

Mantua Matters.....



DECEMBER 2019



Mantua Village Community News and Information

Mantua Matters
4650 High Street
Mantua, Ohio 44255



E-mail: mantuamatters2@aol.com



Winter is almost here! Live, laugh, love and stay warm! This issue covers December, January and February. Read and enjoy!!



NUMBERS TO KNOW...

EMERGENCY...911 Police...330-274-2251 Fire...330-274-3535

Village Hall...330-274-8776

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

Service Department...330-274-8776 Ext. 150
Water/Sewer Billing...330-274-8776 Ext. 150
Park Lodge Rental...330-274-8776 Ext. 153
Income Tax...330-274-8776 Ext. 151
Spectrum Cable...1-877-570-6291
Mantua Township, Betsy Woolf...330-274-8443
Shalersville Township, Jill Corbett...330-274-3655
Zoning...330-274-8776 Ext. 156
Mantua Matters...330-872-5496
Trash & Recycling, Kimble Companies...1-800-201-0005



From the Mayor's Desk...

Mayor's Corner

Council and I want to wish all of you the best over the Thanksgiving and Christmas Holidays

Christmas Holiday Events

Santa at the Mini Park Friday December 06, 2019 at 6 p.m. (corner of Main and Prospect) Sponsored by the Mantua Shalersville Chamber

Pizza with Santa December 7, 2019 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at Hiram Christian Church, Sponsored by the Kiwanis Club

Shop with a Cop December 14, 2019 At Streetsboro Target, Sponsored by Hiram P.D. for more information contact the Hiram P.D.

Police Department

It is sad to report that, Lt. Kenneth Justus, has decided to leave the Village of Mantua Police Department. The Lt. has been with our Police Department since July 15, 2003. His dedication to us has been exemplary. Ken has demonstrated his deep love for this community. He restarted our K9 program with Vador (who passed away this past summer). I will miss him and extend our best wishes for his continued success in the future.

Council and I would like to welcome a new K9 to the police department. Council approved Chief Urso in obtaining a new K9.

Employment

The Village of Mantua has an opening for a full-time service worker. Please go to the Villages website and apply.

We also are hiring seasonal plow drivers; you must have a CDL. Also go to the Villages website and apply.

The Police Department is also accepting application for a fulltime Police Officer. Contact Chief Urso.

Committee members needed

If you are looking to become involved in your community. We have two (2) vacant seats on the Landmark Committee. I have interviewed some interested parties for these positions and will be presenting to Council for approval of at least one at the February meeting. Please send a letter of interest to mantuamayor@sbcglobal.net.

Recently funded/applied for/completed projects by this administration in the last 8 years:

1. Reservoir Rehabilitation

Funding – 2019 OPWC Round 33

\$450,000 project; \$300,000 grant with \$150,000 loan

2. West Prospect Street Storm Sewer and Roadway Improvements (phase 1 complete)

Funding – 2018 OPWC Round 32

\$450,000 project; \$250,000 grant with \$50,000 loan and \$150,000 local match

3. Miscellaneous WTP & WWTP Repairs (complete)

Funding – 2015-2016 OPWC Round 29

\$210,000 project; \$160,000 grant with \$50,000 loan. Repair and replace pumps, computers, SCADA software, filter media and other miscellaneous equipment critical to operation of both plants.

4. High Street Pavement and East High Waterline Improvements (complete)

Funding – 2017 OPWC Round 29

\$815,000 project; Base repairs and overlay of High St. from corp. to corp. Upgrade of waterline from 6" to 8" from the ballpark to east side of Buckeye Entrance (~west end of Service garage).

5. Buchert Park Asphalt Walking Trial (phase 1 complete)

Funding ODNR Nature Works Grant and DMRC

\$43,522.67 project; \$32642.00 grant \$12,238.00 DMRC came in under budget

6. South End Sidewalk and Lighting – AMATS and DMRC

Funding – AMATS (Federal) and DMRC.

\$130,000 approximately project; Installed new sidewalk from the bridge to just south of Matts Road. Installed a conduit for use on a potential future lighting project, put in storm sewers and a new fire hydrant.

