

Douglas County COVID-19 update

**By Colleen Lehmann
Douglas County
Health Department
Public Health Liaison**

Welcome back to all following last week's snowpocalypse. It's been a bit since we have seen that kind of winter weather event; let's hope it remains that way!

One of the more impactful (albeit confusing) developments on the COVID front was a Sangamon County judge's temporary restraining order (TRO) on Friday, Feb. 4 concerning mask usage in schools. School districts named as plaintiffs in the suit

are no longer compelled to comply with many of the general masking order elements. However, many non-plaintiff school districts are also choosing to adopt this approach though technically not included in the directive.

An emergency stay and appeal of the TRO has been filed by the Illinois attorney general and awaits appellate decision, so as with many aspects of COVID this is not yet over and we will pass along more information and direction as it becomes available. For updated school guidance regarding fully

in-person learning, see this link online; COVID-19 Updated Public Health School Guidance 20200205.pdf (illinois.gov)

Vaccination station

Locally, the demand for vaccination has slowed considerably in recent weeks. In fact, this week's COVID clinic only has about 20 appointments on the schedule, so we condensed the clinic time to run from 11:30 a.m. to 3:15 p.m. Beginning in March, DCHD will transition to holding vaccine clinics

two times a month, the second and fourth Thursday at Tuscola Community Building, barring changing circumstances. Depending on demand, that could change to once a month.

Please note there are two IDPH-run vaccine clinics open to the public this month in Arthur that we are aware of:

*Feb. 15 from 4 to 7 p.m. at ALAH High School

*Feb. 18 from 2 to 7 p.m. at CHI Overhead Doors

IDPH data shows 50.78% of Douglas County residents have had at least one vaccine dose, while 46.51% of residents are

fully vaccinated. There have been 4,155 booster doses administered to county residents.

COVID testing at DCHD

Appointment-based COVID testing at J600 continues, with hours Monday-Thursday from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. and Friday 8:30 a.m. to 12 noon. Rapid test supply issues continue to be a challenge, which is why our current policy is to only use those for people experiencing symptoms. PCR tests have not, so far, been a problem to keep stocked.

From Feb. 1 to Feb. 8, DCHD performed 73 rapid tests, 22 of which were positive. That was a positivity rate of 30.1% for rapid testing at DCHD in that timeframe. IDPH figures show that, as of Feb. 7, the 7-day rolling positivity rate (rapid and PCR testing) for Douglas County residents was 14.2%, and for Region 6 that number was 11%.

Colleen Lehmann, public health liaison

Douglas County Health Department, 217-253-4137 ext. 1229; colleen.lehmann@douglascountyil.com

CPA society opens college scholarship application window

CHICAGO, Feb. 8, 2022 – Continuing their mission to build a pipeline of future certified public accountants (CPAs), the Illinois CPA Society and CPA Endowment Fund of Illinois announced applications are now being accepted for more than 40 scholarships ranging from \$1,000 to \$4,000 each that will be awarded through their Accounting

Scholarship Program for the 2022-2023 academic year.

These scholarships are designed to provide financial assistance to deserving accounting students and future CPAs across the state of Illinois by rewarding them for their hard work and academic success thus far. Applicants must be upperclassmen accounting students enrolled at Illinois colleges or universities

who demonstrate financial need, academic achievement, and leadership qualities. There is just one application to submit for any or all scholarships for which the student is eligible. The application deadline for the following scholarships is April 1, 2022:

- Illinois CPA Society Accounting Scholarships for seniors or graduate students.

- Herman J. Neal Accounting Scholarships for Black/African American juniors, seniors, or graduate students.

- James A. Sikich Visionary Scholarships for seniors or graduate students.

- Women's Executive Committee Advancing Women in Accounting Scholarships for female seniors or graduate students.

"As the first in my family to go to college, I had little direction. The CPA Endowment Fund of Illinois' resources empowered me, inspired me to continue my education, and influenced my decision to pursue the CPA credential," says Megan Lockhart, a Millikin University student and recent scholarship recipient. "The scholarship I received has

been instrumental in my growth, and I encourage eligible accounting students to apply for these scholarships. The Illinois CPA Society and CPA Endowment Fund of Illinois' support can be lifechanging."

