

MANTUA TOWNSHIP 2019 Summer Edition *news*

YOUR SOURCE FOR COMMUNITY NEWS AND INFORMATION



A Message from Mayor Pete Scirrotto

PETER SCIRROTTO
MAYOR

ROBERT ZIMMERMAN
DEPUTY MAYOR

JOHN LEGGE
COMMITTEEMAN

EILEEN LUKENS
COMMITTEEWOMAN

SHAWN LAYTON
COMMITTEEMAN

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-njfamily.com
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"As many of you are aware, the Township faced a devastating loss to 5 of our trash trucks as a result of an electrical fire in a trash truck located in the Public Works yard. We are thankful and fortunate that no one was hurt, however, we were left with no resources to collect trash and recycling within our Township. While the fire was still burning, our Superintendent of Public Works, Steve Alexander was reaching out to other towns in the County who may be able to lend a hand with loaning us a truck.

Thanks to the leadership of the Public Works Department and to our employees who rallied behind us we were able to work through the challenges of continuing trash/recycling collection with limited resources. We are so very lucky to have friends and good neighbors in Logan, Westville, Monroe and West Deptford Township who came through with loaners trucks that allowed us to continue our services with little to no delays. We cannot thank them enough for their generosity and willingness to come to our rescue. We also want to thank all the fire crews who quickly responded to the fire ultimately saving many other assets on site.

And lastly, the Township Committee and I would like to thank our residents for your patience during the first couple weeks while we were switching trucks and manging routes as quickly as possible to keep on schedule with pickups. In the interim, the Township is currently renting trucks while we wait for replacement vehicles to be delivered.

Meeting the Needs of our Residents

Mantua Township values our residents and we are constantly trying to improve our performance and meet the expectations of our customers.

With that being said, we have taken the following five actions to be more customer friendly and to better serve our residents. **1.** Customer parking signs were placed out front of the Construction entrance door as well as in the Municipal Building parking lot. Thank you to the resident who asked for parking closer to the entrance. **2.** Implemented new software to accept credit/debit cards for payments. **3.** The phone system was improved to allow for a live person to direct your call simply by pressing zero. **4.** All Departments were provided a two-day class on customer service training to strengthen and improve communication and customer service skills. **5.** The convenience center at Public Works is now open every Saturday from 10- 2 instead of once a month.

We are asking for your feedback on the Township's customer service and your experience interacting with Township employees. If you have recently been in contact with our staff- either by phone, email or in-person, we ask that you take 5 minutes to complete our short customer service survey which you will find on our Township website or can be found at the service counters in the Municipal Building. We appreciate you taking the time so that we can understand how we can better serve you. The input you provide on this survey will be used by the Administration to help us better tailor our customer service strategy to meet the needs of our customers.

As we enter into the summer months, please continue with me on my crusade against litter. If you see litter, take a moment and pick it up. It still amazes me how someone could throw trash on the ground and disrespect our beautiful community. I will continue to fight to make this habit obsolete in our Township. Be safe this summer.....*Mayor Pete Scirrotto*

A Message From Your Police Chief



The police department is excited to announce the promotion of **Jeff Ferry** to the position of Captain that occurred at the May 6th committee meeting. Captain Ferry has been with the department since 2001, was promoted to sergeant in 2004, and lieutenant in 2012.

Captain Ferry is a motivational

officer who enjoys getting involved in any new ventures that seek to improve the department. He has accrued a significant amount of awards and commendations over the course of his career, served as a canine officer for six years with his partner Rocky, serves as the liaison to both Mantua and Wenonah schools, serves as the township's Municipal Alliance Coordinator, served as a senior advisor to our Police Explorer Post for eight years, and has attended over 70 police-related training courses. We are looking forward to the future with the Captain!

The police department is also proud to announce the 2018 Mantua Township Police Department Officer of the Year as selected by her peers – **Ptl. Krista Sheilds**. **Ptl. Jason Lipsett** was also selected as the Mantua VFW 2018 Officer of the Year. Four officers also received awards at the annual Gloucester County Awards Ceremony held May 6th: **Ptl. Layton, Ptl. Hauss, Ptl. Bair** and **Sergeant First Class Herner**. Finally, we would like to thank **Detective Sergeant Bert Brucker** and **Corporal Jeff Leach** for their service to the township. Both are retiring at the end of May. Detective Sergeant Brucker started in Mantua in 1999 and was subsequently

promoted to corporal in 2002, detective in 2003, and detective sergeant in 2007. Corporal Leach was hired in Mantua in 2000 and was promoted to corporal in 2004. Both served in other police departments prior to finding their home in Mantua. Both will be missed and we wish them much luck in their future endeavors!