7. Misc. Pavement Repairs/Overlays

Funding – Road Levy--2015 was 1st year of a 5-year program funded from the new Road Levy. We have done sections of Ambler Lane, Glenwood,

Woodford and a curb, sections of Herald, Elm, Oak, Second and Grand Elm. We have used the Road levy funds to leverage more funding to do High Street and phase 1 of West Prospect.

8. **Water Distribution** – OPWC funded hydrant replacements; more are needed. **(Complete)** Storz nozzles on all hydrants.
9. **Mill Street Connector Trail (complete)**

Funding ODNR Nature Works Grant 2017 and DMRC

10. **West end Head Water Trail**

Funding ODNR (RTP) 2016

\$142,280 project with Portage Parks/DMRC **denied**

11. **CHS MIDDLE SCHOOL SEWER LINE (complete)**

Funding 2012 OPWC Round 27 and Crestwood Schools to replace lift station and put in gravity feed sanitary sewer line \$314,100 project; \$188,460 grant \$125,460 from CHS came in under estimate

12. **Orchard Street Paving (complete)**

Funding CDBG 2012 with NDS

\$184,000 Project;

13. **2013 100-year flood**

Funding EMA (state disaster relief fund) approximately \$110,000 to collapsed storm sewers lines, pave Walnut that was washed out. Replaced 12 storm sewer catch basins and clean storm sewers. Chip and seal Reagan that was washed out.

14. **Automatic read water Meters**

2013 CDBG \$160,000 to replace all meters **denied**

2019 New apps.

15. **Buchert Park Asphalt Walking Trail 2018 phase II** was due June 01, 2019

Funding – ODNR Nature Works Grant and DMRC;

We will find out in the fall if approved. Estimated cost total \$45,750.00 grant amount \$34,312.50 DMRC \$11,437.50

On 11/13/19 we received conditional award until the controlling board does final approval

16. **West Prospect Street Storm Sewer and Roadway Improvements Phase II**

Funding – 2020 OPWC Round 34 to do the section of East Prospect from High to cemetery Drive –estimated cost about \$537,000.

17. ***Mats Road Bridge***

Funding – 2023 Municipal Bridge Fund (through ODOT) it is 95/5 grant just over one million dollars, if we receive it will use the increase gas tax amount for the matching funds.

We did not receive this funding notified 10/29/19

18. ***Mats Road Bridge***

Funding 2023 Ohio Bridge Partnership (through ODOT) it is 100% funding grant just over a million dollars.

Orchard Street Funding 2020 Jobs and Commerce (through ODOT) \$62,000.00 it is a 50% match. The Businesses and the Village are working together on the match. Final paper is being reviewed.

Council Meetings are the third Tuesday at 7:00 p.m. each month at the Administration Building

Mayor Linda Clark





From the Police Department...

CAR SAFETY FOR THE WINTER

“Ohio’s winters are known for their unpredictability, and Winter seems to be arriving early this year” commented Chief Urso. “I suggest you take the following precautions in order to stay safe on the road:”

- 1. Pay attention to weather reports*
- 2. Keep your gas tank at least half full*
- 3. When it’s icy, avoid parallel parking, since it’s easier to get stuck when you have to turn your wheels.*
- 4. Don’t stop or start suddenly if it’s icy. If your vehicle has ABS, apply constant pressure to the brake pedal to stop; don’t pump your brakes, as the system will start over each time you release your foot from the pedal. If you start to slide, always steer in the same direction that the rear of your auto is going.*
- 5. Allow extra time to get to your destination. Don’t drive recklessly because you’re going to be late. It’s better to be late, rather than crash and not get there at all. JUST SLOW DOWN!!*

Chief Urso mentioned that preparing an emergency kit for your car is also a good idea. Include items such as: blankets, extra clothing, dry rations (raisins, nuts, candy), an LED flashlight with extra batteries, flares, a steel shovel and sand in case you get stuck, and a fully charged cell phone. The Chief said that the best protection from problems with winter driving is winterizing your car—get a tune up, consider snow tires or chains. Chief Urso concluded that winter driving does not have to be a hazardous undertaking. A few simple precautions can prevent accidents from happening and keep you prepared just in case they do occur.

SHOPPING SAFELY FROM HOME

While shopping from home allows you to shop at your own convenience, that convenience does not come without risk. Follow these tips to help you shop safely from your home.

