



Mendham Matters

Monthly Events & News

February 2019

We hope you find this newsletter helps you keep track of events and news updates. **Please send your feedback, suggestions, or submit an item for the next issue.**

Find previous issues online.

Township Committee Announcements

Recognitions & Proclamations - In January, the Township Committee recognized a number of volunteers and volunteer groups for their service to the community through special proclamations. Library volunteers and trustees honored were: Lila Bernstein, Peter Dumovic, Hope Preston and Amy Vaccaro. Longtime Board of Adjustment member Norman Preston was recognized for 34 years of service. And, the Mendham First Aid Squad was honored for celebrating its 50 year anniversary.

2019 Budget - Planning for the 2019 municipal budget is underway with a series of open, public meetings on the following days: Feb. 11 at 6:30 p.m.; Feb 26 at 6:30 p.m.; March 11 at 6:30 p.m., & March 26 at 6:30 p.m.

Volunteers Still Wanted! - There are still openings on the Historic Preservation Committee and the Tree Protection Committee. **Residents are invited to [complete the Volunteer Form online.](#)**

At the Jan. 22 meeting, Mayor Warren Gisser read a "Welcoming Proclamation" on behalf of the entire Township Committee. The Proclamation affirms the community's commitment to inclusion. It states Mendham residents "have in the past, do now, and will continue to be welcoming of people of all races, ethnicities, and faiths" and we are "united in our efforts to build a stronger community." This action was especially meaningful coming a day after commemorating the birthday of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.



Local Government Meetings

All meetings are held at the Municipal Building, 2 West Main St.

- **Township Committee meetings:** Feb. 11 at 7:30 p.m.; Feb. 26 at 7:30 p.m. (Finance Sub-Committee budget meetings will precede each meeting, starting at 6:30 p.m.)
- **Board & Committee meetings**
 - **Board of Adjustment** - Feb. 14 at 7:30 p.m.
 - **Environmental Commission** - Feb. 18 at 7 p.m.
 - **Board of Health** - Feb. 25 at 7:30 p.m.
 - **Historic Preservation Committee** - Feb. 6 at 7:30 p.m.
 - **Parks & Recreation Advisory Committee** - Feb. 4 at 7:30 p.m.
 - **Planning Board** - Feb. 20 at 7:30 p.m.; Feb. 26 (Technical Review Committee)
- **View and download agendas.**

Police Updates

Stolen Vehicles - Mendham and surrounding communities have experienced a number of thefts from vehicles as well as stolen cars. Remember: NEVER leave your keys in a vehicle, even if it's in the garage. Never leave anything valuable in your vehicle, and ALWAYS lock it at night.

Snow Removal Regulations - Snow plowing or blowing snow onto public roads is against local laws. It may seem harmless, but this has caused thousands of dollars in damage to township plow trucks. Accidents can occur when the snow refreezes and plow trucks hit it or when bad ice patches are created from melting snow.

House Numbers - Please make sure your home's street number is clearly marked and visible from the road!

Activities for Kids

YALC (Young Adult Leadership Council) Meeting - On Feb 6, from 4:30 p.m. - 6 p.m., join in fun activities for teens in the community at the Township Library. Programs vary each month and include art, game night, book club, movie night and coffeehouses. They are always looking for new members from grades 6-12. **Please register for this program.**

Valentine's Day Cupcakes and Cards - On Feb. 12, from 4 p.m. - 5 p.m., decorate cupcakes to take home and make Valentine's Day cards for loved ones or area seniors. Children of all ages are welcome! **Pre-registration is required, as space is limited.**

Celebrate Harry Potter! - On Feb. 21, at the Township Library from 4 p.m. - 5 p.m., children in second grade and up are invited to make magic Harry Potter-style! Make wands, potions and crafts, and play games. Come in costume, if you wish! **Pre-registration is required, as space is limited.**

Join Tinkergarten - If you're craving fresh air and some more outdoor time this winter, check out Mendham's Tinkergarten class, which will be held for six weeks in February and March, right here in Mendham! Tinkergarten is outdoor play-based education, which inspires wonder, exploration and child-led learning. Each Tinkergarten session is uniquely designed to help kids, ages 18 months to 8 years, develop core life skills, while enjoying healthy, fun, engaging experiences in the physical freedom of local, green spaces. Six winter classes will be held in the fields next to the Brookside Community Club, beginning on Feb. 9. **Register online.**

Open House for New Scout Troop - On Feb. 10, from 1 p.m. - 3 p.m., girls from fifth

grade through high school are invited to learn more about a new all-girls troop being formed: Scouts BSA Troop 336. This troop will offer the same program that Boy Scouts have had for years, including an opportunity to earn the Eagle rank. The open house takes place at Long Valley Presbyterian Church on Bartley Road. For information on Troop 336, contact adsneddon@verizon.net or koshea98@yahoo.com.

Fund-raisers & Events

An Evening with Chris Christie - The former governor and local resident will discuss his new book "Let Me Finish," followed by a signing. The talk will be moderated by former New Jersey First Lady Mary Pat Christie. This fund-raiser to support the Township Library will take place on Friday, Feb. 1, at Mendham High School at 7 p.m. Tickets cost \$45, and include a signed copy of his book. [Purchase tickets online](#). Or, call Bookends directly at 201-445-0726.

