



Village of Philo

News from the Best Little Town in Illinois

Spring 2023
March - May

FROM THE VILLAGE PRESIDENT

Larry Franks

The Board of Trustees and I hope you had a safe and healthy holiday season. We listened and have been working on addressing many of the issues that concern residents. You have probably noticed the radar signs along Cleveland to address the issue of speeding, and maybe you noticed the security cameras in several areas around town. We hope by addressing these issues we can continue to keep our town and residents safe. Also, we have heard the requests for additional internet options. You will start seeing trucks and employees of Pavlov Media in town. They will be mapping out the area and running fiber optic on village right of ways. This may affect your property, but we have been assured that they will restore as close to how it was when they started.

As the weather improves, you will be ready to get the golf carts out again. We really hope you will review the rules with your family and follow them. I will have Janet send out a copy of the ordinance to all registered owners to refresh your memory of the rules. The number one issue we have is people letting their underaged/non-licensed kids drive the carts on village streets whether alone or with you in the cart. I hope you will not allow this to happen with your cart. It is dangerous for the kids driving and others on the road. If you have not registered your cart, please call the office to have it inspected and get a permit. Also, the 4-wheelers and side-by-sides are not permitted on village streets or properties. Keep all motorized vehicles and equipment off the hill.

Finally, the Board and the Hazen Park Committee is looking forward to the dedication of the upgraded park. I want to sincerely say THANK YOU to everyone who worked to make this project happen. It really means a lot to the community. We hope you all will attend the dedication and enjoy the park this summer.

IN OTHER VILLAGE HAPPENINGS

Summary of notes from the meeting minutes:

December – Updates were given for summer road work projects and notification of when bids for the next phase of the northeast drainage project would take place. Resolution 2022-R-4 was passed for preferred truck route through town. Mapping for radar signs discussed. Approval of funds for materials for mounts. Village truck taken in for extensive repairs. Christmas parade another huge success and great feedback regarding the tree. Meeting adjourned for annual dinner at the Tavern.

January – Ed Decker and Darrell Rice spoke to the Board for support against the nearby proposed wind towers. (Gov. Pritzker signed a bill the following week taking the control out of the County’s hands; therefore, the Village has no control over any future building of wind towers.) Approval of funds for summer road work. Washington St. project tabled until March/April. Approval of hiring a Sunday custodian. Drainage issues on Cleveland and Adams discussed.

February – Minutes will be approved at the March board meeting to be held Wednesday, March 8, 2023 in the Eileen Painter Room of the R. E. Franks Meeting Center. The meeting will begin at 7:00 pm.

Meeting minutes are posted on the Village web site www.villageofphilo.com under the *About Philo-Village Board* tab after they are approved at the following monthly meeting. Meetings are held the 2nd Wednesday of each month at 7:00 pm in the R. E. Franks Meeting Center located at 127 W. Washington Street. The public is invited to attend.





Slow Down

The Board of Trustees have listened to the concerns of residents and the radar signs are now in place on Cleveland. These signs will be moved around town as necessary. Data will be

compiled and shared with the County Sheriff's office and may be published in future newsletters. Be alert for the posted speed limit on village streets. Unless otherwise posted the speed limit on village streets is 30 mph. Use caution at intersections, come to a complete stop at stop signs and pay attention to your surroundings.

Golf Cart Registration & ATV Use



Golf cart registration is now every two years. If you currently have a registered golf cart, your registration is good until April 30, 2024. If you have not registered your golf cart, please contact the office for inspection and

registration. The fee will be pro-rated to \$25. The biennial permit fee is \$50. A new sticker will be issued at renewal.

**Any person who operates a golf cart must have a valid driver's license and insurance coverage.

**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 8:00 - 11:00 am. Email inquiries to admin@villageofphilo.com or call 684-2562.

Recycling

Help keep the recycling center and surrounding area clean and neat. **Please do not leave anything outside of the recycling containers if they are full.** This creates a wet, soggy, unsightly mess and added expense to the Village. The recyclers will not clean up. All boxes should be broken down. Do not use this area for garbage.

Burning Regulations

Residents may burn leaves, sticks and other dry plant debris grown or generated on their property 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.

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 and other materials per Ordinance 2008-545.

The village burn area is off-limits to the public. Please do not dispose of yard waste or any other materials at the burn pile.

Be a Good Neighbor

The Village Board encourages everyone to be a good neighbor and to keep the village clean and safe. Many of the calls we receive are just common courtesy, but from time to time an ordinance is required for guidelines. One of the most common summer questions is "Do I need a permit to put up a fence"? The answer to that is, "yes". The permit can be found on the web site or by calling the village office. You can also find the most up-to-date zoning and subdivision ordinances on our website. You should be able to search these documents. Please call the office if you have any questions or need further information.