- Know who you’re dealing with.*

Your best protection when shopping from home is to do business with companies you know to be legitimate. If you're not familiar with the company's reputation, it's important to check up on it.

- ***Look for a company's online privacy policy.***

Many companies with privacy practices post their privacy policy on their Web site. A company's privacy policy should disclose what information is being collected on the Web site and how that information is being used. Before you provide a company with personal information, check or request its privacy policy.

- ***Pay by credit or charge card.***

If you pay by credit or charge card online, your transaction will be protected by the Fair Credit Billing Act. Under this law, consumers have the right to dispute charges under certain circumstances and temporarily withhold payment while a creditor is investigating them. In the case of unauthorized use of a consumer's credit card, consumers are generally held liable for the first \$50 in charges.

- ***Checking shipping and handling fees***

Retailers often add a shipping and handling fee to the price of an item, based on where the order is shipped, the cost, or weight of the goods. Online buyers generally can select from several delivery options at various costs. Be sure to find out about the options and costs and choose the delivery method you prefer or the retailer may decide for you. Also check return and restocking policies before you order. Because items such as software or DVDs can be copied, they are sometimes not returnable. Companies also may charge a restocking fee if you return an item.

- ***Keep records of your purchases.***

When ordering by phone or computer, write down or print out information related to the transaction, including the seller's name, address, and telephone number; the name of the person you spoke with, if applicable; a description of what you ordered; and the seller's delivery date, terms, and return policies.

- ***Seek help if you run into a problem.***

If you can't resolve your problem by working directly with the company, contact the Attorney General's Office at 1-800-282-0515, your Better Business Bureau, or the Federal Trade Commission's toll-free helpline at 1-877-FTC-HELP (382-4357).

These tips are important because while just five years ago, 27 percent of computer users were using the Internet, now 81 percent of the computer users are online. And North Americans represent 43 percent of the online population with the Internet waves spreading rapidly beyond its U.S. origins, according to the Computer Industry Almanac.

It is important for all of us to look not only for our own safety when shopping from home but also for the safety of our elderly and other vulnerable populations because they are often the target of con artists and scammers. Remember: if somebody calls you and offers you something that sounds too good to be true, it's a scam. Don't give any information, and hang up.

By arming them with the proper tools and knowledge, we can prevent consumers from losing more money to deceitful sweepstakes solicitors and telemarketers.

A few things to remember during the Winter months:

- 1) Check on the elderly during extremely cold weather. A cause for concern would be snow not being cleared, mail piling up, etc.*
- 2) Bring pets indoors during extreme cold temperatures. If walking your pet after the surface has been treated with salt, be sure to clean their feet afterwards. Salt that gets stuck in their pads can cause burns.*
- 3) It is illegal to leave your car unattended while running. Remote starters are exempt from this.*
- 4) Residents are responsible to remove snow from their sidewalks. Snow may NOT be pushed into the roadway or block fire hydrants.*

The Mantua Police Department would like to welcome its newest member, K-9 Ciko. Ciko comes from the Czech Republic, and was trained at Excel K-9 in Hiram Township. Ciko is a 2 ½ year old Belgian Malinois, and is a dual-purpose K-9 assigned to Chief Urso. Ciko is trained in narcotics detection, article search, tracking, building searches, suspect apprehension, and handler protection. Chief Urso and Ciko completed State Certification on November 19th. Please remember to use caution around police K-9's, and always ask the handler for permission to approach the K-9 before doing so.

Chief Joe Urso







From the Service Department...

Winter is upon us!! Please remember the rules about removing snow from your residence and parking areas. It is prohibited to remove snow from your parking areas and driveways into the Village streets or across Village streets. You may need to remind contractors that you hire of this as well.

When piling snow on street corners and tree lawns it must be only to the height that it would not obstruct the view of motorists and pedestrians using the streets. Please help us to help you!!

Before winter settles in too deeply, please remember to remove all of your summer flowers and plantings from the cemetery. The Service Department staff and the Cemetery Board work very hard to keep the cemetery in top notch shape. Let's all do our own little part to keep our loved ones' resting places looking their best.

