



Mantua-Shalersville Area Chamber of Commerce

A Message from the President

Dear Fellow Chamber Members,

Upcoming Chamber Meetings...

Wednesday, July 18 11:30 A.M.

Main Street Place Gardens and Patio
(Main Street, across from Circle K)
(Park next door at TL Express in the playground area furthest back.)

Topic: Networking Luncheon at Main Street Place
Visit with neighbors and friends during an informal luncheon sponsored by Middlefield Bank.

Wednesday, August 15 6:15 P.M.

Chamber-Rotary Picnic at Camp Hi

Topic: A representative from the Portage County Bicentennial will talk about plans for the County's 200th anniversary as Chamber and Rotary members enjoy a cook-out on the grounds of Camp Hi.

Meet at Camp Hi at 2:00 p.m. for a pre-picnic canoe trip!

Tuesday, September 4 9:00 A.M.

3rd Annual Scholarship Golf Outing

Topic: Graham Harmon is planning a great outing at the Aurora Country Club. Contact him or any member of the Golf Committee for tickets. Also, Dinner Only tickets can be purchased separately for those not wanting to golf.

Wednesday, September 19 7:30 P.M.

Mantua-Shalersville Fire Station

Topic: Safety for Home and Business
Police Chief Harry Buchert and Fire Chief Matt Benner will discuss how to protect yourself and your property from potential threats.

Monday, September 24 6:30 P.M.

4th Annual Oktoberfest
Location TBA

Welcome to summer in Mantua and Shalersville. Your Chamber officers have planned several outdoor activities to keep you busy over the summer months, and to continue to network with your fellow Chamber members. The website will be kept updated for events, and our regular meeting day will remain the third Wednesday of each month.

We are currently in the process of planning meetings for next year. Please get in touch with Dorothy Caldwell with suggestions for topics for future meetings. We also need input from you, the members. Over the past two years, we have altered the times of the meetings, hoping to draw in more people who can't make the early morning meetings. Although some new people have attended, we still have a regular meeting attendance of about 20-25 members. With all that the Chamber can offer its members, I would like some feedback from you, the membership, as to what time of day would be best to meet. Please contact any of the please contact any of the officers--Marie Stehli, Dorothy Caldwell, Paulette Nichols or Joan Sweet or Membership Chair Becky Newell--and let us know if you would like to see more programs in the morning, (7:30 a.m.) lunch time, or evening, (6:00 p.m.). We need to know what works best for you and why. Over the next three months, we will be having a business meeting at each time. Also, food will be served at each of the next meetings. Feel free to bring a dish to pass to the August picnic. Burgers and beverages will be provided.

Don't forget to take advantage of the perks that being a Chamber member provides. Health care and worker's compensation are both big costs for most businesses. The Chamber can save you money on both. Our membership chairman, Becky Newell, sends out reminders for special events and meetings taking place at other chambers and through NOACC. These are valuable learning sessions that would not be available through other means.

Have a wonderful summer. I hope to see you at the events that we have planned.

Marie Stehli, President

NEWS BRIEFS

DHL Express Savings Offer



For Chamber members signing up as new customers with the DHL Partner Savings Program, DHL Express is offering 25% savings on Overnight Deliveries plus a \$25 certificate for mailings made before 7/31/07.

For those who are not a member yet, the offer is a great reason to join! Simply fill out and return the attached application.

Soap Box Derby

The fifth annual Portage County Soap Box Derby race is scheduled to start at 9 a.m. June 23 on High Street in Mantua.



Organizers, Bob Sovil and his wife, Barb, said last year 37 racers participated in the event and they are expecting just as many downhill racers this year. On race day, the street will be lined with bales of hay on both sides as the racetrack is set up. Registration begins at 8 a.m. June 23. The rain date is June 24.

There are three racing divisions for boys and girls: stock, super stock and masters.

The stock division is for participants between the ages of 8 and 13 and is designed to give first time derby car builders a learning experience. Super stock is for racers between the ages of 10 and 17 and gives competitors the chance to build a more advanced model. The masters division for ages 10 to 17 and offers advanced styles of race cars for the experienced car builder. Enjoy the fun, bring a lawn chair and watch some exciting racing.

