

SERVING ALL OF SOUTHERN CHAMPAIGN COUNTY

South County  
SPOTLIGHT

Friday Night Bingo is back on at the VFW in Villa Grove.

The Giving Place is open every Wednesday from 4pm-6pm in Tolono to help families in need with food items.

Tolono Public Library Virtual After-school Bingo: Wednesdays 3:30-4pm. For children 5-12 years. Contact the library for more information

Monday, September 21 Sidney American Legion Meeting @ 6pm

Tuesday, September 22 - First Day Of Fall

Monday, October 5 Sidney Board of Trustees Meeting 7pm @ Sidney Community Building

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

Sidney Village Board Swears in New Trustee and Adopts New Ordinances

September 8 Village of Sidney Board of Trustees Meeting Coverage – by Ann Rhoton SCCT News Correspondent

The Village of Sidney Board of Trustees met on Tuesday, September 8 in the Sidney Community Building meeting room at 7:00 p.m. The meeting was live streamed on Facebook and Village of Sidney President Jason Arrasmith brought the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m. following the recitation of the pledge of allegiance by all in attendance.

Village of Sidney President Jason Arrasmith asked if there was any public comment and was told that there was. Individuals in attendance at the meeting providing public comment were asked to wait in the buildings entryway, were called in individually, and left after providing comment in order to limit the number of people in the meeting room to adhere to social distancing guidelines.

Two gentlemen were in attendance at the meeting to ask if they could divide an 1 1/2 acre property in to two properties on which each of them will build a house. The property is located northeast of the Village of Sidney within the 1.5 mile jurisdiction. They explained that Champaign County had told them that they needed Village of Sidney approval as the property is located within the village's 1.5 mile jurisdiction.

The gentlemen were told that their attorney needed to work with the Village of Sidney attorney to have paperwork written up that would include the changing of the property to residential and plans of what they wanted to do with the property so that the board could consider approval at the Monday, October 5 Village of Sidney Board of Trustees meeting.

The gentlemen noted there is expense associated with having the paperwork written up, asked the board if they would approve the dividing of the property, and were told that none of the board mem-

bers were against the dividing of the property, but that they needed to get the proper paperwork completed.

Village of Sidney Board Trustee and Public Property Chair Tyler Bickers sent a text with Village of Sidney Attorney Marc Miller's phone number to one of the men so they could make contact and the gentlemen thanked the board for their time.

Cathy Thomas addressed the Village of Sidney Board of Trustees concerning the placement of political signs and asked whether they could be placed in the Village of Sidney right-of-way. Village of Sidney President Jason Arrasmith told her that the Village of Sidney does not have any set rules in place concerning the placement of political signs and that she is welcome to place them in the Village of Sidney right-of-way.

Village President Jason Arrasmith asked trustees to review the Monday, August 3 regular and executive (closed session) meeting and Wednesday, August 19 special meeting minutes and for a motion to approve them as written if they so choose. The minutes were approved following a motion from Trustee Leroy Schluter and a second to the motion by Trustee Bret Harris.

Village of Sidney President Jason Arrasmith began his comments by making a motion seconded by Village of Sidney Trustee Tyler Bickers to appoint Village of Sidney resident Donna Hooker to the office of Village of Sidney Trustee to fill the unexpired term of former Village of Sidney Trustee Mark Catron. The motion carried.

Donna Hooker was sworn in by Village of Sidney Clerk Maggie Fish and Village of Sidney President Jason Arrasmith welcomed her to the Village of Sidney Board of Trustees and stated that she will be in charge of finance.

President Jason Arrasmith continued with his comments by asking for an update on the new Village of Sidney



Left to right new Village of Sidney Board of Trustees Trustee Donna Hooker sworn in by Village of Sidney Clerk Maggie Fish at the Tuesday, September 8 Village of Sidney Board of Trustees meeting. Photo by Ann Rhoton.

Hall located at 211 East Main Street from project manager Robert Tincher from Hillside Development Group, LLC.

