



MAPPING

the Future of Your Community

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Highlights of 2017

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





Even Argenta's Welcome Rock got into the holiday spirit



Assumption's 2nd Annual Festival of Trees



Liverpool Legends performing in Carthage



Kids enjoying Durand Charm's movie in the park

Argenta:

- Held first annual Argenta Icefest. The event featured 30 sponsors and 32 craft vendors. The event drew in 1800+ participants and raised \$5,500.
- Hosted an Art Stroll with the artwork of local school children that attracted 127 participants.

Assumption:

- Held the Spring Pop Up Potluck and approximately 50 people attended.
- 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.
- Held a community clean up day on April 29.
- Installed agriculture-themed garbage cans and attached signs with community stories.
- Hosted an AmeriCorps VISTA summer associate to run a summer recreation program for local kids.
- Launched new community website.
- Organized the 2nd Annual Festival of Trees with 13 trees entered. The event raised approximately \$400 and approximately 75 attended.
- Organized a successful jigsaw puzzle competition, with 12 teams participating.

Carthage:

- Held a business luncheon with the theme "Hancock County Ignite!" coordinated 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.
- The World of Wonders (WOW) Park was rebuilt after 4 years of fundraising to raise \$120,000. A ribbon cutting ceremony was held on June 18th attracted 500 participants.
- Hancock County CEO program held their annual trade show at Lake Hill Winery on May 2nd.

Durand:

- Held a meet the candidates event for community members to learn more about candidates running in the spring consolidated election.
- Organized a Spring Fling event in May with inflatables, crafts, concessions and speakers.
- Organized the Candy Cane Lane Craft Show which attracted 1,200 people and raised \$4,500.
- Hosted 'Halloween on the Square' which was attended by approximately 200 people.
- Coordinated the Harvest Hayride that was attended by approximately 225 people and raised \$200.
- Organized a Scarecrow Contest that 600 people participated in.
- Coordinated the 'Merry and Bright' lighting contest that approximately 100 people participated in.

Elizabeth:

- Organized an open house event involving all available businesses titled “The Road to Possibilities”. Goal is to attract new businesses to town.
- Created the 2nd annual Elizabeth and Hanover Visitors’ Guide.
- Hosted the Business Expo, with over 40 participating businesses, in conjunction with Stockton and Hanover.
- Organized Scarecrow Festival with 15 local businesses participating.
- Hosted 24th Annual Autumn Craft Show with 4,900 attendees.
- Organized Santa Dash and 35 people participated in the mile long race wearing Santa hats.

Findlay:

- Held a clean-up event with Okaw Valley students, placing flower planters, cleaning sidewalks, and laying mulch on the community garden and park playground.
- Participated in Main Street Makeover and planted flower pots with solar lights, painted downtown buildings, and cleaned windows and sidewalks.
- Partnered with Windsor on the annual “FLIP ‘N WHAT” Golf Outing.
- Organized FLIP for Findlay 5k Run/Walk. The event raised \$981 and 49 runners participated.

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.
- Girard held a Krispy Kreme donut fundraiser to raise money for the Macoupin Valley Trail. The event raised approximately \$3,000.
- Worked with the City to collect 2400 pounds of plastic caps/lids and had three picnic tables created for the park thru Green Tree Plastics.
- Raised an additional \$8,000 for the future development of the Macoupin Valley Trail.
- Received a grant for \$1,000 from DuPont Pioneer for the Macoupin Valley Trail.



Poster promoting Elizabeth's Music in the Park program



Findlay's pots decorated for fall



Booth promoting Elizabeth tourism at the Elizabeth Business Fair



Runners all geared up in Santa hats ready for the Santa Dash in Elizabeth



The winners of the 3rd annual cardboard boat regatta



A Storybook Christmas is not complete in Hillsboro without the Grinch and Abe



Fall mums and pumpkins at the LaHarpe Farmers Market



Pana Pride added trees to the downtown streetscape

Hillsboro:

- 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.
- Hillsboro researched available property for development. They hired an engineering firm to help develop two locations, one for a subdivision and one for a senior living facility.
- Worked closely with CTI to expand fiber connectivity in Hillsboro, including getting signatures of residents in support of the CTI expansion.
- Hillsboro hosted the 3rd Annual Imagine Hillsboro Cardboard Boat Regatta, more than 500 attended.
- Recruited volunteers to work with local school with MVP program.
- Spooktacular Scramble – 3-person scramble format golf tournament with Halloween themed Tricks & Treats.
- Held the 3rd annual Harvest Market October 7, 2017. This year's Harvest Market included a scarecrow decorating contest and a Harvest Market chili cook-off.
- Organized 2017 "A Storybook Christmas" – including tree lighting ceremony, breakfast with Santa, Frosty 5K, horse drawn carriage rides, and a crafts fair. Created pocket-sized schedules for attendees.
- Promoted a Pop up Art Show at the new Black Rabbit Coffee Shop.

