

# WASHINGTON *TODAY*

Vol. 18 No. 1

Official Newsletter for the City of Washington, Illinois

Summer 2018

## *From the desk of Mayor Gary W. Manier*



It looks like we moved from winter and straight into summer! We are grateful for our public works crews that worked in all kinds of weather plowing our streets, repairing water main breaks, and keeping up with the services we all appreciate. It seemed that the major snow events occurred on weekends and holidays, taking our employees away from their families. We continue to work on our aging infrastructure in the city and you will soon see projects starting this construction season.

On January 5<sup>th</sup>, Uftring's lost their dealership to an unfortunate fire. This is not where the story ended, Pastor Dave Jane and Connect Church worked with The Uftring Group to secure using the old TSC building. They were able to open quickly to continue doing business here and have begun rebuilding at the same location. Please help support Uftring and show them our appreciation. A special thank you to our Police and Fire for their response to this tragedy as well as those Departments from other communities that were here to help. A ground breaking ceremony was held on May 31<sup>st</sup> and we are looking forward to the Uftring's ribbon cutting on their new building and to Connect's first worship service at their new location!

Thanks to our Chamber of Commerce on a successful Washington Day Banquet and another perfect Good Neighbor Days event. Jacquie Hurd nominated Mark Shipley to receive the 2018 Good Neighbor Award, congratulations Mark! Congratulations to Tom Brecklin as well on winning the Washingtonian Award this year, well deserved!

It was another successful school year here in Washington, I don't have enough room to list everything, but the Panther Wrestling Team won their 3<sup>rd</sup> straight team State Championship and the WCHS Band/ Music won State for their 3<sup>rd</sup> time in 4 years.

On Sunday, July 22<sup>nd</sup> at 2:00 p.m. we will have a parade to thank our first responders and all that came to our rescue after the November, 2013 tornado. This year will mark the five year anniversary – we have come a long way and have so much to be thankful for!

On Friday, July 27<sup>th</sup> the Washington Park District is hosting the annual Washington Night at the Chiefs. Washington will be highlighted throughout the game from the throwing out of the first pitch to a parade of teams to name a few—be sure to join us for an evening filled with fun for the entire family!

As a community reminder, WHIP food pantry continues to be in need for donations. If you would like to make a donation you may contact Lori Weston at (309) 657-6480.

We are so blessed for those who came before us. Let's keep folks in our prayers that have recently lost loved ones.

*Together we can...together we will!*



GOD BLESS WASHINGTON,

*Gary W. Manier*

Gary W. Manier, Mayor

## NEW WATER/SEWER PAYMENT DROP BOX INSTALLED

A new **drive-up drop box** for City of Washington water/sewer utility payments has been installed. As you can see by the photo the drop off box is located on N. Elm Street just north of the City Hall building next to the parking lot. The current drop box located at the west door on N. Elm Street will be closed for use on July 15, 2018 due to potential safety concerns with the stairs, especially during inclement weather. Please note that only City of Washington water/sewer utility payments should be made at this new drop box. Also, please remember there are multiple ways to pay your water/sewer bill:



- ♦ **Snail mail** – we will always accept payments made through the mail – just make sure you leave plenty of time for the Post Office to deliver so we receive payment by the due date in order to avoid those pesky late fees!
- ♦ **In person** – we are also happy to accept your payment in person at City Hall located at 301 Walnut Street.
- ♦ **Bank** – both Washington State Bank (1110 Peoria Street) and Ipava State Bank (116 Washington Square) will accept water payments.
- ♦ **Electronic debit** – if you haven't already, consider signing up for automatic withdrawal from your checking or savings account. You will still receive a bill every month showing usage and amount due, but you never have to worry about being charged a late fee or possibly having service terminated for non-payment. You can request a form at City Hall, by calling 444-8292, or you can download a form from our website at ([www.ci.washington.il.us/egov/documents/1484700349\\_32977.pdf](http://www.ci.washington.il.us/egov/documents/1484700349_32977.pdf)).
- ♦ **Credit card** – credit card payments made through our website online payment center or at City Hall. VISA, Mastercard, American Express and Discover cards are accepted. The payment center can be accessed on our website at ([www.ci.washington.il.us](http://www.ci.washington.il.us)).

