May 26, 2020

Good evening,

We are reporting the death of a Sangamon County resident, he was in his 50’s and an inpatient at Memorial Medical Center. Two others have tested positive, they are 13 and 84 years of age. 131 people received negative test results and another 25 have recovered. Three more Menard County residents have tested negative for the virus.

I was looking to see if there are any new myths about COVID-19 and found a few to share compliments of The Association of State and Territorial Health Officials, www.astho.org.

- Can thermal scanners detect COVID-19? Thermal scanners cannot detect COVID-19. Thermal scanners are effective in detecting people who have a fever (i.e. have a higher than normal body temperature). They cannot detect people who are infected with COVID-19. There are many causes of fever.

- Are hand dryers effective in killing the new coronavirus? No. Hand dryers are not effective in killing the 2019-nCoV. To protect yourself against the new coronavirus, you should frequently clean your hands with an alcohol-based hand rub or wash them with soap and water. Once your hands are cleaned, you should dry them thoroughly by using paper towels or a warm air dryer.

- Can UV lamps disinfect your skin? Ultra-violet (UV) lamps should not be used to disinfect hands or other areas of your skin. UV radiation can cause skin irritation and damage your eyes. Cleaning your hands with alcohol-based hand rub or washing your hands with soap and water are the most effective ways to remove the virus.

- In case you were wondering...5G mobile networks DO NOT spread COVID-19 Viruses cannot travel on radio waves/mobile networks. COVID-19 is spreading in many countries that do not have 5G mobile networks. COVID-19 is spread through respiratory droplets when an infected person coughs, sneezes or speaks.

Until tomorrow,
Gail

Gail O’Neill
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