

Mantua Matters

ISSUE # 64

APRIL 2016

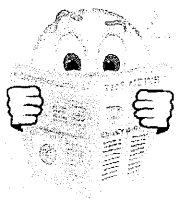
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## *Mantua Village Community News and Information*

Mantua Matters

4737 E. High St.

Mantua, OH 44255 Email: [mantuamatters@gmail.com](mailto:mantuamatters@gmail.com)



### "GREETINGS"

This is the kind of winter that I could live with every year. No real snow until mid-January and 50 degrees on January 31. All sorts of weather records were set or broken. Not much good for skiers, though. This issue covers January, February and March, 2016, plus a few past events. Please read and enjoy!



WHETHER YOU ARE NEW TO THE AREA OR A LONG-TIME RESIDENT,  
THESE ARE THE NUMBERS YOU NEED TO KNOW.

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**EMERGENCY.....911**

Village Hall.....330-274-8776 Ext. 150

Mayor's Office.....330-274-8776 Ext. 155

Police Department.....330-274-2251

Fire Department.....330-274-3535

Service Department.....330-274-8776 Ext. 156

Income Tax.....330-274-8776 Ext. 151

Time Warner Cable.....1-800-683-1000

Lodge/Park Rental.....330-274-8776 Ext. 150

Water/Sewer Billing.....330-274-8776 Ext 156

Mantua Township

    Marie Stehli.....330-995-2640

Mantua Township Garage....330-274-8568

Shalersville Township

    Charles Casalicchio.....330-274-3655

Shalersville Twp. Garage....330-297-5537

Zoning.....330-274-8776 Ext.152

Mantua Matters.....330-274-8737

Trash Pickup/Recycling:

    Kimble Companies -..... 1-800-201-000

Council meetings are the 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of each month at the Administration Bldg.

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CONGRATULATIONS TO MATT ROOSA WHO WAS SWORN IN ON FEBRUARY 9, 2016 AS THE NEW MANTUA-SHALERSVILLE FIRE DEPARTMENT CHIEF!!



"FROM THE MAYOR'S DESK"

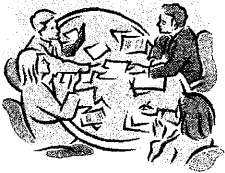
It is with great regret that Kate Rogers, our Village Administrator, turned in her resignation effective February 26, 2016. She has taken a position at Hiram College.

**NOW
HIRING**

The Village of Mantua is seeking a Village Administrator. The position requires: supervisory experience, municipal maintenance background or equivalent, a minimum class B CDI, heavy equipment operation, OSHA compliance, proficient in computer skills, calculating a budget and tracking appropriations, as well as other duties consistent with Ohio Revised Code 735.273. Applicant must be able to obtain Water and WWTP licensing if necessary. This position may be full or part-time by agreement between employer and successful applicant; however, position requires on-call responsibilities. Salary commensurate with experience. Direct resume and cover letter to Mayor Linda Clark, Village of Mantua, P.O. Box 775, Mantua, Ohio, 44255 or emailed to mantuamayor@sbcglobal.net. Application deadline is April 1, 2016, or until position is filled.



Also, you will be seeing a new featured section, written by CT consultants. CT is the Village's engineering firm. They will be giving you information on the funding we have received through grants and improvements we will be making throughout the Village.



MANTUA VILLAGE MEETINGS AND COMMITTEE MEMBERS 2016

MANTUA VILLAGE COUNCIL meets the 3rd Tuesday every month at the Administration Building @ 7:00 pm.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT, determined at the first Council meeting of 2016, is Marty Hura.

All meetings are held at the Administration Building.

FINANCE COMMITTEE @ 6:00 pm the Wednesday before every regular council meeting.

