

WASHINGTON

TODAY

Vol.10 No. 3

Official Newsletter for the City of Washington, Illinois

Fall/Winter 2009

From the desk of Mayor Gary W. Manier



Congratulations to the WCHS football team, cheerleaders, band, and fans for making 2009 a season to remember: an undefeated regular season and Mid-Illini Conference Championship. The recent loss in the state playoffs should not dampen the pride and thrills we all share in watching WCHS students excel on and off the field.

The Washington Panther's Marching Band concluded its 2009 season by placing 1st in percussion and taking 3rd place in the overall field competition at the University of Illinois Parade and Field Competition. It was the first time in school history that percussion has taken first place in both field and parade competition at the prestigious U of I event.

Our community came together in several Veterans Day events to honor the men and women who have served or are currently serving in our Armed Forces. Thank you to all of the sponsors of those events and their featured speakers. Featured speakers Retired Master Sergeant Perry Broughton and his son Captain Andrew Broughton with the United States Marine Corps brought special honor to our family, as they are brother-in-law and nephew to my wife Lada. Thank you to our Armed Forces for helping us to remember the cost of our freedom.

The Washington Chamber of Commerce sponsored the Annual Mayor's Prayer Breakfast on November 19th, an event originated fifteen years ago by Bob Summer. Brian Shouse, Tampa Bay Rays relief pitcher and Washington resident, shared a moving personal story about his life in major league baseball and his faith's role in his personal and professional successes. Thanks to the Chamber of Commerce, Brian and emcee Dave Snell for lifting the hearts of all attendees.

The Washington Area Community Center, Inc. received a Special Recognition Award at the 26th Annual National Philanthropy Day Awards Luncheon. The Central Illinois Chapter of the Association of Fundraising Professionals recognized WACC for its leadership and philanthropy in Five Points Washington. I was proud to accept the award in behalf of WACC, the four local governmental entities and the countless donors & volunteers that made Five Points Washington possible. The facility continues to enrich the lives of our residents while bringing distinction to our community and recognition of the power of collective efforts toward a common vision.

The City Council and I were proud to recognize Mary Kimpling and her family for their leadership in the Washington business community spanning 84 years and five generations. Harry Kimpling opened Modern Hardware on the downtown square in 1925. The city will erect an honorary street sign at Kimpling's Washington Road entrance in appreciation of the family's commitment to our community.

The following roadway improvements are now open to traffic: the Kern Road extension between Hillcrest and Cummings, the Lincoln Street bridge just north of Jefferson and Cummings Lane north of US 24. The City of Washington regrets the many construction nuisances and delays created for neighbors, businesses and motorists. We trust that the lasting use and benefit of the finished products will make the wait, detours and adverse conditions worthwhile.

Wishing everyone a safe and happy holiday season!



God Bless Washington,

Gary W. Manier

Gary W. Manier
Mayor

WASHINGTON POLICE DEPARTMENT NEWS. . .

I hope all of you had a safe and enjoyable summer. There were many exciting things happening within our community and the police department since our last newsletter. Congratulations to our Washington Panther Football Team for their undefeated season and making the play-offs. Many exciting things continue to happen and as 2009 draws to a close we are very excited for what is to come in 2010! Since the last newsletter we have hired two new police officers. Officer Dale Wolf & Officer Tyler Willi have both completed their field training program and are now patrolling our streets and are doing a great job!



We are looking forward to the City Hall move projected for just after the first of the year and are very excited to hopefully see work begin on the renovation of the City Hall building to be used exclusively as our police station.

Community Resource Officer Jim Fussner has just begun our 11th Citizen's Police Academy with 19 of our residents in the class. Over 150 residents have attended and graduated from this 12-week long program designed to familiarize our residents with what your Police Department does to maintain the quality of life you so richly deserve. If you are interested in participating in our next class you may contact Officer Jim Fussner at 309-444-2313. We would love to have you! Upon graduation you can stay connected by becoming a member of the Citizen's Police Academy Alumni Association. Our C.P.A.A. is a very active group of highly motivated residents!

