



# THE MENDHAM MESSENGER



October 2023

The Borough of Mendham Community Newsletter

[mendhamnj.org](http://mendhamnj.org)

## Letter From the Mayor

### **Dear Mendham Borough residents and business owners,**

October and Fall have arrived! If you haven't been to our Mendham Fest in the past, this coming Saturday, October 7<sup>th</sup> is your chance. Come out and bring your blankets and chairs and meet your neighbors and friends for some outdoor Mendham fun. I'll be putting in an order to the weatherman for a sunny day!

### **Coming soon...**

Joyce Bushman, our Administrator, has done a terrific job of having our tax bills redesigned. You will recognize the bill from its green Mendham ink and our signature Phoenix House logo on the page. Also, new to our tax bill page is a QR code so you can log on and make your tax payment conveniently online. Our team is always looking to make improvements to how we communicate and brand Mendham.

### **More vandalism**

Sadly, the vandalism to our parks continues. This time a resident caught boys in the park trying to tip over a port-a-john. This may sound funny, but it's not when the town has to pay for the damage. That act was followed by the theft of one of our installed park benches, which as you can imagine are costly. Putting cameras all around the park would be an expensive endeavor. I am open to suggestions on how to protect our parks from thoughtless vandals. Email your ideas here: [information@mendhamnj.org](mailto:information@mendhamnj.org)

### **Who's Who in Mendham**

We start the school year with two brand new School Resource Officers joining the Mendham team. Please meet Officers Ryerson and Taquinto!

Officer Wade Ryerson will be serving at our Hilltop Elementary and Mountain View Middle schools. Officer Ryerson retired as a captain from the Rockaway Township Police Department in May of 2022 after more than 27 years in law enforcement. During his career he served as a patrol officer and D.A.R.E. officer, patrol sergeant, traffic lieutenant, patrol lieutenant, operations commander, accreditation manager, public information officer, vehicle fleet manager, and grant manager. He graduated from Rutgers University in 1991 and attended graduate school at Fairleigh Dickinson University where he graduated in 2011. He has a daughter, Caroline, who is currently in her first year of graduate school at Seton Hall University (Go Pirates!!) and studying speech pathology. His younger daughter, Megan, is attending undergraduate school at Coastal Carolina University (Let's hear it for Chauncy!) where she is studying psychology and is a member of the dance/cheer team. Officer Ryerson is a sports fan of all things Rutgers along with the NJ Devils and NY Jets. He is also an avid outdoorsman.

Officer Daniel Taquinto will be serving at our West Morris Mendham High School. Officer Taquinto retired from the

Mendham Township Police Department in January of 2021 as a sergeant and previously served as a patrol officer and a detective. He was involved in the school security programs at the Mendham Township elementary and middle schools. Officer Taquinto received an associate degree in criminal justice from the County College of Morris and his bachelor's degree in Sociology from Centenary University. Prior to joining the Mendham Township Police Department, he served as a police officer with the New Jersey Transit Police Department. His experience and training include emergency medical technician, drug recognition expert, active shooter instructor, and police academy instructor. Dan has twin boys that currently attend West Morris Mendham High School. Dan's wife, Dorianne, is a teacher in the Chester School District. Dan is an avid fan of the NJ Devils and NY Mets. He enjoys the outdoors and vacationing with his family.

### **A Busy DPW**

This is a busy time of year for our DPW team. End of summer season brings on a lot of winter prep work. While speaking with our new Superintendent, Pete Hafemeister, we concluded that we can help the DPW by better understanding our brush pick up program.

- ◆ Brush only gets picked up if you have contacted DPW and arranged for a pick up.
- ◆ Picking up the brush is a time consuming process – understand that it may take them a week or more before they get to your pile. Let's all stay patient.
- ◆ The brush pick-up does not include large trees or stumps. They will only pick up and chip what you can drag to your curb – nothing larger than 6 inches in diameter.
- ◆ Brush pick up service is for small to medium piles. If you have decided to clean out your woods and have constructed large piles at the curb you should consider calling a private tree service to remove.

For more information please visit our Brush Pick-Up Guidelines page on our website.

### **Land Use Schedule**

Please sign up for our emails and Nixle to stay up-to-date, as our agenda often changes with little notice. You can also look on our website and we will post updates before the meeting. The next meeting will be Tuesday, October 17, at 7:30 p.m.

That's it for this month. Have a colorful fall!

Sincerely yours,

Christine Serrano Glassner  
Mayor

## Thank You!

Thank you to the entire community for your support at our Gatsby Gathering. We enjoyed a wonderful evening visiting with friends and neighbors, tasting good food, listening to a fantastic jazz band, and winning amazing baskets! Tremendous thanks to Michael and Alex Zawadiwsky for opening their beautiful home to all of us, to our Sponsors for the event, Steve and JoAnn Peck, to all of the businesses that generously donated items to our auctions, and to everyone that supported the event by attending or sending in a donation.

## Outdoor Learning Center



We are thrilled that we will soon start construction on our Outdoor Learning Center. The new patio will have a seating area and a larger program area. We are very excited to host events in this new space! Please excuse the mess and be flexible with us during construction. Our parking lot will be closed for a couple of days so please park on the street or in the municipal lot behind St. Mark's Church at that time.

## Fletcher Gallery

Check out the Fletcher Gallery this month to see the urban street art of local artist Bill Stillman.

## October Adult Programs

### **Cake Decorating**

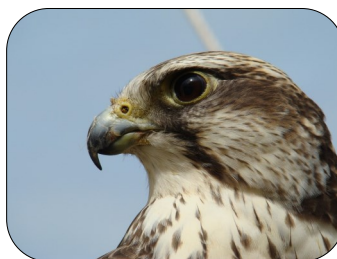
**Thursday, October 12,  
6:30 p.m.**

Join us for a fun night with our featured baker Suzanne Lowery as she teaches some great new cake decorating techniques!



