



## NEWSLETTER

### THE MANHATTAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

#### A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

##### Getting Ready for the Holidays!

The Manhattan Chamber of Commerce is getting ready for a busy holiday season and we hope to share it with you! We are kicking it off early with our "Christmas on State" event which will be held on Saturday, December 4, 2010. Together with the Village of Manhattan and the Manhattan Park District, we will be hosting numerous events such as our Craft Fair, Gingerbread House Decorating Contest, Chili Cook Off, Live Nativity Scene, and Visit with Santa & Crafts, Parade, and Times Square Tree Lighting. We are still looking for parade entries for our 1<sup>st</sup> annual Parade of Lights! If you are interested in participating in this inaugural parade, please contact the Chamber office. Details for "Christmas on State" can also be found on our website at [www.manhattan-il.com](http://www.manhattan-il.com). Don't forget to decorate your store front to show your support!

Our Christmas Party will be held on a Friday this year! Stone City VFW Hall, located at Route 53 and Laraway Roads, will be hosting the Chamber's annual holiday gathering on Friday, December 10, 2010. Cocktails will be served at 6:30pm and dinner will take place at 7:15pm. If you have not RSVP'ed, please contact the Chamber office as soon as possible. We would love to see all of our members there! Take time from the busy hustle and bustle of the month of December to sit down with friends and neighbors and have a good time (while also doing some networking for your business!) As always raffles will be accepted for the party should you or your business wish to donate!



#### ANGEL TREE PROGRAM

This year, the Manhattan Chamber of Commerce is again sponsoring the Angel Tree Program for local Manhattan families. Together with Manhattan area organizations and businesses, as well as individual community members, we are able to offer assistance to Manhattan families who may need a bit of extra cheer this holiday season. The Angel Trees are located at the First Bank of Manhattan's 230 S. State Street facility, as well as the 550 North Street location, from Thanksgiving weekend to December 15, 2010. We ask that if you are willing to help this wonderful cause, please stop by either branch, take a tag that describes a child's needs and/or wants, purchase a gift, and return the gift with the tag attached to either bank facility by December 15, 2010. The gifts will be distributed to the families during the week before Christmas. The Angel Tree continues to be extremely beneficial in bringing the Manhattan community together during the holiday season and throughout the year. Thank you in advance to all those who participate.

I would also like to remind our members that the 2011 membership forms were distributed via email in early November. Please take a look at our membership levels to see what would most benefit your business. As always, the welcome bags and email blasts are great ways to let the community know about different specials or events your business can offer. Ribbon cuttings and networking events help raise awareness for your organization. Your business name, website, and contact information will be available for the year on our website as we encourage residents to shop our members. In addition, there continues to be a board director vacancy for the Chamber. I cannot stress enough the importance of getting involved within the community. It is most certainly a gratifying experience and allows you to network while also performing a civic duty. We are continually looking for feedback on how we are doing and how we can do more for your business. It helps though, to have new people to present ideas and give us a new perspective. The board is completely voluntary and we try to do as much as we can for our members as our resources will allow. If you are interested in becoming a director, please let myself know or contact the Chamber office.

On behalf of the Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors, I would like to invite you all to participate in any or all of our holiday events. It is through the strength of our businesses and residents that we can continue to build a community where families can be proud to reside. We also wish all of our members a wonderful Thanksgiving holiday!

Dianne Huelsman

President



The following is the list and times of activities on December 4<sup>th</sup> – Christmas on State Street:

Craft Fair -----8:30am – 12:30pm

Gingerbread House Contest-----9:00am – 10:00am

Chili Cook-Off-----9:00am – 10:00am

Judging of Gingerbread House & Chili Cook-Off-----11:00am

Caboose Opens-----12:30pm – 4:00pm



Santa and Mrs. Claus Take Manhattan at the Manhattan Park District Program Center (located 397 State Street) -2:30pm – 4:30pm. Pre-registration is required for this event at the Center (815)478-3324.



Parade of Lights – Lineup at 5:00pm, parade at 5:30pm. Starts at 2<sup>nd</sup> Street and Park Street. Followed by the Christmas Tree Lighting at Time Square.



Extras around town:

Kid Country Christmas Program – Anna McDonald School – Free and open to the public. Our 3' 4 and 5 year old children sing and perform “A Martian Christmas” with special performances by our kindergarten children.



