

# Public Health Officials Announce 13,028 New Cases of Coronavirus Disease Over the Past Week

The Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH) reported 13,028 new confirmed and probable cases of coronavirus disease (COVID-19) in Illinois, including an increase of 355 deaths since February 18, 2022.

Currently, IDPH is reporting a total of 3,026,737 cases, including 32,654 deaths, in 102 counties in Illinois. The age of cases ranges from younger than one to older than 100

years. Since February 18, 2022, laboratories have reported 716,997 specimens for a total of 54,338,979. As of last night, 1,143 individuals in Illinois were reported to be in the hospital with COVID-19. Of those, 211 patients were in the ICU and 103 patients with COVID-19 were on ventilators.

The preliminary seven-day statewide positivity for cases as a percent of total test from

February 18-24, 2022 is 1.8%. The preliminary seven-day statewide test positivity from February 18- 24, 2022 is 2.4%.

A total of 21,070,546 vaccines have been administered in Illinois as of last midnight. The seven-day rolling average of vaccines administered daily is 16,309 doses. Since February 18, 2022, 114,160 doses were reported administered in Illinois. Of Illinois' total population, 76% has received

at least one COVID-19 vaccine dose, more than 67% of Illinois' total population is fully vaccinated, and almost 49% boosted 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>.

# Tolono Library Weekly Update: This Weeks Program Events

The Tolono Public Library now has easy sign-up links for specific programs. First, go to the event calendar on our web page to see all upcoming events. Then, click on the particular event(s) you are interested in, and you will see some events require pre-registration. You can register with the online link or call the Library, and a staff member will complete the registration for you. Sign-ups open three weeks before an event.

You can opt to have a reminder message sent via text or Email. Not all events require registration. Our online calendar has been updated, and now several months of events are visible.

Program Events this Week  
Adult Craft and Chat: March 3; 6 pm. Sunflower Ball. In-person event. Space limited. Register online or call the Library for this event.

Soil and Water Matter!: March 5, 1-2 pm. Champaign

County Farm Bureau in-person event. Explore soil samples and learn about watersheds. Register online or call the Library to register.

Online Job Search Strategies: March 8, 5 pm. ZOOM event presented by Parkland Career Services. Register online or call the Library to register.

Virtual After School Bingo: Zoom Event, Wednesdays 3:30-4 pm Register online or call the Library to register for

this event.

Check our mobile app, Facebook page, or website for our calendar of events and see the new books available at the Library.

Pick up the latest edition of BookPage, the monthly publication with book reviews, Q&As, feature articles, interviews, and much more. Free copies are located on the round table in our lobby.

# Active Senior Republican News and Meeting Announcement



## Tolono Masonic Lodge Breakfast held every 4th Sunday of the Month

Larry Kearns and his wife Ginny enjoyed breakfast at the Tolono Masonic Hall for their 4th Sunday of the month breakfast in February (photo above). After eating, Larry was networking to get petitions signed for candidates and spreading news about the 1st Monday of the month meeting at 9:30am for Active Senior Republicans.

## Active Senior Republicans Meeting Announcement

Monthly meeting of Active Senior Republicans in Champaign County

For Seniors seeking information, fellowship and fun on Monday, March 7, 2022 at 9:30 a.m. meeting (Social time from 9:00 to 9:30.)

The meeting will take place at the Champaign Public Library; 200 W. Green St. in Champaign in the Robeson Pavilion Room A & B

This months speaker is Tom

DeVore.

Tom is the attorney who successfully sued Gov. Pritzker and various state agencies to undo the governor's school mask mandate. He is seeking the Republican nomination for Illinois Attorney General. The Topic will include: The Illinois Attorney General Should Be the People's Legal Counsel, Not the Governor's Personal Attorney.

## UPCOMING EVENTS:

April Meeting: April 4

May Meeting: May 2

For questions you may contact:

Penny Porter, Co-President  
PHONE: 217-390-7247  
EMAIL: penny.porter48@gmail.com

J.C. Reitmeier, Co-President:  
PHONE: 217-694-4192  
EMAIL: reitfam4@hotmail.com

Rhonda Wrona, Vice President:  
PHONE: 217-714-5807  
EMAIL: rhondawrona@gmail.com

HOPE TO SEE YOU THERE!

# The Giving Place Weekly Newsletter

## Generosity

"You have not lived today until you have done something for someone who can never repay you."

— John Bunyan

"When will our consciences grow so tender that we will act to prevent human misery rather than avenge it?"

— Eleanor Roosevelt

"Let us develop a kind of dangerous unselfishness."

— Martin Luther King Jr.

The Giving Place Clothing Room is open for clients every Wednesday. We limit the number of people in the room at any time, but we are OPEN!

Volunteers were kept busy at The Giving Place today. We served 6 families (0 new) / 23 people / 12 children in the Food Pantry. Thanks to Pastor Catherine, Donna, Jo Ellen, Karen, Tom, Dale & Mike for the efforts today.

We are in need of the following items:

- Canned spaghetti sauce
- 64 oz. 100% real fruit juice in plastic containers
- Saltine crackers
- Canned fruit, all kinds
- Canned beans
- Bagged rice

## Instant mashed potatoes

We received another large donation of food today through the efforts of Pam Steele and her use of social media. Thanks to all that donate food, clothes and money to this ministry. We wouldn't be able to do what we do without your continued support.