Training and leadership development continues to be one of our top priorities. In April of 2009 Detective/ School Resource Officer Rosalie Gerkin was promoted to the rank of Sergeant of Police. Sgt. Gerkin is a 24 year veteran of the Police Department. Officer Steven Smith became a Detective in August and has been assigned to W.C.H.S. as the School Resource Officer. Sergeant Gerkin is presently assigned to the midnight shift and is in command of that patrol team. She will be attending the Northwestern University School of Police Staff and Command, a 10-week law enforcement management and leadership program after the first of the year.

Recently, the City Council amended the Code of Ordinances that covers parking during snowfall and the depositing of snow, ice or other materials into city streets. Please visit the City web site at www.washington-illinois.org and review these amended ordinances, they can be found under 'Hot Topics'.

The men and women of the Police Department continue to be honored to serve our community while constantly putting "People First." If you have any questions, comments or concerns I encourage you to contact us.

James W. Kuchenbecker, Chief of Police, 444-1112

Donald J. Volk, Deputy Chief of Police, 444-1113

RECENTLY ADOPTED ORDINANCES. . .



- ◆ Amending code – Chapter 112 – Permitting access to licensed areas
- ◆ Amending code – Chapter 134 – Offenses against public health and safety
- ◆ Amending code – Chapter 72 – Designating loading zone east side of N. Cedar Street
- ◆ Amending code – Chapter 72 – Restrict parking south 30' on both sides of N. Cedar Street
- ◆ Amending code – Chapter 112 – Increase the number of Class D licenses
- ◆ Amending code – Chapter 154 – §154.004 Definitions, 154.057 R-1 districts, 154.058 R-2 districts
- ◆ Amending code – Chapter 72 – Restrict parking on Kingsbury Road and Stratford Drive
- ◆ Amending code – Chapter 112 – Decrease the number of Class C licenses & increase the number of Class J
- ◆ Amending code – Rezoning 900 Walnut Street from I-1 (Industrial) to C-3 (Commercial)
- ◆ Amending code – Chapter 50 – Combined waterworks & sewerage system, §50.50, 50.51, 50.52, 50.54, 50.55
- ◆ Amending code – Rezoning 132 N. Main Street from C-1 (Commercial) to R-1 (Residential)
- ◆ Amending code – Chapter 72 – restrict parking during snow fall events of 2" of snow or greater, §72.13
- ◆ Amending code – Chapter 98 – Prohibit deposit of snow, ice, other materials on city streets, sidewalks, or alleys

DEVELOPMENT HAPPENINGS. . .



The building staff has issued 78 new residential building permits through October 2009 with an estimated construction value of more than \$19 million. Each of the residential permits issued this year has been for single-family construction with the exception of 12 duplex permits. As the construction season winds down, the number of permits issued for the year will likely be lower than in recent years due to the economic downturn. However, staff is still experiencing strong housing demand in Washington compared to regional and national trends. Eight commercial/industrial permits have been issued so far this year with a construction value of over \$1 million.

Washington Census 2010 – “Everybody Counts”

In order to accurately assess the number and location of the people living within the nation's borders, the U.S. Constitution mandates a census of the population every 10 years. The census population totals determine which states gain or lose representation in Congress. It also determines the amount of state and federal funding communities receive over the course of the decade. The facts about the nation's population gathered in the census will shape decisions and funding for schools, roads, hospitals, child-care and senior citizen centers, and more.

All Washington residents should see Census forms in their mailboxes starting in mid-March 2010. The 2010 Census will be a *short-form only* census and will count all residents living in the United States. It only asks 10 questions and does not ask about the legal status of respondents or their Social Security Numbers. It only takes 10 minutes to complete the form and return it to the Census Bureau in the postage-paid envelope. All residents will receive a letter from the Census Director informing them that the official form will be mailed within a few days.

Responses are protected by law (Title 13, U.S. Code, Section 9). Only summary information is published; detailed identify data and individual responses are held strictly confidential. Every Census Bureau worker takes an oath for life to protect the confidentiality of census responses. By law, the Census Bureau cannot share an individual's answers with anyone, including welfare and immigration agencies, the FBI, IRS, CIA, or any other governmental agency.

