

Mantua-Shalersville Area Chamber of Commerce

A Message from the President

At our February chamber meeting we heard about maple syrup, pancake breakfasts, a possible garden for the new fire department building, charity golf events, and the Soap Box Derby coming to town. Spring and summer were clearly in the air and I know my mind was wandering. It didn't take long to be snapped back to reality though as we talked about the fact the Potato Festival and Christmas Home Tour committees were already meeting. I had just wanted to forget fall and winter for a few minutes. But, as I thought about it, the mere fact that the planning and preparation for these events, and more, is underway is another clear sign that this truly is a wonderfully vibrant community.

Too often, people forget all the hard work that goes on behind the scenes to make these projects and events successful. There isn't a week that goes by that my bank is not asked to support some community event. I'm sure it's the same for all of you. And I know we all try to do what we can with what are sometimes limited resources, and that includes time. As business leaders in the community, many of you are the people who work behind the scenes to make things happen. Still most of these groups need or would love more help.

As a chamber, we have the opportunity to play a central role in bringing together resources with needs. You have seen me use the phrase "Get Involved and Stay Involved" on a regular basis. My challenge to you now, early in the year, is for you to encourage others to do the same. None of us can do it all, but if as a chamber we can provide the information and as the business members of the community we would share it with our families, our co-workers and our employees, then we have the chance to make a difference. If enough people are encouraged to pick just one project and they GET INVOLVED AND STAY INVOLVED, the community as a whole will be the winner.

Ed Kent

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Wednesday, March 19 7:30 - 9:00 a.m.

Monthly Meeting at Mantua Village Lodge

Crestwood School Board

Progress on the new elementary school and fate of the old buildings

Wednesday, April 16 7:30 - 9:00 a.m.

Monthly Meeting - location and agenda TBD

NEWS BRIEFS

Stay in Touch and Receive the Latest News

Get on the Chamber e-mail list by submitting your e-mail address to ekent@middlefieldbank.com.

Business Showcase to be Held in Garrettsville October 2

To participate, contact Joann Vance at jvance@middlefieldbank.com or 330-527-2121.

Pancake Breakfasts Warm the Soul in March

Goodell Farms sponsors breakfasts at Shalersville Town Hall from 8:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. the first four Sundays in March. Guests will be seated and served a choice of pancakes, fresh maple syrup, sausage, beverages. New maple products also available.

Portage Faith United Methodist Church to Host Auction

An auction to raise funds will be held at 10:00 a.m. on Saturday, March 29. Businesses are invited to donate goods or services. Guests are welcome at 9:00 a.m. for "trash & treasures" flea-market before the auction begins.

Potato Festival Committee Seeks Volunteers

Potato Festival volunteers meet on the last Monday of every month to plan the September event.

Community support is requested.

For details, contact Joan Sweet at jsweet@middlefieldbank.com or 330-5274-0881.

Rotary Sponsors Christmas Tour of Homes

Merchants in the Village are encouraged to decorate in early-November and plan extended business hours during the tour. For information, contact Virginia Goodell at 330-274-2376.

Mantua Citgo Under New Management

As of March 1, Jerry Mart Citgo becomes Mantua Motor Mart. Owner, Mike Alexander and crew look forward to serving the community and maintaining relationships with current customers.

What Do You Want to Know?

Speakers at Chamber meetings keep us informed of happenings in our community and in the larger business-world. Who would you like to hear speak? What topics should be covered?

Contact Ed Kent at 330-274-0881 or ekent@middlefieldbank.com with your suggestions.

MEMBER SPOTLIGHT



MAXUMize Your Home's Potential...

As a life-long Mantua resident, Jessica Hall had a dream...to open her own mortgage business. In December, 2002 that dream became a reality. After finding the perfect location and doing a tremendous amount of remodeling, the business opened on Main Street in Mantua. Maxum's five employees are all veterans of the mortgage brokerage business.

Maxum services customers across the entire state of Ohio. Originating loans of any size; from new home purchases to refinancing land contracts to straight refinancing and equity loans. With free consultations to its customers and in-home appointments within an hour drive of Mantua we can adapt to our customers' busy schedules.

Maxum focuses on developing "customers-for-life" through prompt, straightforward communications and building mind-share with our customer-relations program.



Please call us at
330-274-2001
or stop by our offices
10676 Main Street
Mantua, Ohio 44255

Business Hours:
9 a.m. - 8 p.m.
Monday – Friday
10 a.m. - 1 p.m.
Saturday



Potato Stomp Plans Underway

It's time to lace up those running shoes and start training for the Potato Stomp 15K and one mile running races on Saturday, September 6, 2003.

The Potato Stomp Committee met in January and plans are well underway for this year's event.

The race course will start at Crestwood High School and end at the Festival entrance. This is the same course as last year, because ODOT has requested we don't run on State Route 82 for at least one more year.

