



On the internet at [www.coalvalleyil.org](http://www.coalvalleyil.org)

Volume 24, Issue 4 May 2, 2022 Drue Mielke- editor and village resident

Coal Valley, Illinois

"Your hometown newsletter."

submit articles to [cvnews@coalvalleyil.org](mailto:cvnews@coalvalleyil.org) by deadline of May 20th for June newsletter.

## Village Water Quality Report Available Online

The Village of Coal Valley water Consumer Confidence Report (CCR), also known as a safe drinking water or water quality report, is an annual report that summarizes the quality of drinking water Coal Valley's community public water systems.

The purpose is to raise customers' awareness of where their drinking water comes from, the quality of their drinking water, what it takes to deliver water to their home and the importance of protecting drinking water sources.

Coal Valley has two separate systems. A majority of the village is served by the report called 2021 CCR – Water Report. The remainder of the Village of Coal Valley located in Henry County near the golf course is served by a report called

2021 CCR – Oak View Estates Water Report. Both reports are located at:

<https://coalvalleyil.org/docs/Coal-Valley-2021-CCR-Report.pdf>

<https://coalvalleyil.org/docs/Coal-Valley-2021-Oak-View-Estates-CCR-Report.pdf>



The Village Hall will be closed on Monday May 31st, 2021 in observance of the Memorial Day holiday.

## National Day of Prayer in Coal Valley

The 71st annual National Day of Prayer will be observed on Thursday, May 5th. This is a special day enacted into law in 1952 by Congress and President Harry Truman. This is a perfect time for us as grateful citizens to gather together to praise the Lord and pray for our beloved Land.

Those wishing to participate will be gathering on May 5th from 12 noon to 1:00 pm at the Coal Valley Municipal Part at 1000 1st Street to express our thanksgiving to God for His goodness and to ask for His forgiveness, wisdom, strength, grace and mercy as we continue to live in the United States of America. If you are unable to attend, please pray wherever you are.

## Street Sweeping Begins in June

The Village of Coal Valley is planning street sweeping on June 1st and June 2nd. The goal is to sweep residential streets at least two times per year with a second sweeping being planned in on November 2nd and November 3rd.

Street sweeping is the most effective way to keep storm drains free from the build-up of dangerous contaminants that can enter sewer systems, catch basins and local bodies of water. In addition, street sweeping helps keep neighborhoods clean.

From brake shoe dust, oils, and other contaminants produced by vehicular traffic, regularly scheduled street sweeping reduces street maintenance and moisture trapped on the road, preventing cracks and deterioration, and reducing infrastructure costs.

**The Village News**  
is a resident driven, community publication published on the first of each month. Residents are encouraged to contribute. Deadline for submission is the 20th of each month. Please submit articles for publication to Drue Mielke, editor and publisher to [cvnews@coalvalleyil.org](mailto:cvnews@coalvalleyil.org). Please feel free to call my cell at (309) 235-7493 or text for quick response.



# Hometown Coal Valley

by Drue Mielke

In last month's newsletter, I got my Coal Valley grocery stores mixed up and thankfully, I received a nice letter from Ed Willhouse, the son of the owner of Don's Royal Blue. The store I was wishing to write about was the predecessor of Cooper's Grocery Store on the corner of U.S. 6 and 1st Street. Next week I wish to write about the downtown Coal Valley businesses such as Don's Royal Blue.

He writes "For clarification, Mom and Dad's Royal Blue store was located in the original Coal Valley area off US150 across the street from the current post office and on the current site of Dave Lindberg's storage units."

Mr. Willhouse continues stating "As I recall, dad purchase the business around 1948 (year I was born) and sold the business in 1961. Dad's store was previously owned by the Getch (spelling may not be correct) family and was an IGA store at the time dad purchased the business. He received his start in the grocery business while work for the Norton brothers at the IGA store in Orion. He moved from IGA affiliation to Royal Blue in the mid 1950s. Coopers



## Don's Royal Blue Coal Valley, Ill.

store opened some time after dad's purchase his store."

Thank you very much Mr. Willhouse for correcting my crossed-wire and for sharing some great Coal Valley history!

If you have some Coal Valley history to share or a current event or business you'd like to have mentioned, please contact me at (309) 235-7493 or email at [cvnews@coalvalleyil.org](mailto:cvnews@coalvalleyil.org).

## Coal Valley Village-Wide Yard Sale Saturday June 18th, 2022

The Annual Coal Valley Community Garage and Yard Sales will be held on Saturday, June 18th between 8:00 am and 1:00 pm. Individuals may choose to keep their sale open longer or even start earlier in the week if they wish.

Be aware of the NO PARKING signs posted for Friday, June 17th and Saturday, June 18th.

Get all of your treasures ready to go, and we will hope for good weather, big crowds, AND LOTS OF FUN!

Pat Anderson, Coordinator  
(309) 738-7779



# Niabi Zoo Begins 2022 Season

Niabi Zoo opened to the public on Monday, April 18. “We are very excited to be able to welcome guests back to the Zoo!” said Director, Lee Jackson. “Moving into the 2022 season, we have a lot of new things in the works. It is going to be an exciting summer!”

