

OSF adapts mask policy to recommendation

OSF says 'importance of personal choice' factors into change

By DEREK BARICHELLO
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OSF changed its mask requirement for visitors of all of its hospitals on Tuesday to a recommendation. On Monday, OSF said the initial requirement is because of the widespread respiratory illnesses in the community, including COVID-19, influenza and RSV. On Tuesday, OSF said the change acknowledges "the importance of

personal choice while still encouraging practices that help protect vulnerable individuals such as the elderly, infants and those with weakened immune systems from COVID-19, influenza and RSV."

The hospital also said it will only allow two visitors, 18 and older, per patient at this time. Exceptions will be made for special circumstances, such as end-of-life situations, OSF said.

OSF has hospitals and emergency rooms in Ottawa, Streator, Mendota, Peru and Princeton.

"The well-being and safety of our patients and their families remain at the heart of everything we do," OSF said.



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Scott Anderson

'Discover Guatemala' at Granville library program

Taste the country's national dish - Pepian

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The Putnam County Public Library will host anthropologist and former librarian Brittany Blomquist at 6 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 9, at the Granville branch, 214 S. McCoy St., when she shares her experiences in Guatemala.



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Network file photo

Learn more about the city of Antigua, the second capital city, food, architecture, textiles and more, and taste the national dish - Pepian.

Blomquist is a graduate student at Northern Illinois University. Her research is focused on education within Guatemala.

She visited the country in 2023 and 2024, exploring the west central highland region.

This program is free and open to the public.

For more information, call the Granville library at 815-339-2038.



Granville National Bank