Jenny August, Clerk-Treasurer - not a voting member, John Clark, Paul Janson, Paula Tubalkain, Chair , Alternate Member: Marty Hura

SERVICE COMMITTEE @ 6:00 PM the first Tuesday of each month

John Clark, Chair, Paul Janson, Marty Hura, Village Administrator, Alternate Member: Giles Seith

SAFETY COMMITTEE @ 6:00 PM the first Wednesday of each month

Giles Seith, chair, Ben Prescott, Paula Tubalkain, a representative from Hiram Fire Department, Alternate Member: John Clark

PARKS BOARD @ as needed - 6:30 PM the Wednesday after Council

Marty Hura, Giles Seith, Don Buchert, Ashley Hawkins, Randy Weaver,,Alternate Member: John Clark

SHADE TREE COMMITTEE @ as needed, 6:30 PM, the Wednesday after Council

Marty Hura, Don Buchert, Randy Weaver, Ashlee Hawkins, Wes Hawkins, Alternate Member: John Clark

PLANNING COMMISSION @ 6:30 the 2nd Tuesday each month

Mayor Clark, Ben Prescott, Wes Hawkins, Randy Weaver, Robert Gaglione, Jason Garey, Zoning Inspector

CEMETERY BOARD - Meets as needed

Cookie Vanek, Claude Hopkins, Patricia Leventry

BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS meets as needed

Charles Engelhart, Donald Schilling, Dave Campbell, Jon Harmon, Toomas Tubalkain

LANDMARKS COMMISSION MEMBERS

Helen Hazelett, Hal Stamm, Carole Pollard, Renee Henry, Nick Ehlert, Eric Hummel, Terri Vechery

MSFD FIRE BOARD - John Clark, Alternate Member: Giles Seith

VILLAGE DELEGATE TO PCRPC Ben Prescott, Alternate: Paul Janson

CRA HOUSING OFFICER - Ben Prescott

Ex-Officio for all Committees is Council President



Mantua Village Council Passes Headwaters Trail

Legislation

On March 23, 2016, your Village government convened a Special Council Meeting to enact a Resolution authorizing the Mayor of Mantua, to apply for an Ohio Dept. of Natural

Resources Recreational Trails Program grant to improve and extend the Headwaters Trail within the Village of Mantua.

If we receive the grant, there will be about \$180K to fund resurfacing with compacted, crushed limestone the existing mile of trail from the parking lot behind McDonalds and building a ramp up to Mennonite Road.

To make applying for the grant possible, the Portage Parks District Executive Director, Christine Craycroft, pledged \$40K in support of the required matching funds. This represents some of your tax dollars returning to the community. With the Parks district levy passing last year, they can now afford to invest in improving the recreational potential of the Headwaters Trail, which connects Garrettsville and Mantua. There are plans being developed to eventually extend the trail to Aurora.

The Downtown Mantua Revitalization Committee (DMRC), represented by Edie Benner, pledged \$25K in support of the project. It is vital to have a local non-profit organization, like DMRC, to do the fund-raising required to enable the Village of Mantua to apply for grants that require local matching contributions.



The economic benefit of this project, to the Village, will continue for years. An improved Headwaters Trail will encourage increased usage and the planned for connection to Aurora will make this trail enticing to bicyclists and recreational users throughout North-east Ohio.

Thanks to the Village of Mantua government for passing this resolution that will only benefit the Village, without costing the Village budget a dime! Special thanks to council members who made time to attend the special meeting and especially to Councilman Giles Seith, who's daughter had spinal surgery earlier in the day. He left the the hospital to ensure this resolution passed, returning directly after the meeting.

Submitted by Paula Tubalkain



MANTUA POLICE DEPARTMENT YEARLY REPORT - 2015

The Police Department handled a total of 622 calls during the last year. A few of these are still under investigation, but most have been cleared. They have dealt with assaults, thefts, criminal mischief, domestic, disorderly conduct, drug-related incidents, juvenile complaints and property damage.

There were 291 criminal and traffic arrests, with court receipts of \$14,606. 31 accidents, 951 warnings, 294 traffic and parking citations and the cruisers were driven a total of 48,826 miles. The 31 accidents involved a total of 55 vehicles, 45 vehicles damaged, 6 required towing and there were no injuries and no deaths.

Personnel included 14 officers, full, part-time, auxiliary and SRO, 15 dispatch, both full and part time. Some part-time officers also work as dispatchers. Total officer hours worked was 12, 856, dispatch hours were 9,732 and 252 hours for housekeeping.

