

K<sub>3</sub>G home

**Indian Oaks Academy  
Betrays Children:  
Who gets the  
30 pieces of silver?**



YoWindow.com  
Forecast by yr.no/nws



## Is this really what you want: 20 boys with sexual issues near your children's library?

That's what these Kankakee officials want:

Mayor Nina Epstein	CityPlanner Cliff Cross
Ald. Carl Brown	Ald. Danita Swanson
Ald. Steve Hunter	Ald. Larry Osenga
Ald. Chris Curtis	Ald. Stephen Linneman
Ald. Dennis Baron	Ald. Glenn Davidson
Ald Dexter Thompson	Ald. James Fafford (illegally voted)*
Ald. Tyler Tall (illegally voted)*	

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### PREVIOUS EDITIONS (PDF)

- 2012Jan16
- 2012Jan16 &17
- 2012Jun11
- 2012Jun18
- 2012Sept4

Posted by Joanie Liesenfelt, Publisher/Managing Editor

kankakeegazette.com

My View, read at Kankakee City Council Oct. 15, 2012· 8:55 a.m.

Updated 11-13-2012 Document links added to text read at City Council

### Children May Die

Kankakee is about to make a decision approving the use of the former Senesac Funeral Home and Cremations site at 200 S. Washington (City changing to 210) into a group home leased by Nexus Indian Oaks Academy of Manteno, IL. It will house boys and young men from 17½ to 22 years of age in a transitional residence from which to complete their high school education, start college, and/or see them through their first job.

The residents are mostly aged-out foster children in need of a stable environment to prepare them for adulthood. Some have been abused, some acted on inappropriate sexual behaviors which lead to their treatment at Indian Oaks, some have emotional disorders they are learning to manage. And most of them have no support systems to help them go forward in life like most of us do: family who we can count on to help us grow.

The John Chafee Foster Care Independent Living Program helps youth leaving foster care by improving access to stable and safe housing; learning to manage their physical and mental health needs; promoting stable, permanent connections to caring adults; supporting economic success through education and employment programs; and by providing life skills training.

The funding for three years and sometimes more, is to provide those things through the experienced treatment and care of professionals like those at Indian Oaks Academy who have been providing care for all ages for many years.

Nothing about this national program's details or intent says we should rub the noses of these youth in where-they've come-from so they get used to the idea that they'll be going back there.

At the Planning Board meeting Mr. Francis Smith, Nexus Indian Oaks Board member, (page 50) and Mr. Mike Chavers, executive director of Indian Oaks Academy convinced most Planning Board members that real life meant a crappy life for these children. So Indian Oaks would be helping the youth get used to real life by living in an old funeral home in a very bad area like where they came from.

My inquiry into Indian Oaks Academy tells me they have been successful in their programs: I do not believe they use this negative

They're not voting for you.

So who are they voting for?

Tell them to **VOTE NO**

to harming these youth and your city.

Officials email and phone list

### City Council Meeting

Monday November 5, 2012 at 7 p.m.

Voice your opinion at City Council

(sign in early)

\* (1) Ald. Tyler Tall was reported as illegally voting by Ald. Bubba Cox on the record during the Oct 15, 2012 City Council Meeting. Ald. Cox stated that Ald. Tall has kin now in residence at Indian Oaks Academy. If this is true, by everyone or anyone's standards in the State of IL, Ald. Tall must excuse himself from voting on anything Indian Oaks or Nexus.

\* (2) Ald. James Fafford is reported by many as employed as a teacher at Indian Oaks Academy. Again, if this is true, by everyone or anyone's standards in the State of IL, Ald. Fafford must excuse himself from voting on anything Indian Oaks Academy or Nexus.

## Where's the money coming from?

## Where's the money going?

Posted by Joanie Liesenfelt, Publisher/Managing Editor

kankakeegazette.com My View Oct. 18,2012·

October 15, 2012, City Council gave a first approval to make this foreclosed funeral home and crematory into a children's transitional home for boys leased by Nexus Indian Oaks Academy of Manteno, IL.

