

Mantua Matters

ISSUE # 58

AUGUST 2014

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Mantua Village Community News and Information

**Mantua Matters
4737 E. High St.
Mantua, OH 44255**

Email: mantuamatters@gmail.com

Mantua Matters



"GREETINGS"

A beautiful spring and now finally summer has arrived. So far, so good. A little on the damp side, but so far, not too hot. I'm sure the heat and humidity will be here soon and we will all be wishing for fall.

This issue covers the months of August, September and October, 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.

EMERGENCY	911
Village Hall.....	330-274-8776
Police Department.....	330-274-2251
Fire Department.....	330-274-3535
Service Department.....	330-274-8776
Income Tax.....	330-274-8776
Time Warner Cable.....	1-800-683-1000
Lodge/Park Rental.....	330-274-8776
Water/Sewer Billing.....	330-274-8776

Mantua Township

Marie Stehli.....330-995-2640

Shalersville Township

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

Zoning.....330-274-8776
Mantua Matters.....330-274-8737
Trash Pickup: Kimble Companies
.....800-201-0005
P. C. Recycling.....330-678-8808

Council meetings are the 3rd Tuesday of each month at the Administration Bldg.



"FROM THE MAYOR'S DESK"



PROCLAMATION

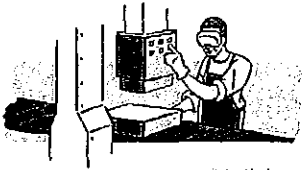
The Stamm Family, owners of Stamm Contracting Company, Inc., who have been in business in the Mantua area for over 100 years, received a Proclamation or Recognition and Appreciation from Village Council at the June Council meeting with the Village thanks.



Stamm Contracting has always been community minded always giving a helping hand to the Village and any organization on their beautification projects. Ellie Stamm, President of Stamm Contracting, has been instrumental in helping with many projects in the Village. In doing so, her contributions have made a difference in the Village moving forward. Ellie has a generous and caring work ethic that she instills in the company.

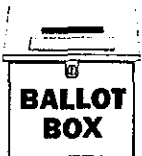
Congratulations to Mantaline Corporation

Council and I presented Mark Trushel, President with a Proclamation of Appreciation and Recognition at our July meeting with our sincere thanks.



Mantaline has been in business in Mantua since 1964 when they opened shop in the basement of Chuck Nichols building at the corner of First and Franklin with just a hand full of housewives mostly from Mantua . In 1989 Mantaline became an employee owned Company and have been in operation for 50 years. I would like to extend this proclamation to Mark with our sincere thanks and gratitude to ALL of the Mantaline Employees past and present for 50 years of service to our community.

November 6th Ballot Issue for Better Roads



On November 6, 2014, Mantua voters will be asked to consider a 3.85 mill, 5-year property tax. 100% of the funds raised will go directly to improve the aging roadways throughout our community. The funds will only be used to repair streets, roads and bridges within the Village, and will be tracked by the Clerk's Office in a separate fund. The revenues will not be used for salaries or equipment purchases. The language as it will appear on the ballot, reads as follows...

An additional tax for the benefit of the Village of Mantua for the purpose of the general construction, reconstruction, resurfacing and repair of streets, roads and bridges at a rate not exceeding three and eighty-five one hundredths (3.85 mills) per one dollar of valuation, which amounts to thirty-eight and one-half cents (\$0.385) per one hundred dollars of valuation, for five (5) years, commencing in 2014, first due in calendar year 2015.

WHAT WILL IT COST?

The levy will cost the owner of a home valued at \$100,000 about \$134.75 per year, which is only \$11.23 per month. The Village has provided a millage calculator on our website at Mantuavillage.com that enables you to enter the current market value of your home, to get the most accurate cost based on your home and property. Overall, the small additional monthly amount will greatly benefit the community in increased home values and lower vehicle repair costs.

HOW WILL THE ADDITIONAL FUNDS BE USED?



