

Petition Packets for City Council Elections Available in the City Clerk's Office

In April 2015, the City of Carbondale will hold an election to select a Mayor and three City Council Members for four-year terms. Information and petition forms are available in the City Clerk's Office.

This election will be for the seats presently held by Acting Mayor Donald Monty, Councilwoman Jane Adams, Councilman Lance Jack, and Councilwoman Corene McDaniel. The seats of City Council Members Lee Fronabarger, Carolin Harvey, and Jessica Bradshaw expire in 2017.

Signed nominating petitions

must be submitted to the City Clerk's Office during the statutory filing period of Monday, November 17, through Monday, November 24, 2014. Candidates should consult the 2015 Candidates Guide available through the Illinois State Board of Elections website at www.elections.il.gov and are strongly advised to obtain legal counsel regarding their qualifications for office and how to correctly circulate, complete and file their petitions.

If five or more candidates file for the Mayoral seat or thirteen or

more candidates file for the three City Council positions, a primary election will be held on Tuesday, February 24, 2015. The General Election will be held on April 7, 2015 and the elected Mayor and City Council Members will take office on May 5, 2015.

The City Clerk's Office is located in Room 165 of City Hall, 200 S. Illinois Avenue. Regular office hours are 8:00 a.m. through 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday. Phone inquiries may be addressed to the City Clerk's Office at 549-5302.

Mayor's Corner

Welcome to SIUC students and other new members of our community. Where did "summer" go? According to the calendar, "summer" ends about September 21 each year. In practice, many people think of Labor Day as being the end of "summer." But in Carbondale, we all know that "summer" ends when school begins. For local school children summer ended when school began in mid-August, and for SIUC students "summer" ended with the beginning of classes on August 18. Reconciling these different ending times for "summer" can be confusing. "Summer" may be over, but the daytime temperatures can still be into the 90's into October. However, this summer, we had nights when the temperatures were down in the 50's.

But no matter how you define "summer," change is happening. Family vacation-time is over. Cedar Lake beach closes after Labor Day. Students are "hitting the books." Football, soccer, and softball are in the air. The cooler temperatures which typically begin in September make hiking in the Shawnee National Forest, at Giant City State Park and on Green Earth's trails more inviting. Students returning to SIUC bring more activity to the community. Streets and stores are busier. There are far more events (sports, lectures, entertainment, etc.) on the University campus, many of which are open to members of the entire community. Carbondale Main Street will resume its popular Wednesday Brown Bag Lunch concerts. Community



Mayor Donald D. Monty

organizations like Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts and the Boys and Girls Club of Carbondale gear up their fall programs.

Whether you are new to Carbondale, have been here for decades, or somewhere in between, I encourage you to take advantage of the many opportunities to participate in activities in the community. Also, many organizations are looking for volunteers. Can you coach a team? Do you like to work with youth groups? Do you have an interest in environmental groups? Could you volunteer at a school? Would you organize a Neighborhood Watch group for your block? Helping others is very rewarding.

We are all part of the community. In the midst of our busy lives going to school or work, raising children, mowing the lawn, etc., we need to save some times for ourselves and our community. Enjoy all that there is to do in Carbondale and share that joy with others.

The Carbondale Downtown Master Plan Advisory Committee - The Journey Begins

The Downtown Advisory Committee has been holding meetings that will include a broad look at the ideas that the public and members of the committee bring forward to improve the Carbondale downtown. Meetings are scheduled every two weeks, focusing on topics such as transportation, business development, and the interface between SIU/SIH.

The last effort to develop a Downtown Master Plan for Carbondale was completed in 1989. Significant recommendations that were enacted by the City of Carbondale included: City Hall was consolidated and the new Civic Center was built; the Town Square was rehabilitated and the Old Illinois Central Railroad Station was restored; and the City implemented a railroad underpass on Mill Street that has helped alleviate long lines of traffic going east and west.

The Carbondale City Council has directed that extensive public participation be encouraged from the residents, business owners and developers, as well as input from visitors to the City. "We plan to seek participation from all our

constituents," said Jack Langowski, Committee Chair. "We have scheduled a series of six or more meetings, up front, and before we engage a consulting firm. This will allow us to develop our own local plan for the consultant to act on, and not the reverse. We don't want an off-the-shelf plan for Downtown." All 18 members of the committee are volunteers who care about Carbondale and are working to generate the best plan for downtown development. The committee also invites interested citizens to follow their progress on their web page at www.downtowncarbndale.com and to get in touch with the committee at downtownplan@ci.carbondale.il.us.

For additional information and to learn more about the Committee meetings and progress, visit the Downtown Master Plan Advisory Committee Web site where you will find notices of upcoming meetings, meeting minutes and related announcements. The site also includes extensive information pertaining to Carbondale development and history.

Members of the Committee

- Jack Langowski** – Chairman
- Bob Bleyer** – Bank Of Carbondale
- Dan Boeckman** – SIH
- Marie Bukowski** – Director of the School of Art and Design SIU
- Sally Carter** – Owner of Hangar 9
- Meghan Cole** – Director of Carbondale Main Street
- Nathan Colombo** – Marketing Consultant
- D. Gorton** – Photojournalist and property owner
- Kristin Gregory** – former Executive Director of Carbondale Chamber of Commerce
- Adrian Miller** – SIU student
- Melissa Parson** – Owner of Pagliai's Pizza
- Stephanie Pink-Harper** – Political Science Professor SIU
- Elaine Ramseyer** – General Manager of Long Branch Café and Bakery
- Pradeep Reddy** – Pediatrician and property owner
- Kris Schachel** – Sustainability Director SIU
- George Sheffer** – Owner of Murdale True Value
- Jason Sigler** – Marketing Director for High Line Ideas
- Dan Terry** – Restaurateur and property developer

Carbondale City Council Meeting Schedule

All regular meetings begin at 7:00 p.m. and will be held in City Council Chambers at the Carbondale Civic Center. Any changes to this meeting schedule will be published in accordance with the Illinois Open Meetings Act. Additional local government meetings are listed on the calendar on page 7.

September / October 2014

September 30	October 14	October 28
Regular City Council Meeting	Regular City Council Meeting	Regular City Council Meeting

www.explorecarbndale.com