



# THE MENDHAM MESSENGER



April 2024

The Borough of Mendham Community Newsletter

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

## Letter From the Mayor

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

April is here! What a great time of year to see what floral surprises await from those bulbs that were planted last fall. It's also a good time to plan for this fall's bulb planting in order to grow your spring garden, so take lots of pictures.

### **Patriots Path Trail Status**

Rocky roads ahead. Due to the severe storms we experienced this past fall and winter, we have had serious washouts on our trails. The trail from the Water Reclamation Facility leading to the India Brook parking area, as well as the Patriots Path leading towards Mountain Ave, are in poor shape and not ideal for all walkers. Due to the complication of state approvals for some of this work, since the trails are so close to the streams, we will not be able to make the necessary repairs. The work is much more complicated than it looks and could require an engineering study to understand how future storms and flooding would create washouts in the future. We will be posting new signs to warn residents of the foot perils, but ask that you take special caution if you do continue to use the trails. We will keep you posted as we plan for the future.

### **April 6<sup>th</sup> is Shred Day!**

Paper and tech shredding will take place on Saturday, April 6, from 9:00am to 1:00pm. This is a free service for Mendham Borough residents only and will take place at our Department of Public Works. Good items to consider: anything with personal information, bank statements, medical records, etc. Don't worry about removing staples or paper clips.

For tech: desktop computers, laptops, phones, USB drives, and more. Just pull up and drop off.

### **Arbor Day Tree Seedling Program is Back**

Mendham Borough will be celebrating Arbor Day this year by giving out free seedlings and asking residents to plant them. You may recall that last year we were unable to get our regular seedlings due to availability. Fortunately, our DPW has arranged for a seedling program this year, although limited. This year we have been able to secure 450 seedlings. The event will be held on April 12, 13, and 15-17. Seedlings are for Mendham Borough residents only

and due to the limited volume, there will be one seedling per family. If we run out before the 15th, we will send out a notice.

Tim Foerster, our Shade Tree Advisor, suggests doing a little research before you plant your seedling. Look up the species and see where it would thrive best, like a shady area versus full sun. He suggests planting your seedling right away and making sure the soil has good drainage and plenty of mulch for moisture. Remember to water frequently! It would be great if you could take a picture of your seedling being planted and send it to us so we can post your photo on our social media.

### **Road Work Ahead!**

Our DPW team started our pothole repair program in February. They will continue filling potholes as needed. If you see a pothole that needs filling on one of our Mendham Borough streets, please call Debbie at (973) 543-6535.

### **Online Sewer Bill**

Once again the Boro is making strides. You can now sign up for paperless billing for your sewer bill. This is only for sewer billing and not for your tax bill since the state has rules prohibiting this service for tax payments. See our website for details.



Go Green! Go Paperless! Sign up today for Sewer eBilling!

### **Communications:**

Would you like to get the latest Mendham Borough Communications? Some of you may be new to town and others may have been too busy in the past to sign up. Go to our website to sign up, [www.mendhamnj.org](http://www.mendhamnj.org). On the left side of the screen you will see a series of icons. Click on the third icon from the left for Nixle. Sign up is easy. You can receive messages via text, voice mail, and email. Do it today!

Here's wishing you all warm Spring days ahead!

Sincerely,  
Christine Serrano Glassner, Mayor

## You Are Invited!

Please join us for a Ribbon Cutting Grand Opening of our Outdoor Learning Patio! The event will be held on Thursday, May 9th at 7:00 p.m. We are thrilled to open this new space to host numerous programs. Make a toast and celebrate with us! Please RSVP to Trish Hall at [trish.hall@mendhamboroughlibrary.org](mailto:trish.hall@mendhamboroughlibrary.org) if you are planning on attending.

## A Warm Welcome!

We welcome Amara D'Aquanni to our library staff. Amara will be our Circulation Associate and will be here to assist you with everything we do. Amara lives in Mendham Borough with her husband Mike and two daughters. A former attorney and non-profit development coordinator, Amara is eager to bring her varied career experience to serve our community. Please stop by and introduce yourself!



## April Adult Programs

### **Harriet Tubman – Liberty or Death featuring Daisy Century: A Bob Bush Exceptional Program**

**Wednesday, April 17, 7:00 p.m.**

Join us to learn about Harriet Tubman's early life and indomitable spirit that freed her from slavery along with her historical rescue of more than 300 slaves using the Underground Railroad.



### **Bear Aware! Family Program**

**Wednesday, April 24, 7:00 p.m.**

Meet naturalist Eric Bartkowski from Morris County Parks Commission as he helps us understand how black bears are an important part of our world in Mendham, and shows us how to react if we encounter one. We will also learn more about black bear history, adaptations, life cycle, diet, and needs. Recommended for ages 8+.

## Virtual Programs

Sign up online and receive a link to view the following virtual program:

### **Dorothea Lange – Pioneering Photo Journalist of the mid 20th Century**

**Monday, April 29, 7:00 p.m. via Zoom**

Join us for a presentation and discussion of this interesting and surprisingly relevant exhibition on Dorothea Lange's photography, with a special focus on its relationship to language.

