

KIWANIS HOLIDAY LIGHTS

MANKATO, MINNESOTA



PRESENTED BY M&F AND CHS

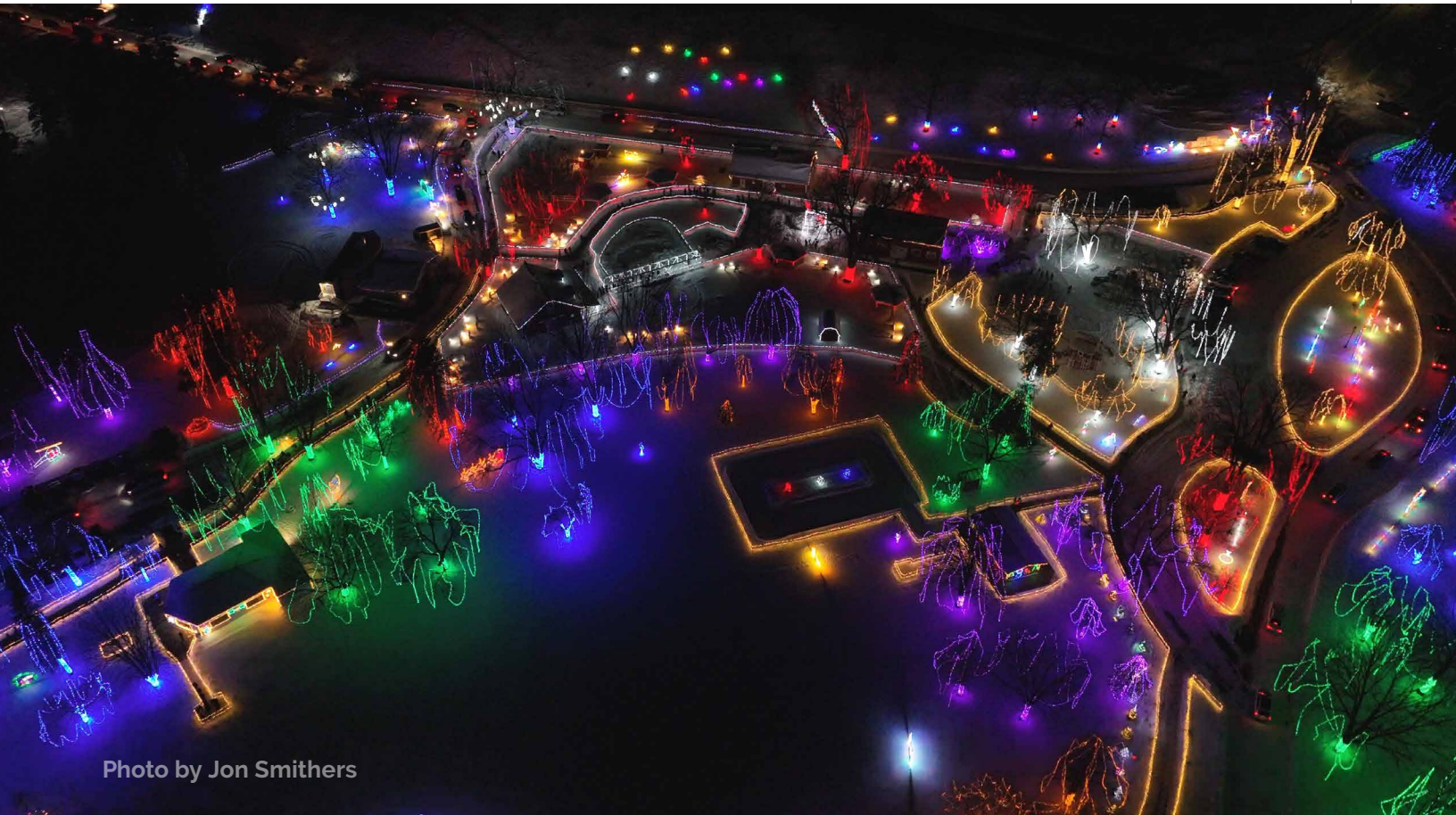


Photo by Jon Smithers

Commemorative 2023 Program

[KiwanisHolidayLights.com](https://www.KiwanisHolidayLights.com)



THE MANKATO AREA FOUNDATION IS PROUD TO SUPPORT
THE MAGIC OF THE KIWANIS HOLIDAY LIGHTS.

A legacy gift from Al and Erla Fallenstein through the Mankato Area Foundation helped establish the great Kiwanis Holiday Lights tradition. Since 2012, over 1,500,000 community members and visitors alike have enjoyed this magical light display. As we begin to celebrate the Foundation's 50th anniversary, we want to thank five decades of donors who have helped in shaping our community for good through their generosity.



Seasons Greetings

FROM ALL OF US AT THE MANKATO AREA FOUNDATION.



Since 1974, the Mankato Area Foundation has been dedicated to building a community of individuals that believe in the strength of giving. The Foundation offers a variety of giving options to help people achieve their charitable goals and create lasting, impactful work in our community.

Are you inspired to give or leave a legacy?
To learn more visit, mankatoareafoundation.com.



MANKATO AREA
FOUNDATION

Welcome

DEAR VISITORS,

As we enter the 11th year of Kiwanis Holiday Lights, I reflect on all the visitors that have gone through the park. From young to old, everyone I have talked to or seen from afar has a smile on their face while they walk or drive through our event.

