



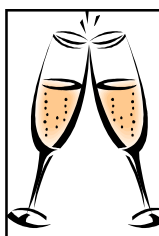
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**New Year's Eve at the VFW**  
 428 W. Orange St., Hoopeston  
 Party Favors  
 Carry-In Finger Food  
 Featuring  
**Kentucky Courthouse**  
 Some of our own local boys  
 9-?

Lourdine Florek  
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**Just the Facts<sup>©</sup>**

Phone/Fax: (217) 283-9348  
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**Thursday, December 28, 2006**  
 Hoopeston's only locally-owned daily news publication  
**P.O. Box 441, Hoopeston, IL. 60942 www.justthefacts.net**

## Mix of good and bad among top-ranked stories of 2006

Good news and bad mingle in the list of the top stories of 2006. The countdown includes:

**10.) Casey's General Store comes to Rossville**  
 Thursday, December 7 marked the opening of the new store, offering gas, pizza and convenience store items. Many residents were happy to see the store open, filling a vacancy downtown where businesses were until a February 2004 fire. But not everyone was happy. Some residents feared the store would put other businesses out of business.

**9.) Student arrested for threat at high school**  
 A list threatening nine male students was found at Hoopeston Area High School. Seventeen-year-old Ryan Reed was charged with felony criminal damage to state-supported property in connection with the incident. Reed was released on bond and on December 7, pleaded not guilty to the charge. A jury trial has been set for April 5, 2007.

**8.) New doctor comes to Hoopeston**  
 In September, a new doctor began practicing at the Charlotte Ann Russell Medical Center. Dr. Hilary Frescoln, from Eminence, Mo., began her practice here, stressing relationships between herself and her patients. Dr. Frescoln, her

husband, Joe, and son, Jonas, plan to make the area their home and are building a house in Hickory Hills subdivision south of Hoopeston.

**7.) City, Hoopeston Foods settle lawsuit**  
 A 1998 contract between Hoopeston Foods, Inc. and the city was the subject of a lawsuit that was settled in September. In the suit, the company claimed its water treatment costs should have been lowered when the city began using an aeration system instead of chemicals to treat its wastewater. The company sued former Mayor Bob Ault and then-City Clerk Chalmers Flint. The city denied the validity of the contract because necessary paperwork was not found in the city archives but agreed to pay for legal representation for the former officials. Alderman Bill Crusinberry estimated those costs at about \$50,000.

**6.) Soldiers return home**  
 April showers might bring May flowers but this May, many families received an answer to prayer when their soldiers returned from Iraq. May 4 and 5 saw the return of several soldiers from Headquarters, Bravo and Charlie companies of the 2nd Battalion, 130th Infantry of the Illinois National Guard. Soldiers.

The soldiers had been called to active duty in January 2005 to support Operation Iraqi Freedom. Returning service personnel were honored in July 3 with a ceremony at the McFerren Park Civic Center.

**5.) Community mourns superintendent**  
 The Hoopeston community was stunned December 16 when residents began to hear of the death of Superintendent Mark Conolly. Mr. Conolly, 53, had been shopping with his family

See REVIEW on other side



**Clarification**  
 In a story on the December 19 Hoopeston City Council meeting, Alderman Jerry Yonkers took issue with bonuses given to city employees. Yonkers said later last week that his issue was not with city employees receiving bonuses but with aldermen who authorized the bonuses without requesting full council approval.

**B I N G O**  
 every Thursday 7 p.m.  
**Hoopeston American Legion**  
 502 E. Penn

**NOW OPEN**

Wash:	Car \$20	Trucks/SUVs \$30
Wash & Wax:	Cars \$40	Trucks/SUVs \$50
Shampoo:	Estimate available upon request	

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**Happy New Year!**

**BJ's Pump**  
 Bar & Package Liquor Store  
 Friday 9-1 No cover  
**Larry "Doc" Baughn DJ**  
 Steak Fry  
 12 & 16 oz. Rib eyes, grilled chicken  
**New Year's Eve Generation II**  
 9-1 No cover  
 \$1.25 beer, champagne toast at midnight  
**Bears vs. Packers**  
 Free food for the game!  
 1023 W. Main, Hoopeston  
 (217) 283-5700

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# Fish Fry

5-8 p.m. Friday

## American Legion

502 E. Penn, Hoopeston  
Also pork chops

*Includes salad or slaw, baked beans, fries, roll.*

**Carry-outs available 283-6312**





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

Public Welcome

*Benefits welcome!*

## WALLY'S PUB & EATERY

119 S. Chicago, Rossville (217) 748-6858

**Open Sun Dec 31**

**Free Pool, Free Jukebox, 50¢ off mixed drinks**

**Dinner 5pm-9pm**

Call For Reservations

**Prime Rib for 2 \$29.95**

Other items to choose from.

*Remember-Thursday 50¢ drafts*

# Merry Christmas & Happy New Year from China Wok

Open Christmas & New Year's Day

Buffet \$6.95 for adults,  
\$5.25 for senior citizens,  
free for kids 4 and under!

