

Mantua

Matters.....



DECEMBER 2017

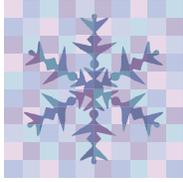


*Mantua Village
Community
News and Information*

Mantua Matters
4650 High Street
Mantua, Ohio 44255



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GREETINGS!

Time passes by and things change...but Mantua Matters is back and here's hoping everyone will be pleased with it.

This issue covers December, January and February, plus a few items from while it was on hold. Please read and enjoy!

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## ***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. 156*

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

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

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

*Spectrum Cable...1-877-570-6291*

*Mantua Township, Jodi Thompson 330-274-8443*

*Shalersville Township, Jill Corbett 330-274-3655*

*Zoning...330-274-8776*

*Mantua Matters...330-872-5496*

*Trash & Recycling, Kimble Companies...1-800-201-0005*



## ***From the Mayor...***

***Mayor's Corner***

***Dedicating this issue to Diana Hura***

*Diane was a lifelong resident of Mantua. She married Martin Hura in June of 1967. They have two daughters. Diane was always involved in the happenings in the Village so she was the right person to be at the start of our paper. She was made editor and the rest is history. She always did an excellent job with the paper and always included helpful tips and funny quips. Diane passed away February 12, 2017 after a long illness. She is sadly missed by all who knew her and will not be forgotten by any of us.*

### *Introducing our new Editor*

*I would like to take a moment to introduce you to the new Editor of Mantua Matters, Andrea Urso. I have known Andrea for several years. Andrea is the wife of our new incoming Police Chief Joseph Urso. Andrea is employed by Windham Exempted Village Schools at a School Counselor. She and Joe have two sons both in college. They have been married 20 years. Andrea and Joe enjoy camping and biking.*

*Any articles you would like to put in the quarterly paper send to [mantuamatters2@aol.com](mailto:mantuamatters2@aol.com)*

### *Chief Harry Buchert is retiring on December 15, 2017*

*Chief Harry Buchert is a lifelong resident of the Village of Mantua, the son of Gerald and Joan Buchert. Harry followed in his father's footsteps in becoming a Police Officer. Being hired by the Village of Mantua on June 20, 1977 as an auxiliary officer, on October 17, 1977 he was promoted to patrolman II, then on June 09, 1978 to patrolman I, sergeant on May 14, 1985. He went on to become Chief after his father's passing on June 14, 1986. Harry has three sons and a step-daughter. He enjoys traveling with friends.*

*Chief Harry Buchert has spent his whole life doing what is in the best interest of our Village. He is always helpful to any and all residents going the extra mile for them, even has chased them down on foot up Main Street when they were speeding and he got his man.*

*Chief Buchert has always supported his Mayor and Council by sharing the knowledge he has gained through the years of experience that he has. He has a firm but fair hand in working with his officers. You will always know where he stands on issues.*

Introducing our new Chief of Police

*I would like to introduce you to Joseph Urso. Joe has been with our Police department since June 26, 2012. He has worked his way up from an auxiliary officer, to SRO (School Resource Officer) at Crestwood Schools in October 2012 as well as being hired as a part time officer to the Village on December 18, 2012. Joe has also been a partner in the K9 unit as an Officer for the Village and SRO Officer at Crestwood Schools with Diablo. Sadly we lost Diablo to cancer this past spring. Joe served as interim Chief in 2015 when Chief Buchert was on medical leave. He was sworn in as a Sergeant June 20, 2016.*

*Joe and his wife Andrea have two sons, both in college. Joe and Andrea enjoy camping, biking and being involved in community projects.*

*Joe was sworn in on November 21<sup>st</sup> and takes his place as Chief of Police for the Village of Mantua and starts on December 17, 2017.*

*Please show Chief Urso the support that you have shown Chief Buchert.*

***Council Meetings are the third Tuesday at 7:00 each month at the Administration Building***

**START TALKING PORTAGE!**

*Meets on the (4) FOURTH Tuesday of each month at Christ Lutheran Church, 10827 Main Street., Mantua, Ohio at 6 p.m.*

*We have recently been able to add two (2) new NA (narcotics anonymous) meeting in Portage County are held at:*

