Argenta:
• Held second annual Argenta IceFest on February 10th with more than 20 ice sculptures. This year they added a chili cook off, ice games, food vendors, and an evening lighting ceremony for 2018.

Assumption:
• Held the second Annual Jigsaw Puzzle Night on January 28th, they had 5 teams and raised $300 for the event.
• Applied for and will be receiving a Peace Corps Fellow from WIU who will start the fall.
• Received $525 in donations that will be used to buy new holiday decorations.
• ACPA held a Quarter Auction and 50/50 raffle on March 3rd to support Assumption Fest.
• The Buy Local campaign is going well and more businesses are participating. Two new businesses will be opening this Spring.

Durand:
• Began investigating the interest and feasibility in bringing YMCA programming to Durand. Created an on-line survey to garner community input.
• Organized a Fish Fry fundraiser on Feb 11th.
• Sponsored a workshop titled “Do it yourself taxes... A good idea or not?”

Elizabeth:
• Installed new banners celebrating 150 years as a village.
• Encouraged interested community members to sign up for fiber internet.
• GEAR held a chili cook off at Jugs to benefit GEAR activities.

Findlay:
• Held a Valentines Day Biscuits and Gravy Breakfast.

Hillsboro:
• Co-sponsored the third annual State of Hillsboro Breakfast.
• Organized a Mother Son Crazy Bowl.
• Hosted a Pack the Place fundraiser with Superheroes at Gianni’s Pizza, and a percentage of the sales benefited the Mother Son Crazy Bowl.
• Held a Father Daughter Princess Ball, complete with Disney characters.
• Hosted a Pack the Place fundraising event with princesses at Gianni’s Pizza, and a percentage of the sales benefited the Father Daughter Princess Ball.
• Scheduled dates, venues, and bands for the Summer Concert Series.
• Promoted Montgomery County’s CEO fundraiser “A Night In New York.”
• CTI began laying fiber optic line to bring high speed internet to Montgomery County.
**Lanark:**
- Received the Governor’s Hometown Award for the development of the Lanark Area Community Foundation.
- Organized Spring Fling on March 17th with shopping, story time, and arts and crafts.
- Promoted Transformations, a local thrift store that funds beautification efforts around Lanark.

**Martinsville:**
- Organized a busy schedule of Gatherings at the Linn Park Amphitheater for 2018.

**Mattoon:**
- Organized a youth council to advise the group on the needs and wants of the youth trying to recruit at least 25 youth members.
- Began planning a workshop to brainstorm ideas with Ride Illinois for a bike plan with the sponsorship of the Lumpkin Family Foundation.
- Formed a team of staff members for organizations that target youth development.

**Oregon:**
- Held a very successful photo show titled “Winter 61061” with an opening reception March 2nd.
- Held monthly Free movie nights at the Coliseum. Approximately 100 attending each movie, and $950 was raised to sponsor the movies.
- Preparations are under way for the 2nd annual Chocolate Walk. Anticipating over 35 businesses participating and distributing chocolaty treats for shoppers.

**Pana:**
- Planning for the Yard of the Month program starting in May. They added a Business of the Month and a People’s Choice award.
- Doing research for a new Welcome to Pana sign including visiting other towns, taking pictures and pricing signs.
- Decorated the downtown memorial parks including new decorations at the Railroad Depot and adding floral designs to downtown lamp posts.
- Collaborating with the Car Show to get 3,000 matchbox cars to pass out. They are also developing a float for the Labor Day Parade.
- Assisting the hospital with a 5K fun run for Memorial Day weekend.
- Raising money and assessing sites for the development of a dog park.

**Rushville:**
- Hosted a town meeting to celebrate the 4th Anniversary of MAPPING. Approximately 90 attended the February 27 meeting.
- Announced the receipt of an anonymous gift of $2 million for the development of the Rushville Fitness Community Center (RFCC). The city donated 2.8 acres of land for the project.
- Developing bylaws, logo, website and Facebook page for the Rushville Fitness Community Center.
- Grow Rushville submitted a grant proposal for the RFCC to the Schuyler County United Way.
- Began establishing a board for a Chamber of Commerce.
Savanna:
• Began to plan for the fourth annual Plant and Bake Sale.
• Developed a flyer and started promoting the First Friday planned for April 6.
• Planned a Community Clean Up day.

Shelby County Partners
• Secured a $5,000 grant for the endangered Chautauqua building.
• Organizing a Bicentennial event for May 6th with a history of music. Received a grant of $2000 from the County for the event.
• Holding a ribbon cutting for Shelbyville Community Garden in April. Received a $75 donation for the community garden.
• Martin Luther King Day of Giving received 480 food items for the local pantry and $350 in donations.

Stewardson:
• Held a fish fry with 12 volunteers and raised $1,100.
• Developed promotional videos to promote the Fish Fry.
• Hosted the Easter Bunny on March 31st with photos and treats. Donations made went towards playground project.

Stockton:
• Established a Stockton Strong Scholarship for $500.
• Planning the 3rd annual Family Fun Run for April.

Strasburg:
• Planning for a ‘Dining in the Dark’ event in April.
• Held a Basket Bingo fundraiser.
• Conducted a survey to name the Village’s traveling gnome.
• Twenty-six Seasoned Citizens attended a Chinese New Year celebration.
• Promoted the tax abatements that are available for lots in the York Acres Subdivision.

Walnut:
• Hosted a Sledding Jamboree and had approximately 60 participants.
• Held a Maintaining the Momentum Session to celebrate accomplishments of the first year of Working on Walnut (WOW) and plan for year 2.
• Planning the first ‘Taste of Walnut’ event for May 5th.
• Set up WOW as an Amazon.com Smile community with a percentage of sales benefiting WOW.
• Hosted a Cash Mob on March 17 at the new Walnut Acres Country Store.
• Hosted a meeting to discuss the proposed bike and walking trail.
• Started planning a Disc Golf Day for April 28th.

Windsor:
• Organizing Spores ‘n More festival for April 20-21.
• Have raised over $20,000 for improvements to the community building.
• Creating a grant application for organizations interested in a grant from the Windsor Community Fund.
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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