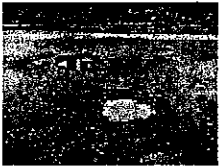
The levy will bring in about \$75,000 annually or \$375,000 over the next five years. 100% of the revenues will be dedicated for the construction, reconstruction, resurfacing and repair of streets, roads and bridges in the Village. The funds cannot be used for any other purchases or salaries, and the funds will be tracked separately in the Village's Road Levy Improvement Fund, which will be established by Mantua Village Council specifically for these revenues.

HOW DOES THE VILLAGE CURRENTLY FUND ROAD REPAIRS AND IMPROVEMENTS?

Currently, the only dedicated tax funding source Mantua has for roads is the Motor Vehicle licensing tax, permissive tax, and gasoline taxes which generate about \$157,000 annually. This is traditionally the tax amount Mantua spends on all road purposes. In 2013, \$140,000 of that amount was spent on operating expenses (employee related expenses, vehicle fuel & repairs, expenses related to the service garage (heat, electric gas), equipment replacement and repairs, (plow parts, etc.) contractual services for hiring out paving or patching jobs, road salt, road patch and some office supplies), leaving only \$17,000 for actual paving and road repairs. Any other funding for road repair must come from the General Fund, which is not a preferred funding method, as the General Fund is required to pay for many other Village functions. Cuts in local government funds and estate taxes from the State of Ohio continue to stress our budget as local dollars must now be used to fund Village services that used to be supplemented by State dollars.

HOW DID THE VILLAGE DECIDE HOW MUCH THE TAX LEVY SHOULD BE?

Earlier this year, an inventory and pavement condition assessment was done for all of the roads within the Village. The Village has 27 streets that total about 7.5 miles in length with 86,000 square yards in area; not including S.R. 44. Other than small overlays on various sections of streets over the years; or, pavements replaced or repaired and overlaid for underground utility projects, the last Pavement Repair Program bid out by the Village Engineer was 17 years ago in 1997 for \$75,000 (\$121,000 in today's dollars).



The pavements within the Village vary widely in condition from only one (1) brand new (Orchard Street) to most being very poor. Some streets are in such poor condition that they should be replaced instead of just repaired and overlaid. There are streets that will not need any work for several years. Others will need only base repairs in the short term, however, many are long overdue for repairs and overlays or replacement.

A rough estimate of the cost to repair and overlay all of the streets in the Village at one time would be between \$2.0 and \$2.5 million dollars. As noted above, some of the streets will not need repair for several years. Depending on the amount and type of traffic, an average street needs minor repairs after about 10 years and major repairs and an overlay after 15 to 18 years. Even though major or complete repairs and overlays may not be needed for 18 years, some funds should be spent on maintenance throughout a street's lifespan. Many of the Village's roads see a very low volume of traffic so we think it was reasonable to adjust the pavement life span to 20 years. This reduces the financial impact, but is still justifiable to the public we serve. If the total estimated cost of repairing all of the streets is amortized over an average of 20 years, the cost per year to maintain the current average pavement condition would be approximately \$150,000 per year.

After careful review and consideration of the financial impact, the Village elected to pursue a revenue source to generate half of the projected amount; or, \$75,000 per year. The Village proposed to generate this revenue via a property tax as a 5-year levy at the outset to demonstrate to the public how the funds will be utilized. An improved roadway system will improve the quality of life in our community and help to stabilize property values.

WHAT IF THE ISSUE IS NOT APPROVED?

Unfortunately, road conditions will continue to decline and available funding will be hard to find. Overall, the Village's goal is to provide necessary services, at the lowest possible costs, but as State and Federal dollars continue to diminish, the Village will continually monitor expenditures and eliminate programs and services as necessary to remain fiscally responsible.



Remember to vote on November 6, 2014!



NEW ADDITION TO SIREN TOWER

In case you haven't noticed, after 29 years, an American flag is once more flying over the Village of Mantua. I am referring to the siren tower which was erected in the early 1900's, at the corner of Main and High Street. About 5 years ago there was some discussion to remove the tower and a small group started the process to save it.