There were 397 mutual aid calls for other departments, 51 meetings, 390 motorist and public assists, 153 foot patrols, 82 bar checks, 2425 house checks, 40 open doors & windows, 330 school zone patrols, and 101 suspicions persons/vehicles were investigated.

Other departmental activity include: security for parades & races, Art on the Hill, Soap Box Derby, Potato Festival, Trick Or Treat, checking lift stations, reservoir, water and sewer plants.

The Mantua-Shalersville Fire Department reported totals of 951 EMS calls, 84 motor vehicle accidents, 255 fire calls and 87 mutual, aid calls.

It is the policy of this Department to provide the best possible assistance to our citizens, to meet your needs with courteous and professional service - To Serve and

Protect. If you would like additional information regarding any of our programs or have any questions or concerns, please call the Police Department at 330-274-2251. For current information, check out the Village web site at mantuavillage.com.

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The Village, along with the DMRC has come up with a survey for getting feedback about what people would like to see changed down at the Village park. Please visit the Villages website at mantuavillage.com and click on the link to take the survey.

Thank you!!

Ashlee Hawkins, Assistant Clerk-Treasurer
Mantua Village

****Parks Survey**

1. What changes would you like to see done at the park? (I.e. playground equipment, basketball courts, volleyball courts)
2. Would you like to see a dog park to the east of the Service garage?
3. What changes would you like to see done in the Pavilions?
4. Any other ideas or suggestions are welcome!

*Please e mail responses to either mantuamayor@sbcglobal.net or mantuaac@sbcglobal.net

Thank you!!



UPDATE FROM CT CONSULTANTS

A lot of construction has been going on in our little Village lately and quite a bit more is coming up this year. In this series of articles, we will highlight some of these projects and describe the scope of work, point out potential traffic pattern changes and

inconveniences, how the project will be funded, and what it took for Council and the Administration to bring the project concept to construction.



The Featured Capital Improvement Project will be the High Street waterline replacement and pavement improvements. This project consists of two major components. The first is replacing approximately 1,300 L.F. (linear feet) of a four (4) inch waterline with a new, properly-sized eight (8) inch waterline on the north side of High Street, from the ball fields to the east side of the Buckeye Pipeline entrance. This waterline is almost 100 years old! This project will not only replace an aging waterline prone to leakage, but provide a pipe of adequate size to allow additional flow to the hydrant on the east side of the bridge, to better protect the Buckeye Pipeline facility and the Village's Service Garage and outbuildings. Buckeye Pipeline has made a significant donation to the Village to cover a major portion of the local share for the waterline. Thanks go out to the Portage County Engineer's office for all of their assistance in coordination and installation of a section of the waterline under the river which was already installed as part of the recent bridge replacement project on High Street.



The second part of the project is pavement repairs to the road base and new asphalt overlays of approximately 7,000 L.F. of the pavement on High Street from the west corporation limit to Peck Road. Other ancillary work will include limited curb replacement, manhole casting adjustments, new traffic paint, and traffic loop detector replacement. Traffic loop detectors let the traffic signal brain box know when you are sitting at the light, so it can make adjustments to the signals in all 4 directions.

High Street experiences heavy truck traffic as an east-west major artery through the Village to access SR 44 and the Turnpike to the south and SR 422 to the north. The road also serves as a major collector road for local traffic. Other than spot patching here and there over the years and the overlay that Ronyak Paving donated on the hill for the Soap Box Derby, the Village has not done any major pavement repair or rehabilitation of High Street in about 25 years. With all the truck traffic roadway, it has held up quite well.

During the waterline and pavement repair phases, the roadway will be open to 2-way traffic most of the time, but will be down to one lane of 1-way traffic at times and will on occasion have a small zone completely closed for short durations. The Fire and Police departments will have adequate notice of all traffic flow changes.

In 2015, the Village applied to the Ohio Public Works Commission for assistance in funding this project and was successful in obtaining a zero-interest loan and a \$500,000 Grant.

Survey work has begun by the Village Engineer, CT Consultants and design is underway. The project is currently scheduled to be publicly bid in June of this year and construction should start by late July. The project will be completed this year.

Brian Rogers, CT Consultants, Inc.



