

Mantua-Shalersville Area Chamber of Commerce, Mantua Rotary and DMRC Share New Office

- Christine Pitsinger

Thanks to the generous offer of Lydia Keefer, the Mantua-Shalersville Chamber of Commerce, Rotary and the DMRC (Downtown Mantua Revitalization Committee) now has a storefront on Main Street! This office, located at 10702 Main Street in the village of Mantua will be used to promote the area, its events and amenities. The windows will feature signage to advertise upcoming events. During peak

hours, the office will be staffed by volunteers to greet visitors and assist them by providing information about these organizations and the area's resources.

After accepting the offer, chamber officer, Becky Newell began to organize the project. Within a few days, the project took shape through the donations of the following individuals: Eric Hummel - desks and chairs, as well as the strong backs of Clive

Moats and Brad Harris from Stamm Contracting to deliver and arrange them. Joan Sweet - a computer, monitor

and printer. A 10-gallon aquarium stocked with freshwater fish was also donated by Aaron Burnett Aaron's Aquatics and window signage from Frank Majni, The Sigtist. Once arranged, Becky Newell spent several hours vacuuming, wiping down furnishings and shampooing the chair upholstery.

This new office will also benefit Chamber members by promoting their products and services through the distribution of flyers, brochures and business cards to those who visit the new office. Members are encouraged to drop off their advertising materials at Advanced Rehabilitation & Health Specialists or at this office.

Open hours are on Fridays from 4-6PM and on Saturdays from 10AM-12 Noon. Contact Becky at 216-990-5086 or bbjnewell@neohio.twcbc.com with questions or for more information.



Mary Cabot of the Mantua Rotary Club greets visitors at the new office.



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Chamber, Rotary to open visitor's center

Diane Smith
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By Diane Smith

Record-Courier staff writer

MANTUA -- The Mantua-Shalersville Chamber of Commerce, Downtown Revitalization group and Mantua Rotary will soon have a presence in the village's downtown.

A storefront on East Main Street has been donated to the chamber as a visitor's center. The grand opening is 4 to 6 p.m. on Friday.

Becky Newell, secretary of Downtown Mantua Revitalization and membership chairwoman of the Mantua-Shalersville Chamber, said the space will be open every Friday evening, and from 10 a.m. to noon on Saturdays.

"We'll be open during the prime hours people are doing their banking," she said. "We hope they'll stop in for a cup of coffee."

The storefront is directly across the street from Chase Bank, and is near the Mantua branch of Middlefield Bank. It is the first building north of "the hole" in the downtown.

Lydia Keefer donated the storefront to the chamber, and Eric Hummel donated furniture he had in storage to the effort.

"The chamber has always wanted to have a presence, beyond e-mails," she said. "We've always wanted to have an actual presence in the downtown."

Businesses that belong to the chamber have been asked to provide literature to promote their businesses.

Hank Cabot and his wife, Mary, will staff the visitor's center on Friday. The Cabots recently returned from a trip to Italy, where they traveled to see the town for which Mantua is named, Newell said.

Newell plans to staff the visitor's center on Saturday.

Eventually, the organizations hope to have enough volunteers to expand the hours the storefront is open.

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