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Manager's 1 Day Sale!

Friday, May 7

1 lb. loaves Blue Seal Bread (limit 3)

3/\$1 2 liter, all flavors Vess Pop

2/\$1 Hunt's Catsup 32 oz. (limit 3) 79¢ ea. 26 oz., Plain, Meat or Mushroom only. (limit 2) Prego Spaghetti Sauce

99¢/jar

4 lb. bag (limit 2) Old Time Sugar

99¢/bag Bounty Big Roll

2 rolls/\$3

4 pk. Double Roll Charmin Bathroom Tissue \$1.99 All varieties Family Pak Ice Cream Squares 2/\$3 12", all varieties Jack's Original Pizza

5/\$10 Fresh Family Pack



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

www.justthefacts.net

Former Army POW recounts horrors of WWII captivity

DUKES

"I consider myself a survivor." Charlie Dukes of Georgetown opened his presentation at Monday's Neighborhood Watch meeting. He wasn't kidding.

Dukes, a WWII infantryman, was a prisoner of war in a German work camp, then was in a Russian detention camp. Those memories were the topic of his presentation and his 1997 book *Good Morning but the Nightmare Never Ends*. December 7, 1941 was the day

from which "my life was completely planned for me," Dukes said. "It was out of my control."

Entering the Army, Dukes was sent to infantry school in Texas, then to engineering school at Fordham University and finally to night fighting school in Colorado where "I learned to be able to kill a man with my bare hands," he said.

From training, Dukes sent to New Jersey and then sailed to England. A lead scout, he was about 200 yards ahead of his platoon one night when all hell broke loose. A firefight killed a friend. "I could tell by his helmet that he'd been hit," Dukes said. "It just rolled. I crawled over to him. He was dead." Dukes crawled into a ditch deep enough to cover him but not his pack, which was hit several times by enemy fire.

Dukes lay all night listening to the sound of gunfire. "I said a simple prayer," he said. "If the good Lord will let me see another sunrise, it will be "good morning" for the rest of my life."

On Thanksgiving Day 1944, Dukes' unit had driven Germans off a hill when five Tiger tanks took the hill and American soldiers, including Dukes. A fellow soldier hiding in a ditch was ground into the trench by one of the Tigers. "I heard him scream for years," Dukes said.

Dukes spent the next 10 days walking behind enemy lines, going into towns and villages where "mostly old men and old women" would beat the POWs with brooms. "Thank God they couldn't hit too hard," he said. A couple of women also spit in his face.

The POWs had no heat, little food and were herded into box cars like cattle. One man escaped and the others were beaten with rifles. "There was a lot of blood on the ground that morning," he said.

The POWs were abandoned by the Germans but Russian soldiers took their place. With them, Dukes not only had guns put to his head and bayonets at this stomach, but was also forced to watch at they raped a young girl. "I have no use for Russians or communism, period," he said.

Dukes was returned in a soldier swap. He was among Americans but his ordeal was not yet over.

Considered a deserter, Dukes was jailed and received a general court martial from a five-man tribunal. He spent time in the stockade before appearing before his case was reviewed by another tribunal. "They had 'psycho' stamped on my papers laying on the desk," he said.

Dukes was finally put aboard a ship headed for the U.S. Onboard, he looked forward to seeing the Statue of Liberty but was denied even that when the ship docked at Boston Harbor.

Dukes said he had nightmares about his experiences until his book was published. A movie,

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Police News

Robert F. Evans, 85, of 325 E. Penn, was ticketed for failure to yield the right of way after stopping following an accident at 10:14 a.m. Tuesday.

Police said Evans, in a 1989 Buick, was westbound on West Main. He stopped at the intersection of Rt. 1 and saw a northbound 1999 Ford

-Briefly

Tiny Tots

"Caps for Sale" is the theme of this week's Tiny Tots story program at the Hoopeston Public Library children's room. Tiny Tots meets at 6:30 p.m. Tuesdays and 10:30 a.m. Fridays and is for children ages 1-4 who are accompanied by an adult.

The week of May 21 will be the last Tiny Tots for the season but children will be able to "Explore the Reading Trail" during the Summer Reading Club which begins June 14.

Benefit set

Tater's Bar & Grill will hold a benefit for Rossville fire cleanup from 3 p.m.-close Saturday, May 8. The event will include food, music, auction and 5/50 drawing.

Diabetes information

"Living Well With Diabetes: Meal Planning Basics" will be presented by registered dietician Beth Totheroh at 1:30 p.m. Tuesday, May 11 at Country Terrace Apartments. Anyone interested in diabetes is invited to attend this brief program, which will also include a question and answer period.



Ham & Beans with cornbread today! Now open 'til 2 p.m. Sunday serving lasagna & garlic bread truck driven by Scott R. Walski of Homer. Walski was signaling to turn, so Evans entered the intersection and was hit.

Walski told police he had just made a delivery and his flashers were still on. He locked his brakes and was unable to avoid hitting Evans.

Historical Society dinner meeting

Reservations are being accepted for the Hoopeston Historical Society's annual dinner and meeting. The event will be held at 6 p.m. May 17 at the Milford Family Restaurant. Reservations are due by May 10 and may be made by calling Robert Schwartz at 283-6047.

Fireworks collection

The Hoopeston Chamber of Commerce will hold their annual fireworks street corner collection drive Friday and Saturday. The scope of the July 4 display will depend on money received. Donations may also be sent to the Chamber at P.O. Box 346, Hoopeston, IL 60942.

Postal food drive

Hoopeston postal workers will collect food Saturday for the Grant Township Food Cupboard. Do-

Obituaries

GONZALEZ - Bonnie Lou Bennett Gonzalez, 68, of Rossville died at 10:15 a.m. Monday, May 3, 2004 at home. Funeral services will be at 11 a.m. Friday at Wolfe Funeral Home and Cremation Service, Rossville. Burial will be in Mann's Chapel Cemetery south of Rossville. Visitation will be 6-8 p.m. Thursday at the funeral home. Memorials are suggested to United Cerebral Palsy.

Weather

Chance of thunderstorms today, tonight and tomorrow. Highs 83, lows 59.

For current weather conditions, call Hoopeston Weather Service (217) 283-6221.



Classifieds

APARTMENTS FOR RENT

Hoopeston: 1 bdr. apt. Appliances included. No pets. Available May 1. \$275/mo., deposit, references. (217) 304-3477

RUMMAGE SALES

822 E. Chestnut, Hoopeston. Fri., 7-3, Sat., 7-12. Kids & adult clothing, toys, games, many retired Beanies in perfect condition, household misc.

319 E. Seminary, Hoopeston. Sat., 7-? Antiques - woodworking & other tools, much misc. A true garage sale!

Country Garage Sale: 39516 N 1130 East Rd. 2nd left heading west from Hoopeston on Rt.9. Look for signs. Fri. 5/8 9am-2, Sat 7am-?, Toys, clothing, adult, boys 2t and 10-12, Girls 2t and under, Tod bed, baby swing, porta-crib and more, speakers/stands, truck cap, moving blankets, dog house, and lots of misc.

SERVICES

Dog grooming by Jean. Gentle care. Pickup & delivery available. Also boarding. Gem-Mar Kennels. (217) 283-7426.

Planning a Graduation or Mother's Day Party? Call HRHC Catering Services. We Can Help! (217) 283-5531, Extension 200.

Cleaning lady in Hoopeston area has 1 day/week available. Call 283-4582.

WANTED

The Hoopeston American Legion would appreciate the donation of a wagon running gear to be used for a parade float. Please contact Jim Crouch, (217) 339-2401.

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