For information on the race, please call 330-274-2747 and ask for the Potato Stomp chairperson

Soap Box Derby Comes to Town

The Portage County Soap Box Derby Association is pleased to announce a new home! With cooperation from Mayor Hopkins, Chief Buchert and City Council, the local race will be run on the High Street hill in downtown Mantua.

In years past, the race was held in the parking lot of the Ames Store on Route 59 in Kent. When that store closed, the hill was lost. With no place to race, the Portage County Soap Box Derby was in danger of closing their franchise permanently.

A few determined race enthusiasts got together and decided they would not let the Soap Box Derby die in Portage County and began searching for a new location to hold the race. A member of the Crestwood Lions Club suggested using the High Street hill. The Lions Club called Mayor Hopkins, who endorsed the idea wholeheartedly; Chief Buchert agreed to close the street for the day of the race; and Mantua City Council members were enthusiastic.

Board members are busy recruiting new racers, making plans for fundraisers and soliciting sponsors, in order to hold the biggest and best Portage County race ever. Children ages eight through 17 are eligible to race. Potential racers and parents are encouraged to attend workshops for information on the race, procedures, and building cars.

The race will be held on Saturday, June 28, 2003, with two divisions, stock and super-stock. The winner of each division will be invited to race in the National All American Soap Box Derby in July at Derby Downs in Akron.

This is a fun and exciting sport and a great family event. It's also a wonderful learning experience, as the child and parent work together to build the car.

As a non-profit organization, the Association relies on fundraisers, donations, and sponsorships for franchise fees, race fees, trophies, and other awards. Every penny earned is ultimately returned to the children of Portage County. In addition, racers have the chance to earn college scholarships.

For information race or sponsorship information, please contact President Bruce Hunsicker, JR. at 330-762-1677, Vice President Bob Sovil or Secretary Barb Sovil at 330-584-6235 or via e-mail sov2@cannet.com.

Fundraisers:

- Spaghetti dinner at Mantua Village Lodge on Saturday, March 29, from 3 p.m. to 7 p.m. (\$5.00 per person).
- Golf outing at Windmill Golf Course in Ravenna on Saturday, April 19. Details will be announced when finalized.

Workshops:

Friday, March 7	Brown Middle School, Ravenna	7-9 p.m.
Friday, March 21	Brown Middle School, Ravenna	7-9 p.m.
Saturday, March 22	Mantua Village Park Lodge	9a.m.-noon

MEMBER SPOTLIGHT



Goodell Farms History

Goodell Farms has been producing maple syrup for over 175 years! The original 50-acre farm (the site of the current house and barn) was purchased from the Connecticut Land Grant Company in 1825 by Jonas Goodell for his son, Carlton. Carlton and his family travelled to the area from Massachusetts, much of the way by sled, to build a log cabin and live off the land. Evidence of early

maple sap extraction was found 40 years ago, when a three-foot diameter tree was cut, showing tap-hold signs in the rings when the tree was just eight-inches in diameter!

Carlton's son, Homer, built the Goodell barn in 1892 and the existing house in 1902. His sons, John and Harry ran the farm, adding more land and a milking machine. After an accident killed Harry, John carried on alone until Harry's son, Frank, joined him.

Currently, Jay and Bruce operate the farm and await help from the sixth generation of Goodell, Nathan, who is studying Agriculture at Ohio State.

For over 175 years, Goodell Farms has supplied the area with maple products. In the early years, maple sugar was traded for merchandise. Later, syrup was sold in large drums. It was Frank and Virginia who developed marketing techniques, such as various size containers of syrup, maple butter, maple nuts, maple bar-b-que sauce, and pancake breakfasts to showcase the products. The full-service breakfasts began 22 years ago, with help from family and friends.



Don't miss this year's breakfasts to be held the first four Sundays in March from 8:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at the Shalersville Town Hall. (Adults \$6.00, ages 4-12 \$3.50, 3 and under are free.)

Ohio Safety Congress & Expo

What do you have to lose by attending the Ohio Safety Congress & Expo? How about a substantial portion of your workers' compensation costs?

You might never get a better opportunity to impact your bottom line than by attending the 73rd Ohio Safety Congress & Expo, April 1 through 3 at the Greater Columbus Convention Center. Sponsored each year since 1927 by the Ohio Bureau of Workers' Compensation's Division of Safety & Hygiene, the Safety Congress is free to all Ohio employers.

Whether looking for a chance to compare notes on safety management with others in your industry, or the latest protective equipment for your employees, your odds of finding it are a lot better at this event. The Ohio Safety Congress & Expo features 150 hours of educational sessions, live demonstrations and 250 exhibitors, all under one roof.

Senior astronaut Nancy Currie, a veteran of four NASA space shuttle missions who worked on the international space station project, highlights the list of keynote speakers on the program.