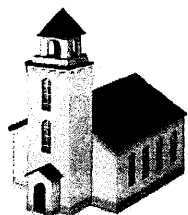
Hillside Cemetery

If you haven't already done so, please remove any holiday decorations that you intend to keep as the cemetery trustees will begin clean-up of the cemetery graves and grounds as weather permits. Once again we will be placing flower pots, planting the flower beds, the circle, around the Veterans stone and in front of the Mausoleum in preparation for Memorial Day 2016. If anyone is interested in lending a hand, please contact one of the cemetery trustees.

Claude Hopkins, Pat Leventry , Cookie Vanek
Cemetery Board

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NEWS FROM ST. JOSEPH'S CHURCH



Father Ed's Installation

Bishop Murry will be here on Sunday, April 10, at the 8:30 a.m. Mass to officially install Fr. Ed Stafford as pastor of St. Joseph Church. All are welcome to join us for this ritual. A reception will be held in Hughes Hall after the Mass. If you would like to lend a hand with this celebration, please contact the Parish Office (330-274-2253 or parishoffice@stjosephmantua.com).



Help During Grieving

Seasons of Hope, a bereavement support program, meet for a series of six weekly gatherings each fall and spring. Sessions help us explore mourning through Scripture, prayer, reflection activities, and faith sharing. The goal is to provide a faith community setting in which the words of Jesus speak the compassion of God. Seasons of Hope is centered on Jesus Christ and grounded in the healing wisdom, traditions, and practices of the Catholic Church. For those searching for hope, this group is a nurturing link to the Church, the Almighty, and other people of faith who are also mourning. Come and be comforted. St. Joseph Parish will resume its bereavement program during April and May. The program requires a group of participants, therefore we ask for registration by Monday April 11. If you wonder whether this program is for you, please contact Sr. Joyce Schreiber (330-274-2253).



Just In Time For Spring Cleaning!

The Appalachian Experience group is hosting a Huge Rummage Sale at the Mantua Knights of Columbus Hall (11845 St. Rt. 44) on Wednesday, April 13, 10:00 a.m.-7:00 p.m., and Thursday, April 14, 10:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. Donations of clean, usable items (no TV's) are appreciated and may be dropped off at the front entrance of the K of C Hall on Monday, April 11, 10:00 a.m.-7:00 p.m., and Tuesday, April 12, 10:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m., or by appointment. Volunteers are needed to help set-up, sort items, work during sale hours, and for clean-up afterward. For further information, please contact Margery Cleary (330-274-7274) or Dan & Seán Fejes (330-274-2481 or sfejes24@gmail.com).

Mark Your Calendars! ST. JOSEPH'S OF MANTUA 52nd OX ROAST FAIR

July 17th - 6 p.m. to 11:30 p.m. July 18th 1 p.m. to 11:30 p.m. July 19th - Noon to 10 p.m.

Largest 3-day Fair in Northern Portage County Family Fun • Delicious Food • Beer Garden Friday Fireworks • Saturday 5K Walk/Run Rides • Games • Contests • Cash Prizes • Giveaways Ox Roast Idol Karaoke Contest • Sunday Blessing of Bikes Live Bands on Carlton Harley-Davidson Stage A/C

Dining Hall serving Ox Roast Dinners • Indoor Casino Semi Truck, 4WD Pick-Up & Tractor Pulls Not Your Typical Church Festival!!!

Located on St. Joseph Blvd. off Pioneer Trail, West of S.R. 4, South of S.R. 82 just North of Mantua Village Accessible from Alt. 422 or Ohio Turnpike Exit 193

For More Info., call 330-274-2253, visit www.stjosephmantua.com, or Find Us On Facebook!

Kathi Trares, Parish Secretary

CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH

Free Community Dinner



Christ Lutheran will be hosting their monthly free Community Meals on Mondays, April 18, May 16, and June 20 from 5 to 6:30 PM. Please come and join us and enjoy a delicious meal and a opportunity to visit with family and friends.



Please come and join us for Vacation Bible School to be held June 20 - 24 from 9:30 am till Noon. It will be a fun week of Cave Exploration and learning about God's love. To register call Diane at 330-274-2868.

