

# MANTUA TOWNSHIP

2020 Fall/Winter Edition

news

YOUR SOURCE FOR COMMUNITY NEWS AND INFORMATION



**PETER SCIRROTTO**  
MAYOR

**ROBERT ZIMMERMAN**  
DEPUTY MAYOR

**JOHN LEGGE**  
COMMITTEEMAN

**EILEEN LUKENS**  
COMMITTEEWOMAN

**SHAWN LAYTON**  
COMMITTEEMAN



Car Effex

Daminger's Natural  
Pet Foods

Dempsey's Tire &  
Service Center

Gloucester County  
Awards & Trophies

Home Depot

Hoyt's Barber Shop  
& Lounge

Pal Joey's Deli

Smith's Funeral  
Home

Steak Out

TMT Towing  
& Auto Body

Wawa

Woof Day Care  
& Boarding

## A Message from Mayor Pete Scirrotto

Dear Residents of Mantua Township,

I can honestly say that the past couple months have been the most challenging time for me as Mayor of this community. Responding to the virus and my responsibility to keep our residents and employees safe during this pandemic tasked me to make decisive decisions during uncertain times. The following changes have been made throughout Mantua Township in response to COVID-19.

- Up to date information posted on our website for changes in municipal operations, scheduled events, and our parks;
- The Municipal Building is "Open for Business" (Monday thru Friday 8:30am-4:30pm). We are still encouraging the community to do business with the Township online to the greatest extent possible and utilize the drive thru and drop boxes while the COVID-19 pandemic continues.

- Forget a Mask? Just Ask! Visitors will still be asked to wear a face mask when entering all of our municipal buildings. If you need to do business with township staff and you forget a mask, please ask. The township has disposable masks on site.
- Protective measures have been put in place including: (1) the installation of plexiglass barriers at all service counters; (2) drop boxes are located outside of the Construction Office entrance and at the tax window for any payments or paperwork to be processed; and (3) free standing sanitizers are at all entrances of our buildings and at the playground at Chestnut Branch Park.

I am always amazed by the strength of our community especially when it matters most. A BIG THANK YOU to the following Mantua Township Friends who helped support our Township and especially our senior community:

- The Owners of Chick-fil-A who donated free lunches on Tuesday and Thursday during the month of May and beginning of June for our seniors program.

The lunches were delivered by our senior bus driver Rhonda Tusevicus and Recreation Committee volunteer Pam Levine.

- Our wonderful volunteers on the Mantua Twp. Recreation Committee who continue to deliver monthly dinners to over 150 senior's front doors as an alternative to our site senior dinners.

- To our friends at Bogey's, Car Effex and BHR Contracting who sponsored weekly dinner meals to the entire Gloucester County community during March and April to help those in need during the pandemic. Our Township is full of people who really care. Even though so many aspects of our life have

been interrupted or suspended, I encourage you to continue to reach out to your neighbors especially those who are elderly or may have medical conditions and check in on them or even spend a couple minutes talking with them.

My letter would not be complete if I did not mention my disgust for litter. Fast food bags,

wrappers, and soda cans, are all images that I see thrown on the street in our beautiful township. I find it very disrespectful and will do everything I can to keep our Township clean. This year, we welcomed retired resident Larry Behan to our staff to assist with litter clean-up throughout the township. The township is utilizing the NJDEP Clean Communities grant to fund these efforts. If you see the litter truck parked on the road be careful going around him and let's keep him safe. He has brought calmness to my soul and has lowered my blood pressure significantly!

Please continue to wear masks and practice social distancing as we embrace the unexpected slower pace of life. Let's keep following these precautions, keep supporting our local businesses so we beat this virus and return to our normal way of life in Mantua Township.

Stay safe and stay positive,

*Mayor Pete Scirrotto*



# PUBLIC WORKS

**NO PLASTIC BAGS  
IN THE BLUE BIN**

**DO NOT  
BAG  
RECYCLABLES**

Recyclables placed in plastic bags  
are not recycled. Please place clean  
recyclables directly in the blue bin.

**New Sticker**

A blue recycling bin with a lid. On the lid, there is a yellow sticker with a crossed-out trash can icon and the text 'New Sticker'. The front of the bin features a large green circle with a diagonal slash over a white icon of a plastic bag filled with various items like a bottle, a can, and a box. The bin is set against a background of green recycling symbols.

