



Independence Day marks a time in the year when we commemorate the Declaration of Independence, the document that granted freedom to the original 13 colonies from Britain. As we spend time with our families participating in traditions such as parades, barbeques, baseball games and more, it is my hope that we will continue to have meaningful conversations that challenge the ideals of our forefathers and expands the benefits of freedom to all who reside in our country today.

KANKAKEE CONNECTIONS

JULY 2020

Office of the Mayor
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Updates

Restore Illinois: Phase Four

The state of Illinois is now in Phase Four under the Restore Illinois plan. Phase four allows for the reopening of additional businesses including movie theaters, zoos, museums, outdoor events, gatherings and indoor dining at restaurants operating under limited capacity, as well as, social distancing guidelines. All guidelines, helpful resources and signage can be found on the City of Kankakee's website under Restore Illinois. Mayor Wells-Armstrong stated she will work with City Council to establish an ordinance that would allow outdoor dining for the entire City of Kankakee similar to downtown Kankakee's outdoor dining program. The following restaurants in Kankakee now have outdoor seating available:

- La Cocina Macias
- Burgers & Beer
- Dos Amigos
- Crazy Joe's
- 5 Star Wings
- Carlo's Restaurant
- Oliver's Bar & Grill

City of Kankakee Offices to Reopen on July 6, 2020

City of Kankakee offices will reopen to the public on Monday, July 6, 2020. Anyone entering the building must have on a face covering and social distancing guidelines have been put into place. Hours of operation will remain the same from 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. Monday through Friday. Vehicle stickers will NOT be sold in the Administration Building, but at the drive-up located at 310 S. Schuyler in Kankakee. The City of Kankakee will no longer conduct virtual Zoom meetings now that the state is starting to reopen. All meetings will resume in-person, including City Council which is set for Monday, July 6, 2020 at 7:00 p.m. The City of Kankakee will follow the crowd capacity limitations of no more than 50 people in a space for all in-person meetings.

City of Kankakee Vehicle Stickers Sold at Drive-up Location Only at 310 S. Schuyler Avenue

City of Kankakee residents will be able to obtain their vehicle stickers on Monday, July 6, 2020 through Friday, July 31, 2020 at the drive-up location ONLY at 310 South Schuyler in Kankakee. The hours of operation will be 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. Monday through Friday. Signage will be placed outside of the building. The City is offering this location to continue to prioritize the health and safety of the community in order to make this process safe and accessible for everyone. Sticker fees are \$35 per vehicle and \$70 per vehicle after July 31, 2020.

Kankakee Police Department Approved to Receive ShotSpotter Grant to Help Curb Gun Violence

In an effort to help reduce gun violence, the Kankakee Police Department recently received notification of a grant award for ShotSpotter technology in the amount of \$48,188. ShotSpotter is a real-time gunshot detection and alert system where gunfire activity is monitored 24/7 and police are notified immediately. "By pinpointing the precise location of gunshot incidents and by more accurately tracking geographic patterns underlying gun violence, our law enforcement resources can be deployed more effectively and more proactively," said Police Chief Frank Kosman.

Community Outreach

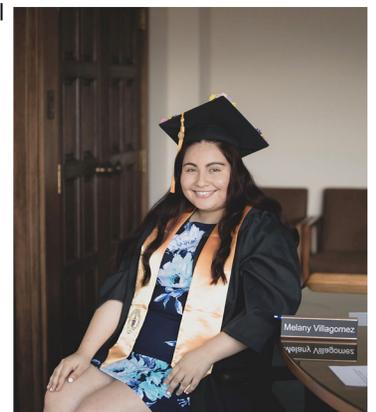
Visit www.citykankakee-il.gov for all updates and check out what's happening in our community!

Congratulations to our "Chalk for Census" winners, Jonathan and Remy! Have you completed the 2020 Census? It takes less than 10 minutes to make our community count! Complete the Census by mail, phone or by visiting www.2020Census.gov.



Meet Melany Villagomez, a Summer intern for the City of Kankakee working in the Mayor's office. Melany was born in Guanajuato, Mexico and came to the U.S. at the age of five. Since then, she has resided in Kankakee with her family and is a 2017 graduate from Kankakee High School. In the Spring of 2019, Melany graduated from Kankakee Community College with honors. She is currently attending Governors State University to receive a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science with a minor in Global Studies and in Sociology.

"Working as an intern for the City of Kankakee has been such an exciting opportunity! I am learning a great deal about local government, as well as, how many new and exciting ventures are coming to Kankakee. Working as an intern has made me realize how much I love local government, but most importantly how much I love our community."



New City Team Members

- Rachel Schramm
- Community Outreach Coordinator, ECDA