The first thing that was done was an inspection of the tower, finding the structure to be sound, but needing attention. The next step was to restore the warning system siren on the tower, which I'm happy to report is a fully working siren for the downtown area of the Village. The next goal was to get a flag back up on the tower. This went on for the next 3 years, being unable to find funding to complete this task. At this point, the Downtown Mantua Revitalization Corporation (DMRC) got involved and formed a community committee to work with the Village of Mantua on this project. Chairman Jim Oster from DMRC lead the search for committee members, Harry Buchert, Tim Benner, Norm Erickson, Claude, Hopkins and Bob McCleary.

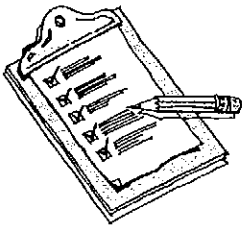
Norm Erickson made this his personal goal to get a flag back up on the pole no matter what it took. Even with his drive, it took almost two years. He got the rigging, new pulleys, lined up the equipment needed to get to the top of the pole and the personnel needed to get this done. On June 13, Norm Erickson, Tim Benner, Todd Herr, Denny Herr, Bob McCleary and Sgt. Reitz met at the tower and the project began. In just one day, the pole was repaired, painted and the new pulley system was put in place. A gold ball was placed at the top, and the rigging was run for a new flag.

On July 2nd Norm Erickson, Tim Benner and Harry Buchert met again to put clips needed to fly the flag and to secure the rigging in a manner that should last for years. The American Legion 193 donated an American flag which was raised for the first time over the Village in 29 years. Those of us there, were speechless in awe of the beauty of what has been accomplished. It was decided that we would formally dedicate this achievement and we felt that it was best served to do it on Independence Day. On July 4 at about 6:45 in the morning the American Legion Post 193 led the dedication of the flag. The flag which flew over the US Capital, now flies high over the Village of Mantua. Mayor Linda Clark thanked everyone involved and a special thanks to Norm Erickson for his drive to get this done. The ceremony was dedicated to all the men and women past and present who have served this Village and surrounding communities and their dedication to all of us.

Although we have met one of our goals in getting the flag back up, the project is not done by any means. We still need to get lighting for the flag, the tower needs to be sand blasted and painted, the grounds will need to be landscaped and there will need to be some tree care around the tower. If you think you can help either by donating time or money please contact Jim Oster with the DMRC at 330.274.2802, or Chief Harry Buchert with the Mantua Police Department at 330.274.2251.

The Village of Mantua wants to thank everyone involved in this project and a special thanks to Norm Erickson and the DMRC.

Chief Harry Buchert
Mantua Police Department



'POLICE REPORT'

This report covers the months of April, May & June 2014

Total Cases:.....	200
Traffic/Parking Cites:.....	48
Warnings:.....	281
Arrests: Criminal.....	6
Arrests: Traffic.....	100
Calls to Dispatch- Mantua.....	743
Calls to Dispatch - Fire.....	523
Calls to Dispatch - Hiram.....	452
Service Calls - Hiram.....	652
Traffic Stops - Hiram.....	299
Fire Dept - EMS.....	229
Fire Dept - MVA.....	18
Fire Dept - Fire.....	56
Total Mileage:.....	10,604
Mutual Aid Calls:.....	109
Officer Hours Worked:.....	2394
School Resource Officer.....	1633
Dispatch Hours Worked:.....	2438
K-9.....	17
Citizen/Motorist Assists:.....	81
Open Doors/Windows:.....	16
Suspicious Persons/Vehicles:.....	22
School Zones.....	96
House Checks.....	829
Bar Checks:.....	22
Water/Sewer Plant Checks:.....	286
Reservoir Checks:.....	177
Lift Station Checks:.....	690



Safety Tips for Potato Festival

As the Village of Mantua prepares for the thirty-six annual Mantua Potato Festival, we as residents of the Village, should take note of a few safety tips that can help you during this weekend. Chief Buchert recommends for your safety and welfare the following tips.