People ask me all the time why I put in the hundreds of volunteer hours every year and if I am going to hang it up some day. My response is always the same. I love to see the smiles and joy people experience from visiting Kiwanis Holiday Lights. As long as we can brighten up the holidays for others, I will be down here volunteering my time.

At the core of Kiwanis Holiday Lights, we have a very dedicated Board of Directors who also put in hundreds of hours to make this a very special event for the Greater Mankato Area.

To say it takes a village to get this event set up every year is an understatement. Decorations and equipment have barely sat in the warehouse before we begin planning for the next holiday season's event, which starts about 10 months prior.

I would like to personally thank everyone involved in Kiwanis Holiday Lights. From the restaurants who donate food to keep us fed and the sponsors who make sure donated funds keep the event growing to the 70 nonprofit groups that help set up, tear down, and run the event nightly and the 30+ in-kind donors. Everyone plays a part in the success of the Kiwanis Holiday Lights.

As you flip through the pages of the program, make sure you take the time to see who all is involved and, if you get a chance, thank them for all the hard work.

From the Kiwanis Holiday Lights Board of Directors and myself, happy holidays and enjoy the lights!

Sincerely,

SCOTT WOJCIK

President, Kiwanis Holiday Lights

**KIWANIS
HOLIDAY
LIGHTS**
MANKATO, MINNESOTA

PRESENTED BY MAF AND CHS



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About Kiwanis Holiday Lights

2023 Kiwanis Holiday Lights Board of Directors

Kiwanis Holiday Lights is led by a volunteer Executive Team and Board of Directors.

Scott Wojcik ♦♦

President

Kyle Mrozek ♦♦

Vice President

Scott Nelsen ♦

Treasurer

Chris Roe ♦♦

Secretary

Rebeckah Maday ♦

At Large

Joe Meidl ♦♦

At Large

Andrew Burk

Jon Guentzel

Matt Kearney

Jaci Lageson ♦

Lori Maday

Mike Neidt

Matt Norland ♦

Laura Stevens

Pat Tobin

♦ Executive Member

♦ Founding Member

What is Kiwanis Holiday Lights?

This celebration of holiday lights for the Greater Mankato area is located in Sibley Park in Mankato, Minnesota. It builds on past traditions and promotes the communities we serve, while raising money and collecting non-perishable food donations for those in need. Admission is free for everyone. Non-perishable food and cash donations are accepted and appreciated. Please note, Kiwanis Holiday Lights only collects cash and food donations within the lights display area in Sibley Park. No other organizations or individuals have been approved to collect donations on behalf of Kiwanis Holiday Lights.

Kiwanis Holiday Lights is a project of the Kiwanis Club of Mankato.

The City of Mankato does not allow dogs in Sibley Park, but dogs are welcome to join you in your car as you drive through!

This event features strobe lights that may trigger seizures in some individuals.

History

The original Kiwanis Holiday Lights idea came from Kiwanis Holiday Lights President, Scott Wojcik. His hometown, Marshfield, Wisconsin, had a similar event, and he brought the idea to members of the Mankato Downtown Kiwanis Club who were looking for a fundraiser that would greatly impact the Mankato community. The key concept was that Kiwanis Holiday Lights would not only help promote Kiwanis as a whole, but also involve many other businesses and nonprofits from Greater Mankato. Preliminary planning started in the Spring 2011 and the idea appealed to many people, including the City of Mankato, who remembered the displays on Mary Circle and North Broad Street from past years. The official press release came out in June 2012. The Mankato Area Foundation and CHS were named as presenting partners, kick-starting the Kiwanis Holiday Lights capital campaign!

Mission

The mission of Kiwanis Holiday Lights is to create a celebration of holiday lights for the Greater Mankato Area that builds on past traditions and promotes the communities we serve, while raising money and collecting non-perishable food donations for those in need.

Contact

Email: Info@KiwanisHolidayLights.com

Information Line and to Leave a Message: 507.385.9129

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 602, Mankato, MN 56002

Warehouse Address: 903 Park Lane, Mankato, MN 56001

Learn more about Kiwanis Holiday Lights!
KiwanisHolidayLights.com





11 Years

of Impact in the Greater
Mankato Community



18,000

Volunteers from 115+ Nonprofits



\$590,000

Donated to Area Nonprofits that have
Provided Volunteers



120,000+

Volunteer Hours



130 Tons

of Food Collected for Area Food Shelves



22,000+

Facebook Followers



1,500,000+ People

Have Visited Kiwanis Holiday Lights



165+ Businesses

Involved as Sponsors and In-Kind
Donors Each Year



100%

Run by Local Volunteers



30,000+

Children Have Visited Santa Claus

About the Kiwanis Club of Mankato

Learn more about
the Kiwanis Club
of Mankato!

MankatoKiwanis.org



Join Us!

The Kiwanis Club holds weekly meetings every Monday at 12:05 p.m. at the WOW! ZONE at 2030 Adams Street in Mankato, Minnesota.