St. Paul's Chili Supper – 4:00pm – 7:00pm at 140 Thelma Street – Tickets \$7.00 for ages 12 & up, \$5.00 for ages 6-9, kids 5 and under are free.



On December 3<sup>rd</sup> (7:30pm) The Manhattan Park District and the Village of Manhattan would like to invite you to a free performance at the Park District Program Center of the Lincoln-Way Central Madrigal Singers. Please sign up for this event at the Program Center (815)478-3324.

For any questions about the events and activities on December 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> please contact the Manhattan Chamber at (815)478-3811.



## LINCOLN-WAY DISTRICT 210 OFFERS THE FOLLOWING FOR YOUR HOLIDAY ENJOYMENT:

- Dec. 2 Holiday Concert at East High School 7 PM
- Dec. 4 Breakfast with Santa at East High School 7AM
- Dec. 4 Lunch with Santa at North High School 10:30 AM
- Dec. 7 Holiday Concert at North High School 7PM
- Dec. 10 Solstice Concert at North High School 7 PM
- Dec. 11 Youth Strings Concert at North High School 7 PM
- Dec. 16 Kaleidoscope Concert at East High School 7 PM
- Dec. 17 Beginning Strings Concert at East High School 7 PM
- Dec. 18 & 19 Illinois Philharmonic Orchestra Holiday Concert at East High School 3 PM
- Dec. 27-30 Medieval (basketball) Classic at East and North High Schools starting at 3 PM

The tradition of Madrigal Dinners continues at District 210. For performance availability, please contact the individual schools: East (815.464.4000), North (815.534.3065), Central (815.462.2300), West (815.717.3507) .



## CHRISTMAS TREES FOR SALE

The Manhattan Park District will once again be selling Christmas trees at the Round Barn Farm. Make it a family tradition as you pick out the perfect tree for your home. Trees will be available starting December 2<sup>nd</sup>, Thursdays & Fridays, 4:00pm-8:00pm and Saturdays & Sundays, 12:00pm-5:00pm. Fraser Fir Trees 7' \$46.00, 8' \$54.00 and 9' \$60.00. Field Run Fraser Fir Tree 6-8' \$42.00, Balsam Fir Trees 7-8' \$48.00, 9' \$60.00

On Saturday, October 23<sup>rd</sup>, there was an open house and ribbon cutting for the new Water Treatment and Radium Removal Facility located at 520 West North Street. The construction on this removal plant included an upgrade of the well pump to produce 1,000 gallons per minute. This second facility will provide safeguards for residents and businesses by providing a second source of drinking water instead of relying on only one well.

The total cost of this project was \$3.2 million. The project was funded through a 25% grant and a 0% interest loan for the remainder of the project cost and was funded through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act. This grant resulted in a \$1.6 million savings for the Village of Manhattan taxpayers. The project was completed within budget and ahead of schedule.



Pictured front row (l. to r.) are Public Works Superintendent Bill Liska, Trustee Mike Naughton, Trustee Ryan Adkins, Mayor Bill Borgo, Trustee Patricia Lucas and Trustee Tom Biscan; back row Bret Hancock of Maxium Corp., Village Engineer Van Calumbaris and Tom Matthews of Robinson Engineering



In December Bingo will only be on Monday the 6<sup>th</sup>. Doors open at 5:30pm (early bird game) with regular bingo starting at 6:00pm. Note: There will be no bingo in January.



## UPCOMING CALENDAR

- December
- 1 Manhattan Chamber of Commerce Board Meeting 5:30pm
  - 4 Christmas on State Street
  - 6 Bingo 5:30pm: Wilson Creek Elementary School
  - 10 Christmas Party at the Stone City VFW Hall located at Route 53 and Laraway Roads. Cocktails at 6:30pm and dinner at 7:00pm.
  - 25 Christmas Day
- January
- 1 New Year's Day
  - 3 Manhattan Chamber of Commerce Board Meeting 5:30pm.
  - 17 State of the Village Luncheon (TBA)

## Support our Newsletter Sponsors:

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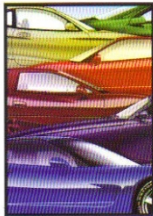
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New Address as of 6/1/09  
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