

JUNE 2022

## OUR JUNE NEWSLETTER IS HERE



### CELEBRATING OUR DIFFERENCES

*In June We Celebrate*

#### PRIDE



Pride Month is an entire month dedicated to the uplifting of LGBTQ+ voices, the celebration of LGBTQ+ culture, and the support of LGBTQ+ rights. Throughout the month of June, nationwide, there are traditionally parades, protests, drag performances, live theater and memorials, and celebrations of life for members of the community who lost their lives to HIV/AIDS. It is part political activism and part celebration of all the LGBTQ+ community has achieved over the years.

*People*

#### JUNETEENTH

Juneteenth, also sometimes called "Freedom Day" or "Emancipation Day," is a federal holiday commemorating the end of slavery in the United States, and has been celebrated by African-Americans since the late 1800s. The holiday received its name by combining June and 19., the day slaves in Texas found out they were free.



*The New York Times*

Today, some celebrations take place among families in backyards where food is an integral element. Some cities, like Atlanta and Washington, hold larger events, such as parades and festivals with residents, local businesses, and more.

#### COME SEE US



**PRIDE PICNIC | 06/12**

KANKAKEE RIVER STATE PARK, 11-3 PM

**JUNETEENTH FREEDOM FEST | 06/18**

PIONEER PARK, 11 AM - 5 PM

**PARENT CAFÉ | 06/16**

BRADLEY PUBLIC LIBRARY, 6-8 PM

**CRAFT CLASS | 06/27**

B. HARLEY BRADLEY HOUSE, 6-8 PM

**COMMUNITY PLANNING MEETING | 06/28**

KANKAKEE PUBLIC LIBRARY 3RD FLOOR 5 - 6:30 PM

[projectsunkankakee.org](http://projectsunkankakee.org) | 815-304-5933 | [f](#) Project SUN Kankakee | [i](#) ProjectSUN.K3



## NAMI TOWNHALL

### with A Mom Who's Been There!

Thursday, June 16 | 6:00 - 7:30 PM

**BRADLEY PUBLIC LIBRARY**

296 N Fulton Ave, Bradley, IL 60915

Learn to recognize signs & symptoms of  
depression / anxiety / suicidal thoughts

**Q & A with Teri: A Mom Who's Been There!**



Guest Speaker:

**Teri Latter**

NAMI IL, Program Director



## Parent Café Reopens with NAMI

June 22nd marks the first in-person Parent Café since 2020!

Parents and caregivers across Kankakee County are invited to bring questions and concerns, receive free training from professionals, and connect with others who may share similar experiences.

For this Parent Café, Project SUN has partnered with a proven resource for families to find the support, education, and advocacy you need. NAMI (National Alliance on Mental Illness) is a peer-led organization that supports families just like yours. They are parents and family members who have sat in waiting rooms and in school meetings, advocating for their loved ones. They have walked in your shoes and found strength in learning from each other. Now, representatives are visiting Kankakee County to help us support families right here at home.

Come meet the many people who are here to support you!

This Parent Café is **FREE** and open to parents with children of all ages. Refreshments will be provided. Parents may bring their children to the event. Please register on Eventbrite to help us prepare our materials. <https://bit.ly/3an8A9Y>



# Supporting our LGBTQ+ Youth

In celebration of Pride month Project SUN invites you to join us in support of our LGBTQ+ youth community in Kankakee County.



**fun & community  
for all ages!**

**Potluck Lunch!**  
**Hot Dogs provided**  
**Bring a dish to share**

**Drag performances!**  
Community Resources  
& more!

  
**Kankakee  
Pride Picnic**

SUNDAY, JUNE 12, 2022  
11AM-3PM  
KANKAKEE RIVER STATE PARK  
MAIN SHELTER

Addressing equity is paramount to establishing a children's mental health system of care that meets the needs of all youth and their families. Project SUN is undertaking an initiative to understand our different experiences and promote action towards equity in Kankakee County. An important step is to conduct a survey of Kankakee County residents about experiences with gender identity and sexual orientation discrimination, as well as gather other information to help guide future actions to promote greater equity.



**LGBTQ+  
QUESTI  
NNAIRE**

*Recognize challenges and  
learn how to amplify  
voices in the promotion of  
equity for the LGBTQ+  
youth community in  
Kankakee county*

In the fall of 2022, Project SUN is planning to host informational sessions to bring awareness to the issues experienced by youth in the LGBTQ+ Community. These sessions will seek to recognize challenges and learn how to amplify voices in the promotion of equity for the LGBTQ+ youth community.

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## Juneteenth Festivities

While we will be participating in the Parade and Freedom Festival on June 18th, there are plenty of other

activities taking place as a part of this year's celebration. For more information about any of these events, consult the *Juneteenth Celebration Community Council* Facebook page.



**JOIN US FOR  
JUNETEENTH**

**June 13** - Lunch & Learn - 12pm at KPL

**June 14** - Flag Day - 12pm at MLK Jr Park

**June 15** - Midweek Prayer - 5pm at Church of Christ Pembroke, IL

**June 16** - Black on Track Business Conference - 4pm at KPL

**June 17** - Youth Palooza Day - 8am at KHS

**June 18** - Parade 10 am + Freedom Festival 12 pm at Pioneer Park

**June 19** - Juneteenth/Father's Day Award Banquet - 5pm at Quality Inn

www.1865jccc.com

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### **Cyndi's Caregiver Craft Class**

Monday | June 27th  
6 - 8 PM @ B. Harley Bradley House  
701 S Harrison Ave., Kankakee  
Register for FREE | <https://bit.ly/3NPnTGL>

Have you ever wanted to own a miniature green space indoors? Building an ecosystem is one way to see life from a new perspective. Cyndi has the perfect craft for you. This month you will be making a **terrarium** during our caregiver craft class.





Cyndi has picked out the prettiest plants for this activity. Come spend a few hours out with the Project SUN Team building terrariums. This is the perfect opportunity to connect with other caregivers and learn more about Project SUN's initiatives. During this time, you have an opportunity to build new friendships, hear from personal experiences and share some laughs with caregivers who, just like you, need a little break.

This is a safe space for you to connect, create, and find the support you long for.

**Register here for the free class on June 27th - 6:00 - 8:00 PM**



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## **Project SUN Community Planning Team Meeting**

Save the Date June 28th, 5:00 - 6:30 PM  
Kankakee Public Library  
Registration Details to be posted on Facebook.



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Project SUN monthly newsletters are intended to inform family members and those working with families. You are all valuable members of the **Strong and Unified Network (SUN)** being built to support the children's mental, emotional, and behavioral health system of care in Kankakee County. You are encouraged to invite others to become involved in these efforts to help children flourish. Please share this newsletter with those who may find this information useful. Suggest they visit [projectsunkankakee.org](https://projectsunkankakee.org) and sign-up to receive their own copy and become a member of the Network.



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