

# STROM CENTER NEWS

JULY, 2020 Edition 364



## STROM CENTER'S LATEST UPDATE .....



This is certainly a difficult time for ALL of us...persons of all ages, agencies, businesses, individuals, families on the list goes on... Here at Strom Center we have predicted dates of upcoming openings, only to retract the predictions as rules are updated. What we ARE sure of is that we don't know WHEN we are going to open our doors to everyone. As we have posted and mentioned before...we are still assisting persons **BY APPOINTMENT ONLY**. Thank you to everyone who have followed our guidelines...we have had very few persons venture through all the signs on the front door and entry-way without calling first for an appointment. We are scheduling appointments in a way that no two clients will be in an area at the same time...by making appointments, we are allowing time between clients to sanitize office areas, as well as put used items through our ultraviolet sanitizers.

Just a note: If / when you do call to schedule an appointment (309 734 5677) , please let us know 1) the reason for the appointment 2) any deadlines you may be facing 3) the staff member you wish to meet with and 4) your phone number. With that information, a staff member will return your call to set up a time to safely meet with you. Your situation may even be resolved during that phone call.

For persons who do not wish to come in to our center for scheduled appointments, we encourage email correspondences. Please put the reason for your request in the "Subject" line. Our staff welcomes emails and we will respond within a short time. The following are the email addresses of our staff:

- Carol McCrery: [StromSeniors@Gmail.com](mailto:StromSeniors@Gmail.com)
- Kathy Ferrenburg: [KathyFerrenburg.StromCenter@Gmail.com](mailto:KathyFerrenburg.StromCenter@Gmail.com)
- Lynda (Accardo) Melvin: [Lynda.StromCenter@Gmail.com](mailto:Lynda.StromCenter@Gmail.com)
- Stephanie Reading: [StephanieR@Gmail.com](mailto:StephanieR@Gmail.com)
- Erica Pence (works at our Strom Center in Oquawka): [Erica.StromCenter@Gmail.com](mailto:Erica.StromCenter@Gmail.com)

- Anne Liby (Medical Equipment and Social Isolation Programs):

[AnneLiby.StromCenter@Gmail.com](mailto:AnneLiby.StromCenter@Gmail.com)

(For persons calling and / or emailing Anne Liby, who is in charge of our Medical Equipment program, borrowing equipment also requires an appointment. By calling ahead (309 734 5677) Anne can have the items ready for you at a designated time. Also, she can let you know the guidelines of the program and what is available...depending on your needs. By the way, Anne does an incredible job of ensuring all items are sanitized and in perfect condition before loaning. )

- Crystal Vanskike, Thrift Shop Manager: [StromThriftShop@Gmail.com](mailto:StromThriftShop@Gmail.com)

(Crystal is extremely busy during this time...no the Thrift Shop is NOT open for business. However, Crystal has information (see her article in this newsletter) ..concerning donations.

Also....another option for Strom Center to meet your needs: did you know that we can do FaceTime???? If that is your preference, let your staff worker know that.

Strom Center Program Staff will soon have Clear Acrylic Protection Barriers in each office. We also have face masks available upon request for those entering our center.

Again, we will soon be submitting a proposal for opening up Strom Center to the public, but as of this writing the guidelines for senior centers has not been finalized. Because our center is primarily utilized by seniors which is a high-risk group, procedures will likely be more strict. Hopefully, we will be having some great news about re-opening in our August, 2020 edition of our **Strom Center News**.

\*\*\*\*\*



## Thank you to Warren County Health Department!!

Our community owes a huge Thank You to JENNA LINK, Warren County Health Department Administrator and her staff. Especially during these trying times, Jenna has kept us updated on our area pandemic situation along with suggestions to keep us all safe. She continually keeps agencies, businesses, and individuals informed and acts as the 'hub' for the latest information among all entities. We especially want to thank Jenna for a recent donation of face masks as

our supply of masks which our volunteers have created is running low. We are soon receiving a supply from our state agency but have not yet received them.

For persons who are unaware of all the services which the Warren County Health Department provides they are listed as follows....(although I am sure there are even additional services not even listed !)

### Community Health

- Health living education
- Communicable disease surveillance
- Immunizations
- Seasonal flu and Pneumonia vaccinations
- Smoke-Free Illinois
- Medication disposal program
- Lead case management and lead testing
- TB skin testing
- General wellness lab testing

### Environmental Health

- Private septic system permits and inspections
- Water and well permits/inspections/samples
- Sewer and water evaluations for real estate transactions
- Food service inspections
- Tanning inspections
- Tattoo inspections
- Radon Education
- West Nile surveillance

### Emergency Preparedness

- Pandemic flu preparedness
- SNS preparedness
- All hazard planning

Hopefully, when the threat of the Covid19 is in the past, we can have the Warren County Health Department present a program outlining their many services!!

