

# MANTUA TOWNSHIP *news*

2018 Summer Edition

YOUR SOURCE FOR COMMUNITY NEWS AND INFORMATION



**PETER SCIRROTTO**  
MAYOR

**ROBERT ZIMMERMAN**  
DEPUTY MAYOR

**JOHN LEGGE**  
COMMITTEEMAN

**EILEEN LUKENS**  
COMMITTEEWOMAN

**SHAWN LAYTON**  
COMMITTEEMAN



## ***A Message from Mayor Pete Scirrotto***

It is a pleasure to present the summer 2018 Township of Mantua Newsletter. We hope you like the new look of our literature and branding efforts throughout town.

The Township Committee and I worked especially hard this year to present a \$14 million dollar budget with no local municipal increase to our residents. We want to keep Mantua Twp. a desirable place to live, raise a family and most importantly a place to retire. While you may think, that not raising taxes is an easy task, we all know how hard it is to stretch a dollar. In order to make this happen, our administration was dedicated to search for new revenues sources to sustain municipal operations and generate enough revenue so that we didn't have to ask for it from our taxpayers.

On June 1st, we entered into a new Shared Service with the Borough of Wenonah for police services. This agreement will be a steady source of revenue to be included in our local budget for the next 10 years. I have no doubt that the quality of officers and professionalism of our Police Department led by Chief White will make this partnership very successful.

The budget calls for the addition of three police officers and one public works employee which will enable us to continue to provide superior core services. The 2018 budget will also subsidize a grant that will equip our patrol officers with body cameras. We will also continue to invest in our infrastructure and equipment with funding \$750,000.00 in capital improvements for roadway paving projects, installation of walking path lights at Chestnut Branch Park, a new dump truck for Public Works to replace an existing one that was placed out of service, security upgrades

for the Police Department and additional playground equipment for both Chestnut Branch and McCaron Parks. As I close, please be cognizant of keeping our Township clean and free of litter. I will continue to be passionate about this issue and will not let those who litter win this war. Enjoy your summer and be safe.

Have You Seen the  
**NEW WEBSITE?**  
[www.mantuatownship.com](http://www.mantuatownship.com)



MUNICIPAL CODE



ONLINE TAX PAYMENTS



CONTACT YOUR TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE



REPORT A PROBLEM

The Township of Mantua is very excited to announce the launch of our new and improved website! The fresh new design, easy navigation and constant updates make this website an important staple for every Mantua Township resident, business and partner. Some new and exciting features you will find on our website are:

- Postings of Upcoming Events, Announcements and News
- Community Photo Gallery
- Pay Your Taxes Online
- Agendas and Minutes
- Economic Development Updates
- Report a Problem to Public Works
- **Sign up for E-Alerts AND MORE!!**

For any questions, suggestions, or comments on our new website, please contact Natalie Foxhill at [mantuamedia@gmail.com](mailto:mantuamedia@gmail.com).

# A Message from Your Police Chief



While we all look forward to this time of year for the nice weather, there are also those looking to take advantage of the situation. Every spring we see a substantial uptick in vehicle burglaries. These are almost always limited to cars that were left unlocked. Essentially, crooks walk around developments pulling on car door handles until they find one that is open. When they do (and they always do) they take anything inside that will get them a quick buck. Small electronics, loose change, jewelry, prescription medication, or anything else that they can pawn are the usual targets. To combat this, PLEASE LOCK YOUR DOORS! This is the easiest way to avoid becoming a victim, especially considering all most of us have to do is to push a button on a remote. Additionally, removing anything of value from the vehicle, or at least removing it from view, is helpful as well. If you see anybody suspicious, do not hesitate to call us to check things out. Finally, we maintain a list of those residences with exterior security cameras. By knowing where these are we are better able to obtain pertinent footage of criminal suspects in these types of situations. If you have one and have not already registered, please contact Patrolman William Donovan at [wwdonovan@mantuatownship.com](mailto:wwdonovan@mantuatownship.com). This is obviously not mandatory, but can prove to be a big help to us. – **Chief Darren White**

