

Mantua Matters

ISSUE # 60

FEBRUARY 2015

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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"

I thought we might be out of this deep freeze but I guess we are in for a few more weeks, but spring is right around the corner (a very large corner).



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 Ext. 150
Police Department.....	330-274-2251
Fire Department.....	330-274-3535
Service Department.....	330-274-8776 Ext. 156
Income Tax.....	330-274-8776 Ext. 155
Time Warner Cable.....	1-800-683-1000
Lodge/Park Rental.....	330-274-8776 Ext. 153
Water/Sewer Billing.....	330-274-8776 Ext. 156
Mantua Township	
Marie Stehli.....	330-995-2640
Shalersville Township	
Charles Casalicchio.....	330-274-3655
Zoning.....	330-274-8776 Ext. 154
Mantua Matters.....	330-274-8737
Trash Pickup:Kimble Co...	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"

STATE OF THE VILLAGE OF MANTUA ADDRESS

2014 has been a very productive year for the Village of Mantua. This is due to Village Council, the Village Administrator, the Village Clerk, all of our employees and myself working so well together on the many projects that were completed in 2014.



We applied for an OPWC grant in partnership with the Crestwood School District to install a new sewer line, replacing the lift station at the Middle School. The grant was approved and the project was paid for with OPWC funds and matching/in kind funds contributed by Crestwood. This partnership worked out well for both the school and the Village. We look forward to another project with the school.

The Village partnered with the DMRC for an AMATS grant for sidewalks, curbing, relocation of a hydrant, and storm sewer catch basins on the south end of the Village. We also worked in tandem with ODOT's bridge and paving project. Our portion of the project was approximately \$136,000.00, the match and in-kind was paid by the DMRC, many of the south end property owners and the Village.



We applied for and were awarded an OPWC grant to repair or replace a total of 19 fire hydrants. The total project was for \$55,200.00 with a match of in-kind hours/and village funding of \$22,000.00 and funding from OPWC for \$33,200.00. We replaced 8 hydrants and repaired 11 hydrants.

We finally completed the work in September related to the EMA grant, which was awarded to repair damage caused by the storm on July 10, 2013; total project cost was \$108,282.93. EMA reimbursed the Village 75% of all eligible expenses. On this project we replaced sections of storm sewer lines that collapsed on Walnut, Reagan and Glenwood, replaced or rebuilt over 19 storm sewer catch basins, put in two head walls on Woodford, replaced a culvert on Main (with the assistance of ODOT). We did chip and seal or paving on four streets that had been compromised by the storm.

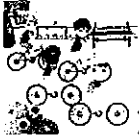
With funds from the Cemetery Trust we installed 450ft of drainage pipe and paved the entrance to the Cemetery, removed 6 trees that had become a hazard and started a tree replanting program.

We applied for and were awarded an OPWC grant to make improvements/up grades at the water and sewer plant. Those funds will be available this summer. This funding is for \$219,000.00. The break down in this is \$50,000.00 in a low interest loan, \$10,001.00 in local match and the rest in grant funding.



In November, the Village voters approved a five year, \$75,000 property tax levy for the specific purpose of street repair and replacement within the Village. We extend our sincere gratitude to the voters for giving us the opportunity to improve our streets in the coming years.

One of our major goals for 2015 will be to establish a paving schedule, in order to most effectively put these additional funds to use. We hope to begin with some of the smaller streets with a portion of the funding, and potentially apply for road work grants, using the tax revenue generated for any required matching funds. Prior to beginning any paving work, we will need to camera the infrastructure beneath the streets to make sure the water/sewer lines are in order so as to not pave then end up digging up a street. We intend to pursue infrastructure grants as well in order to make all of these projects come together in the most efficient way possible.



In 2015, we will also be looking into other grant opportunities for the Village, such as the SWIF grant program for retention basins and permeable pavement to help guard against flooding, and for grants for expanding and improving our trails, such as the Clean Ohio Trails Fund, the Recreational Trails Program, and Natureworks Funding.