About

Since 1921, the Kiwanis Club has served the greater Mankato community. More than 110 local members support the Kiwanis International values of helping kids around the world. Our club has volunteer opportunities every month, and we raise money each year to support local programs such as:

- Kiwanis Holiday Lights in Sibley Park
- Kiwanis Camp Patterson on Lake Washington
- Kiwanis Thunder of Drums at Blakeslee Field
- Kiwanis Reading Oasis at Hoover School
- Kiwanis Recreation Area on Highway 169
- Circle K at Minnesota State University, Mankato
- Key and Builders Clubs at Mankato West and Loyola Catholic School
- Aktion Club Theatre
- Adopt a Highway on Highway 66, County Road 1
- Salvation Army Bell-Ringing at Downtown Hy-Vee
- MYPlace Day Camp at Camp Patterson

MANKATO
Kiwanis

JOIN US FOR A
COMPLIMENTARY LUNCH
at the
Kiwanis Club of Mankato

Any Monday at 12:00 Noon
at the
Wow! Zone
2030 Adams Street, Mankato, MN

Email: mankatokiwanis@gmail.com

DEDICATED TO IMPROVING THE LIVES OF CHILDREN

HAPPY HOLIDAYS



ENTERTAINING, INFORMING, AND CONNECTING
THE COMMUNITY EVERYDAY.

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2023 Kiwanis Holiday Lights Sponsors



North Pole Sponsors
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Media Sponsors



Santa Claus Sponsors
\$5,000-\$9,999



Rudolph Sponsors
\$2,500-\$4,999



Sleigh Sponsors
\$1,250-\$2,499



Reindeer Sponsors
\$750-\$1,249

Freyberg Petroleum

Walmart - Mankato, MN

The Guy LLC

Ploog Electric

Hilton Garden Inn

Old National Bank

Thank you, Sponsors!

The generous support of our sponsors funds the cost of the infrastructure of Kiwanis Holiday Lights. This includes the LED lights, displays, warming houses, electrical equipment, and everything else you see in Sibley Park. Without our sponsors this event could not happen. Our presenting partners, The Mankato Area Foundation and CHS, were two major sponsors that stepped-up prior to our first season in 2012. Thank you to all who support and continue to make the Kiwanis Holiday Lights a Greater Mankato holiday tradition!



A special thank you goes to the City of Mankato and North Mankato for assisting with this project!



Sponsored Meals for Volunteers

- 1000 Degrees Pizza
- Applebee's
- Atomic Star Tavern
- Boulder Tap House
- Casey's General Store
- Crooked Pint
- Cub Food West
- Dickey's BBQ Pit
- Domino's Pizza Riverfront Drive
- Ecumen Pathstone Living
- Gary's Pizza
- Happy Chef
- HyVee
- Jake's Stadium Pizza
- JD's Hideaway
- Jonny B's Sports Bar
- KFC
- Maverick's Sports Grill
- MC's Garage
- McDonald's
- NaKato Bar and Grill
- Nolabelle Kitchen and Bar
- Noodles and Company
- Number 4 American Bar and Kitchen
- Olde Brick House
- Olive Garden Italian Restaurant
- Olives
- Pagliai's Pizza
- Pappageorge Restaurant and Bar
- Perkins
- Pita Pit
- Pizza Hut
- Pizza Ranch
- Pub 500
- Red Lobster
- Rounders Sports Bar and Grill
- Spinners Bar and Grill
- Swiss and Madison
- The Loose Moose Saloon and Conference Center
- Ummies Bar and Grill
- Wow! Zone Family

In-Kind and Additional Contributors

- Affordable Towing
- BG Minnesota
- Carr's Tree Service
- City of Mankato
- City of North Mankato
- Crystal Valley Coop
- Gillette Pepsi of Mankato
- Greg's Champion Auto
- Guentzel Family Farms
- Hewitt Docks, Lifts, and Pontoon Legs
- Heyn Brothers Roofing
- John and Wendy Kind
- Mark and Lisa Ehlers
- NAC Mechanical and Electrical Services
- Phil and Margie Slingsby
- Ryan Scholl
- Schwickert's Tecta America
- SPX
- Volk Transfer, Inc.
- W. Lorentz Construction
- Waco Scaffolding
- Wendi and Lee Masters
- Ziegler CAT of Mankato

Become a sponsor!

[KiwanisHolidayLights.com/sponsors](https://www.kiwanisholidaylights.com/sponsors)



Events and Activities

VISIT SANTA IN HIS WORKSHOP!

Santa's workshop is located in the farm area each Friday, Saturday, and Sunday night from 5-9 p.m. free of charge! Don't forget to bring your camera to take pictures!

100%
Volunteer-Run
Event

Drop off your letters to Santa!

Drop your letter in the red mailbox by Santa's workshop or mail your letter to Kiwanis Holiday Lights, P.O. Box 602, Mankato, MN 56001!

Check out the Tribute to the Troops

Check out the additional displays honoring our veterans and those serving our country!

Keep an eye out!

Look for Elf on the Shelf and the Sibley Park Squirrel displays. They move around every week!



Walking and Driving
Computer Animated Tunnels



Visit
Santa's Reindeer



Enjoy
Refreshments



Vote for Your Favorite
Nonprofit Holiday Tree



**Delight in Nearly
2 Million Lights**

Take a Sip of the Yuletide Lager

In partnership with Mankato Brewery, Kiwanis Holiday Lights is pleased to bring back the Yuletide Lager this year! This beer is a traditional, light American amber lager with a light and smooth profile. Mankato Brewery will donate \$1 from each pint sold in their Mankato Brewery taproom to Kiwanis Holiday Lights! Yuletide Lager will be sold in 6- and 12-pack, 12-ounce cans in Greater Mankato liquor stores now through the holidays.

