



# Mantua-Shalersville Area Chamber of Commerce

## NEWS BRIEFS

### 2007 Chamber Events

Do you or someone you know have a topic of interest to present to fellow members? The 2007 Chamber meeting and event schedule is being finalized. This is your opportunity to share your knowledge and educate others about your business. Do you want to hear about anything in particular? Let us know what speakers to bring in! Email your comments to [info@MantuaShalersvilleChamber.com](mailto:info@MantuaShalersvilleChamber.com).

### 4th Annual Oktoberfest

Everyone in the community is invited to our fall social event! This year's Oktoberfest will start at 6:00 p.m. on Monday, October 23 in the lovely gardens of Main Street Place and Benner Masonry building on Main Street in downtown Mantua. Tickets are \$20 per person and include soft drinks and a German dinner of brats & kraut, stuffed cabbage, potato pancakes, pierogis, German potato salad, Dorothy's homemade apple sauce, and strudel (BYOB if you like). Don't miss the fun this year! Purchase your tickets at Middlefield Bank in Mantua. Contact [bbjnewell@adelphia.net](mailto:bbjnewell@adelphia.net) for more information.

### Upcoming Chamber Meetings...

#### Wednesday, October 18 7:00 - 9:00 P.M.

Mantua Township Hall (Mantua Center Road, building nearest Rt. 82)

**Topics:** Community Improvement, John Grossman Mantua History, Tom Monroe & Norm Park

Discuss next steps in revitalization process and hear from Mantua Historical Society members, tour museum.

#### Monday, October 23 6:00 - ??? P.M.

Main Street Place Gardens/Benner Masonry  
Oktoberfest Dinner & Networking

#### Wednesday, November 15 7:30 - 9:00 a.m.

Mantua-Shalersville Fire Department (Rt. 44 south of Village)

**Topic:** Technology Solutions for Business,  
Chip Hautala, Solisbury Hill Solutions

Use technology to reduce your overall cost of doing business; eliminate down time, reduce collections and A/R, go paperless, use the web as a tool, and more.

## A Message from the President

As we begin the fourth quarter of 2006, we look back on a busy, eventful summer. We also look forward to a very full autumn in Mantua and Shalersville. And, not least of all, we look back fondly at the time spent with our President, Ed Kent, who has now joined his family in central Ohio.

Ed helped start the Chamber and we owe a debt of gratitude for all of the work that he did for us and with us. He was very active in area Chambers of Commerce, always promoting the Mantua-Shalersville area, and he will be sorely missed.

Also leaving us is Pam Raines, who has served as Secretary. Pam is leaving for another job, as Solon Sand has had their auction and is closing its doors.

So - the Chamber needs to fill officer positions. Anyone wishing to volunteer for a position, please contact one of the current officers or committee chairs: Marie Stehli, President; Betsy Woolf, Treasurer; Becky Newell, Membership and Michelle Barnauskas, Communications and Newsletter.

During the summer we had our annual picnic at Camp Hi Canoe Livery, and we thank the Hazlett's and the Becker's for hosting this fun event. We had several canoes and kayaks on the water, and the picnic with the Rotary Club was enjoyed by all.

In September, we had a meeting at the Primary School to follow up on the March town-hall meeting and to see what the results of the survey on improving our community were. Our speaker, John Grossman, gave a presentation on how other areas had been revitalized and new businesses brought back into their downtowns. The meeting was very well received.

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One very important sentiment that was brought out again is that we need to support each other in our shopping and recreation habits. In other words, help support our merchants! Shop locally!!

The winter will bring more chances to get together and network. Our October meeting will be a regular evening meeting at the Mantua Township Hall, with the Mantua Historical Society to give a short presentation and more on revitalization efforts.

The following week will be our Oktoberfest at Main Street Place, on October 23.

The Chamber will also be hosting small Christmas Trees in area businesses again, with gifts to be purchased for the annual 4C's Christmas Drive. Teenagers in less-fortunate area families will receive gift cards, while younger children receive wrapped gifts. This has been a real success in the past. Anyone wishing to have a tree put up at their place of business, please contact Betsy or Marie.

So, no one in the Chamber can say there is nothing to do here!! Please plan to attend meetings and GET INVOLVED.

