



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 27 – May 3
This Friday evening, Mercury reaches its greatest separation from the Sun. Look in the west-northwest at about 8:30pm for the brightest star-like object in the area. Binoculars will show the planet just below and left of the Pleiades or Seven Sisters star cluster. This Saturday is the month's second "New Moon," when the Moon is between

the Earth and Sun. Monday, a thin crescent Moon can be seen above and left of Mercury. In fact, the Moon will be between Mercury and the star Aldebaran.
If your alarm goes off before sunrise, be sure to look Saturday morning as Jupiter and Venus are less than a half degree apart. After the Sun and Moon, these two objects are the next two brightest objects

you can see in the sky. Watch them separate into next week.
Speaking of, next week gives us May 1 or "May Day." Does anyone celebrate that anymore? On the old calendar, May Day was a cross-quarter day or a day halfway between the start of two seasons. May 1 was halfway between the spring equinox and the summer solstice in June.

Tolono Library Weekly Update: Teddy Bear Hospital, Adult Craft and Chat

4/28 to 5/5/2022
The Tolono Library is bringing back some of our old favorite programs! Needleworks club is restarting on May 9, from 1-2:30p. On the second Monday of each month, bring your knitting, crocheting, or hand-stitching to the Library for a fun place to work. Coffee Talk is a social hour for anyone over 60. Join us on May 11 at 9 am for coffee, snacks, and fellowship. Coffee Talk is scheduled for

the 2nd Wednesday of each month.
Please stop by the Library or check our website for the latest program calendar. Rachel is producing calendars with two months' worth of information to make planning more manageable for everyone to plan.
Program Events this Week
Virtual After School Bingo has been canceled. However, we encourage you to stop by the Library and pick up your

prizes from previous Bingo sessions.
Teddy Bear Hospital: Sunday, May 1; 12 to 1:30 pm. Bring your favorite stuffed animal and learn all about a Veterinary Hospital. It is sponsored by the U of I Vet. Med. Dept and recommended for ages 5-12.
Adult Craft and Chat: Thursday, May 5; 6-6:45 pm. Crafty Clipboards. Bring a friend! Space is limited. Recommended ages: 18+. Register online or by calling the Library.

THE SIDNEY SCOOP

by Ann Rhoton, 688-2812



Look for your correspondent's Monday, April 18 Sidney American Legion Post 433 Meeting Coverage and Thursday, April 21 Village of Sidney Board of Trustees Special Meeting Coverage published in this week's edition of the Southern Champaign County Today Paper.
This year's Village of Sidney Dumpster Day will take place on Saturday, April 30 from 7:00 – 11:00 a.m. at Witt Park according to the Village of Sidney Facebook page. Additionally, "Some of the prohibited items are: tires, yard waste, paints, oils, chemicals, batteries, or electronics of any

kind (televisions, computers, monitors, microwaves, etc.) You must be a Sidney resident to participate." Village of Sidney Clerk Maggie Fish will be on hand to verify the residency of folks wishing to participate and will ask for IDs of those she doesn't know.
The Village of Sidney Board of Trustees additionally decided at their April 4 meeting that folks with special needs needing help with getting items to dumpster day could call Village of Sidney Clerk Maggie Fish at (217) 688-2225 to have their name put on a list for the Village of Sidney to pick up items for them to take to dumpster day.

The following was posted at the Village of Sidney Facebook page since the meeting: "The Village of Sidney would like to offer anyone with a disability help to dispose of their items for Dumpster Day. If you need assistance with

picking items up, please call Maggie Fish at 217-688-2225 to arrange. Thank you."
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. Meeting attendees are asked to bring food/money donations to the meeting to be donated to the Sidell Food Pantry. Call Vice President Marjorie Miller at (217) 202-4397 to join the group or to find out more

Cont. pg. 4

PEACE MEAL MENU

Sidney, Homer, Philo, Tolono, Sadorus, and Pesotum Peace Meal menu for Thursday, April 28 through Wednesday, May 4.
Thursday, 4/28/22 – Ham and beans, corn bread served with butter or margarine, copper carrots, cantaloupe, apple slices, and a half pint of milk.
Friday, 4/29/22 – Country fried steak, mashed potatoes with gravy, whole grain wheat bread served with butter or margarine, mixed veggies, apricots, and a half pint of milk.
Monday, 5/2/22 – Beef ravioli with meat sauce, Italian green beans, buttered carrots, dinner roll served with butter or margarine, pineapple, and a half pint of milk.
Tuesday, 5/3/22 – Baked chicken, mashed potatoes with gravy, whole grain wheat bread served with butter or margarine, California veggie blend, peaches, and a half pint of milk.
Wednesday, 5/4/22 – Chef salad with meat, cheese, and veggies, whole grain crackers, applesauce, pudding, and a half pint of milk.
OSF Peace Meal provides

seniors, age 60 and older who qualify, with a nutritious lunch Monday through Friday. There is a suggested donation of \$3.50 for each meal, however, no senior will be denied a meal because of an inability to financially contribute. The Illinois Link Card is an accepted form of payment. For more information, please go to <https://www.osfhealthcare.org/osf-peace-meal/> or call 1-833-923-3905.
The Homer Peace Meal congregated site is at the Homer Village Hall located at 500 East Second Street. It is currently carry-out only. For reservations, please call 1-833-923-3905 by 12:00 p.m. the day before you want a meal. Home delivery in southern Champaign County is currently available in Sidney, Homer, Philo, Tolono, Sadorus, and Pesotum.
Menu substitutions may occur due to global supply chain shortages, but a nutritious meal is still guaranteed.
The OSF Peace Meal menu is submitted for the OSF Peace Meal Senior Nutrition Program by Ann Rhoton.