## Welcome New Officers!

The Mantua Township Police Department would like to welcome aboard three new police officers who were sworn in by Mayor Scirrotto and Deputy Mayor Zimmerman on June 4, 2018. Patrolman William Schnarr came to the Mantua PD from Wenonah where he was serving as patrolman for the past three years. Patrolman Salvatore Oldrati, previously worked for the Camden Metro Police Department and was a former special officer for Gloucester Township. Patrolman Jess Bair is certified by the Police Training Commission and will be starting fresh as a new officer. Chief Darren White stated, "We put a lot of time and energy into our selection process as recruiting the right personnel ultimately results in decreased liability, decreased insurance costs, increased morale, and a better overall Police Department." I am confident that these new officers are the best fit for our department."



## Public Works



### Trash Container Placement

Please keep in mind that our trash containers are picked up with mechanical arms that extend off of our trucks. The mechanical arm needs room to grab each can. Therefore, we ask that you leave at least 3 to 4 feet of empty space around your containers. This also includes space in between a telephone pole, mailbox or any other structure. In addition we ask



that you "look up". If you put your can in an area where overhanging tree branches and or wires are present, we might hit them. Please place your cart in an area free from these obstacles.

### HEALTHY LAWNS - HEALTHY WATER

1. Choose a no phosphorus and slow-release nitrogen fertilizer.
2. Apply fertilizer at the spreader setting shown on the bag.
3. Return any unused product to the original container for future use.
4. Do not apply fertilizer products if a heavy rain is predicted.
5. Sweep up excess fertilizer from paved surfaces.
6. Fertilize in the spring after the first lawn cutting and in the fall.
7. Soil tests can help identify if other nutrients are needed.
8. For information visit [www.nj.gov/dep/healthylawnshealthywater](http://www.nj.gov/dep/healthylawnshealthywater)



### Green Grass Cart Rules

Only grass, leaves, and vegetative plants and garden trimmings are allowed. **Sticks and twigs are NOT ALLOWED.** If you have small sticks that are unable to be piled at the curb for collection, we suggest placing those out in a biodegradable paper lawn bag next to your brush pile for collection.



# Public Works Continued



## Convenience Drop Off Days

**4th Saturdays ONLY!**  
**At the Public Works Facility**  
**located behind the Police/**  
**Justice Complex on Main St.**

We continue to offer a convenient way to dispose of items around your home. Every 4th Saturday from 10am to 2pm we accept the items listed below:

- Used Motor Oil
- Household Bulk Items
- Yard Waste (brush,leaves,grass)
- Electronics (TV's & computers) & metal items (light iron, refrigerators, BBQ grills & A/C units)
- **NO chemicals, paints or fluorescent light bulbs.**
- **We reserve the right to reject any excessive bulk loads or any material not accepted.**

## Hazardous Waste Disposal

**September 23rd**

Gloucester County Solid Waste Complex  
493 Monroeville Rd., South Harrison Twp.  
8am – 2pm (Rain or Shine)

**October 21st**

Gloucester County Road Department  
1200 N. Delsea Drive, Clayton  
8am – 2pm (Rain or Shine)

Dispose of oil based paints, antifreeze, fluorescent bulbs, rechargeable batteries fire extinguishers, solvents, pesticides, cleaners, kerosene, herbicides, gasoline, turpentine, varnish, fertilizers, rat poison, auto & floor care products, weed killers, lighter fluid, propane tanks & pool chemicals.

