



# The Night Sky

By David Leake

Retired Planetarium Director of Staerckel Planetarium at Parkland College, Co-Founder of the Champaign-Urbana Astronomical Society, Inc

April 13  
This weekend's full Moon is the "Pink Moon," named for the emergence of the first pink wildflowers of the season. Some call it a Paschal Full Moon as it sets the date of Easter. Easter is always the first Sunday after the first full Moon after the vernal equinox, or first day of spring.

For the early risers, look low in the east just before 5:30am Tuesday morning and see our four planets in nearly a straight line. Starting from the horizon and moving to the upper right, they are Jupiter, Venus, Mars and then Saturn. Since the planets orbit the Sun, they'll change position in

the sky. And since the closer planets orbit the Sun at a faster pace, they'll catch and pass each other. Use your fist as an instrument. A if you sight along your arm, a fist held at arm's length is about ten degrees. Watch from morning to morning as their positions change relative to each other.

# THE SIDNEY SCOOP



by Ann Rhoton, 688-2812

Look for your correspondent's April 4 Village of Sidney Board of Trustees Meeting Coverage published in this 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, April 18 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.

The Village of Sidney Board of Trustees will hold a special meeting to discuss appropriations for the next fiscal year on Thursday, April 21 at 6:30 p.m. in the Sidney Community Building located at 211 East Main Street in Sidney. The next regular monthly meeting of the Village of Sidney Board of Trustees will take place on Monday, May 2 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 next "The Mid Central Woman's Christian Temperance Union" meeting will take place on Saturday, May 21 at 10:00 a.m. at Rich's in Ogden. Senator Chapin Rose is the guest speaker for the meeting. Call Vice President Marjorie Miller at (217) 202-4397 to join the group or to find out more information. The Sidney Improvement Group sponsored Sidney Fun Daze will take place on

Friday, July 29 and Saturday, July 30. Check out their Facebook page for raffle fundraisers to help them make the Sidney Fun Daze happen and to send messages to if you have ideas for the event. The Sidney Improvement Group Facebook page can be found online at <https://www.facebook.com/pages/category/Community/Sidney-Improvement-Group-100771466655233/>. Folks can also call Sidney Improvement Group President Mike Roy at (309) 838-3704. 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.

## Tolono Library Weekly Update: New Books Added to Collection

Tolono Public Library News for April 14-21, 2022  
The Tolono Public Library will be closed on Sunday, April 17, in observance of Easter. We hope you enjoy your day with friends and family. We will reopen Monday at 8 am. Rachel has been adding new books to our collection. As a result, we have many new books in the YA section. We've also moved several adult fiction sections around, making them

easier to access. Stop in and browse. Remember, we can order most books for you if we do not have the one you want on our shelves. Once a hold is processed and put on the hold shelf for you, you have one week to pick up that item before we must send it back. Program Events this Week School's Out: Children's Craft: Thursday, April 14, 9:30 - 10:30 am. Cloudy Windsock. In-person Children's event.

Recommended ages 5-12  
Outdoor Preschool Storytime: Mondays 10-10:30 am. Themed stories and activities. Outside event. Bring something to sit on. Dress for the weather. Please register online or by calling the Library. Virtual After School Bingo: Zoom Event, Wednesdays 3:30-4 pm. Play Bingo virtually with friends. Earn prizes. Recommended ages 5-18. Register online or by calling the Library.

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.

## Philo Library Prepared to Help with Tax Deadline

If you are like me, you are thinking about filing your income tax return but you haven't done it yet and chances are you may need one more forms to complete your return. In years past we received a booklet of IRS forms that could be copied for patrons. Nowadays, we have 1040 forms and Illinois 1040 forms, and instruction booklets for the 1040's. If you need the basic forms, we do have a

limited number and we can make more if needed. You are also welcome to use our computers and printers to get the on-line forms you need, or ask the person at the desk to help print the forms. Looking for something new to read? We have two shelves of new fiction right by the desk, and there are more due in next week. There's a new Janet Evanovich that I mentioned previously, with a new pro-

tagonist and plot. I'm about half way through it and it's as much fun to read as Stephanie Plum was. I'd encourage any Evanovich fan to get their hold placed for the new book - "The Recovery Agent" with Gabriella Rose. Are you looking for a new challenge with your garden? "Inside Your Japanese Garden" provides everything you need to know to create a unique Japanese garden right here in the Midwest. We

also added one new DVD, "Scream" - It's been twenty-five years since a streak of brutal murders shocked the quiet town of Woodsboro. A new killer has resurrected the ghost mask. As the deaths mount, help is sought from the survivors of the original attacks, these three people are the only hope. Next week is Easter and we will be closed on Sunday, April 17.

