



February is Black History Month, a time to celebrate the culture and achievements of Blacks in US history. Though trauma and oppression are imbedded in the experience of Black Americans, so are resilience and brilliance. Blacks have and continue to make impactful contributions that advance fields of medicine, education, military science, public service, and the moral compass. Let us take time to reflect on who we were during the early days of this country and be an example of creating an equitable community where everyone is respected, afforded opportunities and valued for their contributions.

KANKAKEE CONNECTIONS

FEBRUARY 2020

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

Community Outreach & Events

Updates



Deadline Approaches for Mayor Wells-Armstrong African American Civic Leaders' Scholarship

Scholarships will be awarded to help graduating high school seniors and full-time college students in the amount of \$2,000 per student. An event will be held to recognize the recipients based on academics, positive leadership, extra-curricular school activities and community involvement. In order to be selected, applicants must interview with the scholarship committee. No taxpayer funds are utilized for the scholarships. The deadline to submit an application is **Friday, February 28, 2020**. For more information on requirements and procedures, visit our website at www.citykankakee-il.gov. The application is located under Mayor's Initiatives and has been emailed to all area schools in the City of Kankakee.

Economic and Community Development Agency (ECDA) Recovers Approximately \$1.5 Million in Grant Funding

Kankakee Economic and Community Development Agency (ECDA) was recently awarded \$1,509,212 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds to be used for projects in the 2019 – 2020 program year. Along with \$563,741 of funds from the current year, ECDA staff advocated for \$945,471 of unspent funds in previous years to be made available for community projects. Projects include housing and rehabilitation programs, rehab assistance for immediate needs to address health and safety violations, relocation assistance for those residents utilizing the funds for home improvements, financial assistance to income eligible individuals or families who are purchase ready, improvements to public facilities, and more. For more details, visit citykankakee-il.gov.

City Council Approves Aligning Annual Fees for Liquor and Gaming

Previously, the City of Kankakee's video gaming fees were due February 1st annually. The fees are now due April 30th at the same time as liquor fees. For each 12-month period, an annual fee in the amount of \$250 for each video gaming terminal is paid by the business owner. If you have any questions, call 815-933-0500.

Join the Kankakee Police Department on the Neighbors by Ring App

Neighbors by Ring is the neighborhood watch app that sends real-time crime and safety notifications directly to your cellphone. Text kankakeeil to 555888 to download the app for free.

Congratulations to Missy for being voted as the City of Kankakee's Best Dressed Pet!



For more events or to submit an event, visit citykankakee-il.gov.

Economic and Community Development Agency (ECDA) Program Overview

Tuesday, February 4, 2020 @ ECDA Conference Room in the Kankakee Public Library on the 4th floor
 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM

Schuyler Avenue Streetscape Lighting Ceremony

Tuesday, February 4, 2020 @ the corner of Schuyler and Merchant Downtown Kankakee
 4:30 PM - 5:00 PM

Open Gym

The Kankakee Valley Park District hosts open gym throughout the week at the Kankakee Valley Rec Center. For more information, visit www.kvpd.com or call 815-929-1885.

Bingo with Books

Friday, February 14, 2020 @ Kankakee Public Library
 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM

Sweetie Skate

Friday, February 14, 2020 @ Ice Valley Centre Ice Arena in Kankakee
 7:45PM - 9:45 PM

FREE Movie Showing of "Selma"

Tuesday, February 25, 2020 @ Classic Cinemas Paramount
 5:30 PM (Doors open at 5:00 PM)

Monthly Observances

February is Black History Month!

Take a moment to learn more about those who worked hard and made sacrifices to unite our nation and stand up for civil rights. The City of Kankakee is partnering with Classic Cinemas Paramount and Kankakee United for a free movie showing of "Selma." Please join us for the movie and a discussion to follow on Tuesday, February 25, 2020 at 5:00 p.m.



Now Hiring!



Interested parties are encouraged to visit Human Resources in the City of Kankakee's Administration Building to complete an application for the following position:
 · Substitute crossing guard