\*\*\*\*\*

## ***CENSUS REMINDER!!!***

It may seem as though we write frequently reminding persons to respond to the Census. But the question is: **HAVE YOU RESPONDED TO THE CENSUS YET???**



Even if there are many things NOT happening now, the 2020 Census IS happening!! It is amazing how many persons have completed their census forms, but if you haven't completed yours...please do it TODAY!! There are several ways to get the task done...

**ON LINE :** The quickest way to respond to the 2020 Census is online with your Census ID, which easily links your response with your address. However, you can respond without a Census ID and still be linked with your address. (Feel free to call Strom Center(309 734 5677) , and a staff worker can explain this process...)

**BY PHONE:** You have the option of completing the questionnaire by phone. To begin the process call 844-330-2020 ( There are different numbers to call depending on your preferred language.)

By Mail. You can simply mail back the paper questionnaire sent to your home.

It is so very important to respond to the Census for these reasons...the 2020 Census will influence community funding and congressional representation for the next decade! Information collected will inform the allocation of more than 675 billion dollars in federal funds for states and communities each year. That includes money for things like:

- First Responders
- Medicare Part B
- Supportive Housing for the Elderly Program
- Libraries and Community Centers

**Feel free to call Strom Center for additional information regarding the census (309 734 5677)**

AA

## TELEPHONE ASSURANCE PROGRAM CONNECTING PEOPLE.....



ANNE LIBY, Telephone Assurance Program Worker....is reminding all persons that our Telephone Assurance program is going strong and is making a big impact on both callers and persons being called. Especially, during these trying days, **we need connections!** The calls provide those connections for persons living alone or persons maybe not living alone, but need a human voice to listen to and talk with. We have a great team of volunteer callers and are constantly adding persons to the list of persons requesting calls either on a daily, weekly, or pre-determined times. If you wish to be either a caller or your wish to receive calls... call Strom Center 309 734 5677. Thanks, Anne for doing such a great job of coordinating the Telephone Assurance Program....

\*\*\*\*\*

## Behind the Scenes....our Mind Explorer Monthly Quiz and V.O.P.A ' history' .....



From time to time I get comments and questions regarding our Monthly "Mind Explorer Quiz" found in our *Strom Center News*. We have included the quiz in almost every edition of our paper for over 30 years. I'm going to get somewhat sentimental when talking about the quiz....when I first became the director of Strom over 30 years ago, my mother Eva Neal suggested putting some fun facts or questions in each paper. That was the days of the Encyclopedia.....!! Mom was my source for my challenging questions.... As time went on after my dear mother passed away...my twin sister Kathy O'Brien-Haddick took over the page. It is amusing that I have had some participants ask me if this answer is correct, or for me to give them a hint on one or more of the questions....I explain that Kathy **refuses** to give me the answers ahead of time..... She is also now the



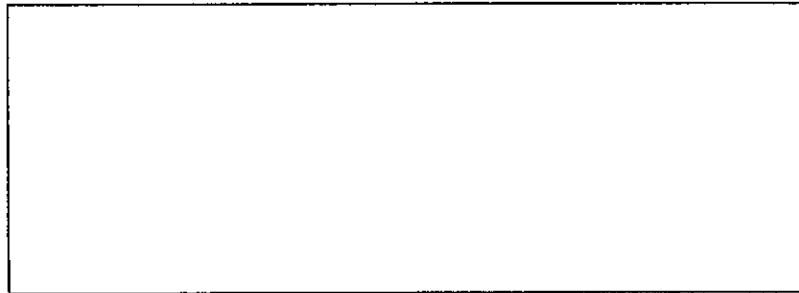




STROM CENTER, INC.  
211 South A Street  
Monmouth, IL 61462

NON-PROFIT  
U.S. POSTAGE PAID  
PERMIT NO. 24  
MONMOUTH, IL 61462

***RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED***



**STROM CENTER, INC.**

Warren County Site: Monmouth

211 South A Street, Monmouth, IL 61462

Henderson County Site: 410 Schuyler Street, Oquawka, IL 61469

Fax: 309-539-4256 Toll-free: 833 856 9624

Strom Center Monmouth Site: 309 734 5677

Strom Center Oquawka Site: 309 536 2558

Carol Neal McCreery, Director

***Non-Discrimination Policy:***

Strom Center does not discriminate in admission to programs or treatment of employment in programs or activities in compliance with the Illinois Human Rights Act; the U.S. Civil Rights Act; Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Employment Act; and the U.S. and Illinois Constitutions. If you feel you have been discriminated against, you have a right to file a complaint with the Illinois Department on Aging. For information call 800-252-8966 (Voice and TDD) or contact Programs and Services Manager at Western Illinois Area Agency on Aging at 800-322-1051.

Strom Center is partially funded by:

**The Western Illinois Area Agency on Aging and The Warren County United Way**