The membership drive is in full swing; send in your dues and come to the meetings. I look forward to seeing you soon!!

*Marie Stehli, President*

### **Mantua-Shalersville Area Chamber of Commerce**

Proud to be Northern Ohio's largest "non-city" chamber!  
Send in your 2007 dues today!

## **All Portage Chambers' Super Networking Breakfast**

The fall edition of the All Portage Chambers' Super Networking Breakfast will be held on Friday, October 27th at Northeast Ohio Universities College of Medicine, St. Rt. 44 South of I-76 in Rootstown.



Plan to arrive by 8:00 a.m. for breakfast, followed by structured networking during which you will make 20+ contacts. Cost for the breakfast is \$10 per chamber member and \$15 per non-member. Don't miss this opportunity to introduce your business to others in Portage County.

## **Village Hosts 300 at New Government Center**

On July 9th, 2006, approximately 300 people attended an open house at the new Mantua Village Government Center on West High Street.

Reverend Jeffrey Jackson gave the invocation. In the Mayor's absence, Village Solicitor David Benjamin acted as emcee.

A representative from the office of Congressman Steven LaTourette presented a certificate of Congressional Recognition and Achievement and an American flag. State Representative Kathleen Chandler presented a Proclamation on behalf of the House of Representatives of the 126th General Assembly of Ohio. Portage County Commissioner Maureen Frederick gave the Village a County flag and spoke to the crowd.

Members of Council passed a resolution dedicating the new Government Center to Mayor Claude E. Hopkins for his diligent effort and hard work in making this a successful venture. A plaque was presented to the Mayor's wife, Linda, in his absence.

A proclamation was also presented to Mike McCauley and the Chrysler Corporation for their generous efforts in assisting with the completion of the necessary renovations. Mike generously donated his time and the Chrysler Corporation allowed Mike to work as part of a special community work program.

Also recognized were the Mantua Township trustees for their collaboration in the Village's purchase of the building.

Reverend Douglas Riley did the closing prayer. Those attending were then invited to tour the new facility and to enjoy a lavish array of refreshments.

The new offices are up and running. If you could not attend the open house, please feel free to stop in for an informal tour.

## Hattie Larlham Groundbreaking Kicks Off \$14 Million Campaign

In early September, more than 15 community leaders, Hattie Larlham residents, donors and staff members broke ground at the Hattie Larlham Center for Excellence. Ohio Reps. Kathleen Chandler and Jon Peterson joined 70 other people in attendance to kick off phase one of Hattie Larlham's \$14 million capital campaign called Hope at Work.

Money raised from the project will fund an expansion and renovation of the Hattie Larlham Center for Excellence. It will also aid the advancement of new services, technologies, facility renovations and emergency access upgrades.



"This is an exciting day in our organization's history," said Hattie Larlham CEO Dennis Allen. "Our new Center for Excellence will help us continue to be an innovator in the care for children and adults with disabilities throughout Ohio."

The expansion and renovation, which will be completed in two years, will encompass programs and services designed to assist people with and without disabilities. One such service will be a play center featuring interactive activities that promote the development of cognitive, social, physical and emotional skill levels in children.

Medical and technological improvements will ensure the 126 children and young adults at the Center for Excellence receive the state-of-the-art treatment needed to support their medically fragile conditions.

"It's been 25 years since we last asked the public for help," said Mella Castner, Hattie Larlham director of development. "There are parts of the current building that haven't seen improvements since it was first built in the 1960s."

To date, more than \$8.6 million has been raised during the private portion of Hope at Work. Another \$5.4 million is needed during the public campaign.

*Hattie Larlham is a family of agencies dedicated to providing services to children and adults with mental retardation and developmental disabilities (MR/DD). Established in 1961,*

*Hattie Larlham has expanded from its residential main campus in Mantua, to provide community care through community homes, home and foster care services and an integrated day care. For more information, visit [www.hattielarlham.org](http://www.hattielarlham.org).*



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## Small Business Workshop Schedule

The Small Business Development Center at Kent Regional Business Alliance in the Kent State University College of Business will be hosting the following workshops. Visit their website at [www.krba.biz](http://www.krba.biz) where you will find more information about the presenters and be able to register and pay online. Or you may register by calling 330-672-1275.

