



Mantua-Shalersville Area Chamber of Commerce

NEWS BRIEFS

Memorial Day Breakfast

Join the Mantua Rotary in the high school cafeteria on May 30 between 7:30 a.m. and noon for a breakfast of juice, scrambled eggs, sausage, hash brown potatoes, muffins and/or toast, and tea, milk, or coffee. The cost is \$6 for adults and \$3.50 for children ages 4-12; ages 3 and under are free. Proceeds will help fund a Centennial Clock for the new Village offices. Artwork from Crestwood High students will be on display and available for purchase during the breakfast.

Farmers Market

Every third Saturday morning, June through October, you can pick-up fresh produce, baked goods, and much more from local vendors in Buchert Park. The farmers' market is sponsored by the Mantua Rotary. To find out how you can sell your goods at the market, contact Jim Rogers at 274-8738 or Virginia Goodell at 274-2376 or vgoodell@aol.com.

Toy Drive Donations

Generosity during the recent holiday toy drive resulted in excess toys and stuffed animals which were donated to the police and sheriffs departments. Officers use these gifts to help comfort children at accident scenes and on other calls.

Free Real Estate Seminar

Learn the "10 Steps in Buying and Selling Real Estate" from Pete Pascale of Cortland Banks and Patricia Kearney of Title Professionals, Inc. This free seminar will be held at Cortland Bank's Mantua Corners office on April 28 from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. RSVP to Roberta at 800-366-2334 x365.

Free Community Presentations

As our population ages, losses and changes are stressful for older individuals and their families. The Portage County Mental Health & Recovery Board is sponsoring four community presentations to help older adults, their caregivers and family members communicate better, understand the basic difficulties of aging, and respond to the older adult's needs. For details and presentation locations, visit www.mental-health-recovery.org/whatsnew/#learn or call 330-673-1756, ext. 201.

A Message from the President

Are you ready for spring? If it helps, I saw a robin in my yard last week and as I sit and write this, there is a landscaping truck sitting outside my window with three trees that look like they are ready to plant in someone's yard. If you really need a fix, I find a trip to a local greenhouse just the trick. I'm sure our friends at Eagle Creek would love for you to stop by. Just take a deep breath in a greenhouse and smell spring.

The area is showing new growth too as you will read about in this issue. The new Dollar Store appears off to a good start, if the parking lot is any indication. There are plans for a new restaurant in the same building and we heard plans for some new parking for the village at our March Chamber meeting. Stay tuned, there is more to come in our little corner of the world this year.

For now though, do stop and smell the flowers (even if it has to be inside). Go outside and meet your neighbors again. Attend a community event, give a local merchant some of your business and most importantly, as usual, get involved in something and stay involved.

Ed Kent

Upcoming Chamber Meetings...

- Mark your calendar now.
- You won't want to miss these informational meetings!

Wednesday, April 20 7:30 - 9:00 a.m.

- Crestwood Primary School
- 11256 Bowen Road (near Pioneer Trail) 274-2537
- Topic:** School curriculum & the business community

Wednesday, May 18 7:30 - 9:00 a.m.

- Advanced Rehabilitation & Health Specialists
- 4707 Mill Street (across from McDonald's) 274-2747
- Topics:** Mantua Village master plan; Portage County Parks and Recreation trail system

Wednesday, June 15 7:30 - 9:00 a.m.

- Mantua-Shalersville Fire Department
- St. Rt. 44 (meeting room in back) 274-2211
- Topic:** Regional planning, Rt. 44 Corridor Study

Wednesday, July 20 7:30 - 9:00 a.m.

- Mantua-Shalersville Fire Department
- St. Rt. 44 (meeting room in back) 274-2211
- Topic:** Business and personal tax saving tips

News from Mantua Township

Teresa's Pizza will open soon in the new Dollar Store plaza next to Cortland Bank at Mantua Corners. Just one space remains in the plaza.

A public zoning hearing will be held at 6:30 p.m. on Monday, April 11 regarding the a conditional use permit for 102 acres in the township.

Spring clean-up is scheduled for Saturday, May 7. Township residents may drop off items at the garage on Center Road.

News from Mantua Village

Spring clean-up for the Village will also take place on Saturday, May 7. Village residents are encouraged to put items out in advance for others who may find something useful (one man's trash is another man's treasure). All items must be at the curb for pick-up by 6:00 a.m. No batteries, tires, chemicals, hazardous materials, paint, or yard waste will be accepted. Any refrigeration appliances must have freon removed and a vendor's certificate attached.

Due to a resignation, the Village Council will appoint one new member to serve through year-end. A total of four seats will be open at that time.

News from Shalersville Township

Shalersville Township residents may drop off items from 7:00 a.m. until 7:00 p.m. Thursday, May 5 through Saturday, May 7 at the garage on Route 303. This clean-up site will accept up to six auto tires per household, batteries, refrigerators, freezers, and lawn tractors with batteries removed. Motor oil, paints, oxygen or propane tanks, and other hazardous material will not be accepted.

Welcome New Members:

Anna Maria of Aurora
Business Image Solutions
Hummel Construction
R&J Decorating
Shalersville Historical Society

3rd Annual Portage County Soap Box Derby - June 18

The Portage County Soap Box Derby Association, the Village of Mantua, and the Mantua-Shalersville Area Chamber of Commerce are gearing up for the third annual local Soap Box Derby to be held on High Street in June. This year's event promises even more excitement for participants, sponsors, and our community.