Other ways to be a good neighbor:

- Always pickup after your animals, particularly when they defecate on any property that does not belong to you. This includes, but not limited to streets, public parks, and the Franks Center property.
- By law, dogs must be on a leash when not on the owner's property.
- Put trash receptacles away after garbage pickup.
- Keep your property neat and orderly. Do not leave piles of debris for extended periods of time.
- Mow your lawn in a timely manner.
- Be conscientious of noise levels such as early morning mowing or after dark.
- Be courteous when burning lawn debris. There are many people with breathing issues. Smoke from burning leaves is detrimental to their health. Do not burn wet piles of leaves, sticks and other plants.

If you have any questions about the regulations and ordinances in the Village you may call the office for clarification.

Philo Phlashbacks

A little bit of Philo history from the archives.

June 1969

Mumma to Receive State Farmer Degree

John Mumma, son of Mr. and Mrs. Paul Mumma Jr., of Sidney, and a member of the Unity FFA Chapter, will receive the State Farmer Degree on June 12 at the State Convention in Urbana.

The State Farmer Degree is the highest degree awarded by the Illinois Association FFA. Only two percent of the State's 16,500 FFA members receive this award this year. Recipients are selected on the basis of their leadership and participation in FFA activities, school and community activities, and income and net worth resulting from their FFA programs.

John has been secretary of the Unity FFA Chapter for two years. He holds the degrees of Greenhand and Chapter Farmer and has been the Chapter winner in Corn Production, Soybean Production, Swine Production and Crop Production. Also, he was honored as the Unity FFA Chapter "Star Chapter Farmer" this year. John started his farming program four years ago by renting 30 acres of land from his father. He has grown corn and soybeans on the land. He also has had swine and sheep included in his farming program.

January 1966

Nathan Rice Gives Telescope to Philo Grade School

Philo Grade School is the recipient of a Dynascope telescope donated to the school by Mr. and Mrs. Nathan Rice. The telescope is equipped with an electric motor and 4-inch lens. This will make a fine addition to the Science Department and it is hoped that an astronomy club will be started in the near future. The Rices have also contributed several good books to the Philo Library for any interested young astronomers-to-be on astronomy.

April 1888

First Sidewalks

Large planks were used for the first sidewalks when Hale's Second Addition was plotted on April 16, 1888. The addition included all land East of Adams and South to Van Buren. The area was south of the railroad.

1864/1875

The Beginning

The Village of Philo was laid out by the son of Philo Hale, E.B. Hale in 1864 on 80 acres. In 1875 an election was held with a vote of 56 to 13 in favor of incorporating as a village. The charter is dated July 1875.

March 21, 1988 Fire Nearly Destroys Historic Landmark



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 admin@villageofphilo.com The next deadline for submission will be May 12, 2023.



Mindful Movement – is a new business in Philo. Owner and Philo resident, Chris Mayhall is excited to help you get started with the tools you need to set

and achieve your health goals.

"Do you need motivation and accountability? We will meet you where you are, and help you get where you want to be. Wherever you are in your journey, you will feel comfortable in this fun, judgement free environment. Get started now!"

The next session of classes begins in March. Classes are held in the John Schumacher Gym at St. Thomas Catholic School on Monday, Wednesday and Friday mornings from 5:00 – 6:00 am. The monthly fee is \$75. Contact Chris via email @ mindfulmove4u@gmail.com for more information or to sign up. Find her on Facebook at www.facebook.com/ChrisBenderMayhall.

Mark Your Calendars

Memorial Day Observance: Observance ceremonies will be held by the Philo Legion on Monday, May 29.
-- 9:30 am – Veterans Monument on Washington Street
--10:00 am – Bongard Cemetery
--10:30 am – Calvary Cemetery
--11:00 am – Locus Grove Cemetery
Come out and honor our gone, but not forgotten military members.

Clergy Corner

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

--Weekly Sunday service @ 9:30 am

--Ash Wednesday, February 22 service @ 7:00 pm (Holy Communion and Imposition of Ashes)

--Lenten midweek worship to focus on "250 Years of Amazing Grace". There will be a soup and dessert meal prior to the Wednesday worship service at 5:30 pm beginning on March 1. Bell choir practice will be at 6:00 pm followed by worship at 7:00 pm.

--Special services to be held for Palm Sunday and during Easter Week.

Follow our Facebook page for the most up to date information:

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

Countryside United Methodist Church – Located at: 1807 County Road 1000 North, Urbana (between Sidney & Philo) – (217) 688-2422; cumc.office99@gmail.com

--Sunday Worship Services @ 9:00 am

--Wednesday Bible Study @ 1:30 pm

--Last Sunday of each month the Crossroads Youth Group meets @ 5:00 – 6:30 pm with dinner served

**Donations for the Annual Flea Market a now being accepted and can be dropped off at Countryside UMC. Call with any questions.

--Events/Services

-Sunday, April 2 – Palm Sunday

-Thursday, April 6 @ 6:30 pm – Maundy Thursday Svc

-Friday, April 7 – Good Friday FB Devotional

-Sunday, April 9 – Easter Sunday Service

-Saturday, April 29 – Annual Flea Market

The Giving Place – Tolono serving local families.

