

Mendham Township



Vol. XXII, No. 1

SPRING 2013, OUR 264TH YEAR

Letter From the Mayor

Over the past 18 months, Mendham Township residents have been severely tested by three extraordinary storms. In each instance, our community has risen to the occasion, pulled together, and gotten through the crisis with flying colors. Our response has been one that should make all of us proud, but not surprised. Ours is a special community, where neighbor looks after neighbor and volunteering for the public good is part of the fabric of our everyday life.



As we go through 2013, Mendham Township will face new challenges (though hopefully not as daunting as the big storms have been). Among these are: how to continue to provide essential municipal services in the face of rising costs and a stagnant or even shrinking property tax base, and how to manage the Township's long-term capital needs on a responsible basis that does not place too large a burden on the Township's annual operating budget. These challenges may not be as dramatic as dealing with storm emergencies, but they are no less important to Mendham Township's residents.

Your Township government is working hard to contain costs because we understand that any shortfall between revenues and expenses translates to a municipal tax increase. We continue our existing shared services efforts with other communities and look to expand these initiatives as another way to help control municipal costs. We are also considering what options (other than tax hikes) may be available to increase Township revenues in the future, so that both sides of the revenues/costs equation are properly addressed.

Your municipal tax bill amounts to about one-fifth of your overall property tax bill, but this does not mean that it deserves any less care than the larger school and county tax portions. Your Township Committee and Administration recognize that any increase in property taxes places an additional burden on residents in a still-anemic economy, and we are determined to keep municipal taxes as low as we can.

As always, your local government welcomes your input, constructive ideas, and suggestions on how to do things better. We understand that good ideas can come from any quarter and that open government tends to work best in correctly balancing the resources and needs of our community.

Lastly, let me take this opportunity to thank my fellow Township residents for the opportunity and honor of serving as your mayor this year. I pledge to you my best efforts to keep our local government open, responsible, and as responsive as possible to the needs of all our residents.

Rick Merkt
Mayor

Environmental Commission News

Adopt-a-Byway Program

Litter along the roadside is a blight on the community that no resident appreciates. However, while it is easy to agree on the impact of the problem, it is far more difficult to stop the litter from accumulating. The Mendham Township Environmental Commission has studied the issue and has identified an excellent program for keeping the Township's roadsides clean. Since 1989, the Commission has been sponsoring the Adopt-A-Byway program. This program, highlighted on all of the gateway signs entering the community, promotes community volunteerism as a means to address the litter problem.

The way the program works is simple. Township residents volunteer to walk along a road periodically and pick up trash. These "adopters" usually select a road near their home as the one they keep clean. They clean up stretches of road as long or short as they wish. The only request made of the "adopter" is that they keep the section of roadway they have adopted reasonably litter free as often as needed.

Over the years, residents have adopted about a third of the Township's roadways and the Environmental Commission would like to take this opportunity to heartily thank those volunteers. This year, we would like to involve more residents and see more of our roadways gain the benefit of a regular cleanup. If you are not already an Adopt-A-Byway volunteer, we urge you to become one. If you are already a volunteer, we would appreciate knowing you are still on the job. To keep our records current, we would like to ask that everyone who is willing to devote some time and energy to this worthy activity to click on the following link: <http://bit.ly/10Cx1RS> to enter basic information for our files and for minimal correspondence.

One more thing: April 22 this year is Earth Day. A great way to celebrate is for residents and their families to clean up some small portion of your neighborhood. While cleaning, please take a picture and email it to kimcrumrine@comcast.net. We would love to post a picture or two on the Mendham Township website. Together we can make a difference in keeping Mendham Township clean and green!



The Library Bunny with young friends braved chilly spring weather for the Eggstravanzza

RECREATION

SPRING/SUMMER PROGRAMS AND EVENTS

Recreation program information and registration forms are posted on the Recreation Website@ www.mendhamtownship.org; under recreation or call 973-543-4555 ext. 122.

Patriots' 5K/8K Race, Kids' Fun Run And Walk Is Set For Sat., June 22nd, 9am At Brookside Community Club.

USATF Certified 500 point Grand Prix event, Walkers welcome, Children's Fun Run, DJ Entertainment, Prize Drawings, and Post Race Refreshments. Register early and save!

Visit www.mendhamtownship.org, and click on Recreation.