Mr. Tincher reported that he would like to do a walk-through of the building with President Arrasmith and Trustees Tyler Bickers and Dan Gadeken around September 17 or 18.

President Arrasmith reported there had been a \$4,153.36 change order that he wanted the Village of Sidney Board of Trustees to approve because he was not comfortable with approving it himself.

Discussion concerning the change order took place between the board and Mr. Tincher with some trustees expressing their unhappiness with the number of change orders stating it is their responsibility to handle Village of Sidney monies responsibly. Payment of the change order was approved following a motion from Trustee Dan Gadeken and a second by Trustee Tyler Bickers.

Carson Willard updated the board on his Eagle Scout project by reporting that he was still in the fund raising phase and that he had raised

\$280.00 for the project. He additionally reported that he was planning to work on his Eagle Scout Project on Saturday, September 19. A motion from Trustee Bret Harris seconded by Trustee Dan Gadeken for the Village of Sidney to spend not to exceed \$250.00 to help Carson with expenses on his Eagle Scout project at the Village of Sidney west end of town entryway carried.

Sidney American Legion Post 433 Commander Bill Hensch, Post 433 Adjutant Bill McLane, Post 433 Finance Officer Dannie Cline, and Post 433 Judge Advocate Susan McLane were called into the meeting room to discuss Ordinance #2020-10 approving the Village of Sidney sale of the Sidney Community Building/Sidney Village Hall located at 221 South David Street to the Sidney American Legion Post 433 for one dollar and to approve the contract between the Village of Sidney and the Sidney American Legion Post 433 for the sale of the building to the Sidney American Legion Post 433 under President Arrasmith's comments.

President Arrasmith noted

that the selling price of \$10.00 needed to be changed to \$1.00 in two places within the contract.

A motion from Trustee Leroy Schluter seconded by Trustee Bret Harris to approve Ordinance #2020-10 approving the sale of the Sidney Community Building/Village of Sidney Hall located at 221 South David Street to the Sidney American Legion Post 433 for one dollar and to approve the contract between the Village of Sidney and the Sidney American Legion Post 433 to sell the Sidney Community Building/Sidney Village Hall located at 221 South David Street to the Sidney American Legion Post 433 with two price changes from \$10.00 to \$1.00 within the contract carried following a review of the documents by the Village of Sidney Board of Trustees and the Sidney American Legion Post 433.

Sidney American Legion Post 433 members asked numerous questions of the board about the building leach field, septic system, etc. Sidney American Legion Post 433 Commander Bill Hensch asked if Joey Cont. pg. 4

The Giving Place Weekly Newsletter

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"Perhaps it takes a purer faith to praise God for unrealized blessings than for those we once enjoyed or those we enjoy now."

— A.W. Tozer

"We pray for the big things and forget to give thanks for the ordinary, small (and yet really not small) gifts."

— Dietrich Bonhoeffer

"The soul that gives thanks can find comfort in everything; the soul that complains can find comfort in nothing."

— Hannah Whitall Smith

Due to the Covid-19 pandemic, for safety reasons, the clothing area remains closed and we are not accepting clothing donations at this time. We will continue to update the community and let you know when we are able to reopen.

The Giving Place continues



to serve our clients food each Wednesday night from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. We served 11 families (1 new) / 33 people / 13 children at The Giving Place on Wednesday night. To keep our clients and volunteers safe, we pre-box the food and take it out to the client's car.

A big THANK YOU to those who continue to support this ministry through donations of food and money. We received 4 large donations today. The Giving Place is a community outreach to help those going through hard times economically.

Thanks to Pastor Catherine, Jo Ellen, Dale and Mike for serving our clients Wednesday night. Due to the COVID-19 crisis, we are not accepting new volunteers at this time.

Our clients are going through difficult times. Please remember them and keep them and this ministry in your prayers throughout the year.

Mike Williams  
Ephesians 5:20

Giving thanks always and for everything to God the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ

Psalms 100:4

Enter his gates with thanksgiving, and his courts with praise! Give thanks to him; bless his name!

