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## Former resident one of two men murdered in Edgar County

A former Hoopeston man and his friend were murdered Monday night.

Mark E. Prasse, 32, of rural Chrisman, formerly of Hoopeston, was identified as one of the victims, along with Ryan M. Riddell, 32, of Villa Grove.

According to published reports, the bodies of the men were found in the home of one of them at 10:20 p.m. Monday. They were found after Mr. Riddell's mother telephoned the Edgar County Sheriff's Department after

her son did not arrive home. Police said Mr. Riddell was giving Mr. Prasse a ride home.

Illinois State Police at Pesotum have been asked to help investigate the deaths. Anyone with information is asked to call the Edgar County Sheriff's Department at (217) 465-4166.

Friends and classmates remembered Mr. Prasse Tuesday as someone who was very involved in high school musical activities and someone who loved life.

## Hoopeston gathers to award those who serve community

Sometimes, those who do good things for the community get the recognition they deserve.

That was the case Monday, when Hoopeston gathered to honor those who help the community at the annual Community Awards Banquet.

The event includes honors from the Hoopeston Chamber of Commerce, Hoopeston Education Association, Hoopeston Police and Fire departments, Chronicle and Hoopeston Jaycees.

Winners included:

**Officer of the Year**, Ron Cade, awarded by Police Chief Mark Drollinger. In hiring Cade, the police commission chose someone who was "not your typical hire" because Cade is older than most first-time officers and also had more self-confidence. Drollinger cited Cade's "amazing" monthly statistics and "thorough" reports as showing dedication to his job.

**Fireman of the Year**: the entire Hoopeston Fire Department. Firemen were on a training exercise and unable to attend the event.

**EMT of the Year**, Ben Farney, who was chosen not only by ambulance personnel but also coworkers at Hoopeston Community Memorial Hospital, said Jackie Johnson, hospital Chief Clinical Officer. Johnson said

Farney has a positive attitude and is a good team player who treats patients with kindness and respect.

**Citizen of the Year**, Lou Graham. Presented by Bertha Parsons of the Chronicle, the award honors someone who has lifted up Hoopeston in the preceding year. Graham was honored for her work as director of the Hoopeston Public Library. Graham, along with WILL-TV, worked on a special about WWII and the internment camps in Hoopeston. She was also instrumental in the "Hoopeston at Mid-Century" video series and the library expansion program.

**Hall of Fame**, Dorothy Metz, for her work in bringing to fruition the Hoopeston Multi Agency's community room, which is named in Metz' honor. The award, also presented by Parsons, took note of Metz' role with the Multi Agency, where she also started the thrift shop which not only provides income to the agency but is a place where items are often not sold but given to those who need them.

**Burt Livingston Community Award**, Mark Drollinger. The award, presented by Pat Bailey, president of the United Community Fund of Grant Township, honors a member of the group for their efforts towards the group.

See AWARD on other side

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623 S. Dixie Hwy., Hoopeston

St. Anthony Parish Youth Group & Friends  
8th Annual  
 **Jambalaya Dinner & Mardi Gras Party**  
"Les bon temps roulette"  
(Proceeds toward our Mission Trip to Virginia)

Saturday, February 2  
St. Anthony Parish Hall  
Serving from 4:30-7 p.m.  
Adults \$8-Under 8 \$4  
Walk-Ins Welcome  
**Takeouts available!**  
(Perfect for Super Bowl Sunday Party)

For party tables or advance tickets, please call  
Bill Goodwine, 283-9683



## Obituaries

**PEARSON** - Mary M. (Page) Pearson, 72, of Noblesville, Ind., died Sunday, Jan. 27, 2008. Funeral service will be at 2 p.m. Wednesday at Conkle Funeral Home, Speedway, Ind.. Burial will be in West Ridge Park Cemetery, Indianapolis, Ind.. Visitation will be 11 a.m.-2 p.m. Wednesday at the funeral home.