Barb Goodell

Hiram College Internship Program Assists Mantua Village Landmark Commission Researching Original Deeds for Homes in the Village Built Before 1945

Do you love history? Either you love history or you don't so if you do love history, local history in particular, this might interest you. Your Village, Mantua Village is part of the Connecticut Western Reserve which was sold to developers from the Connecticut Land Co. in 1795-96. The Western most area of the Reserve became known as the Firelands, or "Sufferers Lands" reserved for residents of several New England towns which had been destroyed by British-set fires during the Revolutionary War.



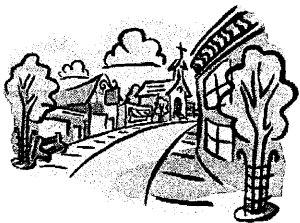
Did you know that most of the homes and buildings in the Village were built in the early 1800's? We can trace the origins of the Village, once known as Mantua Station, Mantua Township to Amzi Atwater (1776-1851), a surveyor who traveled to Ohio twice with surveying parties. He settled in Elyria, but found it unsuitable for farming and eventually moved to Mantua Township and is buried at Pioneer Cemetery at Mantua Center Rd. and Pioneer Tr.

But, this is not about the history of how we got here, but who built the homes of our Village. The Mantua Village Historical Landmark Commission, the newest board appointed by Village Council will be delving into Village history. Their first task will be to trace the deeds of all homes built in the Village before 1945.



Through an historic abstract tracing, the chain of a deed from present owner to the original owner is accomplished by searching record books in the Portage Co. Recorder's office. Once the original deed is discovered, a tax record must be found to discover when the property tax increased which would mean a residence was built by that owner.

Given the fact that most of Mantua Village homes were built before 1945 the job seemed insurmountable. But then it was discovered by a Landmark Commission member that Hiram College had received a grant to encourage students to become involved in the surrounding community non-profit organizations and the grant funder would pay the salaries. This grant will be available for two years.



Village Council approved the project, two students were hired and Terri Vechery was appointed supervisor. Terri had discovered old records of 40 homes in the Village that had been placed on the Ohio State Historic Inventory and those 40 homes will be the beginning of the inventory. Each student will begin researching twenty homes which are on various streets and Terri will begin a more methodical search on Woodford St., eventually working throughout the Village. The inventory will include new pictures of the front of each house and will record unusual features, architecture, and additions or

alterations. Photos of houses throughout the years are significant. Homeowners will be contacted by the Commission searching out information or pictures of the home.

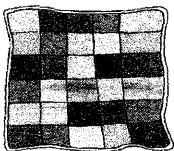
Also, the Historic Landmark Commission, as part of continuing education, will be scheduling a talk in June by an expert on historical architecture. The settlers in northern Ohio repeated the style of structures and development of towns from what they were familiar with in New England: many buildings in the new settlements were designed in the Georgian, Federal and Greek Revival styles. Pictures of various style homes in the Village will be topics of discussion for the speaker. The time, date, and location will be announced through flyers and local newspapers.



UPCOMING DOWNTOWN MANTUA REVITALIZATION EVENTS

The Prize Winning 8th annual **ART ON THE HILL AND WINETASTING TOO** is scheduled again for the Saturday following the Fourth of July. This year that date is July 9, 2016. DMRC is looking at having over 80 artisans, as well as food vendors, merchants, music, demonstrations and of course wine. We are looking forward to presenting our Chinese Auction again featuring work by our artisans and sponsors.

Back again for the fourth year is the Photo Contest. Start taking photos now to enter either into the General Photo categories of Nature/Places or People/Events or into our Views of a Vintage Village division. We want pictures of Mantua Village to feature in a calendar!



Save the date-- July 9th. DMRC will be hosting a quilt show—**QUILTS IN THE VILLAGE**-- on September 24th at the Hilltop Christian Church on W. Prospect. The show has been created and organized by Joy Krushinski and Terri Vechery, two dedicated quilters themselves. The show will feature 90 quilts and other fine handcrafted items. Attendees will have the opportunity to vote for their favorite. Watch for more information about this event.