Who Benefits? This year's race again supports the Goryeb Children's Hospital "Kids4Kids Philanthropic Committee," a group of local youngsters who raise money to help make a stay at the hospital less stressful for other children. We are also starting a new college scholarship, the Patriots Community Service Award, to be awarded to a 2013 graduating senior at West Morris Mendham High School.

Race Sponsors Needed - Businesses are invited to support the race through a sponsorship or door prize donation. Depending on the level chosen, benefits can include a logo on T-shirts, the Website and all race literature and signage; a public announcement at the race start and end; free space at the vendor fair; complimentary race entries, and much more. Contact Lori Dent 973-543-4555, ext. 122 for details.

2013 Spring/Summer Programs

The Department is pleased to again offer a wide range of programs for all ages. For information on programs, visit the Township Website or email Lori Dent at Ident@mendhamtownship.org. Summer employment opportunities are posted on the Recreation website, including a New Volunteer/CIT training program for the tennis program, summer mini-camps, Arts-n-Craft programs at the beach, and the swim team program for students entering 9th or 10th grade. If interested, please contact Lori Dent.

Spring & Summer Field Hockey Clinics – Girls in grades 4-8, Sunday afternoons 3-4:30pm on 4/14, 4/21, 4/28 & 5/5. Summer camp clinic will be held the week of 8/5 – 8/9, 9am-10:30am. Drills and skills, scrimmages and games offered by the Mendham High School Varsity field hockey players. Fee: \$40.

GAMES GALORE AFTERSCHOOL PROGRAM – A 5 week program for students in 1st – 4th grade, Monday afternoons at the Brookside Elementary School, 3:30pm-5pm from 4/22 – 5/20. Come enjoy exciting indoor and outdoor games and fun activities. This is a non-competitive program structured with old fashion fun & games. Registration fee is \$80 per student, family discount – 2nd child \$70, 3rd child \$65.

PlaySMART 101 – 8 week program 4/16 – 6/4 for ages 3 1/2 to 6 yrs. on Tues. afternoons 10am-11am or 1-2pm session. This brain-boosting 8wk program combines sports, fitness and academics all into one.



Spring Tennis Clinic – 5 week Saturday morning clinic taught at the Mt. Pleasant Tennis Courts 5/4, 5/11, 5/18, 6/1 & 6/8, 9:30am – 10:30am - K-4th grade clinic, 10:30am – 11:30am – 5th – 8th grade clinic. Registration fee is \$65 per student, family discount – 2nd child \$55, 3rd child \$45, family max \$170.00.

Summer Tennis Clinics – Sign up for weekly sessions or all 6 weeks. Classes are taught at the Mt. Pleasant Tennis Courts. Sessions are 3X's a week, Mon., Tues., & Wed. afternoons. Sessions run the weeks of 6/24, 7/1, 7/8, 7/15, 7/22 & 7/29, 4:30pm-5:30pm – K-4th grade clinic, 5:30pm – 6:30pm – 5th – 8th grade clinic. Registration fee is \$30 per week.

Laser Tag – Open to 4th – 8th grade students. Wed. June 26, 1-4pm. 3 hours of non-stop laser tag action. REGISTER EARLY, space limited to the first 60 registered. Fee: \$35 per student, \$60 family max.

Manners Matter – June 25, from 3-5pm at the Township Municipal Building. For children 8-12, a great way to introduce children to the do's and don'ts of everyday etiquette Fee: \$35.

Babysitting Certification – Get certified for sitting! The Smartsitter Babysitting Course will be offered July 10, from 9-3pm, at the Township Municipal Building. The course is for youth ages 11-14. Fee: \$60.

Pre-school Program - For children ages 4 & 5yrs, *Children must turn 4 by May 1st and be completely potty trained. July 8 – July 18, Monday – Thursday, 9am – noon at the Old Ralston Firehouse. The program includes stories, arts and crafts, songs and movement and a snack. Register early, classes are limited to 20 children and filled first come first serve. Registration fee is \$120.00.

RECREATION (cont)

BROOKSIDE BEACH IS THE PLACE TO BE THIS SUMMER!

A fantastic way to enjoy a summer filled with special events and family activities for all ages.

Become a member and save! Beach Membership affords patrons discounted rates on swim team membership, group party beach rental, weekly activities, contest events and more! The Beach is located at 16 West Main Street. Many new programs, activities and services have been added. Fees have been restructured to make membership affordable.