**113 E. Main, Hoopeston (217) 283-5888**

## Review continued from other side

when he suffered a massive heart attack. In a eulogy to his father, Mr. Conolly's youngest son, Mac, urged mourners to "have a very nice Christmas and I hope you will never forget about my dad."

**4.) Girls cross country takes sectionals, region-als, head to state** Head coach Rich Stipp said nobody expected much of his girls cross country team when they went to sectionals in Lisle. But they came in third and headed to state at Peoria where they came in 22nd of 26 teams. Team members will return next year and Stipp has hopes they will repeat their winning performance.

**3.) Teachers bargain for better contract** Hoopeston Area teachers took to picket lines in October and November, drawing attention to negotiations between Hoopeston Education Association and Hoopeston Area Board of Education. Negotiations began in April and

included 15 negotiating sessions to come to terms. The three-year deal includes incentives for new teachers, including a higher base salary, and incentives for retiring teachers.

**2.) Convicted murderers sentenced** Murders committed last year were put to rest this year with sentencing of those responsible.

In January, Steven Miller pleaded guilty to first degree murder for shooting his wife, Eva Miller, on September 5, 2005. In April, he was sentenced to 35 years in the Department of Corrections.

In October, Robert Akers was sentenced to 30 years for killing Larry Brougher with a machete blow to the head. The incident occurred May 22, 2005; Akers was found guilty of four counts of first degree murder on July 21 of this year.

## Obituaries

**CRONKHITE**—Dale Irving Cronkhite, 96, of rural Antioch died at 7:37 a.m. Tuesday, Dec. 26, 2006 at Hawthorne Inn of Danville. Funeral service will be at 2 p.m. Friday at Anderson Funeral Home, Hoopeston. Burial will be in Floral Hill Cemetery, Hoopeston. Visitation will be 11 a.m.-2 p.m. Friday at the funeral home. Memorials are suggested to Antioch Church of Christ, 37605-B N 1900 East Rd., Rossville IL 60963 or Crossroads Christian Church, 2915 Townway, Danville IL 61832

**MORGER**—Martha I. Morger, 88, of Rankin died at

5 p.m. Monday, Dec. 25, 2006 at Heartland Health Care, Paxton. Funeral service will be at 11 a.m. Friday at Knapp Funeral Home, Rankin. Burial will be in Rankin Union Cemetery. Visitation will be 4-8 p.m. Thursday at the funeral home. Memorials are suggested to Rankin United Methodist Church.



## Police News

**A 32-year-old** Hoopeston woman reported Saturday that someone slashed tires on her vehicle while it was parked in the 400 block of North Tenth Ave.

**An 82-year-old** Hoopeston man reported Saturday that someone slashed tires on two of his vehicles parked in the 400 block of North Tenth Ave.

**A 35-year-old** Hoopeston man reported Tuesday that he heard his dog barking in the back yard and when he investigated, found someone had taken tools and several items from his garage. The burglary occurred in the 700 block of East Chestnut.

**Cyndi R. Houston**, 49, of 513 W. Washington was

arrested at 4:17 p.m. Tuesday in the 100 block of East Main.

Houston, wanted on a Vermilion County warrant for failure to appear, was released on \$3,000 recognizance bond.

## Weather




Partly cloudy today and tonight. High 46, low 36. Tomorrow, mostly cloudy. High 48, low 42.

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

**1.) Economic development gets boosts** 2006 did not see announcements of big new companies coming to Hoopeston but it was a year in which economic development got several boosts, which leaders hope will turn into more jobs for residents. Peace Corps Fellow Shannon Ruh was named to oversee economic development. In November, she was hired by the city with a one-year contract to continue in that role. Also, in July, a new owner, SeedAmerica, was found for the FMC Building and a planned motel, expected to be built this year, was put on hold as officials negotiate with landowners about capping wells on property close to the proposed motel site.

# Mustard Seed Christian Day Care

can use toys and children's items. If you would like to donate useful items when you clean out after Christmas, bring them to the Rossville-Alvin High School between 8 and 4 starting January 2nd. Or call 748-6044 (Cathy) for pick-up or more info.



## Classifieds

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

Clearance sale on name brand kids' wear. Save 50-75% off retail. Exclusive time limit offer. Log on to [www.magickidsusa.com](http://www.magickidsusa.com) or call 1-888-225-9411 for free color catalog. Mention discount code MK30193.

### APARTMENTS FOR RENT

Hoopeston: 1 BR, ground level apt. Appliances, water included. \$295/mo. (217) 304-3477

2 BR duplex. New paint, new kitchen, new carpet. Ground level. Available immediately. \$325/mo. (217) 304-2145

### LOST & FOUND

Lost: cream colored female Lab/Retriever. Wearing blue collar, answers to "Sport." If found, call Jim and Terri Hurt, (815) 984-3041.

### WANTED

Daughters looking to buy van with lift for wheelchair bound mother. (217) 283-9338 or (217) 504-1775

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