**DO NOT  
RECYCLE  
THE  
FOLLOWING**

**PLASTIC  
BAGS**

Appliances

Electronics &  
Batteries

Windows &  
Plate Glass  
Mirrors

Food Scraps

Lawn Chairs  
& Tables

Medical Waste

Tires & Rims

Diapers &  
Human Waste

Propane Tanks

Needles &  
Syringes



## A MESSAGE FROM YOUR POLICE CHIEF

Autumn is fast approaching and instead of everything being pumpkin flavored this year, it will all have a hint of Covid-19. We are all aware by now how it has affected the schools with the modified split sessions. But with that comes some traffic concerns. There will now be a period of time in the middle of the school day from 10:45 AM and 12:45 PM, when the morning session is releasing and the afternoon session is arriving, when we all have to drive with caution. Expect buses, children walking to school, and increased traffic around schools during this window. Plan your commute accordingly. This fall season will probably see an increase in the amount of online shopping in preparation for the holiday season. Theft of delivered packages may see an increase as well. Make it harder for these porch pirates by tracking your packages and removing them from your front steps as soon as you can. Install a doorbell camera if you can afford one. They have been extremely useful to investigations of this type of theft. We will be transitioning to a more visible stripe package on our marked police vehicles. Instead of the gray lettering, the lettering will be blue and yellow. It will also include the addition of Wenonah Borough as an area we proudly serve. So even though our faces may be obscured by masks, our vehicles will be more readily identifiable. Finally, we are happy to announce the retirement of Captain Jeff Ferry, who will officially retire from the Department on October 1st after 25 years of service in police work. Congratulations, Captain! *Chief Darren White*



**Congrats  
on your  
retirement  
Captain  
Ferry after  
25 years of  
service!**





# VOTING IN MANTUA TOWNSHIP



**November 3, 2020: General Election**

Under Governor Murphy's Executive order, the November 3, 2020 General Election will be a primarily Vote-by-Mail Election meaning that every active registered voter will receive a ballot in the mail with prepaid postage.

Voters can mail or drop their ballot off at the Drop Box located at the drive thru section of the Municipal Building. There are various other locations throughout Gloucester County to drop your ballot. Please visit Gloucester County Office of Elections website [gloucestercountynj.gov](https://gloucestercountynj.gov)

There will be one physical polling location at JMT School. Voters can vote by paper provisional ballot and there will be ADA conforming voting machines for those with disabilities.

**IMPORTANT:**

**October 13, 2020:**

**Deadline to register to vote for General Election**

**Register to Vote Online at**

<https://voter.svrs.nj.gov/register>



**MANTUA TOWNSHIP MUNICIPAL BUILDING**

401 Main Street  
Mantua, NJ 08051

Drive-Thru located in the rear of Municipal Building.



**J. MASON TOMLIN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**

393 Main Street  
Mantua, NJ 08051



**MANTUA TOWNSHIP CELEBRATES THE 100th ANNIVERSARY OF THE 19th AMENDMENT**



The Mayor and Township Committee along with Mantua resident Gail Shast, representing the Gloucester County Women's Club, celebrated the 100th anniversary of the 19th Amendment which afforded women the right to vote at their August 17th Township Committee meeting, which was the eve of the vote 100 years ago.



New Jersey has a rich history in the suffrage movement, joining a federal pursuit of women's right to vote. In 1776 the New Jersey State Constitution allowed women property owners the right to vote. This was unique in the nation at the time. However, in 1807, the New Jersey Legislature stripped women of their voting rights, limiting the ballot to white males. Shortly after, Margaret Laird and Jennie Van Ness were the first two women elected to the New Jersey Assembly in 1921.



**New Jersey was the 29th State to ratify the 19th Amendment on February 9, 1920.**







## TAKING PRIDE IN OUR PARKS



# New!

# PLAYGROUND EQUIPMENT IS ON THE WAY AT CHESTNUT BRANCH PARK

(Actual Playground Rendering)



Children in the Township of Mantua will have new playground equipment in Chestnut Branch Park by year's end. The Township Committee approved the purchase of a new play unit at Chestnut Branch Park. The park's current playground is 23 years old and by upgrading and replacing old equipment the township will be making the playground safer. The playground will also now be monitored by video surveillance to increase the park's level of security and safety.

