September 15, 2020

Good evening,

**Sangamon County** had 12 new positive cases of COVID-19 reported today, nine people who have tested positive are hospitalized and 13 have recovered. **Menard County** had four new cases reported today and one person is hospitalized.

Ages of the people who were reported to be positive today:

**Sangamon County**
- Teens – 2
- 20s – 1
- 30s – 2
- 40s – 2
- 50s – 1
- 60s – 4

**Menard County**
- Children - 2
- 20s – 1
- 30s – 1

According to the Illinois Department of Public Health’s most recent weekly report (8/30/20 - 9/5/20), the positivity rate for **Sangamon County** has decreased to 4.7% with 6,970 tests performed. The weekly metrics still indicates a warning as there are currently 119 (up from 71 last week) new positive COVID-19 cases/100,000 population. The target is 50/100,000. **Menard County** has a warning listed with 90 (up from 5) new positive COVID-19 cases/100,000 population. The positivity rate has increased to 5.7% from 4.3% with 335 tests performed. There is more information available from [https://www.dph.illinois.gov/countymetrics](https://www.dph.illinois.gov/countymetrics). If you would like to see how our region is doing, we are part of Region 3, [http://www.dph.illinois.gov/regionmetrics](http://www.dph.illinois.gov/regionmetrics) - this data is updated daily.

Instead of telling you what you could have celebrated at the end of a long day, here are two celebrations you can plan to participate in tomorrow, September 16, 2020:

- Did you know that *petrology* is the scientific study of rocks? Tomorrow is **Collect Rocks Day**. Look around and pick up a rock or two as you enjoy the beautiful weather outdoors. Rocks have been an integral part of human activity since antiquity. Some of the earliest...
weapons and musical instruments were made of rocks. Mining of rocks has made it possible for humans to use metals and other materials for developing technology.

- Tomorrow is also National Guacamole Day, another unofficial holiday that celebrates the delicious Mexican side-dish or dip made of avocados. Healthy fruit, avocados are fruit native to Mexico and Central America and are considered to be a good source for Vitamin K and some types of Vitamin B.

Until tomorrow,
Gail

Gail O’Neill
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