A NOTE FROM JENNY



It has been awhile since I have updated our residents on our finances, so it is time! The economy appears to be stabilizing, and so are Mantua Village finances, with a lot of discipline. All of our funds continue to hold steadily in the black. Our gasoline bill this month is the lowest it has been since I started here in April of 2008. If this keeps up, Jack and I are going to start taking Sunday drives again to cool places.



Thanks to the generosity of the voters in town, the Service Department will be making arrangements to have a few of our roads, (or sections at a time) paved each year. Kate and Dave are working on a paving schedule based on street condition and use. The levy that you passed will generate about \$75,000 per year to be used for street improvements. In time, we will all enjoy nice, smooth streets.

Finance can get boring, so I would like to incorporate some fun into my article. For some of the mentionable holidays that are approaching, I have the following comments;

President's Day- (Feb. 16th)



George Washington is rumored to have worn false teeth made of wood. The truth is that they were made of a combination of animal bone and human teeth that he bought out of the mouths of his slaves. Gross!



Abraham Lincoln's was rumored to be very psychic. In an attempt to communicate with his dead son he held séances in the White House. During the séance a piano was lifted up and moved around the room by ghosts. He also dreamt his own death one week before his assassination!



Valentine's Day- (Feb. 14th) I was told chocolate is a vegetable. It is made from sugar BEETS and cocoa BEANS. That's good enough for me. I hope everyone celebrates Valentine's Day with plenty of vegetables.



St. Patrick's Day- My daughter Angie asks this in her finest Irish accent; Why are there only 239 beans in Irish Stew? The answer is that one more would make it too farty. (240)



Daylight Savings Time- starts March 8th.



April Fools Day- April 1st Start...Planning... NOW!



Easter- (April 5th) A feast to be celebrated the Sunday after the first full moon after the vernal equinox (Spring). I feast on the foil wrapped "vegetables".



Arbor Day- Did you know that the Village of Mantua is a "Tree City"? Arbor Day in Ohio is celebrated the last Friday in April. This year Arbor Day falls on April 24th. People are encouraged to plant a tree. You might consider an evergreen. They make great wind barriers to help on heating costs in the winter, generate oxygen for our planet, and you can decorate them at Christmas time!!



Okay, back to business. With tax season approaching, there are two things I always mention to keep in mind when you are filing your final return for the village. The first is that the wage amount you must use from your W-2 is the largest amount, usually in the "Medicare Wages" box. The second is that some people are neglecting to attach their W-2 forms. This is needed to verify your wage amount and tax credits to other communities if you work outside of the village. I would like to remind residents that Income Tax is a tax required of everyone that lives in the Village earning an Income and is over 18 years old, even if others in the same home are paying. If we miss sending you or your family member an Income Tax Return, please call 330-274-8776 and we will send one out to you. They are also available on our website at www.mantuavillage.com.

Have a nice day!! Jenny

NEWS FROM SHALERSVILLE TOWNSHIP



The Shalersville Township Board of Trustees, at the Re-organizational Meeting, set the 2015 Meeting Nights as the first & third Tuesday of the month in the Town Hall Meeting room 9090 St. Rt. 44 (rear entrance) at 8:00 P.M. and the Board seats as Trustee Chairperson, Nancy J. Vines, Trustee Vice-Chairperson, Dennis J. Bujak, Trustee, Frank R. Ruehr, Jr.

Charles Casalicchio,
FiscaOfficer



'POLICE REPORT'

This report covers the months of October, November & December 2014

Total Cases:.....	164
Traffic/Parking Cites:.....	53
Warnings:.....	170
Arrests: Criminal.....	0
Arrests: Traffic.....	53
Calls to Dispatch- Mantua.....	819
Calls to Dispatch - Fire.....	620
Calls to Dispatch - Hiram.....	532
Service Calls - Hiram.....	579
Traffic Stops - Hiram.....	541
Fire Dept - EMS.....	243
Fire Dept - MVA.....	20
Fire Dept - Fire.....	45
Total Mileage:.....	9713
Mutual Aid Calls:.....	92
Officer Hours Worked:.....	2282
School Resource Officer.....	394
Dispatch Hours Worked:.....	2356
K-9.....	4
Citizen/Motorist Assists:.....	138
Open Doors/Windows:.....	14
Suspicious Persons/Vehicles:.....	20
School Zones.....	106
House Checks.....	810
Bar Checks:.....	23
Water/Sewer Plant Checks:.....	238
Reservoir Checks:.....	158
Lift Station Checks:.....	672

