

# The Mendham Messenger

February 2022

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## Mayor's Update

Dear Mendham Borough residents and business owners, February is here! In looking at the long-term forecast, February is shaping up to bring many more snow days than we saw in January. So, get ready to bundle up and enjoy Mendham at its snowiest.

### Safe Ice Skating for Everyone!

For many decades Mendham has enjoyed winter fun at the pond at Mountain Valley Park. Jeff Cooper and our DPW team monitor the ice regularly for thickness once the temperature has dropped below freezing for a consistent number of weeks. They perform thickness tests by drilling holes in the ice in a variety of locations of the pond. The ice needs to be a minimum of 4 to 6 inches for walking, skating, and ice fishing. You will see that when we are open for skating, they will hang an **Open** sign, and when we are closed, they hang **No Skating – Ice Unsafe** sign. We ask that all residents heed this warning regardless of the time of day. Although the pond may be ready for use, ice thickness can change and vary due to many natural variables. Generally speaking, the closer you head towards moving water the thinner the ice will be. For that reason, they will rope off the area near the dam where the ice is too thin for safe use. When at the pond please make note of the rope and life preserver that are in a box near the Gazebo; it's always good to be prepared. Finally, the pond is for everyone's use. We have terrific hockey fans that have pickup games on a regular basis but remember to leave room for open skating so that all of our residents can enjoy some winter fun.

### Sledding Options:

Hilltop Elementary School's back yard has been a favorite sledding spot for generations. It couldn't be more convenient and has a very long downhill run. For a hill with a shorter walk up, you can find a thrilling express ride for beginner sledders at the slope at the basketball courts near the playground. If you are looking for the X-games of sledding in our area, a quick drive to Lewis Morris Park will take you to Sugarloaf Hill, now known as the Doe Meadow Hill. Only the brave need apply to take a ride down this ominous slope. Aside from those snowy peaks there are plenty of other options in the hills surrounding Mendham at parks and schools, just ask a local teenager.

### Winter Photo Contest:

Mendham is a beautiful town in the winter. We want to see your perspective of our frozen icy borough. Join our photo contest and send in your best glistening pic of Mendham in Winter. Email photos to [Recreation@mendhamnj.org](mailto:Recreation@mendhamnj.org) between February 1 through 10. The Recreation Committee will serve as judges and will announce the best winter pictures of Mendham on February 18. You will be able to find the winning photos on our website.

### Snowy Reminders:

I can't write a column about the virtues of snow and not remind

our residents with sidewalks on their yards to do your best and get them cleared for our walking community as soon as you are able. We especially need to be mindful of the routes our students walk to school. If you know of a neighbor on one of these main streets who is physically unable to clear their sidewalk, grab a shovel and some friends and help them out; it will benefit our entire community. And lastly, if you have a fire hydrant on or near your property, please take a moment to clear away the snow. Our VOLUNTEER fire fighters greatly appreciate any assistance they can get to keep us all safe.

### Who's Who in Mendham:

Speaking of fire fighters... At this year's reorganization meeting, I was proud to swear Mike Orgera in as our new Fire Chief. Mike has been a long-time fixture of our volunteer fire fighting team. He grew up right here in Mendham on our very own Mountain Ave. While attending Mendham High School, Mike joined the fire department his junior year in 1996 at just 16 years old. After graduating, he attended Morris County College and continued to honorably serve Mendham Borough through the DPW, where he worked fulltime from 2000 to 2007. In 2000, Mike served as our Fire Officer at a mere 20 years old. From 2006 to 2007, he served as Fire Chief for the first time. Mike left Mendham to work for the DPW in Little Falls, New Jersey. Then, he relocated to Byram to work as the Superintendent of the DPW in 2016. Although he found new opportunities out of Mendham, he never fully left home and has continue to serve our community through his firefighting passion. Mike's lovely wife is a nurse who formerly worked as an EMT, and they have two daughters 8 and 10 years old. The Orgera family love spending time together outdoors, sometimes riding motorcycles and ATVs. Mike's mom and dad also love our town, and they still live here in Mendham on Mountain Ave.

Our Fire Department and First Aide Squad are always in need of volunteers. Mike's long-term commitment to Mendham is an example of why volunteering is so rewarding. He mentioned that it is not only extremely fulfilling to help the neighbors in your community, but it also gives you an opportunity to develop lifelong friendships.