### 10/17/2006 9am - 11am *Intellectual Property, Patents, Trademarks and Copyrights*

Learn what needs protection and where to go for help. Understand the difference between patents, copyrights, trademarks and servicemarks. Discover trade secrets and tips for working with the Patent and Trademark Office and U.S. Copyright Office. Fee: \$30

### 10/18/2006 9am - 11am *Voice over Internet Protocol*

Discover the new way to communicate! Learn about the advantages of VoIP for the smaller business and how it will improve communications with your customers and within your organization. Find out about your choices and what to look for when comparing systems. Pitfalls and planning. Be there for a hands-on demonstration. Fee: \$45

### 10/20/2006 9am - 4pm *IRS Tax Workshop*

A FREE in-depth workshop covering State and Federal business tax requirements. Includes discussion on format of business, business returns, withholdings, sales tax, business use of the home, deductions and credits, record keeping, and different methods of filing. There will also be an opportunity to ask questions. FREE

### 10/24/2006 9am - 12 noon *Tax Reduction Strategies*

Comprehend business deductions - learn how to use them to lower your taxes. Discover which deductions you may be missing. Learn the basics of depreciation and home office deductions. Learn how to reduce or delay paying taxes and how to take advantage of different tax rates. Learn to select the right business entity. Effectively manage your employment tax and workers compensation and keep your sanity. The workshop will include a discussion on federal withholdings, Social Security, Medicare, state withholdings, federal and state unemployment and workers compensation. Fee: \$45

### 10/25/2006 9am - 11am *Franchising*

Is franchising for you? Find out what defines a franchise and what your choices are. Learn about the myths and realities of franchising and how to finance a franchise and what legal issues to be aware of. Find out what are the latest trends in franchising and how to do your research to help you make the right decisions. Fee: \$45

### 10/31/2006 9am - 12 noon *Introduction to QuickBooks*

This workshop is an overview of the Quick Books program with instructions in carrying out the most frequently required tasks. Fee: \$45

## Are You Ready to Serve Your Community?

For the past two years, the Mantua-Shalersville Area Chamber of Commerce has been led by an able team including President Ed Kent, Vice President Marie Stehli, Treasurer Betsy Woolf, Secretary Pam Raines, Membership Chair Becky Newell, and Communications Chair Michelle Barnauskas.

It's time to nominate candidates to lead the Chamber for the next two years!

Please consider serving the community by using your skills in a Chamber officer or committee chair role. Nominate yourself...or someone else...by submitting nominee's name, contact information, and desired role, and comments no later than October 31 to [info@MantuaShalersvilleChamber.com](mailto:info@MantuaShalersvilleChamber.com) or bring your nomination(s) to the October 18th evening meeting at Mantua Township Hall.

Elections for 2007-2008 will take place at the November 15th Chamber meeting. Get your nominations in soon and plan to attend the November meeting to cast your vote!

For more information about these positions, contact any current officer or committee chair.

### **President's Duties:**

- Preside over Chamber/Executive Board meetings
- Coordinate agenda material with Programs and Communications Committees
- Ensure that policies and programs designed to further goals and objectives of the Chamber are planned, formulated, and presented to the Executive Board
- Support and defend policies and programs adopted by the Chamber
- Promote interest and active participation in the Chamber
- Act as a spokesperson for the Chamber to the public, legislative bodies, and related organizations

### **Vice President's Duties:**

- Attend Chamber/Executive Board meetings
- Support the President in leading the Chamber
- Fulfill President's duties when President is unavailable
- Coordinate special projects as needed

### **Secretary's Duties:**

- Attend Chamber/Executive Board meetings
- Type minutes of meetings, submit to President, and maintain file
- Maintain files of all Chamber documentation
- Assist all committees with correspondence
- Provide summary of minutes to Newsletter Editor no later than 5 days after meetings

### **Treasurer's Duties**

- Under direction of Executive Board, generally supervise the finances of the Chamber, maintaining Chamber accounts
- Work with membership committee to communicate membership dues and renewal deadlines to business community
- Distribute membership applications, collect and process membership dues
- Maintain accurate, current lists of Chamber members and contact information
- Approve and pay invoices
- Prepare revenue and expense budgets
- Maintain files
- Notify members of financial position at meetings