- Always lock your home and vehicles, and if not at home leave a few lights on around the house along with the TV or radio. This will give the effect that there is someone home.
- Park in designated areas of the village, preferable lighted areas.
- Don't park on the roadway or on the sidewalks. This will result in citations to the owner and possible towing of the vehicle.
- Don't leave personal property out for the taking such as bicycles.
- Be aware of when and where the roadways will be closed off to the public for festival activities such as the foot race on Saturday and the parade on Sunday.
- Don't let anyone you don't know into your house to use the phone, bathroom or whatever they may request. You should call the police and we will provide what ever assistance they may need.
- Don't let your small children attend the festival by themselves and your older children should check in with you periodically.
- Remember High Street will be closed from the park to Peck Road on Saturday morning till about 11 AM for the footrace.
- Also, Sunday from about 1:30 PM till about 4 PM, Main St, Prospect St, and High St will be closed for the parade, if you have plans you'll need to leave early or expect delays from closed roads.

- If you have questions or concerns please contact the Mantua Police Department.

This weekend should be a successful weekend for all of us when we work together. The Police Department is here to serve you and remember to Buckle-Up and Don't Drink and Drive.

Looking at What Makes Mantua Mantua



The last issue asked the question "What makes Mantua *Mantua*?" Well, its people, of course. The people who build and create, defining the sense of a place before anyone meets the people and gets to know them. The people who built and created and are now gone.

Since what they built endures-or they hoped and intended for it to endure-we can see how they prospered, what they thought, how they saw the world, and what created their prosperity. Those builders are gone, but we are living and working in their buildings. Those people are still supporting us in some way. In Mantua, what is that?



Perhaps the most noticeable feature, because it is the tallest, is the Mantua Grain elevator. A wisp of history, bygone, is still on one wall: Larro Feeds. When we were kids, Mantua Grain was a place of wonder and plenty. We got chicken and turkey feed there, which fed the birds that became our Sunday and Thanksgiving dinners. The feed came in brightly printed feed sacks, which our mothers selected carefully and made our clothes out of. Today, vintage feed sacks are hotly sought after by traditional quilters.

Another Mantua landmark, the livery stable, is right across the street from Mantua Grain. By the time my family moved to Mantua Township in 1945, horses were no longer daily transportation, but most farms still used horsepower to some extent. And harvests were still brought to the elevator.

The unassuming block building on the southwest corner of Main and Prospect Street was the bank. Its purpose explains its construction: sturdy, secure, not readily flammable. Two dentists have made their offices there, and the first of them, Dr. Grayson, wrote a charming little book about the town and its residents.

On the way up the hill on Prospect, the Wm. Crafts building was not the original post office, a frame building that burned in a fire that wiped out a number of buildings. The Crafts building was the post office we knew as kids, and the one everyone used until 1965.



©images - iStockphoto.com/1197159 Oh, yes-to backtrack on Main Street. The railroad station, now a real estate office, was a stop on the way to work, if not adventure. The train ran daily from Warren to Cleveland, stopping in each village to pick up people who worked in city offices. The railroad and the station meant that people could live in a village in the country, in a quiet, clean, and neighborly atmosphere.

My family stayed in touch with city friends no more prosperous than we were-but even as kids we knew that, in spite of our feed sack clothes, we were rich. This place, as it was then, made that richness possible.

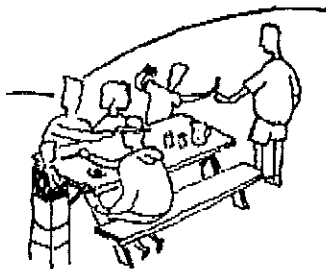
The grain elevator, the livery stable, the bank building, the post office, and the railroad station: What if they were gone? Would Mantua be Mantua still? If your answer to that question is "No," then those are landmark buildings for you. If the answer is "No," then those buildings are worth saving, revitalizing, and using in new ways. Unless they are saved and preserved, we become homeless, in a way. At its best, historic preservation preserves not just the buildings, but the sense of home.

Farming and the railroad built and sustained this place, with both its grand and its quirky, charming features. The bank guarded and helped increase the prosperity, and the post office was another contact with the wider world.

Next time: The fountain at the Village Hall and the Village's unique street signs, for the quirky charm. As for the grandness: do you know how much of our downtown is on The National Register of Historic Places?