There are plenty of ways you can get involved even if you don't have hundreds of hours to commit to the required training. You can help out on Sunday mornings to wash the trucks or help keep the equipment and facilities clean. You can bake some cookies or buy the crew pizza for a meeting. Or, you can visit either of these sites and make a donation. There are unlimited ways you can be a part of your Mendham Borough community. Mendham Fire Department <https://mendhamfd.org/> Mendham First Aid Squad <https://www.mendhamfirstaid.org/> In closing friends, put on your wooliest socks, get outside for a walk, and enjoy the rest of winter.

Sincerely,  
Christine Serrano Glassner  
Mayor



Mendham Borough  
LIBRARY

# News from the Mendham Borough Library

10 Hilltop Road 973 543-4152 [www.mendhamboroughlibrary.org](http://www.mendhamboroughlibrary.org)

## Mendham Borough Library’s Morning Book Group

Our diverse and lively Book Club meets once a month at 10 am at the Garabrant Center from September to June. They read a variety of books throughout the year: fiction, literature and non-fiction, classic and modern. Copies of each month’s selection are available at the library.

Friday, February 25th @ 10:00 am at the Garabrant Center  
February Book: *Before We Were Yours* by Lisa Wingate

## CloudLibrary E-books Have Moved to Libby!

You asked, we listened! We moved from CloudLibrary to Libby.

Some exciting changes that come with Libby:

You are to access a wide variety of **digital magazines** in the app, along with your eBooks and eAudio.

Download the Libby app to access The Great Courses library Collection. There are over 250 unique courses offering over 3000 hours of engaging content.

For those patrons into crafts the Libby app provides access to **Craftsy!** Craftsy has over 1400 instructional videos covering 20 different creative passions. Each class includes downloadable class materials, projects and tips.

And finally Libby also works with **Kindles**, and a wide variety of other eReaders!

Holds, history and checked-out items from CloudLibrary did not transfer over to OverDrive. After you download the new Libby app you will need to replace any holds that you had in CloudLibrary.

## Adult Jigsaw Puzzle Exchange Program

The jigsaw puzzle exchange will run all winter. Stop in to drop off old puzzles and pick up a “new to you” puzzle. Please donate only complete puzzles with no missing pieces.



## Access to MyHeritage Available to Mendham Borough Library Patrons

Looking for family history information? Look no further!

Mendham Borough Library along with all other libraries in Morris County have access to MyHeritage, the leading destination for discovering, preserving and sharing family history. MyHeritage provides more than 5 billion historical records from all over the world, including more than a hundred million tombstone photos. Just click on the button, enter your library card number and start searching! Click the online resources tab on [mendhamboroughlibrary.org](http://mendhamboroughlibrary.org) for more information.



## Mendham Borough Library Museum Pass Program – Morris Museum

The Morris Museum creates opportunities for lifelong learning, discovery, and creativity, driven by the contemporary interpretation of its Guinness Collection of Mechanical Musical Instruments and Automata as well as its general collections. The performing arts add further unique perspectives and dimensions of interpretation. The Morris Museum is the only Smithsonian Affiliate in the State of New Jersey and is honored to fulfill its role of bringing Smithsonian resources to the state. The Morris Museum upholds the highest standards of artistic excellence, educational innovation, fiscal responsibility, community engagement, audience impact, and leadership in the arts, education, and cultural community. **CLOSED ON MONDAYS & TUESDAYS.** Pass allows 2 adult and up to 3 children. Mendham Borough Library Card Holders ONLY.

**Morris Museum**  
A SMITHSONIAN AFFILIATE



## 2021 Donors to the Mendham Borough Library

Thank you to the many individuals and businesses that support the Mendham Borough Library. Your donations make all the difference. Without them we would not be able to provide books, movies, magazines, on-line services and special programs for the residents of Mendham. We have made every effort to be accurate with this list but apologize if there are any omissions or mistakes. Many thanks to our anonymous donors and those who would rather not be listed; we are truly grateful because your gifts help the library remain an important part of the community.

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Thanks to the following companies and foundations for their matching gifts.

