

Highest Covid-19 Numbers in Champaign County Closing out 2021 with Soaring Number of Hospitalizations

By Jamie Morse

The numbers for active Covid-19 cases are continuing a steady climb as Champaign County closed out 2021 with a record number of hospitalized Covid-19 patients. According to the Champaign-Urbana Public Health District, as of December 31 there were currently 44 individuals in the ICU. The number as of Monday, January 3 holds at 44 hospitalized ICU cases in Champaign County.

In Region 6 there are only 23 ICU Beds available of 150 and 233 Ventilators available of 294. (Source IDPH).

According to a press release by the Illinois Department of Public Health there is a staggering 128,246 New Cases of Coronavirus Disease from December 23 to December 30.

"The Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH) reported 128,246 new confirmed and probable cases of coronavirus disease (COVID-19) in Illinois, including an increase of 386 deaths since December

23, 2021.

Currently, IDPH is reporting a total of 2,149,548 cases, including 27,821 deaths, in 102 counties in Illinois. The age of cases ranges from younger than one to older than 100 years. Since Thursday, December 23, 2021, laboratories have reported 1,260,179 specimens for a total of 44,469,630. As of last night, 5,689 individuals in Illinois were reported to be in the hospital with COVID-19. Of those, 1,010 patients were in the ICU and 565 patients with COVID-19 were on ventilators.

The preliminary seven-day statewide positivity for cases as a percent of total test from December 23-29, 2021 is 10.2%. The preliminary seven-day statewide test positivity from December 23-29, 2021 is 14.4%.

A total of 19,176,277 vaccines have been administered in Illinois as of last midnight. The seven-day rolling average of vaccines administered daily is 46,046 doses. Since

Thursday, December 23, 2021, 322,324 doses were reported administered in Illinois. Of Illinois' total population, more than 72% has received at least one COVID-19 vaccine dose and more than 64% of Illinois' total population is fully vaccinated according to data from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

All data are provisional and will change. Additional information and COVID-19 data can be found at <https://dph.illinois.gov/covid19.html>.

According to the IDPH website as of Monday, January 3rd the positive case number now lies at 2,238,743, adding another 89,195 new cases in 4 days time.

The Illinois COVID-19 Community Transmission Map is completely red marking the highest possible transmission risk.

Getting some data closer to home, in Champaign County as of January 3 there are 2,569 active cases and in the last 7 days a total of 81 new hospitalizations.

(Source CDC).

Carle Hospital is reporting nearly one-third of their hospital beds are being used by Covid-19 patients throughout Carle Health, including 154 Covid-19 patients at Carle Foundation Hospital, 26 in ICU as of January 3.

Across Carle Health claims that 193 Patients are currently hospitalized with Covid-19 breaking the number down even further, out of the 193 patients, 134 are unvaccinated to 59 vaccinated. I could not find data on the age range of these patients. Doing a quick calculation the percent of vaccinated hospitalized patients (no age range) is 31% to 69% unvaccinated.

For the week ending in January 1, Carle report that the weekly positivity rate of all Covid-19 tests processed by Carle Health, including processing for many health facilities across the counties, 29.36% of the tests that were processed were positive for Covid-19. (Source Carle.org).

The Sidney Scoop

by Ann Rhoton, 688-2812



Your correspondent hopes that everyone had a Happy New Year and that if you had any New Year resolutions, they all come true!

Sidney Lions Club President Bill Hensch, Sidney Lions Club Secretary Tom Talbott, and Sidney Lions Club members Melinda Talbott and Dennis Riggs drew the final Sidney Lions Club 2021 Christmas Cash - New Year's Dash Raffle winner for the month of December on Friday, December 31.

The final raffle ticket winner and winner of \$500.00 was Lonny. There was no last name or address written on the ticket, only the first name and a phone number. Dennis tried to call Lonny, but there was no answer and only his first name was on his voicemail. Sidney Lions Club Finance Officer Jerry Moore will continue to try to contact him. Congratulations Lonny!