Captain Jeff Ferry

With nicer weather hopefully here, keep an eye out for officers out an about at community engagement events. We will be present at some local businesses to talk to residents about anything they want with small gifts on hand for the kids Canines Bane, Zuke, and/or Boomer will likely be making an appearance too!

The nice weather also brings with it crimes of opportunity. Please make sure to lock your car door and secure/hide items of value. Every year we receive numerous calls for vehicles that were entered and small items or cash taken. The easiest way to prevent becoming a victim is to simply push the button on your fob that locks the doors – it is easier than ever these days! Please call us any time if you see somebody who you feel looks suspicious. *Chief White*

Emergency – 911

856.468.1900 - Non-emergency calls for police service

856.468.1920 - Non-emergency records/administrative

Mantua Drinking Water Improvements

The Mantua MUA recently completed drinking water improvements that are being funded with approximately \$2.7 million in loans from the NJ Water Bank, a joint low-rate funding program of the DEP and the NJ I-Bank. Total savings for this project are estimated to be \$864,374 over the 20-year term of the loan or 32% of the total project cost. In addition, this project created an estimated 26 direct construction jobs. Improvements included the construction of a new well and new well building with the required electrical, mechanical and control infrastructure including an emergency generator and an upgraded SCADA system. In addition, the project included the rehabilitation of a 0.5-million gallon water storage tower. Based on the most recent inspection reports, the coating on the tank had reached the end of its lifecycle. Improvements to the water storage tank included blasting, spot grinding, filling, welding and painting the tank. The booster pump was also replaced, and a generator was installed with a transfer switch. The replacement of the water tower coating will protect local water supply quality from disturbances related to

chemical leaching and rusty water. The booster pump was also replaced, and a generator was installed with a transfer switch. The replacement of the water tower coating will protect local water supply quality from disturbances related to chemical leaching and rusty water. The project will keep the municipal infrastructure in good operating condition and facilitate continuing efforts to provide effective water supply and fire protection for residents, businesses and industry serve by the MUA.



Picture courtesy of Sickles & Associates



****NEW FOR THE SUMMER****

The Public Works Convenience Drop off center is open every Saturday from 10am – 2pm. Located at 407 Main Street. You can dispose of the following **HOUSEHOLD** items...

- 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** tires, propane tanks, chemicals, paints or fluorescent light bulbs. We reserve the right to reject any excessive bulk loads or any material not accepted. Contractors will be turned away. Proof of residency is required!

! 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!

2019 Household Hazardous Waste Drop Off Days

Gloucester Co. Solid Waste Complex
493 Monroeville Rd. (Rt. 694), S. Harrison

Date: September 21, 2019

Gloucester County Road Department

1200 N. Delsea Drive, Clayton

Date: October 19, 2019

All Events 8am – 2pm Rain or Shine

Call GCIA/Office of Recycling at 856-478-6045 for more info.

Dispose of oil based paints, antifreeze, fluorescent bulbs, rechargeable batteries, fire extinguishers, solvents, pesticides, cleaner, kerosene, herbicides, gasoline, turpentine, varnish, fertilizers, rat poison, auto and floor cleaning products, weed killers, lighter fluid, propane tanks and pool chemicals. **NO LATEX PAINT OR ALKALINE BATTERIES!**



Community News to Share

Congratulations to Officer Jason Lipsett of the Mantua Township Police Department and **Firefighter Lt. Brian Thompson** of the Mantua Township Fire Department for being recognized as the "Police Officer and Firefighter of the Year." The Township Committee congratulates all the award recipients.



Today's Senior Magazine – South Jersey Edition once again held their Senior Expo hosted by **Total Turf Experience** in Mantua Township. Their Spring Show was held in the newly expanded facilities at TTE on May 1st. They had over 60 vendors, door prizes, pickleball tournaments, demos, food sampling, antique appraisal fair, Radio host Lou Costello from WVLT 92.1 FM, and live music kept everyone moving as they visited the tables for specialized services and healthy activities for the hundreds of local Seniors!

Congratulations Mathew Krokenberger & team for your eagle scout birdhouse project at Chestnut Branch Park!



COMMUNITY Events

The latest news and events can always be found on our website. Visit www.mantuatownship.com today!

July 2, 2019 at 10:30am

Family Fun Show - Dino Puppet Show



Chestnut Branch Park

Children and families are invited to sing-a-long, dance-a-long and have fun! Free shows last approximately one hour. Professor Al O'saurus and his prehistoric puppet pals will take you on a fascinating journey into the world of dinosaurs.

July 23, 2019 at 10:30am

Family Fun Show – Captain Shazamshazooobop



Chestnut Branch Park

Children and families are invited to sing-a-long, dance-a-long and have fun! Free shows last approximately one hour. Super-hero fun with magic, self-levitation and feats of super silly strength.