Many ideas developed by the space program have found practical applications in our daily lives, and employee safety is no different. Find out if the principles that kept Currie and her colleagues safe on *their* jobs could find an application in *your* workplace.

On Wednesday, April 2, the Ohio Safety Congress & Expo will host the Ohio Forklift Rodeo Championship. Teams representing employers from all over the state will compete in real-life situations to see which can maneuver a forklift most safely and efficiently.

Congress participants can unwind after a long day of talking safety by watching the Columbus Blue Jackets host the Minnesota Wild in NHL hockey action Tuesday, April 2 at 7 p.m.

For more information about the Ohio Safety Congress & Expo, call 1-800-OHIOBWC, and press option 2,2, and then 3; or visit online at www.ohiobwc.com.

Get Involved!

Business entities, organizations, clubs, and individuals in and around the Mantua-Shalersville Area are invited to join the Chamber. For more information, contact one of the Chamber officers listed below:

President:	Ed Kent, Middlefield Bank	330-274-0881	ekent@middlefieldbank.com
Vice President:	Paulette Nichols, Bank One	330-274-2257	
Treasurer:	Cindy Janson, Pastimes	330-274-9002	past9002@aol.com
Co-Secretary:	Edie Benner, Advanced Rehab	330-274-2747	bennerek@aol.com
Co-Secretary:	Becky Newell, Benner Masonry	330-274-3238	bbjnewell@aol.com

You do not need to attend meetings to receive membership benefits. Participate at your own pace, on your schedule. We share a commitment to the community and we all hold a stake in the future of the area. Get involved!

Yearly Dues:

Individual Patron	\$25
0-5 Employees	\$50
6-20 Employees	\$100
21+ Employees	\$150

No charge for Village/Township Offices.

Mantua-Shalersville Area Chamber of Commerce

Advertising Opportunities

Spread the word about your services; advertise in the Chamber newsletter. Provide 250 copies of your 8.5" x 11" flyer to be inserted for only \$30 or provide art to be copied for \$60. Business card size display ads are just \$25 and will be published first come, first served when space is available. Or, spotlight your business by writing an article for the Member Spotlight section of the newsletter (published when space is available, at no charge). Tell us what you offer...what's new...how you better the community.

For Chamber
information, contact
Ed Kent at 330-274-0881
ekent@middlefieldbank.com

For newsletter inquiries, contact
Michelle Barnauskas at
mlbarnauskas@hallrich.net
330-678-0684 x223

Chamber Goals

The goals of the Mantua-Shalersville Area Chamber of Commerce are:

- To advance the commercial, industrial, educational, agricultural, and civic interests of the area
- To work together to support and promote local businesses and their products
- To work with elected officials to promote proper planning and growth
- To support and work toward local harmony for the betterment of citizens and businesses in the Mantua-Shalersville Area

Whether you are a main-street merchant or a mom & pop business on a back road, you need the Chamber and the Chamber needs you!

Welcome New Members:

Frank Horack, Aurora Mantua Electric
Tom Kennedy, Marshall's Carpet Cleaning
Jessica Hall, Maxum Mortgage Group
Debora Misteloske, New Grove
David Benjamin

If you're not already a member of the Mantua-Shalersville Chamber of Commerce, join the 50 local businesses who are...and experience the full benefits of Chamber membership!

"In the arena of human life the honors and rewards fall to those who show their good qualities in action."

Aristotle

Mantua, OH 44255
PO Box 648

**Mantua-Shalersville Area
Chamber of Commerce**

Get Involved!

Business entities, organizations and clubs, and individuals are eligible for Chamber membership. You do not need to attend meetings to receive membership benefits. Participate at your pace, on your schedule. We share a commitment to the community and we all hold a stake in the future of the area.

For more information, contact:

Ed Kent, Middlefield Bank	330-274-0881	ekent@middlefieldbank.com
Paulette Nichols, Bank One	330-274-2257	
Cindy Janson, Pastimes	330-274-9002	past9002@aol.com
Edie Benner, Advanced Rehab	330-274-2747	bennerek@aol.com
Becky Newell, Benner Masonry	330-274-3238	bbjnewell@aol.com

Yearly Chamber Dues:

0-5 Employees	\$50
6-20 Employees	\$100
21 + Employees	\$150
Individual Patron	\$25

No charge for Village and Township Offices.

Mantua-Shalersville Area Chamber of Commerce Membership Application

Organization Name: _____

Contact Name: _____

Business Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Web Address: _____

E-mail Address: _____ Please limit use.

Phone Number: _____

Alt. Phone Number: _____

Fax Number: _____ Please limit use.

Business Description: _____

Return to:
Ed Kent
PO Box 648
Mantua, OH 44255

In addition to using U.S. mail, the Chamber communicates with members via e-mail and fax. If you prefer not to receive correspondence via e-mail or fax, please check the appropriate box above.