

The Mendham Messenger

February 2010

Mayor's Update

Dear Residents and Business Owners:

I am happy to report that Mendham Borough is in excellent shape as we head further into this new year. During the difficult economic climate of 2009, the Borough Council, our Borough Administrator, employees and volunteers did a terrific job ensuring that residents and business owners received maximum efficiencies and services from the municipal government. I want to express my thanks for all of their contributions last year.

Among the important accomplishments during 2009 were the following highlights. The Department of Public Works implemented a very successful curbside brush pickup program. The Borough Council adopted an extremely lean but very balanced 2009 municipal budget. The Borough participated in the completion of the 4-Town Recreation Report which offered suggestions on how best to share recreation facilities with neighboring towns. The Police Department maintained a high standard of consistent police coverage during trying times for the department. The Council submitted our third round plan on affordable housing to the Council on Affordable Housing. The Tax Department completed a re-assessment of all properties within the Borough. The new and improved website and monthly updates on council activities in the Mendham Messenger improved communications with the public. The Phoenix House Garden was renovated and the Borough acquired additional open space at 34B West Main St.

While the holiday season gave us all the opportunity to take a break, the Mayor and Council, along with all of our employees, volunteers and professionals, have much to accomplish in 2010. The following focus areas will be considered and possibly modified during 2010.

- In this coming year, the Mayor and Council will more than likely have to make a firm decision about Mendham Borough and the New Jersey Highlands Regional Master Plan. This very critical choice would affect planning and zoning codes for many years to come and must be made thoughtfully and with as much information as possible.
- The Borough Council and Planning Board will deliberate Phase 2 of the proposed expansion of our

Historic District in early 2010. This expansion will include additional homes on East and West Main Street as well as Orchard Street and, if passed, will ensure that the historic character of Mendham Borough remains intact for many years to come.

- The Public Safety Committee will work with Borough Administrator Ellen Sandman and Police Chief Taylor to insure that police operating procedures are up to date. In late 2010, we will begin to negotiate a new contract with PBA Local 438.
- The Council's Public Works and Utilities Committee will work with DPW Superintendent Ken O'Brien to identify new services, similar to the brush pick up program, that can help our residents and businesses at little or no cost to the taxpayer.
- We will be looking at improving our property maintenance and sign ordinances and hope to introduce an occupancy limitation ordinance.
- Because of the continued issues in the economy and to better serve the tax payers, the Council will look at ways to share services with neighboring communities. Such collaborations can save money and create long-term stability. The Borough's small staff struggles each year to create efficiencies and to fulfill multiple roles in the Borough's administration. This year, as our economy continues to present challenges, I feel we must look harder for ways to work with our neighbors. It is one of my priorities to reach out to neighboring towns for preliminary discussions during this year.

Thanks for your continued interest in this column and in Mendham's ongoing growth and development. I have only touched the tip of the iceberg on the projects and tasks facing us in 2010. Please visit our website frequently for up-to-the-moment information about happenings in the Borough, www.mendhamnj.org. And please be in touch - both residents and business owners - to offer any suggestions that might be helpful in preserving the historic, small town character that makes Mendham a special place.

Sincerely,

Neil Henry, Mayor



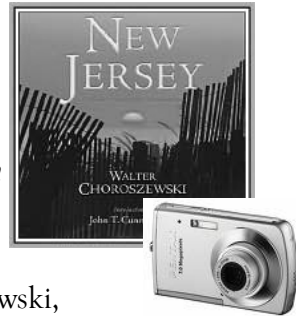
Mendham Borough
LIBRARY

News from the Mendham Borough Library

10 Hilltop Road 973 543-4152 mendhamboroughlibrary.org

Professional Secrets to Great Pictures with Walter Choroszewski Thursday, February 25 at 7 pm

Are you still puzzling over how to create great shots with your digital camera? Walter Choroszewski, photographer and author of a series of books and calendars on NJ, will lead an introductory class to teach you how. Walter has created 17 photographic books, many of which focus on the Garden State. His award-winning works were the inspiration for the popular New Jersey state tourism campaign "NEW JERSEY & You ...Perfect Together!" Bringing his expertise, humor and "straight-talk" to this complicated subject, Walter will teach you how to take pictures in the digital age. He will demystify menus and megapixels and will discuss the expectations and limitations of digital photography.



Adult Programs

Social Bridge - 10 am on Wednesdays

Beginners are welcome to join the group or experts can come to sharpen their skills.

Morning Reading Group 2010 Book List

Meets the last Friday of each month at 10 am in the Fletcher Room at the library. Participants take turns acting as the discussion leader. Please let the library know if you are interested joining the group.

