



"September is National Hispanic Heritage Month and brings an opportunity to embrace our Hispanic residents who make countless contributions to our community in the fields of business, education, civic engagement, faith-based organizations and so on. Our community is fortunate to have the Hispanic Partnership which advocates for the needs, services and interests of our residents. The organization provides resources including academic scholarships for our Hispanic students. Embracing the diversity of the people who live in our city only strengthens the health of the community and enriches our cultural experiences. Though there are policy decisions being made outside our hometown that are not reflective of an inclusive community, it is my goal to ensure that the Hispanic community feels welcomed and supported by its local government. We are one Kankakee and we will move Kankakee Forward together."

# KANKAKEE CONNECTIONS

## SEPTEMBER 2019

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

### Community Outreach & Events

#### 1st Ward Neighborhood Back to School Bash

Saturday, September 7, 2019 @ Old Fair Park  
 2:00 PM – 6:00 PM

#### Fall Art and Craft Stroll

Sunday, September 8, 2019 in downtown Kankakee  
 11:00 AM - 4:00 PM

#### Hispanic Heritage Day Annual Luncheon

Thursday, September 19, 2019 @ Kankakee Public Library  
 11:30 AM - 1:00 PM

#### Kankakee Chats

Thursday, September 26, 2019  
 Submit your questions  
 7:30 PM - 8:10 PM

#### Mingle with the Mayor

Saturday, September 28, 2019 @ Poor Boy  
 1514 E. Court Street in Kankakee  
 11:30 AM – 1:00 PM

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### MORE INFORMATION TO COME

#### August Press Releases

##### August 7, 2019

*Mayor Chasity Wells-Armstrong Appointed to Illinois Municipal League Resolutions Committee*

The Illinois Municipal League (IML) has appointed Mayor Wells-Armstrong to the Illinois Municipal League Resolutions Committee. Formed in 1913, the Illinois Municipal League represents municipalities in legislative matters before the federal government. Their mission is to help educate, advocate, and empower local leaders to enhance their communities.

##### August 15, 2019

*Kankakee Police Department Has Joined Neighbors by Ring: A New Neighborhood Watch App*

Residents can now partner with the Kankakee Police Department to help reduce crime and improve public safety in the community right from their smartphone. Residents can receive updates and alerts, as well as, share tips with the police. Text kankakeeil to 555888 to download the app for free.

##### August 21, 2019

*Mayor Chasity Wells-Armstrong Presents Plans to Address Gun Violence at Cities United's Annual Convening*

Mayor Wells-Armstrong joined mayors nationwide at the 6th annual Cities United Convening in Hampton, Virginia. Their goal is to help local leaders reduce homicides in their cities by 50%, by the year 2025. Mayor Wells-Armstrong presented at Cities United's convening, bringing awareness to the city of Kankakee and highlighting goals that push *Kankakee Forward*.

##### August 14, 2019

City Council voted 8-4 to approve the proposal for the fiscal year 2020 Open Space Land Acquisition and Development (OSLAD) and the Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) grant applications. The state grant funding that the city of Kankakee is seeking will be to acquire property along the Kankakee River to develop the Kankakee Riverwalk.

##### August 19, 2019

The City of Kankakee voted to move forward with two West River Street purchases. The city council voted 13-0 and one voted present to move forward with two purchase contracts for two tax delinquent properties located on 260 West River Street and 380 West River Street. 260 West River Street is one of the first pieces that will be constructed for the Kankakee Riverwalk.

#### City Council Actions

#### Monthly Observances

September is **National Hispanic Heritage Month**. In the United States, the Hispanic population now stands at more than 58 million, making them the second-largest ethnic group in the nation.



#### National Recovery Month

We are bringing awareness to substance abuse and mental health. Let's acknowledge those who are on the path to recovery. Thank you to our local organizations, programs and staff who dedicate their time and efforts to help those in need.



#### Now Hiring!

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

- Building Inspector
- Driver/Operator

#### New City Team Members

**Linh Williams**  
*Executive Assistant to the Mayor, City of Kankakee*

**Ryan McGinnis**  
*Lab Analyst, Environmental Services Utility*

**Robert Huebner**  
*Officer, Kankakee Police Department*

**Shane McWhorter**  
*Officer, Kankakee Police Department*