For questions about either event, contact DMRC through our email; DMRCemail@gmail.com



DMRC'S REVERSE RAFFLE IS APRIL 2

Mark your calendar for April 2, 2016. That is the date DMRC has chosen for their annual Reverse Raffle. Fun! Friends! Great Food! Don't forget the chance to win \$1000.

The Reverse Raffle is one of DMRC's major fundraiser. Under the management of Joy Krushinski with help from Jim Oster and Marian Phillips, this year's success should surpass the Reverse Raffle of 2015.

Once again the Reverse Raffle will be held at Mantua K of C Hall,. Tickets will sell for \$100 per couple and include an open bar, steak dinner and prizes at least every 10 tickets

Proceeds from the Reverse Raffle will be used to the benefit of Mantua Village. In the recent past DMRC has provided matching funds for the grant to build sidewalks along St. Rt. 44 south of the village, purchase flower baskets and flowers for light poles seen throughout the village, donate fund toward the restoration work on the historic Mantua Village Lightpole, and provide financial support for selected Village projects. In the future DMRC will assume the matching funds obligation for the Recreational Trails grant to connect the Headwaters Trail within the Village limits.

Tickets may be purchased from any DMRC member. Stop into Jake's Market and see Jodie Fiala for tickets. You could also drop an email to DMRCemail@gmail.com with your request, name and phone number.



MANTUA KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

The Mantua K of C has completed an extensive renovation of the Hall and Party Center, located at 11845 SR 44 in Mantua Township. Renovations include new French doors in the entrance, newly painted walls, updated lighting fixtures, new vinyl flooring in the bar area and dance floor, new carpeting in the reception hall and updated bar with new granite countertops, sinks and cooler. The women's bathroom was updated with new mirrors, lamps and a sitting area.

New pocket doors can separate the hall from the bar area, so that the bar area can be rented separately. The Hall can seat up to 225 people and the bar area has seating for up to 60 people.

The Hall and Party Center has teamed up with the Mantua Corners Bar & Grille to fill all of your catering needs. They have an extensive catering menu that can be tailored to fit you specific event.

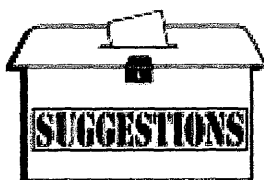
The Knights of Columbus look forward to providing the community with a fantastic venue to accommodate your every need. For reservations or to view the hall, please contact Faith Szygenda at 216-406-3825.



The Women's Auxiliary of the Mantua Knights of Columbus Council #3766 is holding a Spring Fashion Show on Sunday, April 10, 2016 from 1:00 - 5:00 p.m. at the Mantua Knights of Columbus Hall, 11845 St. Rt. 44, Mantua. This event will include a light luncheon, beverages, home-made desserts, door prizes and much more. You will be able to shop with many local vendors and enjoy a full fashion show from Dress Barn and Maurices.

Tickets are \$10 each and can be purchased prior to the event by contacting Mary Dickey at auntieyram@aol.com or call 330-592-1631. Proceeds from this event will help fund many charitable projects within our community.

* *You know that little thing inside your head that keeps you from saying things that you shouldn't - I should probably get one of those!*



As I remind everyone, in each issue, this is YOUR paper. It is about Mantua, its people, places and events.

If you have anything you would like to hear about, any ideas, suggestions or criticisms, please let me know. Write to me c/o Village Hall, 4650 W. High St., P. O. Box 775, Mantua Ohio 44255, Call me at 330-274-8737 , or email at 116diane@sbcglobal.net

If you belong to an organization or club, I will be happy to print any information on your meetings or upcoming events.

Bye for now, see you in July, 2016!!



Diane Hura, Editor



April is National Grilled Cheese month

April 1 - April Fools' Day

April 22 - Passover

April 29 (last Friday of month) - Arbor Day



May is National Bar-B-Que month

May 1 - May Day

May 5 - Cinco de Mayo

May 8 - Mother's Day

May 15 - Peace Officer's Memorial Day

May 21 - Armed Forces Day

May 30 - Memorial Day



June is National Safety Month

June 14 - Flag Day

June 19 - Father's Day

June 24 - Take your dog to work Day