ExxonMobil Foundation - Volunteer Grant \* Johnson & Johnson \* GAF

Donations were also made in memory of friends and loved ones. Thank you to the following donors:

***In Memory of Geraldine A. Cillo*** -James J. Cillo, Sr.

***In Memory of Richard Connel***—Leslie and Robert Allain, Nancy Bottona  
& Cheryl L. Connell Cody

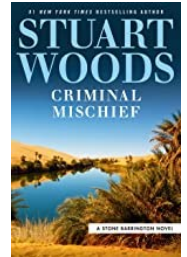
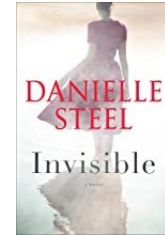
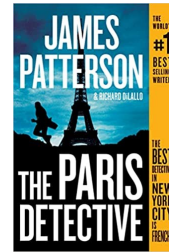
***In Memory of David Laurano***—Alise Ford

## New Adult and Children's Titles Added to Our Collection

### Fiction

*A Man of Honor*  
*Criminal Mischief*  
*Invisible*  
*Sharpe's Assassin*  
*The Anomaly*  
*The Family*  
*The Paris Detective*

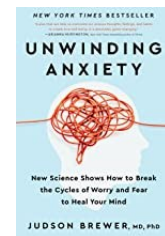
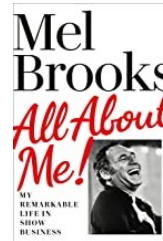
Bradford, Barbara Taylor  
 Wood, Stuart  
 Steel, Danielle  
 Cornwell, Bernard  
 LeTellier, Herve  
 Krupitsky, Naomi  
 Patterson, James



### Non-Fiction

*7 Ways*  
*All About Me!*  
*How to Change*  
*Portugal*  
*Stupid Things I Won't Do When I Get Old*  
*Unwinding Anxiety*  
*Vegan at Times*  
*Walt Disney World 2022*

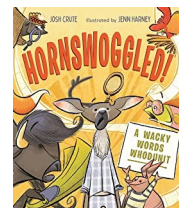
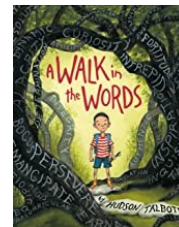
Oliver, Jamie  
 Brooks, Mel  
 Milkman, Katy  
 Bratley, Carrie-Marie  
 Petrow, Steven  
 Brewer, Judson MD  
 Seinfeld, Jessica  
 Sehlinger, Bob



### Children/ YA

*A Shot in the Arm*  
*A Walk in the Words*  
*Batman and Robin and Howard*  
*Cecilia's Fundraiser*  
*Charlotte and the Nutcracker*  
*Hair is Amazing*  
*Harry vs the First 100 Days of School*  
*Hornswoggled!*  
*Living With Viola*  
*Monster Friends*  
*Peace Train*  
*Shaw's Solo*  
*Stuntboy, in the Meantime*  
*The Big Bad Wolf in My House*  
*When Sharks Attack With Kindness*  
*Who Is Chloe Kim?*  
*Who Is Dale Earnhardt Jr.?*  
*Who Is Queen Elizabeth II*  
*Who Were Stanley and Livingstone?*

Brown, Don  
 Talbott, Hudson  
 Brown, Jeffrey  
 Avery, Bryan Patrick  
 Nebres, Charlotte  
 Nakamura, Mei  
 Jenkins, Emily  
 Crute, Josh  
 Fung, Rosena  
 Vandorn, Kaeti  
 Stevens, Cat  
 Avery, Bryan Patrick  
 Reynolds, Jason  
 Fontaine, Valerie  
 Colmenares, Andres J.  
 Loh, Stefanie  
 Stabler, David  
 Stine, Megan  
 Gigliotti, Jim





**For Kids in February**

*Programs are for all ages unless otherwise noted.  
Programs requiring registration are noted.*

**Girls Who Code Continues on Zoom!**



Grades 3rd-4th  
Tuesdays 3:30-5pm  
Grades 5-12th-Wednesdays, 3:30- 5pm  
**This program started the week of 1/10/22 and runs for 12 weeks.**

Girls Who Code is a non-profit organization that strives to close the gender gap in computer science. Did you know, as of 2017 only 24% of those in computer science career fields are women? With the help of this amazing organization, we are able to introduce coding to the girls in our community and help them build confidence and practice in these skills, while building their personal confidence, sense of community and other important life skills.