February 26	<i>Cold, Sassy Tree</i> by Olive Ann Burns
March 26	<i>The Moonstone</i> by Wilkie Collins
April 30	<i>Dutchess of Death</i> by Richard Hack
May 21	<i>Olive Kitteredge</i> by Elizabeth Strout
June 25	<i>Twilight</i> by Stephenie Meyer
July & August	Summer Break, no meetings
September 24	<i>Moliere</i> by Sam Shepard
October 29	<i>The Help</i> by Kathryn Stockett
November 19	<i>Sarah's Key</i> by Tatiana de Rosnay
December 10	<i>The Art of Racing in the Rain</i> by Garth Stein

Kids Chess Club

*Beginning Thursday, February 11
from 6:30 to 7:45 pm*

Whether you are a beginner or planning to take your game to the next level, kids in grades 4 through 8 are welcome to join in starting this new club at the library. The classes, led by instructor Marty Sobin, will be held on the second Thursday of each month. Marty is the founder of Jersey Chess, an instructional chess program designed to provide group and individual instruction. Sign ups are limited to 20 students. If there is additional interest, names will be placed on a wait list.

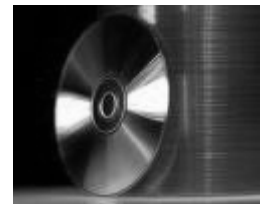


Valentine's Day Craft for Kids

Wednesday, February 10 at 3:15 pm

Mendham's DVD Store is now at the Library

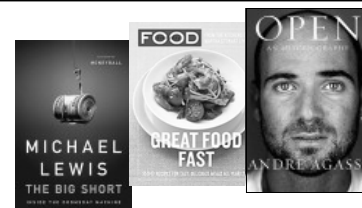
Come in soon to check out our collection of over 1500 DVDs. We continue to get more each month and we want your help in making the library's DVD collection better in two ways.



1. You can donate your used DVDs and everyone in the community will be able to enjoy them. As a thank you for your donation, you'll receive a coupon for one free DVD rental. Please, no VHS tapes.
2. Let us know what DVDs you'd like us to purchase. We are particularly interested in adding to our "classic" collection. What's your favorite? Think *Breakfast at Tiffany's* or Hitchcock's *Rear Window*. Our collection currently contains first-run children's and adult movies, documentaries, and popular series from network, public and cable television. They cost only \$1 per DVD. You can find the complete list on our website: www.mendhamboroughlibrary.org.

Looking for one more way to get a free DVD rental? Become our Fan on Facebook!

New Acquisitions at the MBL



Books

<i>Apple Turnover Murder</i>	Joanne Fluke	2/23
<i>Big Girl</i>	Danielle Steel	2/23
<i>The Big Short</i>	Michael Lewis	2/22
<i>Black Hills</i>	Dan Simmons	2/24
<i>Black Magic Sanction</i>	Kim Harrison	2/23
<i>Citizens of London</i>	Lynne Olson	2/2
<i>Conspirata</i>	Robert Harris	2/2
<i>Emerald Embrace</i>	Shannon Drake	2/1
<i>Everyday Food</i>	Martha Stewart Living	2/23
<i>False Convictions</i>	Tim Green	2/10
<i>Fantasy in Death</i>	J.D. Robb	2/23
<i>The Gin Closet</i>	Leslie Jamison	2/16
<i>Horns</i>	Joe Hill	2/1
<i>The Infinities</i>	John Banville	2/23
<i>The Information Officer</i>	Mark Mills	2/2
<i>Last Snow</i>	Eric Van Lustbader	2/16
<i>The Last Surgeon</i>	Michael Palmer	2/16
<i>Life as I Know It</i>	Melanie Rose	2/16
<i>The Midnight House</i>	Alex Berenson	2/9
<i>Money to Burn</i>	James Grippando	2/23
<i>A Night Too Dark</i>	Dana Stabenow	2/16
<i>The Pint Man</i>	Steve Rushin	2/23
<i>Poor Little Bitch Girl</i>	Jackie Collins	2/9
<i>The Postmistress</i>	Sarah Blake	2/9
<i>Secrets of Eden</i>	Christopher Bohjalian	2/2
<i>Split Image</i>	Robert B. Parker	2/23
<i>The Summer Hideaway</i>	Susan Wiggs	2/23
<i>The Things That Keep Us Here</i>	Carla Buckley	2/9
<i>Venetia Kelly's Traveling Show</i>	Frank Delaney	2/23
<i>The Watchers</i>	Shane Harris	2/18
<i>Wicked Craving</i>	G.A. McKevev	2/1
<i>The Wife's Tale</i>	Lori Lansens	2/10
<i>The Wild Zone</i>	Joy Fielding	2/23
<i>Winter Garden</i>	Kristin Hannah	2/2
<i>You Say Tomato, I Say Shut Up</i>	Annabelle Gurwitch	2/23

