

WASHINGTON TODAY

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Official Newsletter for the City of Washington, Illinois

Summer 2014



We will never forget what happened
on November 17, 2013



Community Meetings Continue

From the desk of Mayor Gary W. Manier



City of Strength

We will continue to pray for those that have lost loved ones and for our recovery.

The events of that Sunday morning and the days that followed will be talked about for generations. The stories of how so many survived and how neighbors helped neighbors will be shared and remembered throughout our community and beyond. The outpouring of everything that is good in this world came from throughout central Illinois, the state, the nation, and even the world. We are overwhelmed by the love and support we have received and the amount of volunteers that continue to come and help with our recovery.

We can never thank everyone enough for what they have done for us, but hopefully we can somehow pay it forward. I continue to receive compliments about our residents and how friendly they were with police, news media, and volunteers. I can not express how proud I am of the response of residents who lost everything, but have the attitude and faith to believe that Washington can rebuild better than ever.

WE WILL RISE AGAIN, BECAUSE OF ALL OF YOU! THANK YOU AND CONTINUE TO BELIEVE IN AND LOVE OUR TOWN. TOGETHER WE CAN...TOGETHER WE WILL!

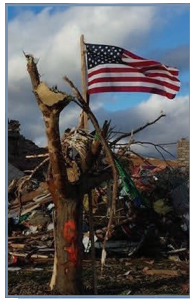
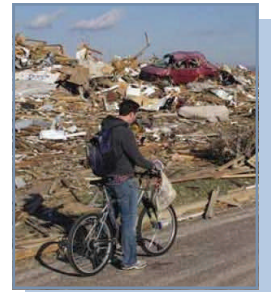
GOD BLESS WASHINGTON,

Gary W. Manier
Mayor

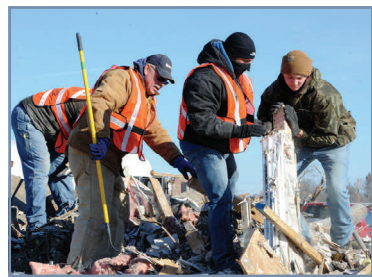


We are forever grateful for those who came to our rescue and continue to help in our rebuilding efforts!
(All images in this edition were taken from Google—Thank you to all those who posted and made them available!)

We Will Never Forget...



Changed Forever... We Will Rise Again...



Washington Strong!

Thank You... Thank You... Thank You!



We would like to extend our thanks and appreciation to everyone near and far who has worked and continues to work so hard and diligently to bring restoration to our community. We witnessed tragedy, heartbreak, helplessness and disbelief when the tornado struck at 10:59 a.m. on Sunday, November 17, 2013 and there are no words that completely express our deepest gratitude to ALL those who came in our time of need and continue to reach out to us as we move along in the rebuilding process. From first responders to residents to volunteers to financial donors to city employees to elected officials who have worked and continue to work diligently to help things turn out for the better in our community we say **THANK YOU!!!** We are on an amazing journey of strength and support, both within our community and in the hearts of many around the world and for that we are confident we will rise and become an even stronger community as time marches on!



DEVELOPMENT HAPPENINGS

As of early June, 320 rebuild permits and 657 total permits have been issued in the tornado impacted areas. Considerable progress has been made in the seven months since the tornado. As a reminder, please notify city staff of your rebuilding/repair intentions if you have not already done so or if you have not already received permits for demolition, repairs, and/or rebuilding.

Also, all residents, including those in the impacted areas, are reminded that the city's nuisance code is still enforced. Grass cannot exceed eight inches (8") in height. While the tornado has definitely made it harder to maintain many lots, untreated lots will begin to harbor undesired critters and diminish the enjoyment and value of the surrounding neighborhood. Please make sure to remove all debris from your lot, particularly anything that can pose a life/safety risk for nearby properties. If you would like volunteer assistance with this, contact Bethany Community Church at 573-2685.



Annual Water Quality Report Now Available

Washington IL-1790750 - For the Period of January 1 to December 31, 2013



To view the 2014 Annual Water Quality Report online please go to www.ci.washington.il.us/2014_Report.pdf and learn more about your drinking water. This report contains important information about the source and quality of your drinking water during 2013. If you would like a paper copy of the 2014 Annual Water Quality Report mailed to your home, please call (309) 444-1137.



Reach us by phone at 444-3196 or Website at www.ci.washington.il.us



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