HomeStar Banker and Nexus Indian Oaks Board Member Mr. Francis Smith, Indian Oaks Director Mr. Mike Chavers, and Neighborhood Redevelopment, LLC have told us at every opportunity about the wondrous investment to improve Senesac Funeral Home and Cremations. Starting September 18, 2012 at the Planning



Kankakee  
Transparency

### Jamie Boyd:

why he must be voted out!

by Darrel W. Bruck Jr. Outragenews.org

My personal opinion

Tell Your Aldermen to

**VOTE NO**

to abusing Indian Oaks at-risk youth  
to make a buck

Voice your opinion

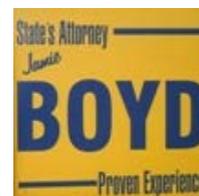
City Council Meeting

Monday November 5, 2012 at 7 p.m.

(sign in early)

It's on the record - it makes a difference!

## Breach of Trust: Tasering Children



Powers and duties  
of  
State's attorney.

(a) The duty of each State's attorney shall be:

anti-success attitude or they could not have helped all the children they've helped.

So why are we hearing this from so many people involved in pushing this sale?

Someone close to this project said to me, "What else can we do with this property? It's Kankakee, and right now, there is nothing else."

If there is nothing else, who could be paying the estimated \$1 million in improvements that Mr. Chavers has been talking about?

Neither he nor anyone else is stating which party to this sale will be paying that \$1 million.

The current owners are first, [HomeStar Bank according to the City of Kankakee Planning Board Agenda Sept 18, 2012](#), whose Bank Chairman of the Board and Executive VP is Mr. Francis Smith according to the [Nexus Board website](#).

Mr. Smith is also a Nexus Indian Oaks Board member, who seems to be an owner by default, listed as a defendant in the foreclosure case number 2010 CH 000192 which shows completed on the [Kankakee County Circuit Court website](#).

Also, the Kankakee County Treasurer website shows a HomeStar Bank trust paid the 2012 taxes on two parcels ([Lots 2-3, Lot 6](#)) at this location.

Second owner seems to be Mr. Tim Klopp who appears to have inherited this property and is executor of the estate case number 2011 P 000282 which is still in probate according to the [Kankakee County Circuit Court website](#). No reason why the owners would plan to make improvements, they just want to sell this property.

The likely new owner mentioned at the Planning Board meeting in September is Neighborhood Redevelopment LLC, who in the real world, is responsible for their own improvements for what I believe is their own private company. They also are not indicating that they will be the ones paying the \$1 million bill.

The only funder mentioned in 30 days of talk is DCFS. If DCFS is being asked to fund these improvements, \$1 million is a lot of the children's money to use to bailout Mr. Francis Smith of HomeStar bank who has been hit hard by 7 years of a failing economy, like all of us.

Monthly, that \$1 million comes out to DCFS paying on a 10 year contract roughly \$8,000 per month. That's a lot of rent for the privilege of watching hookers and open drug sales in front of your house; that's a lot of rent for the privilege of ducking bullets; that's a lot of rent for putting a boy into harms way to make him know he's just not worth anything more than this.

That's a lot of rent to violate the funding conditions of a really fine program.

All the people in this room, along with Indian Oaks Academy management and their Nexus Board of Directors, have the futures and the health of at least twenty young men at stake. Simple waves of the hand about [possible toxic environments](#) like they're nothing, casual dismissals of problems with the neighborhood like they're nothing, and lack of critical information about the financial arrangements behind the choice of Senesac Funeral Home are truly unacceptable.

We are all gathered in this room tonight thrown together by fate with the responsibility of shepherding these youth into a better life. We are all they have.

If we do not accept our responsibility to choose the best for them, a few of these boys may die. Perhaps not from bullets or from embalming fluid toxins, but from something far worse than even these: they may die because we cared so little when they needed us.

Joanie Liesenfelt

**Links to documents**

**Emails received from the IL EPA and the IL Dept of Public Health Planning Board Meeting Agenda 2012Sept18**

**Planning Board Meeting Minutes 2012Sept18**

Nexus Treatment operates the following treatment sites in Illinois, Minnesota and Maryland: Mille Lacs Academy, Onamia, MN; Gerard Academy, Austin, MN; Onarga Academy, Onarga, IL; Indian Oaks Academy, Manteno, IL; Woodbourne, Baltimore, MD; and Family Focus, Greater Minnesota.

Board meeting, we've been told around \$1 million in improvements will be invested.

But no one is giving up who is doing the investing.

So where's the money coming from?

[Comment on this article.](#)

[Continue reading »](#)

## Update 9-5-2012: Mayor withdraws appointment of brother of retired Police Chief to Board of Fire and Police Commissioners.