BROOKSIDE BEACH OPERATING HOURS/ FEES/PROGRAMS & COMMUNITY EVENTS

The Beach will open with a Grand Opening Beach party Sat. May 25, and will operate weekends only 6/1 & 6/2, 6/8 & 6/9, & 6/15 & 6/16 from 12:00-5:00pm. Official season opens Friday 6/21 and will remain open 7 days a week 11:30am - 6:30pm until 9/2. Beach membership sale starts April 1st, register early and save, use the Beach Buddy discount and save more!

Resident fees before 6/1; Family of 3 or more \$275; after 6/1 \$300. Couple or Parent/Child fee before 6/1 \$200; after 6/1 \$225, Single before 6/1 \$125, after 6/1 \$150. Sr. Couple (62+) \$100, Sr. Single (62+) \$55. Swim Team Membership; Beach Member's \$110 per swimmer, \$50 for 3rd swimmer, \$275 family max.

Have a party at Brookside Beach, we offer group party rental and food package discounts.

Brookside Beach Offers:

- Sandy Beach for Family Recreation
- Weekly Scheduled Water Quality Checks
- Snack Stand sells hot/cold food/drinks/desserts
- Separate Lap and Swim Team areas
- Paddle Boat rentals
- Beach membership open and close party
- Organized contests and ad-hoc games, music, activities, arts n crafts for all ages
- Trained Staff and Certified Lifeguard Coverage
- Plenty of Parking, Restrooms/changing areas
- New sound system so patrons can enjoy music
- Picnic Area, Volleyball, Tetherball, Horse Shoes
- Game Cards, and Game Boards available
- Outdoor Movie Nights, 6/28, 7/31 & 9/14

New Afternoon Camp Program At Brookside Beach

- June 24 – 7/31 (choose weekly sessions or all 6 wks) For children entering 3rd – 6th grade
- 1-3pm, Mon/Tues/Wed afternoons
- Rain or shine, in inclement weather activities held in the Elementary School

Under the direction of Lori Dent and Stephanie Mercogliano, Themed weeks, swimming, boating, arts-n-crafts, ultimate Frisbee, capture the flag, parachute games, scavenger hunts, Wiffle ball tournaments, volleyball, baggo and more! Space is limited, early registration before 6/1 is strongly recommended. Beach member's \$40 wk. per child, Non-Beach member's is \$50 wk. per child. For complete details, registration and health form go to www.mendhamtownship.org, Recreation/Brookside Beach/Camp

More Brookside Beach Programming:

Pre-registration required! For fee and registration information, please visit www.mendhamtownship.org under Recreation, Brookside Beach

- **Laser Tag Party** – Come celebrate the start of summer. 6/26th grades 4-8, 1-4pm
- **Swim Team** – (member of 10 team North Jersey Regional Lake League)
- **Swim Lessons** – New Learn to Swim Program Two separate (3) week sessions offered. Session 1- Mon/Wed am, July 8 – July 24, 11:15am – 11:45am, Session 2- Mon/Wed am, August 5 – August 21, 11:15am – 11:45am. Afternoon and or private lessons upon request. Beach Members \$60 pp per session, Non-members \$75 pp per session.
- **Brookside Beach Small Fry Club** – for 5 & 6 yr. olds, directed by our Beach Director & Certified Teacher. Children will enjoy arts-n-crafts, games, dinosaur digs, teddy bear picnic, water play & more! Three week session offered Mon/Wed am, July 8 – July 24, 10:a.m. – 11:00am. Beach Members \$60 pp per session, Non-members \$75 pp. per session.
- **Brookside Beach Canteen Program** - for students entering 6th – 9th grade, Monday night's 6-8pm, 7/8 & 7/22 and add'l dates in August TBA. Swimming, laser tag, organized games, activities, music, Baggo/Volleyball tournaments and more! Refreshment stand will be open! \$10 Entry fee.
- **LASER TAG ON THE BEACH – AN EVENT NOT TO BE MISSED!** 7/22nd complete with an inflatable city for children of all ages. Age 5-10 water squirts tag 5-6pm, \$15 per person. Age 12 and up, laser tag, music and bon-fire 6-9pm, \$40 per person. PRE-REGISTRATION REQUIRED, SPACE IS LIMITED, register early!



PUBLIC WORKS NEWS & NOTES

Mendham Township First Aid News

The Mendham Township First Aid Squad responds to medical emergencies 24 hours a day 365 days a year. The Squad is comprised entirely of volunteers fully committed to providing residents of Mendham Township with the highest level of pre-hospital emergency care available. All Mendham Township First Aid Squad members are New Jersey State Certified and held to the same standards as professional EMTs.