# NEW

## Ceres Park Sign Gets a Makeover!



## INVESTING IN OUR COMMUNITY

## PITT HOPKINS SYNDROME AWARENESS DAY

Road projects make up the bulk of the Township's capital improvement fund. This year, \$550,000 will be spent on the following roads that are in need of repair:

- ✓ East Morris Ave. to Atlantic Ave.
- ✓ Trenton Ave. to Center Street
- ✓ Various portions of Spring Hill Rd.  
East Essex Ave. from East Atlantic Ave to Center Street
- ✓ West Warren Ave.  
in coordination with NJDOT



Deputy Mayor Bob Zimmerman presented his good friend, Anthony Mirigliani with a Township Proclamation declaring September 18, 2020 as Pitt Hopkins Syndrome Awareness Day. Pitt Hopkins Awareness Day is acknowledged around the world, and there are over 1,000 people diagnosed so far. We are lucky to have Anthony, who was diagnosed at 5 1/2 years old living right here in Mantua. Anthony does not let his disability

define him, as he has overcome so many obstacles in his lifetime. "I'm truly honored to present this annual proclamation to Anthony and his family. This is the 8th year honoring Anthony and Pitt Hopkins. Anthony is our hometown hero and is truly helping to make a difference in the world by sharing his story. Please take a moment to learn more about Pitt Hopkins by visiting [www.pitthopkins.org](http://www.pitthopkins.org)."

- Deputy Mayor Bob Zimmerman



# IMPROVING TRANSPORTATION SAFETY

The Gloucester County Engineering Department secured an **\$8 Million Dollar State Grant** (\$4 Million for each highway project highlighted below) to allow for roadway widening, intersection repair, and signalization improvements.

**Rt. 45 (Bridgeton Pike) & Mt. Royal Road  
& Harrison Avenue Intersection**



**Rt. 45 (Bridgeton Pike) & Mantua Boulevard  
& Berkley Road Intersection**



**Project Construction Anticipated Fall 2021**

# NEW BUSINESSES IN MANTUA TOWNSHIP



**Pictured Here:** Committeeman John Legge, Local Manager Jennifer Gillyooly & Greg Collins District Manager of Dollar General  
**271 Lambs Road**



**New Italian Restaurant - The Olive**  
**195 Center Street**



**510 Woodbury-Glassboro Road**



**222 Bridgeton Pike**  
**More Tollhouse Plaza Upgrades Coming in Fall 2020!**





Mantua Township Municipal Building  
401 Main Street  
Mantua, NJ 08051

PRSR STD  
U.S. Postage  
PAID  
Deptford, NJ  
PERMIT #41

\*\*\*ECRWSS\*\*\*  
RESIDENTIAL CUSTOMER



Patriot Day 2020 at Chestnut Branch Park 9/11 Memorial

# TOWNSHIP NEWSLETTER INSIDE



visit us at [mantuatownship.com](http://mantuatownship.com)



@township\_of\_mantua



townshipofmantua

## SENIOR CORNER



### Happy 100th Birthday Florence!



FLORENCE SHUTE was born in Pleasantville, New Jersey on September 12, 1920. She married her husband Buck in 1941 where they spent 67 years together and raised two children, Cherie and Tina. She has been a resident of Mantua Township since 1955 and a long-standing member of the Barnsboro Methodist Church. She and her late husband were members of the motorcycle clubs Gold Wing Road Riders Association and the Popular Rotorcraft Association and would travel all over the United States with these clubs. Florence has 3 grandchildren and 7 great grandchildren. Florence enjoys spending quality time with her family and friends. We wish her many more years to come!



*Mayor Pete Scirrotto presented resident, Florence Shute with a Township Proclamation for her 100th Birthday. She's pictured with the Mayor and her "church family" in the above photo.*



Mantua Township and our Recreation Committee are providing over 150 resident senior citizens with meals. Due to Covid-19 the township's on-site senior dinners have been cancelled. Our organizers have developed an alternative, and are delivering the meals directly to our seniors front door steps. On hand to assist with loading the township buses and to provide support were Deputy Mayor Bob Zimmerman and Committeeman John Legge. A special thank you to Deputy Municipal Clerk Pam Levine, our bus drivers, and the wonderful volunteer recreation committee members!

**To register for the next senior dinner on November 17th, please call Janet at 468-1500 x100.**

**Last day to call for a reservation is November 6, 2020.**