



Dear Carbondale,

Last month, our number of COVID-19 positives in Jackson County continued to rise. This month, thanks to our residents and business owners' diligent efforts, I am happy to say we are seeing fewer cases once again.

October is typically one of the busiest months of the year in Carbondale, with several fall events leading up to Halloween. This year, as you would expect, celebrations will look different. Unfortunately, there will be no pumpkin race, pumpkin glow, or Murdale Safe Halloween. However, we plan to allow trick-or-treating and ask that all residents adhere to the guidelines put in place by the Illinois Department of Public Health. We hope you participate in the virtual Halloween activities the City has planned, including the pumpkin carving contest and mask decorating contest.

Despite the setbacks brought on by the pandemic, the start of Fall has been busy. The fall semester at SIU is in full swing, and students are safely living and learning in Carbondale. Governor JB Pritzker also made a stop in town recently to express the importance of completing the 2020 census. Your response will help bring federal dollars to our community to support low income students in our schools, and those with special needs. Your response will also help us maintain roads and bridges and support public transportation. Thank you to everyone who completed the survey and helped make Carbondale count!

Sincerely,

John "Mike" Henry
Mayor of Carbondale