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Tuesday, November 13, 2018

Hoopeston's only locally-owned daily news publication!

P. O. Box 441, Hoopeston IL 60942

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Lourdine Florek, Owner



Above the Honor Guard, military information for Hoopeston Doug Gummere is shown on screen at the annual Veterans Day service Sunday in the Hoopeston Area Middle School gym. Many area residents, from all service branches and across many wars, were listed in like fashion.

Local residents who served, are serving honored on Veterans Day

Larry Baughn, Jr., Vermilion County Board chairman, said he was a little unsure when asked to be the keynote speaker at Sunday's Veterans Day service. Baughn, who is also WHPO station manager and who often emcees public events, is a believer in "do what you know" and was struck by the importance of honoring local veterans.

Wondering why Memorial Day is always the last Mon-

day in May and Labor Day the first Monday in September. Baughn said he researched to find out why Veterans Day is always on a specific date.

It was, he said, in honor of Armistice Day, which ended WWI at 11 a.m. on November 11, 1918.

Called Remembrance Day in the Commonwealth of See VETERANS on other side

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Veterans continued from other side

Nations, Baughn also told a little bit about the history of the poppy, a symbol of WWI, worn on Remembrance Day.

In America, sales of poppies is a fundraising staple of organizations like the American Legion and VFW. Baughn urged motorists, as they near Routes 1 and 9 or Main and Market, wondering "what are they collecting for this time," to "give an extra dollar" to volunteers collecting for veterans' organizations. Nodding at the color and honor guards at the ceremony, "some of these guys

are aging a little bit, but they still go out and get things done." he said.

For Katie Weston, whose essay on What Veterans Day Means to Me won the annual competition at Hoopeston Area High School, Veterans Day is about more than bravery, patriotism and honor.

In her essay, read by fellow student Gracie Eighner, Weston used the letters in VETERANS to outline characteristics of those who serve.

They are Valiant in overcoming fear; Enduring of



Cameron Brotherton, a member of the Illinois National Guard, accepts letter from an unidentified Hoopeston Area student at Sunday's Veterans Day ceremony. District students wrote their thoughts about Veterans Day and those writings were distributed to veterans who attended the service.

many horrific experiences; Tenacious, persisting when things get tough; Educational in teaching younger generations; owed Respect from those who have never served and have no idea the depths others have experienced to keep Americans safe; Appreciation, which veterans have for fellow soldiers; Noble in high moral principles and ideals and Sacrifice, which veterans make on and off the battlefield.

Weston wrote that she always loved talking with her 103-year-old great-grandfather, who served in WWII. "I learned so much about what it means to be an American," she wrote. "He was so proud to be an American

Fire Calls

Hoopeston Fire Department was called at 7:58 a.m. Sunday for an audible fire alarm in the 400 block of East Honeywell. The source was burned food.

Contemplative prayer sessions to begin Tuesday evening

Contemplative prayer has been associated with "meditation" and "Centering Prayer." During November, Pastor Tom Cici will teach the practice of contemplative prayer at 12:30 p.m. Tuesdays, Nov. 13 and 27 in the library of First Christian Church, 502 E. Main (next to Hoopeston Public Library).

Generally, Pastor Cici has been teaching contemplative prayer on the second and fourth Tuesdays of each month since October, 2016. These sessions last about 1.5 hours.

In contemplative prayer, we quiet our minds and bodies, and sit in mental quietness and nothingness. And then join God's seeing which is always unconditional love and compassion.

If you would like to learn how to practice contemplative prayer, please attend one of these sessions.

These sessions are free to the public. For those who feel lost or shackled by life experiences, this practice can provide freedom and give your life back. These sessions can bring "Joy" and "Peace" into the Holidays for you.

For more information, please call Rev. Tom Cici at First Christian Church (217) 283-6691 or email disciple@myfrontiermail.com.

Weather

Sunny today. High 29. Tonight, clear. Low 17. Tomorrow, sunny. High 36, low 24.

and he taught me so much about my country."

The service also included music by the Hoopeston Area High School band and choir, the Pledge of Allegiance led by Hoopeston Area Middle School student council officers; the Hoopeston Area Community Children's Choir; and opening and closing prayers by the Rev. David Bowen, pastor at First Church of God, Hoopeston.

Presentation of the Colors was by Hoopeston American Legion Post.

From the Blotter

Police are investigating a report made at 2:42 a.m. Sunday by a 33-year-old Hoopeston woman, who reported her vehicle had been damaged at Parkivew Court.

An 18-year-old Alvin woman reported at 5:04 a.m. Sunday that her vehicle had been damaged in the 200 block of West Maple. Police are investigating.

Classifieds

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