

# The Mendham Messenger

November 2015

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## Mayor's Update

Dear Resident and Business Owners,

FANTASTIC NEWS!! Standard & Poor's has assigned their highest rating of "AAA" to the Borough of Mendham!!

This designation now puts Mendham Borough in the same class as 19 other NJ municipalities that have the highest S&P rating. This recent rating came about as we applied to sell municipal bonds. The last time the Borough sold bonds, we were two notches below "AAA" at "Aa2" which makes this new rating higher than previously.

Sue Giordano, our Chief Financial Officer, and Bud Jones, our Borough Auditor, did a great job preparing for the rating call and answering all questions. Officials at S&P noted that they were extremely impressed with the overall financial management of the Borough. This played a big part in the higher rating. Thank you to Sue and Bud and congratulations to all who play a part in this top-level management of taxpayer dollars at the local level!

While on the subject of finances, I would also like to note that the Borough scored into the 90 percentile on the Best Practices Questionnaire, a form which is required by the State of New Jersey in order to receive state financial aid. The questions are a mix of financial and other related questions. This is just further validation that we are a municipality that can be very proud of our financial condition.

The Borough Council approved the execution of a contract to purchase the Scott Farm which is located at 88 Mountainside Road. The Borough has applied for funding from County Open Space as well as the Morris County Park Commission for this purchase. Councilman Andrus, Administrator Merkt and I presented the property to members of the County Open Space Committee who were extremely impressed. Notification of award is expected towards the end of November and we are targeting a closing date of December 31, 2015.

The Planning Board approved an amendment to our Master Plan to change zoning for the property presently owned by the Sisters of Christian Charity. The new zone, known as a Religious Campus Zone, will encompass 112 acres within the existing R-5 residential district and will continue to permit single family residential use with the R-5 zone standards. It will also permit the new religious campus use on a tract of land of not less than eighty contiguous acres. The next step in the process is to introduce an ordinance change to the Borough Council which, if passed after a public hearing, would complete the zoning change.

Best wishes for a happy and healthy Thanksgiving!

*Sincerely,*

*Neil Henry*

*Mayor*

## Annual Hilltop Christmas Concert

The Hilltop Presbyterian Church will present its Annual Christmas Concert on Sunday afternoon, December 6, 2015, at 4:00 pm. The performance will feature assorted pieces of sacred music for the holiday season, including several contemporary pieces, along with opportunities for the audience to join in and sing along with their favorite carols.

The concert will include a 25-piece chamber orchestra, the Hilltop Handbell Choir, our magnificent pipe organ, and a 90-voice choir – formed from the combined forces of the Hilltop Sanctuary Choir and the Jefferson Township High School Chamber Choir.

Tickets are available at a cost of \$10 for adults and \$5 for children and students. This concert has been a full house in the past, so don't delay! Tickets will be available beginning in November at the church office in Hilltop House, 14 Hilltop Rd. For more information, please call 973-543-4012.





Mendham Borough  
LIBRARY

# News from the Mendham Borough Library

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

## The Prevention & Treatment of Breast Cancer with Food Tuesday, November 17 at 7 pm

Join Dr. Ron Weiss, founder of Ethos Health, for an evidence-based examination of how the foods we eat every day are crucial in determining a woman's chance of developing breast cancer and how these same foods can influence survival rate once breast cancer has been diagnosed.

Dr. Weiss has integrated a plant-based diet within his traditional practice to improve the health of many thousands of patients. Dr. Weiss received his medical degree from Rutgers New Jersey Medical School and completed his internship and residency in internal medicine at George Washington University Medical Center. Sign up for this informative program by calling the library at 973 543-4152



## For Kids in November

*Programs for all ages unless otherwise noted. Space is limited and sign ups are a must. Please do so on our website or by calling 973-543-4152.*

### Knitting Club

Friday, November 6 at 3:30 pm  
Open to those in 2<sup>nd</sup> grade and up.

### Chess Club

Thursday, November 12 at 6:30 pm



### Thanksgiving Bingo

Friday, November 13 at 3:15 pm

### Family Movie Night: *Disney's Inside Out*

Wednesday, November 18 at 6 pm



### Lego Club

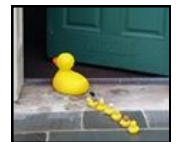
Saturday, November 21 at 12 pm

For information on our weekly book clubs for kids, toddler sing-a-long and storytimes, please visit [www.mendhamboroughlibrary.org](http://www.mendhamboroughlibrary.org)

## 1,000 Books Before Kindergarten Graduation

Saturday, November 21 at 10:30 am

Celebrate the graduates of our 1,000 Books Before Kindergarten Program who at a very young age (all 4 or under) have completed their goal of reading or listening to 1,000 books before reaching elementary school. We will have treats and a special ceremony for all of our graduates.



Want to know more about our program? 1,000 Books Before Kindergarten encourages reading with children pre-K and younger because research shows that this is the most reliable predictor of school success. Every time your child hears a story you can record it in a special log available at the library. Once the log is completed and returned to the library, your child is rewarded by choosing a rubber duck from our pond! Stop in and pick up your log today! For more early literacy resources and information about this national initiative, you can visit their website at [1000booksbeforekindergarten.org](http://1000booksbeforekindergarten.org).

## Wednesday Computer Classes @ 10 am

*Please register for each class that you are interested in attending. Class sizes are limited.*

### November 11: Learn to download free eBooks/audio

Learn how to use our new 3M Cloud Library to download eBooks onto your own device. 3M Cloud supports all devices except e-ink Kindles.



### November 18: Free Apps for the iPad

Learn about the latest and greatest FREE apps for your iPad. You will need to know your Apple ID password for this class.