Project, Drug Free Schools



The Mantua Police Department has purchased another Canine, Diablo, who will be the first canine assigned for use in our school system.

The Project, Drug Free Schools, is to initiate and fund a narcotics canine unit within the Mantua Police Department, and to train our dog in narcotics, which will enable an officer with the Mantua Police Department in conjunction with the support of Crestwood School District to actively work with the school system to keep drugs out of our schools.



The dog and its trainer will be used not only for enforcement purposes but, also to increase police awareness and visibility. The canine team will be part of the partnership with Crestwood Schools assigned to the School Rescores Officer and will be used primarily in Crestwood School system. Diablo will perform search activities for controlled substances within the building and parking lots and to deter any drugs even being brought on the property. In addition the officer and canine will be part of a public relations and education tool.

The team will also be made available to other neighboring police departments and agencies for enforcement activities. The team will be used on a day-to-day basis during the school year to promote a drug free environment for our kids on a regular basis.

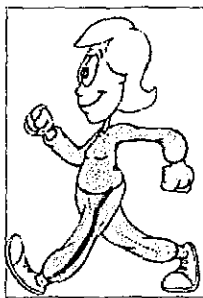


The purchase and funding of a canine team consists of two different parts. The first being the animal and the basic equipment needed to initiate the project, which has been done. We are still in need of additional funding for the second part, to provide a vehicle for transportation for the dog and handler.



The Mantua Police Department is seeking additional donations to fund the needed equipment and vehicle needed for the trained police dog. Any donation will help fund this important project and help keep our schools drug free. Persons with questions can contact the Mantua Police Department at 330-274-2251. Donations to this program will be used to maintain and equip a fully trained German Shepherd Police Dog and vehicle. Donations can be made by contacting the Clerks Office at Village Hall at 330-274-8776 or the Police Department at 330-274-2251. Persons wishing to donate can make checks payable to Mantua Police Department Canine Unit. Thank you for your support of the Mantua Police Department.

Chief H. W. Buchert
Mantua Police Department



COMMUNITY WINTER WALKING

Advanced Rehab has announced that they are again offering their indoor walking program. This program is open to the community and began on January 14th. It will run every Wednesday and Friday from 7 to 8 am at the Intermediate School until March 20th. There is a marked course and refreshments will be available.

Every Friday, Jill Robine from Advanced Rehab will be on hand to measure blood pressure, answer questions and to offer helpful hints to maintain a healthy, active lifestyle during the cold winter months. If you have any questions, please contact Jennifer Bujak-Hirsch or Jill Rowe at 330-357-8206.



ANNUAL FATHER-DAUGHTER DANCE

This event will be held on February 28th from 6 to 8 pm, at Crestwood High School. It is open to girls of all ages from the Crestwood Local School District and their fathers, grandfathers, or any other significant male in their lives.

Along with music and dancing, there will be snacks and beverages, crafts and activities, and pictures to capture the memory. The theme for the dance this year is "Winter Wonderland", based on the movie Frozen. This is an opportunity for you to get all dressed up as a father-daughter duo and have a blast.

The dance is hosted by the Family, Career, and Community Leaders of America (FCCLA) and Leadership programs. All proceeds help fund the annual Leadership Retreat attended by high school students.



The Mantua Village Historic Landmarks Commission: Progress Report

The application to be declared a Certified Local Government has been approved by the Ohio Historic Preservation Office and forwarded to the National Parks Service in Washington, D.C. We are waiting for approval at that level, usually a formality if the state approves.

