



MAPPING

the Future of Your Community

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Highlights

October, November, December 2018

MAPPING communities have had a productive season. Here are some highlights:

(Please note this is not a comprehensive list)

Assumption:

- Volunteers decorated store windows downtown in winter scenes and the historic garbage cans were decorated with greenery, peppermint sticks, and holiday signs.
- Held a special Yard of the Month for the best home decorations for the holidays.
- Hosted the annual Festival of Trees and raised over \$400.
- Coordinated the Assumption Christmas Lighting on November 24th—including carriage rides, hot cocoa and coffee, and visits with Santa. Approximately 150 people attended.
- Organized a 1 K 'Dash the Halls' fun run and approximately 100 runners participated
- Sponsored a tour of historic churches in Assumption on December 9th.
- Organized a 'Meet Up Assumption' to engage the public and get input as well as recruit volunteers on December 10th.
- Coordinated a Trunk Trick or Treat and costume parade event for Halloween on October 30th. Over 30 local businesses and organizations set up 'trunks' and 200 kids participated.



A couple of witches enjoying trunk or treat in Assumption.

Carthage:

- Hancock County CEO class organized Breakfast with Santa and worked with local businesses to offer special and discounts for those who purchased tickets. Event raised \$2,000 and approximately 165 attended.
- Organized Small Business Saturday with local retailers and welcomed approximately 300 shoppers.
- Carthage Industrial Development Corporation was awarded a USDA-RD grant to survey and plate acreage for new development in industrial park.



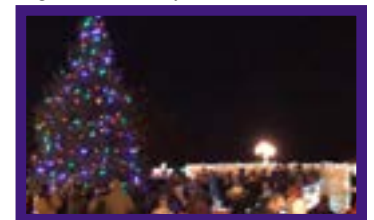
Hancock County CEO program organized Breakfast with Santa.

Creve Coeur:

- Organized the 3rd annual tree lighting ceremony with local entertainment and hot cocoa.
- Coordinated the 2018 Holiday Home Decorating Contest.

Downs:

- Citizens in Action coordinated 'Downs Dooley Park Holiday Wonderland.'
- CIA assisted with the Downs Haunted (and UnHaunted) House for Halloween.
- Organized a Spook-tacular Halloween Party on October 26th.



A crowd gathers to enjoy some local entertainment during the third annual tree lighting ceremony.

Durand:

- Organized 'Halloween on the Square' on October 27th including a magic show, children's parade, costume contest, a scarecrow competition, trunk or treat and hayrides.
- Worked with the Village of Durand on the development of the Durand Disc Golf Course which opened in November, 2018.
- Collaborated with the Durand State Bank on a 'Realtor's Open House' which included a tour of the community, information on the Village, CUSD #322, and lending from local banks such as the Durand State Bank.
- Worked with the Durand School on a memorial tree planting program in the school district's outdoor learning environment.



The Monroe Clinic in Durand created this display for the scarecrow competition.

Elizabeth:

- Started 'Elfies' in Elizabeth with a number of prizes donated by local businesses to be given to people who shopped local. Event included a traveling 'Elfie' mannequin and people were encouraged to take their picture with Elfie to post on social media with hashtag #elfiesinelizabeth.
- Drafted and distributed a daycare survey and have received over 200 responses so far.
- Held Christmas in the Village on December 1st and had over 300 attend including a large number of people from outside the community. Event raised \$240 for a local charity.

Funding provided in whole or in part by the Illinois Department of Commerce & Economic Opportunity



Volunteers decorated shop windows for Christmas in Erie.



Riders take a break for a photo during the first Macoupin Valley Trail Country Tour.



A child posting a letter to Santa in Hillsboro.



Stillman bank presents a check for the Blackhawk Statue Restoration Project in Oregon.