**NO LATEX PAINT OR ALKALINE BATTERIES ACCEPTED!**

For more information visit [gcianj.com](http://gcianj.com)  
or call 856-478-6045

**Did you know that you can report a problem to Public Works on our new and improved website?**

**Some convenient features are:**

- Reporting potholes
- Broken garbage cans
- Slow working/clogged street drains
- Missing or damaged street signs
- Missed trash or recycling
- Street light outages

**Please visit:**

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



**Please keep plastic bags out of the blue recycling carts. Bags clog recycling sorting equipment and can't be recycled at our facility. Used propane bottles are very dangerous and can explode when processed. Thank you!**



## Our Parks



Mantua Township is very pleased to announce that a contract was awarded on June 4th to Ronald Janney Electrical Contractor, Inc. to install 26 LED light poles along the perimeter of the entire walking path at Chestnut Branch Park. The new lights will begin at the corner of the playground through the 9/11 memorial and ending at the far end of the football field. When completed you will be able to walk the outside loop on a completely lighted trail. Thanks to many recommendations from those of you who use the park during the early morning and evening hours when it's dark, this critical infrastructure improvement will illuminate the area and provide for a safer environment. The LED lighting can reduce energy use by up to 65 percent and requires less maintenance with a longer life span. The project will begin with installing the conduit around the walking path and will be completed once the fixtures have arrived in 6-8 weeks. We anticipate the lights to be turned on by mid-summer.



## Pavilion Rentals

Chestnut Branch Park boasts a newly renovated pavilion, perfect for your next summer gathering! For more information on Pavilion Rentals including reservation and rental fee information, please call 468-1500 ext.110 or visit the "Our Parks" page of our website to download the application.

**Please visit**

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

Pardon our appearance as the Township of Mantua works hard to repair the tennis courts. Repairs should be completed this fall.



# Community News to Share



A big THANK YOU to Gail Shast, Debra Kane and Stacey Bucci with the Gloucester County Women's Club for their dedication and passion to raise awareness for Child Abuse Prevention. The lovely pinwheel garden they assembled was in Chestnut Branch Park for the month of April. The Township of Mantua Community is very proud of you for supporting and recognizing this important cause.



The Community Cleanup held on April 21st was a huge success! All the participants succeeded in collecting **one ton of trash!** 29 organizations participated with over 425 people! This event proves that working together makes a difference in our Township. This event was sponsored by Gloucester County Freeholder's Clean Communities Program.



**Shown in picture - Clearview Extra Point Club:** Joey & Justin Iaccio, Forrest & Pierce Love, Matt Murphy, Jackson Powell, Patrick Cooney, Noah Maise & Jimmy Sharkey  
**Back row Booster Moms:** Jenn Iaccio, Reenie Love, Jean Knott, Michelle Murphy & Carleen Cooney.

## Congratulations!

Patrolman Hauss received the 2018-2019 Lawson Cox VFW Post Police Officer of the Year Award!



# Economic Development News



## Mantua Businesses Voted Best of Gloucester County!

- Accurate Plumbing & Drain Cleaning, Inc.
- Bethel Mill Contracting
- Car Effex
- Damminger's Natural Pet Foods
- Dempsey's Tire Center
- Devour Desserts
- Dollar Tree
- Gloucester County Awards
- Hoyt's Barber Shop & Lounge
- Kohl's
- Pal Joey's Deli
- Paradise Cove Tanning Salon
- Rita's Water Ice
- Smith Funeral Home
- Steak Out
- Stecher Farms
- Val's Seafood Trattoria
- Wine Warehouse



## New Business: Tribe Hot Yoga!

570 Bridgeton Pike  
[www.tribehotyoga.guru/](http://www.tribehotyoga.guru/)  
**Melissa Jackson**  
Owner/Instructor

**Saturday, June 2, 2018**

Many gathered to celebrate Melissa Jackson's grand opening event of her yoga studio here in Mantua Township. Melissa, her husband Mike, her two children Cole and Sammi, family, friends and clients enjoyed the ceremonial opening where Deputy Mayor Zimmerman, Committee-woman Lukens and Committeeman Layton officially welcomed Tribe Hot Yoga to their first facility. Tribe Hot Yoga's mission is to empower people to take action on what matters most to them through the practice of Yoga.

