

Bring your sleigh in for
20% off Full Service Oil Change
 10W30, 5W30 or 5W20 w/coupon. Expires 12/31/19
 GIFT CERTIFICATES MAKE GREAT GIFTS!
Hoopeston Express Lube
 Rtes. 1 & 9, Hoopeston
 283-5373 www.quicklube4u.com

All you can Eat
Prime Rib Dinner at
Rossville Family Restaurant
 Friday and Saturday nights
 5 pm until close **\$22.95**
 Dinner includes: all you can eat Prime Rib,
 choice potato, roll, & soup or salad
 715 S. Chicago (217) 748-6201

5th Annual
Christmas Walk
 hosted by Treasured Roots
10 spots to tour!
 in Hoopeston
 Saturday, December 7th 3-7 p.m.
 Proceeds will be donated to the
 Grant Township Food Cupboard
 Tickets are
 \$10
 and can be
 purchased at
 Treasured Roots
 702 W. Main St.
 Hoopeston IL

Email: publish@justthefacts.net Phone/Fax: (217) 283-9348
Just the Facts Lourdine Florek, Owner
Thursday, December 5, 2019
 Hoopeston's only locally-owned daily news publication!
 P.O. Box 441, Hoopeston IL 60942 www.justthefacts.net

Local accountant sentenced for defrauding trucking business

An area accountant has been sentenced to two years in federal prison after pleading guilty to shorting the business where he worked of more than \$1.3 million.

Christopher Lee, 53, was sentenced Tuesday in federal court after pleading guilty to bank fraud in November 2018.

Leigh was indicted on the charge in June 2018. The indictment states that while working for the Ravens' family's businesses, which included Ravens Trucking, Rainbow Transportation and Birkey Farms, Leigh noticed Rainbow and Birkey operations were no longer able to

stay current on payments to Ravens for fuel and other services.

The indictment alleged that to keep up appearances, Leigh began writing checks for all three bank accounts to "artificially and fraudulently inflate" the balances, hoping that income would increase and the false amounts reconciled.

From as early as 2010 until June 2013, Leigh "kited checks," drawing checks on an account in one bank and depositing them in another bank, when neither account has

See **TRUCKING** on other side

Donor to match up to \$30,000 for animal shelter addition

For those who have ever thought about donating to Hoopeston Animal Rescue Team (HART), now would be a good time.

HART Pets is organizing a fundraiser with a goal of \$60,000 to upgrade and add on a new dog kennel to the existing shelter.

A generous donor has agreed to match every dollar donated, up to \$30,000. The funds should be raised by January 1, 2020.

HART took over a dated vet clinic, 901 W. Main. The existing kennels were not meant to be long-term homes, but because HART is a no-kill shelter, dogs may often be in a kennel at the shelter for a long time. Current kennels are small, rusted, and in some cases, falling apart. The new addition will provide a more modern and spacious area for the comfort of the dogs and the people who view them. The addition will also provide total segregation between dogs and cats.

Donations may be made on Gofundme or on HART's public Facebook page. Donations may also be mailed to HART, 901 W. Main St., Hoopeston IL 60942 or by calling (217) 283-0779.

HART is a registered 501c3; all donations are fully



A dog is housed in one of HART's old kennels. A donor has pledged to match up to \$30,000 for new kennels.

Photo submitted

tax-deductible.

"Please help us by donating," said HART president Sherry Klemme. "This is so important to us and the homeless dogs we care for. No amount is too small!"

3 ROOMS CARPET CLEANING
\$99
LIMBACHS' 217-495-1134
 EXP. 12/31/19
 *Rooms over 250 sq. ft., Great Rooms, LR/DR Combo considered 2 rooms

A.J. Garrison 217-918-8491
Knuth's Tree Service
 321 Cedar St. Hoopeston
knuthstreeservice@gmail.com
 Tree Removal, Tree Trimming, Bobcat Services, Stump Grinding, Storm Relief
 ●Licensed ●Bonded ●Insured

MCP Shop Hop
 Friday, December 6 10 a.m.-5 p.m.
 Saturday, December 7 9 a.m.-1 p.m.
Cissna Park
 Kino's Coffee
 Sheila's Sunny Bloomers
 Knapp & Steiner True Value
 Bent Creek Designs
Milford
 Affordable Arts Boutique &
 Custom Creations
 Charley Grace Boutique
 Sugar Creek Boutique
 The Blossom Basket
 Thank You for Shopping Local
 for the Holidays!!

Smoked BBQ
Rossville Family Restaurant
 715 S. Chicago
Lunch & Dinner
Saturday, Dec. 7th & Sunday, Dec. 8th
Pulled Pork Butt, Pork Ribs & Beef Brisket

 **Silver Brothers**
 Construction Company
 and Ready Mix Concrete
 David: 217-304-7751
david@silverbrosinc.com
All Your Concrete Needs
 Driveways Shed Floors
 Patios Garage Floors
and more
 105 E. Washington St., Hoopeston IL 60942
 Phone 217-283-7751 Fax 217-283-5378

Special
 of the **Month**
 While Supplies Last!
17⁹⁷
 42-Pc.
Drill & Driver Set
 303582 December

Olympic Hardware
 516 N. Dixie Hwy., Hoopeston
 (217) 283-5186 Open Sundays 

Briefly
Blue Christmas service
 Hoopeston United Methodist Church will hold a Blue Christmas service at 4 p.m. Sunday at the church, 403 E. Main. The service is to remember loved ones who have died and to acknowledge the pain and sadness that can come from events that enter our lives uninvited and unwanted. It is a good time to invite others who may find such a service a blessing in their lives.
Christmas concert
 Old Paths Quartet will be featured at a free Christmas

Lady Cornjerkers open bowling season with big win

Hoopeston Lady Cornjerkers bowling team opened their season Monday evening at Fast Lanes with a big win over Herscher.