One more note for winter, please take precautions to ensure your pipes don't freeze. One trick during a cold snap is to open your sink cabinets so that heat is getting in to the pipes underneath. If you are still concerned you can leave the faucet dripping very slowly. Running water won't freeze easily. If you have uninsulated pipes in the garage or basement you may want to put a space heater on low during the coldest days and nights.

Helpful Fat, Oil and Grease (FOG) practices for residents

Grease is frequently poured down the sink drain because the warm oils are liquid and can be poured. It may not appear to be harmful but as the liquid cools, the grease solidifies and causes buildup inside the pipes, becoming a hardened mass. The buildup restricts the flow of sewage and clogs the pipes.

The implications can be:

- *Raw Sewage backing up into your home*
- *A call for a plumber*
- *An unpleasant and expensive cleanup at your expense*
- *Raw sewage overflowing into parks, yards and streets*
- *Potential contact with disease-causing organisms*

The easiest thing you can do is keep grease out of the sewer system in the first place.

- *Never pour grease, oil, syrup, flour or batter down the sink or into the toilet*
- *Flour mixed with water creates a glue that can cause blockages*
- *Do not put food scraps down the garbage disposal. These units only shred solid material into smaller pieces and do not prevent grease from going down the drain.*
- *Use a strainer in the sink to catch food scraps and other solids*
- *The Wastewater department recommends allowing you got oils, sauces and gravies to cool before scraping into a plastic bag and then disposing of in your trash can*

Don't forget that during the winter the trails are great for cross country skiing and snow shoeing. The Headwaters trail runs for a total of 8 miles from Mantua to Garrettsville. It follows the old Cleveland-Mahoning Railroad line. The trail is 8-foot wide and nicely shaded and maintained for most of its length. The Glacial-Esker Trail starts behind the water plant and winds through the woods alongside the Cuyahoga River. Several overlooks line the trail and allow a nice spot to relax and enjoy the surrounding wetlands and forest. Both trails have plenty of available parking.

Lastly, the best way to stay up to date as emergency situations arise is to sign up for our emergency alert system. You will be able to choose between text messages, e-mails or voice calls to receive the updates. The easiest way to sign up is to go to the AMG Alerts link on the Village's website www.mantuavillage.com. This will allow you to enter all of your most current information. If you cannot get to a computer, call the Village Hall and we will help you through the process. Our phone number is 330-274-8776 Ext. 150. Sign up is optional, however this is the way the Village can best stay in touch with its residents and businesses.

Have a Safe and Joyous Holiday Season,

John, Dave, Vern and Chelsea



Stebbins Enterprise LLC...

It's been a great year here at our newly established business at 10483 Main Street in Mantua. Our truck and trailer repair have kept us very busy and we are grateful for the many customers that continue to call for appointments. Our phone number 330-760-1706 is available from 9 am to 6 pm every day Monday through Friday. We specialize in brake and clutch repair on Class 8 commercial vehicles as well exhaust and cosmetic repair. Just let us know exactly what you're looking for and we will do our best to accommodate your needs.

We want to extend a wish to everyone to have a very safe and happy holiday season. As always, we send out a very special thank you to the police and fire departments for their continued dedication to this town.

Again, our business is here for your particular needs. Feel free to call and set up an appointment. We do appreciate your business.

Dean Stebbins, Jr. and crew

Joann Vance



F & S Automotive, INC...

It's that time of year in Northeast Ohio. As we bring out the winter clothes and boots to protect our body, our vehicles require some special care also. F & S is always prepared to schedule your vehicle for a good checkup. Our service department is always ready and willing to give a day and time that is convenient for our customers. Call 330-274-8525 and ask for our Service Manager, Glenn. We have a very qualified crew that will treat your vehicle like their own. Our fleet of eleven trucks are available for 23 1/2 hours 7 days a week. We have a crew of certified drivers that are always on alert no matter what the circumstance is. Our phones are ready and waiting for any calls. As this time of year approaches, Dean and crew want to thank all the people in Mantua as well as surrounding areas for a great 2019. F & S values the friendship

and dedication given by our Police and Fire Departments. We wish them all a happy holiday and a very safe 2020 New Year.

To the teachers and staff at Crestwood and all surrounding schools, we wish you a very merry and safe holiday.

