

## UPCOMING

## EVENTS

Friday, June 3rd & Saturday, June 4th

Wounded Warrior Weekend

Murphysboro VFW Post 7190



Friday, June 3rd

Relay For Life ~ Riverside Park

6:00 P.M. — 12:00 A.M.



Murphysboro Cruise Night

Downtown Murphysboro

April—September, 1st Saturday of the Month



## From the Desk of Mayor Will Stephens

I know that as spring rolls into summer the temperatures will be rising; despite the fact that as I write this on May the 3rd it is 55 degrees outside. Weather in Southern Illinois always bears out the saying "if you don't like it, just wait, it will change." One of my other favorite weather related sayings is "everyone complains about the weather, but no one ever does anything about it." That was a favorite of my late great grandfather Henry Jackson.

Although I can't do much about the weather, in this edition of the Murphysboro Minute I will update you on a few things that the City is trying to "do something about", and pass along some information concerning ongoing projects in the City of Murphysboro.

1) First, the new Waste Water Treatment Plant is moving along rapidly. As of May the 3rd the project is 70% complete according to the City Engineer Harold Sheffer. If everything continues at this pace, the project should be completed about 3 months ahead of schedule. The mild winter played a large part in putting the project ahead of schedule, but the diligence of River City Construction, and the subcontractors has not gone unnoticed. Hats off to all of them for doing a great job, and in turn saving the City and tax payers money.

2) Many people have followed the recent news coverage surrounding the Old Depot on the corner of Walnut and South 17th Street. It is my hope that the conversations that have occurred will spur on new action on that property. It is a beautiful part of downtown Murphysboro, and I want to thank everyone who emailed, wrote, called, and attended the council meetings to weigh in on how they could potentially help the ownership make that property shine again.

3) This time of year brings with it many events in Murphysboro. Murphysboro Cruise Night continues to be a huge success. Starting in April and running through September, Cruise Nights are held the first Saturday of each month at 6 pm in the area surrounding Smysor Plaza. This event brings hundreds of classic cars, and hundreds of people to Murphysboro from out of town. It is also a very family friendly event where you can get a hot dog, soda and chips for a donation of any amount. What a great deal! Also, I want to mention that the Murphysboro VFW is once again hosting Wounded Warrior Weekend. June 3rd and 4th at the VFW Post 7190 and Carbon Lake Club will be hosting 10 soldiers from the 101st Airborne stationed at Fort Campbell Kentucky. There will be a street dance featuring music from Murphy 500, as well as a dinner and auction Friday night June 3rd and Saturday, June 4th Carbon Lake Club will host a fishing and shooting match for the soldiers. Join them if you can! Also, the City is once again planning to host a series of Sunset Concerts every Thursday in August from 6:30 - 8:30 pm. Details on performers coming soon.

4) Lastly, Murphysboro Crime Stoppers continues to be a service that I encourage people to use. If you have information that leads to an arrest, you can be eligible for a cash reward. Just call 687-COPS. You remain totally anonymous throughout the process, and it helps to fight crime in Murphysboro when the Police Department has all the information possible.

Till next time,

Will Stephens  
Mayor

**Murphysboro**

**Farmer's Market**

**Begins Saturday, May 7th**