Visit Kiwanis Holiday Lights November 24 for the parade and lighting ceremony at 6:00 p.m.!


This event is free and open to the public! The Kiwanis Holiday Lights parade and lighting ceremony are presented by Girl Scouts River Valleys - Greater Mankato Troop 34494 and 37938.



**Take a Picture
with Festive Cutouts**



**Non-Perishable Foods
Collected Nightly**



**Donate
Non-Perishable
Foods**



**Enjoy Treats,
Refreshments**



**VISIT THE KIWANIS
HOLIDAY LIGHTS
WEBSITE!**

kiwanisholidaylights.com



Concession Stand



Did you know refreshments are available at Kiwanis Holiday Lights?

Concessions are available in our warming house every night, while supplies last. Check out the list below! Stars (★) note new items in 2023! Cash, check, credit cards, and Apple Pay are accepted. Tax is included in pricing.

Beverages

Hot Apple Cider.....	\$1.00
Hot Cocoa.....	\$1.00
Juice Box.....	\$1.00
Soda.....	\$1.00
Bottled Water.....	\$1.00
Mug Refills.....	\$1.00

Snacks

Little Debbie Holiday Snack.....	\$1.00
Bag of Chips.....	\$1.00
Popcorn.....	\$1.00
★ Walker's Shortbread Rounds (2-Pack).....	\$1.50
<i>Original or Gluten Free</i>	
Mini Donuts (One Dozen).....	\$5.00
Candy Cane.....	\$0.50
★ Reese's Peanut Butter Tree.....	\$1.00

Gifts and Souvenirs

Lighted 9-Bulb Necklace.....	\$5.00
★ Lighted LED Tree Necklace.....	\$5.00
★ Lighted 5-Bulb Headband.....	\$5.00
Lighted Christmas Tree Wand.....	\$10.00
★ Lighted Snowflake Wand.....	\$10.00
★ Lighted Green Pixel Sword.....	\$10.00
Ceramic Campfire Mug (15 ounces).....	\$10.00
Insulated Thermal Cup (20 ounces).....	\$15.00
★ 2023 Snow Globe Ornament (Limited Edition).....	\$10.00



Merry Christmas & Happy New Year!



DOWNLOAD OUR WEATHER APP TODAY TO ENSURE YOU'RE PREPARED FOR WINTER WITH REAL-TIME UPDATES FROM OUR TEAM AND GAIN ACCESS TO OUR 24/7 STREAMING WEATHER CHANNEL.

 Download on the
App Store

 GET IT ON
Google Play

EMILY MERZ
METEOROLOGIST

SHAWN CABLE
CHIEF METEOROLOGIST

CAITLYN LORR
METEOROLOGIST

BE UP-TO-DATE ON:

- SCHOOL CLOSINGS & DELAYS
- EVENT CANCELLATIONS & POSTPONEMENTS
- WINTER STORM WARNINGS
- SEVERE WEATHER COVERAGE
- ROAD CONDITIONS
- DOPPLER RADAR
- FUTURECAST

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 **FOX**  **CW**  **OXY FIRSTALERT GEN WEATHER NOW**

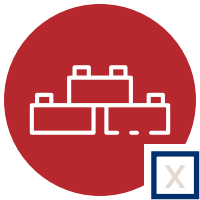
Nightly Participants

Date	Nightly Sponsor	Volunteer Groups	Food Shelf
Friday, November 24	Mankato Area Foundation, CHS	Kiwanis Club of Mankato, Mankato HOSA, Mankato East Softball	Martin County Salvation Army
Saturday, November 25	Amcors Cares Foundation	Mankato BMX, Mankato Goodwill, Mankato East Girls Basketball	Heaven's Table Food Shelf
Sunday, November 26	Volk Transfer	Blue Earth County Historical Society (BECHS), Youth and Education St. Paul Lutheran Church - Le Center	Campus Cupboard
Monday, November 27	ISG, Computer Technology Solutions, Inc.	MNSU Learning Communities	Sleepy Eye Food Shelf
Tuesday, November 28	United Prairie Bank, OZ Family Dentistry	Mankato Area Public Schools and Community Education, Optimist Club of Minnesota Valley	Watonwan County
Wednesday, November 29	W. Lorentz Construction	Immanuel Lutheran School, South Central College	Madelia Community Food Shelf
Thursday, November 30	Monarch Healthcare Management, Profinium	Minnesota Power Athletics, MNSU Cheer Team	New Ulm Emergency Food Shelf
Friday, December 1	Radio Mankato	Troop 8 Scouts BSA, MNSU Pinky Swear Pack, MNSU Aviation Student Life Program	Area Food Shelf of New Richland
Saturday, December 2	Walmart Distribution Center		Feeding Our Community Partners
Sunday, December 3	Blethen Berens, Caliber Collision	Christ the King Lutheran Church, Mankato East Girls Hockey	Open Door
Monday, December 4	Crystal Valley	Cornerstone United Methodist Church, North Mankato Firefighter Relief Association	Sharing Shelf of Lake Crystal
Tuesday, December 5	Clifton Larson Allen, Community Bank	Mankato Figure Skating Club, Sertoma Club of Greater Mankato	WE Food Shelf of Waterville
Wednesday, December 6	The Orthopaedic and Fracture Clinic	Mankato Area Hockey Association, Lasting Imprint	Heaven's Table
Thursday, December 7	Mayo Clinic Health System, Abdo		PACT Ministries
Friday, December 8	First National Bank Minnesota, Jones Law Office	Harry Meyering Center, MNSU Circle K	Le Center Food Shelf
Saturday, December 9	ADM	Twin Valley Council Boy Scouts, CADA	Waseca Area Food Shelf
Sunday, December 10	Vandenberg Clean	Junior Achievement, BENCHS	Janesville Food Shelf
Monday, December 11	Schmidt Siding and Window, Scheels	Camp Sweet Life Adventures, Mankato West Vex Robotics	Madelia Food Shelf

