

Tuesday is Senior Citizens Day



Your event
can be listed
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Vacancy Notice: **Administrative Secretary**

Rossville-Alvin School District is seeking a full-time administrative secretary. Hours are from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. daily. Board policy currently defines the position as a 12 month position; however the Board desires to make it a 10 month position with time off during school breaks. Compensation will be dependent upon the final applicants' experience and demonstrated skills and abilities. Pay range is \$9.05 - \$12.90 per hour. A full benefits packages is available. To apply, send a letter-of-application and resume to Mr. Carl Sartwell, Superintendent; Rossville-Alvin School District, 350 N. Chicago St.; Rossville, IL 60963. Phone (217) 748-6600. Rossville-Alvin School District is an equal opportunity employer. Application deadline is Jan. 23, 2004.

Lourdine Florek
owner/publisher

Just the Facts®

Phone/Fax:
(217) 283-9348
Email:
publish@justthefacts.net

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Tips listed for parents, students in event of severe weather

Preparation is key to successful plan

Editor's Note: Mid-January is historically the time when winter storms cause school closings, according to Hoopeston Area Superintendent Mark Conolly. This article is reprinted from an earlier interview with Conolly in which he discusses how parents and students can prepare for school closings.

The start of the holiday season means a potential for winter storms and the possibility for school closings.

Winter presents a unique set of challenges, said Superintendent Mark Conolly. A storm may prompt closing of school during the day and students—and parents—should be prepared.

Conolly suggested parents make sure their children are dressed warmly in case they must walk home from school and that families develop a contingency plan should school be dismissed while parents are at work. Conolly suggested the plan might include a secondary place for children to go should they be unable to get into their homes in case of an early dismissal. "Our fear is not the child who is on the bus and warm but the one who has to walk across town who might find no one at home," he said.

Weather-related closings during the school day take at least one hour of preparation time, Conolly said. In that time, police departments are notified, as are local factories and radio and television stations, all before children are dismissed.

Days in which school is cancelled before school starts are no less active. Conolly and transportation director Darrell Brown often travel country roads to

determine whether it is safe to bus the approximately 40 percent of students who need transportation to school.

Input is also sought from Grant Township Road Commissioner Jim Crouch and those bus drivers who live in rural areas. However, there is not a set formula for closing school. "There are no definitive criteria," Conolly said. "We do the best we can with the information we have available."

Once the decision has been made to cancel classes, calls again go out to police, factories and media, including WHPO, WIAL, WITY and WGFA radio stations and television stations WICD, Channel 15 and WCIA Channel 3. Conolly said he tries to make his

decision before 6 a.m. so it may be broadcast on news programs.

While many things go into deciding if school should be closed, some things do not. Each district is allowed five snow days annually. Days missed during the year must be made up at the end of the year "but that never comes into play when you're considering a safety issue," Conolly said.

Missed state aid for closing school is also not considered, simply because it is not an issue, he said. The amount received for state aid is not based on day-to-day attendance but on the three best months of attendance, traditionally September, October and November.

There are always some more adversely affected by bad weather. "We always have at least one person whose lane has drifted closed," Conolly said. Then it is the parent's call. "If they feel because of weather conditions that it's a more judicious decision to keep their child at home then by all means, they should

Our fear is not the child who is on the bus and warm but the one who has to walk across town who might find no one at home.

Supt. Mark Conolly

Blooming plants in a basket

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TACO NIGHT



Saturday, Jan. 24 4-7 p.m.

St. Anthony Parish Hall

- Dinner special -

3 tacos & a drink \$6

Proceeds to fund work camp trip to Atlanta, Ga.

Every Tuesday is
LADIES & SENIOR CITIZENS DAY
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Wolfe Funeral Home
(217) 283-5088

Euchre



**at the
American Legion
502 E. Penn**

Briefly

Tiny Tots
“Curious George” is the theme of this week’s Tiny Tots story program at the Hoopeston Public Library children’s room.
Tiny Tots meets at 6:30 p.m. Tuesdays and 10:30 a.m. Fridays and is for children ages 1-4 who are accompanied by an adult.

Christian Unity service
The Hoopeston Ministerial Association will hold a Service of Christian Unity at 7 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 21 at the First Presbyterian Church, 915 E. Orange. The service is open to everyone.

DSA Banquet
The Hoopeston Jaycees will host the annual Distinguished Service Award Banquet Friday at Tater’s Bar & Grill, 225 E. Main.
Social time will begin at 6 p.m. followed by dinner at 6:30 p.m. and the program at 7:30 p.m.
Tickets are \$15 per person and are available at the door.

Ornaments available
The Hoopeston Public Library just received the 2003 Friends of the Library pewter ornaments. This year’s ornament features the library and is available for

\$15 at the library.

Child Passenger Act to be discussed
The Hoopeston Multi Agency and Hoopeston Community Memorial Hospital will hold an meeting on the Illinois Child Passenger Protection Act. Dolly Pollock, head of the Safe Kids Coalition, will discuss the act, which became effective Jan. 1. Meetings will be held at noon Wednesday, Jan. 29 and 6:30 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 29. Participants at the Wednesday session are asked to bring a sack lunch.
For more information, call the Multi Agency at (217) 283-5544.

| Bowling Scores | | | |
|--|------------------|-------------------|----|
| Hoopeston Women’s Bowling League 1/12/04 | | Adda Girls | |
| 1. | R&R Body Shop | 37 | |
| | 53 | 39 | |
| 2. | 23 Henning’s | | 36 |
| | 53 | 40 | |
| 3. | Weber’s Drugs | 23 | |
| | 48 | 40 | |
| 4. | 41 BJ’s Pump | 34 | |
| | 35 | 42 | |
| 5. | Yaden-Rethelford | 29 | |
| | 39 | 47 | |
| 6. | Royal Bs | 11 | |
| | 39 | 65 | |
| | 37 | | |


High Team Handicap Game: Family Circus 1,112, Henning’s 1,079, Unger’s Jewelry 1,036; **High Team**

Handicap Series: Family Circus 3,113, Unger’s Jewelry 3,020, Henning’s 2,990; **High Individual Scratch Game:** Patty Cappellano 225, Sandra Drullinger 217, Diana Edwards 208; **High Individual Scratch Series:** Patty Cappellano 576, Angie Bell 569, Sandra Drullinger 559.

Illiana-Farmers League
Standings 1/14/04


| | | |
|----|---------------|----|
| 1. | Pla-Mor Lanes | 14 |
| 2. | Ravens | 2 |
| 5 | 11 | |

Fire Calls




The Hoopeston Fire Department was called at 2:34 p.m. Thursday to a vehicle on fire at Convenient Food Mart, 714 W. Orange. Police also responded. The vehicle was towed from the scene.

Weather



Mostly cloudy today and tonight. High 17, low 8. Tomorrow, partly cloudy. High 30, low 14.
For current weather conditions, call Hoopeston Weather Service, (217) 283-6221.

New Books at the Library



Non-fiction:
Eating for Acid Reflux: a Handbook and Cookbook For Those with Heartburn by Jill Sklar
Pain-Free Arthritis: a 7-Step Plan for Feeling Better Again by Harris H. McIlwain

Classifieds

HOUSES FOR RENT

2 bdr., utility room, dining room, garage. References required, 1 year lease. \$350/mo., \$350 deposit. Contact Dennis at (217) 283-5093.

Call (217) 283-9348 to place your ad!