Keep Your Eye Out For

<i>Game Over</i>	Fern Michaels	3/1
<i>Maeve Binchy Writers' Club</i>	Maeve Binchy	3/9
<i>Hell Gate</i>	Linda Fairstein	3/9
<i>Wild Ride</i>	Jennifer Crusie	3/16
<i>Think Twice</i>	Lisa Scottoline	3/16
<i>The Sheen on the Silk</i>	Anne Perry	3/23
<i>Caught</i>	Harlan Coben	3/23
<i>Cat of the Century</i>	Rita Mae Brown	4/6

Audio-Books

<i>Alex Cross's Trial</i>	James Patterson
<i>Arguing with Idiots</i>	Glenn Beck
<i>Committed</i>	Elizabeth Gilbert
<i>The Honor of Spies</i>	W.E.B. Griffin
<i>Noah's Compass</i>	Anne Tyler
<i>Open</i>	Andre Agassi
<i>The Professional</i>	Robert B. Parker
<i>Pursuit of Honor</i>	Vince Flynn
<i>Remarkable Creatures</i>	Tracy Chevalier
<i>Rough Country</i>	John Sandford
<i>Sizzle</i>	Julie Garwood
<i>Spartan Gold</i>	Clive Cussler
<i>The Swan Thieves</i>	Elizabeth Kostova

Large Type Books

<i>Fired Up</i>	Jayne Ann Krentz
<i>The Guinea Pig Diaries</i>	A.J. Jacobs
<i>Her Fearful Symmetry</i>	Audrey Niffenegger
<i>Julie & Julia</i>	Julie Powell
<i>A Matter of Class</i>	Mary Balogh
<i>Remarkable Creatures</i>	Tracy Chevalier
<i>True Compass</i>	Edward Kennedy

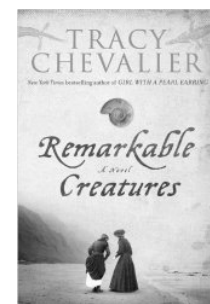
DVDs

<i>Bright Star</i>	1/26
<i>Zombieland</i>	2/2
<i>The Time Traveler's Wife</i>	2/9
<i>The Men Who Stare At Goats</i>	3/23

Book Highlight

Remarkable Creatures by Tracy Chevalier

A voyage of discoveries, a meeting of two remarkable women, and an extraordinary time and place enrich best-selling author Tracy Chevalier's new novel. When Mary Anning uncovers an unusual fossilized skeleton in the cliffs near her home, she sets the scientific world alight. In an arena dominated by men, however, Mary has unusual interests and is barred from the academic community. Her relationship with her unlikely champion, Elizabeth Philpot, strikes a delicate balance between mutual appreciation and barely suppressed envy. This stunning novel describes how one woman's gift transcends class and social prejudice to lead to some of the most important discoveries of the nineteenth century.



Borough Calendar for February

Curbside Bulk Pickup

Mondays, February 1, 8 & 22

Recycle - Thursdays, February 11 & 25

Borough Council Meetings - at the Garabrant Center,
8 pm on Monday, February 1 and Tuesday, February 16

Planning Board Meeting - at the Garabrant Center,
7:30 pm on Monday, February 8

Board of Adjustment - at the Garabrant Center,
7:30 pm on Tuesday, February 2

Environmental Commission - at the Phoenix House,
8 pm on Thursday, February 18

Recreation Commission - at the Phoenix House,
7:30 pm on Tuesday, February 9

Historic Commission and Open Space Commission
Meeting dates and times for February can be found on
the Borough website, www.mendhamnj.org.

Mendham Borough Board of Education News

Next Meeting ~ Tuesday, February 23

7:30 pm in the Hilltop School Cafeteria

Social studies teachers at Mountain View School, along with the principal, Ms. Lambert, and curriculum director, Dr. Mussad, have been working to improve student instruction. This initiative includes introducing thematic approaches and the utilization of a common methodology based on best practices, thereby

ensuring a smoother transition and coherent thread between grades. Clear differentiation guides have been created to further enhance student learning at various levels of readiness. For more information on school matters, please visit our website www.mendhamboro.org.

Help Wanted ~ Day Camp Counselors

The Mendham Summer Day Camp is looking for enthusiastic, accountable, responsible people to join our team as camp counselors. Experience caring for young children is preferred. Please submit a letter requesting a position by February 28 to: Recreation Department, 6 West Main St., Mendham, NJ 07945.

Somerset Hills Child Health Conference FREE Immunizations & Well Baby Care

Screenings and immunizations are provided for children without health insurance from birth to 18 years old living in Bernards Township, Bernardsville, Chester Borough, Mendham Borough, Mendham Township, Peapack and Gladstone Borough, and Long Hill Township. Screenings are held from 8:45 to 11:45 am at St. James R.C. Church, 184 South Finley Avenue, Basking Ridge, NJ on the second Tuesday of each month including February 9, March 9, April 13, May 11, June 8, July 13, August 10, September 14, October 12, November 9 and December 14.