Guests will notice a number of changes this season. These include far fewer Covid related restrictions. Guest are no longer required to wear mask in most areas including rides. “We also no longer have restrictions on the number of people we can allow into the park. Hours of operation will also return to the pre-Covid schedule, with the zoo being open from 10 -5pm (last entry at 4).”

Niabi will continue its use of online ticket sale, but you will also be able to purchase your tickets at the gate. There will be a discount available for those purchasing their tickets online. As with many businesses around the country, we have found it challenging to fill all of our staff positions this season. Some services may be limited for a few weeks. Please visit our website for a complete list of visitor guidelines, and note that mask will still be required , or visitation limited in several areas.

The most exciting news however involves the animals. Several big projects are going to be underway this year, including work on a new prairie dog exhibit and a new exhibit for African painted dogs.

New additions to the zoo. Nyura and Antin, Amur leopards that were born earlier this year will make their debut later this spring, along with several other new youngsters that will be announced in coming weeks.

Niabi Zoo is located at 13010 Niabi Zoo Road, Coal Valley. For more information, go to <https://www.niabizoo.com>, at open from 10 a.m. – 5p.m. seven days per week, with last entry at 4 p.m.

# Village-wide yard sale scheduled for June 18th

A date for the Village wide garage sales has been set for Saturday, June 18th, 2022. Individuals may choose to keep their sale open longer or even start earlier in the week if they wish.

Please be aware of the NO PARKING signs posted for Friday, June 17th and Saturday, June 18th.

For more information, please contact Pat Anderson, Coordinator, at (309) 738-7779.

## *Coal Valley Annual Clean-up Days June 23-25*

The Village of Coal Valley “Clean-Up Days” will be held this year Thursday, June 23rd from 7:00 a.m to 3:00 p.m; Friday, June 24th from 7:00 a.m to 3:00 p.m.; and Saturday, June 25th from 8:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.



Bins will be available for drop off at the Coal Valley Maintenance Garage, 1002 E. 19th Avenue, Coal Valley.

No appliances, electronics, hazardous materials, debris from contractors, tires, paint, batteries, motor oil, or propane tanks are allowed. The Village DOES NOT accept e-waste.

Proof of Residency will be required such as a current water bill. If you have any questions prior to the date, please call the Village Hall at 799-3604.

## Park Program Assistants Needed for 2022 Season

The Village of Coal Valley is currently accepting applications for part time Park Program Assistants for the 2022 season.

The program runs for 8 weeks, Monday, Wednesday & Friday 9am – noon, starting on Monday June 6th until Friday July 29th, 2022. Positions start at \$12.00 an hour and must be 16+ or have a work permit. An application can be picked up at the Village Hall, 900 1st Street or online at <https://coalvalleyil.org/docs/Application-2022.pdf>. Applications will be taken through Friday, May 27th, 2022 or until the positions are filled.

## Village Board Meetings Scheduled

The Village Board meetings are held the first and third Wednesdays of each month at 6:00 P.M. Meetings are held at the Coal Valley Village Hall, 900 1st Street.

Agendas can be found at <https://www.coalvalleyil.org/village-board-meetings-agenda.php>.

## Water Survey to Analyze Flood Risks in RICo

Illinois State Water Survey (ISWS) hydrologic and hydraulic modeling in Rock Island County is underway as part of a study to help local communities identify areas of high flood risk for flood mitigation planning.

ISWS is working collaboratively on the project with American Surveying & Engineering, P.C. and the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA).

The first phase of the project, data collection, began in late April 2022 and will be completed in early summer 2022. In this phase, surveyors will conduct detailed channel and bridge surveys of the river, including in or near the cities of East Moline (unnamed ponding areas located in the northern

## Yard waste collection begins for season

Yard Waste pickup has begun and residents may purchase yard waste stickers at the Village Hall 900 1st St & Blackhawk Bank and Trust located at 200 1st Street, Coal Valley, for \$1.75 each.

Please call the Village Hall to be put on the yard waste list by no later than noon on Tuesday.



Residents are asked to have their yard waste bags stickered and out for pickup no later than 6:00 am on Wednesday mornings.

If you have any questions regarding yard waste or to schedule a pickup, you may contact the Village Hall 799-3604 during regular business hours.

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portion of the city), Moline (Coal Creek), Rock Island (Eckhart and Kyte creeks), and the Villages of Coal Valley (Coal Creek, Coal Creek Tributary, and Shaffer Creek) and Milan (Eckhart and Kyte creeks), as well as the Unincorporated Areas of Rock Island County (Coal and Shaffer creeks).

Residents should be aware of the periodic presence of survey crews in the area. Surveys will be completed as stream conditions and weather allow.

Questions about the study can be directed to Aaron Thomas, P.E., CFM, at the Illinois State Water Survey, University of Illinois ([abthomas@illinois.edu](mailto:abthomas@illinois.edu)) 217-333-7832.

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