Date	Nightly Sponsor	Volunteer Groups	Food Shelf
Tuesday, December 12	Consolidated Communications	Gustavus Greek Life	New Ulm Emergency Food Shelf
Wednesday, December 13	Minnesota Valley Federal Credit Union	Blue Earth County Fair Association, Mankato Area Family YMCA	Martin County Salvation Army
Thursday, December 14	Rolls Royce	Mt. Olive Lutheran School, Habitat for Humanity South Central Minnesota/ReStore	Le Center Food Shelf
Friday, December 15	Kato Roofing, Visit Mankato, CenterPoint Energy	North Kato Explorers/ Nicollet County 4-H, Bridges Community School	Watonwan County
Saturday, December 16	Skinner Dentistry	Mankato Educare Foundation, One Bright Star, Wellcome Manor Family Services	Campus Cupboard
Sunday, December 17	Ziegler Caterpillar	Girl Scout Troops 34494 and 37938, Horizon Homes	St Peter Area Food Shelf
Monday, December 18	Taylor Corporation	Open Arts Minnesota, Mankato Makerspace	Area Food Shelf of New Richland
Tuesday, December 19	Federated Insurance	LEEP, Mankato Area Youth Bowling Association	Waseca Area Food Shelf
Wednesday, December 20	Brookdale Senior Living, Truck Center Companies	Mankato West Music Booster Club, Ecumen Pathstone Living	Le Sueur Food Shelf
Thursday, December 21	Onward Energy	MAYBA, Lifeworks	St Peter Area Food Shelf
Friday, December 22	MEI Total Elevator Solutions	Loyola Catholic Schools, Mankato East Vex Robotics	WE Food Shelf of Waterville
Saturday, December 23	Schwickert's Tecta America	MNSU Delta Sigma Pi, Merely Players	Janesville Food Shelf
Sunday, December 24	Mankato Area Foundation, CHS	Troop 8 Scouts BSA, Various Nonprofit Organizations	Echo Food Shelf
Monday, December 25	Mankato Area Foundation, CHS	MNSU Learning Communities, Various Nonprofit Organizations	Echo Food Shelf
Tuesday, December 26	Meyer and Norland Financial Group	Various Nonprofit Organizations	Open Door
Wednesday, December 27	Brown & Brown, All American Foods	Mankato Goodwill, New Creation Church	Sleepy Eye Food Shelf
Thursday, December 28	The Pillars, Caravel Autism Health	Grace Lutheran Church, Saint Peter High School National Honor Society	Feeding Our Community Partners
Friday, December 29	EI Microcircuits, MinnStar Bank	MVAC, Open Door Health Center	PACT Ministries
Saturday, December 30	Lafayette Lift Trucks	Various Nonprofit Organizations	Sharing Shelf of Lake Crystal
Sunday, December 31	Mankato Area Foundation, CHS	Risen Savior Lutheran School, Various Nonprofit Organizations	Le Sueur Food Shelf

Top 10 Things To Do...

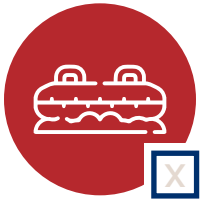
When You Come to the Mankato Area for the **KIWANIS HOLIDAY LIGHTS**



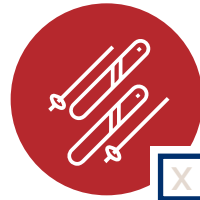
Visit the Children's Museum of Southern Minnesota



Go see the bison at Minneopa Park



Go sledding on the Sibley Park Hill



Ski or go snow tubing at Mount Kato



Shop for gifts at local boutiques in the City Center and check out their festive holiday window displays



Enjoy a mug of Yuletide Lager at the Mankato Brewery

A portion of proceeds benefits Kiwanis Holiday Lights!



