

What's Happening... VG Community Spotlight

Side Tracks

your express route to upcoming VG events

Villa Grove VFW Bingo Has been canceled until further notice.

Villa Grove School Closure - Estimated March 16 through ****APRIL 8**** Updates will be posted once available!

Easter Sunday, April 12

Due to numerous cancellations the Community Page will temporarily suspend all March updates in Side Tracks to prevent posting incorrect or no longer pertinent dates and times. Unless you specifically reach out to us at the email below and request an event to be included! Thank you for your understanding.

If you have an upcoming event that you would like to see featured in Sidetracks, email us at advertising@thevillagrove.com

Camargo Township District Library Corner

Camargo Township District Library
14 N. Main Street, Villa Grove 832-5211
March Calendar

The CTDL will be closed until further notice. Our staff will continue to monitor email messages and perform as many library functions as possible during this time. Please remember we will not charge fines during this time. Our e-services, including Cloud Library and Digital Library of Illinois, are still available. You will find info on these services on our website: camargotownship.org If you need help resetting your pin or have issues signing in to your online account, please send us an email to camargotownshipdistlib@yahoo.com

School District Update: Letter From Superintendent Tracy

Dear Parents and Community Members:

As a school district, we have been closely monitoring the news and best practices regarding the spread of the coronavirus disease (COVID-19). Governor Pritzker has ordered all Illinois public and private schools to be closed. Villa Grove CUSD #302 will be closed from Tuesday, March 17 until classes resume on Wednesday, April 8.

The closure affects all school programming, including before- and after-school activities, all athletic and extracurricular practices and competitions, and all week-end events.

District teachers and staff have been preparing remote learning packets for our students. If you have any questions, please contact your child's building principal.

The coronavirus is thought to be spread via person-to-person contact through contaminated air droplets from coughing and sneezing by an infected person. As with controlling the spread of other viruses, we urge you to speak to your child about the following prevention measures:

Wash your hands regularly, especially after using the restroom and before preparing or consuming food. Using soap and hot water, wash for

about 20 seconds. Be sure to also wash your fingertips.

Avoid coughing or sneezing into your hands or in the air. Always try to cough or sneeze into a tissue, then throw the tissue away. If you don't have a tissue, cough/sneeze into your arm.

As much as you can, avoid touching your eyes, mouth and nose.

The symptoms of coronavirus are similar to the regular seasonal influenza and include fever, lethargy, lack of appetite, and coughing. Some people with coronavirus have reported additional symptoms, such as a runny nose, sore throat, nausea, vomiting, and diarrhea. In some situations, the virus can develop into pneumonia.

Individuals who need medical care should call their medical provider to report their illness prior to seeking care at a clinic, physician's office, or hospital.

Parents of students exhibiting flu-like symptoms or staff exhibiting flu-like symptoms are asked to contact the Douglas County Health Department at (217) 253-4137.

If you have questions, please do not hesitate to contact the school at 217-832-2261.

*Sincerely, Norm Tracy
Superintendent*

A Message from the Mayor

We would like to provide a reference to Governor Pritzker's order concerning social distancing in common areas, specifically concerning parks and playgrounds.

While the City does not want or anticipate closing public areas entirely, we must now enforce the closure of all playground

areas' equipment and basketball/tennis courts.

Any "contact" or team sport such as basketball, football or soccer should be avoided until the Governor's order is lifted... it is simply too easy to overlook proper distancing during those activities.

Please encourage your family members and

friends to be mindful of the six-foot rule, whether indoors or outside, so that we can come out of this pandemic with everyone healthy.

Thank you so much for your continued efforts to help slow the spread. #FlattenTheCurve

*-Mayor
Eversole-Gunter*

Good to Know Information

1) Expiration dates: for driver's licenses, identification (ID) cards, vehicle registrations and other transactions and document filings will be extended for the duration of the disaster proclaimed by Governor Pritzker and 30 days after the disaster ends. See more information and Illinois Secretary of State FAQ at www.cyberdriveillinois.com

2) Peace Meal: Sarah Bush Lincoln Peace Meal will deliver a warm meal to anyone who is homebound or anyone who is 60+. Monday-Friday between 11 a.m.-1 p.m. including: Villa Grove, Camargo, Fairland, Longview,

Murdock, and surrounding rural areas. Carry out only available at for pick up. 610 Front Street Villa Grove.