Carole Pollard

NEWS FROM CRESTWOOD LIONS CLUB



On Saturday August 16th, the Crestwood Lions will be hosting a Community Picnic/Health Fair at Buchert Park in Mantua from noon until 4pm. The Lions will provide free hot dogs, chips and pop for all attendees. There will be eye screenings for adults and children, blood pressure and blood sugar testing, information from various medical providers and chair massages. Local businesses will be in attendance to provide information on the services or products they provide. The Lions will also provide free games for the children. In addition, there will be raffle prizes and a 50/50 drawing.



All proceeds from the raffle and 50/50 will go to the Lions 13D Eye Care Foundation, which provides eye surgeries for individuals who have no means of obtaining them by themselves. There may be more. The only way to find out is to come down and see for yourselves. We look forward to meeting with all of you.

Rick Frederick
Crestwood Lions Club



NEWS FROM CRESTWOOD SCHOOLS

Crestwood Local Schools in collaboration with local community organizations, invite the Crestwood community to an evening of family fun, on August 24th, from 5 to 8 pm (with a pep rally starting at 7 pm) at the high school.

Kids will enjoy the bouncy houses and obstacle course, Ohio mobile gaming, and Rally Entertainers for some magic, balloon twisting and face painting. Additionally, the fire and police departments will give tours of a fire truck and police car. There will also be booths with information from local organizations.

If you would like to participate in "Stuff the Bus", we will be collecting school supplies that evening! This project provides teachers with necessary supplies to distribute to kids in need.



NEWS FROM CRESTWOOD SCHOOL BOARD

At their July meeting, the Board approved a contract with Virtual Community School (VCS), an online school based in Ohio. This agreement is valid for the 2014-2015 academic school year and will offer online and homeschool students within the Crestwood School District, to continue with online instruction while becoming a Crestwood District student.

The students would be eligible to participate in the District's extracurricular activities and the District would retain some of the per-student instruction funds from State and Federal sources. According to Superintendent David Toth, the ultimate goal, at some point in the future, would be to provide such a program using Crestwood teachers as instructors, an initiative that is part of the current strategic plan. (Source: The Weekly Villager)



"MAN'S BEST FRIEND"

TO ALL DOG OWNERS IN THE VILLAGE: Ordinance 505.01 requires that all doges be licensed and are to be leashed at all times. This not only for the safety of others, but for your dog's safety as well.

This Ordinance also provides for impound and fines should your dog be found lose, unleashed and/or unlicensed.

In addition, Ordinance 200.14 provides for mandatory clean-up after any and all animals. Mutt Mitts are available at locations in the Park and along the trail. For walking on the street, you can carry a supply of small plastic bags in your pocket.

A few simple steps helps to keep our community cleaner and healthier for everyone. Thanks for your cooperation.



FARMER'S MARKET

The Mantua Farmer's Market is now under the sponsorship of Christ Lutheran Church and is held at 10827 North Main Street in Mantua. The parking lot is large and all vendor fees collected throughout the season, will go into their Handicapped Entrance Project Fund.

Prices per date is \$5.00 and vendors need to supply their own table and tent. The Market features a wide variety of items, including produce, crafts, bakery canned goods, plants and miscellaneous. The season will run each Saturday until September 27th. Please call Diane at 330-274-2868 for details.



CYBERBULLYING

Cyberbullying is similar to other types of bullying, except it takes place online and through text messages sent to cell phones. Cyberbullies can be classmates, online acquaintances, and even anonymous users, but most often they do know their victims.

Some examples of ways kids bully online are:

- Sending someone mean or threatening emails, instant messages, or text messages
- Excluding someone from an instant messenger buddy list or blocking their email for no reason
- Tricking someone into revealing personal or embarrassing information and sending it to others
- Breaking into someone's email or instant message account to send cruel or untrue messages while posing as that person
- Creating websites to make fun of another person such as a classmate or teacher
- Using websites to rate peers as prettiest, ugliest, etc.

Both boys and girls sometimes bully online and just as in face-to-face bullying, tend to do so in different ways. Boys more commonly bully by sending messages of a sexual nature or by threatening to fight or hurt someone. Girls more often bully by spreading rumors and by sending messages that make fun of someone or exclude others. They also tell secrets.