Mrs. Pearson is survived by brothers Bill and Max Page and sisters Mildred Owen and Maynard Byers of Hoopes-ton



**Hoopeston Lions Club**  
**Pancake & Sausage Day**  
**Saturday, Feb. 2     6 a.m.-2 p.m.**  
**Hoopeston American Legion**  
**Full Breakfast! Adults \$5 Under 6 free**

**Bulk Sausage**  
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Honorees at Monday's Community Awards Banquet include, front row, from left, Lenard Compton, Barb Park (for her husband, Dan), Lou Graham, Dorothy Metz, Ben Farney, 2008 Miss Hoopeston Brooke Judy, Annette McMillan, Tess Haga, Nancy Willburn and back row, Larry Baughn, Mark Drollinger, Dale Lithgow, Dolores Crabtree, Andrea Glotzbach and Ron Cade.

### Award continued from other side

Drollinger has been on the board of directors for many years and is always willing to volunteer for whatever needs to be done, Bailey said.

Hoopeston Chamber of Commerce presented the **Retail Business of the Year Award** to Haga's Party Options, which started as a home-based business in 2001 and is now located at 210 N. Market, serving not only local customers but world wide on the internet.

**Service Business of the Year** honors went to Lithgow Automotive for its continued support of the community and its expansion. Along with Car Quest auto supplies, the business also offers U-Haul service, Depke Welding Supplies, Bombardier, Ski Doo and Sea Doo products and soon will add Spider Motorcycles.

The Chamber **President's Award** was given to WHPO for its 30 years of supporting Hoopeston.

**Educator of the Year** was presented posthumously to Dan Park, who died last February. Mr. Park was an 18-year teacher in Hoopeston Area schools, as well as a coach for many students in many sports. Barb Park accepted the award in his honor.

Awards presented by the Hoopeston Jaycees included: **Past President's Award** and **Jaycee of the Year:**

Kevin Strawser

**Miss Hoopeston:** Brooke Judy

**Associate of the Year:** Lenard Compton for his work in starting up the model railroad show.

**Special Service Award:** Dolores Crabtree for her long-time work as director of the National Sweetheart Pageant. Although she has retired from that role, "that doesn't mean I'm not going to give them advice," Crabtree said.

**Distinguished Service Award:** Andrea Glotzbach, for her work with family, church and community service. Along with her work in the Jaycees, where she has overseen many projects, including the annual Sweetcorn Festival Parade, Glotzbach also is a member of the Hoopeston Junior Woemn's Club, has her own daycare business and is the mother of three children.

## Weather



Breezy today. High 32. Tonight, mostly cloudy. Low 14. Tomorrow, mostly cloudy, snow likely late. High 33, low 27.

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

## Valentine Flowers and Gifts We Can Do That!

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## Classifieds

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HOOPESTON - COZY 2-Bedroom 1-Bath w/Basement. Newly remodeled kitchen, fresh paint. All appliances. Corner lot. 626 - S 8th. NO PETS. \$475 + deposit. 217-260-2546.

### BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

Belly Busters Restaurant for sale. Turnkey business. \$89,000. Call Terry at (217) 748-6900

### HELP WANTED

The City of Hoopeston Water Dept. is taking applications for part time seasonal work. This will be 40 hours per week. Applications can be picked up between 7 a.m. and 4 p.m. Monday thru Friday at Hoopeston City Hall. Applications will be accepted until 4 p.m. on Friday, Feb. 8, 2008.

### HOUSES FOR RENT

Third & Maple, Hoopeston. 1 BR, completely remodeled, new bath, new furnace. Appliances furnished. No pets. Available Feb. 1. References. \$350/mo. (815) 954-0352

### MISCELLANEOUS FOR SALE

Gas cooking stove, good condition, stainless top, black front \$75. Wall hung gas heater, ventless. Great for garage, \$50. 217-249-6323 Dave Ervin

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