



**From the Desk of Mayor Will Stephens**

**UPCOMING EVENTS**

**Art Wine and Blues Fest**  
**September 10**

**Apple Festival**  
**September 14-17**



**BBQ Cook-off**  
**September 22-24**

**Community Night Out**  
**October 4<sup>th</sup>**

**BrewFest**  
**October 15th**

**Farmers Market**  
**Every Saturday Morning**  
**8am – 12pm**

**Halloween**  
**Trick or Treat**  
**October 31<sup>st</sup> – 5-8p**



“I wanted to figure out why I was so busy, but I couldn't find the time to do it.”  
Yogi Berra

- Fall has arrived and there is so much going on in Murphysboro that many of you reading this newsletter may be able to relate to the quote above. The Apple Festival, Art Wine and Blues Festival, 17th Street Praise the Lard Barbecue Cookoff, The Big Muddy Brewfest, are all scheduled to happen in the coming months. All of these events are the product of countless hours of preparation, hard work, and planning. Thank you to everyone that comes together to make these events happen. They are truly the type of things that make our town a HOME town.

- You may have read in the newspaper or seen on television that Murphysboro Police Chief Brian Hollo is retiring at the beginning of October. Chief Hollo came to the department nearly 3 years ago and has accomplished great things. During his time as Chief of Police the department was able to purchase a new fleet of police cars without raising taxes. The police training center and shooting range was completed. The evidence room has been completely re-organized. Our department is now better trained than ever before, and I believe more professional because of that training. Chief Hollo plans on returning to Litchfield to spend more time with his family. I respect and understand that decision, but he will be missed. The search is underway during the writing of this newsletter (9-1-16) for a new Chief of Police and I believe we have a host of very qualified applicants. Stay tuned for more information on that in the coming weeks.

- I am told that we are approximately 30 days away from officially being online with the new Waste Water Treatment Plant. A formal press release and ribbon cutting will occur when that happens, which I hope is no later than mid October.

- Worthy of note is that the dates and times of City Council Meetings have changed. Now City Council meetings are the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays at 7 pm at the City Council Chambers. All are welcome to attend.

Until Next time,

Mayor Will Stephens

[www.murphysboro-il.gov](http://www.murphysboro-il.gov) or 618-684-4961

