City of Marshall

Julie M. Schwetz, Mayor

March 19, 2020

City of Marshall,

The Covid-19 pandemic has all of us on edge, out of our routines, and concerned. We wonder how long this infectious virus might impact our daily lives through jobs, education, or social activities. The circumstances and full effect of what's happening will not be known for some time, and the unknown is a worrisome thought.

However, there are things we do know and those are the things where we should lay our focus.

As of today, there is no confirmed case of Covid-19 in our city or county. We are waiting on test results and they will come as soon as possible. We don't know how those results may affect the coming days. Until that time, the recommendations of Governor Parson and Saline County Health Department should be followed so we may each do our part to "stop the spread":

- Exercise common sense: If you feel sick, stay home. Do not go to work. If someone in your household has tested positive for COVID-19, keep the entire household at home. Do not go to work.
- Take extra precautions: If you are an older person, stay home and away from other people. If you are a person with a serious underlying health condition that can put you at increased risk (for example, a condition that impairs your lung or heart function or weakens your immune system), stay home and away from other people.
- Protect yourself and others: Avoid social gatherings in groups of more than 10 people. Avoid discretionary travel, shopping trips, and social visits. Do not visit nursing homes or retirement or long-term care facilities unless to provide critical assistance. Practice good hygiene.
- Many restaurants and bars are offering drive-thru, pickup, and delivery options – continue to support these community establishments.

Further guidelines and statistics can be found at the Center for Disease Control's website and I encourage you to go there for the helpful information it provides.
https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html

Our schools, Marshall Public, St. Peter, Missouri Valley College, Head Start, and our preschools have all taken steps to ensure the well-being of students and staff by cancelling on-campus classroom instruction. Missouri Valley College has a website to

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read their comprehensive plans for the remainder of the semester:
https://www.moval.edu/news-events/mvc-update-on-coronavirus-covid-19/

Your City Council, Marshall Municipal Utilities, and City Departments have implemented procedures to ensure resident services are not disrupted while protecting the health and safety of our employees. We are also giving full attention to the economic impact of this pandemic.

Our local businesses are still open, some with adjusted hours and procedures, and we should do as much as we can to shop and dine locally and help them survive! The Marshall Chamber of Commerce is working with its members to keep that information up-to-date. Our industries are efficiently working their crews given the needs of our nation and we should be thankful for these employers contributing to the strength of our economy.

We've been blessed to have volunteers and service organizations offer their help to provide meals for students and shop for those who are unable to do it themselves.

We are a community of capable, talented, and full-hearted individuals who fill roles in health care, education, public safety and first responders, business, and civic organizations. They are doing their very best every day to keep our City going, especially during trying times such as these.

How can you do your part? Adhere to the health guidelines spelled out earlier, have patience, enjoy the unexpected slower pace of life, find a way to help your fellow man, and shower love on your family and friends.

Working together, we will overcome these challenges and come out a stronger Marshall community!

Sincerely,

Julie M. Schwetz, Mayor