Led by senior Jaylyn Linder's 425, Kayla Goble 366, freshman Riley Miller's 348, Emma Glotzbach 283 and Emily Ray 217, they easily out-bowled the Lady Tigers in a two-game match.

Linder's games of 225 and 200 paced the way in their first match of the year.

Saturday, the boys and girls will participate in the Abe Lincoln Tournament in Springfield at 8:30 a.m.

The Cornjerker boys lost a hard match last week to Taylorville. The team was led by senior Payton Berlin, with help from sophomore Casey Bence and freshmen Landon Mills and Kameron Zorns.

Trucking continued from other side

sufficient funds to cover the amounts drawn. Just before checks are returned for payment from the first bank, the kiter covers them by depositing checks drawn on the account in the second bank. Due to the delay caused by the collection of funds of one bank from the other, known as the "float" time, an artificial balance is created.

The indictment claimed Leigh defrauded multiple financial institutions by kiting checks, including Community Bank of Hoopeston, Iroquois Federal, Heartland Bank and Kentland Bank

Court documents claim that, as a result of the scheme, Iroquois Federal suffered a potential loss of approximately \$1.4 million and Kentland Bank the potential loss of about \$800,000.

According to court documents, Leigh did not gain financially from the scheme, other than keeping his job, and in a cooperation agreement with the federal government,

concert at 9:30 a.m. Sunday, Dec. 8, at East Lynn Community Fellowship, 1428 Main St. Everyone is welcome.

Caroling on demand

Hoopeston Community Church of the Nazarene is holding a fundraiser for the its Teen Bible Quizzing Team. For \$5, you can send the church carolers anywhere in Hoopeston, Wellington or Milford. They will go to surrounding towns if they have at least five paid requests.

To participate, send payment and the name and address of those you want to receive the caroling to Hoopeston Community Church of the Nazarene, 402 E. Honeywell,

From the Blotter

Richard H. Coffey, 53, of Hoopeston, was cited for restraint of dogs by owner at 3:30 p.m. Monday after his dog, Delores, was running loose in the area of North Sixth St. and East Young. He will receive a notice to appear in Hoopeston City Court.

An Apple watch Bluetooth was found Tuesday in the pump area at Hoopeston Marathon. The owner may identify and claim it at the police station.

Joshua A. Clifton, 36, of Hoopeston, was arrested after police were called at 4:14 p.m. to the 300 block of North Market. He was taken to the police station, where he was charged with disobeying police and released on a notice to appear in Hoopeston City Court.

assisted in the financial analysis to determine the actual loss amount - \$1,349,788.73.

Several people, including family, friends and business owners who currently use Leigh's financial services, wrote letters in support of no or little prison time, asking instead for home confinement. Many of the writers stated that Leigh would make restitution on the debt more quickly if he could remain out of prison and working.

Restitution is the other part of his sentence. Along with his 24-month sentence in federal prison in Terre Haute, Ind., Leigh is also required to send half of his disposable income to the Ravens family until his debt is paid in full.

Weather

Mostly sunny today. High 46. Tonight, mostly cloudy. Low 31. Tomorrow, mostly sunny. High 38, low 24.

Hoopeston IL 60942. For more information, contact Carrie Stimson, (815) 383-7672.

Sensory Santa Saturday

Sensory Santa, for children with special needs, will be in Hoopeston Saturday. A professional photographer will capture the special moments. Each session lasts about 15 minutes, followed by a snack and craft. Families will receive a link to download their child's session for free.

All sessions are free but by appointment only. For an appointment, call (217) 918-2106 or email amcmillanphotography@gmail.com.

Sensory Santa is sponsored by Sew Shoot Me, Hoopeston First Church of God and First Presbyterian church of Hoopeston.

Classifieds

APARTMENTS FOR RENT

2 bedroom upstairs apt. Many updates, move-in ready. \$400 month. Call 217-504-4670 or 217-304-1103

HELP WANTED

Full Time. Apply in Person 8 miles west of Rossville. Smitty's Dual Wheel, Inc.

Aquality Solutions is looking for full-time delivery drivers skilled in efficiency, organization, and flexibility. Delivery Drivers will deliver bottled water and bagged salt to commercial and residential customers and must have knowledge or be willing to learn maintenance operations when not driving. Apply in person at 102 N 1st Street in Hoopeston or call us at 855-692-7824.

Silgan Containers is hiring press line mechanics. For more information or to apply, please go online to silgancontainers.mua.hrdepartment.com/hr/ats/Posting/view/10377/0

Sygma is hiring Class A CDL drivers. Experienced drivers with clean records could qualify for a \$12,500 sign on bonus. Sygma is also looking for students for their CDL school. You must be 21 and have your Class A permit to be eligible. We have part time and seasonal work available as well. Go to www.sygmanetwork.com or call 855-770-3210

Full-Fill Industries Henning, IL offers job opportunities for full time/ part time employment. Choose the schedule that fits your life style: 1, 2, 3 or 4 days a week. Candidates must be 18 years old, and can pick their shift. Machine operators are needed for 1st & 2nd shift. We also offer fulltime positions with a full benefit package. If you are interested in working for a growing company, apply on-line at www.full-fill.com go to employment or employment opportunities and apply as indicated. EOE

Email publish@justthefacts.net
 or call (217) 283-9348 to place your ad!