Once we and Columbus have been notified that Mantua Village is a Certified Local Government (CLG), the members of the Landmarks Commission will attend a training session conducted by the Ohio Historic Preservation Office. Then the village will be eligible for a wider range of grants.

It may be possible for us to have a meeting after the training so that anyone in the village who wants to get firsthand information will be able to.

Carole Pollard,
The Mantua Village Historic Landmarks Commission



A Correction

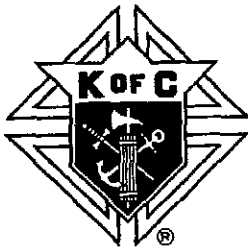
In the previous *Mantua Matters*, the article about the boy and girl fountain incorrectly stated that the Stimperts and the Aldriches were related. That is incorrect. They were friends. Thanks to Tom Aldrich for the correction.

"Art on the Hill & Wine Tasting Too" Seeking Artisans!



"Art on the Hill & wine Tasting Too" will be held on Saturday, July 11, 2015 and is currently seeking artisans to sell and display their handmade works of art! Booth fee is just \$45. The event runs from 10am until 5pm and is located on East Prospect Street in the Village of Mantua. The festival will again feature wine tasting by local wineries, live entertainment, contests, great food and a huge prize auction.

For more information or to receive an artisan or food vendor application, contact Christine Pitsinger at 330-414-6486 or via email at communityjournal@yahoo.com



**Mantua K of C announces Free Throw Championship
Winners**



Crestwood area boys and girls ages 9 to 14 were named Local Champions of the 2015 Knights of Columbus Free Throw Championship and have earned the right to compete at the District level. Mantua Council # 3766 sponsored the local

competition at Crestwood Middle School on Jan 14th. All youngsters ages 9 - 14 were eligible to participate.

Joshua Eyerman took the win for the 9 year old group, Kylie Krupp and Hunter Yoder are the 10 year old champs along with Seth Semety as the 11 year old boys champion. The 12 year old champions include Isabella Romano and Colin Vizey. Joshua Howell and Ellie Cox for our 13 year old winners and finishing champs for the 14 year old group are Bianca Marinelli and Logan Bailey.

Congratulations Champions and good luck in the District Level at Waterloo Middle School on Feb 21.

Event chairperson Anthony Marinelli says we had a great turnout with 22 participants. Mantua Knights of Columbus would like to thank all participants, parents, volunteers and the Crestwood School Districts for helping to make successful event. See you again next January.

Anthony Marinelli, Event chairperson

Mantua K of C Council # 3766



RANDOM THOUGHTS

The biggest lie I tell myself is ... "I don't need to write that down, I'll remember it."

Last year I joined a support group for procrastinators. But we haven't met yet!

No one ever says "It's only a game" . . .when their team is winning.

Do you realize that, in about 40 years. . . we'll have thousands of old ladies running around with tattoos? (And rap music will be the Golden Oldies!)

Even duct tape can't fix stupid ... but it can muffle the sound!

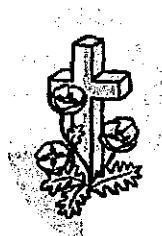
I'm going to retire and live off of my savings. Not sure what I'll do that second week.

Wouldn't it be great if we could put ourselves in the dryer for ten minutes and come out wrinkle-free and three sizes smaller!



Christ Lutheran will be hosting their free monthly meals on Monday, February 16, March 16, April 20, May 18 from 5 to 6:30 pm.

Please come and enjoy a delicious meal and a chance to visit with friends and neighbors. See you there.



HILLSIDE CEMETERY NEWS

A lot of progress has been made at the cemetery in recent years with the paving of the driveway, ditching, grading, grass seeding and tree replacement. We plan on continuing upgrades and small projects as money and time allows. We welcome any help from residents, groups, etc.

Please help the trustees and Service Department by removing your holiday decorations by April 1st, or they will be removed and thrown away. Thank you for helping us keep our cemetery looking its best.