As always, our thoughts and prayers go out to all Veterans who sacrificed so much to protect our country and to those currently serving and not able to be with their family. Let us all take time to give a moment of silence and prayer for each and every one of them.

A big thank you and happy holiday to Andrea Urso for continuing to make the Mantua Matters such a great addition to our community. May you, Chief Urso and your family have a safe and merry Christmas season and a healthy, happy New Year.

Dean Stebbins, Sr. and crew

Joann Vance



News from DMRC...

DOWNTOWN MANTUA REVITALIZATION UPDATES

Mantua Village is changing. New businesses like Restoration 44, Small Town Nutrition, Shaffer's Meat Market is expanding (Formerly K&K), Tiffany's on Main Salon (Moved north on Main), and ACHIEVE Dance Studio moved to Prospect Street. Flowers now decorate the bridge, hanging baskets beautify the Village and the Mini Plaza redo brought a new energy to our downtown business district. Did you notice that there were more bikers and hikers from the Headwater Trail wandering around our village? Our 2018 designation as a Buckeye Trail town could be the reason for the increase in trail walkers wandering around town. Also, have you noticed the paved walking path around Buchert Park? Mantua Revitalization has been working closely with the village and the county Park District to secure grant funding for many of the previously mentioned activities.

Downtown Mantua Revitalization, observing these positive changes, wished to create a way to celebrate the progress and at the same time bring together many of the participants of the progress we see. A Wine Social, held on October 26 at the Community Room at Restoration 44 Coffee Company, included

representatives from Mantua Village Government, Council Members Ben Prescott and Paula Tubalkian along with Mayor Linda Clark, Parks Committee member Lisa Zamecnik, local business owners, DMRC members. Also attending were Jennifer Brown from CT Consultants and a representative from Representative Dave Joyce's office and County Commissioner Sabrina Christian-Bennett.

Toomas Tubalkain welcomed all with a talk highlighting the progress the Village of Mantua has seen during the last couple of years. All enjoyed the wine and appetizers provided by Jake's Restaurant and beverages from Restoration 44 Coffee Company.

Holiday Greens on the Bridge

DMRC members Terri Vechery, Mary Cabot and Sue Steinberg combined their artistic forces and created sprays of greens and wild plants to decorate the Cuyahoga Bridge for the Holidays. They were installed early to decorate the Village for the Rotary Club's Christmas Tour of Homes.

Become our FRIEND

It is time for Downtown Mantua Revitalization's FRIENDS Campaign. The donations made by our FRIENDS help fund our projects throughout the Village of Mantua. Additionally, we help out the Village by paying the required match for grants. In the recent past we have paid the required matches for the South Side Sidewalk Grant, the Buchert Park Walking Trail part I, Headwaters Trail and the Mill Street Connector to name a few.

If you wish to make a donation to become a FRIEND, contact any member or email us at dmrcemail@gmail.com.

DMRC always need energetic and creative people to join us in our endeavors. Our meetings are listed on our website calendar at www.revitalizemantua.org, feel free to attend a meeting anytime. Hope to see you at a future meeting or one of our events!

Thank you!

DMRC Secretary Susan Steinburg



CHRIST *Lutheran* CHURCH

10827 Main St. 274-2849 mantualutheranchurch.org

The heart of Christ in the midst of greater Mantua, Ohio

Hunger never ends so Christ Lutheran Church continues to provide free monthly community meals. We invite everyone to enjoy a home cooked meal on the third Monday of each month from 5pm-6:30pm. The meal is served in the fellowship hall located in the basement of the church. Access to the fellowship hall is located at the handicap ramp on the north side of the church across from the lower parking lot as you enter the church property. Those in the community who would like to serve or prepare the meals are welcome to help. Please contact Diane Lottig (330) 274-2868 or Pat South (330) 274-2550 if you are interested in helping serve our community.

A Wednesday morning bible study on the book of Ephesians led by Pastor Dan Esala, is being held at 10:00 am in the fellowship hall downstairs. All are welcome.

Christ Lutheran invites you to share with us in special worship events for Thanksgiving and Christmas. The season will begin with a “Thanks” giving Eve service to be held on Wednesday, November 27th at 7:30 pm.