*Christ Episcopal Church, 118 South Mantua Street, Kent, Ohio,  
THIS IS A TUESDAY MEETING AT 7:30 P.M. EVERY WEEK*

*Mantua Center Christian Church , 4118 S. R. 82 Mantua Ohio,*

*THIS MEETING IS A SATURDAY MEETING AT 7:30 P.M. EVERY WEEK*

*Mayor Linda Clark*



***From the Village Administrator...***

*The Mayor, Council and I want to thank our residents and property owners again for supporting the “Road Tax Levy”. While it generates about \$75K a year, in the scheme of things that is not a lot. But, we have tried successfully to spend it wisely.*

*Here is what we have accomplished so far;*

*Paving High Street from corporation limits on each side of town*

*We are still in the process of completing the water line on the east end, but the paving funds cannot be used for the water line. This project is being done through grants funds, loan and Road tax funds for the match.*

*Oak Street from High to Franklin, has been ground and paved with storm sewer repairs be made.*

*Ambler Lane has had several large sections repaired with grinding and paving.*

*Second Street from Franklin to Prospect has been ground and paved with drainage repairs.*

*Woodford Streets has been ground and paved with drainage repairs being made.*

*Elm Street from High to Prospect has been ground and paved.*

*Herald Street from High to Prospect has been ground and paved.*

*Glenwood Drive has had grinding and paving done to 2/3 of the street, along with some drainage repairs being done.*

*Grand Elm has been ground and paved.*

*Mill Street has been ground and paved.*

*We have received grant/loan local match for West Prospect Street. It will start at High and hopefully get us to Elm. This will be grinding and paving and replacing/ or repairing storm sewer drainage. This project won't start until July 2018.*

*We will also be picking which secondary streets we can do next year, picking the worst of the worst.*

*We realize that this is slow going, but as you can see we are making headway to get to every street. Again, thank you for your support.*

### **Trails**

*As I'm sure you can see, the Mills Street connector to the Headwaters Trail is complete. We were able to do this project with a grant from ODNR Recreational trail grant for a total of approximately \$141K with the DMRC donating the local match of \$26350.00 to the project. Thanks DMRC group!*

*Our next trail project is the Buchert Park Trail that runs along the north side of the Cuyahoga River. We applied for a Nature Works Grant for \$32,644. 00. The DMRC donated the local match of approximately \$12,338.00, bringing the total project in at around \$40-45K. Thanks DMRC group!*

***Bruce Rininger***

### ***News 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.*

***311.04 PILING OF SNOW IN THE STREETS:***

*(a) During periods of snowfall all person are prohibited from removing snow from private driveways or parking areas onto Village streets.*

*(b) All persons are further prohibited from piling snow on street corners and tree lawns to heights that would obstruct the view of motorists or pedestrians using the streets.*

*(c) Exempted from the application of subsection (b) herein would be Village snow remover vehicle operators.*

*(Ord. 1985-34. Passed 12-9-85.)*

*(d) Except as otherwise provided in this subsection, whoever violates this section is guilty of a minor misdemeanor. If, within one year of the offense, the offender previously has been convicted of or pleaded guilty to one predicate motor vehicle or traffic offense, whoever violates this section is guilty of a misdemeanor of the fourth degree. If, within one year of the offense, the offender previously has been convicted of two or more predicate motor vehicle or traffic offenses, whoever violates this section is guilty of a misdemeanor of the third degree.*

***Please help us to help you!!***

***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.

### ***WATER AND SEWER INFORMATION:***

*As everyone knows our lovely town, and much of its infrastructure, was built almost a century ago. That means when we try to make a minor repair it often expands into something unexpected. The biggest example is when we have to make a water line repair. In order to repair a main line we need to shut the water off at the valves nearest to the repair. Because many of these are extremely old, they don't work like they should. We will try our best to make these repairs as efficiently as possible, but we must work within the limits of our aging system. We would also like to talk about "flushable items", such as flushable wipes, diaper wipes, feminine hygiene products, paper towels, shop rags, etc., that are not truly flushable and do not breakdown, which tend to cause blockages in sewer mains. They also plug pumps at lift stations and at the waste water treatment plant. As a small Village, we are lucky to have access to ample amounts of clean drinking water. Many times we tend to turn a blind eye to the total amount of effort involved when running water has become such an effortless amenity in our lives. We would like to help our residents to understand the necessity of our*

