Want to make \$\$\$\$\$

Bring your unwanted books, VHS, DVD, audio books, video games, records, electronics, CDs, housewares, glassware, knick-knacks, antiques, tools, baby items to Dixie Plaza on Rt.1 Tues-Fri. this week noon-4 p.m. We'll price & sell your items at April 1st consignment sale. Consigners get 60%.



Thursday is \$1 beer night at V.F.W.

Corner of Fourth Ave. & Orange, Hoopeston

Lourdine Florek owner/publisher

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Letters to the Editor

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E d i - tor's Note: the following letter from Capt. Brock Zimmerman of Hoopeston, was sent to U.S. Sen. Barack Obama. Capt. Zimmerman requested the letter be reprinted here.

Senator Obama,

I am writing to voice my displeasure for the abuse of our bipartisan system. All parties need to work together to solve OUR problems rather than simply concern themselves with popularity and re-election.

My name is Brock Zimmerman, a Captain in the United States Army, originally from Hoopeston, Illinois and now a soldier stationed at Fort Hood, Tex., with the

First Cavalry Division. The overall problem that I see from my perspective rests in the hands of our own government and, in my opinion, is an easy fix. Whether you're a Republican, Democrat or an Independent, put all the political badgering and agendas aside and work out problems instead of belittling and pointing fingers at the different parties. OUR government leaders are supposed to be well-educated, but for some reason can't work out issues that face our nation today based off different political views. Work to build our country, not tear it down. The people of the United States chose this

See LETTER on other side





LIQUIDATION SALE

through
SATURDAY, APRIL 1!
20-50% Storewide

- Cash & Carry
- No deliveries
- MasterCard, Visa, Discover, American Express accepted.

Brown's Cash & Carry

801 E. Thompson, Hoopeston (217) 283-7739



Photo by James Eyrich

Secrets of the deep

An old bicycle and cinder blocks are revealed as the McFerren Park lagoon was drained earlier this week. Debris found in the lagoon, which is being dredged and enlarged, also included old Christmas trees, weighted to stay submerged. The park road is closed near the lagoon because of rising water caused during the work.

You be the star! Karaoke Contest

Pla-Mor Lanes

\$500 1st

\$250 2nd

Contest dates:

March 3, 10, 17, 24, 31

Finals April 7

Karaoke starts 10 p.m. for all dates

Contestants must sing 3 of the 5 dates. Finals will be judged on audience applause.

Must be 21 to enter.

719 W. Elm, Hoopeston (217) 283-5195

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Letter continued from other side

government and expect that their government represent the people that put them in their position.

The media as a whole only makes these situations worse. For example, in Iraq, the media only makes public the deaths of American soldiers. Does the American people think every soldier in Iraq faces a fierce bloody battle everyday? Yes, because the media portrays the events like that. I was in Baquaba, Iraq for a year and never fired my weapon and I am an armor officer, however I did see combat and also saw the things that our young soldiers accomplished over there. Do you think the media would show our soldiers working with Iraqi people, building schools, building their army, implementing water projects, etc.? The answer is no because there is a political agenda. The media doesn't want to show that because it shows that we are accomplishing things, but we all know that the negative atmosphere will prevail.

President Bush's ratings are at an all-time low and everyone knows that. But think about the soldier who takes the oath to support the president.

"I, _____, do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I will support and defend the constitution of the United States against all enemies, foreign and domestic; that I will bear true faith and allegiance to the same; and that I will

Police News



Kimberly A. Magee, 34, of Wellington was ticketed for improper left turn after an accident at 6 p.m. Tuesday at South Fifth Ave. and West Orange. Magee, in a 1999 Saturn, struck a 1989 Ford driven by Dan Sheehan of Hoopeston. Magee was treated and released from Hoopeston Community Memorial Hospital.

Margarita's

329 W. Main, Hoopeston 283-9090

Check our the large selection

on our Buffets

Breakfast 5:30-10 a.m.; Lunch 11 a.m.-1:30 p.m.; Dinner 4-7:30 p.m.

Open Mon.-Fri. 5:30 a.m.-8 p.m., Sat. 7 a.m.-8 p.m.

Coffee & Pie Special Monday-Friday, 2-4 p.m.

obey the orders of the President of the United States and the orders of the officers appointed over me, according to the regulations and the Uniform Code of Military Justice. So help me God."

The presidential ratings that the president receives will soon form a cancer throughout the armed forces. In my opinion, if the president is not being supported in the Iraq conflict, do you think the soldiers themselves feel supported by our own citizens? Of course the ratings are going to point toward the president since he is the highest elected official in the United States. Maybe a poll should be conducted asking the American people, "Excluding the president, are you confident in our government's ability to resolve issues domestically and internationally?" I believe you will find that the ratings will be very similar to that of the president. I believe that Congress voted for the war and backed the president and his decisions during that time. Why is it that the people

Obituaries

BAUER—Herman Herbert Bauer, 93, of rural Hoopeston died Tuesday, March 28, 2006 at home. Funeral services will be at 10 a.m. Friday at Apostolic Christian Church, Cissna Park. Burial will be in Apostolic Christian Cemetery, Cissna Park. Visitation will be 4-8 p.m. Thursday at Knapp Funeral Home, Cissna Park and 9-10 a.m. Friday at the church. Memorials are suggested to Carle Hospice.

MORRIS—James Morris, 80, of Hoopeston died at 9 a.m. Tuesday, March 28, 2006 at Hoopeston Community Memorial Hospital. Funeral services will be at 11 a.m. Friday at First Freewill Baptist Church, Hoopeston. Burial will be in Locust Grove Cemetery, Tab, Ind. Visitation will be 4-9 p.m. Thursday at the church with a service at 7 p.m. Memorials may be made to a charity of the donor's choice. Wolfe Funeral Home and Cremation Service, Hoopeston, was in charge of arrangements.

Weather



Chance of thunderstorms today, tonight and tomorrow. High today 68, low 54. Tomorrow, high 66, low 41.

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

that voted for the war are now jumping on a different train? If the war is not being run effectively or any other issue that concerns the citizens of this great country, it is up to the ELECTED OFFICIALS to come up with a solution

> Very respectfully, Brock A. Zimmerman Captain, United States Army



Classifieds

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Big sale at Countryside booth at Dixie Plaza Mar. 31-April 2. Monster hot dog, chips, pop -\$2. Last year's quilts, all embroidery blocks on sale. Borders \$1, Cards 4/\$1

HOUSES FOR RENT

3 BR house. \$450/mo. Call (217) 304-2145

3 BR country home. Lots of vard space. (217) 304-3826

RUMMAGE SALES

1111 E. Thompson Ave., Hoopeston. Huge 6 family sale Sat., April 1, 8 a.m. Boys & girls clothing, men's & women's clothing, kids' toys & books, strollers, car seats, 50cc 7 wheeler, Nordic Flex exercise machine, bedding for twin & king beds, school desk, couch & love seat, lots of misc. household items.

1318 E. Thompson, 1/2 mi. east of Brown's Cash & Carry. Sat., April 1, 8 a.m.-noon. Large sale of children' clothing (discounted from previous consignment) adults, household, etc. Ervin, Deck, Daze, Trueblood, Braden & others.

WANTED

Responsible, mature, dependable teen to babysit my 5 & 7 year olds in my Hoopeston home full time over the summer. Call (217) 377-5246

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