

**WHEREAS**, the Public Library is focal point of a community's literacy efforts, providing continuing education and special programming to encourage a life-long love of books, and,

**WHEREAS**, the Friends of the Mansfield Public Library is joining with the library to celebrate books with the ninth annual "Mansfield Reads!" our own version of the "One City, One Book" program that has been embraced nationwide, and,

**WHEREAS**, citizens are being asked to come together and read the same book during February in hopes of initiating discussions and reconnecting with reading and the books offered at the Mansfield Public Library, and,

**WHEREAS**, this year's selection is the Depression era novel "Rainwater," by North Texas' own Sandra Brown, whose 60 New York Times best-selling books have made her one of the country's most popular authors, and,

**WHEREAS**, Mansfield residents are encouraged to read "Rainwater" and attend the many special events planned for the month, including a book club discussion and a lecture by Sandra Brown on March 2, and,

**WHEREAS**, the "One City, One Book" event offers the community an opportunity to continue an annual tradition that not only promotes literacy but inspires communication, creativity and cultural exchange among our citizens,

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, David L. Cook, Mayor of the City of Mansfield, Texas, join with members of the City Council to hereby proclaim February 2012

### **MANSFIELD READS! MONTH**

in the City of Mansfield and urge all citizens to participate in this event as a celebration of reading and the positive impact literacy has on people's lives and on our community.

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, I do hereby set my hand and cause the official seal of the City of Mansfield to be affixed this 13<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2012.