Thanks to the quick investigative work of Kankakee Alderman Cheryl Jones of Ward #2, Kankakee Mayor Nina Epstein withdrew her appointment September 4, 2012, of retired Police Chief Kinkade's brother to the Board of Fire and Police Commissioners.

According to the Illinois Compiled Statutes (65 ILCS 5/10-2.1-3)Sec. 10-2.1-3, the three members must be of at least two different political parties. (Source: P.A. 87-423, 87th General Assembly 1991-1992). [Continue reading »](#)

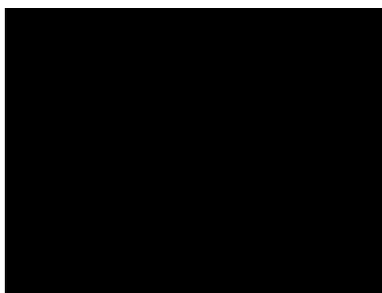
### City Council: Tuesday 9-4-2012 at 7 p.m. Mayor to Appoint to Board of Fire and Police Commissioners brother of Retired Police Chief Kinkade. Kidding? Nope, not kidding.

*In Review: The Mayor gets to choose an appointee. Then the Aldermen get to vote with their constituents in mind, saying yea or nay. In the case of a Board, it looks like that process continues until a majority of Aldermen vote yes.*

Isn't there a state statute about relatives? How about the Illinois Municipal League's best practices for elected officials?

Imagine a close relative of the Police Chief (brother is close, isn't it?) sitting on a three-person board making decisions on grievances filed by the Chief. [Continue reading »](#)

[High School Students Help Pass Landmark Legislation](#)



Kankakee River Valley  
Pill & Drug Disposal:  
program funded

### Businesses' Identities To Be Made Public in Channahon Sales Tax Lawsuit

by Dawn Aulet | April 26, 2012  
Channahon-Minooka Patch

*(1) To commence and prosecute all actions... in which the people of the State or county may be concerned. (55 ILCS 5/3-9005)*

Posted by [kankakeegazette.com staff](#) | [News & Opinion](#) | [update Nov 1, 2012](#)

Jamie Boyd's bold yellow election signs appearing around the county proclaim 'proven experience.' Fortunately politicians like Mr. Boyd are not held to very high standards of truthfulness. It's clear that he also has 'unproven experience' when it comes to defending those citizens his oath requires him to defend. In the case of the unnecessary and cruel tasing of students at Kankakee Junior High, Mr. Boyd shows himself to have a flawed vision of what it means to protect the public.

Now through November 6, we'll be looking at some of the work Mr. Boyd has passed over or minimized, asking why.

Related: [Fighting Back on Tasers](#)

## Fighting Back On Tasers

The Public i, Urbana-Champaign Independent Media Center Posted on [Feb. 2010](#) by [Barbara Kessel](#) | [update: still awaiting trial](#)

### "STOP TASING OUR BLACK CHILDREN IN KANKAKEE JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL"

This is the message being sent by eight parents of eight junior high students, aged 12-14, in four multi-million lawsuits in the U.S. Federal District Court, Central District of Illinois-Urbana Division, on January 14, January 20, and February 11, 2010.

These parents—Alta Young, Stella Bender, Timothy Stone, Rhonda Bledsoe, Pearl Dossett, Angell Leggett, Sakenya Love, and Paulette Calhoun—are alleging that their children were tased in Kankakee Junior High School by the white School Resource Officer and member of the Kankakee Police Department, Lonnie Netzel without cause or justification."

These four lawsuits have been filed in Federal and not State Courts due to the charge of Denial of Equal Protection under the Fourteenth Amendment of the U.S. Constitution. [Continue reading »](#)

Related: [Minority & Special Needs Kids Tasered by Cop in Classroom 'Demos'](#)

Ethics Soup, suburban Denver, CO, Posted on [Jan 30, 2010](#) by [Sharon McEachern](#)

*Liar Liar pants on fire!*



Glenn Nixon, candidate for State Representative  
[Continue Reading >>](#)

*Monday: Mr. Nixon's denial of involvement in an "adolescent prank" aka: misdemeanor or felony.*

More: Children betrayed: Who gets the 30 pieces of silver?“

[Comment on this article.](#)

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