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Rossville-Alvin residents hear about planned co-op school

ROSSVILLE—Leaders from two school districts outlined why a cooperative high school might be best for Rossville-Alvin students.

At a public meeting Wednesday, boards from Rossville-Alvin and Bismarck-Henning answered questions and explained why the districts are considering the option.

A similar meeting will be held for Bismarck-Henning residents at 6 p.m. Tuesday in Wilcox Gym. Rossville-Alvin board members have considered a co-op high school even before the 2004 decision to deactivate its high school and pay tuition for students to attend either Hoopeston Area or Bismarck-Henning high schools.

In 2003, Rossville-Alvin was set to vote on a to form a cooperative agreement with Bismarck-Henning but Mark Conolly, then Hoopeston Area superintendent, along with five board members, offered to meet Bismarck-Henning's offer.

Some Hoopeston Area business people, residents and school officials attended Wednesday's meeting.

Last spring, Rossville-Alvin board again decided to form a cooperative high school with Bismarck-Henning.

At Wednesday's meeting, RA board President Bob Ray told those attending that the district has no say in how Hoopeston Area and Bismarck currently spend the dollars paid in tuition. Rossville-Alvin also has no input into the school name, mascot and types of classes offered and the board was not represented.

Robert Danner, B-H board member, said Rossville-See CO-OP on other side



Second story work

A fireman throws debris from the second story of a house at 820 E Seminary, Hoopeston. Firemen were called to the house at about 3:40 p.m. Saturday for a fire that started in an upstairs bedroom, possibly caused by a candle, said Hoopeston Fire Chief Joel Bird. There was no electricity to the house, owned by Matt and Harmony Goodrum. Rossville and Wellington-Greer were also called to the scene.



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-Briefly -

Energy assistance signup

East Central Illinois Community Action Agency will accept energy assistance applications from 9 a.m.-noon Wednesday, Oct. 26 at Hoopeston Multi Agency.

This is for eligible households with children under age 6, senior citizens, those with documented disabilities those whose power has been disconnected.

Applicants must bring birth certificate for child in household under age six; current power/gas/propane bill; proof of household income for past 30 days; if no income, verification of how household needs are met;

Obituaries

DUNAVAN - Wendy L. Dunavan, 66, of Rossville, died at 12 a.m. Sunday, Oct. 23, 2016 at Carle Foundation Hospital, Urbana. Arrangements are pending at Anderson Funeral Home, Hoopeston.

LAYDEN - Katherine Layden, 67, of Oakwood, died at 8:40 a.m. Sunday, Oct. 23, 2016 at Carle Foundation Hospital, Urbana. Arrangements are pending at Anderson Funeral Home, Hoopeston.

Co-op continued from other side

Alvin would be represented in the name or a new name and mascot would be found using community and student involvement.

Under the plan currently being discussed, Rossville-Alvin and Bismarck-Henning would each name three members to the new high school district board. A seventh member would serve as board president. The agreement would be for 20 years, unless Rossville-Alvin decided to consolidate with another district. If approved, the new high school district would have a separate budget from the other two schools.

The Rossville-Alvin board is expected to adopt a resolution to form the cooperative high school in December, then put the issue to voters in the April 2017 election.

Weather

Partly sunny today. High 59. Tonight, mostly cloudy. Low 43. Tomorrow, chance of showers, then showers likely. High 60,, low 48. social security cards for all household members; rent receipt; food stamp statement for those getting a Link card.

Adult activities at the library

Cooking the Books, 6 p.m., Thursday, Oct. 27. Choose a recipe from the Comfort Foods display. Participants will prepare their selected dish and bring it back to share on the 27th. Adults only, please.

For more information, call the library, (217) 283-6711.

Miracle Tree signups

Signups for the Miracle Tree/Santa Cares Too/Toys for Kids will be 9-11 a.m. November 7-10 at Grant Township office, Parents will need to bring proof of address and proof of their children with them. No late sign ups will be allowed.

Maple fundraiser winners

Recent winners in the Maple Madness fundraiser are: October 22, Laurie Kegley, Danville, \$25 (donated back); October 23, Jessica Cline, Hoopeston, \$25; and October 24, Wade Clemmons, Sheldon, \$50.

Deactivating the high school, which was seen as a temporary measure, was approved by Rossville-Alvin voters in 2004. At that time, students were allowed to choose whether they would attend Bismarck-Henning or Hoopeston Area.

Two tries to reactivate the school failed. One right after the 2004 election failed to get on a ballot and the second, in 2011, was approved by voters but the district was financially unable to bring the high school back.

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