# SUMMER FUN!

Community Events are a great opportunity to bring folks together to celebrate the warm and longer days. In addition to these events in Mantua, The Gloucester County Board of Chosen Freeholders hosts a variety of family fun events throughout the summer. **For more information visit [www.gloucestercountynj.gov](http://www.gloucestercountynj.gov).**

# Community Events

## July 21 The Gloucester County Firefly Festival Rain Date - July 22nd



8:00pm-9:30pm

Tall Pines State Preserve in Mantua, NJ

The festival includes a number of fun, educational stations scattered along a three-quarter mile, self-guided, loop trail. The loop trail begins and ends at the Welcome Tent. Please car pool, as space for parking is limited. Bring a flashlight. No dogs please. Visit [www.mantuatownship.com](http://www.mantuatownship.com) under "events" for more info.

## July 26 The Good the Icky & the Slimy Free Family Fun Show



The Good the Icky and the Slimy will showcase bugs and spiders along with frogs and snakes that are thought to be "icky" by many people, but these amazing animals in this show will change your mind! Show begins at 10:30am at Chestnut Branch Park.

## August 8 Movie in the Park

### COCO

Gather the family, bring a blanket or lawn chairs and enjoy the wonderful family comedy movie COCO! This free event is held at Chestnut Branch Park at dusk (8pm-8:30pm).



## August 16 Yosi Music Free Family Fun Show

Yosi's shows are always whimsical, imaginative, and enthusiastic for young audiences! Show begins at 10:30am at Chestnut Branch Park.

## September 11 Patriot Day

The Gloucester County Board of Chosen Freeholders and the Mantua Township Mayor and Committee will hold the Gloucester County Patriot Day Ceremony to commemorate the September 11th attacks on the United States. The ceremony will begin at 8:30am at the Place of Reflection inside Chestnut Branch Park.



## September 16 Shredding Event



The FREE shredding event will be held on site at the Mantua Twp. Municipal Building from 9am-12pm. Only paper will be accepted. Mantua residents only.

## September 22 Community Dig Day at Edelman Fossil Park

The 7th Annual Community Dig Day event will be held at the Edelman Fossil Park of Rowan University. This famous Fossil Park allows guests of all ages to dig for real fossils from the Late Cretaceous Era with Paleontologists from Rowan University! Visit [rowan.edu/fossils](http://rowan.edu/fossils) for more event info and volunteer opportunities! **This is an RSVP only event! There are no ticket sales on the day of this event.**



More family fun events are posted on the Gloucester County Library website. Please visit [www.gcls.org](http://www.gcls.org)

You can also visit the Gloucester County Parks and Recreation website at [www.gloucestercountynj.gov](http://www.gloucestercountynj.gov)



Mantua Township Municipal Building  
401 Main Street  
Mantua, NJ 08051

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## TOWNSHIP NEWSLETTER INSIDE



Visit our new and improved  
website at [mantuatownship.com](http://mantuatownship.com)



# Mantua Township's Senior Center

## Join us for a Senior Dinner

If you are looking for a night out, please join us for one of our Senior Dinners. Hosted by the Township Committee and our Recreation Committee, our dinners are tasty and a great way to meet other Seniors in the Community. The 2018 Summer Dinner dates are as follows: June 19th, July 17th and August 21st. Dinner starts at 6:00pm at the Community Center located at 111 Mercer Avenue, Sewell, NJ. Please make sure that you register as a Senior with the Township by calling the Clerk's Office at 856-468-1500 x110.



- June 19th** – Chicken pot pie, salad, roll and butter, brownie with ice cream
- July 17th** – BBQ Chicken, baked beans, corn bread, and dessert
- August 21st** – Assorted salads, roll with butter and dessert



Above Photo: May 2, 2018 Senior Expo @ Total Turf Experience

Mantua Township Residents joined hundreds of guests as they enjoyed this showcase for specialized services and Healthy Activities for local Seniors. Vendors, giveaways, food samples, nutrition tips, health screenings and so much more was available to enjoy.