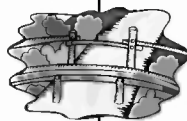
Historic Preservation Commission

The City's Historic Preservation Commission has been meeting since March 2008 and is now requesting submissions for possible historic landmarks or historic districts. If you know of a property or neighborhood that may have some historic qualities and should be preserved, please contact Planning & Development Director Jon Oliphant at 444-1135 for more information. Any buildings identified will be assessed according to the guidelines provided by the historic preservation ordinance, which was adopted in 2007. The preservation ordinance is intended to provide a mechanism to identify and preserve the historic and architectural characteristics which represent elements of the City's cultural, social, economic, political, and architectural history. Nomination applications are available on the city website at washington-illinois.org. The Commission meets on the fourth Thursday of each month at 6:30 p.m. at the Library study rooms at Five Points. All meetings are open to the public.

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

STORM WATER HIGHLIGHT

When you are washing your car, have you ever given any thought to where all the dirty, soapy, oily water goes? If you are washing your car in the driveway or on the street, all that dirty water runs down the street and into the nearest storm water catch basin. Did you know the water that flows into the catch basins on your street and in your neighborhood flows directly into the nearest creek or stream? All that dirty water ends up right in that creek or stream. Soap and oily wastes are harmful to the



condition of the creek and the critters that inhabit them.

A good way to reduce the amount of dirty water entering the stream is to wash your car on your lawn or other pervious surface where the water can soak into the ground. Better yet, take your car to a car wash facility where all the dirty water is captured and directed to the sanitary sewer where it is properly treated before entering the stream.

CITY HALL OFFICES TO RELOCATE AFTER THE FIRST OF THE YEAR

Just after the first of the year City Hall offices will relocate from their present location at 115 W. Jefferson Street to their new location at **301 Walnut Street**. The former library building has been renovated into offices that will help relieve growing space needs within City Hall and the Police Department.

Reminder - The Police Department will remain at the 115 W. Jefferson Street location.

We encourage you to watch local papers for the announcement of the official relocation date!

RESIDENTIAL SOLID WASTE COLLECTION SERVICES

Waste Management began providing solid waste and recycling collection under the City's contract on October 1, 2009. All residential customers, up to 4-units, are covered under this 5-year contract. New residents who need to set up and start service, or existing customers who want to make changes to their current optional services (*cart rental and yard waste*) should contact the Waste Management Customer Service Center at 1-800-796-9696.



Please visit the City's website at washington-illinois.org and click on 'Hot Topics' for more details regarding Waste Management's services.

WREATHS ACROSS AMERICA EVENT SCHEDULED – GLENDALE CEMETERY

Glendale Cemetery/City of Washington in conjunction with VFW Post 9016 and American Legion Post 100 will conduct the second annual Wreaths Across America ceremony at Glendale Cemetery on Saturday, December 12, 2009 starting at 11:00 a.m. Seven ceremonial wreaths will be placed to remember those who served, those who are currently serving, honor their sacrifices, and teach our younger generations about the high price of our freedoms.



Specially made wreaths honoring Army, Navy, Air Force, Marines, Coast Guard, Merchant Marines and POW/MIA will be placed during the unique ceremony that will be coordinated simultaneously with the ceremony at Arlington National Cemetery, as well as over 350 participating locations across the country. All of the specially made wreaths are donated by Worcester Wreath Company in Harrington, Maine.

The entire community is invited to attend this ceremony at Glendale Cemetery on Saturday, December 12, 2009 starting promptly at 11:00 a.m. For more information about the event you may contact Carol Moss at 444-9076.

Reach us by phone at 444-3196 or Email at cityhall@ci.washington.il.us
Website Address: washington-illinois.org

*** City Hall offices will be closed December 24th and 25th and January 1st ***

Mayor
Gary Manier

Aldermen

Robert Brucks, *Ward I* Alan Howerter, *Ward III*
Jim Newman, *Ward I* Dave Dingledine, *Ward III*
Donald Brubaker, *Ward II* James Gee, Jr., *Ward IV*
Todd Clanin, *Ward II* Gene Schneider, *Ward IV*

City Officials

Bob Morris, *City Administrator*
Pat Brown, *City Clerk*
Ellen Dingledine, *City Treasurer*

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