For more information on this organization visit [girlswhocode.com](http://girlswhocode.com).

Participants will need to have access to a device that will allow them to be on Zoom and other websites we will be using as learning resources.

Sign up is available on our website and our social media pages.

**Toddler Sing-Along**

*Please see our Website for dates and location.*

Join Miss Tina for some fun songs! We ask all participants to remain socially distanced during this program.

**Crafternoon at Home & Crafts-To-Go (CTG)**

Choose from one of our 2 crafts each week. Pick up a craft kit at the Library. Crafternoon kits may require use of home supplies like glue, markers, crayons, scissors, etc. that are not provided by the Library. CTG kits will be all peel and stick. Crafts will be announced on our Instagram and Facebook Pages at the beginning of the week.

**Read to a Dog**

*Mondays, Feb 14th & 28th at 3:30pm*

We are so excited to welcome back our therapy dogs. So that we may do this as safely as possible, we will be setting up time slots. Please sign up for your time slot online through the link on our website, or social media pages. *Masks will be required (for those 3+) during this program, per the request of Creature Comforts, the therapy dog company we work with. Also please remember to bring a book or 2 to read to the puppies. If you plan to grab one from our collection, please come a couple of minutes before your time slot to do so.*

**Spring Art Contest**

Come pick up your canvas panel and create a spring masterpiece using whatever art materials you wish. Paint, draw, create, have fun! Panels will be displayed in our Gallery to be voted on. *Please write your name and contact information on the back of the panel before returning. Do not write names on the front.* Winners will be chosen by the public!!

- Categories: Kids, Teens, and Adults.
- Pick up your panel starting February 1.
- All panels must be returned by February 28th.
- Voting will take place in Early March.

**Vision Boards**

*Grades 5 and up*

*Thursday, Feb. 24th 6pm-7:30pm*

Do you ever pause to think what it is that YOU would love to be, do, have and give? We are all bound by many rules, restrictions and routines. But what if we could see all our dreams and wishes in words and pictures right before our eyes every day to inspire us and give us ideas to make them come true? Welcome to your Vision Board - your very own fun personal map of wishes for 2022.

Feel free to bring your favorite personal images (photos, postcards, notes, stickers, etc.) and we will provide magazines, glue, scissors, pencils and pens for you to create your own 22 x14 inches vision board poster. **Masks required during this program. Limit 10 spots. Registration Required.**



**The library will be closed Monday, February 21st for the President's Day Holiday**



## Upcoming Events at Schiff

### Nature Preserve

See a complete listing and register on line at [www.schiffnaturepreserve.org](http://www.schiffnaturepreserve.org) or call [973-543-6004](tel:973-543-6004)

All programs are all weather events so dress accordingly. In the event of thunderstorm, extreme heat/cold or wind warnings program will be cancelled. Advance registration will ensure you receive a cancellation notice within 24 hours of the program start time.

#### **Wild Love: A Valentine's Day Celebration**

February 10, 2022 (Thursday) 4:5:15 pm

"Valentine's Day is a day we celebrate relationships. It is a day to celebrate LOVE. Join us as we discover love in nature, learn about nature's sweethearts, and so much more! Making animal valentines, going on a scavenger hunt for nature's hearts, and searching for wild "lovebirds" are just a few of the fulfilled activities we have in store for this most special celebration. This is a drop-off program for children ages 6-10 (K-4th). Parents must provide health and emergency contact information. Social distancing and face coverings are required for use when distancing is not possible. This program is an all-weather event so dress accordingly. In the event of thunderstorm or extreme heat/cold/wind warnings the program will be cancelled. Member fee is \$10 per child, Non- member fee is \$15 per child. (Note: A minimum of 4 are required for this program to run.) - Register by 02/09/22

