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Just the Facts[©]
 Tuesday, December 22, 2015
 Hoopeston's only locally-owned daily news publication
 P.O. Box 441, Hoopeston, IL. 60942 www.justthefacts.net

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Photo contributed

Organizers of the 2015 Christmas Walk raised more than \$600 for Grant Township Food Cupboard. Pictured are, from left, Lisa Breymeyer, of The Pink Poodle; Elaine Tyler, of Treasured Roots Flower Shop handing the check to Dolores Crabtree of the food cupboard; Kathy Howell of Autumn Fields, Valarie Hinkle of Simply Treasures, and Debra Kuntz, also of Autumn Fields.

Christmas Walk funds Grant Township Food Cupboard

Hoopeston hasn't had a Christmas Walk for years. Elaine Tyler, owner of Treasured Roots Flower Shop, decided to do something about that.

On December 5, area residents were able to admire the Christmas decorations at five homes and five businesses and help Grant Township Food Cupboard at the same time.

Tyler said organizers decided to charge \$5 per ticket for the walk, which included the homes of Darren and Natalie Duncan, Marcia and Michael Gossett, Kellie and Tobi Sheppard, Linda and Dale Fecker and Elizabeth Donley. Participating businesses included Anthem Chevrolet, Autumn Fields,

Simply Treasures, The Pink Poodle and Treasured Roots.

On December 14, representatives of the participating businesses presented food cupboard director Dolores Crabtree with a check for \$605 from the event.

The five businesses covered the cost of advertising the walk, as well as donating gift baskets as prizes. Everyone who visited each spot was entered in a drawing to win one of the prizes.

"We were very happy with the turnout," Tyler said. "We hope to make this an annual event, and I'm currently working on a garden walk for this summer."

Discover the joy of the season



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Merry Christmas and Happy New Year

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Bertha's

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Let's make every day like Christmas!

By BERTHA PARSONS

Now that Christmas is almost here, I've got the menu planned, gifts wrapped, cards sent and beds made to welcome my children home.

I'm like a kid in a candy store, bursting with delight, just thinking of the open arms to envelope me when my sons come through the door. I'm thrilled when my daughter brings huge bags of gifts and my grandsons say "It sure smells like Christmas, grandma."

Every day should be like Christmas, smiling faces in every place you go, good wishes for today and next year from strangers. Giving of our time in a shelter or taking a meal to a shut-in. It's magical, dazzling and sparkling.

Happiness comes from within, not wrapped in pretty paper, not a sign on the door, not a radio announcement or newspaper ad. You have to dig deep into the pockets of your soul for real Christmas happiness.

It's true what a dear friend told me, "We don't have a lot of gifts this year, but Christmas is about loved ones. That is the real meaning of Christmas." How very true it was some 100 years ago and it is just as true today. Now is the time to count your Christmas blessings which certainly will make every day like Christmas.

I'll start: The birth of Jesus for me and you. Family that loves me (most of the time), grandsons that think I'm crazy. Having friends that stand by me no matter how crazy I get. I'm able to get up each day and share my Christmas joy. For the first time in seven years, all my children will be together for Christmas. Awesome!

Now it's your turn. You didn't think I'd let you off that easy did you? You will be amazed when you grab a piece of paper and a pencil and start your Christmas blessing list. Start with one great thing that happened today, then your hand and mind begin working together. I think you are going to be surprised. We can make every day like Christmas. It's all a state of joy and love in our mind.

Merry Christmas, dear friend.

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1 token = 1 \$6 car wash
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Briefly

Birthday card shower

A surprise birthday card shower is being held for former Hoopeston resident Chuck Fenwick, who will celebrate his 70th birthday on December 24. Cards may be sent to him at 236 SW Little Rd., Lake City FL 32024.

Christmas closings

- Hoopeston American Legion will not have bingo on Thursday and will be closed Friday for Christmas.
- Hoopeston Public Library will be closed Dec. 24-26 in observance of Christmas. The library will reopen with regular hours on Monday, Dec. 28.
- Just the Facts will not be printed Friday or Monday for the Christmas holiday. Publication will resume Tuesday.
- Vermilion County War Museum will be closed

Weather

Partly sunny today. High 47. Tonight, cloudy, showers late. Low 44. Tomorrow, thunderstorms, breezy. High 62, low 40.

Christmas eve and Christmas day and will reopen on Saturday, Dec. 26. It is also closed on New Year's Day.

Library to celebrate Star Wars

Area kids from kindergarten through sixth grade are invited to an afternoon of Star Wars-themed fun at Hoopeston Public Library's "Junior Jedi Academy" from 1-3 p.m. Monday, Dec. 28.

Participants will enjoy several Star Wars crafts, including making light sabers and nebula jars, as well as games, a short Star Wars video and snack.

For more information, call the library at 217-283-6711.

Final youth baseball signups coming

Hoopeston Area Youth Basketball Academy will hold a final sign up event on Saturday, Jan. 9, from noon to 2 p.m. at Hoopeston City Hall, 301 W. Main.. This is for boys and girls from kindergarten-fourth grade. Family discounts apply. Please contact Kathy Harding at 217-497-6686 for more information.

Fire Calls

Hoopeston Fire Department was called at 5:42 p.m. Sunday to the 600 block of East Lincoln for an activated carbon monoxide detector. The detector was found to be faulty.

Classifieds

APARTMENTS FOR RENT

Layden Manor 2 bedroom, all appliances, laundry, very nice. Call for application 217-304-6809

HELP WANTED

Hoopeston Area CUSD #11 has an opening for a Personal Aide at Maple Elementary starting January 4, 2016. Application deadline is January 15, 2016. Applications are available online only at Hoopeston Area CUSD's website, www.hoopeston.k12.il.us.

Autumn Fields is seeking Part-Time kitchen help. Must be willing to work weekends. Food Safety & Sanitation License preferred, but not required. Please apply in person at Autumn Fields 325 E Orange St. Hoopeston, Illinois 60942

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or call (217) 283-9348 to place your ad!

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