



**VFW Post 4826**  
48th annual  
**Turkey Walk**

Saturday, Nov. 20

25 turkeys given away, 25 turkey raffles

Smoke River Band 8:30-12:30

\$3 single, \$5 couple

Corner of Fourth Ave. & Orange, Hoopeston

**Huckleby's Auction**

**Christmas Auction**

**1 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 1**

Grab Bags, Toys, Knives, Angels, Candy,  
Gift Wrap & Bows, Dolls, Carhartt Jackets -  
something for everyone!

Prizes & Drawings!

**208 N. Market, Hoopeston**

*You be the star!*

Karaoke

Contest

**Pla-Mor Lanes**

\$500 1st

\$250 2nd

Contest dates:

Oct. 22, 29, Nov. 5, 12, 19

**Finals Nov. 26**

**Karaoke starts 8:30 p.m. for all dates**

**The best 3 contestants from each**

Lourdine Florek  
owner/publisher

**Just the Facts<sup>©</sup>**

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**www.justthefacts.net**

**Hoopeston City Council passes tax levy with smaller increase**

Hoopeston's tax levy will be going up but not as much as it has in the past.

At its meeting Tuesday night, the Hoopeston City Council passed a tax levy ordinance for 2005-06 for \$603,716, up from \$597,321 last year.

Alderman Bill Goodwine, city finance committee chairman, said the city decided to hold the line on spending in light of the tax rate hike approved for Hoopeston Area schools.

The levy means the city's tax rate will increase by two cents, from \$1.74 last year to \$1.76, while the city's equalized assessed valuation has risen six percent, Goodwine said.

The biggest decrease is in the payroll withholding

purposes category, used to pay employee Social Security. That amount will drop from \$84,728 last year to \$62,394 this year. Goodwine said the city had enough money in the fund to lower the levy this year. The city audit fund will also decrease, from \$10,000 last year to \$6,000 this year.

The levy ordinance covers revenue to be received from May 1, 2005 to April 30, 2006.

In unrelated discussion, the council learned the city did not receive an AmerenCIPS Smart Lights grant.

**Man leads police on chase**

A Hoopeston man is being held in Benton County, Ind., after leading local police on a high-speed chase.

Roger D. Catron, 46, of 706 S. Third Ave., was arrested Monday afternoon in a field several miles northwest of Boswell, Ind.

Police said the incident began at 2:31 p.m. when Hoopeston officers saw Catron driving near South Market and East Elm. Officers tried to stop him because he is wanted on an Iroquois County warrant for possession of a controlled substance with intent to deliver.

Instead of stopping, Catron allegedly fled east-bound on Rt. 9 at speeds in excess of 100 miles per hour. Officers pursued him to Warren County, then Benton. In the vicinity of Indiana CR 60W and 200N, Catron stopped his vehicle and fled into a field where he was arrested.

He is being held in Indiana on charges of resisting arrest, possession of cannabis, possession of cocaine and possession of methamphetamines.

Locally, Catron is facing charges of aggravated reckless driving, aggravated fleeing and eluding, failing to yield to an emergency vehicle, speeding (excess of

**Miracle Tree screening on**

Screenings for the Miracle Tree, along with the Grant Township Food Cupboard, Lions Club Christmas baskets and Jaycees Toys for Tots is going on through Friday, Dec. 3.

People interested in participating in any of the programs may go to the Grant Township business office, 525 S. Market. Screenings will be done from 9-11 a.m. and 1-3 p.m. each business day. Participants are asked to bring proof of address, effective LINK card, proof of income and Social Security cards for everyone in the household.

Miracle Trees will be available in three Hoopeston locations. Pamida, which has hosted the tree for several years, will continue to do so again this year. Trees will also be available at Global Fashions and First Allied Securities.

Employees and management in all three locations will gladly assist anyone interested in taking part in the annual Christmas event.

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## Rossville businesses to rebuild; city will not 'roll over': mayor

ROSSVILLE—The local economy is a mixed bag of good and bad news.

At Monday's village board meeting, Rossville trustees heard from Mayor Terry Prillaman and business owner Nancy Dickson whose business was destroyed in a Feb. 27 fire that gutted the northeast 100 block of Chicago St.

Prillaman said he met recently with business-people whose buildings were destroyed in the fire to discuss whether the businesses will rebuild or relocate. "Two lots sold sitting right here," he told trustees. "We're off dead center and I think we're making progress."

Dickson said the ownership of the block is held mostly between herself on the north end of the street and Juanita Fritz on the south end. For her part, Dickson wants to rebuild and showed sketches of what her building might look like. She is contemplating including a country-style restaurant and perhaps a community center but asked trustees to consider what types of businesses might open in the building. "That's something you people need to think about - what could we put in there that would survive," she said.

Dickson and Prillaman said research is going into finding grants that might help with the project and Prillaman said the village can use its Tax Increment Financing fund to help.

In related discussion, Prillaman expressed his thoughts on the Nov. 2 vote to deactivate Rossville-Alvin High School. "I've been asked this question 100 times: how is the closing of the high school going to impact the village of Rossville," he said.

Prillaman took exception to a letter to the editor that appeared in Just the Facts, written by a former Rossville resident, who talked about the fire and deacti-

## Briefly

### Youth wrestling signups

Hoopeston Area youth wrestling signups for children in grades 4-8 graders will be held from 6-7 p.m. Wednesday in high school cafeteria. Fee is \$35 for an IKWF wrestling card. Students must have physical, birth certificate (if they have never wrestled before), and a signed parent permit form.

vation. "He's insinuating Rossville will probably roll over and die," Prillaman said. "We're not going to roll over and let the town die."

Prillaman criticized the school board for pushing forward with deactivation. Saying it might be in the best interests of the students, he said the action is not in the best interests of the village and added he wished school officials had pushed it back for two years to allow the village's TIF district to become stable. "The board, especially the superintendent, fought us tooth and toenail," he said.

Along with losing its students, the village will lose the activity of parents taking their children to activities. "Parents will be going to Hoopeston or Bismarck now," he said.

The village will lose revenue from the gas, water and sewer charges when the building closes. Businesses, like Bray's General Store, will lose business from students who stopped in for snacks after school.

Trustee Kay Ritter said she wrote to each school board member telling them how the businesses were trying to come back from the fire. "I agree with what Terry said," she said.

While admitting that losing the school is a big setback, Prillaman said the village will find a way to survive. "They're badly mistaken if anyone thinks Rossville will not survive these setbacks," he said.

In unrelated action, the board:

- discussed a recent oil spill at the ConAgra plant. Village officials met with company representatives to discuss ways of preventing future incidents. The company will be responsible for cleanup costs.
- will look into participating in night court at Danville. The village will receive 100 percent of fines attached to violations.
- will seek bids to put in sanitary sewers in the Ridl and Thomas subdivisions. Bid opening will be Dec. 1.

## Weather



Chance of rain today. High 61. Tonight, cloudy. Low 48. Tomorrow, cloudy, chance of rain late. High 58, low 44.

For current weather conditions, call **Hoop-**

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