*current water and sewer rate increase, and to look at the grand scope of how the money is used.*

*Like many other cities and villages all across the country, the Village of Mantua has an aging underground, water and sewer infrastructure. The majority of our underground pipelines and valves can be dated back to when they were first installed. The importance of replacing these pipes will result in uninterrupted water service due to fewer emergency water breaks, it will maintain our water purity standards, along with, avoiding unwanted sanitation emergencies. With a steady financial ability to replace our aging underground equipment, it means that we are insuring that the future generations will have the same high quality water and sewer accessibility that we enjoy today. Water and sewer breaks are unpredictable, and so we would like to better serve our community by taking a proactive approach to keep our residents safe and with water.*

*Many of the water & sewer cost involved include, and in no particular order include: Water Testing and supplies, Equipment maintenance, Equipment repair/replacement, Water filtration, Wastewater filtration, Sludge Removal, Chemicals for treatment, Utility costs, Infrastructure repair, Engineering Consultation, Water/Wastewater debt, Personnel costs, and Contractual services. The cost of these services and items has gone up with standard inflation and so the need for rate increases ensures the Village has the resources to pay for them. 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](http://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!***

***Your Village of Mantua Service Department***



## *Police Report...*

### *CAR SAFETY FOR THE WINTER*

*“Ohio’s winters are known for their unpredictability,” commented Chief Buchert. “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. Pump your brakes gently to stop. If you start to slide, always steer in the same direction that the rear of your auto is going.*
- 5. If your door locks freeze, heat your key—don’t pour hot water in the lock—it’ll just freeze too.*

*Chief Buchert 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), a flashlight with extra batteries, flares, a steel shovel and sand in case you are stuck, and waterproof matches with candles.*

*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 Buchert 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 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 CDs 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 four 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 swindlers.*

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

*"Thank You to Darko Company for their gracious donation of toys. It was greatly appreciated. It was kind of you, Bob Rankin and Sarah Keba to think of us at this time. We will use these toys as part of our partnership with Crestwood Local School District's Giving Tree. Your thoughtfulness will allow us to provide to more children in this community that we could not reach in the past. Again, thank you for your donation and kindness."*



***POLICE REPORT...***

*This report covers the months of Aug., Sept., & Oct.*

*Total Cases.....177*

|                                    |        |
|------------------------------------|--------|
| Traffic/Parking Cites.....         | 56     |
| Warnings.....                      | 386    |
| Criminal Arrests.....              | 8      |
| Mantua Dispatch Calls.....         | 3,367  |
| Fire Dispatch Calls.....           | 222    |
| Garrettsville Dispatch Calls.....  | 1,813  |
| Garrettsville Service Calls.....   | 1,853  |
| Garrettsville Traffic Stops.....   | 361    |
| Fire Dept. EMS.....                | 267    |
| Fire Dept. MVA.....                | 20     |
| Fire Dept. Fires.....              | 60     |
| Total Mileage.....                 | 12,198 |
| Mutual Aid Calls.....              | 78     |
| Officer Hours Worked.....          | 2,395  |
| School Resource Officer Hours..... | 358    |
| Dispatch Hours Worked.....         | 2,480  |
| K-9 Calls.....                     | 7      |
| Citizen/Motorist Assists.....      | 67     |
| Open Doors/Windows.....            | 22     |
| Suspicious Persons/Vehicles.....   | 75     |
| School Zones.....                  | 83     |
| Foot Patrol.....                   | 12     |
| House Checks.....                  | 203    |
| Bar Checks.....                    | 3      |
| Water/Sewer Plant Checks.....      | 263    |
| Reservoir Checks.....              | 146    |
| Lift Station Checks.....           | 829    |

*Chief Harry Buchert*





## *News from DMRC...*

### *MANTUA REVITALIZATION CONTINUE ITS WORK TO REVITALIZE MANTUA VILLAGE*

*Ten years! Downtown Mantua Revitalization was founded ten years ago to support the Village of Mantua. Our mission today remains the same. Downtown Mantua Revitalization Corporation (DMRC) works with the Village of Mantua by engaging the citizens, civic organizations, business community and property owners to develop and implement a plan to engage our community, appreciate our history and enhance our future.*

