



Manning Matters

December 2015

Message from the Mayor

I realize that Christmas means something different for every person and family. I often consider the fact that God could have chosen anywhere to be my hometown and I'm so grateful to call this city my home. There is nothing more magical than our city this time of the year. From the decorated trees to the joys shared during festivities and the Christmas lights that illuminate our downtown.

As we gather to spend time with family and friends, let us remember to whisper a prayer of thanks for all we have been blessed with as a community and a prayer of hope for the New Year we're about to embark upon.

May everyone have the presence of joy, peace and love this holiday season, while we remain true to our city's motto: "Matchless for Beauty and Hospitality".

The People's Mayor,

Julia A. Nelson



The Polar Express

The Youth Council on Main is excited to sponsor the 2015 Christmas Movie, *The Polar Express*. Wear your pajamas and bring a chair, blanket, and pillow to the Cypress Center on Friday, December 11, 2015 beginning at 6 pm. Admission is \$2. Snacks will be available for purchase.



Holiday Closings

We hope you have a very Merry Christmas and a prosperous New Year! City Hall will be closed December 24-25, 28 and January 1.

Roll Carts

Waste Management will not run on Christmas, December 25. If your trash is scheduled for Friday pick up please put it out on Saturday.

The City of Manning Utility Department wants to remind you to place only regular household garbage in residential roll carts.

Live Nativity

There will be a Live Nativity Drive Thru at Emmanuel Baptist Church located at 1794 Old Georgetown Road in Manning on December 12th and 13th from 5:30 pm -7:30 pm. For more information call 803-435-4059.



Christmas Parade

The Christmas Parade will be Sunday, December 13 at 4 pm in downtown Manning. Please contact the Chamber of Commerce at 803-435-4405 for an application.



Main Street Corner

Check Manning First

This holiday season we hope that you Check Manning First. Manning is home to a variety of boutiques and gift stores that have unique gifts for everyone on your holiday list. Use the hashtag #CheckManningFirst on social media when you make a purchase at a Manning business. You might just be surprised at what you find when you Check Manning First!



Christmas Tree Safety

As you deck the halls this holiday season, be fire smart. A small fire that spreads to a Christmas tree can grow large very quickly. Here are some tips for having a fire smart holiday season.

Picking the tree: Choose a tree with fresh, green needles that do not fall off when touched.

Placing the tree: Before placing the tree in the stand, cut 2" from the base of the trunk. Make sure the tree is at least three feet away from any heat source, like fireplaces, radiators, candles, heat vents or lights. Make sure the tree is not blocking an exit. Add water to the tree stand. Be sure to add water daily.

Lighting the tree: Use lights that have the label of a recognized testing laboratory. Some lights are only for indoor or outdoor use. Replace any string of lights with worn or broken cords or loose bulb connections. Read manufacturer's instructions for number of light strands to connect. Never use lit candles to decorate the tree. Always turn off Christmas tree lights before leaving home or going to bed.

After Christmas: Get rid of the tree after Christmas or when it is dry. Dried-out trees are a fire danger and should not be left in the home or garage, or placed outside against the home. Check with your local community to find a recycling program. Bring outdoor electrical lights inside after the holidays to prevent hazards and make them last longer.

Winter Storm Preparedness

Winter storms may soon be upon us. Regardless of the severity of a winter storm, you should be prepared in order to remain safe during these events.

How to Prepare for a Winter Storm

Winterize your vehicle and keep the gas tank full. A full tank will keep the fuel line from freezing. Insulate your home by installing storm windows or covering windows with plastic from the inside to keep cold air out. Maintain heating equipment and chimneys by having them cleaned and inspected every year. If you will be going away during cold weather, leave the heat on in your

home, set to a temperature no lower than 55° F.

Put Together a Supply Kit

- Water—at least a 3-day supply; one gallon per person per day
- Food—at least a 3-day supply of non-perishable, easy-to-prepare food
- Flashlight
- Battery-powered or hand-crank radio
- Extra batteries
- First aid kit
- Medications (7-day supply) and medical items (hearing aids with extra batteries, glasses, contact lenses, syringes, etc.)
- Multi-purpose tool
- Sanitation and personal hygiene items

- Copies of personal documents
- Cell phone with chargers
- Family and emergency contact information
- Extra cash
- Baby supplies (bottles, formula, baby food, diapers)
- Pet supplies (collar, leash, ID, food, carrier, bowl)
- Sand, rock salt or non-clumping kitty litter to make walkways and steps less slippery
- Warm coats, gloves or mittens, hats, boots and extra blankets and warm clothing for all household members
- Ample alternate heating methods such as fireplaces or wood- or coal-burning stoves