Murphysboro Minute November/December 2018

UPCOMING EVENTS

Community

Thanksgiving Dinner

Thursday, November 22nd

Plum Street Home Association 606 Plum Street

Holiday Shop

& Vendor Craft Fair

Saturday, November 24th

Murphysboro Event

Center-1329 Walnut St.

10 a.m.-4 p.m.



Second Annual Tree

<u>Lighting Ceremony</u>

Friday, November 30th

Town Center Park

6 p.m.—8 p.m.

<u>Community</u>

Christmas Dinner

Tuesday, December 25th

Plum Street Home Association

606 Plum Street

From the Desk of Mayor Will Stephens

"How did it get so late so soon." Dr. Suess

Every time I write one of these newsletters I think about what Dr. Suess said about time. The Holidays are upon us once again, and it seems like they just ended a few weeks ago. A few notes about the upcoming holiday and Christmas season, progress, and new hires will be the primary focus of this newsletter.

The second annual Tree Lighting Ceremony will be held at Town Center Park on Friday November 30^{th} from 6-8 p.m. Last year was a tremendous success, and this year will be even better. Additional carriage rides will be available this year, more lights are planned throughout the downtown area, and in typical Murphysboro fashion it is all because a group of volunteers have been busy. Mark your calendars, and be sure to thank the organizers of the Hometown Christmas Committee when you see them around town. They include Jamie Stewart-Green, Tonya Diehl, Amy Novara Murphy, Linda Polete, Jim Stewart, Jim Murphy, Emily Eisert, and I am certain others that I am forgetting. Thanks to all that make it happen. Make sure to like the Murphysboro Hometown Christmas page on Facebook to stay current on all the events they have going on between now and December 25^{th} .

I am pleased that three street projects are underway as I write this newsletter on October 31st. The milling and overlay of Bridgewood Lane, Shomaker Drive, and Hanson Street are underway. These stretches of roadway were in severe need of repair, and getting them improved is just one more example of Murphysboro City Government working for its citizens.

Thank you to all of the churches that held Trunk or Treat events on 10-30-18. Due to poor weather, Murphysboro and other communities in Southern Illinois decided to move the official Trick or Treating hours up 24 hours. With the citywide text messaging service, Facebook messages, and the school districts communication channels everyone was able to enjoy Halloween without any added complications from rain and wind.

Most of you know Murphysboro has new Police and Fire Chiefs. Fire Chief Steve McBride joined the City of Murphysboro in late September. Chief McBride has deep roots in the Murphysboro community and was formerly the Assistant Chief for the City of Carbondale. Jamie Ellermeyer started as Police Chief on October 22nd. Chief Ellermeyer is the former Chief of Police for the City of DuQuoin, and also was a lead member of the Perry/Washington County Drug Task Force. He and his wife are looking forward to becoming part of the community.

I always like to remind people that our community has so many organizations that are always in need of volunteers. Take time to learn more about the Murphysboro Youth and Rec Center, Murphysboro Park District, Murphysboro Senior Citizens Center, Jackson County Historical Society, John A. Logan Museum, Murphysboro Kiwanis, Murphysboro Elks Lodge, Murphysboro Relay for Life, Friends of Murphysboro, Murphysboro Main Street, Murphysboro Hometown Christmas, or any of the Murphysboro area Churches. They all provide an opportunity to get involved and make Murphysboro grow into the future. Consider lending your talents to one of these great organizations.

I am always ready to meet with people who have concerns <u>mayor@murphysboro.com</u> or call 618-684-4961.

Mayor Will Stephens