The Giving Place is a Christian ministry serving families in need in the Unit 7 School District. 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

Acts 20:35

In all things I have shown you that by working hard in this way we must help the weak and remember the words of the Lord Jesus, how he himself said, 'It is more blessed to give than to receive.'"

Luke 6:38

Give, and it will be given to you. Good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap. For with the measure you use it will be measured back to you."

**Villa Grove**

**BINGO**

Every Friday Night

VFW post 2876

6:30 pm- Early Bird

7:00 pm- Regular Bingo



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"WE BELONG TOGETHER!"



# The Sidney Scoop

by Ann Rhoton, 688-2812



Look for your correspondent's Monday, February 21 Sidney American Legion Post 433 Meeting Coverage published in this week's edition of the Paper.

The next regular monthly meeting of the Village of Sidney Board of Trustees will take place on Monday, March 7 at 7:00 p.m. in the Sidney Community Building located at 211 East Main Street in Sidney. All monthly meetings, unless otherwise posted, are held in the Sidney Community Building meeting room.

The Countryside United Methodist Church located at 1807 CR 1000N, Urbana between Sidney and Philo on the Sidney slab will have their 16th annual Flea Market and Bake sale on Saturday, March 19 from 7:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. at the church.

Some items will be donations accepted and others will be priced at both the flea market and bake sale.

Folks can call the church office at (217) 688-2422 for more information.

Your correspondent received an email and press release from Illinois American Water Senior Manager of External Communications Karen Cotton reporting that Illinois American Water (IAW) is urging customers to guard themselves against utility imposters and scams.

The company has seen an increase in scams as it has resumed normal operations for non-emergency work, including performing in-home work. Pretending to be a trusted utility worker is a trick some criminals use to gain access to homes, to obtain payments, or to steal personal information. Customers should keep in mind that IAW employees will not stop by and request access to a home without an appointment. If a customer receives a phone call requesting payment with the threat of water or wastewater service being shut off, they should hang up and immediately call IAW at 1-800-422-2782 to verify their account status.

Scams can be very convincing and often target those who are most vulnerable including senior citizens and low-income communities. They also aim their scams at small businesses during busy customer service hours, but customers can learn to protect

themselves and others against predatory scams with the right information.

Illinois American Water recommends taking the following precautions when contacted by someone who says they are a utility worker:

- Always ask for a company-issued photo ID. Illinois American Water employees carry company-issued photo ID badges and should not need access to indoor facilities to read meters, perform maintenance, or to turn service on or off.

- Look for the logo. All IAW personnel wear company-branded clothing and drive company-branded vehicles.

- Never give cash. Illinois American Water employees never collect money or credit card information from customers in the field.

- Close and lock your door and call 9-1-1 if you suspect someone may be a utility imposter. Customers can also call IAW at 1-800-422-2782 to report an incident and confirm whether service work is scheduled in their area.

- If you suspect you are receiving a phone call from someone attempting to scam you for payment please hang up and call IAW at 1-800-422-2782 to verify your account status.

- Illinois American Water customers can also access their account information at [www.illinoisamwater.com](http://www.illinoisamwater.com).

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, March 21 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 wonderful 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.

# PEACE MEAL MENU

Sidney/Homer Peace Meal menu for Thursday, March 3 through Wednesday, March 9.

Thursday, 3/3/22 – Meatloaf, mashed potatoes and brown gravy, tomatoes and zucchini, apricots, whole grain roll served with butter or margarine, and a half pint of milk.

Friday, 3/4/22 – Tuna noodle casserole, buttered carrots, seasoned peas, mandarin oranges, roll served with butter or margarine, and a half pint of milk.

Monday, 3/7/22 – Baked spaghetti, broccoli, corn, tossed salad with dressing packet, bread or roll served with butter or margarine, and a half pint of milk.

Tuesday, 3/8/22 – Roast beef with brown gravy, mashed potatoes, seasoned greens, clementine, whole grain roll served with butter or margarine, and a half pint of milk.

Wednesday, 3/9/22 – Mushroom crusted chicken, au gratin potatoes, Capri vegetables, pineapple, whole grain bread served with butter or margarine, and a half pint of milk.

The Sidney Peace Meal

home delivered meals program continues Monday through Friday for seniors who qualify. Individuals who wish to attend a Peace Meal Congregate Meal Site are invited to attend the Peace Meal Congregate Meal Site in Homer. CONGREGATE MEALS ARE PICK-UP TO CARRY OUT ONLY AT THE PRESENT TIME.

Homer Peace Meal is served around 11:00 a.m. Monday through Friday in the Homer Village Hall located at 500 East Second Street in Homer. Home delivered meals are available Monday through Friday for seniors who qualify.

To reserve your spot call Peace Meal at 1-800-543-1770 by 12:00 p.m. the day before the meal you wish to attend. There is a suggested donation of \$3.50 for each meal, however, no older person will be denied a meal. The Peace Meal Senior Nutrition Program does accept the Illinois Link Card for payment.

The Sidney/Homer Peace Meal menu is submitted for the Peace Meal Senior Nutrition Program by Ann Rhoton.

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