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Economic conditions force business to go back to early roots

The Brown family has been providing carpenter service in the Hoopeston area for three generations and for the last 60 years, has provided materials to contractors and do-it-yourselfers.

That will change this month when the business will go back to its roots of being a full-service carpentry business.

The retail portion of the business, one of the few remaining independents in Illinois, will close Feb. 25.

"The business has changed," said owner Scott Brown. "Our buying power is not there like it used to be. You've got to be big."

Brown and his wife, Tracy, said the decision to close the retail side of the business was difficult. "This wasn't an easy decision to make," Mrs. Brown said. "The carpenter service has supported the business and that's not fair."

Store employees were told of the closing last week. One employee is being let go but the Browns are working with him to find other employment.

Hoopeston Area expected to host DACC vocational classes

dent Mark Conolly.

10 minutes away," he said.

high school and college credit.

In unrelated business, the board:

Hoopeston Area students who travel to the former Rossville-Alvin High School for vocational classes this year may be staying in their home school next year.

At Thursday night's Hoopeston Area School Board meeting, members discussed holding most dualenrollment Danville Area Community College vocational classes at Hoopeston.

Currently, DACC offers criminal justice, fire science, welding and graphics at the Rossville-Alvin campus. Two Hoopeston Area classes - ag and child care - are also offered in Rossville.

Under the new plan, only ag and possibly welding classes would be offered at Rossville, said Superinten-

The couple also thought of long-time customers, sending letters to them about the closing. The letter stated that the company will provide customers with "the same quality merchandise or will install the merchandise that you have purchased."

The carpenter business will give estimates on room additions, siding, decks, porches, overhead garage doors, entry doors, storm doors, drywall and kitchen and bathroom remodeling.

Sitting in an office in the building where he has spent the last 37 years and she the last 18, the Browns try to stay focused on the positive.

"Over the years, a lot of people have worked here and a lot of people have learned the trade here," Mrs. Brown said. "We've had some very loyal, dedicated, experienced employees. We've had some great customers. We've tried to give the best service."

The carpenter service, Brown's Woodworks, will be based in the same building at 801 E. Thompson and the phone number will remain (217) 283-7739.

Under the new plan, Bismarck-Henning student who

currently attend vocational classes at Rossville would

instead take them on the DACC campus and Milford

students would be invited to attend vocational classes in

Hoopeston, Conolly said. "It's a natural and we're only

The DACC vocational courses allow high school jun-

iors and seniors to take DACC classes, receiving both

• Approved the migrant program application for about

See HOOPESTON AREA on other side



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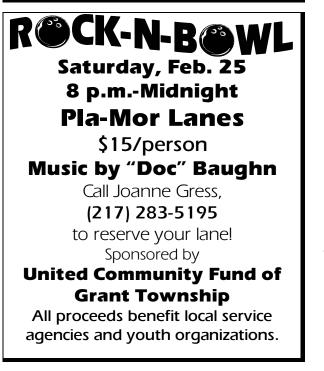
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Jason R. Reyes, 18, of 222 E. Thompson was arrested at 11 a.m. Friday at the police station. He was charged with disorderly conduct—filing a false police report. Police alleged Reyes lied about being the victim of an aggravated battery and home invasion that he reported Feb. 11.

Reyes was taken to the Public Safety Building in Danville to await arraignment.

A 74-year-old Hoopeston man reported Friday that someone damaged the walk-through door of his ga-



a Chance of Meatballs

"Cloudy with a Chance of Meatballs" 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.

Music Booster winners

The weekly winner for Feb. 10 in the Hoopeston Area Music Booster calendar drawing was Candis Clayborn, \$100.

Benefit set

A benefit will be held for the children of Andrea Gua-

Police News

rage trying to enter the building. The door and frame were damaged.

The incident occurred in the 700 block of East Penn.

A 17-year-old Rankin man reported Saturday that someone broke a window of his 1998 Chevrolet while it was parked in the 1000 block of West Chestnut.

Joshua K. Rusk, 25, of 412 E. Main was arrested at 7:17 p.m. Saturday in the 400 block of East Main.

jardo Saturday, April 8th, beginning at noon. Food will be served, along with an auction beginning at 3 p.m. More information will follow in the coming weeks.

Andrea was tragically killed at work December 12, 2005. She left behind three young boys: Jordan 7, Andrew 6, and Kristopher 1.

We are accepting donations for the auction at: Hoopeston-East Lynn Class of 1986, 915 W. Washington St., Hoopeston, IL 60942.

You may also contact Annette McMillan at 217-918-2106.

Meetings

Hoopeston City Council, 7 p.m. Tuesday, city hall.

Obituaries

FLOYD—Virgil Brent Floyd, 84, of Hoopeston died at 2:50 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 15, 2006 at VA Illiana Health Care, Danville. Funeral services will be 11 a.m. Friday at Morris & Hislope Funeral Home, Somerset, Ky. Burial will be in Oak Hill Cemetery, Oak Hill, Ky. Visitation will be held

Hoopeston Area continued from other side

\$80,000. The program is federally-funded and last year reached about 50 migrant students, Conolly said.Approved purchasing two buses from Central States Bus Sales.

• Learned the district received a per capita grant of \$947.99 from the Illinois Secretary of State's office for library materials.

Thursday at the funeral home. Hamilton-Orr Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.

SMITH—Carol Vaughn Smith, 57, of Flora, formerly of Rossville died Friday, Feb. 17, 2006, at home. Funeral services were at 1 p.m. Monday at Wolfe Funeral Home, Hoopeston. Burial was in Sunset Memorial Park, Danville. Visitation was noon-1` p.m. Monday at the funeral home.

Weather

Partly cloudy today. High 42. Tonight, cloudy. Low 24. Tomorrow, mostly cloudy. High 41, low 25.

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

He was charged with battery on a complaint from a 22year-old Hoopeston woman who alleged Rusk spit on her.

He was released on a notice to appear.

Fire Calls



The Hoopeston Fire Department was called at 5:05 p.m. Friday to 703 E. Honeywell for a reported garage fire. No injuries were reported.

Charlie Brown opens ART season

Artistic Repertory Theatre opens its 2006 season with a dinner/theater production of "You're A Good Man Charlie Brown." The event will be held at 6:45 p.m. Friday and Saturday and 12:45 p.m. Sunday in the second floor of the Academy for the Performing Arts, 203 E. Main. Tickets for dinner/show are \$16.

Scot Danner of Champaign headlines the cast as Charlie Brown. The cast also includes Kristi Hudson as Snoopy, Chelsea Rowe as Sally, Mike Caparula as Schroeder, Julie Stump as Violet, Dwight Judy as Linus, Denise Ried as Lucy and Tamy Burge as Frieda.

Kathleen Margevich is director/choreographer, Rick Brackmann is performance pianist/conductor and Ried is music director.

Call (217) 283-6553 for tickets.

Classifieds

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