

# The Mendham Messenger



**July 2024** 

The Borough of Mendham Community Newsletter

mendhamnj.org

### Letter From the Mayor

# Dear Mendham Borough residents and business owners,

If you have had a reason to drive on Bliss Rd or Pleasant Valley Rd then I'm sure you had a smooth ride. Thanks to Pete and his team we had no delays with road paving this year. We also gained the benefit of a newly paved Phoenix House and Bowers Building driveway and parking lot, both of which were long overdue. Thanks, Pete, for getting our paving program back on track.

At our first Council meeting in June, a resident asked about the rapid decline of certain roads and if we were using the correct asphalt. It is true that we have some roads that have gotten a significant increase in usage, especially with the many detours the last couple of years due to New Jersey American Water's replacing of pipes. This increased traffic has added to a rapid deterioration. The other element that is giving us a shorter shelf life to our roads is the addition of 15% of millings that are added to the asphalt. Millings is the existing road that is ground up and removed before the road is repaved. This addition of old ground material makes for a less pure asphalt leaving the material vulnerable to breakdown more quickly, a criteria mandated by the State. Some of you may recall that last year the State Legislature passed a bill requiring instead of the 15% of millings normally put back into the mix, that we will now see 50% of millings added to the mix on certain roads. Depending on whether it's a

high volume road, we should expect to have to replace those roads much more frequently. Years ago, when the roads were paved with asphalt made with high quality oil, we could expect a road to last for about 20 years. Now we are lucky if the same road lasts 10 – 12 years. With 50% of millings mixed in to the new paving material we may have to replace roads as often as every 5 to 7 years, which will have a significant impact on our budgets. We will keep you posted.

# Important Notice of Councilman Departure

Please all join me in thanking Councilman Brennan Reilly for his 5½ years of service to our Mendham Borough community. Councilman Reilly notified us in early June that he would be stepping down from Council in order to spend more time with his family. We are all so grateful for his service and the contributions he made to the many committees where he provided guidance. In particular,

Councilman Reilly used his love for the trails and great outdoors by making improvements to the Environmental Committee and helping to increase the terrific projects that have made our parks and open spaces wonderful places to spend time. I'm sure we will see him out on the trails with his boys and wife in the near future, hiking and tending the trails. When you see him please give him a warm Mendham Thank You!

### **Honorable Retirement Notice**

Chief John Camoia has been with the Borough of Mendham for 31 years. He has served our community with honor starting out as a Patrolman in 1993 and will now be leaving, having served us all as our Chief of Police for the last 6 years. He notified us in June that he will be retiring and is ready to begin the next chapter of his story. The Chief has seen many changes over the years in New Jersey policing. He has navigated the many Statemandated requirements, such as new trainings, the addition of School Resource Officers, and the challenges that the pandemic shutdowns brought. He has the great distinction of having successfully brought the Borough Police Department accreditation process into action, validating the effectiveness of our force. We could not be more grateful for the safety and thoughtfulness that John has brought to our town. Please join me and your Governing Body at our July 22 meeting when we say



Chief Camoia and the Mendham Borough Police Department receive their Re-Accreditation from the NJ Association of Chiefs of Police, April 22, 2024.

thank you and farewell to Police Chief John Camoia.

### Coming up...

Remember you can find out about our Summer Concert Series and movie on our calendar.

Expect news of Councilman Reilly's replacement for the duration of his term in our next Messenger.

Thanks for reading!

# **News from Mendham Borough Library**

### Save the Date!

### **Books, Boots and Bling**

Saturday, September 28

Mark your calendars for Saturday, September 28, for the Mendham Borough Library's Fall Fundraiser, **Books, Boots and Bling**. This event is sure to be a great night out to support the library with a live band, delicious food, cocktails, dancing, and a silent auction/tricky tray. The event will be held at a beautiful home in Mendham Borough. All proceeds will be used for new books, robust programming, and technology to support all members of the community, including children and seniors.

