



MANTUA TOWNSHIP

2022 Summer Edition



YOUR SOURCE FOR COMMUNITY NEWS AND INFORMATION

Dear Residents,

I hope you are enjoying the longer days and my best wishes to you and your family for the summer season ahead. The joy it brings to me just knowing that our celebrations are returning back to normal with spending time with family and friends. As the Mayor of Mantua Township for the past 10 years, my job along with the members of the Township Committee is to make responsible decisions on government spending and to provide services in the most cost effective way. Every one of us is being impacted by the increase in consumer prices. Whether it is checking out at the grocery store or filling up your tank at the pump, the cost of just about everything is going up. With that being said, I am very happy to report that for the second year in a row, the Township's 2022 Budget was adopted with no local tax increase to our residents. The budget lives within our means but also continues all the services our residents want and deserve. Every decision and effort that was made to balance the budget started with the same goal. No local tax increase or impact to our residents. The Township Committee and I prioritize our goals to ensure that our community is welcoming and well-maintained, where streets and parks are beautiful, water and sewer services are delivered, public safety is maintained, and services are efficiently provided. 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. Be safe this summer....



MAYOR PETE SCIRROTTO

Mayor Pete Scirrotto



For the second year in a row, the Township Committee will not be raising local property taxes.

In an effort to strengthen core services, we are committing 1.5 million dollars to our Capital Improvement Program. The projects planned for this year include the following:

Roadway Improvements:

- Repaving Rosewood Development Streets
- Small Road Patching Projects
- Storm Water Repair for Montgomery Drive

Public Works:

- Rear Loader Trash Truck

Chestnut Branch Park:

- Merry-Go-Round Inclusive Spinner
- New Roof for Park Building
- Lighting Enhancement Project
- 9/11 Memorial Upgrades

Police:

- 2 Patrol Vehicles
- E-Ticket Machine
- Sally Port and Building Repairs

Mantua VFW Pavilion named after Frank Culkin

The new pavilion located at the Mantua Lawson Cox VFW Post 7679 was recently named after Frank Culkin who served as Quartermaster of the Post since 2009. Frank served 8 years in Vietnam as a platoon leader for Tropic Lightning, the 25th Infantry Division Rifle Company. Frank was awarded the Army Compensation Medal for meritorious and faithful service as well as the Bronze Star for meritorious achievement in ground operations against hostile forces. The pavilion's name pays special tribute to Frank for his love, service, and dedication to the Lawson Cox VFW Post 7679.



The Frank Culkin VFW Pavilion

Please be aware that we have relocated the MUA department into the Municipal Building in order to consolidate all of our services and better serve our residents. All MUA payments will now be accepted within our drive-thru. For more information please visit us online at www.mantuatownship.com.



PETER SCIRROTTO
MAYOR

ROBERT ZIMMERMAN
DEPUTY MAYOR

JOHN LEGGE
COMMITTEEMAN

SHAWN LAYTON
COMMITTEEMAN

EILEEN LUKENS
COMMITTEEWOMAN

PUBLIC WORKS

Summer Bulk Pickup Dates

July 5th - July 8th

August 1st - August 5th

September 6th - September 9th

Bulk will be picked up on your scheduled trash day. Please do not place your trash out until 6:00 PM the night before your trash day.



Stormwater Management is an effort to reduce runoff of rainwater or melted snow into streets, lawns and other sites and improve overall water quality. Please remember that what goes in the drains goes directly to our streams and waterways. Do not dump in road drains because it can affect our water quality.

EDELMAN FOSSIL PARK MUSEUM

Inspired by the core themes of preservation, exploration, and education, the Jean and Ric Edelman Fossil Park and Museum of Rowan University is a one-of-a-kind active fossil dig site that offers visitors the unique opportunity for hands-on discovery at a remarkable site of scientific wonder. This Mantua Township based world-class tourist destination contains thousands of fossils and provides a view into life in the Cretaceous Period 66 million years ago. Once a shallow ocean environment, then used for mining for over a century, the site is now a 4-acre quarry, encompassed by a 65-acre property, where "citizen scientists" can dig for fossils, alongside paleontologists. The museum boasts 3 main exhibits, retail store and café, dino-themed playground, VR Chamber, live animals and more! Visit Rowan.edu/fossils for more information. Coming in 2023.



Above: Drone shot of ground floor progress courtesy of Lou Iacona. Below: Rendering of museum coming in 2023.



A MESSAGE FROM YOUR POLICE CHIEF

WELCOME NEW OFFICERS!

Mantua Township has recently sworn in three new officers: Tyler Robertson, Tyler Ciaccio, and Alexander Stewart. Tyler Robertson has just graduated from the police academy, Tyler Ciaccio formerly served as a Class II officer in Clayton, and Alexander Stewart is joining us from the Westville PD. We welcome each of these officers to our community.



EARTH DAY FUN!

The students of Sewell School had a great time planting flowers at Trooper Eli McCarron Memorial Park for Earth Day! They were even able to get some assistance from K-9 Boomer!



RETIRED SGT. CHUCK COPELAND'S PASSING

We regret to inform everyone that retired Sergeant Chuck Copeland passed away. He was always quick with a joke while also making it a point to attend support services for military and police. Rest in peace Chuck, we'll miss you.



CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR NEW LIEUTENANT



On May 16, 2022, the Mantua Township Police Department swore in William Murphy as Lieutenant. Congratulations, Lieutenant Murphy! We wish you the best of luck in your new position!

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

The Mantua Township Police Department is currently hiring Class III Special Officers for the upcoming 2022-2023 school year. We offer a competitive salary for three elementary schools. Currently, there are no positions available for our middle schools or high schools.

