



Village of Philo

a.k.a. “*Center of the Universe*”

Spring 2022
March - May

FROM THE VILLAGE PRESIDENT

By: Larry Franks

The Board of Trustees and I are looking forward to our big spring project of getting the Hazen Park playground project going and everyone being able to enjoy ball games again this summer. We continue to work with the playground committee on raising funds. Thank you to everyone for supporting the Back-the-Brick fundraising efforts. I also want to thank Brian Meharry and the Philo Township for letting us store the equipment in their maintenance shed.

Plans are in the works for our summer road projects and with the help of federal funding, we are looking into a long overdue drainage project.

In February, Lieutenant Tony Shaw of the Champaign County Sheriff's office attended the meeting to address some concerns by Trustees in regards to the patrols Philo receives and some safety issues. In this newsletter are his recommendations for keeping you and property safe.

Our condolences go out to Trustee Rachael Garrett and her family at the passing of her father Allan Miller. Many of you knew Allan as a long-time employee of the Village of Philo starting with grounds and moving to the R. E. Franks Center as custodian, building maintenance and event staff. Allan was also a past volunteer with the Philo fire department and known around town as a trusted mechanic. He will be missed by many.

As always, stay safe on the roadways and watch out for farm equipment this spring. Planting season is right around the corner.



IN OTHER VILLAGE HAPPENINGS

Notes from the meeting minutes:

December – All bills in order and paid. Comcast Franchise Agreement discussed and renewal unanimously passed. New light pole at R E Franks Ctr playground requested. Sidewalk work on N. Harrison continues. Contract with Champaign County Sheriff office tabled to January.

January – The playground equipment has been delivered and being stored at the Township shed. Champaign County Sheriff contract was discussed. After extensive discussion the board voted unanimously to authorize the Village President to sign the contract as presented.

February -- Minutes will be approved at the March board meeting to be held Wednesday, March 9, 2022 at 7:00pm in the Eileen Painter Room of the R. E. Franks Meeting Center.

The agenda for each meeting is posted 48 hours prior to the meeting on the Village web site www.villageofphilo.com under the *About Philo-Village Board* tab. Meeting minutes are posted after they are approved at the following monthly meeting. The public is invited to attend meetings.

Community Clean-Up Day Scheduled

Mark your calendars for the spring clean-up and recycling day on **Saturday, April 30** from 7:00 am - Noon at the corner of Washington St. and Adams on the Premier Cooperative lot. Reminder: this event is open to Philo residents only. Philo Exchange Bank will also be hosting a Shredding Day.

The Village Wide Garage Sales will be held in the fall; tentatively set for Friday, September 23 & Saturday, September 24 with the fall Community Clean-up Day scheduled for October 1.

Sledding!

The hill has been a great source of entertainment this winter. Hopefully, we won't have any more snows, but keep in mind that sledding on the hill at the water tower is at your own risk. **Motorized vehicles of any kind are not allowed on the hill any time of the year.**

Youth Summer Ball Leagues

The Philo Ball Park Association is looking forward to getting back in the "swing" of things this summer. Sign-ups were in February. If you missed signing up or just moved to town, visit our web site for more information. www.villageofphilo.com/parks



Exercise With Caution!

It's great that so many people in the community enjoy getting out and walking, running, biking or taking care of their pets. Warmer weather months will bring more people out to enjoy these activities. To help enjoy the outdoors safely, please wear reflective gear and bright colored clothing. If it is dark, along with the reflective gear, wear or carrying a light. Rules of the Road dictate that walkers and runners face oncoming traffic. When biking, follow the rules of going with traffic. Be aware of your surroundings. If you are on a hill, be sure to move to the side of the road and possibly stop until the vehicle has passed. Always assume the driver does not see you. Unfortunately, in this day of distracted driving they probably do not. Drivers, PUT DOWN THE PHONES! The R. E. Franks Center is open Monday – Friday from 7:00am – 9:00am (no pets allowed).

R. E. Franks Meeting Center Help Wanted

The REFMC is in need of part-time event staff and custodians. The position involves opening and closing the Franks Center for clients; sweeping, moping and general cleaning; tearing down tables and chairs after events and occasionally setting up tables and chairs for events. Please contact the office at (217) 684-2562 or Dave Traxler at (217) 684-2674 if you or someone you know would be interested.