Concessions, provided by the Crestwood Lions Club, will include sausage sandwiches, hot dogs, coffee and soft drinks. The race will last until about 6:30 p.m.

On June 28, an awards banquet will be held at Access to Independence in Ravenna where trophies will be handed out. The winners will head to the All-American Soap Box Derby in Akron, and will race on July 30.

Volunteer help on race day would be greatly appreciated to assist with setup at about 7 a.m. take down/cleanup at about 7 p.m. During the race, volunteers are also needed to serve as course monitors.



44th ANNUAL OX ROAST FAIR

July 20th - 6 p.m. To 11 p.m.
July 21st- 3 p.m. To Midnight
July 22nd - 1 to 10 p.m.

Not your typical church festival, it is the largest 3-day fair in northern Portage County.

Family fun for all ages. Delicious food, rides, games, contests, cash prizes, indoor & outdoor casino areas, live entertainment. Semi truck, 4WD pick-up & tractor pulls.

Ox Roast Dinners served in an air-conditioned dining hall.

ST. JOSEPH'S OF MANTUA, located just north of Mantua Village on St. Joseph Blvd. off Pioneer Trail, west of S.R. 44 and South of S.R. 82.

For More Info., call 330-274-2253 or visit www.stjosephmantua.com

Memorial Day Photos



Shalersville, Saturday May 26



Mantua, Monday May 28



Spring Cleanup

The Chamber thanks everyone who took pride in their community by participating.

Mantua Village



Chamber volunteers participating in the cleanup included Joan Sweet, Becky Newell, Lisa Zamecnik, Broc Benner, Michelle Barnauskas, Edie Benner, Ellie Stamm, Bob MacLearie and John Smith.

For the second year, volunteers from the Mantua-Shalersville Chamber of Commerce gathered early on May 5 to spruce the village up for summer.

During the cleanup day, store windows were washed, sidewalks were swept and weeds pulled.

According to Becky, the project is a way to work toward local harmony for the betterment of the Mantua-Shalersville area.

Several local merchants offered coffee, water and cleaning supplies to the volunteers doing the work.

Mantua Township



The township collected 10 dumpsters of trash, 1+ of tires, and probably 2-3 of scrap for a cost of about \$5000.

Shalersville Township

The annual spring cleanup was held May 3-5. The township collected 21.72 tons of scrap metal, 133 batteries for recycling. At least 15 dumpsters of trash and 100 tires were also collected. Money from the recycled materials helped offset some of the cost of the cleanup effort. It's hard to believe so much trash could accumulate since last year.

Scholarship Awards

The chamber provides two \$750 scholarships to Crestwood area students wishing to further their education. The money is raised through the annual golf outing. For information on this year's golf outing please contact Graham Harmon of Perfect Choice Auto Body or any Chamber officer.

The scholarships were presented at Crestwood High School's awards night on May 23.



Pictured from left to right-Dorothy Caldwell, Scholarship Committee and Chamber VP; Jennifer Hogue, Scholarship Recipient, Marie Stehli, Scholarship Committee and Chamber President; and Paulette Nichols, Chamber Treasurer handing Jennifer her check.

Jennifer will attend Kent State University in the fall.

Branden Kraynak, not pictured above, won the other scholarship. Branden will attend the University of Akron in the fall.

Both recipients have been invited to the next meeting of the Mantua-Shalersville Area Chamber of Commerce on June 20 so Chamber members could congratulate them.



Pictured from left to right at the June 20 Chamber meeting are Marie Stehli, Branden Kraynak, Jennifer Hogue, and Dorothy Caldwell.



**The mission of the
Downtown Mantua
Revitalization Committee**

is to empower the people, government, organizations, and business and property owners to develop and implement a consensus-based plan to enhance the appearance of downtown Mantua.

This plan's intent is to bring shoppers, pedestrian traffic, and residents downtown to enjoy our historic district, bustling with eateries, professional offices, niche shops and downtown living spaces, which support our river and planned growth to preserve our rural character.