Erie:

- Revitalize Erie had a booth at the Open House for the new village hall. The booth featured a tree that was decorated with residents' ideas for the future. The same booth was later used at two additional community events.
- Developed a list of 73 businesses that includes information on location/owners/type of business and status of business local independent, franchise, branch of a major corporation.
- Inventorying available retail/commercial spaces. All vacant or underutilized properties have been identified and information about buying/leasing property has been gathered.

Girard:

- Hosted a Country Tour Bike Ride starting at the trail head at the golf course. Forty-seven people joined the ride, and after the ride they had a live band, food, silent auction and a photo opportunity. The ride raised over \$3,000.

Hillsboro:

- Organized the 2018 Storybook Christmas on November 30 and December 1. Event included a Christmas Parade, Christmas Market, lighting ceremony, character contest, Frosty 5K and local entertainment.
- Held a raffle for a vacation package including 4 tickets to St. Louis Union Station on the Polar Express, a hotel stay, tickets to A Charlie Brown Christmas and gift certificates for food/beverages.
- Held a well attended technology meet and greet.
- Coordinated a Rake and Run event on November 10th. Event helped senior citizens and veterans that needed help with their leaves.
- Held the annual European Style Harvest Market on October 6, 2018 with vendors, entertainment, apron auction, and a chili cook-off.
- Organized a Historic Haunts Walking Ghost Tour for adults as a fundraiser.

Martinsville:

- Martinsville on the Move organized the annual Hometown Christmas celebration with a variety of events throughout the day on December 8th.
- Organized the Jingle Bell Family Fun Run or Walk. Participants received a glow necklace and jingle bell bracelet.

Mattoon:

- Received \$12,000 Youth Engagement grant funded by Youth Services of America with funds channeled through the YMCA.
- \$2,500 Better Together Project was funded by Mattoon Community Works to fund family nights at Franklin preschool and to begin a garden space.
- Developing a business incubator. Volunteers visited other incubators in the region, the business plan is being finalized, volunteers have met with architects and interior designers to work on renovation of space.
- Mattoon in Motion is developing a list of houses in need of paint and coordinating having them painted by volunteers this spring.
- Spearheaded a collaboration between Lake Land College and local employer LSC Communications. Students who complete the 9 week course with a passing score are guaranteed employment at LSC Communications.

Neoga:

- Held a Halloween costume contest with approximately 50 participants.
- Hosted a Christmas Tree lighting Ceremony with approximately 100 in attendance.
- Organized the 'Resolutions 5K' for New Year's Eve.

Oregon:

- Organized a Halloween High Tea on October 20th complete with costumes, door prizes, a meal, and a talk on the healing benefits of tea.
- Oregon Together Black Hawk Team raised the necessary funds to restore the statue, including a \$100,000 grant from the Etnyre Foundation, \$125,000 raised locally, and a grant of \$350,000 from the Illinois Department of Natural Resources.
- Partnered with the Ogle County Historical Society to relocate a historic brick summer kitchen originally built by the town's founder John Phelps.
- Organized the Autumn 61061 Photography Show at the gallery upstairs at the Cork and Tap. The show opened with a reception held November 2nd.
- Held a free movie night with family friendly films each month.

Pana:

- Pana Pride received an award of \$3,500 for excellent performance in the Elevate Community Challenge.
- Assisted with the Christmas Light Display at the Fairgrounds by providing volunteers to man the entrance booth and serve cookies with Santa.
- Volunteers created a float for the Christmas Parade that took 11 volunteers 3 hours to complete.



Members of Pana Pride accept a check for \$3,500 from the Elevate Community Challenge.

Pittsfield:

- Created a photo opportunity for Girls Night Out with a picture frame and offered a chance to win a gift basket by posting to social media and approximately 150 people posted to Facebook and Instagram.
- Wrote a successful grant application for \$15,000 to establish a Frisbee golf course.
- Worked with McDonald's to give employees with a Work Ready certificate a 25 cents per hour raise.
- Submitted a Safe Routes to Parks grant from the JPB Foundation.



Ladies Night Out Participants take advantage of a Picture Pittsfield photo.