Catch a MSU, Mankato hockey game at the Mayo Clinic Civic Center



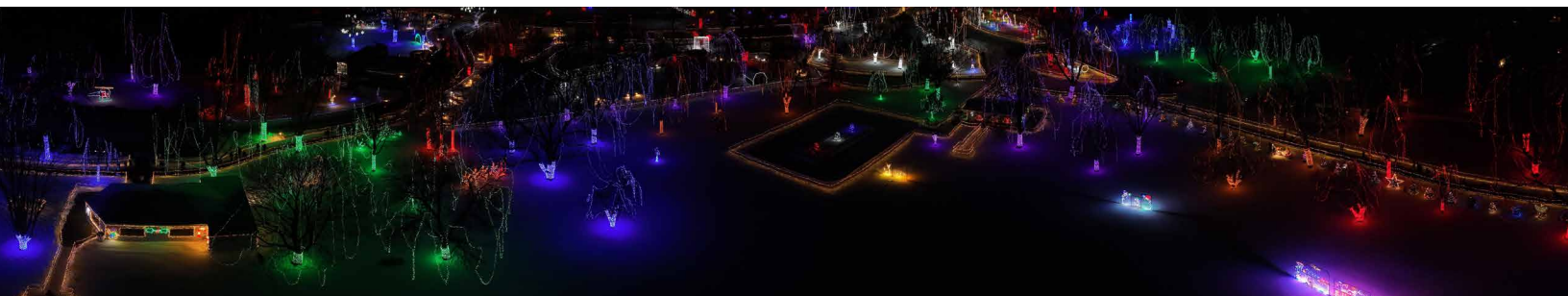
Bowl, play arcade games, laser tag, or mini golf at the Wow! Zone



Visit Christmas at the Hubbard House



Have dinner at a local restaurant



When Visiting the **KIWANIS HOLIDAY LIGHTS**



Attend the Opening
Night Parade on
Friday, Nov. 24



Have a family photo taken
for your holiday card



Visit Santa Friday, Saturday,
and Sunday nights
through Dec. 23



Get a cup of cocoa or
souvenir ornament in the
Concessions Building



Check out the live reindeer
in the farm area



Drop off a nonperishable
food item or cash donation



Drive through the
displays in the comfort
of your own car



Thank a volunteer
for helping out



Admire the trees decorated
by 70 nonprofit organizations
that volunteer for
Kiwanis Holiday Lights



Walk through the dancing
lights walking tunnels,
where spectacular lights
are timed to holiday songs



Photo by Jon Smithers

Making a Difference

Donate

Cash and Checks

At the entrances to Sibley Park, Kiwanis Holiday Lights accepts donations in the form of cash and checks written out to Kiwanis Holiday Lights. The donations help cover operational costs, as well help support 70 nonprofits that provide volunteers to assist with set-up, tear-down and running the event each year.

Non-Perishable Items

We also accept donations of non-perishable items, including food and personal care items for the 19 area food shelves participating in Kiwanis Holiday Lights this year. Great donation items include cereal, pasta, canned food, juice, boxed main dishes, dried fruits and vegetables, diapers, personal care items. Please note, toy donations are not accepted.

2023 Participating Food Shelves

- Area Food Shelf of New Richland
- Campus Cupboard
- Echo Food Shelf
- Feeding Our Community Partners
- Heaven's Table Food Shelf
- Janesville Food Shelf
- Le Center Food Shelf
- Le Sueur Food Shelf
- Madelia Community Food Shelf
- Martin County Salvation Army
- New Ulm Emergency Food Shelf
- Open Door
- PACT Ministries
- Sharing Shelf of Lake Crystal
- Sleepy Eye Food Shelf
- St. Peter Area Food Shelf
- Waseca Area Food Shelf
- Watonwan County
- WE Food Shelf of Waterville

Become a Volunteer

Kiwanis Holiday Lights is 100% volunteer operated! Local nonprofit volunteer groups help with set-up, tear-down, and nightly duties during the event. Each volunteer group has the opportunity to enter a float in the opening night parade and decorate a tree in the "nonprofit tree area." In addition, these nonprofit organizations receive a portion of the donations received by Kiwanis Holiday Lights.

Since Kiwanis Holiday Lights started in 2012, over 16,700 volunteers from over 100 nonprofit organizations have participated with set-up, tear-down and running the event, logging over 100,000 volunteer hours.

Thanks to the donations that are provided by event attendees, \$590,000 has been donated to the nonprofit organizations that have provided volunteers.

If you're interested in volunteering, contact one of the groups listed on the next page to inquire if they need assistance with their pre-scheduled volunteer shifts.



Donate to Kiwanis
Holiday Lights here!

[KiwanisHolidayLights.com/
donate](https://www.kiwanisholidaylights.com/donate)



Become a Kiwanis
Holiday Lights
volunteer here!

[KiwanisHolidayLights.com/
volunteers](https://www.kiwanisholidaylights.com/volunteers)



Nonprofit Volunteer Groups

The nonprofit organizations below have participated in Kiwanis Holiday Lights by providing volunteers to help with set-up, tear-down, and running the park during the event. In exchange, they are able to decorate a tree in the nonprofit tree area and also receive a portion of the donations received during the event.