Councilman Marty Hura continues to cross-reference graves and cemetery deeds. He works tirelessly on this project week after week. Thank you once again, Marty, for your dedication.

Claude Hopkins, Pat Leventry & Cookie Vanek
Hillside Cemetery Trustees



STUDENT WHO OBTAINED 0% ON AN EXAM

I would have given him 100%! Each answer is grammatically correct and funny too. The teacher had no sense of humor.

- Q1. In which battle did Napoleon die? A. His last one.
- Q2. Where was the Declaration of Independence signed? A. At the bottom of the page.
- Q3. What is the main reason for divorce? A. Marriage
- Q4. What is the main reason for failure? A. Exams
- Q5. What can you never eat for breakfast? A. Lunch and dinner.
- Q6. What looks like half an apple? A. The other half
- Q7. If you throw a red stone into the blue sea, what will it become? A. Wet.
- Q8. How can a man go eight days without sleeping? A. Simple, he sleeps at night
- Q9. How can you lift an elephant with one hand? A. You will never find an elephant that has one hand.
- Q10. If you had 3 apples and 4 oranges in one hand and 4 apples and 3 oranges in the other hand, what would you have? A. Very large hands.
- Q11. If it took 8 men to build a wall, how long would it take 4 men to build it? A. No time at all, the wall is already built.
- Q12. How can you drop a raw egg onto a concrete floor without cracking? A. Any way you want. Concrete floors are very hard to crack.



Concerned Citizens Ohio, a grassroots group concerned about Class II injection wells in Portage County, is presenting a series of six informational topics before elected officials in Mantua and Shalersville for the next several months. Class II wells are for disposing of the hazardous waste brines that come from chemical fluids used in drilling oil and gas wells.

Mary Greer, a coordinator for the group, is appearing before the Mantua Village Council and the Shalersville Township trustees to provide data and research about the 18 active Class II wells now receiving toxic waste from PA and other states as well as from southeastern Ohio. Portage also has 8 newly permitted wells and 13 others that could be reopened for waste, allowing for many more barrels of the fluid waste to be brought to Portage.



In 2013, 2 million barrels of waste came to Portage, and 2014 will show even greater numbers.

Greer reports that according to the U.S. Congress, 750 chemicals identified in frack fluid are "of concern." 51 of these are known carcinogens. Greer's topics also cover research on well casing failure, health impacts for those living near injection wells, and the potential for aquifer contamination.

The economics of the waste wells is surprising too, since only the well owners make money from the wells by charging drillers a per barrel price for dumping here. Portage County receives no money, but bears the burden in terms of road repair, water quality problems, and property value losses.

Each topic is very short—only three minutes long—but is supported with handouts from the Ohio Department of Natural Resources, the federal government, and scientific white papers.

One member of the Streetsboro City Council, which has already heard all 6 topics, stated that this is information that every community needs. A Shalersville township employee described some of the facts presented as "staggering."



Greer believes this is a "need-to-know" issue and one of the greatest challenges of this decade. "The quality of our water affects our property values and ultimately our lives," she says. "We are not telling elected officials what to do. Concerned Citizens Ohio believes that people can decide for themselves when they have all the facts."

The series of six topics is also being presented in Franklin, Atwater, Brimfield, and Rootstown township trustees for the next months by other members of Concerned Citizens Ohio. Interested citizens can attend the periods for public comment in these jurisdictions as well as Mantua Village Council and Shalersville Township.

Mary Greer, Shalersville Township



THE RIVER OF TIME

Did you know that Mantua Village has two blocks plus of buildings on The National Register of Historic Places? That recognition was gained in 1974, and you can see the application in its entirety online under OH_740016o6.pdf on the National Park Service website.



It mattered enough for someone to make the effort, and maybe at the time it was a high point that made Village residents proud of what they had in this little place.

Here are excerpts from the application. The application contains photographs and a map of the area.

This is a district including portions of three blocks of brick buildings erected for commercial purposes near the railroad. Built over a period of nearly three decades, their appearance is nevertheless very harmonious and unified.

