MAPPING communities have had a productive season. Here are some highlights:
(Please note this is not a comprehensive list)

Argenta:
- Organizing the 2017 farmer’s market
- Planning for the art stroll event in collaboration with local art teachers and the high school art club
- Held first annual Argenta Icefest. The event featured 30 sponsors and 32 craft vendors. The event drew in 1800+ participants and raised $5,500

Assumption:
- Planning for the Spring Pop Up Potluck for May 2017
- Organizing a Shop Local event for late spring, which will run for 6 weeks
- Coordinating a rummage sale fundraiser
- Working on a historic garbage can covers project
- Held “Making Facebook and Blogs Work For You” business seminar, at the public library
- Organized a successful jigsaw puzzle competition, with 12 teams participating
- Reinitiated the Yard of the Month series
- Planning a community clean up day on April 29
- Organized library landscaping project

Carthage:
- Hosted a business luncheon with the theme “Hancock County Ignite!” put on by the Hancock County CEO Class, with keynote speaker Bob Schultz, CEO of Schultz Investment Company
- Held a concert by Liverpool Legends, a Beatles Tribute Band, at the Legacy Theater, which drew in large crowds and raised $5,000!

Durand:
- Presented the Downtown Square Project at the WIU QCA reverse funding fair
- Held a meet the candidates event for community members to learn more about candidates running in the spring consolidated election
- Durand Telepharmacy opened March 6th
Elizabeth:
- Coordinating an open house event involving all available businesses titled “The Road to Possibilities,” to take place in June 2017. Goal is to attract new businesses to town
- Created the 2nd annual Elizabeth and Hanover Visitors’ Guide, which will be fresh off the printer on April 24th!
- Hosted the Business Expo, with over 40 participating businesses, in conjunction with Stockton and Hanover
- Distributed survey to gauge residents’ interest in opening a pharmacy. The survey will end on May 15th.

Findlay:
- Held a clean-up event, with Okaw Valley students, placing flower planters, doing sidewalk cleanup, and laying mulch on the community garden and park playground
- Installed new flooring in the community building

Girard:
- Continuing fundraising for the Macoupin Valley Trail, by publishing a cookbook, recycling bottle caps, and offering a “time share” for businesses to use already-constructed benches in front of their buildings

Hillsboro:
- Organized highway clean up along route 127
- Hosted the sold out Princess Ball and Crazy Bowl
- Coordinated a work day at the Sports Complex trail to put up signs and extend the trail

Neoga:
- Held fish fry event, hosted by the Neoga Veterans’ Memorial committee. They had 25 volunteers, served 250 people, and raised $1,000
- Continuing the upkeep of the Veterans’ Memorial by adding planters and lamp posts

Oregon:
- Continuing the development of the Alley project
- Working on the Bicycle Man art project with local artist, Jon Barnhart
- Gathering the “Bike Planters” to be put on display May 2017
- Finalizing the planning for Rockin’ River Fest - raised $5,500 to date
- Decorating City Hall building by installing an awning for the entrance and painting the clock pedestal
- Raised $1,500 to start free family movie nights at the Oregon Coliseum
- Held Chocolate Walk, showcasing local businesses
Pana:
- Collaborated with Taylorville to hold a clean-up day to improve and expand the bike trail that connects the two towns. The trail’s opening Day was held on April 8th
- Working on hosting an 18+ dodgeball tournament in conjunction with Baseball Opening Day for little league
- Creating car and business window decals to raise money for Pana Pride

Rushville:
- Received a $10,000 anonymous donation to help fund the development of a local YMCA branch

Savanna:
- Organizing the 3rd Annual Plant and Bake Sale
- Putting on a Main Street clean up day
- Preparing for the Great River Fest
- Planning a cookout fundraiser for late spring
- Placing the “Welcome to Savanna” planters at the town entrances
- Donated 36 new flags to be flown on Main Street during the Flags for Main Street event
- Held the first “First Friday” of the season, hosted by Main Street in Motion

Stockton:
- Started planning the Ecumenical Student Exchange, with the help of the local Ministerial Association. The goal is to expose students to various religions by visiting different places of worship
- Held Lunch and Learn dinner, which focused on the Tri County Economic Development Association’s event “Build It/Grow It”
- Hosted a successful Volunteer Day with 130 students, 10 teachers/administrators, and 20 community members
- Began placing flip boards on restaurant tables around town detailing information about local businesses
- Continued looking into purchasing land and constructing a community center

Strasburg:
- Continuing “The Gym” vouchers project
- Creating the new Strasburg Community Action Network (SCAN) logo
- Held a chilli dinner and quarter auction
- Installed gnome banners on Route 32

Windsor:
- Working on the Community Foundation newsletter
- Held the Community Building Open House and annual Super Bowl Luncheon with over 200 community members participating
It had long since come to my attention that people of accomplishment rarely sat back and let things happen to them. They went out and happened to things.

Leonardo da Vinci