For more scholarship information and to apply, please visit www.icpas.org/scholarships.

Marketplace

HELP WANTED



SCHOOL BUS DRIVERS NEEDED

No experience necessary, will train.
Retirees welcome!

Call Gould Transportation at
217-253-2232
or apply within at
400 S. Washington St. Tuscola.

Come and be entertained!
FREE POPCORN!

HELP WANTED

**CITY OF TUSCOLA
SWIMMING POOL SUMMER HELP**

The City of Tuscola is accepting applications for the following seasonal swimming pool positions:

Certified Lifeguard
Swimming Pool Cashier
Swimming Pool Manager

EOE.

Applications are available at
**Tuscola City Hall
214 N. Main St.**


Or on the internet at www.tuscola.org
Submit Applications not later than March 18, 2022 to:
Tuscola City Administrator, 214 N. Main, Tuscola, IL 61953, or e-mail to: info@tuscola.org

MISC

**DOUGLAS COUNTY:
HOW HAS THE
PANDEMIC
AFFECTED YOU?**

Looking for written, oral, video submissions on how your life, business, workplace, school, family, health has been affected by COVID-19 for historical documentation project.

Douglas County Health Department is taking your submissions now. For more information, contact Colleen Lehmann at colleen.lehmann@douglascountyil.com or call 217-253-4137 X 1229.



Public Health
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

EVENT

28th Annual
the Boat Show
Orr Building
IL State Fairgrounds
Springfield, Illinois

3 DAYS!!! FEB 25, 26 & 27, 2022
Admission \$5 (12 & under FREE)

GET \$2 OFF WITH THIS AD (1 per admission)
For more info: www.theboatshowinspringfield.com

**CITY OF TUSCOLA
STREET DEPARTMENT**

The City of Tuscola is accepting applications and/or resumes for employment in the City Street Department. This full-time position involves street repairs, maintenance and cleaning, sidewalk construction, general facilities maintenance, and snow removal. Duties may include equipment operation, excavation and underground utility repairs, meter reading, and various manual labor tasks. Successful applicant will be familiar with equipment operation and construction techniques. High School diploma or general equivalency diploma and valid driver's license required. Starting hourly wage dependent on qualifications, with generous benefits package. EOE. Send application and/or resume not later than March 18, 2022 to:

**City Administrator
City of Tuscola
214 N. Main St.
Tuscola, IL 61953**
Or e-mail to: info@tuscola.org



Peace Meal February			
21 Chicken Pot Pie Nantucket Vegetables Apricots Whole Grain Biscuit Hot Fruit Compote	22 Taco Salad w/Meat, Lettuce, Beans, Tomatoes and Salsa Pears Taco Chips Sugar Free Pudding	23 Country Fried Chicken with White Gravy Mashed Potatoes Scandinavian Veggies Pineapple Whole Grain Bread	16 Beef Stew with Vegetables Green Beans Jell-O with Mixed Fruit Roll Surprise Dessert
24 Baked Ham Candied Sweet Potatoes Brussels Sprouts Cranberry Salad Roll	17 Chicken Tetrizzini Honey Glazed Carrots Tossed Salad w/dressing Packet Hot Fruit Crisp	18 Cheese Salad Hearty Vegetable & Bean Soup Pickled Beets Grapes Bun	25 Pangasius Fish Sandwich w/condiment Pinto Beans w/Bacon California Blend Tangy Cole Slaw Bun

Tuscola Today
Yesterday & Tomorrow

Tuscola Review Podcast
Hosts Mike Carroll, Bill Englehardt & David Porter

Thursday afternoons on Facebook
www.facebook.com/TuscolaReview

For Reservations Call 1-800-543-1770. Tuscola number: (217) 253-2278.
Skim milk and desserts with no sugar added are available in many locations.
Ask the Site Supervisor for information.
Sometimes we need to substitute on our menus. We still guarantee a nutritious meal.
The Peace Meal Senior Nutrition Program suggests a donation of \$3.50 for each congregate and home delivered meal. No older person shall be denied a meal because of their inability to contribute towards the cost of the meal.
We accept the Illinois Link Card.

ADVERTISING DEADLINE FRIDAY, 5 P.M.
publisher@tuscolareview.com