

**ORRAINE THEATRE**

**Screen 1:**  
**"The Polar Express"** (G)  
*Starring Tom Hanks*  
 7 p.m. nightly  
 9:15 p.m. Fri./Sat.  
 2 & 4:15 p.m. Sat./Sun.

**Screen 2: "The Incredibles"** (PG)


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owner/publisher

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**Letters to the Editor**



**Fish Fry**

5-8 p.m.



Friday  
**American Legion**  
 502 E. Penn, Hoopeston

**Support Your Troops on**  
**Veterans Day**  
**at VFW Post 4826**  
 428 W. Orange  
 Serving vegetable soup  
 & sandwiches.  
 Bring a dish  
 Lasts all day



**Thoughts on Rossville deactivation**

One hundred and twenty-seven years of community tradition will come to a screeching halt this spring when the Rossville-Alvin High School Class of 2005 graduates. They will be the last students to be able to claim the status of alumni of that institution. Declining enrollment, lack of state funding, and a decrease in the community tax base have all led to this sad end. It was a hard, sometimes bitter, fight. Perhaps a high point in all the number crunching was when the students themselves voted against closing the school and even posted "Vote No" notices around town. They had high hopes in the face of overwhelming odds. The community should have savored that last rush of school spirit, because Rossville will never see it again.

First it was the canning factory, followed by the IGA, then most of the gas stations, and then the February 2004 fire - an outstanding example of small town America slowly succumbing to the hard realities of an ever growing urbanized country. The Bobcats became Blue Devils and the marching band students went to Hoopeston. Just walking behind the high school clearly demonstrated the way things were going: the track and field areas were overgrown. As one letter writer suggested, the glory days of Rossville High School have long faded into the realms of nostalgia. The high school needed to be sacrificed to save the grade school. Rossville students have to be sent to other communities to save their chances for a good education.

**See THOUGHTS on other side**

**Your event**  
*can be listed*  
**FREE on**  
**hoopeston.org**  
 Email: additions@  
**hoopeston.org.**





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A home of your own? A dream. No, it needn't be just a dream. Visit our home mortgage specialists to inspect our NEW home mortgage programs that are now available.

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**Community Bank**

**221 Bank St. (217) 283-7733 Member FDIC**




**Briefly**

**Veterans Day activities**  
 Hoopeston: ceremony at 10:30 a.m. Thursday at Veterans Memorial, McFerren Park. The American Legion will serve chili and potato soup at the post home following. The VFW will serve vegetable soup and sandwiches at its post home as well.

Rossville: parade 10:45 from high school to Veterans Memorial with service at 11 a.m. The Rossville American Legion will serve lunch after the ceremony.

**Youth football election**  
 The Hoopeston Youth Football board will hold its yearly election of officers at 5 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 14 at the Hoopeston Public Library. Anyone interested in being on the board or who would like to be an officer on the board is asked to attend.

**Art show & sale**  
 Hoopeston Public Library will host an art show and sale from 9:30 a.m.-3 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 20. This is a chance for residents to purchase original art from area artists. Works will include stained glass, paintings, drawings and photography.

The library is at 110 N. Fourth St., Hoopeston

**Petitions available**  
 Petition packets for those wishing to run for regional school trustee and multi-township assessor in the April 5 consolidated election are available at County Clerk Lynn Foster's office, Courthouse Annex, 6 N. Vermilion, Danville.

Filing period for candidates seeking election is Jan. 17-25 at the county clerk's office.

For more information, call (217) 554-1911.

*You are cordially invited to a*  
**Holiday Open House**  
 4-7 p.m. Thursday  
**Jerry's IGA**  
 Routes 1 & 9, Hoopeston  
 Samples ~ Drawings  
 Join us for  
*baking and entertaining ideas*



*for your*

Give the Gift of Time  
Special Selection of  
Howard Miller Clocks



20 different styles

\$59.99 each

BINGO

every Thursday  
7 p.m.  
Hoopeston American Legion  
502 E. Penn

Are you on our list?



T & L Lawn Care  
Snow Removal  
(217) 283-7214

Rossville American Legion  
presents  
Yesterday's Country  
Saturday, Nov. 13  
8:30-12  
\$3 single/\$5 couple  
104 Thompson Ave.





New Books at the Library



**Non-fiction:**  
Strange Universe by Bob Berman  
What You Should Know about Shingles and PHN by Thomas Carl Thomsen  
Beating the Blues: New Approaches to Overcoming Dysthymia and Chronic Mild Depression by Machael E. Thase

Underage & Overweight: America's Childhood Obesity Crisis – What Every Family Needs to Know by Frances M. Berg  
Beautiful Gardens Made Easy: 39 Quick Projects by Elvin McDonald  
Ortho's Complete Guide to Houseplants  
Ortho's Home Gardener's Problem Solver



Police News



A pair of glasses turned in to police Saturday were claimed by the owner Monday.

