



## WELCOME TO OKTOBERFEST 2009

Welcome to our 16<sup>th</sup> Annual Lovettsville Oktoberfest Celebration! We hope you will enjoy your time with us this week-end.

The Town of Lovettsville, known as "The German Settlement", is the third largest of the seven incorporated towns in Loudoun County. In the early 1700's, immigrants from the Palatine States of Germany traveled south from Pennsylvania and settled in the area. They were of the German Reformed and Lutheran faiths. The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Virginia established Lovettsville as a town in 1836, and named trustees; incorporation occurred in 1876. The Town was named Lovettsville by David Lovett who came to the area and laid out the streets. Information on the history of the Town can be found in the book entitled "The German Settlement", written by Yetive Weatherly. The book can be purchased at the Lovettsville Museum.

Lovettsville has grown from the original 99 acres to 532 acres at present. Four new developments – Town Center, New Town Meadows, Kingsridge, and Heritage Highlands Retirement Community – have been built during the past five years. Several smaller developments are in the planning process. The Town Center Retail/Commercial area is on hold at the moment; however, the residential area is moving ahead. We are happy with the progress of our sidewalk and street improvement projects, and hope to be under construction in the near future. We continue to work with the County of Loudoun on the development of the 92-acre Lovettsville Community Park and look forward to having the Special Exception approved soon by the County. We have offered "Movies in the Park" this summer on the Town Green, and have some development plans for the Town Square. We are pleased with the proposed improvements to our Town, and those that are being planned for in the future, and remain confident that we will maintain the small town, friendly, rural atmosphere that we appreciate. Please visit the Town Government Booth to view some of the proposed plans and projects.

We are so very grateful for the sponsorships and donations that have been received in order that we can continue to offer free entertainment, free admission, and free parking for our Celebration. Please note these sponsors on the Sponsorship Board located in the Main Tent, and take time to thank them for their generosity. We appreciate the volunteers who have given of their time to help make our Lovettsville Oktoberfest Celebration a success.

Once again, I welcome you to Oktoberfest 2009.

a Wallan

Elaine Walker

Mayor

## The History of Oktoberfest

On a Saturday afternoon in mid-September, the "oberb ugermeister" (Lord Mayor) of Munich will ceremoniously draw a draught of beer, hold it up to the expectant throng and proclaim "O zapft is!" (It is tapped!) For the next sixteen days, the citizens of Munich, along with millions of visitors from around the world, will flock to the Theresienwiese (Theresa's meadow) for the biggest beer blast in the world. There will be Ferris wheel rides, colorful parades, devouring of big pretzels topped with mustard, barbecued chicken — even spit-roasted oxen! One of the specialties, Marzenbier, is specially brewed for the occasion; locals refer to it as "Wies' beer". Ask anyone who's gotten swept up in the revelry and they'll tell you it's an experience you won't forget.

This great tradition started back in October 1810. Thousands of proud Bavarians gathered in a meadow south of the city to celebrate the marriage of their future king, Crown Prince Ludwig, to a Saxon princess named Therese von Sachsen-Hildburhausen. A horse race was held as part of this celebration and it was such a popular event that the Muncheners repeated it again the following year. In a few years, an agricultural show was added. Since 1887, the festival has been kicked off with a rousing parade lead by the Festival Queen, along with ornate wagons from the various breweries drawn by teams of horses and loaded with barrels of beer. In the colorful procession, you're likely to see Tyrolean marksmen, Bohemian farmers driving their oxen and even a band of Scottish bagpipers.

When festival-goers complained that their beer was being watered down by the dampness of the autumn rain, the opening of Oktoberfest was moved to September. Brewers began erecting temporary beer halls to serve their customers. Today, these vast wooden structures, known as beer tents, accommodate over 6,000 people each. This is where the real festivities take place with thousands of people from every corner of the earth sitting shoulder to shoulder at long benches to eat, drink, dance and sing. Lovely Dirndl-clad maids rush down the center aisles playing Bavarian songs. At the call of "eins, zwel, drei, G'suffa!", steins are lifted and emptied. Treat the band to a round of beer and you can conduct the next number!

Lovettsville's Oktoberfest celebrates these traditions with some local flavor added to make it our own unique celebration. We welcome you and your family!. So what are you waiting for? Raise your stein in a "prosit!" to your friends and join the fun! It's contagious!

Welcome to the 2009

etteville O