

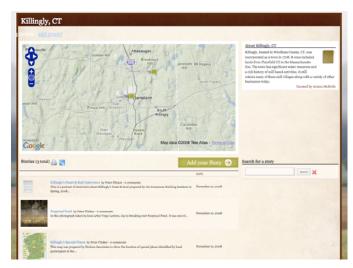
# **Community Almanac**

## What is a Community Almanac?

It's a place on the web where you and others in your community can share stories about the heart and soul of the place you live. When you visit a Community Almanac you can read, hear, and see stories contributed by your neighbors that encapsulate life in your community. You're invited to share your own stories, too. And all of the interconnected stories are connected to local places on an interactive map of your town.

### How Does the Almanac Work?

Each Community Almanac is set up and run by local volunteers you. You can get started and set up your Almanac now by going to <u>www.communityalmanac.org</u>. If someone from your town has already created an Almanac, you can post a story, read existing stories, and get reacquainted with your town. It's easy to add stories yourself, and even easier to see what others have contributed. The site is a map of your town, and you click or draw on it to give your story a place.



You can share "stories" in all sorts of formats: text, photos, audio and videos all work. It's easy to add them and to see what others have posted. This way, you can choose in which format you prefer to express yourself.

#### It's about Heart & Soul Community

The Orton Family Foundation coined the term "heart & soul community" to talk about the places, characteristics, history, traditions, issues (even feuds) that make your town unique; that make you glad you live there.

# It's available for free!

Community Almanac is sponsored by the <u>Orton Family Foundation</u> and <u>The Open</u> <u>Planning Project</u>.

Community Almanac's non-profit sponsors want to help communities articulate, implement and steward their Heart & Soul. The Almanac is a medium for residents to share their values and vision with others, which will promote more inclusive, collaborative and proactive decision-making about the future.

#### **Orton Family Foundation**

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