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Phone/Fax:
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Email:

publish@justthefacts.net

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Fire Marshall investigates blaze of undetermined origin

The Illinois State Fire Marshall's office is investigating a fire of undetermined origin that gutted a house Friday at 718 E. Young.

The Hoopeston Fire Department was called to the fire at 8:22 a.m., said Fire Chief Greg Shipman. The first fire fighters arrived "probably within two minutes" to find the east side of the home fully engulfed and fire venting through the windows and roof, he said.

Because of structure's balloon construction, fire quickly spread up a wall, into the attic and down another wall, bringing flames to the first and second floors and attic, Shipman said. "It took us a little while to get control of the scene," Shipman said. "It was a difficult fire to fight." Firemen were further hampered by a light wind, he added.

After about an hour, the department had the

fire under control but spend another two to three hours overhauling the site.

The house, owned by Mary Cunningham, was occupied by Keith Bell, his wife and several children. The family had left the house about 8 a.m., he said.

The fire is believed to have started about 10 feet inside the east doorway but an exact cause is still under investigation. It was the amount of fire that caused Shipman to call for an investigation. The Fire Marshall's preliminary investigation listed the fire as of undetermined origin but Shipman said he expects a more complete report in a few days.

The Red Cross was called to set up temporary shelter for the family. The St. Vincent DePaul Society of St. Anthony Catholic Church and the Hoopeston Multi Agency were also contacted for

Hoopeston Industrial Corp. to offer dividend to shareholders

The 132 shareholders of the Hoopeston Industrial Corporation will get a bonus this year.

At its annual meeting Wednesday, the HIC board approved issuing a dividend totaling \$56,730 or \$30 per share.

Dividend checks will be sent to shareholders by April 15.

In other action, the board voted to retain the current slate of officers, including Harold Cox, president; Glen Sinn, vice president; Bill Nicholls, treasurer and Jean Minick, secretary.

Other board members are Bertha Parsons, Bruce Burton and Roger Ball.

The board also discussed but did not take action on having its property on Rt. 9 appraised.

Flu vaccine restriction lifted

With the lifting of state and national restrictions on influenza vaccine, Vermilion County Health Department is making flu shots available to anyone Feb. 1-10. "We are fortunate to still have some vaccine available for the general public," said Community Health Services Director Lynn Galloway. Anyone wanting a flu shot can receive one at the health department's main facility in Danville, 220 South College Street, Monday through Friday, Feb. 1-10 from 9 a.m. to noon, and from 1pm to 4 p.m. No appointment is necessary. Cost is \$18.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention last week lifted restrictions, allowing anyone wanting a flu shot to receive it, regardless of their health status, in those areas of the country where vaccine is still available. Most of the United States experienced a

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We would like to introduce our new Lead Technician, Troy Hafner. Troy has 20 years of service experience. We'd also like to congratulate Jared Rayls for 1 year of service with us and Joel Stiger, our Service Manager, for 27 years of Service experience!

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Rossville

*Minuteman

*Feedbag

*Bray's General Store

Milford



Cynthia J. Blanding, 43, of 1950 E 200 North Rd., was arrested at 8:27 a.m., Thursday after a traffic stop in the 600 block of West Main.

Blanding was charged with unlawful possession of registration sticker and no valid registration. She was ticketed and released pending further investigation.

No tickets or injuries were reported in an accident at 10:19 a.m. Friday in the 100 block of East Main.

Police said Carolyna J. Nelson of rural Wellington, in a 1990 Chevrolet truck, backed into a westbound 1998 Chevrolet truck driven by William O. Seyfert of rural

Briefly

Multi Agency van schedule

This week's schedule for the Hoopeston Multi Agency transportation project is: Monday, Hoopeston/Rossville shuttle; Tuesday, information unavailable; Wednesday, Danville; Thursday, Hoopeston shuttle; Friday, Danville. To arrange a ride, call the Multi Agency at 283 -5544.



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Police News

Milford.

Adena J. Rossolilli, 26, of 302 E. Seminary was arrested after a traffic stop at 1:16 a.m. Saturday at North Third St. and Seminary.

Rossolille was charged with driving under the influence and illegal squealing of tires. She was released on her driver's license and \$100 cash bond.

A 30-year-old Hoopeston man reported Saturday that someone took a cherry picker from his back yard in the 600 block of East Young. The item is used to remove motors from vehicles.

Community center activities include: Monday-Friday, cards, noon; Thursday, men's coffee 9 a.m.

shortage


See FLU on other side

Flu continued from other side

of influenza vaccine last fall, when anticipated shipments of vaccine were not received. Because of the vaccine shortage, Illinois and other states restricted flu vaccinations to those people most at risk from flu because of existing health conditions and age.

The CDC is reporting that flu activity was low across the United States through early December, but is increasing steadily. Flu activity generally peaks in January-February. "Unless you've already had the flu," says Dr. Whitaker, "It's not too late to get a flu shot."


Weather



Chance of snow today. High 35. Tonight, mostly cloudy. Low 22. Tomorrow, partly cloudy. High 36, low 24

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

Please support the United Community Fund of Grant Township! Send contributions to 206 S. First Ave., Hoopeston, IL 60942.



Adam M. Linares, 22, of West Penn St., was arrested at 11:30 p.m. Saturday in the 300 block of West Penn.

He was charged with domestic battery and interfering with the reporting of a domestic battery on a complaint from a 19-year-old Hoopeston woman who alleged Linares struck her, then tried to keep her from calling police.


He was taken to the Public Safety Building, Danville by a Vermilion County deputy.

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LOST

Male Boxer. Fawn w/white markings. "Oscar." Last seen Monday in 900 block of East Orange, Hoopeston. If found, call 283-9663.

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