

THE MANHATTAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

NOVEMBER NEWSLETTER

A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

CHAMBER NEWS,

Dear Chamber Members:

I would like to thank Manhattan Jr. High for hosting our October Quarterly meeting on Wednesday, October 19th. The Chamber was also very appreciative to Pam and Steve Davis of Silver Cross Hospital for giving us an update on the replacement hospital project. Pam let us know that on February 12, 2012, they will be having an open house and tours for those who would like to see the new facility. Please check the Silver Cross website for further details. The new hospital will be operational by 7:00am on February 26th, 2012. Please also be on the lookout for news and ticket information for their Illumination Gala that will be held on February 4, 2012. Sponsorship opportunities also are available for any business who is interested in being a part of the Gala.

Although our Quarterly Meeting was very informative, we must regretfully inform our membership that we did not have anyone who expressed interest in either nominating someone for, or filling a vacancy of one of the open director positions. The Chamber will continue to seek new board members until December 31, 2011. Our Chamber functions through the volunteer efforts of our board. Without a complete board, we will not have the necessary quorum to conduct business.

We will be sending out membership applications for the 2012 year very soon. However, our membership levels will be limited to the \$100 standard membership that comes with your business or individual name and phone number with optional website link on Chamber website, Chamber membership plaque, free subscription to the Chamber newsletter, 1 free set of Chamber mailing addresses, 1 free email blast per month, and affiliate membership in the Illinois Chamber of Commerce. In addition, you have opportunities to host Business After Hours for networking opportunities plus

President–Dianne
Huelsman-First Bank of
Manhattan

Vice President – Shelly
Lewis – Harris Bank
N.A.

Treasurer – Bill Johnson
–Select Perfection
Construction, LLC

Board member – Dr.
Jeff Pietrzyk – Illinois
Eye Associates

Board Member – Dr.
Brian Murphy – Lincoln
Way High School
District #210

Board Member – Stacy
McCormack – State
Farm Manhattan, The
McCormack Agency

Board Member – Janine
Podgorny – Illinois
Eye/First Bank of
Manhattan

Board Member – Jamie
Doyle – Curtain Call
Community Theatre

invitations to participate in our annual events such as the golf outing, Business Expo, Holiday Party, and State of the Village Address. We also offer advertising opportunities on our website and in our newsletter and through our Welcome Bags. Applications will be due by December 31, 2011.


If we are unable to fill the vacant board positions by the end of December, 31, 2011, we will have no other option but to put the Chamber of Commerce in a hiatus position. All Chamber funds will be placed in a time certificate of deposit to earn interest while we wait for the necessary participation from the membership. Banners will remain up on our Village flagpoles, but no new banners will be ordered. Bingo will be discontinued after the new year. If you have any questions regarding the hiatus, please feel free to contact any of the current board. This is a decision that we would rather not make and it is hopeful that we will have volunteers that will step up to fill the three vacancies. Should we have to take a hiatus until we have volunteers to fill an entire board, I encourage you to look into the Wilmington or New Lenox Chambers of Commerce for additional business growth opportunities.

Regardless, we will continue our efforts through the end of 2011, and hope for membership participation in our Parade of Lights on December 3, 2011, and our Christmas Party. (More information to follow regarding both events.)

It is also that time of year where the Chamber begins its partnership with the Manhattan School District to sponsor the Manhattan Angel Tree. As always, the Angel Trees will be located at either First Bank of Manhattan branch and will contain names and ages of children from the Manhattan area who could use a bit of extra cheer this holiday season. Angel Tags will be available starting the weekend after Thanksgiving and wrapped gifts with tags attached will be due back by Monday, December 19, 2011. Remember, all gifts go to local children right here in Manhattan. We appreciate our Angels and thank them in advance for their generosity and participation!! Please contact me if you have any questions regarding the Angel Tree!

Lastly, our next Business after Hours will be held on Wednesday, November 9, 2011, at the Manhattan-Elwood Public Library District. We hope to see you there!

Dianne Huelsman
President



MANHATTAN
DENTAL CARE

Laura M. Aversano, D.D.S.

175 South State Street • Manhattan, IL 60442
Phone 815-478-7788 • Fax 815-478-4061



MICHAEL J. McHUGH

McHUGH INSURANCE AGENCY INC.

15825 W. BAKER ROAD
P. O. BOX 81
MANHATTAN, IL 60442-0081
(815) 478-3772
e-mail: mike@mch-ins.com
www.mch-ins.com



Illinois
Eye Associates™

Jeffrey M. Pietrzyk, O.D.
General Optometry/Ocular Disease Management

New Address as of 6/1/09
530 W North St Suite 107
Manhattan, IL 60442

815-478-0100
Fax: 815-478-9100
drjeff@illeye.com

THE CROP WALK BOX DECORATING CONTEST

The Chamber of Commerce would like to thank Harris Bank Manhattan, The Manhattan Fire Department, The Manhattan - Elwood Public Library District, Curves, The Village of Manhattan, and the First Bank of Manhattan for their participation in the Chamber's Crop Walk Box Decorating Contest to raise awareness about hunger. Together, they were able to collect over 3 cars full of food items that were donated to the Manhattan Food Pantry. The Food Pantry judges declared that First Bank of Manhattan's State Street office was the winner of the Box Decorating Contest this year with their Yogi Bear display. They won the \$50 pizza party lunch. However, we are thankful to report that the First Bank of Manhattan donated their prize back to the Chamber. Again, we would like to thank all of our members who participated and their efforts in collecting food items just in time for the start of the holiday season!



