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Party Tuesday leads to later blessings from service project

"Laissez le bon temps roulette! Hoopeston is the Mardi Gras capital of Illinois," says Jacy Samet. "Eat your heart out New Orleans!"

Mark your calendars for Tuesday, February 24 for the Ninth Annual Jambalaya Dinner and Mardi Gras party sponsored by the St. Anthony Youth Group and Friends. Traditional New Orleans Jambalaya, beads galore and a rousing sing-a-long of the old Hank Williams song "Jambalaya" will highlight the evening.

A group of 23 Hoopeston area high school and college students from several churches in town are sponsoring this gala event as a fundraiser for their annual mission trip, this year to Denver in June.

Many people ask, "Why not do this project in Hoopeston?" said Katelin Sheppard. "Actually, we do service projects in Hoopeston, but this is different. Just picture joining 325 other kids our age for a mission project. Including us, a total of 350 kids from all parts of the country join together to make a difference. We split into about 50 workgroups, work on 50 different houses in a neighborhood and really make a difference in a poverty area of the city. Then, every evening, we have skits, songs, speakers and dances. It really rocks. About nine o'clock we get more serious and have a more spiritual



time where we hear the life stories of the staff. Some are really moving. I especially remember one staff member talk about alcoholism in his family, how devastating it was and how he dealt with it."

"We sleep on the classroom floors of a rented school. And you know what, we sleep like a log. We are so tired after scraping and painting all day," said Lucas Saldana, a five year veteran of the program. "One memory I will never forget were the guy showers. There was one hose, split into six plywood stalls. So, there wasn't any pressure and it was cold water. It was no fun at the **See PARTY on other side**





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Downtown Hoopeston Joyce Allen, Owner 110 East Main Street HOOPESTON IL (217) 283-5178 Mon.-Fri. 9:00-7:00 ¹⁴ you decover at HSR Book and any for that with entities you to a larger refurd (or smaller tailability) than what we associated, with nature yours are prevented for that with any formation proved COMPTIAN Block Sections, he. ISGNPTIAN multiple model are in which has making proved to preve for that that ... Refued dates that mode dates are invited has making proved COMPTIAN Block Sections, he. ISGNPTIAN multiple model are in which has making in properties COMPTIAN Block Sections, he. ISGNPTIAN



Hoopeston Area grade schools

MONDAY: Chicken strips, green beans, applesauce, pudding

TUESDAY: Pizza rolls, salad, pears, cake WEDNESDAY: Pork roast, mashed potatoes,

peaches, bread, butter

THURSDAY: Max stix, chili, crackers, mixed fruit, apple juice

FRIDAY: Cheeseburger, fries, mixed fruit

Hoopeston Area Middle/High School

MONDAY: Chicken wrap or ham & cheese, salad, applesauce, cake

TUESDAY: Spaghetti or ravioli, max stick, salad, pears

WEDNESDAY: Biscuit & gravy or pancake & sausage, scrambled eggs, peaches, grape juice

THURSDAY: Salisbury steak or BBQ rib, mashed potatoes, green beans, pineapple, hot roll

Correction

It was incorrectly reported in Tuesday's edition that Hoopeston Area won a basketball game over Armstrong-Potomac. In fact, AP won the game, 51-48.

Just the Facts regrets the error.

Party continued from other side

time, but I look back on it and still laugh.

According to Matt Warner, another veteran, going so far from home is, in many respects, a cultural experience. "For most of us, this is the first time we have experienced living in another part of the country, even if it is only a week. It is kind of interesting. All us kids are pretty much the same, but so different too, depending upon where we are from.

The mission group is composed of Elizabeth Booher, Lyndey Braddock, Sara Hayn, Zach Judy, Abby Newman, Aly Nicholls, Dane Nicholls, Jeff Nolan, Anissa Pemberton, Michael Pemberton, Brock Ramos, Erika Ramos, Javier Saldana, Lucas Saldana, Theresa Saldana, Erika Samet, Jacy Samet, Katelin Sheppard, Alicia Solis, Emily Warner, Joseph Warner, Matt Warner and Aaron Yates.

Lunch Menus

FRIDAY: Pepperoni pizza or fish sandwich, salad, mixed fruit, Teddy Grahams

CRIS/SAMS Meals

MONDAY: Chicken tetrazzini, peas, orange juice, peanut butter cookie, white bread

TUESDAY: Ham & beans, mixed vegetables, applesauce, granola bar, cornbread

WEDNESDAY: Salisbury steak, gravy, whipped potatoes, corn, mixed fruit, white bread

Police News

A 16-year-old Rankin driver was ticketed for passing a stopped school bus while loading or unloading after an incident at 3:28 p.m. Wednesday at Sixth Ave. and Main.

The bus driver, a 38-year-old Hoopeston man, called police after the vehicle passed his bus. The driver was located at ticketed.

Obituaries

CUNNINGHAM - Howard L. Cunningham Jr., 65, of Fairmount, died at 3:15 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 18, 2009 at Provena United Samaritans Medical Center in Danville. Arrangements are pending at Anderson Funeral Home, Hoopeston.

"So, join us on Mardi Gras night," said Jacy Samet. "The dinner party is in St. Anthony Parish Hall and we serve from 4:30 to 7:00. The Jambalaya mix is from New Orleans, the coffee is from New Orleans and the Mardi Gras beads are from New Orleans.

"And remember, ask for me to be your server. It may just be your lucky night!"

Weather

Increasing clouds today. High 33. Tonight, snow likely. Low 20. Tomorrow, snow likely. High 27, low 13. Sunday, mostly sunny. High 30, low 17.

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

THURSDAY: Chicken tenders, fries, corn, brownie, grape juice, wheat bread

1(⁻⁻)"

FRIDAY: Crab cakes, garlic scalloped potatoes, mixed vegetables, grape juice, oatmeal cookie, white bread All meals include milk.



Classifieds

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