## Fletcher Gallery

Our featured April artist will be Hallie Murray. Hallie will be exhibiting "Whimsical Journey," an exploration of colors and mixed media in various abstract painting techniques.

## 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, April 5 and 19, 1 p.m.**  
All levels welcome!

### **Coloring Club**

**Monday, April 15, 6:30 p.m.**

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

### **Book Club**

**Friday, April 26, 10 a.m.**

*The Lincoln Highway*  
by Amor Towles

## Did You Know?

Our Library has a **Never Ending Book Sale!** Each week we add new books to the sale shelf. Find fiction, non-fiction adult and children's titles for sale. Stop by and pick out a great book to enjoy at a fantastic price: Hardcover cost \$2.00 each and paperbacks are \$1.00 each. The collection also includes DVD's for \$2.00 each.

**Please register for all programs at [www.mendhamboroughlibrary.org](http://www.mendhamboroughlibrary.org).**

## April Children's Programs

### **Toddler Sing-Along**

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

Sing some fun songs with us!

### **Babies and Books**

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

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

### **Beaded Friendship Bracelets (7+)**

*Wednesday, April 10, 3:30 p.m.*

Bead fun bracelets with inspirational messages for yourself, your friends and your family.



### **Kids' Drawing Class with The Joe Kubert School (7+)**

*Wednesday, April 24, 4:00 p.m.*

Want to learn how to draw like a real comic book artist? A professional comic book illustrator from The Joe Kubert School will be here to teach you how. All supplies provided by the library.



### **Elephant & Piggie Party**

*Tuesday, April 30, 3:30 p.m.*

Party it up with us as we make a fun craft and listen to a story to celebrate Elephant & Piggie's arrival at The Growing Stage for their show "Elephant & Piggie: We are in a Play." Everyone attending will be entered for a chance to win a **free** pair of tickets (1 adult & 1 child) to the show.



### **TAG (Teen Advisory Group)**



#### **Teen Jeopardy (12+)**

*Thursday, April 18, 5:30 p.m.*

Test your knowledge to be the Jeopardy Champ!

### **Coming Up**

**Origami Flowers (7+)**—Thurs., May 9, 3:30 p.m.  
**Teen Cookie Decorating (12+)**—Tues., May 21, 6 p.m.  
**WWII: Escape from Behind Enemy Lines**—  
Wed., May 15, 7 p.m.

## From ECOSST

### **Raritan Headwaters Cleanup Day**

*Saturday, April 20, 9 a.m. – 12 p.m.*



**It only takes three hours to make a big impact.**

Raritan Headwaters 34th Annual Stream Cleanup is coming to Mendham! Did you

know the Mendhams are part of the 470 square mile watershed for the Raritan River Basin, which drains into the Raritan Bay and eventually the Atlantic Ocean? This vital resource needs your help! Register at <https://www.raritanheadwaters.org/stream-cleanup-registration/> to join volunteers at Mountainview Pond off Mountain Avenue and keep our waterways clean.

Registration closes April 12. If you would like to register more than 5 people please contact Deborah

Newcomb directly at

[streamcleanup@raritanheadwaters.org](mailto:streamcleanup@raritanheadwaters.org).

### **Be Prepared!**

#### **What to Bring**

- ◆ Reusable water bottle—stay hydrated!
- ◆ RHA will **not** be providing snacks and drinks as we have in the past.
- ◆ Trash pickers—if you got 'em bring 'em!
- ◆ Work gloves—RHA provides gloves but you are welcome to bring and wear your own work gloves. (Fabric gloves with rubber palms work best.)
- ◆ Change of shoes and a small towel in your car if you plan on going somewhere afterward.

#### **What to Wear**

- ◆ No one is required to get into the stream.
- ◆ The majority of litter is typically along the stream bank edges, access points, walking paths and parking areas.

*(Continued on page 4)*

### Borough Events in April, 2024

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

**Council:** 7 p.m. Wednesday, April 10; 7 p.m. Monday, April 22

**ECOSST:** 7:30 p.m. Monday, April 1

**Historic Preservation Commission:** 7:30 p.m. Monday, April 15

**Joint Land Use Board:** 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, April 16

**Board of Health:** TBA

**Recreation Committee:** 7:30 p.m. Thursday, April 18

### **Borough Schools Board of Education:**

7:00 p.m. Wednesday, April 24, Hilltop Elementary School Cafeteria: **Public Budget Hearing**

**Recycling:** Thursdays, April 4, 11, 18, 25

**Curbside Bulk Pickup:** Mondays, April 1, 8, 15, 22, 29

*(Continued from page 3)*

- ◆ This event is rain or shine, so dress accordingly! (i.e. if it's raining, wear a raincoat)
- ◆ Please wear long sleeves and long pants to protect from tree branches, briars, ticks and other insects.
- ◆ Wear sturdy shoes that you don't mind getting dirty and wet (don't be wearing those new white Guccis!).
- ◆ Hats, sunscreen and bug spray are also recommended.
- ◆ If weather, stream depth, stream flow and access is safe and you plan to enter the stream, come prepared with rubber boots or waders.