If you have any questions about these payment options, please contact the Water Department at 444-8292.

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## BE AWARE OF SUMMERTIME HEAT RELATED ILLNESS!

Our Fire Department shares the following information: Your body normally cools itself by sweating. During hot weather, especially with high humidity, sweating just isn't enough. Your body temperature can rise to



dangerous levels and you can develop a heat illness. Most heat illnesses occur from staying out in the heat too long, but they can also occur indoors from an underlying illness or lack of hydration. Certain medications can cause you to easily become dehydrated as well. Sometimes consuming water may not be enough and the electrolyte Sodium, found in Gatorade-type beverages, is also needed. Call 911 if any signs and

symptoms of a heat related illness are observed. These include: fainting; light-headedness; fast heart rate; red/dry pale skin; headache, body cramps; and severe thirst. *Have a safe and happy summer!*

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## RECENTLY ADOPTED ORDINANCES...



- ♦ Amending code—Chapter 72, Parking Regulations, restricts parking on the east side of Lincoln Street north of Jackson Street
- ♦ Amending code—Chapters 132 & 138, Offenses Against Persons & Drug Control, prohibits distribution of tobacco and smoking equipment to persons under the age of 21
- ♦ Amending code—Chapter 134, Smoke Free Washington, prohibits use of electronic cigarettes in areas where smoking is prohibited
- ♦ Amending code—Chapter 154, Zoning Code, adds new subchapter “Solar Energy Code”
- ♦ Amending code—Chapter 154.236, Permits, increases building permit fees for accessory structures based on the number of inspections required

## DEVELOPMENT HAPPENINGS...

### Special Census Completion



The U.S. Census Bureau wrapped up their on-site operations late last year associated with the completion of a Special Census in Washington. This was done to count those new housing units within areas of the city that have experienced the most growth since the last decennial Census in 2010. As required by the Census Bureau, ten temporary employees were hired to assist with the enumeration. The operation went very well and was completed ahead of schedule. The city's new population of 16,566 was certified by the State of Illinois in March. This officially increases the city's population by 1,432 residents.

Illinois municipalities receive shared funds from the State for income, use, and motor fuel taxes on a per capita basis. After the new population was certified, it is sent to the Illinois Department of Revenue and the City begins receiving new revenue based on this growth by this summer. It is estimated that the City will receive approximately \$600,000 in additional State funds as a result of the Special Census. The population and resulting new revenue will be in place until the 2020 Census is completed and that certified population is certified in the summer of 2021. Thanks to all of the residents within the neighborhoods that were subject to the enumeration for your assistance!

### Home Occupation Regulations

The City of Washington allows for a business to be conducted within a house, which is known as a home occupation. This is defined as: "An accessory use of a dwelling unit for gainful employment which: a) is clearly incidental and subordinate to the use as a residence; and b) is carried on solely within the main dwelling or accessory structure and does not alter or change the exterior character or appearance of the dwelling; and c) is located in a residential district."



A home occupation permit must be obtained prior it being conducted. There are 13 conditions that must be met in order for a home occupation to operate. Among these are the following: 1) There may not be any more than one person employed outside of immediate family members of the family residing in the dwelling unit engaged therein; 2) Not more than six customers or clients may be permitted on the property during any period of 60 consecutive minutes, nor more than 16 in any given 24 hour period; 3) Sufficient parking must be provided on the same lot as the dwelling unit for all home occupation customers and clients, and other business visitors; 4) No pedestrian or vehicular traffic generated by the home occupation shall be permitted on the premises between the hours of 10:00 p.m. and 6:00 a.m.; and 5) No more than one commercial vehicle shall be used in conjunction with the home occupation. Such vehicle must be parked in a garage or residential drive on-site.