### **Communications Committee Objectives & Duties:**

- Keep members informed of Chamber activities
- Maintain Chamber's image as community icon
- Recognize members' accomplishments
- Encourage members to participate and non-members to join
- Secure photographer/reporter for notable Chamber events
- Write press releases for major Chamber events
- Provide meeting notices to local newspapers
- Provide meeting notices for Mantua cable station, Crestwood cable station, Lion's Club bulletin board
- Distribute flyers promoting Chamber events
- Solicit and edit articles, layout, print, and facilitate distribution of newsletter

### **Membership Committee Objectives & Duties:**

- Communicate benefits of active membership to the community
- Develop unique ideas to increase membership
- Encourage members to participate and non-members to join
- Coordinate and execute membership drives
- Process new member applications
- Mail reminder notices to existing members regarding renewal
- Collect yearly membership dues and forward to treasurer

### **Programs Committee Objectives & Duties:**

- Ensure informative, beneficial Chamber meetings
- Strengthen Chamber's network of resources
- Encourage members to suggest meeting topics and speakers
- Contact speakers; explain Chamber goals, presentation length, meeting time
- Confirm presentations, meeting date/time, secure special equipment for speakers
- Distribute flyers promoting Chamber



**Get Involved!**

Business entities, organizations and clubs, and individuals are eligible for Chamber membership. You do not need to attend meetings to receive membership benefits. Participate at your pace, on your schedule. We share a commitment to the community and we all hold a stake in the future of the area.

**Yearly Chamber Dues**

**Pay by October 31:**

		<i>10% off!</i>
0-5 Employees	\$50	\$45
6-20 Employees	\$100	\$90
21 + Employees	\$150	\$135

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

Organization Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Business Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Web Address: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_  Please limit use.

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Alt. Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Fax Number: \_\_\_\_\_  Please limit use.

Business Description: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**RENEWAL TIME**  
**Pay Now & Save**

In addition to using U.S. mail, the Chamber communicates with members via e-mail and fax. If you prefer not to receive correspondence via e-mail or fax, please check the appropriate box above.

Be sure to list complete your web profile at [www.mantuashalersvillechamber.com](http://www.mantuashalersvillechamber.com) to be listed in the Member Yellow Pages!

**Return to:**  
**Membership**  
PO Box 111  
Mantua, OH 44255

## Last Chance to Save on Chamber Dues!

Join or renew your membership in the Mantua-Shalersville Area Chamber of Commerce by October 31 and save 10%.

Members receive discounts on health insurance, worker's compensation, overnight and freight deliveries, training materials, and a host of other business products and services. They're also the first to learn about networking and free advertising opportunities. And they benefit from the support and camaraderie of fellow members.

### Pay by October 31:

		<i>10% off!</i>
0-5 Employees	\$50	\$45
6-20 Employees	\$100	\$90
21+ Employees	\$150	\$135

It's an exciting time for the Mantua-Shalersville area. Send your dues check and application today so you don't miss a minute of action! Remember to complete your business profile online.

## Mantua-Shalersville Area Chamber of Commerce

For Chamber information, contact Becky at 330-274-3238 or [bbjnewell@adelphia.net](mailto:bbjnewell@adelphia.net)

For newsletter inquiries, email [mlbarnauskas@sbcglobal.net](mailto:mlbarnauskas@sbcglobal.net)

Or visit our website!

[www.mantuashalersvillechamber.com](http://www.mantuashalersvillechamber.com)

### Chamber Goals

- ▷ To advance the commercial, industrial, educational, agricultural, and civic interests of the area ◁
  - ▷ To work together to support and promote local businesses and their products ◁
  - ▷ To work with elected officials to promote proper planning and growth ◁
- ▷ To support and work toward local harmony for the betterment of citizens and businesses in the area ◁

**“You’ve got to think about ‘big things’ while you’re doing small things so that all the small things go in the right direction.”**

~ Alvin Toffler

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PO Box 111  
Mantua, OH 44255