Cyberbullying can be a complicated issue, especially for adults who are not as familiar with using the Internet, instant messenger, or chat rooms as kids. But like more typical forms of bullying, it can be prevented when kids know how to protect themselves and parents are available to help.



Since most cyberbullying takes place at home, it's important that parents know about cyberbullying and that they get involved in preventing it. Just like parents help their kids avoid inappropriate websites, they can protect them from cyberbullying.

- Keep your home computer in a busy area of your house.
- Set up email and chat accounts with your children. Make sure that you know their screen names and passwords and that they don't include any personal information in their online profiles.
- Regularly go over their instant messenger "buddy list" with them. Ask who each person is and how your children know him or her.
- Discuss cyberbullying with your children and ask if they have ever experienced it or seen it happen to someone.
- Tell your children that you won't blame them if they are cyberbullied. Emphasize that you won't take away their computer privileges - this is the main reason kids don't tell adults when they are cyberbullied.

Source: National Crime Prevention Council



NEWS FROM MANTUA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

The Mantua Historical Society will meet the 3rd Monday of each month, August through October 2014 and will start meeting again March through October 2015. We meet in the Mantua Township Hall at the corner of Mantua Center Rd and Rt. 82. We meet downstairs and the museum upstairs will be open.

We have many good programs lined up so watch the Record Courier for our announcements before each meeting.

Lois Summerlin

Some people celebrate Senior Citizens Day on August 14 as it was the day past US president Franklin Roosevelt signed the Social Security Act in 1935. However, in 1988 Ronald Reagan, who was the US president at the time, declared August 21 to be National Senior Citizens Day.

This observance was established in honor of senior citizens in the US who made positive contributions in their communities. The day was also created to bring awareness of social, health, and economic issues that affect senior citizens.



Labor Day is annually held on the first Monday of September. It was originally organized to celebrate various labor associations' strengths of and contributions to the United States economy. It is largely a day of rest in modern times. Many people mark Labor Day as the end of the summer season and a last chance to make trips or hold outdoor events. Labor Day is a federal holiday.



Labor Day is a day of rest or the last chance for many people to go on trips before the summer ends. For students, it is the last chance to organize parties before school starts again. In some neighborhoods, people organize fireworks displays, barbecues and public arts or sports events. The football season starts on or around Labor Day and many teams play their first game of the year during Labor Day weekend.

The first Labor Day was held in 1882. Its origins stem from the desire of the Central Labor Union to create a holiday for workers. It became a federal holiday in 1894. It was originally intended that the day would be filled with a street parade to allow the public to appreciate the work of the trade and labor organizations. After the parade, a festival was to be held to amuse local workers and their families. In later years, prominent men and women held speeches. This is less common now, but is sometimes seen in election years. One of the reasons for choosing to celebrate this on the first Monday in September was to add a holiday in the long gap between Independence Day and Thanksgiving.



Many families in the United States observe National Grandparents Day on the first Sunday of September after Labor Day. This day honors grandparents.

About four million greeting cards are sent within the United States each year on National Grandparents Day. This day is also an opportunity for people to appreciate and express their love to their grandparents through kind actions such as making a phone call or inviting their grandparents for dinner. People living in retirement villages or nursing homes may receive a visit from their grandchildren or loved ones on this day.

National Grandparents Day is an observance and not a public holiday in the United States. National Grandparents Day was finally signed into law by President Jimmy Carter in 1978. A presidential proclamation on September 6, 1979, made this day official - it designated Sunday, September 9, 1979, (being the "first Sunday of September following Labor Day") as National Grandparents Day.

Each year the President is requested to issue a proclamation to: designate the first Sunday in September after Labor Day as National Grandparents Day; and to call on people, groups and organizations to observe the day with appropriate ceremonies and activities.



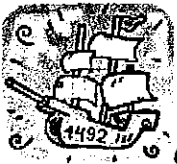
Patriot Day is an annual observance on September 11 to remember those who were injured or died during the terrorist attacks in the United States on September 11, 2001. Many Americans refer Patriot Day as 9/11 or September 11.



