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Wednesday, November 13, 2018

Hoopeston's only locally-owned daily news publication!

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Hoopeston honored those who served at Monday's Veterans Day ceremony. Above from left, Marine Sgt. Werner Miller gives the keynote address; middle school student council officers Bryson Brewer, vice president, Anna Anderson, president, and Emma Herron, work coupon recorder, lead the Pledge of Allegiance; Sadie Drayer gives a speech on what Veterans Day means to her.

Music, musings, memories featured as Hoopeston remembers veterans on their special day

In word and in song, Hoopeston honored its citizens who have served during Monday's Veterans Day ceremony.

Veterans, community members and Hoopeston Area students gathered in the middle school gym to honor those veterans present and remember those who were not.

Marine Sgt. Werner Miller was the keynote speaker for the event. Miller, 24, enlisted in the Marines in 2013. Trained as a machine gunner, he is currently a Marine recruiter in Danville.

Miller said high school principal John Klaber asked

him to talk about what it means to be a veteran. "I thought about that," Miller said. First, though, he thought about Memorial Day and how it commemorates those who gave the ultimate sacrifice.

In thinking about Veterans Day, he determined "it's a day for regular people. The veterans here are just regular people. They just took a different path."

Veterans are "people who signed on the dotted line...to protect the freedoms we have today," he said. Veterans are people who are away from their families for Thanksgiving, sitting in a foxhole in the rain in Syria, making sacrifices so Americans can lead the lives they choose. "Not just today, but every single day, remember (their sacrifices) and thank our veterans."

Veterans provide safety for America and Americans, something Miller said will be needed going forward. "Terrorism is never going to stop," he said. "There are people around the world who don't like the way we live, in different parts of the world. They're never going to stop. The global war on terrorism is never going to (end)."

The ceremony also featured Sadie Drayer reading her essay on what Veterans Day means to her, as well as videos of former and current veterans talking about their

See VETERANS on other side

Obituaries

DECKER - John William "Bill" Decker, 92, of Champaign, formerly of Hoopeston, died at 4:18 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 7, 2019, at Carle Foundation Hospital, Urbana. Visitation will be 1 p.m. until the 2 p.m. funeral Saturday at Anderson Funeral Home, Hoopeston. Burial will follow in Floral Hill Cemetery, Hoopeston, with military rites by Hoopeston American Legion Post #384. Memorials are suggested to American Cancer Society, P.O. Box 22478, Oklahoma City OK 73123.

DISKIN - Mary C. "Tootsie" (Shaeffer) Diskin, 84, of Rankin, died Tuesday, Nov. 5, 2019 at Carle Foundation Hospital, Urbana. Visitation will be 4-7 p.m. Friday at Cox-Knapp Funeral Home, Rankin. Funeral will be at 11 a.m. Saturday at Grace Lutheran Church, Rankin. Burial will follow in Rankin Union Cemetery. Memorials are suggested to the church.

GREINER - Viola M. (Egolf) Greiner, 91, of Cissna Park, died Saturday, Nov. 9, 2019 at Heritage Health, Hoopeston. Visitation will be 3-7 p.m. Wednesday at Knapp Funeral Home, Cissna Park, and 9 a.m. until the 10 a.m. funeral Thursday at Apostolic Christian Church, Cissna Park. Burial will be in Apostolic Christian Cemetery, Cissna Park. Memorials are suggested to Fair Haven



Nursing Home, Fairbury, or donor's choice.

HOFER - Sue (Goin) Hofer, 76, of Rankin, died Saturday, Nov. 9, 2019, at home. Visitation was 5-7 p.m. Tuesday at Cox-Knapp Funeral Home, Rankin. Funeral service will be at 10 a.m. Wednesday at St. Anthony Catholic Church, Hoopeston. Burial will follow in Rankin Union Cemetery. Memorials are suggested to Paxton Daycare, Rankin Lions Club or St. Anthony Catholic Church.

From the Blotter

Police were called at 9:02 a.m. Sunday to Tedd's Beverage Shop, 101 W. Main, regarding a counterfeit \$100 bill. The fraud is under investigation.

A 61-year-old Hoopeston woman reported at 10:17 p.m. Sunday that someone damaged her home I n the 800 block of East Main. Police are investigating.

Roger Arms, 35, of Hoopeston, was arrested after a traffic stop at 8:19 p.m. Monday in the 100 block of East Orange for a vehicle that failed to stop at a stop sign.

Arms was charged with open alcohol container and released on a notice to appear in Hoopeston City Court.

Veterans continued from other side

time in service to America.

The high school band played the National Anthem and middle school student council officers Bryson Brewer, Anna Anderson and Emma Herron, led the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Music was provided by the Community Children's Choir singing "God Bless America" and "God Bless the USA;" the high school chorus performing "Stand With the Brave," and the band performing "Rough Riders March." The high school groups came together for "A Salute to American Heroes," a time for each veteran to be recognized for the branch in which he or she served.

Fire Calls

Hoopeston Fire Department responded to three calls Monday.

The first was at 5:04 p.m. when firefighters were called to the 400 block of West Maple for the smell of gas inside a home.

Firemen responded to two calls for vehicles in ditches, the first at 5:18 p.m. at Rt. 9 and 1830 East Rd. People in the vehicle had already called for assistance.

The second call was at 9:22 p.m. to Rt. 9 and 1300 East Rd. The vehicle was unoccupied.



In honor of veterans

Members of the Hoopeston Community Children's Choir sing "God Bless the USA" during Monday's Veterans Day ceremony at Hoopeston Area Middle School. The group is directed by Anita Reutter.

Weather

Mostly cloudy today, tonight. High 29, low 23. Tomorrow, partly. High 36, low 19.

Classifieds

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HELP WANTED

Paw Spa N'More Grooming and Supply needs an assistant. Must like animals and children. All encouraged to apply. 1208 S. Second Ave., Hoopeston. (217) 260-3313

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Pizza King taking application for kitchen and delivery. Please apply at 111 E Main St Hoopeston.

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