### **Raptors of New Jersey Bob Bush Exceptional Program**

**Wednesday, October 18, 6:30 p.m.**



Join us as experts from Avian Wildlife Center lead an interactive and close-up evening with hawks and owls of New Jersey!

## Monthly Programs

**Yoga via Zoom**  
*Tuesdays and Thursdays*  
8:30 a.m.

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

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

**Canasta**  
*Thursdays, 10 a.m.*  
All levels of play are welcome!

**In Stitches**  
*Fridays, October 13 and 27,  
1 p.m.*  
All levels welcome!

**\*\*\*NEW PROGRAM!\*\*\*  
Coloring Club**

*Monday, October 16, 7 p.m.*

Join us for a glass of wine and creative coloring with friends!

**Cribbage**  
*Tuesday, October 17, 6:30 p.m.*  
All levels welcome!

**Book Club**  
*Friday, October 27, 10 a.m.*  
Child 44  
by Tom Rob Smith

The Library will be closed on  
Monday, October 9.

## Did You Know?

We have a great collection of Read-A-Long books for children in the library. Read-A-Long books read out loud to your child with the push of a button. These books are a great tool for emerging readers as they build confidence as they learn to read. Read-A-Long books are also helpful as they encourage independent reading with children. Our library has a collection of picture books, chapter books, and non-fiction titles – check one out today!



## October Children's Programs

### **Toddler Sing-Along**

*Mondays, October 2, 16, 23, 30, 10:30 a.m.*

Join us for some fun songs!

### **Babies and Books**

*Fridays, October 6, 13, 20, 27, 10:30 a.m.*

Now meeting every week! Join us for a story, nursery rhyme or poem!

### **Sweet STEM (5+)**

*Thursday, October 5, 4 p.m.*

Participate in fun STEM activities using sweet treats.

### **Firefighters Visit**

*Saturday, October 14, 10:30 a.m.*

Meet our local firefighters and see their awesome trucks.



### TAG (Teen Advisory Group)

#### **Dia de los Muertos Skull Painting (12+)**

*Thursday, Oct 19, 5:30 p.m.*

Paint your own Candy Skull inspired decor, as we honor this traditional holiday.

### **Read to a Dog (All Ages)**

*Wednesday, October 18, 4 p.m.*

Build reading confidence while sharing a story with a friendly dog.



### **Boo-Bash**

*at Brookside Community Club*

*Tuesday, October 24, 3:45-4:45 p.m.*

Join us in costume for some Halloween fun for the whole family!

### **Black Cat Sewing Workshop (7+)**

*Wednesday October 25, 4-6 p.m.*

Create a new stuffed friend while learning some sewing basics.

### Coming Up

**Design Your Own Flag**—Wed, Nov. 1, 4 p.m.

**Pilgrims & The Mayflower**—Thurs, Nov. 2, 7 p.m.

**Penguins Are Coming!**—Tues, Nov. 7, 2 & 2:45 p.m.

**Paint & Sip: Fall Pumpkins**—Wed, Nov 15, 6:30 p.m.

**Please register for all library programs online at [mendhamboroughlibrary.org](https://mendhamboroughlibrary.org) or call the library at 973-543-4152.**



### Fire Prevention Week

#### **From John Zaragoza, Fire Marshal**

Fire Prevention Week is October 8-14, 2023.

This year's campaign is "Cooking Safety Starts With YOU."

- ◆ Stay in the kitchen while you are frying, boiling, grilling, or broiling food. If you leave the kitchen for even a short period of time, turn off the stove.
- ◆ Keep anything that can catch fire—oven mitts, wooden utensils, food packaging, towels or curtains—away from your stovetop.
- ◆ If you have a grease fire on the stovetop, smother the flames by sliding a lid over the pan and turning off the burner. Leave the pan covered until it is completely cooled.

- ◆ If you have any doubt about fighting a small fire, just get out! When you leave, close the door behind you to help contain the fire and call 9-1-1.

For additional information visit:

<https://www.nfpa.org/fpw>.



October 2023  
Mendham Borough  
2 West Main St.  
Phoenix House  
Mendham, NJ 07945

Presort Standard  
US POSTAGE PAID  
Phillipsburg, NJ  
PERMIT #4

### Borough Events in October 2023

**Borough Offices Closed Monday, October 9**

**Borough Meetings:** held at the Garabrant Center unless otherwise indicated.

**Council:** 7 p.m. Wednesday, October 11;  
7 p.m. Monday, October 23

**ECOSST:** 7:30 p.m. Monday, October 2

**Historic Preservation Commission:** 7:30 p.m.  
Monday, October 16;

**Joint Land Use Board:** 7:30 p.m. Tuesday,  
October 17

**Board of Health:** 6:30 p.m. Thursday,  
October 19

**Recreation Committee:** 7:30 p.m. Thursday, October  
19

**Borough Schools Board of Education:**

7 p.m. Tuesday, October 17, Hilltop Elementary  
School Cafeteria

**Recycling:** Thursdays, October 5, 12, 19, 26

**Curbside Bulk Pickup:** Mondays, October 2, 16,  
23, 30

### Flu Shot Clinic

***Thursday, October 12th, 9-11 a.m.***

***Garabrant Center, 4 Wilson St., Mendham Borough***

**No Appointment Needed!**

Consult your doctor before receiving the flu shot. For ages  
4 through adult. All shots are Quadrivalent Vaccine.

**Cost:** Residents: \$25

Non-Residents: \$35

Valid Medicare Part B card: No Charge

Please contact the Bernards Township Health Department  
at 908-204-3069 if you have additional questions.



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