On the direction of the President, the flag of the United States of America should be displayed on the homes of Americans, the White House and all United States government buildings in the whole world. The flag should be flown at

half-mast as a mark of respect to those who died on September 11, 2001. Many people observe a moment of silence at 8:46 AM (Eastern Daylight Time). This marks the time that the first plane flew into the World Trade Center. Some communities, particularly in the areas directly affected by the attacks, hold special church services or prayer meetings. People who personally experienced the events in 2001 or lost loved ones in them, may lay flowers or visit memorials.

Patriot Day is not a federal holiday and schools and businesses do not close. Public transit systems run on their regular schedules. Some people and organizations may take some time out to hold prayers for the victims of the attacks, but these do not usually affect public life for more than a few minutes.



Columbus Day, which is annually on the second Monday of October, remembers Christopher Columbus' arrival to the Americas on October 12, 1492. This holiday is controversial because the European settlement in the Americas led to the demise of the history and culture of the indigenous peoples.

Officially, the people of the USA are invited to celebrate the anniversary of the discovery of their country with church services and other activities. In some towns and cities, special church services, parades and large events are held. Most celebrations are concentrated around the Italian-American community. The celebrations in New York and San Francisco are particularly noteworthy. In Hawaii Columbus Day is also known as Landing Day or Discoverer's Day. Not all parts of the United States celebrate Columbus Day. It is not a public holiday in some states such as California, Oregon, Nevada and Hawaii



Christopher
Columbus

Christopher Columbus is often portrayed as the first European to sail to the Americas. He is sometimes portrayed as the discoverer of the New World. However, this is controversial on many counts. There is evidence that the first Europeans to sail across the Atlantic were Viking explorers from Scandinavia. In addition, the land was already populated by indigenous peoples, who had 'discovered' the Americas thousands of years before.

Columbus Day celebrations are controversial because the settlement of Europeans in the Americas led to the deaths of a very large proportion of the native people. It has been argued that this was a direct result of Columbus' actions. It is clear that the arrival of the European settlers led to the demise of a large proportion of the history and culture of the indigenous peoples of the Americas. It has also been argued that Columbus should not be honored for discovering North America, as he only went as far as some islands in the Caribbean and never got as far as mainland America.



Many Americans celebrate Halloween on October 31. Celebrations include costume parties and trick-or-treating.

Halloween is usually celebrated amongst family, friends and, sometimes, co-workers. However, some areas hold large community events. Parties and other events may be planned on October 31 or in the weekends before and after this date. Adults may celebrate by watching horror films, holding costume parties or creating haunted houses or graveyards.



Many children dress up in fancy costumes and visit other homes in the neighborhood. At each house, they demand sweets, snacks or a small gift. If they do not get this, they threaten to do some harm to the inhabitants of the house. This is known as playing 'trick-or-treat' and is supposed to happen in a friendly spirit, with no nasty or mean tricks being carried out. However, if your children take part, it is important to accompany them and to check their 'treats' to make sure they are safe to eat or play with.

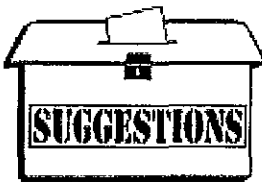
Halloween originated as a pagan festival in parts of Northern Europe, particularly around what is now the United Kingdom. Many European cultural traditions hold that Halloween is a time when magic is most potent and spirits can make contact with the physical world.



The commercialization of Halloween started in the 1900s, when postcards and die-cut paper decorations were produced. Halloween costumes started to appear in stores in the 1930s and the custom of 'trick-or-treat' appeared in the 1950s.

Halloween is not an official holiday. Government offices and businesses are open as usual and public transit services run on regular schedules. If you drive around in late afternoon or evening, it is important to keep a careful lookout for children who are unaccustomed to being out on the street after dark. If they are wearing dark costumes or masks, they may be less easy to see than normal. They may also be excited and dart out unexpectedly from between vehicles or behind bushes.

Source for all Holiday info is: timeanddate.com



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 mantuamatters@gmail.com.

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 November!



Diane Hura, Editor