### November 25: iPad & iPhone for Beginners

Especially for iPad users: bring your iPad and learn how to make the most of it at this user-friendly class.



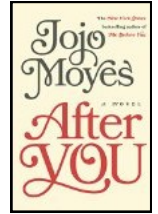
## New Books & DVDs

### Non-fiction Books

<i>Girlboss</i>	Sophia Amoruso
<i>Infectious Madness</i>	Harriet Washington
<i>Martha Stewart's Appetizers</i>	Martha Stewart
<i>The Meaning of Human Existence</i>	Edward O. Wilson
<i>One Nation</i>	Ben Carson
<i>Why Not Me?</i>	Mindy Kaling
<i>Windows 10 All-In-One for Dummies</i>	Woody Leonhard

### Fiction Books

<i>The Aeronaut's Windlass</i>	Jim Butcher
<i>After You</i>	Jojo Moyes
<i>Come Rain or Come Shine</i>	Jan Karon
<i>Corridors of the Night</i>	Anne Perry
<i>Dance of the Bones</i>	J. A. Jance
<i>A Desperate Fortune</i>	Susanna Kearsley
<i>Devoted in Death</i>	J. D. Robb
<i>Did You Ever Have a Family</i>	Bill Clegg
<i>Dishing the Dirt</i>	M. C. Beaton
<i>The Einstein Prophecy</i>	Robert Masello
<i>The End Game</i>	Catherine Coulter
<i>The Girl in the Spiders Web</i>	David Lagercrantz
<i>Fancy Dancer</i>	Fern Michaels
<i>The Heart Goes Last</i>	Margaret Atwood
<i>The Last Midwife</i>	Sandra Dallas
<i>Mrs. Sinclair's Suitcase</i>	Louise Walters
<i>The Murder House</i>	David Ellis
<i>The Paradise of Glass</i>	Petra Durst-Benning
<i>Patriot</i>	Ted Bell
<i>Plunder and Deceit</i>	Mark Levin
<i>Pretending to Dance</i>	Diane Chamberlain



*Relentless Strike*  
*The Scam*  
*Shadow Play*  
*A Song of Shadows*  
*Willow Brook Road*

Sean Naylor  
 Janet Evanovich  
 Iris Johansen  
 John Connolly  
 Sherryl Woods

### DVDs

*The Age of Adaline*  
*Aloha*  
*Barbie Rock N Royals*  
*Debbie Macomber's Cedar Cove: Season 1*  
*Debbie Macomber's Cedar Cove: Season 2*  
*Entourage*  
*Focus*  
*Hot Pursuit*  
*Inside Out*  
*Jurassic World*  
*Love and Mercy*  
*Mad Men: Final Season Part 2*  
*Orange Is the New Black: Season 2*  
*Pups United*  
*San Andreas*  
*Spy*  
*Toy Story that Time Forgot*



### Events at Schiff Nature Preserve

339 Pleasant Valley Rd., Mendham



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

### Tree Time for Tykes

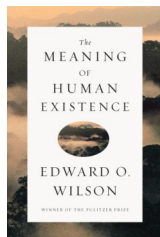
November 9 and 13 at 10 am

Preschoolers learn about trees and nature through stories, song and exploration along the trails. Members \$10 per adult/child pair; nonmembers \$15.

### Environmental Book Group

November 10, 7-8:30 pm, free

*The Meaning of Human Existence* by Edward O. Wilson



### Sunday Morning Fitness Hike

November 15, 8 am

A brisk, guided 5-mile hike over varied terrain across Schiff Nature Preserve. Meet at McVickers Brook parking lot at 239 Pleasant Valley Road, Mendham. Free for members; \$10 non members.

### Stewardship Volunteer Day

November 15, 9 am-noon

Help take care of Schiff's precious, protected land. Tools will be provided. Scouts and community groups welcome; children under 15 must be with an adult.

### Walk Off the Feast!

November 27, 10 am

A gentle guided 3-mile hike for ages 8 and up. Free for members; \$10 non members.



November 2015  
Mendham Borough  
2 West Main St.  
Phoenix House  
Mendham, NJ 07945

Presort Standard  
US Postage Paid  
Whitehouse Sta.  
NJ 08889  
Permit No. 35

## Borough Calendar for November 2015

**Curbside Bulk Pickup** - Mondays, November 2, 9, 16, 23 & 30

**Recycle** - Thursdays, November 12 & 26

**Borough Council Meetings** - at the Garabrant Center, 8 pm on Monday, November 2 & 16

**Board of Adjustment** - at the Garabrant Center, 7:30 pm on Thursday, November 5

**Environmental Commission** - at the Phoenix House, 8 pm on Thursday, November 19

**Historic Preservation Commission** - at the Phoenix House, 7:30 pm on Monday, November 16

**Planning Board Meeting** - at the Garabrant Center, 8 pm on Monday, November 9

**Recreation Meeting** - at the Phoenix House, 7:30 pm on Wednesday, November 11

## Holiday Boutique Sale

The 17<sup>th</sup> Annual Brookside Community Club Holiday Boutique will be held on Saturday, November 21, 2015 from 9 am until 3:30 pm at the Brookside Community Club in Mendham Twp. on Main St. across from the Brookside Post Office. Admission is free. The sale will feature a variety of handcrafted items. For the holidays it includes balsam fir pillows, jeweled Santas and angels, rosaries and other Christmas items. There will be food items from chocolate to jams, jellies and spreads, For the kids, highlights will be American Girl Doll clothing, fairy crowns and wands, knit hats and booties, and children's books. Other available items include jewelry, Mendham Township blankets, hats, aprons, scarves, bookmarks, clay figurines, ceramics and



*The Mendham Messenger*

A publication for the residents of Mendham Borough

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

2 West Main Street, Mendham, NJ 07945