#### **Top Mistakes of Backyard Birdfeeding**

February 17, 2022 (Thursday) 6:30-7:30 pm

New backyard bird feeding novices and those who have been feeding for years will benefit from this helpful program as Jim Walker, the owner of the Wild Birds Unlimited store in Denville, will share the do's and don'ts of the backyard bird feeding hobby. Jim will show us a powerpoint presentation and review common mistakes, ways to prevent them, and suggestions to help make the hobby more productive, safe, and enjoyable. As one of our Business Partners for a Greener Community, Wild Birds Unlimited is a Retail Partner of Schiff Nature Preserve, offering a 20% discount (on regularly priced merchandise) to Schiff members. The store is located at 3130 Route 10 West in Denville, New Jersey. Members of Schiff may attend this program for free. Non- member fee is \$12. All guests are asked to wear masks when indoors. Social distance seating will be provided. Limited to 8 attendees.- Register by 02/16/22

#### **Full Moon Hike**

February 17, 2022 (Thursday) 6:00- 7:30 pm

If you have never had the opportunity to do some night hiking, then don't miss this as it's an altogether different experience. Schiff's Full Moon Hikes are an excellent opportunity to see our beautiful landscape by the light of the moon. Discover the magic of hiking at night while the moon is at its fullest, when even the most familiar trails reveal sights and sounds they only share with the cool, quiet night. This 2 mile, 1 ½ hour hike is perfect for all experience levels, but guests should feel comfortable walking on uneven terrain. Guests are advised to wear hiking boots, weather appropriate attire, and bring headlamps to have on hand. Member fee is \$10 per person. Non-member fee is \$15 per person. Guests are asked to have masks on hand. - Register by 02/16/22

#### **Family Fireside Fun**

February 25, 2022 (Friday) 5:30- 7 pm

Grab the kiddos, bundle up, and take a short walk on the red tail to the Lean-to with other nature loving families to bask in the heat and light of the firepit listening to stories of the creatures of the winter night. Our fun evening plans include playing animal trivia and roasting marshmallows amongst the stars. Appropriate for guests age 4 and up. Member fee is \$10. Non- member fee is \$15. This is an outdoor event and thus, advance registration and payment are required. Guests are asked to have face coverings on hand for when social distancing is not possible. - Register by 02/24/22

#### **Volunteer Day**

February 27, 2022 (Sunday) 9-11 am

Please join us for a day of land stewardship activities at 339 Pleasant Valley Road. Each Volunteer Day provides the community an opportunity to work side by side with Schiff staff and Board members in a variety of hands-on projects. Volunteers (16 and under with a parent, please) are encouraged to dress in weather appropriate attire, wear hard toe shoes, bring sunscreen and bug spray, and bring a beverage and snack in a backpack for hands free walking. Walk-ins welcome. Fully vaccinated volunteers are asked to have a mask on hand for when social distancing is not possible. Unvaccinated volunteers are to wear masks. Please bring their own gloves. Tools owned and provided by Schiff will be cleaned before and after use and should not be shared that day between volunteers. Volunteers may bring and use their own tools if they prefer.

February 2022  
Mendham Borough  
2 West Main St.  
Phoenix House  
Mendham, NJ 07945

Presort Standard  
US Postage Paid  
Permit No. 1818  
New Brunswick, NJ

**Borough Calendar for February 2022**

**Curbside Bulk Pickup** - Mondays, February 7, 14, 21 & 28

**Recycle** - Thursdays, February 3, 10, 17 & 24

**Board of Health** - at the Garabrant Center, 7:00 pm on Wednesday, February 2nd

**Borough Council** - at the Garabrant Center, 7 pm on Wednesday, February 9 & Monday, February 28th

**Recreation Commission** - at the Garabrant Center, 7:30 pm on Thursday, February 17th

***Mendham Day Camp is Looking for Summer Camp Counselors***



*Are you looking to have fun in the sun while making a child's summer*

*memorable? Have you worked with children in some capacity or hope to do so in the future? Do you live in Mendham Borough or Mendham Township? Do you possess the traits found here [http://](http://www.mendhamdaycamp.com/join-our-team.html)*

*[www.mendhamdaycamp.com/join-our-team.html](http://www.mendhamdaycamp.com/join-our-team.html)? If so, consider applying to be a counselor this summer! Deadline for applications is Feb 28. contact: [recreation@mendhamnj.org](mailto:recreation@mendhamnj.org)*

***The Mendham Messenger***

A publication for the residents of Mendham Borough

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

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