*We encourage you to check out all of the great Washington businesses and to shop local!*

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## REMINDER...PETS MUST BE LEASHED AND CLEANED UP AFTER



Please be reminded that all pets are required to be on a leash and to be cleaned up after! Visit the City's website at [www.ci.washington.il.us](http://www.ci.washington.il.us) and click the Municipal Code button on the home page and then the Chapter 91 link to review the City's animal ordinance—help us keep our community safe and clean as we watch after our pets!

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## LAWN MOWING SEASON IS HERE!



Be reminded that grass clippings cannot be deposited into the street along your property. Disposal of grass clippings result in obstructed storm sewers, which can create a serious problem when it rains. If grass clippings are deposited into the street, we ask that you sweep them and either use as mulch or dispose of as you would your landscape waste.

Your cooperation will help ensure that storm sewers in your area are working as they were designed to do. Thank you!

## WHERE YOU SHOP MATTERS!

### Buying Local Keeps Your Sales Tax Dollars in the City of Washington

When \$100 is spent Online:

- ◆ \$5.00 to State of Illinois
- ◆ \$0.997 to other Taxing Bodies
- ◆ \$0.250 to City of Chicago
- ◆ \$0.002 to Tazewell County
- ◆ **\$0.001 to City of Washington**



When \$100 is spent in Washington:

- ◆ \$5.00 to State of Illinois
- ◆ **\$2.25 to City of Washington**
- ◆ \$0.75 to Tazewell County



## ANNUAL WATER QUALITY REPORT NOW AVAILABLE

The City of Washington's water utility prides itself on providing safe drinking water to a population of more than 12,000. To ensure safe drinking water, the City regularly tests City wells as well as periodic samples from 30 homes approved by the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (IEPA).



To view the Annual Water Quality Report online please go to [http://www.ci.washington.il.us/egov/documents/1529353907\\_98402.pdf](http://www.ci.washington.il.us/egov/documents/1529353907_98402.pdf) and learn more about your drinking water. This report contains important information about the source and quality of your drinking water during 2017. If you would like a paper copy of the Annual Water Quality Report mailed to your home, please call 444-1137.

## MARK YOUR CALENDARS!



Washington Night at the Chiefs scheduled Friday, July 27<sup>th</sup>

Washington Fine Arts Festival scheduled Saturday & Sunday, August 18<sup>th</sup> & 19<sup>th</sup>

Annual Fall Fire Hydrant Flushing tentatively scheduled week of September 4<sup>th</sup>

Autumn Fest on the Square scheduled Saturday, September 22<sup>nd</sup>

Homecoming Parade scheduled Friday, September 28<sup>th</sup>

Annual Fall Brush Pickup Service tentatively scheduled to begin Monday, October 15<sup>th</sup>

Annual Mayor's Prayer Breakfast scheduled Thursday, November 15<sup>th</sup>



Reach us by phone at 444-3196 - Website at [www.ci.washington.il.us](http://www.ci.washington.il.us)



Facebook at [www.facebook.com/CityofWashingtonIL](https://www.facebook.com/CityofWashingtonIL)



Twitter at <https://twitter.com/WashingtonILGov>

**Mayor**  
Gary Manier

### **Aldermen**

Robert Brucks, <i>Ward I</i>	Dave Dingledine, <i>Ward III</i>
Mike Brownfield, <i>Ward I</i>	Brian Butler, <i>Ward III</i>
Carol Moss, <i>Ward II</i>	James Gee, Jr., <i>Ward IV</i>
Brett Adams, <i>Ward II</i>	Daniel Cobb, <i>Ward IV</i>

### **City Officials**

Jim Culotta, *City Administrator*  
Pat Brown, *City Clerk*  
Ellen Dingledine, *City Treasurer*

**City of Washington**  
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Washington, IL 61571

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