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Rantoul Citizens

During this time of uncertainty, I hope that all of you are doing well and taking the appropriate steps to protect yourself and your love ones. I highly encourage the continued use of face coverings and to follow the executive order guidelines provided by the Governor's Office.

This week has been informative and challenging with the ongoing COVID-19 infection numbers increasing in our community. The local news media has been doing an excellent job of reporting and keeping the community aware of health changes in Rantoul and its industrial park.

All employees of Rantoul Foods are in the process of being tested for COVID-19. These tests should be completed within the next three days. The village will continue to work with Rantoul Foods to identify the number of confirmed cases. We are also working to ensure that appropriate PPE supplies are available and to assist with any other needed resources. OSF will facilitate the testing and the test results should be available in 48 to 72 hours after the test are taken. We will keep you informed about this ongoing public concern.

I had the privilege of representing Rantoul this week and working with the leadership teams of Champaign County Public Health and the Illinois Department of Public Health. Your local and state leadership teams were present during these online meeting. I want to thank Senator Chapin Rose, Senator Scott Bennett, Representative Mike Marron, Representative Dan Caulkin, and village administrator Scott Eisenhauer for their continued support in taking proactive steps to help secure the public health issues we face today.

In my Census report to you last week I quoted a participation rate of 51%. Today that number has increased to 56%. This last March you should have received an invitation in the mail to complete for the 2020 census. The invitation gave you a Census ID # that tells you how to take the census online at www.2020census.gov. If you are not an internet person I have included phone numbers for your use: Here are three toll-free numbers: for English 844-330-2020, for Spanish 844-468-2020, for French 844-494-2020. It only takes 10 minutes to take the census, but it will bring millions of dollars to our community that will pay for schools, health services, child care, firefighters and other programs that depend on this revenue stream. I encourage you to participate in the 2020 census. Let's make this the best census report that this community has ever had.

Be sure to continue watching your local news channels for the update on total cases, total deaths, new cases and daily death rates of COVID-19.

On a final note I want to express my gratitude to all the local churches that have offered to extend a helping hand of volunteerism in this time of crises. This type of commitment reflects the true strength of the Rantoul community. We are a strong and faithful community please continue your prayers of healing and rejuvenation.

Thank you for observing the all the new guidelines of public safety.

Stay Safe, Stay Strong, Stay at Home.