



PRESS RELEASE

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Manteno Chamber of Commerce Oktoberfest 2020 Announcement

MANTENO, IL (July 15, 2020) The Manteno Oktoberfest—an event that would have been in its 23rd year and is one of the most anticipated in the county, has been cancelled due to the major restrictions placed on large festivals & events mandated by the state.

Along with the specific listings of festivals and mass gatherings in the Phase 4 guidelines, the following message was received from the Department of Labor, Amusements Division: "The Department is not inspecting Amusement Attractions due to the Governor's guidelines for essential travel only. This service can be provided if the specific attraction is approved to operate by DCEO. Currently, under Phase 3 and 4 no carnivals will be allowed to operate."

In addition, the Illinois Liquor Control Commissioner, offered us this statement: "General admission public gatherings are not permitted in Phase 4. Therefore, the Illinois Liquor Control Commission will not issue a special event retail liquor license for events anticipating general admission gatherings."

The Manteno Oktoberfest, though run by the Chamber of Commerce, partners with many civic and philanthropic organizations who rely on the event to fund their efforts in our Community. "Not having Manteno Oktoberfest means not allowing these organizations to give back and pay it forward in the same manner they have in the past. We are undoubtedly disappointed for this and for many other reasons.", says Sarah Marion, President & CEO of the Manteno Chamber.

Unanimously the Chamber of Commerce Board, the Village, and Manteno PD agreed that there are no viable alternatives to make the traditional Oktoberfest 2020 a reality. With much sadness and some tears, Manteno Oktoberfest 2020 is cancelled. However, the Chamber will host its annual Garage Sale Days September 25-27 along with a Lighted Golf Cart Parade on September 26. To participate in the Garage Sale Days, forms can be found at Village Hall or at www.mantenochamber.com.

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