LaHarpe:

- Launched the 2017 Farmers Market which continued all summer on Tuesdays.
- Collaborated with the Park District and LaHarpe Caring Citizens on an Easter Egg Hunt in April.
- Hosted a Harvest Show Down yard decorating competition.
- Helped organize and promote La Harpe Country Christmas.

Lanark:

- Launched Farmers Market and added "Junk in the Trunk" twice a month, where residents sell their garage sale type items out of their trunks during the Farmers Market.
- Coordinated the 1st Pro-Am Chili Cook Off.
- Lanark Area Community Foundation began establishing a 3rd endowment to support the foundation.
- Hosted Jingle Fest – an old fashioned Christmas celebration with a vendor fair, pictures with Santa, and more.

Martinsville:

- Organized the 3rd annual Red Neck Pool Party.
- Offered 3 performances at the Lynn Park Amphitheater.
- Organized the Jingle Bell Run.
- Decorated a float for the light parade.
- Organized caroling, petting zoo, free food and a bonfire during the Hometown Christmas celebration.

McLean:

- McLean raised \$650 in donations for the Adopt-a-Pot program and used the funds to plant 16 large planters downtown.

Mount Carroll:

- Sponsored the Mount Carroll homecoming street dance.

Neoga:

- Held fish fry event, hosted by the Neoga Veterans' Memorial committee. They had 25 volunteers, served 250 people, and raised \$1,000.
- Neoga held a breakfast in conjunction with Neoga Days on June 17th. The event raised \$390 with 12 volunteers and approximately 150 participants present.
- Neoga held the 3rd Annual Sooeey Fest.
- Organized the Children's Shopping Spree for the holidays. Approximately 100 children participated.
- Held a bake sale and raised \$330 for new Christmas lights and decorations.
- Added an additional 42 names to the veterans memorial.

Oregon:

- Working on the Bicycle Man art project with local artist, Jon Barnhart.
- Raised \$1,500 to start free family movie nights at the Oregon Coliseum.
- Held Chocolate Walk, showcasing local businesses.
- Partnered with the Oregon Chamber of Commerce on the first "Rockin' River Fest" on June 7th. The event included a triathlon, a tug of war over the Rock River, a bags competition, a business showcase, two stages featuring local and regional musical performers/bands and more. The group raised approximately \$20,000 to put on the event and approximately 1,000 people attended.
- Bike planters were placed around town. Nine bikes were adopted for \$50 each by community organizations and installed above planters. Signs were added to recognize the donors.
- Volunteers started painting 20 to 30 bikes that will be adopted for \$10 each and placed around town. A designated mystery bike will be moved from place to place and there will be a contest to find the mystery bike.
- Hosted monthly community movies at the Coliseum and raised \$200.

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.
- Partnered with the school to paint rocks for Pana Retail Rocks Scavenger Hunt during the Hot Rods for Cancer car show.
- Organized Cookies and Cocoa with Santa event for children to meet Santa and have their picture taken. Approximately \$1500 was raised and 250 people attended.
- Committee had a booth and collected \$1000 in donations from people enjoying the holiday lights for next year's event.
- Beautified City Hall grounds with new landscaping, curb painting, mulch, etc.

Rushville:

- Received a \$10,000 anonymous donation to help fund the development of a local YMCA branch. Work continues to bring a YMCA satellite location to Rushville. The group has toured possible locations and visited a similar facility in Barry, IL.
- Organized ribbon cuttings for 3 new businesses.