If you know someone who needs daily delivery please contact Robin Call/text 217-722-6672 and leave a message. Link cards are accepted.

3) Toilet Paper Shortage: Refrain from disposing of anything besides toilet paper into the wastewater/sewer system, as items from personal hygiene to "flushable" wipes, baby wipes, paper towels etc., can clog up the sewer plant's treatment equipment.

4) Digital and EBooks:

If you have a library card Camargo Township District Library offers Digital and E-Books free of charge. With a great selection of books to choose from. For assistance in setting up an access account contact the library directly at 832-5211.

5) Heart Hunters: A group on Facebook dedicated to spreading love during this time of social distancing by encouraging the creative use of hearts in windows, sidewalks etc. Scavenger hunt the decorations on your next walk and share on their FB page!

Special Request for Easter Pictures

With Easter right around the corner on Sunday, April 12, a lot of families are planning alternative activities to celebrate the holiday while adhering to the new social distancing requirements.

Typically we would have pictures of the kids hunting for Easter eggs and pictures from the local churches in our newspaper the week

after Easter.

However, with these events cancelled due to the social distancing guidelines, the Journal would love to see some of your "creative" celebration pictures.

Send us pictures from your own egg hunts, family celebrations and traditions to be published in the newspaper on April 15.

Help spread the joy and positive messages of Easter to everyone in the community.

You can email them to jamie@thetuscolajournal.com by Monday, April 13 at noon.

Please feel free to contact us at the above e-mail with any questions.

VGSB Chambers Spotlight Business of the Month



The Villa Grove Chamber of Commerce is spotlighting a local business each month.

This month's spotlight business of the month is the Villa Grove State Bank. Serving and Supporting the Villa Grove Community for over 100 years.

Villa Grove State Bank is located at 10 N. Main St., Villa Grove, IL - PO Box 50, Phone: 217-832-2631

For over 100 years, Villa Grove State Bank has been "Your Hometown Community Bank". We are proud of our accomplishment of serving Villa Grove and the Douglas & Champaign County communities since 1919.

Today, as we have for more than 100 years, Villa Grove State Bank's goal is to put community first. Employing and serving local commu-

nity members with personal, friendly service has given us the ability to grow and operate successfully for over a century. As we look toward the future, we will continue to expand through technology and service area growth with the same Hometown feel our customers have come to expect.

Knowledge is Key: Heading into Spring Season and Severe Weather

Tornado Sheltering Guidelines

Seek the best available refuge area immediately when a Tornado Warning is issued. Your chance of surviving a tornado is excellent if you follow these guidelines.

| WORST OPTIONS | BAD OPTIONS | GOOD OPTIONS | BEST OPTIONS |
|---|--|--|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mobile homes Vehicles Underneath a highway overpass | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Large open rooms like gymnasiums Manufactured housing | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Interior room of a well-constructed home or building Basement | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Above or below ground Tornado Storm Shelter (NSSA/ICC 500 compliant)* Specifically-designed FEMA Safe Room* |

Find another option → Stay in place until all clear

PHOTO: U.S. Air Force • Tech. Sgt. Bradley C. Church *Recommended by FEMA

The US National Weather Service of Central Illinois gives sound advice in the event of possible tornadoes: If the atmosphere becomes favorable for tornadoes, a Tornado Watch may be issued. A Tornado Watch means that any storm that forms in and around the watch area could produce a tornado and you should prepare to act if a warning is issued. If a storm is about to produce a tornado, or if one is occurring, the National Weather Service will issue a Tornado Warning. If a warning is issued for your area, seek shelter immediately. Shelter: Lowest floor, interior room of a permanent structure, preferably a designated storm shelter not a shelter: A mobile home, car, highway overpass or under any bridge.

Villa Grove School Menu

The district has made arrangements to continue meal service to students during the closure through curb side pick up at the main entrance. Breakfast/Lunch items will be available for pick up Monday, April 6 from

10:00-12:30 which will include breakfast/lunch items for 5 days. Pick up will also be available in Camargo at the Camargo Community Building from 11:30-12:30 on Monday, April 6.

Do you have News, Ads or Pictures that you want featured on The Community Page?

Email them to us advertising@thevillagrove.com