Our Christmas celebrations will start with a children’s program on Sunday, December 8th at 10:30 am. The children will share the Christmas story to the old familiar hymn, “What Child is This?”. It’s always a delight to hear the little ones share the familiar story of Jesus’ birth.

We will continue with a Service of Carols on Sunday, December 22nd at 10:30 am in which you will be able to sing many of the familiar and well-loved Christmas carols.

On Christmas Eve you have two candlelight services to choose from. One will be at 5:30 pm (scheduled for the little ones that may need to get to bed early) and another at 7:30 pm.

We wish you all a blessed Christmas and a New Year filled with God’s richest blessings and peace.

If you would like more information, please see our website at mantualutheranchurch.org or contact the church office M-F, 9am – 1 pm at (330) 274-2849.

Celia Esala

Start Talking! Portage

Our Mission statement – Start Talking! Portage (S T ! P) is a community partnership working to end substance abuse by providing education, resources, and prevention tools in order to promote healthy lifestyles.

Contact information: 330-274-8776 x155

After hours: 330-842-3720

Addiction Helpline: 330-678-3006

Mental Health Crisis line: 330-296-3555

Crisis text line: Text 4Hope to 741 741

New N/A meetings –

Tuesdays, weekly 7:30 p.m., Kent Christ Episcopal Church

Thursdays, weekly 2:00 p.m., Kent Episcopal Church

Visit our Facebook page [Start Talking Portage](#).

Come to our monthly Meeting – 4th Thursday of each month, 6:30 p.m.

Currently meeting at the Reed Library, Ravenna Ohio

Debby Smith



From the American Legion...

It's hard to believe the time has arrived where we will be getting ready to welcome 2020 and saying goodbye to 2019. The Post and the Auxiliary recently had the chance to attend Veterans Day celebrations at Crestwood Primary School, Crestwood Intermediate School and Crestwood High School. The teachers and the students did an exceptional job and they truly put the "P" in Patriotism. The program at the high school was put together by a new student organization called The Culture Club. With the assistance of their advisor, they put together a video presentation and the members spoke about veterans. Everyone has the pleasure of listening to some music from the Crestwood Scarlet Guard. Congratulations on them being awarded a 2019 Superior Rating by the Ohio Music Education

Association! We presented new U.S. flags to the Primary, Intermediate and the Middle Schools. The High School still had a spare flag, so we didn't forget them.

It's approaching that time when we won't be having American Legion meetings from January through March, BUT never fear our soup suppers will continue on the FIRST Friday of the month - so we hope that you will continue to join us. We meet at the Mantua Center School from 6 P.M. until 7 P.M.ish. As mentioned above, we do not have meetings from January through March, but that doesn't mean we are not busy with things. The post is actively involved year-round with local funeral homes and at the Ohio Western Reserve National Cemetery providing military services for military members who have passed on.

Best wishes for a happy and a healthy new year in 2020!

John Kowalchik Mantua Post 193



Hilltop Christian Church...

On October 13th the congregation of Hilltop Christian Church was joined by family and friends in celebration of its 130th anniversary. Afterward, a boulder donated by Lakeside Sand and Gravel was dedicated to the foundation of our faith. Following a potluck dinner, participants enjoyed a slide show of events in the life of the church over the past 75 years.



What is next for Hilltop? Upcoming for the little church is actually a celebration for the whole community. On December 7th a large Christmas tree will be erected in front of the church. Decorating will begin at 4:30 and friends and neighbors are invited to join in the fun. At 5:00 the countdown begins to flipping the switch and lighting the tree. Afterwards, all are invited to the church fellowship hall for treats and hot chocolate along with caroling and crafts. It will be a time for celebrating love and community. Please join in the good time with your neighbors.

Carol Denzinger

*It truly is the most wonderful time of year!
Through the ups and downs of life, count the blessings.
No matter how rough or what crosses are bore,
find a silver lining.
Be thankful for the blessings.
I am a true believer in "everything happens for a reason".
Although the "reason" is not really known...
It's ok, trust in HIM.
Enjoy family and friends this holiday season!
Rejoice, be glad, be kind, give and love!!!*



Andrea Urso
Editor, Mantua Matters