Pancake Breakfast Benefits Playground - The Hilltop Church Deacons Annual Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper on March 5, from 5:30 p.m. - 7 p.m., will benefit the Ralston Playground renovation. The community is invited to stop by for all-you-can-eat pancakes! Prices are \$20 per family, \$7 per adult and \$5 per child. Tickets are available at the door. The church is located at 14 Hilltop Road, Mendham.

Cultural & Historical Happenings

Harmony Brookside - The community is invited for a [gallery reception](#) on Feb. 1, from 5 p.m. - 7 p.m. Welcome Martin Slayne and his exhibit "Love & Diversity"!

Rocks in the Garden: A History of Slavery in Morris County - On Feb 7, from 7 p.m. - 8 p.m., learn about slavery in Mendham and Morris County. Take a look at slave owners and enslaved people; who they were, how they lived, how they were treated and the press coverage about slavery. This talk will be presented by Mike Snyder, historian and teacher. [Please register online](#).

The Precedents of the President - On Feb 20, from 7 p.m. - 8 p.m., everything that President George Washington did, from the inaugural oath to establishing a Supreme Court, was a first. Learn about our first president from Rich Rosenthal, lecturer and president of the North Jersey Civil War Round Table. [Please register online](#).

Health & Wellness

Vaping & the Impact of Marijuana on the Community - On Feb. 28, at 7 p.m., the community is invited to learn about vaping and its harmful effects on youth; the impact of marijuana on the community, discussing Colorado, and how to ensure health for our youth. This program at the Township Library is sponsored the **Mendhams Stigma-Free Task Force** and features substance abuse professionals from Daytop; local police officers and a Health Educator from the Morris County Office of Health Management.

Senior Transportation Available - Mendham Area Senior Transportation (MAST) transports senior and disabled residents in Mendham Township and Mendham Borough to medical appointments and for food shopping. They also transport residents to the Veterans Hospital in Lyons. MAST takes seniors to the following communities: Basking Ridge, Bernardsville, Cedar Knolls, Chester, Denville, Florham Park, Harding, Mendham Borough, Mendham Township, Morristown, Morris Plains, Morris Township, Mount Freedom, Parsippany, Randolph, and Whippany. Rides to other towns in Morris County will be considered as the schedule permits. **Call 973-543-2666 to register for rides.**

Nature & Outdoor Activities

Fitness Hike - On Feb. 3, from 8 a.m. - 10 a.m., take a guided, brisk 5-mile hike over varied terrain at Schiff Nature Preserve. Meet at the McVickers Brook parking lot, 239 Pleasant Valley Road. This hike is free to Schiff members; non-members pay \$10. Walk-ins are welcome. Vaccinated dogs on a leash are welcome, too. **Register online.**

Full Moon Hike - The forest has settled into the rhythm of winter. The length of the night has elongated allowing us to enjoy the forest in its quiet state. On Feb. 20, from 7 p.m. - 9:30 p.m., join a naturalist to hike two miles around the trails of Schiff Nature Preserve to experience the magic of the forest. Member fee is \$10 each or \$30/family. Non-member fee is \$15 each or \$45/non member family. **Pre-register online.**

Volunteer Day at Schiff - Join staff and Board members for a day of land stewardship activities on the preserve on Feb. 23, from 9 a.m. - 11 a.m. Meet at the Nature Center, at 339 Pleasant Valley Drive. Depending on the season, work may include clearing brush and vines from trails; removing invasive species; restoring fences and bridges or raking out the Native Garden. Volunteers should dress in weather-appropriate attire; wear hard-toed shoes, and bring a beverage and snack. Walk-ins welcome! Any children 16 and under must be accompanied by a parent. **Register online.**

Maple Sugaring Open House - On March 3, from 1 p.m. - 4 p.m., enjoy an educational presentation on the history of maple sugaring at Schiff. Learn about the seasonal life cycle of the sugar maple tree and the process of harvesting and evaporating the sap. Participants can view tapped trees, assist in collecting sap, experience the evaporator and finish with a tasting of Schiff Maple Syrup! This program will be held rain or shine. Dress appropriately for the weather conditions. Boots are recommended as the trails can be wet,

muddy and/or covered by snow. This program is free to Schiff members. Non-members pay \$3 per person or \$10 for a family. [Register online.](#)

Officers of the Ralston Engine Company (below, left) and the Brookside Engine Company (below, right) are sworn in for 2019.



Longtime Historic Preservation Member Ray Nadasky (below, left) received a Proclamation from Mayor Warren Gisser and a plaque from the entire Historic Preservation Committee. Library volunteers and trustees Peter Dumovic, Amy Vaccaro and Hope Preston (below, right) received Proclamations from Committeeman Richard Diegnan.



Outgoing Board of Adjustment member Norman Preston (below, left) received a Proclamation from Committeewoman Amalia Duarte. Committeeman Nick Monaghan (below, right) read a Proclamation to new First Aid Squad Captain Dan Wood, honoring the squad's 50th Anniversary.



School Sports Calendars

- [Mendham Township Middle School Athletics](#)
- [West Morris Mendham High School Athletics](#)

More News Sources

For more town information, please visit the [Mendham Township Website](#).

Check out the many events and activities offered by the [Mendham Township Library](#).

View town meetings, parades, other events and more on [Mendham TV](#).

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