amy Rieches, **283-4962** or  
Pla-Mor Lanes, **283-5195**

## Classifieds

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

Memorial Day Dot Sale. Saddles, hearts & other florals at Countryside Mall, Booth 31. Red dot - \$10 off. Yellow dot - \$5. Now through May 31.

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

### APARTMENTS FOR RENT

### HELP WANTED

Part time stock crew, 11 p.m.-7 a.m., 2-3 days/week. Must be flexible. Apply in person at Jerry's IGA, Hoopeston Plaza.

### HOUSES FOR RENT

Hoopeston 3 Bedrm Brick Ranch with Carport. No Steps! Re-frig, Range, Built-in Micro, DW, Disposal, Washer, Dryer, Cent. AC. NO PETS. \$450/mo with deposit. Available June 15th. Call 283-5107 or 283-7568 for application.

Small 3 bedroom house for rent. References, lease, no animals. Send inquiries to Box A, Just the Facts, P.O. Box 441, Hoopeston, IL 60942

### RUMMAGE SALES

Rt. 1 south of bank, across from Hicksgas. Saturday, 8-4. Girls & women's clothes, knickknacks, misc.

### VEHICLES FOR SALE

1994 Buick. 83,000 miles. Great car. \$2,000. (217) 283-7167

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