Philo Library Check Out Our Gardening Book Collection for Inspiration

Finally! The sun is shining and I can almost hear the grass and dandelions growing. If you're getting the itch to get out and cultivate your garden, but aren't sure what to do, or what to plant, why not visit the Philo Library. And what, you might ask, does a library have to do with gardening. We have "how to" books for a vast variety of subjects,

including gardening. From Japanese gardens to fairy or container gardens or growing for food and color, you'll find it here. We also have plans for a kitchen garden, herb gardening and lots of other topics including one that piqued my curiosity, "Roots, Shoots, Buckets & Boots - Gardening Together with Children". This book is a step by step

book filled with backyard projects, ideas, inspirations, crafts and a list of the top 20 plants kids love to grow. It has directions for a pizza garden - shaped like a pie slice - with everything you need to create a pizza from the vegetables grown. There are so many different ideas in this book, anyone who wants to get a child involved in gardening

will find inspiration. Sorry, I got carried away, I wanted to also tell you to watch for information about summer programming at Philo Library. We're planning on in-person programs, details have to be ironed out, but hopefully by the Mayday we'll have firm plans.


Public Health Officials Announce 19,551 New Cases of Coronavirus Disease

IDPH has Begun Sending Vaccination & Booster Reminder Text Messages to 2.5 Million Illinoisans With Records in I-CARE
SPRINGFIELD – The Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH) today reported 19,551 new confirmed and probable cases of coronavirus disease (COVID-19) in Illinois, including 58 deaths since April 15, 2022.
Currently, IDPH is reporting a total of 3,114,036 cases, including 33,568 deaths, in 102 counties in Illinois since the beginning of the pandemic.
As of last night, 613 individuals in Illinois were reported to be in the hospital with COVID-19. Of those, 82 patients were in the ICU and 26 patients with COVID-19 were on ventilators. The preliminary seven-day statewide case rate is 153 COVID-19 cases per 100,000 Illinoisans.
IDPH officials noted that the case rate has been slowly rising in the state and that although hospitalizations and deaths are relatively stable,

four Illinois counties are now rated by the CDC as having a Medium Community Level. These counties are DuPage, Champaign, McLean and Piatt. At the Medium Community Level, persons who are elderly or immunocompromised (at risk of severe outcomes) are advised to wear a mask in indoor public places.
The State of Illinois remains strongly positioned to respond in the event of a new COVID-19 surge. The State stockpile of tests has been replenished, with more than 1.5 million rapid tests on hand, and a half a million more on the way. In addition, hospitals, schools, and long-term care facilities have been urged to take steps to increase their current testing capacity.
The State is also supporting pharmacies and healthcare providers in efforts to increase their inventories of the various FDA-authorized treatments.
IDPH advises members of the public to talk to their provider immediately if they test positive for COVID-19

so that COVID-19 treatment can be prescribed if necessary within five days of starting to feel sick.
A total of 21,760,073 vaccines have been administered in Illinois. The seven-day rolling average of vaccines administered daily is 17,703 doses. Since April 15, 2022, 123,921 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 almost 51% of the vaccinated population is boosted.
IDPH also announced today it has started sending text messages to some 2.5 million Illinois residents in the coming weeks to remind them they are due for a COVID-19 vaccination or a booster shot. The messages are being sent to people who have their vaccination records in the Illinois Comprehensive Automated Immunization Registry Exchange (I-CARE), a web-based immunization record-sharing application to share the immunization records of Illinois residents with other physicians statewide.
If recipients would like to opt out of future COVID-19 vaccine reminder texts, they can reply "stop."
All data are provisional and are subject to change. Additional information and COVID-19 data can be found at <https://dph.illinois.gov/covid19.html>.
The federal government has established a new website that provides an all-purpose toolkit with information on how to obtain masks, treatment, vaccines and testing resources for all areas of the country at: <https://www.covid.gov/>.

The children of Tony and Mary Ellen Bosch of Longview Would like to express how deeply grateful we are to everyone who offered us comfort, friendship, and love through prayers, cards, calls, flowers, and memorials.
Thank you to Carle Hospice for your supportive care and to the nurse and military honor guards, Father Walder and Joines funeral Home for guiding our family through this difficult time.
No matter how you reached out to us and touched our lives we are forever grateful. Finally thank you for your patience, understanding, and acknowledgment that grief takes time especially when you lose both parents so close together.
Fran, Theresa, Mary Kay, Dianne, and Susan




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The Giving Place Weekly Newsletter

Justice
"There may be times when we are powerless to prevent injustice, but there must never be a time when we fail to protest."
— Elie Wiesel
"Justice will not be served until those who are unaffected are as outraged as those who are."
— Benjamin Franklin
The Giving Place in Tolono has started having the Free Clothing Giveaways for anyone living in the Unit Seven School District once again. The next Giveaway will be Saturday May 7th from 9AM - 12NOON. Guidelines will be posted as you enter the WEST ENTRANCE.
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.

istry. We wouldn't be able to do what we do without your continued support.
The Giving Place is in need of kid's cereals and healthy snacks.
The Giving Place today served 4 families (0 new) / 12 people / 5 children in the Food Pantry. Thanks to Julia, Karen, Sandy, Roberta, Donna, Jo Ellen, Marcia, Dale & Mike for the efforts today.
Mike Williams
Proverbs 31:8-9
Open your mouth for the mute, for the rights of all who are destitute. Open your mouth, judge righteously, defend the rights of the poor and needy.
Jeremiah 22:3
Thus says the Lord: Do justice and righteousness, and deliver from the hand of the oppressor him who has been robbed. And do no wrong or violence to the resident alien, the fatherless, and the widow, nor shed innocent blood in this place.

Why preplanning a funeral is so important

Pathway

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