Philo Knights of Columbus - Fat Tuesday Stag (and Doe) Night

The Philo Knights of Columbus are hosting Fat Tuesday Night on **Tuesday, March 1**. Doors open at 5:00pm with a \$10 donation at the door. Join us for chicken or



fish and a cold beverage. Blackjack, poker, craps and other games of chance will be available. The event is open to anyone 21 years of age and older. The hall is located at 108 S. Harrison – east of the Tavern.

DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME SPRING FORWARD

Remember to set your clocks forward 1 hour on Sunday, March 13!



O'Philo Fest -- The Philo Fire Department is hosting their annual Corn Beef & Cabbage lunch on **Sunday, March 13** from Noon - 5:00 pm at the Philo Tavern.

Philo Country Music Show Returns

****UPDATE**-- MOVED TO SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 6, 2022** Sunday, April 3 the Country Music Show of Ed Clem & Chrissy Rigsby will return to the R. E. Franks Center. The show begins at **3:00pm**. There is a \$10 admission at the door.

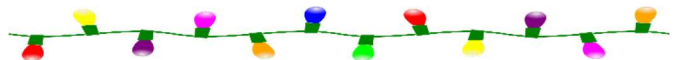


Easter Egg Hunt

SAVE THE DATE!!

Philo 4-H are working on details for an Easter Egg Hunt on **Saturday, April 16**.

Christmas Parade – THANK YOU!



Whew! The parade committee put in a tremendous amount of time and effort to pull off the parade with impending weather. The Village Board of Trustees would like to thank all who were involved and applaud them for bringing this event to our village.

BRUSH PICK-UP

Resumes

Brush pick-up will resume on April 1, 2022 and run through December 1, 2022 weather permitting.

Brush pick-up is done on the 1st and 15th of each month through December 1. If those dates fall on a weekend or holiday, the pick-up will be the following business day.

Use paper bags for plant material 12 inches or smaller.

Stack limbs that are 12 to 60 inches in length.

Cut items that are longer than 60 inches.

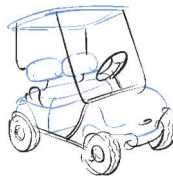
Cut wood limbs that are greater than 6 inches in diameter into 3 foot or less length pieces and separate.

DO NOT PILE BRUSH IN ROAD OR ALLEYWAYS. KEEP IT ON YOUR PROPERTY AND AWAY FROM STORM DRAINS.

Do not take brush to the Village brush disposal area.

If you have questions, please contact Dave Traxler at 684-2674.

Golf Cart Registration & ATV Use



Letters will be going out to current permit holders the first of April. The biennial permit fee is \$50. A new sticker will be issued at renewal. The renewal date is May 1.

****Qualifying golf carts must have a maximum attainable speed of 20 miles per hour and be properly equipped.**

Any person who operates a golf cart must possess a valid driver's license and insurance coverage. The maximum occupancy in the cart is one person per bucket seat or two people per bench seat.

****Golf carts can be driven on streets after dark, only with proper qualifying equipment (headlights; taillights; signals; slow moving emblem).**

****Open alcohol and/or drinking and driving are illegal.**

ATV's and other off-road vehicles are NOT allowed on Village streets or properties, this includes the hill and drainage pond area.

You can read the ordinance and print off an application on our village website under the ABOUT PHILO/Ordinances tab or contact the office Monday through Friday from 8:00am to 11:00am. Email inquiries to janet@villageofphilo.com or call 684-2562.

Burning Regulations

Residents may burn leaves, sticks and other dry plant debris grown or generated in Philo in a safe manner during daylight hours. Please be considerate of smoke direction and neighbors. Some residents have health issues that are adversely affected by smoke.

The village burn area is off-limits to the public.

Please do not dispose of yard waste at the burn pile.

Materials prohibited from burning: tires and garbage, including bones, meat, animal skin, feathers, entrails, organs, non-edible animal parts, grease, food and food by-products, coffee grounds, table scraps and similar materials per Ordinance 2008-545.



Pool Fence Ordinance

The Village of Philo has an ordinance requiring anyone with an above ground swimming pool to have a fence that extends at least 2' above the exterior of the pool and have a locking gate. For in ground pools the fence must be at least 4' in height from the ground.