First Bank of Manhattan (State Street)



Harris Bank

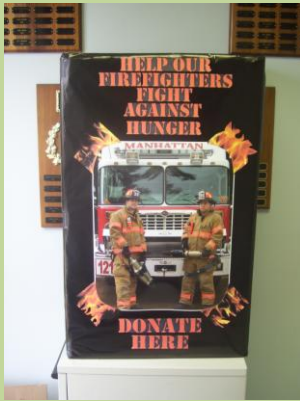


Curves



Manhattan-Elwood Public Library

THE CROP WALK BOX DECORATING CONTEST



Manhattan Fire Department



Village of Manhattan



First Bank of Manhattan (North Street)

Bingo

Bingo will be held the 1st and 3rd Tuesday of each month. Doors open at 6:00pm for the early bird game with regular games starting at 6:30pm. Bingo will continue to be at Wilson Creek Elementary School at 24550 S. Gougar Road. Bingo supplies and concessions will be available.



Chili Cook-Off



Bring your best chili to the Manhattan Christmas Celebration being held on December 3rd, 2011, at Wilson Creek School. Prizes will be awarded to the "Best Chili in Manhattan". All entries must be in no later than 10:00am on the day of the cook-off at Wilson Creek Elementary School.

Please log onto the Manhattan Chamber website at www.manhattan-il.com for the official rules, regulations and applications for the "2nd Annual Chili Cook-Off".



2nd Annual Parade of Lights



It's not too early to start thinking and preparing for The Manhattan Chamber's 2nd Annual Parade of Lights. It will be held on Saturday, December 3rd. Line up begins at 5:00pm on Park & 2nd St. in front of Anne McDonald School then travels down to Time Square just in time for the Christmas Tree Lighting.

The Parade is open to everyone from businesses and organizations or groups to families or individuals, anyone who would like to make a float. Entries must light up and be a Christmas theme. If you would like to participate, please go to the Chamber website at www.manhattan-il.com to download an application (no entry fee is required). All applications need to be returned no later than November 25, 2011. If you have any questions please contact Glenna Johnston, Executive Director at (815)478-3811.

Below are a few pictures from Christmas on State Street 2010. Please check the Chamber website for additional pictures from last year's parade.




25444 Shannon Drive
Manhattan, IL 60442
patricia.lucas@lpl.com
www.lpl.com/patricia.lucas


815 478 0093 office
815 478 0095 fax
888 431 1269 toll free

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**Ardan
Autobody**

Steve Ardan
2700 Cherry Hill Rd.
Joliet, IL 60433
Phone (815) 723-6026



HARRIS

Harris Manhattan
505 South State Street
Manhattan, IL 60442
T 815-478-3202
D 815-478-7171
F 815-478-4873
shelly.lewis@harrisbank.com

Harris N.A.

Shelly A. Lewis
Assistant Vice President
Bank Manager



Gingerbread House Contest



We will be having once again our Gingerbread House Contest on December 3rd, 2011, at Wilson Creek Elementary School. This year we have opened the contest to high school students and adults. The gingerbread house must be made of all edible materials.

For any additional information and contest forms, please log onto the Manhattan Chamber website at www.manhattan-il.com or contact Glenna Johnston, Executive Director at (815)478-3811



Chamber's Annual Christmas Party



Please mark your calendar for Friday, December 9th, 2011 for the annual Christmas party. Please watch for further information regarding time and place.



Lincoln-Way High School #210



Coming in December – the popular Renaissance-style **Madrigal Dinners** featuring singers, players, and instrumentalists in full period costume will be presented at each of our four high schools. Tickets are \$28 each (includes show and dinner) – early purchase is recommended as these events sell out quickly. For ticket availability, please contact the individual school: Lincoln-Way Central High School – (815) 462-2300; Lincoln – Way East High School –(815)464-4000; Lincoln-Way North High School – (815)534-3065; and Lincoln-Way West High School – (815)717-3507.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

November 1 st	Bingo – Wilson Creek School	6:00pm
November 2 nd	Board Meeting	5:30pm
November 9 th	Business after Hours Manhattan–Elwood Public Library	5:30pm
November 15 th	Bingo – Wilson Creek School	5:30pm
December 3 rd	Christmas on State Street	9:00am
December 6 th	Bingo – Wilson Creek School	
December 9 th	Christmas Party (TBA)	TBA
December 19 th	Last day for angel tree gifts	
December 20 th	Bingo – Wilson Creek School	6:00pm



PROVENA
Medical Group

Rushia Butler, M.D.
Family Practice

540 W. North Street, Suite 206
Manhattan, IL 60442
815-478-3890 **Tel**
815-478-4497 **Fax**



#32556
530 W. North Street
Manhattan, IL 60442
815-478-0312