- Aktion Club Theatre of Mankato/Open Arts Minnesota
- Bethany Lutheran College
- Blue Earth County Fair Association
- Blue Earth County Historical Society (BECHS)
- Blue Earth Nicollet County Humane Society (BENCHS)
- Bridges Community School
- Camp Sweet Life Adventures
- Christ the King Lutheran Church
- Committee Against Domestic Abuse (CADA)
- Ecumen Pathstone Living
- Girl Scout Troops 34494 and 37938
- Grace Lutheran Church
- Gustavus Adolphus College Greek Life
- Gustavus Adolphus College Women's Soccer Team
- Habitat for Humanity South Central Minnesota/ReStore
- Harry Meyering Center
- Horizon Homes
- Immanuel Lutheran School Mankato (K-12)
- Junior Achievement
- Lake Crystal Cornerstone Methodist Church
- Lasting Imprint
- Leisure Education for Exceptional People (LEEP)
- Lifeworks Services, Inc.
- Loyola Catholic School
- Lyle C. Pearson Disabled American Veterans Auxiliary Unit 10 Mankato
- Mankato Area BMX
- Mankato Area Hockey Association
- Mankato Area Public Schools and Community Education
- Mankato Area Youth Bowling Association
- Mankato Area Youth Baseball Association (MAYBA)
- Mankato East Girls Basketball
- Mankato East Girls Hockey
- Mankato East Softball
- Mankato East VEX Robotics
- Mankato East/West HOSA
- Mankato Educare Foundation
- Mankato Family YMCA
- Mankato Figure Skating Club
- Mankato Goodwill
- Kiwanis Club of Mankato
- Mankato Makerspace
- Mankato Police Explorers
- Mankato West Music Booster Club
- Mankato West Vex Robotics
- Merely Players Community Theatre
- Minnesota Power Athletics
- Minnesota State University, Mankato Aviation Student Life Program
- Minnesota State University, Mankato Cheer Team
- Minnesota State University, Mankato Circle K
- Minnesota State University, Mankato Delta Sigma Pi
- Minnesota State University, Mankato Learning Communities
- Minnesota State University, Mankato Mavericks Student Athletes
- Minnesota State University, Mankato Pinky Swear Pack
- Minnesota State University, Mankato Tau Kappa Epsilon (TKE) Fraternity
- Minnesota Valley Action Council
- Mt. Olive Lutheran School and Church
- New Creation Church
- North Kato Explorers/Nicollet County 4-H Club
- North Mankato Firefighters Relief Association
- One Bright Star
- Open Door Health Center
- Optimist Club of Minnesota Valley
- Risen Savior Lutheran School
- Saint Peter High School National Honor Society
- Sertoma Club of Greater Mankato
- South Central College
- Troop 8 Scouts BSA
- Twin Valley Council BSA
- Wellcome Manor Family Services
- Youth and Education St. Paul Lutheran Church - Le Center

Volunteers

Operations

- Scott Wojcik
- Kyle Mrozek

Animated Lights

- Mike Neidt
- Kyle Mrozek

Concessions

- Lori Maday

Financials

- Scott Nelsen

Food Shelf Scheduling

- Chris and Tina Roe

Marketing

- Laura Stevens
- Kyle Mrozek

Parade

- Lori Maday
- Rebeckah Maday
- Greater Mankato Girl Scout Troop 34494 and 37938

Program

- Laura Stevens

Reindeer Care

- Joe Meidl

Warehouse Management

- Kyle Hulke



Volunteer Spotlight Rebeckah Maday



It's not likely that anyone driving through Kiwanis Holiday Lights on any given night would recognize Rebeckah Maday for the power that she wields. Quiet and unassuming, she doesn't draw attention to herself.

But as the Volunteer Coordinator on the KHL Board of Directors, Rebeckah makes sure there are people on hand to help set up the displays before November 24 and that each night is fully staffed. That means working with all of the nonprofit organizations that provide service in exchange for a financial contribution.

She has worked on the event since year one when her Girl Scout troop volunteered as a way to raise money for a European trip. She and her family were asked to get more involved, and as a senior in college, she became KHL's first intern.

After co-chairing the volunteer position with Matt Norland, she was elected to the Board to fill the Volunteer Coordinator role, and she was then asked to be on the Executive Team. It's safe to say she is not quiet and unassuming.

"It's really cool to be a part of the community and to give back and see the smiles on everyone's faces as they come through the park to see the lights and to know that you're a part of that," says Maday. "And to see all of the organizations continue to operate through support from Kiwanis Holiday Lights."

It is still a family affair, with her mom, Lori, coordinating concessions and helping organize the opening night parade, her dad, Brad, helping with a bit of everything, including coordinating volunteers in the park, and her brother, Connor, who helps with the dancing lights and animations. As a family, they fulfill Ranger duties, coordinating the night's volunteers on Christmas Eve and work concessions on Christmas Day. It appears that being the Volunteer Coordinator is easier when your family makes up a good volunteer foundation.

Thank you, Rebeckah, for all that you and your family do for Kiwanis Holiday Lights!



Volunteer Spotlight

Mike Neidt



Mike Neidt is an electronics engineer with Verizon and has characteristics that align perfectly for Kiwanis Holiday Lights: professional-level electronics skills, an interest in learning and getting involved, and a great team player.

"In 2012, the first year, I came down to the event. I had seen viral videos of the dancing lights and told my wife, 'I want to learn how to do that,'" says Neidt. "I went to the post-season tear down of lights and kept showing up." His dedication was rewarded with an invitation to come back the following year.

It was then that he met Mark Broman, the original lights programmer, and started gaining insight into what has become his passion and his position with Kiwanis Holiday Lights. He also worked with Kyle Mrozek, who oversaw the railroad trestle corner called "Dancing Lights." For the last five or six years, Neidt has been the go-to guy, taking ideas and making them happen, and typically more cost-effectively than if they were purchased pre-programmed.