August 7, 2019 at 10:30am

Movie In the Park- Mary Poppins Returns



Chestnut Branch Park

Michael and Jane are now grown up, with Michael, his three children and their house-keeper living on Cherry Tree Lane. After Michael suffers a personal loss, Mary Poppins re-enters the lives of the Banks family and uses her unique magical skills to help the family rediscover the joy and wonder missing in their lives.

August 13, 2019 at 10:30am

Family Fun Show Blue Frances Musical Medleys



Chestnut Branch Park

Children and families are invited to sing-a-long, dance-a-long and have fun! Free shows last approximately one hour. Blue Frances entertains with his unique musical medleys intended to get audiences singing, dancing, and laughing.

September 11, 2019 at 8:30am

Patriot Day

Chestnut Branch Park - Place of Reflection



The Gloucester County Board of Chosen Freeholders and the Mantua Twp. Mayor and Committee will hold the Gloucester County Patriot Day Ceremony to commemorate the September 11th attacks on the United States.

September 14, 2019 at 9am-12 Noon

Shredding Event



Municipal Building

The FREE shredding event will be held on site at the Mantua Twp. Municipal Building. Only paper will be accepted. Mantua residents only.

September 14, 2019 Community Dig Day at Edelman Fossil Park - 3 Sessions



Edelman Fossil Park

The 8th 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! This is an RSVP only event. There are no ticket sales day of. Visit rowan.edu/fossils for more information. Registration opens in July.

October 12, 2019 Fall Festival

Chestnut Branch Park

Time to be announced on website

October 12, 2019 Run for the Vets - 5 K Run

Chestnut Branch Park

Time to be announced on website

More family fun events are posted on the **Gloucester County Library** website. Please visit www.gcls.org

You can also visit the **Gloucester County Parks and Recreation** events calendar. Please visit www.gloucestercountynj.gov

Economic Development



Local Resident Robert Layton Purchases the Sewell Train Station on Center Street to Secure & Restore this Local Historical Site



Photo: New Owner Robert Layton and Members of Mantua Twp. Economic Development Committee, Gloucester County Economic Dev. Team, Mantua Twp. Historical Committee and Edelman Fossil Park gather on site during a March 25, 2019 meeting and tour

where discussions began on how to support this local residents goals to secure and restore this landmark. Email: sewelltrainstation@gmail.com

Welcome New Business - GolfU Mantua

675 Bridgeton Pike, Mantua, NJ

Website: <https://mantua.golfu.com/> / 856-209-5433

Email: golfumantua@golfu.com



April 27, 2019 – Ribbon Cutting Ceremony

Neck of the Woods Brewing Company Now Open at Total Turf Experience!



Enjoy this view inside newly renovated space at TTE of Neck of the Woods Brewing Co. This new business offers unique beers that appeal to a broad group of craft beer drinkers. Founders and family of Neck of the Woods include Frank Price, Paul McIntyre, Bruce Lowden and Dave Surdam.

NOW OPEN:

Neck of the Woods Brewing is located within the Phase II Expansion Project completed at Total Turf Experience redevelopment project site on Lambs Road in Mantua! Plans are underway for a grand opening and tour of all of these local businesses including Neck of the Woods Brewing.

To learn more visit: neckofthewoodsbrewing.com/totalturf.net

Mantua Township sold its 40.13 acre redevelopment site near Woodbury-Glassboro Road to Jean & Ric Edelman on April 30, 2019 for \$655,000. This land is adjacent to the remaining portion of this redevelopment area project site known as the Jean & Ric Edelman Fossil Park at Rowan University in Mantua Township, Gloucester County, NJ.



Economic Development Coordinator - Michelle Bruner
mbruner@mantuatownship.com / (856) 468-1500 x122



Mantua Township Municipal Building
401 Main Street
Mantua, NJ 08051

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TOWNSHIP NEWSLETTER INSIDE

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Visit our new and improved
website at mantuatownship.com

Mantua Township's Senior Center



Congratulations, Debbie! 13 1/2 YEARS OF SERVICE TO OUR SENIORS!

How lucky we are to have something that makes saying goodbye so hard. After thirteen and a half years of outstanding public service to our Mantua Township Seniors our Senior Program Bus Driver Deborah "Debbie" Pollag has retired.

Please join us in congratulating her and thanking her for her years of service!

Our next Senior Dinner is held on Tuesday, June 18th. Pickup is at 4:30pm. Please visit the Senior Citizens Programs page under the Community tab on our website for a full calendar of events and activities.

Visit mantuatownship.com today!