Proceeds from the raffle go directly to the Lions Club Scholarship Fund for graduating Unity seniors and for assistance to those in need of Lions Club services; i.e., the Lions Club Eyeglasses Program in the Sidney area.

Sidney Lions Club President Bill Hensch, Sidney Lions Club Secretary Tom Talbott, and Sidney Lions Club members Melinda Talbott and Dennis Riggs thank the community for their generosity in participating with the purchasing of raffle tickets.

Anyone interested in becoming a member of the Sidney Lions Club can give President Bill Hensch a call at (217) 649-6989.

Look for a photo of the drawing published in this week's edition of the Southern Champaign County Today Paper.

The Village of Sidney Board of Trustees regular monthly meeting should have taken place on Monday, January 3. Look for a report from your correspondent in next week's edition of the Southern Champaign County Today Paper.

The Sidney American Legion Post 433 will hold their next monthly meeting at the Post Home located at 221 South David Street in downtown Sidney on Monday, January 17 at 6:00 p.m. Prospective new members are always welcome and encouraged to attend and all monthly meetings, unless otherwise posted, are held at the Post Home.

Have a great week!

If you or your organization have news items you want published drop a line to Ann Rhoton at P. O. Box 491, Sidney, IL 61877 or call (217) 688-2812; don't hesitate to leave a message if there's no answer.

News items must be turned in by 10:00 a.m. each Friday to be published in the following week's paper. Items submitted after the deadline will be published in the following week's column.

Durable Foods to Stock for Emergencies

Here's a look at which non-perishable foods to keep on hand for emergencies.

Public health emergencies or inclement weather can spiral out of control rather quickly. Emergency situations have the potential to derail shipping or delivery schedules or impede shoppers' ability to get to the store for necessary supplies. Individuals should keep a stock of emergency provisions just in case weather or another adverse situation compromises their ability to get the items they need to survive.

Different types of foods spoil at different rates depending on how they are stored. While there is no such thing as an entirely nonperishable food, packaging foods in airtight containers can increase their life expectancy. Here's a look at which nonperishable foods to keep on hand for

emergencies.

Protein sources

Protein can provide sustained nutrition and energy, but many protein sources in raw forms require refrigeration to prevent spoilage. However, canned and freeze-dried meats, seafood and poultry have extended shelf life. Freeze-drying, also known as lyophilization, is a water-removal process typically used to preserve perishable materials, according to Millrock Technology, a company that produces freeze dryers.

Canned or freeze-dried chicken, tuna, salmon, and beans are durable protein sources. Vegetarians will find that navy beans are high in protein. Freeze-dried items are more common in pre-packaged, bulk emergency food supply kits sold at popular retailers, including Costco. However, they also can be

purchased at camping retailers or Army/Navy stores.

Fruits and vegetables

Fruits and vegetables are necessary to ensure your body gets essential vitamins and minerals. Fresh items will spoil in a matter of days, so canned varieties are better for stocking up. Canned vegetables and fruits come in many varieties. The healthiest canned fruit options are those packed in their own juices rather than heavy syrups. Root vegetables like potatoes, turnips and parsnips can endure in cool areas of a home, but canned equivalents may be more practical.

Whole grains and other carbohydrates


A balanced diet consists of a healthy mix of proteins, fruits and vegetables, and carbohydrates. According to Kelly Jones, MS, RD, a board-certified sports dietitian, whole grains are vital sources of carbohydrates and fiber, and most come in dried, non-perishable forms. Oats, rice, quinoa, barley, and whole-grain dried pastas can be used in emergency food kits. Packaged granola or trail mix bars also are good to have

on hand.

FEMA and the American Red Cross advise keeping food in a dry, cool, dark spot. Carefully open resealable containers so they can be closed tightly after each use. Nuts, dried fruits and sugar packets can be put into air-tight canisters for protection from pests. Inspect cans for bulging, denting or corrosion before use. During a disaster, it is wise to eat at least one well-balanced meal every day. Remember to also stock bottled water with emergency foods supplies.

