

# Manning Matters

February 2014

## Message from the Mayor

It feels like we are finally having a real winter. I'm still hoping for at least a dusting of snow before the season is over.

I would like to provide a brief update on the "state of the city" in this newsletter. I'm pleased to let you know that we are financially sound and are moving in a progressive manner to begin and complete ongoing projects.

The Paxville Water Extension is completed and the \$4M loan was closed in December 2013 with the first monthly payment of \$95,000 (thereafter \$13,078/mo) due December 2014. We need a customer base of 300 to meet the anticipated loan note.

The Alcolu Water and Sewer Expansion is awaiting notice to proceed from USDA. This project will cost \$335,00 with a monthly payment of \$1,103 after completion.

Our largest project the \$21M Waste Water Treatment Plant will be completed in three phases, which is anticipated to take 2-3 years. Once the plant is complete our water capacity will expand from 2.5 to

5M gallons. Phase I is nearly underway.

It is a tough balance to sustain our city while preparing for future economic development opportunities. However, it is imperative to be cognitive of what is needed now and for the future.

With recent announcements like Kent International Inc. choosing Clarendon County for their new plant, we are assured that we are making the right investments for our city's future.

Though we know water and wastewater capacity is one of the major keys to recruiting new companies, let us not ever underestimate the value that is added in how well we treat each other and take care of our community. I continue to hear from people traveling through Manning sharing their experiences. They are so appreciative of how kind and hospitable we are to them.

So as always, let us remain true to our motto: "Matchless for Beauty and Hospitality".

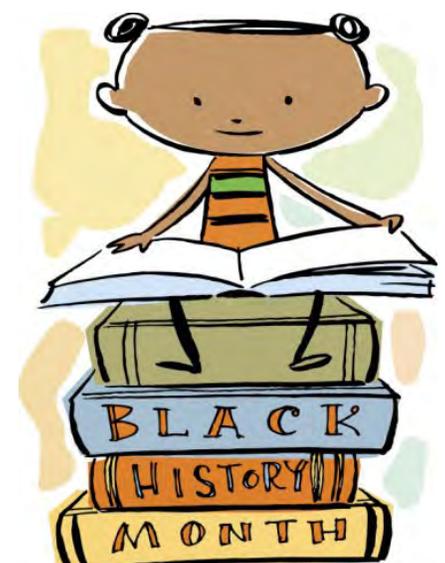
The People's Mayor,

*Julia A. Nelson*

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## February is Black History Month

Black History Month, or National African American History Month, is an annual celebration of achievements by black Americans and a time for recognizing the central role of African Americans in U.S. history. The event grew out of "Negro History Week," the brainchild of noted historian Carter G. Woodson and other prominent African Americans. Since 1976, every U.S. president has officially designated the month of February as Black History Month. Other countries around the world, including Canada and the United Kingdom, also devote a month to celebrating black history.



## 2013 City of Manning Crime Stats

The Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) Program was started in 1929 by the International Association of Chiefs of Police to meet a need for reliable, uniform crime statistics for the nation. In 1930, the FBI was tasked with collecting, publishing, and archiving those statistics. Today, several annual statistical publications, such as the comprehensive Crime in the United States, are produced from data provided by nearly 17,000 law enforcement agencies across the United States.

The crimes are separated into two groups. **Violent Crimes**, which consist of Homicide, Robbery, Rape, Aggravated Assaults and **Property Crimes** which include Burglary, Larceny, Vehicle Theft, and Arson.

The City of Manning had a decrease of **5.5%** in these reported crimes compared to 2012 statistics.

<u>Violent Crimes</u>	<u>2012</u>	<u>2013</u>	<u>Property Crimes</u>	<u>2012</u>	<u>2013</u>
Homicide	0	1	Burglary	55	65
Robbery	12	9	Larceny	151	133
Rape	3	0	Vehicle Theft	15	19
Aggravated Assaults	<u>37</u>	<u>32</u>	Arson	<u>1</u>	<u>0</u>
	52	42		222	217

The total number of reports in 2013 was 259 compared to 274 the previous year. This equates to a 5.5% decrease.

Respectfully submitted,

Chief Blair Shaffer, Manning Police Department



### Cities Mean Business Month

Main Street Manning is celebrating February as Cities Mean Business month. This campaign is intended to encourage new and stronger collaboration between local elected leaders and the business community to reinforce the fact that strong cities are the economic engines that help drive the state's competitiveness. We will bring awareness to the important relationship between strong cities and towns and the state's economic strength by focusing on the many ways that strong cities and towns create the environment to support growth of existing businesses and attract new businesses.

If you would like to volunteer with Main Street Manning please contact Carrie Trebil at 435-8477. Main Street Manning is a board of the City of Manning dedicated to revitalizing the business district through economic development, design excellence and business promotions.

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### Affordable Care Act Workshop

The library will be hosting Affordable Care Act workshops with Carrie Sinkler-Parker. The workshops will be February 3 and March 3. Both will start at 6:00pm at the library. These workshops are open to the public and free of charge.

### Valentine's Day

Don't forget that Valentine's Day is February 14, we encourage you to Shop Main Street Manning this year. Manning has a variety of gift stores, florists, and jewelry stores that offer unique gifts for the special people in your life. Love your locals!

