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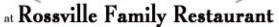
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Friday, February 10, 2017

Hoopeston's only locally-owned daily news publication!

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Lourdine Florek, Owner

Survey shows improvements, concerns among teens

Presence United Samaritans Medical Center (PUSMC) announced the results of its I Sing the Body Electric (ISBE) Youth Risk Behavior Health survey. The results show significant improvement regarding alcohol, drug and tobacco use among teens. It also indicated that suicide continues to be of critical concern in Vermilion County.

Presence surveyed more than 2,000 Vermilion County high school students regarding their attitudes and health behaviors relating to social, emotional and economic issues. The survey report represents approximately 69% of the teen population in participating high schools. This is ISBE's eighth biennial survey. The report also includes data and a retrospective analysis of health risks since the first survey conducted in 2002. "The survey data gives us a very vivid picture of what is on the minds of our Vermilion County youth," said Dottie McLaughlin, I Sing the Body Electric director. "However, we're interested in more than the data. We want to assist our youth in finding long-term solutions to the health concerns they've expressed."

McLaughlin indicated numerous improvements in critical health risk areas since the first ISBE survey adminis-

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tered in 2002:

- 40.9% decrease in youth who ride with someone who has been drinking alcohol
- 42.5% decrease in high schoolers who have had at least one drink of alcohol in the previous 30 days before the survey ("current users")
- 28.1% decrease in teens who have had at least one drink of alcohol in their lives
- 31.3% decrease in high school students who have ever used methamphetamines
- 72.8% decrease in "current" tobacco use

There have also been improvements in the two years since the previous survey in 2014:

- 25% decrease in teen abuse of performance enhancing drugs like creatine, ephedra or steroids without a doctor's prescription
- 40% decrease in "current" inhalant use
- 29.7% decrease in youth who took prescription drugs not prescribed to them
- 57.8% decrease in teen abuse of over-the-counter medications like cough syrup and cold medicines
- 31.6% decrease in use of synthetic drugs like K2, Spice or Bath Salts
- 23.1% decrease in teens offered, sold or given any illegal drug on school property
- 27.8% decrease in methamphetamine use

The survey information also pointed to continuing and

- Nearly four out of 10 teens (36.5%) report feeling sad or hopeless almost every day for two weeks or more that they stopped doing some of their usual activities – a 30.8% increase since 2002
- One in six youth (16.7%) reports attempting suicide at least once during the past year – nearly double the na-

See SURVEY on other side

Saturday, Feb. 11 4-8 p.m. Prime Rib Dinner - \$20 per person **Drink Specials** DJ starts at 9 p.m.

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Survey continued from other side

tional average of 8.6%

- One in five teens (21%) reports current marijuana use a 7.5% decrease from 2002 but a 7.7% increase from
- Nearly two out of five youth (37.5%) report being bullied on school property in the previous 12 months
- A new survey question found that one in eight youth (12.5%) currently use e-cigarettes

"This survey provides our staff with critical information about our student population so that we can ensure our efforts as educators are well directed," said Kevin Thomas, Georgetown-Ridge Farm High School principal. "We know our students face various challenges, and Presence's I Sing the Body Electric survey data provides us a strong foundation so that we can better address those issues with our teenagers."

Jared Rogers, M.D., PUSMC and Presence Covenant CEO and president, explained the history of the collaborative program saying "the I Sing the Body Electric program is a terrific example of Presence United Samaritans living its mission outside the four walls of the medical

Maggie's on the Move

the old Vermilion Iron crossing on the east

side. Maggie is afraid and will run if chased. If

you see here, please call anytime: (217)

474-1438 or (217) 474-8326

or contact Hoopeston Animal Rescue or

Vermilion County Animal Control.

We want our baby home!

2-year-old

Chocolate Lab

"Maggie" Danner

Possible sighting west of

Hoopeston on Rt. 9, west

of the Rtes. 1 and 9 inter-

section, and Wednesday

night on North 6th Ave. by

center. By collaborating with wonderful community partners, the hospital and this program are making positive differences in the lives of adolescents throughout Vermilion County."

As part of ISBE's three-phase program, the next step following the survey results will be to engage students in creating prevention messages using the arts. The completed projects are then shared throughout the county to educate the community and in particular, teens, about healthy behaviors to help guide them on making good

Recognized with two national awards, the goal of ISBE is to provide a supportive framework to nurture resiliency, reduce risk behaviors and build leadership in youth as they investigate and communicate healthy lifestyle choices with each other, and to the larger community, through the arts.

Primary funding for the I Sing the Body Electric program comes from revenue generated by the Presence United Samaritans Medical Center Foundation's annual Festival of Trees fundraising event. Additional funding comes from local foundation and corporate grants as well as gifts from civic clubs and individual contributors.

Weather

Partly sunny, breezy today. High 40. Tonight, mostly cloudy. Low 34. Tomorrow, mostly cloudy, showers likely late. High 54, low 42. Sunday, chance of showers. High 49, low 28.



Saturday, Feb. 18 6 p.m. \$10/person At the Little Lorraine Theatre

12 teams of up to 5 people each

(or come alone and join a smaller team)

Free Popcom, homemade cookies, bottled water/soda with admission

Reserve your table or ask questions by calling Marilyn Tyler (217) 397-2211 or Betty Richards (217) 304-5308

Fish Fry

5-8 p.m. Friday

American Legion

502 E. Penn, Hoopeston

Cod, chicken, shrimp, chicken tenders with fries or onion rings, plus baked beans, slaw, roll SUPER SALAD BAR

\$3 extra w/meal \$8 as entrée

7-8-9 Pin Tournament DJ 7 - 11

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Saturday night, join the fun

Limited Open Bowling Saturday because of the City Tournament Sunday: Open Bowling12-4



Valentine's Day Dinner Specials