*In 2017 several projects were begun and others were completed.*

- 1. The Village of Mantua saw the completion of the Headwaters Trail Mill Street Connector. The Village received a grant from Ohio Department of Natural Resources Recreational Trails to build a trail connection between the trail bridge over the Cuyahoga to where the west side of the trail began behind the McDonald's on Main Street. The project was completed in October 2017. Mantua Revitalization contributed the \$21,000 matching funds for the grant.*
- 2. Mantua Village is in the process of upgrading our Buchert Park on High Street. Downtown Mantua Revitalization donated the \$5000 to the Village to have C.T. Consultants draw a conceptual design for possible upgrades. The Village Parks Committee is considering how and what they wish to do.*
- 3. As part of the process to upgrade Buchert Park, Mantua Revitalization worked with the Village to write an Ohio Department of Natural Resources Nature Works Grant to refurbish part of the walking trail in the South side of the park. The Village received notification that they received the grant. DMRC has pledged to provide the \$12,000 matching funds for the grant.*
- 4. We continue to provide small member driven projects to keep the Village Beautiful. DMRC contributes to the purchase of the flowers you see in the hanging baskets. Member Mary Cabot organizes volunteers and raises funds to provide the beautiful flower baskets on the bridge over the Cuyahoga River in the summer. They were turned into evergreens for the*

*holiday season, by the way. DMRC works with Crestwood High School to organize a Fall Spruce-Up day. Over 75 students and many DMRC and other volunteers swept sidewalks, cleaned windows, painted benches, and blew away leaves to make the village sparkle.*

- 5. Mantua Revitalization purchased and donated a new bench for the village and will be seeking the contributions of others to add to the number. It sits by Jake's Restaurant.*
- 6. As part of our economic initiative, DMRC organized the Mantua Pop-Up Art Gallery located at 10676 Main Street. The shop will remain open during November and December and features art from local and regional artists. All art is for sale and will make wonderful gifts. Stop in and check it out.*

*In order to be able to meet our pledges for grants and provide funds for designs and flowers and benches, DMRC holds several fund raisers during the year. We thank you for your support. See you in 2018 at our Reverse Raffle on April 7, and at Art on the Hill on July 14. Become our FRIEND by making a donation in January and buy a calendar next November. Watch our website [www.revitalizemantua.org](http://www.revitalizemantua.org).*

*Submitted by: DMRC Secretary Susan*

*Steinberg*



*Fall & Stebbins Automotive would like to extend a special thank you to the Village of Mantua and surrounding areas that helped them celebrate 50 years of business. Also, we would like to give a very special thank you to the Mantua Potato Festival for giving Dean Stebbins and his crew the honor of Grand Marshall for the parade. He believes in community ties and working with groups that look toward bigger and better things for community growth.*

*Submitted by Joann Vance*



*Hillside Cemetery*

*The Board of Trustees, Mayor Clark, Councilman Hura and Village Administrator Bruce Rininger met and discussed changes to cemetery ordinance 2017-47, specifically amending chapters 145 and 955. The changes pertain to the Board of Trustees and the Cemetery Superintendent's responsibilities. The interest on the cemetery trust fund was also defined.*

*The amendment changes will be sent to Council for their input and approval.*

*The Board of Trustees wishes everyone a Merry Christmas and a healthy 2018.*

*Claude Hopkins, Patty Leventry, Cookie Vanek*

***The Live Nativity-December 16,  
6-8 p.m. at the Mini Park***

***Come out and enjoy!!***

*The Christmas decorations in Mantua are up and look beautiful!*

*It is such a busy time of the year.*

*It is important to slow down a little bit, relax and spend quality time with family and friends.*

*Don't let the hustle and bustle of the season wear you down so that you cannot enjoy each and every moment of those special days!*

*Take a breather, don't try to do too much, ask for help when needed.*

*Have fun, be safe and keep your loved ones close, even if only in your heart, as much as you can!*



*Happy Holidays!!!*

*Andrea Urso, Editor*