



THE MENDHAM MESSENGER



July 2026

The Borough of Mendham Community Newsletter

mendhamnj.org

Letter From the Mayor

Dear Residents and Businesses,
HAPPY 250TH BIRTHDAY AMERICA! HAPPY 4TH OF JULY MENDHAM!

As we approach the Fourth of July, I hope everyone enjoys time with their family and friends. Consider taking a moment to share with your children the significance of this milestone year—250 years of American independence. It’s an opportunity to reflect on the extraordinary gift of freedom that we enjoy, a gift secured by generations of Americans who believed in the promise of our nation.

A very, very special thank you to the McLean Family for their generous and significant donation of the historic Mendham Cary Family grandfather clock c. 1777 to the Borough. The clock was made by Mendham’s prominent Revolutionary War captain, gunsmith, and clock maker, Lebbeus Dod. It is especially fitting that this generous donation comes to the Borough as our nation celebrates the 250th anniversary of America!

Mendham Borough recently honored Memorial Day with our annual remembrance ceremony, a tradition that continues to bring our community together in gratitude and remembrance. I want to extend a heartfelt thank you to Air Force Veteran, Pat Kelly for sharing his military experience with us, and Marine Veteran, Sean Lynch for running the ceremony. Thank you to Mike Orgera and Ken Lordy from the Borough Fire Department and First Aid Squad for sharing their facility to host the event during the inclement weather.

I would like to greatly honor John Andrews who in 2020, as a council member, started the Memorial Day Remembrance Ceremony and the Hometown Heroes Banner Program. John created the banner program to recognize our local veterans and continues to be chair of the committee. The program has grown to 68 banners. Through John’s dedication, the banners now serve as a powerful reminder of the men and women who served and sacrificed for our nation’s freedom. John is a Marine Corps Veteran and works with the non-profit Marines Care to raise funds to support veterans in need. I encourage anyone interested in contributing to the support of this important mission to contact Marines Care at Marinescare.org, or reach out to John Andrews at 973-452-9893.

Don’t forget with Summer here, Mendham is a wonderful place to be outdoors and reminds us how special our community truly is.

The Borough just completed Phase I of the west side of the Patriots’ Path trail improvements, and I invite everyone to take a walk outdoors and enjoy the improved trail section.

Remember to grab your lawn chairs, blankets, friends, and family and enjoy our free outdoor 2026 Summer Concert Series at Borough Park.

Concert Schedule

July 12, 2026	Catz N’ Dawgz	6:30pm-8pm
July 19, 2026	The Cowboy & Hippy	6:30 pm- 8pm
August 23, 2026	This Old Engine	5pm-8pm

Join us for a magical summer evening under the stars at Borough Park for the free live-action-adventure movie:
HOW TO TRAIN YOUR DRAGON!

- Thursday, July 30, 2026
- Movie Begins at Dusk
- Rain Date will be announced if needed.

Recently, I was outdoors enjoying Mountain Valley Park and ran into Council Member Chris Neff. While talking, he spotted on the pond a rare Cormorant aquatic bird known for its expert diving and fishing skills (likely enjoying the leftover stocked trout from the annual Fishing Derby). In true Chris fashion, he sprang into action, ran to his car, and pulled out his camera with a massive lens. He captured the rare sight of the bird in beautiful photos which he shared and is posted on the Borough Website. Chris is a talented guy, and we are fortunate to have him as part of our community and a Council Member.

As we continue to move forward with the Borough’s State-mandated affordable housing obligations, I want to acknowledge the many residents who have attended our recent Council meetings. Your thoughtful engagement, questions, and concerns have been invaluable. Council and I appreciate the respectful and constructive way our community has approached the complex issues surrounding the proposed development of Sisters of Christian Charity property. The property holds deep meaning for many in Mendham. I have diligently continued to reach out to the Sisters requesting a meeting to share concerns expressed by our residents. Unfortunately, the Sisters have chosen not to meet at this time.

While celebrating our 250th, I am reminded of the timeless words of Woody Guthrie, “This land is your land, this land is my land...this land was made for you and me.” HAPPY, HAPPY 250TH & 4TH OF JULY!

Mayor James “Jim” R Kelly



Messenger Digital Notifications

Scan the QR Code to receive digital notifications about the Mendham Messenger.



Need to Report a Code Concern?

Use the QR code to access the online form to report a code enforcement concern.



