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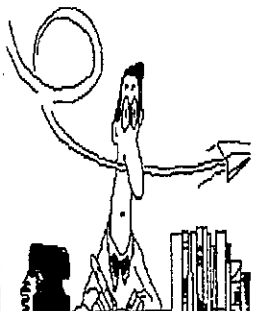


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Read Just the Facts!**

Just the Facts

Tuesday, Jan. 18, 1994

Lourdine Osborne, Editor Susan Comstock, Ad Manager

Area parents unite to help special children

Hoopeston and Rossville parents joined together last week to share the frustration of getting help for what they call their "special children."

Approximately 10 parents met at the Market Street fire station last Thursday for the first support group meeting of parents whose children have Attention Deficit Disorder or Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADD/ADHD).

Both conditions are caused by the brain's inability to metabolize glucose, a simple sugar. ADD students are daydreamers, according to Chuck Fenwick. Fenwick's son has ADHD, which Fenwick compared to living with a superball.

Fenwick and Tom Kasalis led the meeting. Kasalis has one daughter diagnosed with ADD and another who is being tested.

Both leaders and the parents who attended expressed

frustration, not only with dealing with their children, but with school systems and physicians, as well.

"Schools will try to put you off," Fenwick told parents. "Don't let them."

Hoopeston Area schools have no policy for dealing with ADD/ADHD students. In December, Fenwick requested a study be conducted to learn how many ADD/ADHD students are in the district. Fenwick also asked that the board formulate a policy for dealing with such students. The board tabled the request last month, asking Fenwick to provide more information.

According to those at the meeting, a policy is needed. One woman said her child's kindergarten teacher called the child stupid. "My objective for this child is an education," another mother said tearfully.

See "PARENTS" on other side

Briefly...

Danger from cold continues

Health experts are warning people to stay indoors today, if at all possible. Those who must be outside are encouraged to dress in layers and seek shelter frequently, if possible.

Pet professionals are encouraging those who have animals without outdoor shelter to bring pets inside during these cold evenings.

Alderman expected to be named

A vacancy on the Hoopeston city council is expected to be filled tonight.

The fourth ward has been represented by one alderman since former council member Danny

Eckert resigned Aug. 25 after he moved from the fourth ward.

Fireman brave cold to fight blaze

Rossville firemen, assisted by the Hoopeston fire department, braved frigid temperatures to answer a call at Boardman's Corner yesterday afternoon.

The fire was at a house owned by Dorothy Schwartz. The Dennis Rhodes family resided at the house.

Other details were unavailable at press time.

More Just the Facts on the other side

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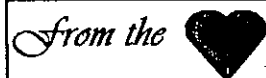
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Parents continued from other side

HA teachers span the gamut, Fenwick said. "We have some excellent teachers in Hoopeston, teachers who are actively trying to deal with the problem. Then there are teachers on the other end of the spectrum, teachers with 'perfect children.' These teachers are trying to compare their children with our special children."

Fenwick said ADD/ADHD children are not "refugees in society," although they are often treated as such. "I've had teachers and other parents tell me it's the way you handle your kids,"

he said. "That's a crock of bull."

Three things will help such children, Fenwick said: parental management skills, medication and educational intervention. The support group will teach parents not only to better cope with their children, but also with their feelings. "One of the most frustrating things about this is the isolation you feel, like nobody knows what you're going through," Fenwick said. "That's wrong."

The next meeting will be 7 p.m. Feb. 10 at the Market Street fire station.

Court dispositions

The following charges were nolle prossed: James Hawk, Rankin, driving while license suspended.

Charges were not filed by the state's attorney in the following cases: Dustin Riddle, Hoopeston, illegal consumption; Jason Petty, Hoopeston, illegal consumption; Anthony Garrison, Rossville, domestic battery; Juaquin Granados, Hoopeston, battery.

In the hospital

Hoopeston Community Memorial Hospital
Jan. 13, 1994

Admitted: Jamie York, Hoopeston.

Discharged: Jim Yaden, Chase Miles and Jim Bailey, all of Hoopeston; Carl Nelson, Rossville.

Jan. 14, 1994

Admitted: Robert Garman, Hoopeston.

Discharged: Jamie York, Pauline Prickett, Fred Obenland and James Wisdom, all of Hoopeston.

Jan. 15, 1994

Admitted: Jed Peavler, Rankin.

Discharged: none.

Jan. 16, 1994

Admitted: Deanna Correll and Roseanne Hultquist, both of Hoopeston.

Discharged: Jed Peavler, Rankin.

Weather

Bitter cold today. High -5 to -10. Tonight, continued cold. Low -15 to -25. Tomorrow, snow showers likely. High near 10, low -3.

Hoopeston All Sports Boosters

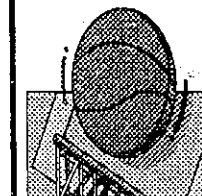
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