

Manning Matters

March 2020



City Election

The City of Manning Municipal Election will be held **Tuesday, April 7, 2020**. Please contact the Clarendon County Voters Registration Office for more information about polling locations, times, etc. The telephone number is 803-435-8215.

History of St. Patrick's Day

St. Patrick's Day is celebrated annually March 17, the anniversary of his death in the fifth century. The Irish have observed this day as a religious holiday for over 1,000 years. St. Patrick's Day, which falls during the Christian season of Lent, Irish families would traditionally attend church in the morning and celebrate in the afternoon. Lenten prohibitions against the consumption of meat were waived and people would dance, drink and feast—on the traditional meal of Irish bacon and cabbage.

Saint Patrick, who lived during the fifth century, is the patron saint and national apostle of Ireland. Born in Roman Britain, he was kidnapped and brought to Ireland as a slave at the age of 16. He later escaped, but returned to Ireland and was credited with bringing Christianity to its people. In the centuries following Patrick's death (believed to have been March 17, 461), the mythology surrounding his life became ever more ingrained in the Irish culture: Perhaps the most well known legend is that he explained the Holy Trinity (Father, Son and Holy Spirit) using the three leaves of a native Irish clover, the shamrock.

Since around the ninth or 10th century, people in Ireland have been observing the Roman Catholic feast day of St. Patrick on March 17. Interestingly, however, the first parade held to honor St. Patrick's Day took place not in Ireland but in the United

States. On March 17, 1762, Irish soldiers serving in the English military marched through New York City. Along with their music, the parade helped the soldiers reconnect with their Irish roots, as well as with fellow Irishmen serving in the English army.

Over the next 35 years, Irish patriotism among American immigrants flourished, prompting the rise of so-called "Irish Aid" societies like the Friendly Sons of Saint Patrick and the Hibernian Society. Each group would hold annual parades featuring bagpipes (which actually first became popular in the Scottish and British armies) and drums.

In 1848, several New York Irish Aid societies decided to unite their parades to form one official New York City St. Patrick's Day Parade. Today, that parade is the world's oldest civilian parade and the largest in the United States, with over 150,000 participants. Each year, nearly 3 million people line the 1.5-mile parade route to watch the procession, which takes more than five hours. Boston, Chicago, Philadelphia and Savannah also celebrate the day with parades involving between 10,000 and 20,000 participants each.

Author: History.com Editors <https://www.history.com/topics/st-patricks-day/history-of-st-patricks-day>



Character Word of the Month

The character word of the month for March is self discipline. Self discipline is demonstrating hard work and commitment to purpose. It also means being in proper control of your words, actions, impulses, and desires.



Miss Striped Bass Festival Pageant

The Miss Striped Bass Festival Pageant will be held Saturday, April 4, 2020 at Weldon Auditorium at 1 pm. Admission is \$5. Please contact the Chamber of Commerce for applications and more information at 803-435-4405.



Daylight Savings Time Begins

Remember to spring forward Sunday, March 8, 2020. This is also a good time to check your smoke detectors to ensure that they are working properly.



Yard Debris

Please put yard debris on the edge of your property and not on the sidewalk or curb. This helps minimize the amount of debris that winds up in storm drains that can cause localized flooding. We also want to remind you to please separate household items from the yard debris. This helps our employees get the streets cleaned faster.

Also, if you pay a contractor to do maintenance work on your property, the contractor is **REQUIRED** to dispose of any debris resulting from the work that is being completed.