When the team found a French display of lights that appeared to flow into a canal, Neidt created the same effect going downhill from the CHS Gazebo. That led to the creation of presents made of PVC pipes and the oversized gift box near the Giving Barn where people can take pictures.

At the heart of it all is "Dancing Lights." When Neidt started working with Broman, he said it took about 40 hours to program a three-minute song. Now, in part because he belongs to some online groups and because programs can be shared, production time is cut to 20-30 hours. Still a long time but greatly reduced.

But time flies to a man who loves what he does. "I just enjoy doing this," he says. "The turn-up night is stressful but once the lights are on it's magical for me."

Thanks, Mike, for helping provide the magic!

Santa and Mrs. Claus

- Mark and Lisa Ehlers
- Ryan Scholl

Santa's House and Giving Barn Decorations

- Lee and Wendi Masters

Snow Removal

- Matt Kearney
- Jon Guentzel

Social Media

- Scott Nelsen
- Mandy Hunecke

Sponsorship Sales

- Laura Stevens
- Matt Norland
- Kyle Mrozek

Volunteer Coordination

- Rebeckah Maday

Volunteer Meal Coordination

- Jaci Lageson
- Missy Haubrich
- Robin Tietz
- Jeannie Boerger

Volunteer Trailer Maintenance

- John and Wendy Kind

Nightly Rangers

- Adam Bleck
- Andrew Burk
- Angela Guentzel
- Ben Nelson
- Brad and Lori Maday
- Chris and Tina Roe
- Connor Maday
- Dan Feehan
- Jaci and Larry Lageson
- Joe and Linda Meidl
- Jon Guentzel
- Kyle Hulke
- Kyle Mrozek
- Laura Stevens
- Lee Masters
- Mandy and Justin Hunecke
- Mark and Mary Miller
- Matt Kearney
- Matt Norland
- Mike and Heidi Neidt
- Mike Altomari
- Parker Skophammer
- Pat, Tricia, Grace, Olivia, and AJ Tobin
- Phil Slingsby
- Rebeckah Maday
- Scott and Lisa Wojcik
- Scott Nelsen

Set-Up and Tear-Down Team Leaders

- Andrew Burk
- Angela Guentzel
- Ben Nelson
- Brad Maday
- Chris Roe
- Grace Tobin
- Greg Meidl
- Jaci Lageson
- Jay Reasner
- Joe Meidl
- Jon Guentzel
- Kyle Hulke
- Kyle Mrozek
- Laura Stevens
- Lisa Wojcik
- Lori Maday
- Mandy Hunecke
- Matt Kearney
- Matt Norland
- Mike Altomari
- Mike Neidt
- Noah Roe
- Olivia Tobin
- Pat Tobin
- Phil Slingsby
- Rebeckah Maday
- Scott Nelsen
- Scott Wojcik
- Tricia Tobin
- Wendi and Lee Masters





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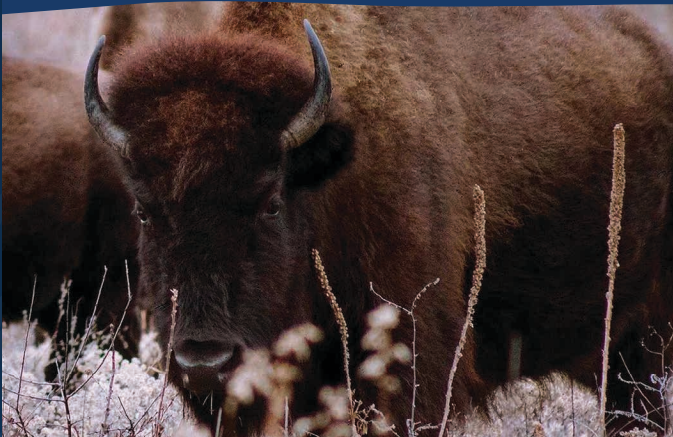


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2022 Winners

2022 Parade Float Winner

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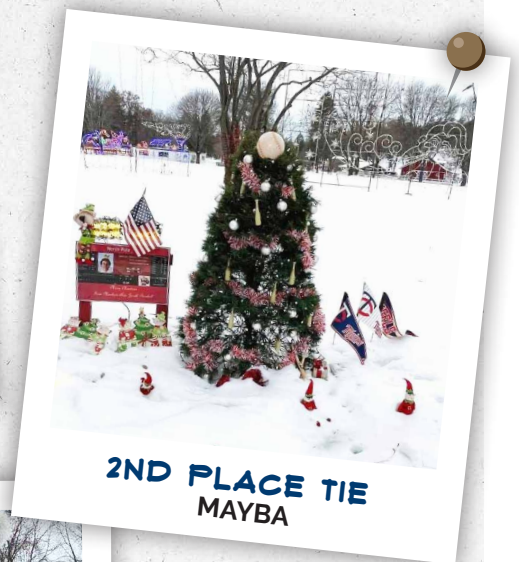
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2022 Nonprofit Tree Decorating Contest Winners

For many, one of the highlights of Kiwanis Holiday Lights is seeing the creative trees that are decorated by the nonprofit groups that volunteer at Kiwanis Holiday Lights!

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