In regard to food, City Prepping, a popular social media channel for preppers, has created a list of what might be included in a two-week emergency supply. Most of the supplies are nonperishable items. Some options include:

- canned soup (20 cans)
- powdered milk
- cereal (two boxes)
- canned vegetables (20 cans)
- peanut butter (two jars)
- pasta (20 bags/boxes)
- coffee or tea
- canned fruit (20 cans)
- oatmeal (five pounds)
- rice (20 pound bag)




Happy New Year!

Are your Will, Trust, retirement, life insurance, pension and bank accounts up to date with the most current information?

BENEFICIARY: the person, persons, or "thing" you want to receive the assets in your accounts or ownership should you pass away. "thing"=church or charity

CONTINGENT BENEFICIARY: The person, persons or "thing" that will receive the benefits of your accounts if the primary beneficiary cannot. A back-up plan.

If you have questions, contact the **Trust Department** in Ogden at 217-582-2175
www.longviewbank.com



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Why preplanning a funeral is so important


Pathway

from Pekin Life Insurance Company

When the reality of the loss of a loved one invades our lives, we need time to adjust. If funeral arrangements are being considered for the first time under the pressures of bereavement, many wishes of the deceased and survivors may be overlooked.

Let us explain the details of Pathway, a Pre-arranged funeral plan from Pekin Life Insurance Company. You'll understand why preplanning a funeral is so important.

Freeze Funeral Home
 Sidney, 688-2014 • St. Joseph, 469-2331
 Tolono, 486-7555



The Giving Place Weekly Newsletter

Happy New Year
 "Be at war with your vices, at peace with your neighbors, and let every new year find you a better man."

— Benjamin Franklin
 "The object of a New Year is not that we should have a new year. It is that we should have a new soul and a new nose; new feet, a new backbone, new ears, and new eyes. Unless a particular man made New Year resolutions, he would make no resolutions. Unless a man starts afresh about things, he will certainly do nothing effective."

— G.K. Chesterton
 Today at The Giving Place, we served 6 families (1 new) / 17 people / 8 children in the Food Pantry. Thanks to Sandy, Jo Ellen, Donna, Roberta, Jerry, Tom, Dale & Mike for the efforts today.

The Giving Place is a Christian ministry to help those in need in the Unit 7 School District. Thanks to all that donate food, clothes and money. We wouldn't be able to do what we do without your continued

support. Thanks to all who have donated food, gift cards and cash to keep our shelves stocked for our clients.

If you know of any families in Unit Seven that are in need, please encourage them to visit TGP on Wednesday from 4:00 - 6:00.

Mike Williams
 Matthew 2:10-13
 10 When they saw the star, they were overjoyed. 11 On coming to the house, they saw the child with his mother Mary, and they bowed down and worshiped him. Then they opened their treasures and presented him with gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh. 12 And having been warned in a dream not to go back to Herod, they returned to their country by another route. 13 When they had gone, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream. "Get up," he said, "take the child and his mother and escape to Egypt. Stay there until I tell you, for Herod is going to search for the child to kill him."

ANNUAL - 3RD SATURDAY OF JANUARY

USED BOOK AUCTION

At the Otto Center - 1/2 Mile South of Arthur, IL

Complete, Detailed Catalog and Pictures, at Auctionzip.com - ID# 38360

Saturday January 15, 2022 - 9:00 AM

Print Catalogs Available Ahead of Time at Beachy's Bulk Foods and Country Salvage (on Business Guide Racks) and at Auction Day of Sale

Collection Harold Bell Wright, many first editions, dustjackets, photoplay editions, including some plates and postcards


Over 200 books by Horatio Alger, Jr.

Childrens, Fiction, Vintage Fiction
 Alcott, Stratton-Porter, Burgess
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 Little Golden Books, Richard Scarry
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True Stories, Holocaust, History, Mennonite

Coffee Table Books - Railroads, Aviation, Animals, 9/11, Science, History

Preview Books on Friday 3 pm - 7 pm
NO PUZZLE EVENT PLANNED



Be On Time!
Selling 150 Lots Per Hour
6.75% Sales Tax Will Be Charged
Lunch Stand On Site

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