To the east along the south side of East Prospect, the buildings are fifteen years later.

Across First Street, at the east end of the district, another brick block serving as a warehouse is related in design to the Main Street blocks. Behind it rises a grain elevator, a large rectangular shaft with a gabled roof and a secondary shaft with its roof. Visually this structure forms the climax and the terminal to the entire district.

To the south of the railroad tracks is the Mantua Railroad Station.

The application was prepared by Eric Johanneson, Preservationist, at The

Western Reserve Historical Society, and approved by the National Park Service on December 24, 1974.

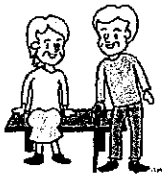
Then the river of time flowed on, and people forgot.

In Mantua Township, a group of residents chartered The Mantua Restoration Society, Inc. Their purpose was to raise money to help pay for badly needed renovations to the Township Hall and Civic Center. They did that, perhaps keeping the Township Hall from declining too far to save, and then the group went dormant.

The river of time flowed on, and people forgot.

In the Village, research about the relationship between a landmarks commission and certified local government, brought the National Register buildings back to light. In Mantua Township, the Friends of the School discovered the charter of the original restoration society, renewed the charter, and re-formed itself into The Mantua Restoration Society, Inc.

I don't know the person who did the hard work of getting the Village buildings onto the National Register. But I do know the charter members of the Restoration Society. The oldest are gone now. The youngest of them then were just over 30 to just over 35. Eric Hummel and Pat Magyarics were among them. That was 38 years ago, and you can do the math.



There's a lot of gray hair in the village and township governments, in the historical society and the restoration society, in the garden clubs, and in the service clubs that do so much so quietly that they may be unnoticed. Until they aren't here any more, that is. (By the way, there are good reasons why people governing probably *should* have the life experience that gray hair suggests. It's called wisdom, and it's not the same as being smart.)

We are all caught in the river of time, and it seems to me as if we stay in it with the same people we started with, and then there's a group behind us floating with *their* fellows. When the last of us in each group drops over the edge as if it were a waterfall, the people behind us forget.

We are in a very special time, right here, right now. In spite of all this gray hair, we are here, and we are working to build our places-village, township, historic buildings. What we also need to build is the lasting memory.

The Mantua Landmarks Commission is on the first leg of that, and the DMRC is further along organizationally, with less gray hair. But it will come.



What to do about that? The older ones need to reach back and grasp hands with the younger ones, and the younger ones need not only to take those hands, but also to reach back to those still younger. When we figure out how to do that, we will not be in a river any more. We will be knitting and weaving an enduring fabric. Doing that will take less thought and effort than the work defined by our mission statements, but it will take thought and effort.

Doing it will keep us from re-starting with every generation. It is worth it.

Carole Pollard,
Landmark Commission

News from the Service Department:

While December was very easy on our plow crew, January has reminded us how harsh winter in Ohio can be. I would like to say thank you to all of the employees who have been working both day and night to keep our roads clear this winter.



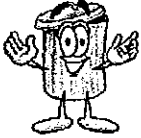
As you are keeping your own driveways and sidewalks clear this winter please remember that it is unlawful to plow, push or blow snow into our Village streets. You may need to remind contractors that you hire of this as well.



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.

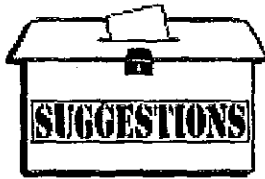
Spring and summer bring lots of chances to celebrate and plan family and group gatherings. Don't forget that our park lodge, pavilions, and sports facilities can all be reserved in advance for a small fee. If you want to reserve a date or have questions about rentals please feel free to call our office at Village Hall.



Lastly, remember that now that the Village contracts with the Kimble Company for trash hauling, we no longer have a separate spring clean-up day. If you are a Kimble customer anything you put out at the road will be taken care of as part of your regular monthly service.

Best wishes for the New Year!

Kate Rogers, Village Administrator



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 mantuumatters@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 May!

Diane Hura, Editor