



Happy New Year! We start a new decade and I am excited about the upcoming projects and initiatives for the City. January is National Mentoring Month. Mentorship is a relationship in which a more knowledgeable person who has some sort of expertise helps to guide a less experienced person. The City has formed Kankakee United to address the needs of the youth in our community and I am asking adults to identify how they can be intentional in terms of connecting with our impressionable young people. There is an African Proverb that states, "it takes a village to raise a child." These are our kids and we are the village.



KANKAKEE CONNECTIONS

JANUARY 2020

Office of the Mayor · 304 South Indiana Avenue, Kankakee, IL 60901
citykankakee-il.gov · 815-933-0502 · [@kankakeeil](https://www.facebook.com/kankakeeil) · [@citykankakee](https://www.instagram.com/citykankakee) · [@citykankakee](https://twitter.com/citykankakee)

Community Outreach & Events

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



Updates

City of Kankakee Votes 10-4 on Adult-Use Cannabis

Adult-use cannabis becomes legal in state of Illinois on January 1, 2020. City Council voted 10-4 to allow the recreational adult-use of cannabis in the City of Kankakee. Municipalities can adopt ordinances to impose a local tax on the operation of cannabis dispensary of up to three percent. Those dollars can be used toward improving the lives of community members through expungement, mental health, job creation, business development, education, and law enforcement training. City Council also voted 14-0 on the resolution adopting allocations for the funds received from cannabis sales. No final decision on how the funds will be allocated has been made. The funds will go to the City's escrow account where the allocation of those revenues will be determined at a later time.

City of Kankakee Decreases Property Taxes for the Second Year in a Row

City Council voted 14-0 for the levy and assessment of property taxes in the City of Kankakee. For the second year in a row, the City is lowering the tax levy request. The City's equalized assessed valuation (EAV) has increased approximately \$10.96 million from last year. The estimated property tax rate for the City will go from 6.054 to 5.75 percent. For instance, a property owner who has a home with a market value of \$100,000 would see a decrease of about \$85 - \$100 on their tax bill.

Now Accepting Applicants 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.

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](tel:81555888) to 555888 to download the app for free.

City of Kankakee's Best Dressed Pet Contest

Contest runs through January 14, 2020
 Winner and prizes will be announced on January 14, 2020
 Submit your pet photos on our website!

Winter Fest

Saturday, January 4, 2020 @ Ice Valley Centre Ice Arena
 1:00 PM - 4:00 PM

Yoga for Healing

Four-week series begins January 9, 2020 @KC-CASA
 Every Thursday
 5:30 PM - 6:30 PM

Bingo with Books

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

Feed Friday

Friday, January 10, 2020 @ Kankakee Public Library
 11:30 AM - 1:00 PM

Mingle with the Mayor

Saturday, January 11, 2020 @ Burgers & Beer
 11:30 AM - 1:00 PM

Glow Bingo

Friday, January 17, 2020 @ Knights of Columbus
 5:30 PM - 10:00 PM

Bachelor Nation Night with Show Alumni Amber James & Liz Sandoz

Saturday, January 18, 2020 @ Kankakee Public Library
 7:00 PM

Monthly Observances

January is National Mentoring Month!

Mentors and volunteers will be needed for Kankakee United whose mission is to address and reduce gun violence in the community, specifically focusing on our youth. The first meeting for Kankakee United has been set for January 28, 2020. It will be held at the Kankakee Public Library at 5:30 p.m. in the third-floor meeting room. All Kankakee United meetings will be held on the last Tuesday of each month. To view the Kankakee United plan, visit our website at www.citykankakee-il.gov. Information on how to be involved will be provided at the first meeting.



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