THE MENDHAM MESSENGER

The Newsletter for Mendham Borough February 2024

Letter From the Mayor

Dear Mendham Borough residents and business owners,

2024 will be a busy year for Mendham Borough. Aside from the regular goings-on of school, sports, club meetings, and events throughout the year, we have a number of projects continuing into this new year.

Phoenix House Restoration

Work on the Phoenix House continues. The restoration crew spent quite a bit of time carefully peeling back areas of the ceiling throughout the building to get a peek at the skeleton. That look gave them the information they needed to finalize a plan to stabilize the building structure. As previously mentioned, the staff at the Phoenix House will be temporarily moved to the Bowers Building. We will keep you posted on when that actually takes place and when we believe they will move back. Stay tuned...

New OEM Co-Coordinator

Some friends leave but don't say goodbye, and some say goodbye and never leave. It is our great fortune that John Andrews is the latter. John will be continuing his dedication and service to the Borough by acting as our new Co-Coordinator of OEM. OEM stands for Office of Emergency Management. When we have any kind of emergency, like downed trees or a power outage, John will be at the helm helping to coordinate the communications between our First Responders, any needed utility company representatives, and other related parties like Morris County.

Another task John will be taking on is reestablishing our CERT members. CERT stands for Community Emergency Response Team. These are residents who volunteer to assist during an emergency. Some typical tasks a CERT member might help with are:

- Manning the cooling and warming station at the Garabrant Center
- Assisting our First Responders as needed. This could mean setting up a refreshment area for First Responders fighting a fire
- Helping to organize people in the event of a large evacuation
- Light search and rescue

Becoming a CERT member requires training, which will be coordinated by John. If you are interested in volunteering to become a CERT member or would like additional information, please reach out to John at jandrews@mendhamnj.org.

Water Reclamation Revitalization

The rehab work will continue at our facility. The next phase of the project will be a major replacement of the electrical system. The current system was installed many decades ago. If there is one facility which cannot have a disruption to service, it is our sewer system! Have no fear, our WRF is equipped with very large generators. Fortunately for us, Brian and his team take excellent care of us and make sure we stay on top of maintenance.

Improvements to our crosswalks

Unfortunately, our society suffers from constant distractions. The worst possible time for distractions to strike is while we are driving. For this reason, we are continuously looking for ways to get drivers to pay attention to our residents and students who use our crosswalks. I speak with other Mayors regularly and discovered that some of our sister towns have reinforced their crosswalks with flags. A big thanks goes out to our Chief of Police, John Camoia, for quickly assessing my request and installing our newest defense for safer crosswalks – the red flag. Wisely, the Chief felt we should try them out first at our High School since many of our students are crossing in the evening.

Directions for use of the flag is easy:

1. Remove flag from basket attached to crosswalk sign.
2. Press button to turn on the flashing sign.
3. Wave vigorously at the oncoming traffic.
4. Put the flag in the basket on the other side of the street for the next customer.

The most important step of all: use extreme caution, with or without the flag. Happy waving.

Communications

If you are new to town or meant to sign up for our communications but forgot, I am here to remind you. Just visit our website at www.mendhamnj.org and on the left you will see where you can sign up for all of our communications. We have Facebook and Twitter (now known as X), emails, and most importantly Nixle!! It's easy and fast to sign up, and you will be the envy of your friends, knowing important Borough news first.

That's all for this issue. Enjoy the snow, and watch out for ice.

Sincerely yours,

Christine Serrano Glassner, Mayor