



For me, the month of August has always stirred a sense of energy and excitement. While raising my children, I always looked forward to shopping for school supplies, registering for classes, and organizing schedules. With August 9th being National Book Lovers Day, I want to encourage our students and entire community to increase daily reading time. The Pew Research Center reports that reading enthusiasts are more likely to graduate high school, earn higher incomes, and be less stressed. Furthermore, a study of K-12 student reading habits demonstrated six extra minutes of reading a day can turn a struggling reader into one who meets or surpasses his/her grade's benchmark. So let us encourage our kids to read more and be an example by allowing them to see us reading as well. I look forward to doing my part and making my rounds to the schools this coming year to encourage our students in their academics and read by example.

KANKAKEE CONNECTIONS

AUGUST 2019

Office of the Mayor · 304 South Indiana Avenue, Kankakee, IL 60901
citykankakee-il.gov · 815-933-0502 @kankakeeil @citykankakee

Community Outreach & Events

FREE Kankakee Municipal Band Concert in the Park

Thursday, August 8, 2019 @ Palzer Band Shell, Bird Park
 7:00 PM – 9:00 PM

Friday After 5 Concert

Every Friday in August @ Harold and Jean Miner Festival Square
 199 S. East Ave. Kankakee
 5:00 PM - 9:00 PM

Mingle with the Mayor

Saturday, August 10, 2019 @ Monical's Pizza
 1155 W. Court St., Kankakee
 11:30 AM – 1:00 PM

Kankakee School District #111 Back to School Bash

Tuesday, August 13, 2019 @ Harold and Jean Miner Festival Square
 199 S. East Ave. Kankakee
 4:30 PM – 7:30 PM

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MORE INFORMATION TO COME

July Press Releases

July 22, 2019

Mayor Wells-Armstrong Elected President of Kankakee County Convention & Visitors Bureau (KCCVB)

The KCCVB Board elected new officers during its annual meeting - new board members are appointed to two-year terms. Mayor Chasity Wells-Armstrong, City of Kankakee, will serve as President; Dayna Heitz, Kankakee Valley Park District, will serve as Vice-President; Laurie Cyr, Village of Bourbonnais, will serve as Secretary; Mayor Tim Nugent, Village of Manteno, will serve as Treasurer.

July 26, 2019

Kankakee Riverfront Master Plan Wins Award

The Illinois Chapter of the American Society of Landscape Architects presented a Merit Award to the City of Kankakee for its Kankakee Riverfront Master Plan. Mayor Chasity Wells-Armstrong accepted the award on behalf of the citizens and community leaders who invested countless hours on the transformational plan.

City Council Actions

July 1, 2019

City Council voted in an ordinance adopting Tax Increment Financing (TIF) for the City of Kankakee **Riverfront Tax Increment Financing (TIF) District** and approved the City of Kankakee Riverfront TIF District Redevelopment Project Plan and Project.

July 15, 2019

The City of Kankakee passed a **balanced annual budget** for the fiscal year beginning May 1, 2019 and ending April 30, 2020. To view the budget online visit: edocs.citykankakee-il.gov/MunicipalBudget/

OR [GOVERNMENT](#) ▾ Mayor & City Council Annual Municipal Budget

City Council voted to approve the **refunding of general obligation and sewer bonds** which total approximately \$975,000 in savings to the City of Kankakee. A series of three general obligation bonds in the amount of \$17,140,000 will be refinanced saving taxpayers approximately \$874,700. In addition, a sewer bond in the amount of \$1,730,000 will be refinanced saving taxpayers approximately \$100,300.

Monthly Observances

August is **National Water Quality Month**. The average person uses approximately 80 gallons of water or more per day for bathing, cleaning, household waste, and drinking water. Aqua's 2019 Kankakee Division Water Quality Report, PWSID# IL0915030 reported that we are in compliance with all water quality regulations in 2018.



Support Teachers in August!

Teachers accept the responsibility to educate our next generation. Let's acknowledge and support them by getting an understanding of what life is like inside a classroom. Let's respect their tireless effort to educate, despite daily challenges.

Now Hiring!



Interested parties are encouraged to visit the City of Kankakee website to complete an application for the following positions:

- 2020 Census Jobs
- Building Inspector
- Lab Analyst

New City Team Members

Jasmyne Humble
Communications and Marketing Coordinator, City of Kankakee

Jonathan Shinabarger
Staff Accountant, Community Development Agency