Rushville:

- Held a groundbreaking ceremony October 14th for the new Rushville Fitness and Community Center on the 2.8 acres the city donated for the \$2,000,000 project.
- Held a 'Deck your Windows' contest for area businesses with winners announced both for best live window and best decorated windows.
- New Rushville Chamber of Commerce worked with area businesses to organize special deals for Small Business Saturday. They also put together a map of places participating in Small Business Saturday.
- The new Chamber of Commerce held ribbon cuttings for Benny's Pizza, Edward Jones, and the Double K Car Wash.
- Organized a Chamber Forum on October 29th. Over 50 participants attended the event and five new businesses joined the chamber.
- Organized the annual Rushville Merchant Halloween Walk.



Grow Rushville Members break ground on the new Rushville Fitness and Community Center.

Savanna:

- Held a fall themed First Friday event on October 5th.
- Organized Bridgifest for 10/13/18 with a car show, live music, food trucks, and more.

Stewardson:

- Collaborated with the First National Bank of Waterloo to organize Pictures with Santa on December 15th. The pictures and cookies were free, but they also collected donations for foster children.
- Offered a cookie walk and a snowman painting class as part of 'Jingle and Mingle' on December 1st. Funds raised were donated to park improvements.
- Helped organize a Halloween Harvest Parade with prizes for best costumes and offered food and a cake walk after the parade.



Pictures with Santa organized by COWS and the First National Bank of Waterloo.

Strasburg:

- SCAN formed the 'Little Hatchets Sports Club' for children ages pre-school to 2nd grade, and so far, 10 volunteers are working with 38 kids.
- Organized the annual 'Santa Brigade Breakfast and Market.' Event raised \$3,000 and approximately 150 attended.
- Hosted 'Dining in the Dark' fundraiser which and raised \$500.
- Sold 2 lots in the York Acres Subdivision and raised \$5,000.
- Held a car show which raised \$4,000 and had over 100 visitors.

Sullivan:

- Organized an event for Small Business Saturday and gave away two Little Theater on the Square season tickets and \$250 in Sullivan Chamber Bucks.
- Worked with the Little Theater on the Square to offer a free community movie on November 24th.
- Offered hot cocoa and a photo opportunity to Sullivan's Old Fashioned Christmas. Team gave away at least 160 cups of cocoa.



Participants enjoying cocoa during Sullivan's Old Fashioned Christmas.



Painting Pumpkins during Fall Fest On Main in Walnut.

Walnut:

- Hosted second annual Fall Fest Eve with a chili cook-off and pie baking contest. Event had over 100 attendees, and raised about \$500 for future events.
- Coordinated company and individual volunteers to load and haul away the rubble from the previously demolished building and back fill the resulting hole, saving the Village of Walnut approximately \$100,000.
- Sold repurposed bleacher boards and raised about \$1,500 for the Walnut Park Trail during Fall Fest on Main.
- Hosted the first “Pop Up Shop” at the Walnut Main Street Revitalization-owned property during Fall Fest on Main.
- Held a “Cash Mob” shopping event at Pass It Along with over 20 attendees shopping the local non-profit store.



Volunteers ready to scare customers at the Winchester Haunted House.

Winchester:

- Organized a New Year’s Eve Party at the Old School Museum. Event featured live music, hors d’oeuvres, and drinks.
- Offered Memory Trees for sale for Winchester Hometown Christmas. These living trees could be purchased in memory of a loved one and were adorned and displayed around downtown during Winchester Hometown Christmas.
- Sold mugs featuring the Be Local Winchester logo for Ladies Night Out and Hometown Christmas.
- The Civic Group commissioned a mural featuring Lincoln inspired by his poems to Linnie and Rosa. The mural was commissioned as part of the Paint the Town initiative.
- Organized the Haunted House for the community from October 26th to 30th at the old school museum.
- Sold pictures of historic sites during a presentation by a Lincoln impersonator for the Illinois Bicentennial on November 28th.
- Organized volunteers to decorate the square for Christmas.

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

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