Homer Library to Host Jessica Jenkins: Book Signing Event September 19

The Friends of the Homer Community Library is excited to announce a fun and safe event to celebrate the 100th anniversary of the ratification of the 19th amendment, granting women the right to vote.

This historical moment is being celebrated across the country at the Smithsonian's National Museum of American History in Washington DC, the National Constitution Center in Philadelphia, PA, and many other venues.

Hometown author, Jessica Jenkins's newest book explores this moment in history by sharing 50 significant objects that represent milestones, in telling this important story. Jessica is a Homer native and a 2003 graduate from Heritage High School, Broadlands, IL.

Jessica is returning to Homer for a book signing event on Saturday, September 19, at 1:00 p.m. at the Homer Community Library. She will be reading an excerpt from her book, "Exploring Women's Suffrage through 50 Historic Treasures", at 1:30 p.m., and answering questions from guests at the event.

The Friends of the Library will be hosting this event outdoors, following covid-19 safety recommendations, with masks, hand sanitizing stations, and social distancing.

Books for sale are available now at the Library, and will also be for sale at the event. Proceeds will support Jessica and the Homer Community Library.

Please visit the publisher's website for more information about Jessica and her book at <https://rowman.com//ISBN/9781538112793/Exploring-Women's-Suffrage-through-50-Historic-Treasures>

If you are planning to attend, please RSVP to the Homer Library, so that they can plan adequate safety measures.

Contact: Cindy Happ, Email: [libraryfriends00@gmail.com](mailto:libraryfriends00@gmail.com), or

Homer Community Library, Library Director Christine Cunningham, 217-896-2121, Email: [homerlibrarian@gmail.com](mailto:homerlibrarian@gmail.com)

About the Author

Jessica D. Jenkins is the Vice President of Collections and Storytelling at Minnetrista, a museum and gardens in Muncie, IN. In her role she directs and leads activities related to historic resources, including the acquisition, use and management of the museum's collection. In addition to oversight of the collections management department, Jenkins also leads the museum's research and storytelling efforts, including the development and creation of exhibitions on Minnetrista's 40 acre campus.

In 2003 she graduated from Heritage High School in Broadlands, IL. Throughout her time as an elementary, junior high, and high school student at Heritage, Jenkins was active in a variety of activities, including the East Central track & field team, the Heritage Hawks Girls' basketball team, scholastic bowl, band and choir, and theatrical productions. Jenkins was a also member of the National Honor Society, a recipient of the Heritage High School Band Director's Award, and a participant in the Worldwide Youth in Science and Engineering competition. Jenkins holds a Bachelor of Arts in History from Quincy University, Quincy, Illinois, where she was the recipient of the Quincy University History Department's Owen J. Blum O.F.M. Award for Scholarly Achievement in History. In 2010 she received a Masters of Arts in Public History from Central Connecticut State University, New Britain, Connecticut, and was awarded the Department of History's Graduate in Public History Award. Ms. Jenkins has worked in museums and cultural institutions for more than a decade, specializing in collection and exhibition curation. Before assuming the role of Vice President of Collections

and Storytelling at Minnetrista, she served as the organization's curator and was then promoted to Director of Collections. During her career, Jenkins has worked with organizations ranging in size from a staff of two to a staff of two-hundred, including full and part-time curatorial and collections management roles at the Litchfield Historical Society, Litchfield, CT; Indiana Historical Society, Indianapolis, IN; Indiana State Museum, Indianapolis, IN. She has also consulted with organizations such as the Sharon Historical Society, Sharon, CT, and the Greenwich Historical Society, Greenwich, CT. In addition to developing history and fine art exhibitions, Jenkins has worked extensively with educators, developed and executed environmental monitoring programs, overseen the maintenance of historic structures, and executed collections management, registration duties, and policy development. She has authored publications on topics ranging from woman suffrage to World War I poster art, including the 2015 publication, House of Worth: Fashion Sketches, 1916-1918. In April 2020, Rowman & Littlefield press released her new book, Exploring Women's Suffrage through 50 Historic Treasures.