To find out more information or to send in a resume, please visit the Police Department office, check out our website page at mantua-township.com, or email Captain Grady at blgrady@mantuatownship.com. Application deadline is 7/1/22.

SAFETY TIPS

With the nice weather coming up, please remember to roll up your car windows, lock your car doors and remove valuables from your car. When leaving the house, make sure all doors are closed and locked. Don't forget about the windows and garage doors too!!!

FUN EVENTS AT THE PARK

AT CHESTNUT BRANCH PARK

Children and families are invited to sing-a-long, dance-a-long and have fun! **FREE shows last one hour. ALL SHOWS BEGIN AT 10:30AM**

YOSI

Tuesday, June 28, 2022

With upbeat punk/rock-infused songs from his 5 award-winning albums, Yosi gets the kids on their feet dancing, laughing and singing!

MAMMAL MANIA

Tuesday, July 19, 2022

This program will showcase different mammals such as porcupines, skunks, wallabies and more!

COWBOY KEVIN

Tuesday, August 9, 2022

Cowboy Kevin will entertain all with lasso tricks, juggling and cowboy magic!



Wednesday, July 20, 2022

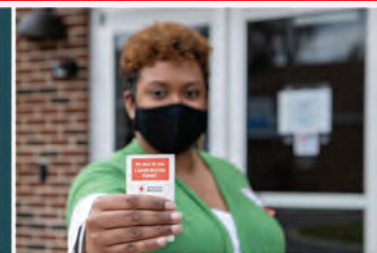
Chestnut Branch Park

After moving to a sleepy little town, young Lucky Prescott befriends a wild mustang named Spirit, who shares her rebellious spirit. When a heartless wrangler plans to capture Spirit and his herd, Lucky and her new friends embark on the adventure of a lifetime to rescue the horse that forever changed her life.

For a complete list of family-fun entertainment, events, concerts, and more please visit gloucestercountynj.gov



BLOOD DRIVE



BE PART OF SOMETHING BIG. GIVE BLOOD.

Be part of something big, and give blood at our American Red Cross Blood Drive. The event will be hosted in the meeting room of the Municipal Building on **Tuesday, July 12th at 9am-7pm**

Appointments are Preferred.

Call 1-800-REDCROSS or visit www.RedCrossBlood.org and use sponsor code: Mantuatownship



The Township of Mantua wishes everyone a very happy and safe Fourth of July!

COMMUNITY NEWS TO SHARE

The Casey Power Foundation

The Casey Power Foundation honors Casey Power, a young woman from Mantua Township who was a victim of domestic violence. The foundation has a goal of speaking up against domestic violence by creating widespread awareness while providing assistance to abuse victims. Mantua Township has rallied around domestic violence awareness by joining in on the "1st annual walk" in her honor that took place on April 2nd.



@thecaseypowerfoundation

Congratulations to Mayor Pete Scirrotto for being this year's VFW Post 7679 "Citizen of the Year!"



On April 25th, Mayor Scirrotto received the award at the VFW's annual awards ceremony. Pictured from left to right: Deputy Mayor Bob Zimmerman, Mayor Pete Scirrotto, Committeewoman Eileen Lukens, Committeeman Shawn Layton, and Committeeman John Legge.

CONGRATULATIONS!



The Township Committee presented the Baldwin and Quinn Family with a Proclamation to Recognizing June 4th as Tourette Syndrome Awareness Day at Mantua's Big Night Out.



Mayor Pete Scirrotto, Deputy Mayor Bob Zimmerman, Committeeman Shawn Layton and the Schaffer family enjoyed the Big Night Out event at Chestnut Branch Park.



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401 Main Street
Mantua, NJ 08051

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REMINDERS:

Death of Pet: Please let the Clerks Office know if your pet has passed away so we can update your pet registration information immediately.

Bulk Trash Pick Up: Early placement of bulk trash out on curb before the pick up date is a Code Violation.

Visit us at mantuatownship.com

Senior Dinner

June 21st at 3:00 p.m.

**MAKE YOUR RESERVATION
AT 856-468-1500 EXT. 100**



BOGEY'S | SEWELL NEW JERSEY
WEDDINGS, EVENTS, & DINING

501 Pitman Rd., Sewell. Located at Pitman Golf Course

A big thanks to Alfred Bartolomeo, owner of Bogey's, for graciously sponsoring and hosting our Senior Dinners.



WELCOME NEW BUSINESSES

EarthWise Pet

661 Bridgeton Pike, Mantua Township, NJ 08051
mantua.earthwisepet.com/mantua/

Cube Smart

222 Bridgeton Pk Unit B, Mantua, NJ 08051
cubesmart.com

Visionary Movement

160 Essex Ave, Sewell, NJ 08080
visionarymvmt.com

HAPPY RETIREMENT *Michelle Bruner!*

Michelle Bruner, Mantua Township's Economic Development coordinator, will be retiring from the Township after 28 years of employment. From orchestrating Affordable Housing, overseeing massive redevelopment projects, organizing groundbreaking events and ribbon cuttings, and serving as a site-supervisor for the Gloucester County Intern Scholarship Program, Michelle has been the pioneer of many amazing initiatives. Perhaps most notably, Michelle has served as Mantua Township's liaison in our partnership with Rowan University and the Edelman Fossil Park. She, along with Dr. Ken



Locavara, started community "Dig Days" as a grassroots project to save the fossil heritage of the Inversand Mining Company site. Now, we honor and celebrate her contribution to the \$73 million dollar Jean & Ric Edelman Fossil Park Museum. Her dedication to the project will never be forgotten. Ultimately, her passion for growth and opportunistic outlook on new businesses has made her a true staple in the community, and we now celebrate her achievements as she moves on to her next chapter in her life.