Staying Safe Tips from the Champaign County Sheriff's Office

- Secure your residence when not home (lock, doors, windows, garages/sheds)
- Do not leave your vehicle unlocked and/or keys in the vehicles
- Keep a current inventory of items in your home/garage/sheds/storage units
- Limit the number of people who have a key to the residence or garage door code
- Make sure your house is well-lit and has functional indoor & outdoor lighting
- Consider purchasing home security devices and/or motion detector lights
- Pets are a good deterrent as well
- Keep foliage around the house trimmed to avoid blind/hiding spots
- If out of town, have someone check the residence. You can also request a "vacation watch" through the Champaign County Sheriff's Office.
- Do not publicize on social media that you will be or are out of town
- Report suspicious vehicle activity in the area

Clergy Corner

Countryside United Methodist Church Annual Flea Market & Sweet Shoppe

Countryside United Methodist Church will once again hold their annual fundraiser flea market and bake sale on **Saturday, March 19**. The doors will open at **7:00am and close at 2:00pm**. CUMC is located at 1807 County Road 1000 North (between Sidney/Philo). The flea market will have many items for the entire household. Donated items can be brought to the church any time **after March 1st**. If you have any questions or need further information, please call (217) 688-2422.

Zion Lutheran Church – Located at: 101 W. Van Buren St., Philo IL 61864

Our weekly Sunday services are held at 8:30am. Sunday School meets weekly for children ages 3 and up during service. Looking ahead – an Ash Wednesday service will be March 2, 2022. There will also be weekly Lenten services. Follow our Facebook page for the most up to date information:

<https://www.facebook.com/ZionLutheranPhilo>

St. Thomas Catholic Church and School – Parish office located at 310 E Madison St, PO Box 266, Philo, IL 61864

Weekly and Holy Day Mass schedules are on our web site at [Saint Thomas Catholic Church | Philo, Illinois \(stthomasphilo.org\)](http://stthomasphilo.org) You can also participate in our live stream Masses on our Facebook page at St. Thomas Catholic Church – Philo.

Philo Presbyterian Church - Located at 105 E. Jefferson St., Philo IL 61864

Worship Service every Sunday at 9:30 a.m.
Our congregation is currently searching for a new pastor. For the next several months, different clergy from the area will be leading our worship services. Philo Presbyterian Church, along-side the Tolono Presbyterian Church, sponsors the Philo-Tolono Youth Group (PTYG) which is a non-denominational Christian-based group open to any student attending Unity High School. The group has been part of the community since 2005 and strives to help youth grow in faith, learn how to apply faith in daily life, develop lasting friendships and serve others in the community and beyond. For the 2021-2022 school year, PTYG will be meeting every other Sunday at various locations from 4:00 - 6:00 (unless otherwise noted). The Spring semester begins January 23. Please contact the Church Secretary for more information at churchsecretary@tolonopres.org

Library Programs

To stay up-to-date on happenings with the Philo Public Library District, follow our Facebook page (<https://www.facebook.com/PhiloPublicLibraryDistrict>) and website (<http://www.philolibrary.info/>) or call the Library at 684-2896.

Please join us at the library at 115 E. Washington St.

Our hours are:

--Monday-Friday: 9am-12N, 3pm-7pm

--Saturday: 9am-1pm

Library Board Meetings

Third Tuesday of each month at 7:00 pm Public invited.

Local School & Pre-School Options:

Hugs & Bugs Daycare & Preschool is located at 127 W. Washington St. in the R.E. Franks Meeting Center building. They are accepting applications. Call (217) 684-2300 for more information.

St. Thomas School is accepting registrations for preschool (3- to 5-year-olds) and kindergarten through 8th grade. Call the school office at 684-2309 to schedule a tour. All faiths welcome.

Hale Park Pavilion

Planning summer gatherings? The pavilion at Hale Park may be reserved by Philo residents free of charge. Reservations are taken on a first come, first serve basis up to one year in advance.

Reservations are accepted at the Philo Village Office Monday-Friday 8:00am – 11:00am. Reservations are also accepted by phone at 684-2562 or via e-mail at janet@villageofphilo.com.

R.E. Franks Meeting Center Available for All Celebrations and Activities

The REFMC is air conditioned and available for rent for all your celebrations. Current rental rates are \$22.50 per hour for Philo residents, \$25 per hour for non-residents. Contact Janet Decker at 684-2562 or e-mail janet@villageofphilo.com. Additional information and a calendar for availability can be found on the village web site www.villageofphilo.com under Franks Center tab.

About Philo – Business Spotlight

Each quarter we would like to give students the chance to spotlight a local business. Please reach out if you would be interested in sharing your business with the community. Contact janet@villageofphilo.com The next deadline for submission will be May 13, 2022.

