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Phone/Fax:
(217) 283-9348

Email:

publish@justthefacts.net

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In with the new

Anna Reutter, right, pins a sash on Liz Coon, named 2005 Miss Hoopeston at Friday night's Distinguished Service Award banquet. Liz is the daughter of Alfie and Carla Coon and is attending Danville Area Junior College. See Tuesday's Just the Facts for a complete report on awards and their recipients from the banquet.

HA board approves calendar

The Hoopeston Area School Board on Thursday approved the 2006-07 and 2007-08 county-wide school calendars

The calendar gives students a spring break in March next year, prior to Easter in April. Students and staff will receive only Good Friday off for the Easter holiday, said Superintendent Mark Conolly.

The calendar, which puts all Vermilion County schools except Danville High School on the same schedule, is more important now than it was when it was first adopted several years ago, Conolly said, citing the addition of vocational education courses for high school students through Danville Area Community College as a reason.

With VOTEC downsizing, DACC has offered to host vocational ed classes at its facility and possibly at Rossville-Alvin High School when it deactivates after this year.

Conolly praised the way DACC stepped in to offer courses to students so quickly after other options failed. "My hat is off to them," he said.

In related discussion, Conolly said Hoopeston Area should know by Feb. 1 which of Rossville-Alvin's teachers will come to Hoopeston next year.

Hoopeston Area and Bismarck-Henning must take a percentage of teachers equal to the percentage of students received in the deactivation. Hoopeston Area was the choice of about 25 percent of Rossville-Alvin students so the district will receive one of the eligible teachers, he said.

Regarding the students who chose to come to Hoopeston Area, board member Mark Wagoner suggested sending them thank-you letters from the board.

In unrelated business, the board:

See HA on other side

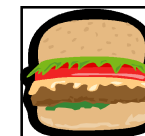
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