Library News

Save the Date

Please mark your calendars for **Saturday, September 26** from **6:30-9:30 p.m.** to attend our Fall Fundraiser, **“Dancing Under the Stars.”** This evening will feature a live band, “Invited Guests,” dancing, food, drinks, a silent auction and tricky tray at a beautiful home in Mendham Borough. Please plan to attend to support the library and our community.

Library Spotlight

Mendham Borough Library is very pleased to welcome two new members of our Board of Trustees. We are grateful to Eileen and Mike for their interest in the library and willingness to help us with this leadership role.

Eileen Hoffman has lived in Mendham for three years with her family and is an enthusiastic patron, donor, and member of the “Friends of the Library.” She is a graduate of Vassar College (BA) and Fordham University (MBA) and brings over 20 years of expertise working in financial services. Eileen is looking forward to helping with grant writing and fundraising events at the library.



Mike Mueller has lived in Mendham Borough since 2011 with his wife Aubrey and 3 children: Max (15), Jack (13) and Arden (12). He has worked for Wyndham Hotels & Resorts in Parsippany, NJ for nearly 30 years, currently serving as



president of extended-stay brands. He is also the executive sponsor of the company’s military veteran philanthropy initiatives. Mike is an avid reader and Mendham Borough library enthusiast.

Monthly Programs

Yoga via Zoom

*Tuesdays and Thursdays,
8:30 a.m.*

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

Beginners Mahjong

Tuesdays, 10 a.m.

Instruction is available on the first Tuesday of the month.

Social Bridge

Wednesdays, 10 a.m.

For experienced players.

Mahjong

Wednesdays, 1 p.m.

For experienced players.

Canasta

Thursdays, 10 a.m.

For experienced players.

In Stitches

Fridays, July 3, 17, 31, 1 p.m.

All levels welcome!

Coloring Club

Monday, July 20, 6:30 p.m.

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

Book Club

Book Club is on hiatus

in July and August.

July Adult Programs

Mendham Borough Library and the Somerset Patriots Fundraiser

Sunday, July 12 at 1:00 p.m.

Somerset Patriots Stadium

Bring the family to the game to

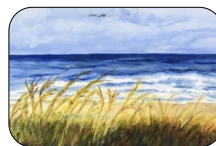
support our library and watch

the Somerset Patriots play the Reading Fightin Phils! Tickets cost \$20 each. Special lineup includes a pregame senior stroll around the ballpark and a princess and pirate parade. Kids run the bases post-game! Tickets are limited so get yours today!



Paint & Sip: Beach

Wednesday, July 29, 6:30 p.m.



Back by popular demand! Join us for another creative mid-summer painting session with artist Lynne Tenten. “Sip” back and relax, as we paint beautiful

beachscapes. Ages 21+ only. This program is sponsored by a grant from Morris Arts.

Please pay in advance at the library. There is a \$5 registration fee for this program. Cash or check only.

Save the Date:

Book Sale and Pre-Sale Party!

August 27, 28, 29

Support your library and get great deals on books with our Book Sale on Friday and Saturday, August 28 and 29. And for even more fun, join us on August 27 for a Preview Sale and Party! Tickets are \$25 and proceeds benefit the Mendham Borough Library.

Did You Know?

Traveling to a new country this summer? Learn the key phrases

you need to know before you go—for free! Mango

Languages is a free app you can download through our website. Learn languages in a fun and efficient way with real-life conversations, native-speaker audio and cultural context so you can speak like a local. Choose from 70 languages, now including American Sign Language!



Mendham Borough Library will be closed on
Saturday, July 4.

Please register for all programs at www.mendhamboroughlibrary.org.

July Children's Programs

Toddler Sing-Along

Mondays, July 6, 13, 20, 27, 10:30 a.m.

Sing some fun songs with us!

Babies and Books

Fridays, July 3, 10, 17, 24, 31, 10:30 a.m.

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

Summer Family Bingo

Wednesday, July 1, 5:30 p.m.

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

Eyes of the Wild

Tuesday, July 7, 4:30 and 5:15 p.m.



Brookside Community Club

Meet some awesome creatures and see how animals from around the globe depend on the world we share. Sponsored by Morris County Clean Communities

Bubble Party

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

Join us for some outside fun as we enjoy bubbles and popsicles together on the Library Patio.



Squeegee Art (5+)

Tuesday, July 14, 2:00 p.m.