## Summer Reading is Here!

The Mendham Borough Library has something for everyone with our Summer Reading programs! The Children's Summer Reading program has an Adventure Duck program and many amazing events including a magic show, live animals, painting, art projects, sewing, Bingo, Pokemon, as well as great prizes for reading books! Teens can record the books they read online to earn the chance to win gift cards. Adults can sign up to get a book bag and read books for a chance to win gift cards to local shops. Join our Summer Reading programs to read great books, have fun and win prizes!

A special thank you to **Chapter One Books**, **Sunny Nails**, and **Windswept** for their generous prize donations to our Summer Reading programs!

# Monthly Programs

### Yoga via Zoom

Tuesdays and Thursdays, 8:30 a.m.

\$5 per class. Sign up by the month at the library.

# Social Bridge

*Wednesdays, 10 a.m.*For experienced players.

#### Canasta

*Thursdays, 10 a.m.*For experienced players.

### In Stitches

Fridays, July 12 and 26, 1 p.m.
All levels welcome!

### **Coloring Club**

Monday, July 15, 6:30 p.m.

Join us for a fun drink and creative coloring with friends!

#### **Book Club**

is on hiatus for July and August.

### July Adult Programs

### **Sound Bath Meditation**

Tuesday, July 9, 6:30 p.m.

Join local resident and Sound Practitioner & Reiki Master, Genevieve Deely, as she leads participants through a



relaxing, immersive sound bath experience. Genevieve will use the healing sounds of crystal singing bowls to soothe the mind, body and soul. Participants can be seated or bring a yoga mat, blanket and pillow.

### **Book Donations Wanted**



Please donate <u>new and</u> <u>gently used</u> adult and children's books (no text books) in July for our upcoming Book
Sale. Please drop off books during library

hours. Get ready for a great book sale with terrific prices (\$1 and \$2) on Friday, August 23 and Saturday, August 24.

Mendham Borough Library will be closed on

Thursday, July 4.



# Fletcher Gallery

The Fletcher Gallery in July will feature artwork on loan from the Morris County Artists Network. This month's theme is "Outside."

# Did You Know?

The Mendham Borough Library has Summer Reading Books for grades 3-12 available on our **Summer Reading Bookshelf** (located directly in front of the circulation desk). Not sure what books are on the list? We have the books color-coded by grade and the lists ready to go for you! We make summer reading easy!

### July Children's Programs

### **Toddler Sing-Along**

Mondays, July 1, 8, 15, 22, 29, 10:30 a.m.

Sing some fun songs with us!

#### **Babies and Books**

Fridays, July 5, 12, 19, 26, 10:30 a.m.

Join us for a story, nursery rhyme, poems, and playtime!

### Lego Club (5+)

Wednesday, July 3, 4:00 p.m.

We'll bring the Legos. You bring your imagination!

### Planted Pals (5+)

Monday, July 8, 4:00 p.m.

Paint a fun face on your clay pot and plant seeds to grow into crazy hair.

### Rock Painting (5+)

Wednesday, July 10, 3:00 p.m.

Decorate your own rock with a kind saying or fun design.



### Coming Up

Thursday, August 1, 4:00 p.m.—Pokémon Card Trading
Thursday, August 1, 7:00 p.m.—Travel with Chris McCormack
(Adults)

Friday and Saturday, August 23 & 24, 10:00 a.m.—2:00 p.m.— **Book Sale** 

### The Great Reading Adventure Magic Show

Wednesday, July 17, 4:00 p.m.

at St. Mark's Church, 9 E. Main Street, Mendham

Join magical story-teller Conrad Cologne in a laughter-filled and interactive reading adventure. Watch as the Statue of Liberty disappears, a magic bubble flies through the air, pictures change, and we fire a penguin out of a cannon!

### **Sewing Workshop: Water Bottle Holders (7+)**

Thursday, July 18, 4:00 p.m.