Clothing give away the first Saturday of the month.

Food distribution on Wednesday's 4:00 – 6:00 pm.

St. Patrick Parish Food Pantry located in Tolono at 304 E. Vine -- free food available on Monday's 5:00 - 6:30pm and Friday's 9:00 - 10:30 am. No residency or income qualifications.

LETTER CARRIERS' FOOD DRIVE

**Saturday, May 13 --- Put your non-perishable donation in a bag by your mailbox. All donations collected stay local and will go to The Giving Place and St. Patrick Parish Food Pantry.



St. Thomas Catholic Church – Located at: 310 E. Madison Street, Philo

Sunday Mass Times:

- 7:30 am @ St. Mary's Pesotum

- 9:00 am @ St. Thomas Philo

- 11:00 am @ St. Thomas Philo

--Ash Wednesday, February 22

--Friday Stations of the Cross during Lent

--Holy Week Services

For dates and times – visit the Facebook page

<https://www.facebook.com/StThomasPhilo>; visit their web page at www.church.stthomasphilo.org or call

(217) 684-5107.

**Knowledge is free at
the library. Just bring
your own container.**

Library Programs & Information

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: 9:00 am - Noon, 3:00 -7:00 pm

--Saturday: 9:00 am – 1:00 pm

Library Board Meetings

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

Thursday Coffee Hour

Each Thursday starting at 10:00 am there will be an opportunity to enjoy a cup of coffee, catch up with old friends and neighbors and meet new ones at Philo Library's "Coffee Hour". Everyone is invited to this free event.

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.

Knights of Columbus

The Philo Knights of Columbus will be hosting their traditional Friday Lenten Fish Fry Dinners in the John Schumacher Gym at St. Thomas School. Enjoy a delicious fried cod sandwich, sides, drinks, and dessert for \$9.00, with a mac and cheese dinner option available for kids for the low price of only \$2.00 (mac and cheese dinner available for adults for \$5.00). You can also purchase just a fish sandwich for \$6.00. Fish fry dates during Lent will be March 3, 10, 17, 24, and 31. Serving will begin at approximately 6:30 pm. Net profits will be used to benefit St. Thomas School.

Support the Philo Fire Department

O'Philo Fest -- The Philo

Volunteer Fire Department is hosting their annual Corn Beef & Cabbage lunch on Sunday, March 12 from 1:00 - 5:00 pm at the Philo Tavern. They are also holding a cash raffle. Contact one of the firemen for more details.



Community Clean-Up and Electronics Recycling Day Scheduled

Mark your calendars for the spring clean-up and recycling day on Saturday, April 29 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**. A list of acceptable items is posted on the village web page at www.villageofphilo.com under the Latest News – Announcements tabs.

Philo Exchange Bank

Annual Spring Shred Day will be held on Saturday, April 29 from 9:00 – 11:00 am at the Philo Drive-up Facility. Bring up to 5 boxes of confidential materials per person. We will be accepting food pantry donations for the Giving Place in Tolono and will have prizes and snacks available. Call (217) 684-2600 if you have questions.



****Hazen Park Playground Dedication****
Watch for details this Spring



***** Save the Date *****

Annual Philo Area Easter Egg Hunt

Philo 4-H Friends will be hosting the annual Easter Egg Hunt on Saturday, April 8 outside on the grounds of the R. E. Franks Meeting Center. The Easter bunny will be on hand for pictures and there will be face painting. The event is free to children pre-school through 4th grade. Bring a basket or other container for collecting eggs. Please do not bring your pets. **Time TBD.**

BRUSH PICK-UP

Brush pick-up will resume on April 1, weather permitting. Pick up will be the 1st and 15th of each month through December 1. If pick up falls on a holiday, service will be the next business day.

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

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

Muni Agg Energy Program

Did you opt in to the Muni Agg Energy program in 2021 that the Village of Philo participates in? There is still time as the current program expires in December 2023.

The Village of Philo Board of Trustees negotiated through Good Energy in 2021 to give residents a choice in energy providers. Currently, Ameren tariff rates have risen substantially (12.8 cents per kWh), highlighting the savings that residents who opted in with the contracted company of Homefield Energy. (5 cents per kWh).

There are a few ways to opt in —

- 1) contact Homefield Energy at <https://www.homefieldenergy.com/municipal-aggregation/enroll>
- 2) call 844-351-7691
- 3) Contact the village office with your name as listed on your Ameren bill, your address, and Ameren account number. You can reach our office by calling (217) 684-2562 or admin@villageofphilo.com.

Contact the village office if you have any questions or need further information.

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.. admin@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 - 4pm

Philo Planning Commission

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

ESDA Co-Coordinator

Chris Lueth377-9627
Richard Brand 778-8259
Chris Lueth.....377-9627

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