Welcome New Members

The Chamber would like to welcome the following members who have joined since the last newsletter:

Portage Flight LLC	330-298-3277
Chase Bank	330-274-2257
Marty Hura	msh1940esbcglobal.net
Jack Kohl Realty & Insurance	330-296-9996
Aurora Veterinary Clinic	330-562-5100
Digital Photography by Terry	330-274-2323
Northcoast Armory	330-274-0147
Mobility Max LLC	330-995-8686
North East Dynamic Data Inc.	330-686-8628

Revitalization Committee Report

Much has happened since a group of Chamber members formed a committee to focus on downtown improvements.

- That group has officially become the "Downtown Mantua Revitalization Committee" (DMRC) with incorporation paperwork filed with the State of Ohio.
- Four downtown businesses contributed \$5,000 for start-up expenses.
- The Village of Mantua passed a resolution to contribute up to \$25,000 toward revitalization plans over the next two years.
- DMRC members have been attending community meetings to explain the revitalization project and get input.
- A dozen members of the Chamber, DMRC, and friends participated in the 2nd Annual Downtown Clean-up day – sweeping sidewalks, weeding, cleaning windows, and talking to merchants.
- DMRC interviewed three consulting firms, received proposals from each company, and selected the group (pending contract approval) who will incorporate the most community feedback into a streetscape project.

E.G.&G., Inc. is a planning, landscape architecture, and civil engineering firm based in Akron. They have completed streetscapes for several communities and had great success getting grants to offset the cost. They're a small company, with a strong desire to understand our needs and help us reach our goals.

This summer, key folks from E.G.&G. will have one-on-one conversations with property and business owners downtown to hear first-hand what they envision for the future. Meanwhile, DMRC members will approach a few people about sponsoring portions of the project. Later, more community meetings (like the one held at the fire station last March) will give everyone a chance to provide input.

If you have thoughts about what should be done in downtown Mantua, please contact any of these DMRC members:

Edie Benner	330-274-2747	ebenner@adelphia.net
Michelle Barnauskas	330-603-5519	mlbarnauskas@hallrich.net
Ellie Stamm	330-274-8230	elliestamm@yahoo.com
Becky Newell	216-990-5086	bbjnewell@adelphia.net
Jim Rogers	330-274-8738	jimrogers39@sbcglobal.net



2007

Get Involved!

Business entities, organizations, 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:
Membership Chair: Becky Newell
216-990-5086 or 330-274-3238
bjnewell@adelphia.net

**Affordable
Yearly Chamber Dues**

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

**Mantua-Shalersville Area Chamber of Commerce
Membership Application**

Organization Name: _____

Contact Name: _____

Business Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Web Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

E-mail Address: _____ Please limit use.

Phone Number: _____

Alt. Phone Number: _____

Fax Number: _____ Please limit use.

Business Description: _____

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.

Be sure to complete your web profile at
www.MantuaShalersvilleChamber.com to be listed in the Member Yellow Pages!

Return To:

**Membership
PO Box 111
Mantua, Ohio 44255**

Portage County is Turning 200!

An entire year of events and activities is planned to celebrate Portage County's Bicentennial in 2008. Your help and input are welcome. For more information, visit www.co.portage.oh.us/pc2008, email Kerry Macomber at kmacomber@portageco.com, call 330-297-3603, or attend an upcoming bicentennial meeting: 6:00 p.m. on the 2nd Wednesday of each month at Kevin Coleman Professional Services in the Sue Hettrick Building, 3922 Lovers Lane in Ravenna.

Portage County Bicentennial: *"Promoting our 200th birthday to the greater Portage County area through community celebrations, historical education, economic development and legacy projects."*

Mantua-Shalersville Area Chamber of Commerce

For Chamber
information, contact
Becky at 330-274-3238
or
bbjnewell@adelphia.net

For newsletter inquiries,
email dtmaclearie@aol.com

Or visit our
website!

www.MantuaShalersvilleChamber.com

Chamber Goals

- ▷ 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 area ◁

Mantua, OH 44255
PO Box 111

**Mantua-Shalersville Area
Chamber of Commerce**