Practice sewing skills as we make a useful carrying bag for your water bottle.

### **Collage Tile Coasters (7+)**

Monday, July 22, 3:00 p.m.

Create your own waterproof tile coasters with pictures and stickers.

### Kids' Painting Workshop (5+)

Wednesday, July 24, 4:00 p.m.

Dive into a world of adventure as Ms. Lynn teaches us to paint a hot air balloon picture. Sponsored by Morris Arts.

### Summer Family Bingo (all ages)

Wednesday, July 31, 6:00 p.m.

Bring the whole family for a fun game of Bingo where everyone is a winner!

### From the Historic Preservation Commission

Mendham Borough has an Historic District and is documented in the National Register of Historic Places. As such, those homes contribute in a very real way to the warm, welcoming atmosphere of our Borough. When the Borough was featured in the August 2013 edition of New Jersey Monthly, they complimented our town for having a "Main Street USA feeling," and the Historic District unquestionably contributes to that ambience. Commitment to the upkeep and maintenance of your home is a tribute to the spirit of Mendham and respect for our communal heritage.

In that spirit, in 2001, The Borough Council established the Historic Preservation Commission (HPC) for the protection, enhancement, and preservation of properties with historic, cultural, and architectural value in Mendham Borough. If you are a homeowner of such property, you are responsible to notify Borough staff of any alterations that you are planning for your home that may impact its historic appearance. This includes any change to the exterior appearance by addition, alteration or replacement; and any new construction of a principal or accessory structure. Note that this does not apply

to ordinary maintenance on structures and does not govern colors of structures to be painted.

The HPC is here to guide these owners with the design, construction, and material selection process. We have compiled a list of suggested materials and an application checklist to assist in this endeavor. We suggest that homeowners in the Historic District notify the Borough's Planning & Land Use Coordinator prior to the commencement of any work. The commission is available to offer any guidance they may need.

As physical and economic pressures become greater, it is more important than ever to the historic character of the Borough to protect the historic core of the community. This is especially true along Main Street from one side of the Borough to the other. Main Street is a major thoroughfare through town and provides a streetscape which defines Mendham Borough, not only to people passing through, but to residents as well. This is, in fact, the heart of the "historic village character."

Mendham Borough residents' continued efforts to enhance and preserve the historic character of the district is to be lauded, and their neighbors in the Borough appreciate their commitment.

July 2024 Mendham Borough Phoenix House 2 West Main St. Mendham, NJ 07945

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# Borough Events in July, 2024

Borough Offices will be closed Thursday, July 4
Borough Meetings: held at the Garabrant Center
unless otherwise indicated.

Council: 7 p.m. Monday, July 22 ECOSST: 7:30 p.m. Monday, July 1

**Historic Preservation Commission:** 7:30 p.m.

Monday, July 15

Joint Land Use Board: 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, July 16 Board of Health: 6:30 p.m. Thursday, July 18 Recreation Committee: 7:30 p.m. Thursday, July 18

Concerts in the Park:

Sunday, July 21, 6:30 p.m. "Break Time" Sunday, July 28, 6:30 p.m. "Fab Forward" Recycling: Friday, July 5, Thursdays, July 11,

Curbside Bulk Pickup: Mondays, July 1, 8, 15,

22, 29

# Skin Cancer Screening

The Bernards Township Health Department will be offering a Skin Cancer Screening on **Monday**, **July 15**, **2024** from **1-5 p.m.** The screening will take place at:

Fellowship Village 8000 Fellowship Road Basking Ridge, NJ 07920

Call 908-204-2520 to register. Suggested Donation of \$10.

### **Eligibility:**

- ♦ Adults 18+
- Never attended a Bernards Township skin cancer screening in the past
- Not under the care of a dermatologist



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### www.mendhamnj.org

Mendham Borough Hall: 2 West Main Street, Mendham, NJ 07945