## Homer Community Library: More Than Just Books on Shelves

National Library Week is held every year in April. It is a great time to remember that libraries are here to serve the public. This year's theme is "Connect With Your Library". These days, public libraries are not just places to find books on shelves, but are great places to connect to the outside world - either through the use of free internet and public computers OR by enjoying free public programs and public spaces. The Homer Community Library is beginning to offer public programs again. We are currently hosting a coffee hour

starting at 10am Wednesday mornings. Most weeks this will just be a time when folks can come in and socialize but some weeks we will have a special guest available to offer information in an informal setting. We are also resuming our monthly movies - our Movie Matinee and our Free Family Movie. Our Movie Matinee is held on the third Wednesday of each month at 1pm and is geared towards an adult audience. For our Family Movie, we usually show a recent release that is rated G or PG. It is held on the third Fri-

day of the month at 7pm. We will also have special events through the year, as well as our annual Summer Reading Program. Follow us on Facebook for more information on our events. If you haven't been in recently, this is the perfect time to visit your library and see what they offer. Did you know the Homer Community Library has public computers and free wi-fi along with printing, copying, faxing, and laminating services? We also have a notary public on staff - you can call or email to make an

appointment for that service. And of course, if you are coming to the library to find a book, we still have a lot of those! We purchase new books and DVDs every month, and remember, as a member of the Illinois Heartland Library System, if we don't have what you are looking for, chances are we can borrow it from another library for you. If you have questions, contact us at 217/896-2121, [homerlibrarian@gmail.com](mailto:homerlibrarian@gmail.com), [www.homercommunitylibrary.com](http://www.homercommunitylibrary.com), or check out our Facebook page.

## Public Health Officials Announce 10,786 New Cases of Coronavirus Disease Over the Past Week "Case Rates No Longer Declining"

IDPH Advises the Public to Remain Vigilant; the Best Way to Protect Oneself and Others is to Get Vaccinated and Remain Up-to-date with Vaccines  
SPRINGFIELD - The Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH) today reported 10,786 new confirmed and probable cases of coronavirus disease (COVID-19) in Illinois, including 71 deaths since April 1, 2022. Currently, IDPH is reporting a total of 3,080,436 cases, including 33,465 deaths, in 102 counties in Illinois since the

beginning of the pandemic. The age of cases ranges from younger than one to older than 100 years. Since April 1, 2022, laboratories have reported 505,189 specimens tested for a total of 57,898,053 since the beginning of the pandemic. As of last night, 502 individuals in Illinois were reported to be in the hospital with COVID-19. Of those, 62 patients were in the ICU and 24 patients with COVID-19 were on ventilators. A total of 21,509,463 vaccines have been administered

in Illinois. The seven-day rolling average of vaccines administered daily is 19,926 doses. Since April 1, 2022, 139,480 doses were reported administered in Illinois. Of Illinois' total population, more than 76% has received at least one COVID-19 vaccine dose, more than 68% of Illinois' total population is fully vaccinated, and more than 50% is boosted according to data from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Data indicates that the risk of hospitalization and severe outcomes from COVID-19 is much higher for unvaccinated people than for those who are up to date on their vaccinations. The preliminary seven-day statewide case rate is 85 COVID-19 cases per 100,000 Illinoisans. The preliminary seven-day statewide positivity for cases as a percent of total tests from April 1-7, 2022 is 2.1%. The preliminary seven-day statewide test positivity from April 1-7, 2022 is 2.3%.

The case rates for COVID-19 are no longer declining and are rising in some areas of the state and have plateaued in other areas over the last 2 weeks. However, hospitalizations and deaths continue to remain low at this point in time. Given that the spread of COVID-19 is not showing signs of further waning, it is critically important that those who continue to be at high risk for serious illness take the following precautions:  
• Getting vaccinated and staying up-to-date on recommended booster shots is the best way to protect yourself, your loved ones and friends.  
• If you are in an area with rising COVID-19 infections, wear a mask if entering indoors spaces with other people present and consider avoiding large gatherings.  
• Stick to well-ventilated areas if you are not wearing a mask indoors around others people.  
• If you Cont. pg. 4

### Jonah Fish Fry

APRIL 23, 2022  
4PM-7PM  
\$10.00  
3 PIECES OF JONAH FISH AND 2 SIDES  
NEWMAN CITY PARK  
DRIVE-THRU - DINE IN - CARRY OUT

### Main Street Massage & MYOFASCIAL

Call Meagan Quigley LMT to schedule an appointment  
(217) 369-9217  
11 N. Main St. Suite B, Villa Grove  
Experienced licensed massage therapist with over 20 years experience  
Specializing in Myofascial Therapy

## The Giving Place Weekly Newsletter

Family  
"The family—that dear octopus from whose tentacles we never quite escape, nor, in our inmost hearts, ever quite wish to."  
—Dodie Smith  
"The world, we'd discovered, doesn't love you like your family loves you."  
—Louis Zamperini  
"Life is beautiful. It's about giving. It's about family."  
—Walt Disney

Giveaway will be Saturday May 7th from 9AM - 12 NOON. Guidelines will be posted as you enter the WEST ENTRANCE.  
The Giving Place today served 11 families (3 new) / 37 people / 19 children in the Food Pantry. Thanks to Karen, Roberta, Donna, Jo Ellen, Ron, Tom, Dale & Mike for the efforts today.  
Mike Williams  
Acts 16:31-34  
And they said, "Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved, you and your household." And they spoke the word of the Lord to him and to all who were in his house. And he took them the same hour of the night and washed their wounds; and he was baptized at once, he and all his family. Then he brought them up into his house and set food before them. And he rejoiced along with his entire household that he had believed in God.

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. Thanks to all that donate to this ministry. We wouldn't be able to do what we do without your continued support.  
The Giving Place in Tolono are having the Free Clothing Giveaways for anyone living in the Unit Seven School District once again. The next

### 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 Prearranged funeral plan from Pekin Life Insurance Company. You'll understand why preplanning a funeral is so important.

### Freese Funeral Home

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