A 20-year-old Hoopeston woman reported Monday that someone damaged her 1993 Chevrolet Blazer while it was parked at her home in the 400 block of East Maple. It was scratched with chunks of asphalt from the street.

Mark A. Blanding, 30, of 206 S. Second Ave., Kentland, Ind., turned himself in to police at 1:35 p.m. Tuesday. Blanding, wanted on a Vermilion County traffic warrant, was released on \$300 cash bond.

No tickets or injuries were reported in an accident at 2:32 p.m. Tuesday in the 800 block of East Thompson.

Police said Elwood Withers of Paxton, in a 1991 Chevrolet truck, backed from a parking space into a 1991 Chevrolet Blazer driven by Emily Gonzalez of Hoopeston.

Cathy S. Smith, 31, of 528 N. Fourth St., was arrested at 9:29 p.m. Tuesday about one mile south of Hoopeston on Rt. 1. Smith, wanted on an Iroquois County warrant for failure to appear, was turned

Thoughts continued from other side

The closing of Rossville-Alvin High School has come to pass. A lot of people had to make some hard decisions. Perhaps it would have been more prudent if the hard line realities of the situation had been made clear before the public survey, or that the survey itself would have been more representative of the registered voters and that the tax referendum had been placed on the ballot first. It was all about the kids (an expression anyone attending the five meetings held by the school board heard over and over). Now their academic future is good, and everyone can move on.

The next question may be move on to what? Rossville has been dealt an unavoidable and considerable double blow this year - first the fire and now this. The prospects for community development do not look good. The current crop of students do have a future, but the possibility looms that fewer and fewer new families will embrace a community where their high school age students will have to bused to other towns. What effects this will all have on property values, tax base, any hope of new businesses, and the life span of the grade school for the long term has yet to been seen. Come the April elections, Rossville will need strong leadership to help the community meet the challenges of the immediate future.

Rossville is like a magnificent old historic home. Instead of being preserved it has had each of its floors removed one at a time. It is about to the first floor now. This would be a good time for the community to take a hard look, see what can be done, and try to save what is left. While I have been absent from Rossville for 37 years and have recently moved back to the area, I have always considered it home. It is a home worth fighting for.

Kevin R. Young  
Champaign



Weather

Rain likely today. High 46. Tonight, decreasing clouds. Low 28. Tomorrow, mostly sunny. High 45, low 24. For current weather conditions, call Hoopeston Weather Service (217) 283-6221.

Ortho's All About Bonsai by Penelope O'Sullivan  
Giant Perennials...Star Performers for the Garden by Susan Berry  
Perennials All Season: Planning and Planting an Ever-Blooming Garden by Douglas Green  
How Much is Enough? By Jean Illsley Clarke  
Woodworking: the Right Technique by Robert J. Moran  
Front Yard Gardens: Growing More Than Grass by Liz Primeau  
Relics & Reproductions...Identifying Reproductions and Altered Ancient America Artifacts by James R. Bennett  
Wedding Flowers by Paula Pryke

Classifieds

APARTMENTS FOR RENT

2 BR, stove, refrigerator furnished. \$350/mo. + dep. No pets. 1 BR, stove, refrigerator furnished, \$250/mo. + dep. No pets. Third floor loft. 1-2 BR, stove, refrigerator furnished. No pets. (217) 283-9534. Leave message.

1 bedroom home. Newly remodeled. Appliances furnished. No pets. \$325 per month + deposit. (217) 283-6725

HOUSES FOR RENT

Spacious, lovely 4-5 bedroom home in Rossville. \$700/mo. Must have good references. (217) 748-6097

MISCELLANEOUS FOR SALE

52" ProScan big screen TV. \$1,000 OBO. \$2,600 new. (217) 260-6161

5 pc. Fireplace set \$25; 10-speed boy's bike \$25; weight machine/workout center \$100; firewood. (217) 283-7353

Treadmill. Good condition. \$50 (815) 457-2021

RUMMAGE SALES

851 E. Seminary, Hoopeston. Sat., 11/13, 7-noon. Boys, girls, adult clothing, computer, buffet, toys, shoes, holiday décor. In heated garage.

331 W. Elm, Hoopeston. Sat. 9-? Disney Masterpiece movies, toys, all season clothes, tools, household.

714 S. Fifth St., Hoopeston. Fri., 8-4, Sat., 8-noon. Baby, adult clothes, toys, purses.

SERVICES

Indoor storage available for RVs, boats, etc. (217) 283-5537

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