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www.justthefacts.net

Hoopeston man lends voice to 19 characters of 'Scrooge'

The classic tale of Ebenezer Scrooge and Tiny Tim will be brought to the stage by one man.

Earl Martin of Hoopeston will present "Scrooge" at 7 p.m. Friday at the McFerren Park Civic Center. The performance includes 19 characters, including Scrooge,



Hark! the herald angel

A heralding angel is one of the lighted displays during Saturday's Festival of Lights parade in Rossville. The event, sponsored by Rossville Community Organization, included several lighted entries, as well as bands,

Cratchit family members, vendors and the ghosts of Christmas Past, Present and Future, all played by Martin.

"You have to take on each character in your mind," he said. Martin decides on an age, height, mannerisms and voice for each character, then puts himself into the characters as they speak. "You literally become the character. It's a lot of work but it's a lot of fun."

This year marks the 20th anniversary of when Martin first performed "Scrooge" as a senior in college. Minor-ing in speech and drama, Martin had a choice between directing a play or performing a monologue and opted

See SCROOGE on other side

Area election petitions available

Those wishing to be candidates for Hoopeston City Council in the April 17, 2007 election may now pick up nominating petitions at Hoopeston City Hall, 301 W. Main. Petitions may be picked up from 7 a.m.-4 p.m. Monday through Friday.

Four seats are up for election, including those currently held by Ed Lotz, Ward 1; Jerry Yonkers, Ward 2; Nancy Stipp, Ward 3; and Brandon Hamilton, Ward 4.

In Rossville, petitions are also available for three four-year terms. The seats are currently held by Mark Catron, Vic Lackey and Scott Sprague.

A two-year unexpired term is also up for reelection. Bunny Tweedy currently holds that seat.

Petitions are available from 8:30 a.m.-12 p.m. and 12:30-5 p.m. Monday through Friday at the village office, 120 E. Attica.

Hoopeston Area School District and Hoopeston Public Library board petitions are also available at the respective offices.

Great Gift Ideas

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Friday, December 15

7 p.m.

Hoopeston Civic Center at

McFerren Park

As a courtesy to those in attendance,

please, no infants. Thank you.

Letters to the Editor

All he wants for Christmas is...
My fellow Hoopestonians,
First of all, a Merry Christmas to you all and a better New Year Day to come. Pray for our troops and remember the fallen. They are the reason why we live in relative peace today.
I want cable internet or DSL for Christmas!
I have no use for wireless internet. I like to play multi-player games on the internet. There is a two- to three-

second delay with satellite which makes it impossible to play multi-player internet games to this day.
I can still play my NASCAR game on my dial -up but, catch heck from the other on-liners for having lousy connection speed. Basically, my car disappears and interrupts the smooth flow of the strong cable and DSL internet connections. Maybe Santa can get Charter and Verizon to invest in upgrades for our city to a cable or DSL internet connection.

I believe that there is a market in Hoopeston for a good cable or DSL internet system. I believe that such a system would increase the productivity of our city and certainly increase revenue. I know this NASCAR Nut would buy cable internet in a heartbeat.
I will conclude now and once again MERRY CHRISTMAS!
John S. Palmer
Hoopeston

Briefly

Tiny Tots
“Christmas” is the theme of this week’s Tiny Tots story program. Tiny Tots meets at 6:30 p.m. Tuesday and 10:30 a.m. Friday at the Hoopeston Public Library children’s room.
Tiny Tots is for children ages 1-4 who are accompanied by an adult.

ment of overdue fines.
Christmas lights
The Hoopeston Multi Agency van will take seniors on the annual tour of local Christmas lights on Wednesday, Dec. 13. For more information or to make a reservation on the van, call 283-5544.

Police News

Joseph E. Irons, 17, of 313 W. Maple was arrested after an incident at 10:36 p.m. Sunday in the 200 block of North Market.
He was charged with carrying a concealed weapon (flourishing) and discharging a weapon in city limits.
Irons was released on notices to appear.

Food for Fines
Now is the time to return that overdue item and help your community at the same time. Hoopeston Public Library will accept items for the Grant Township Food Cupboard during December.
Personal care products, nonperishable food and paper products will be accepted and will count towards pay-

Scrooge continued from other side
for the latter, choosing “Scrooge” as his project. “I’ve always loved the story of Scrooge,” he said. “I thought ‘if I’m going to memorize 40 minutes of something, it’s going to be something I can use over and over.’”
Martin’s presentation is based on a play that later became the 1971 movie with Albert Finney as Scrooge. “I think (he) is the best one ever,” Martin said.
Unlike his earlier presentations, Martin now does a little ad-libbing, making the show a little less like 200 years ago and a little more relevant to modern times.
Friday’s show will also include four musical numbers featuring Martin, accompanied by Peter Wright of Danville on the piano.
Martin, youth pastor at First Baptist Church of Hoop-

eston, said the secular “Scrooge” contains some very good lessons. “It’s a nice story of how one never runs out of time to turn their life around<“ he said. “There are certainly some good Christian values to this.”
In honor of its inception, Martin will take his show back to where it began. On Tuesday, Martin is scheduled to perform for faculty and staff at his alma mater, Maranatha Baptist Bible College in Wisconsin.

Weather

Showers likely today and tonight. High 49, low 38. Tomorrow, partly cloudy. High 47, low 32.
For current weather conditions, call Hoopeston Weather Service, (217) 283-6221.

Men's Night Wed., Dec. 13th

5-8 pm Free Gift Wrapping,

Refreshments, Door Prizes

Extended holiday hours through Dec. 23

Mon-Fri 9am-7pm, Sat 9am-5pm

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