A colorful bike adds to the curb appeal in Oregon



Lights, benches and greenery have transformed a downtown alleyway in Oregon



Pana Pride float in the Pana Labor Day Parade



Pictures with Santa's reindeer in Rushville



Volunteers are up early to make pancakes for the Breakfast and Santa Brigade



Local store, "Pass it Along" gives back to community for future improvements



The poster for the Little Free Library event in Stewardson



Movie in the park attendees enjoyed using photo booth props before the movie

Savanna:

- Organizing the 3rd Annual Plant and Bake Sale.
- Donated 36 new flags to be flown on Main Street during the Flags for Main Street event.
- Held the initial "First Friday" of the season, hosted by Main Street in Motion
- Savanna held the 3rd annual plant and bake sale. The event raised \$1,438 and approximately 200 people attended.
- Organized a flamingo decorating contest for August's First Friday.
- Organized a fundraiser during First Friday for a local dog rescue.
- Partnered with Jo-Carroll Solid Waste on a recycling event.

Shelby County Partners:

- Coordinated a county wide "Main Street Makeover." The 5 participating MAPPING communities held clean up events such as planting flowers and painting storefronts.
- The CEO class is progressing, and the inaugural class of 16 students was announced in May.
- Worked with the Shelby County Bicentennial Committee to apply for a Smithsonian traveling exhibit that will be in Shelbyville from December 2018 to January 2019. Committee raised \$2,000 for events.
- VISTA volunteer organized a food drive to benefit the Methodist Food Pantry in Shelbyville.
- VISTA volunteer assisted in a 'Dacey's Hollow Haunted Trail' fundraiser that raised \$1,605 for the Chautauqua preservation.
- VISTA helped organize a Festival of Lights Soup Supper that raised \$1,044 and was attended by 175 people.

Stewardson:

- Hosted the 7th annual "Hoofin it to the Cow" 5K race.
- Held a Little Free Library tour with prizes, book sales, and story time.
- Hosted Halloween Harvest Parade and Costume Contest.
- Organized a Drive-Thru Cook Out fundraiser.
- Held the Small Town Throw Down cooking competition.
- Organized 'Santa is Coming to Stewardson' with 1st National Bank of Stewardson.

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.
- Organized Fall into Stockton festival.
- Coordinated the NW IL Art and Jazz Fest.
- Participated in the NW IL Daily Drawing fundraiser.

Strasburg:

- Continuing “The Gym” vouchers project.
- Strasburg Community Foundation awarded 3 grants in May.
- Strasburg held a quarter auction that raised \$380.98.
- The Strasburg Strawberry Fest and Farmers Market kick off on June 1st. The event raised approximately \$800 and attracted over 200 people.
- Organized a car show and model car show. Approximately 200 people attended and the event raised \$2000.
- Completed a 10 year update of the MAPPING program.
- Coordinated the annual Breakfast and Santa Brigade that attracted approximately 250 participants and raised \$2200.
- ‘Holiday Stroll Through Strasburg’ and Soup Supper raised \$800 and had approximately 100 participants.
- Continued promoting the lots at York Acres. Flyers are available in 4 major businesses in Shelbyville. Another new lot will break ground by the end of December.



Strasburg's car show was a huge success!

Walnut:

- Walnut held a Nerf War a day after the end of school. Twenty volunteers assisted the 75 kids who participated. The event raised \$421.
- Held their MAPPING town meeting with over 200 in attendance.
- Planned the 2nd Annual Walnut Fall Fest on Main with children's activities, a chili cook-off, a fun run and more.
- The Walnut Main Street Revitalization, a 501 c3 started by the MAPPING group, purchased and renovated a neglected building to become the new home of the Pass it Along resale shop. Over fifty volunteers transformed the abandoned building into a new second hand store that will raise money for community betterment.
- Raised \$6,699 with a mattress fundraiser for Walnut Main Street Revitalization.
- Walnut organized a one mile fun run. Approximately 60 runners participated and raised \$300.
- Hosted a chili cook-off that raised about \$240 and 100 people attended.
- Received a donation of \$10,000 from local shop, Pass it Along, for future walking and biking trails.



Cash mobbers set to mob the local hardware store in Walnut



Nerf War underway in Walnut

Williamsfield:

- Williamsfield planted flowers downtown and arranged for flower maintenance for the summer.
- The community also created a free putt-putt golf course in Doubet Benjamin Park.

Windsor:

- Held the Community Building Open House and annual Super Bowl Luncheon with over 200 community members participating.
- Windsor worked with Findlay on the annual “FLIP ‘n’ What” golf outing that raised \$697.
- Organized the 9th Annual Windsor Harvest Picnic 5k.
- WHAT had a booth at the Harvest Picnic to sell pies, t-shirts, and provide information on the WHAT community organization.
- Held the annual fall mum sale.



New public putt putt golf course in Williamsfield

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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



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