Bear Foot Flooring

By Lucy Kleiss – St. Thomas School

Joey Hoffman is the one man show in charge of **Bear Foot Flooring**. He specializes in flooring and tile installation for people's homes. He says his favorite part is when it's done because he loves to see the finished project. He looks at Bear Foot as his artistic outlet. He started his business in fall of 2019 after having 15 years of experience in contracting. When asked about any complications he faced during the pandemic, Joey said the biggest change was having to wear a mask. Since Joey only does residential flooring and tiling, he goes to the client's house to do the work, and he's always sure to ask what the customer is comfortable with. After all, the customer is always right. In his free time, he loves to go fishing at Clinton Lake and to watch sports. At home, he has three kids and an energetic dog named Lucky. Joey said his most memorable moment was getting his CFI certification (Certified Flooring Installer). He is always keen to learn as much as he can to benefit his customers. Joey does all sorts of flooring types, including tile, wood, vinyl and laminate planks. So, if you ever need to put in a new floor or backsplash, be sure to talk to Joey. You can find him on Facebook and at 217-621-6031.



Lucy helping Joey finish a tile project.

Philo Phlashbacks

A little bit of Philo history from the archives. Please let us know how you like this section and if you have something you would like to read about or submit.

August 1972

New Shop to Open in Philo

August 8 is the date set for the opening of a new specialty shop west of Philo to be called the Wool 'n Wood Shop. The specialty shop will be operated in the living room of Maurice and Linda McCoy's farmhouse located ¼ mile west of the intersection of Rt. 130 and the Philo Road.

A hobby of doing wood turnings by Maurice and of doing needlework by Linda will soon turn into a way of making extra income. Handmade lamps, desk sets, lighters, and other wood items will be featured, including supplies for needlework. Gifts or special knickknacks can also be made to order, if need be.

The shop will be open from Tuesday through Sunday. The McCoys also plan to sell on consignment. So, if you're looking for that hard-to-find special gift, chances are pretty good that you'll find it when the Wool 'n Wood Shop opens for business Tuesday.

February 1972

Something New For '72 In Philo Library

If you're suffering from the winter doldrums, try some of the craft books which you can obtain in the Philo Library. They cover everything from needlepoint to collage that will interest the entire family. There is a little free booklet for you in the library listing 10 pages of craft books including such subjects as "Building with Cardboard", "Flower Making", "Macrame", and "The Gadget Book" which are available through the Lincoln Trails system in your library.

This year the library has subscribed to two new monthly magazines, "Plane and Pilot" and "Hot Rodding", which will probably be as popular with the young men as "Seventeen" is with the girls. "Hot Rodding" contains articles such as "Milwaukee's World on Wheels", "Smog-Free Performance Tune-Up", and "More Ponies for the Pinto". Some of the articles included in the January "Plane and Pilot" are: "I Flew the Lancer.....and Lived", "There I Was at 2000 Feet in a Red Funk", and "Piper's Pickup and Go Plane". If these subjects interest you, check out your new magazines.

Upcoming Village Holiday Schedule
Office & Maintenance **Closed** on the following days:
Monday, May 30 – Memorial Day Observed

Village Board and Officials

Village President

Larry R. Franks . (217) 377-1454
LRFranks11@yahoo.com

Village Clerk

Judy Kirby (217) 684-2118

Village Treasurer

Kevin Chalmers.....(217) 441-2927

Trustees

Tom Kelley.....369-6690.. tom.kelley@syngenta.com
David Happ.....417-3128...Happs65@yahoo.com
Pat Pioletti..... 493-9069.. pw64@comcast.net
Paul Brady 684-2540.. paul-brady@comcast.net
Rachael Garrett.... 714-8484.. rachaelgarrett@comcast.net
Steve Messman ... 493-8762.messmanfarms@comcast.net

Village Deputy Clerk & R. E. Franks Meeting Center Rentals

Janet Decker.. 684-2562.. janet@villageofphilo.com
127 W. Washington St., Monday - Friday 8am - 11am

Village Maintenance & Building Inspector

David Traxler 684-2674
105 E. Washington St., Monday-Friday 7am - 4 pm

Philo Planning Commission

Chris Payne, Co - Chair 684-2226
Karl Helmink, Co - Chair.....karl.helmink@comcast.net

ESDA Co-Coordiators

Richard Brand 778-8259
Chris Lueth.....377-9627

Village of Philo
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