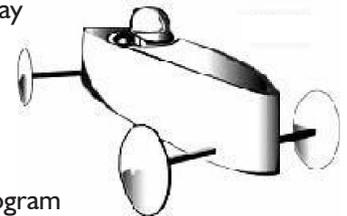
Ronyak Brothers is donating materials and services to pave the hill near Village Hall, providing racers a faster yet safer race experience. Several racers are already registered, including many returning competitors. The Chamber and Village are working together to make Derby weekend an event which draws more visitors into the area, keeps them here longer, and encourages them to spend their hard-earned money at local businesses. Stay tuned for details!

The June 17-19 weekend coincides with Garrettsville's Summerfest, creating some competition for fun-seekers, but also generating more interest in Northern Portage County. We hope to share the increased traffic and capture some of those entertainment dollars in the Mantua-Shalersville area.

The purpose of the Soap Box Derby is to teach boys and girls, ages 8 through 17, manual skills, perseverance, patience, responsibility, and sportsmanship. It also promotes a closer parent-child relationship. We are privileged to have a local race right in our backyard and you are encouraged to get involved. Without local support, the event cannot take place.

There are various ways that you can make a difference in this worthy endeavor.

- Volunteer - Give of your time on race-day or during the activities leading up to the big event.
- Sponsor - Donate funds (starting at \$50) for race entry fees, trophies, awards, even an entire car.
- Advertise - Place an ad in the Derby program and display a track-side banner (starting at \$25).



Visit www.aasbd.com to learn more about this fun family sport and contact Ed Kent at 274-8111 or Joe Hull at 297-7805 for details on how you can get involved.



Dues are Due

Past Members - remember to update your business profile and submit your 2005 dues!

Non-Members - now is the time to join! Local business experts will present informative seminars at 2005 Chamber meetings. Members help shape the future of the area, while benefitting from exclusive cost-saving programs and advertising. Contact any of the officers listed

on the back for additional information.

Yearly Chamber Dues

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

Visit www.noacc.org for a list of cost-saving benefits including health care, credit card processing, freight delivery, business planning, and more!

Area Networking Opportunities

Are you getting enough business from surrounding communities? Have you searched for a cost-effective way to spread the word about what you do?

Plan to attend these county-wide Chamber initiatives where you can meet new people, educate them about your business, and create buzz throughout Northeast Ohio.

First, learn how to network like a pro at the County Super Networking Breakfast at NEOUCOM in Rootstown on **April 22** from 7:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. The cost is \$10 for a Chamber member; \$20 for a non-member.

Then, practice your networking skills at these events, which will draw attendance from miles around:

April 27 11:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. *Workforce/Economic Development Summit* with a panel of speakers; to be held at the Independence Holiday Inn. Admission is \$25. For details, call 216-573-2707.

May 3 3:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. *Successful Entrepreneurship in Northeast Ohio, Past, Present, and Future* presented by Michael Feure, founder of OfficeMax; to be held at the Cleveland/Twinsburg Hilton Garden Inn. Admission is \$75. For details, call 330-963-6249 or e-mail emurch@twinsburgchamber.com.

May 4 4:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. *Geauga County Business After Hours* at Fowlers Mill Golf Course in Munson Township. Admission is free. Business booths are \$100 to \$135. For information, call 440-285-9050 or visit www.chardonchamber.com (or contact any Geauga Chamber).

June 1 4:30 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. *Portage County Regional Business After Hours* at Bertram Inn in Aurora. Admission is free. For booth space or other information, contact ekent@middlefieldbank.com or sacc@streetsborochamber.org or call 330-626-4769.



Business Profile for Web Site

Complete the following information so your business can be profiled on our new website www.mantuashalersvillechamber.org and anywhere our Chamber finds FREE advertising for you.

Company Name: _____ Location: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Business Phone Number: _____ Business Fax Number: _____

Primary Business Contact: _____ Email Address: _____

Chamber Contact: _____ Chamber Contact Phone: _____ Chamber Contact Email: _____

25-Word Summary of Business: _____

Link to Business Website: _____ fax to 274-0883 or email to ekent@middlefieldbank.com

Chamber Members Save on Benefits

If you have not visited the website for Northern Ohio Area Chambers of Commerce (NOACC), it is time you did. NOACC is a regional partnership of over 100 Chambers of Commerce dedicated to deliver competitive and cost-saving benefits and services by harnessing the bargaining power of 30,000 member businesses.

A typical small business can take advantage of low-cost health care coverage, save money on workers compensation, improve service and lower rates and fees for processing credit cards, and get discounts on overnite shipping and freight costs.

Visit www.noacc.org or call 216-447-9900 to find out how you can save with the Mantua-Shalersville Area Chamber of Commerce and NOACC.

Mantua-Shalersville Area Chamber of Commerce

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

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

www.mantuashalersvillechamber.org

Get Involved!

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

President:	Edward Kent, Middlefield Bank	274-0881	ekent@middlefieldbank.com
Vice President:	Marie Stehli, Mantua Twp/CPA	562-7620	mlscpa@alltel.net
Treasurer:	Betsy Woolf, Mantua Village/Fire Clerk	274-8776	mantuagv@sbcglobal.net
Secretary:	Pam Raines, Solon Sand	274-8241	solonsand@aol.com
Membership Chair:	Becky Newell, Benner Masonry/Advanced Rehab	274-3238	bbjnewell@adelphia.net

“Without involvement, there is no commitment. Mark it down, asterisk it, circle it, underline it. No involvement, no commitment.”

Stephen R. Covey

Mantua, OH 44255
PO Box 111

Mantua-Shalersville Area