Make amazing art with paint and squeegees!



Plantersaurus Dinosaur Terrariums with Zoophoria (5+)

Wednesday, July 15, 2:00 p.m.



Design a terrarium with rocks, dirt, and plants to create a habitat for your chosen dinosaur toy.

Sponsored by Morris Arts.

Paper Marbling (5+)

Tuesday, July 21, 2:00 p.m.

Design your own tie dyed cards and cardstock using shaving cream and food coloring.

Diggin' for Dinosaurs, Rockin' Rocks, & Crystal Creations with the Science Man (6-10)

Wednesday, July 22, 4:00 p.m.

Dig for dinosaurs, make fossilized plaster replicas of dinosaur teeth and sea creatures, unearth some fascinating facts about rocks, minerals, and crystals, and break open geodes to discover crystals!



Dino Origami

Tuesday, July 28, 2:00 p.m.

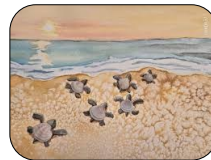
Create your own prehistoric Origami creatures.



Kids Summer Painting Workshop (5+)

Wednesday, July 29, 2:00 p.m.

Create a beautiful summery painting. Sponsored by Morris Arts.



Thank You!

Thank you to the following local businesses for supporting the Mendham Borough Library Adult Summer Reading Program. Your generosity allows us to provide great programming for our patrons.

Chester Meat Market ♦ The Great Greek Mediterranean Grill ♦ Luciana Skin Care ♦ Mrs. Mahjong NJ ♦ Pure Barre ♦ ShopRite of Chester ♦ Simple Coffee

Coming Up

Zentangle Workshop—Wed., Aug. 12, 6:00 p.m.

Book Sale—Fri. and Sat., Aug. 28 and 29

From Great Estates to Public Gardens
—Wed., Sept. 16, 5:30 p.m.

Dancing Under the Stars Fall Fundraiser
—Sat., Sept. 26, 6:30—9:30 p.m.

Art in Chocolate—Wed., Sept. 30, 6:00 p.m.

Mendham Boro Summer Day Camp

In-Season Registration is Open Through July 23

There's still time to register for the Mendham Borough Summer Day Camp in July! Camp continues through Friday, July 31, and in-season registration remains available until Thursday, July 23. Don't miss out on the special events this month, including a water slide, dunk tank, and



magic show. *Last day to register for each week is the Thursday prior.*

Mendham Day Camp welcomes school-aged children who will be enrolled in kindergarten through 6th grade for the 2026-2027 school year. Our day starts at 9:00 am and ends at 12:30 pm. It starts the camper's day off right and leaves plenty of time for other summertime activities! For more information, including weekly themes, scan the QR code or go to www.mendhamdaycamp.com.

July 2026
Mendham Borough
2 West Main St.
Phoenix House
Mendham, NJ 07945

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Borough Events in July, 2026

Borough Offices will be closed Friday, July 3

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

Council: 7 p.m. Wednesday, July 15

ECOSST: 7:30 p.m. Monday, July 6

Joint Land Use Board: 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, July 21

Recreation Committee: 7:30 p.m. Thursday, July 16

Historic Preservation Commission: 7:30 p.m. Monday, July 20

Concerts in the Park:

Sunday, July 12, 6:30 p.m. **“Catz N’ Dawgz”**

Sunday, July 19, 6:30 p.m. **“The Cowboy & Hippy”**

Summer Family Game Night: Wednesday, July 22, 6:00 p.m., Botti Pavilion and Upper Field

Summer Drive-In Movie—*How to Train Your Dragon (2025)*: Thursday, July 30, 8:30 p.m., Lenape Field

Recycling: Thursdays, July 3, 10, 17, 24, 31

Curbside Bulk Pickup: Mondays, July 6, 13, 20, 27



WEDNESDAY, JULY 22 AND AUG 5
6:00 – 7:00 PM

FAMILY GAME NIGHT

Make the most of these beautiful summer evenings!
Join the Mendham Borough Recreation Department at Botti Pavilion with a variety of family-friendly yard games and activities—perfect for all ages.

Including: Giant Jenga, Cornhole, inflatable games, and more!

Location: Botti Pavilion and Upper Field

MORE INFO:
WWW.MENDHAMNJ.ORG

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A publication for the residents of Mendham Borough

www.mendhamnj.org

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