Medical emergencies are very frightening. A little preparedness however, can better position first responders to provide the assistance needed in a timely fashion. One important way to save time is to have patient information readily available. The following are questions that the squad will always ask when responding to a medical emergency. This information is confidential by law and will only be shared with the emergency department when patient care is transferred upon arrival at the hospital:

- Medications – keep a current list of all medications
- Medical History – keep a list of current medical conditions and past medical history
- Allergies – maintain a list of all known allergies.
- Physician - list patient's physicians and phone number
- Emergency contact - list the name and phone number of the patient's emergency contact

Mendham Township First Aid Squad can provide a "File of Life" which is a small magnetic sleeve usually kept on the refrigerator. It contains a form to make pertinent information easily organized and is quickly accessible during an emergency. Residents interested in obtaining a File of Life are encouraged to call the Squad's non-emergency number (973-543-1212) to request.

The Squad also maintains loaner equipment such as crutches, wheel chairs, walkers and a variety of other items. Please call our non-emergency number to arrange to borrow this needed medical equipment.

For residents interested in learning CPR, the Mendham Township First Aid Squad has initiated the "Community Lifesaver Program". Our goal is to train as many members of the community as possible to become American Heart Association CPR/AED certified. Our instructors volunteer their time so the only cost to the participant is the purchase of training materials. Interested residents, individuals or groups, should contact Robin Johnston at 973-543-1976, or email president@mendhamtownshipfas.org for more information.

The Mendham Township First Aid Squad always welcomes new members! Please contact us at membership@mendhamtownshipfas.org for more information. Whatever time you're able to give is greatly appreciated!

Mendham Business Association To Hold Annual Sidewalk Sale & Town-Wide Garage Sale

The Mendham Business Association will hold their Annual Sidewalk Sale combined with a Town-Wide Garage Sale on Friday, June 7th and Saturday, June 8th.

For more information please contact Fran Plodowski at 973 543-2145.

HISTORIC PRESERVATION

Iron Industry in Mendham Township



The Mendham Township Historic Committee has been working on a series of DVDs about iron mining and processing in Mendham Township. Funds are needed to complete the final segment about blacksmithing. Please send your donation to help complete this documentary to:

Historic Preservation Committee
Township of Mendham
PO Box 520
Brookside, NJ 07926

Visit the Township Library to access the numerous DVDs about unique historic subjects in our town that the Committee has completed.

New Drop Box at Town Hall!

A new drop box has been installed at Town Hall for township payments! The drop box is a secure box attached near the front door to be utilized when the building is closed. It can be used for tax, recreation or court payments and dog license fees. It will be checked and emptied every day.



FINANCE DEPARTMENT

Staff Changes Announced in Finance Department

Marie Kenia, the Township Tax Collector/Assistant Finance Officer has left the Township to take a Certified Finance Officer position in Byram Township. While sorry to see Marie leave, the Township is pleased to announce the promotion of Finance Clerk, Terris Garbarini to fill the vacated position. Terris has been with the Township since September of 2010 and is excited to take on the role of Deputy Tax Collector/Assistant CFO. Terris possesses a Bachelor of Science Degree in Finance, a Master's Degree in Management Science, and is currently completing the course work required for appointment to the Certified Tax Collector position. Donna Cummins, the Tax Collector in Mendham Borough, has been hired on a limited/temporary basis to fill the Certified Tax Collector position per statutory regulations. Julie Kupilik has been hired to fill the position of Part-Time Finance Clerk. Julie is finishing her final year at Montclair State University and will graduate in May 2013 with a degree in Political Science, with specializations in public administration and pre-law. She has interned at the municipal government level working with public sector union contracts and finance. The Township is pleased to welcome Julie to the staff. Please direct tax questions to Terris at 973-543-4555 extension 125, and accounts payable questions to Julie at extension 120.

Zoning and Health News

Residents are reminded to retrieve garbage cans from the street by the end of the day on garbage collection days. Removing garbage cans in a timely manner is an effective way to keep rodents and other animals at bay and prevent the spread of diseases such as rabies. As a matter of safety, garbage cans left at the curb for an extended period of time impede the removal of snow by the Department of Public Works and may give the impression you are not home, making your home a potential target for a robbery. The removal of garbage cans keeps your home as well as the entire neighborhood looking new and attractive, adding value to your property.

Public Access Channel Upgrades Technology

The MendhamTV station is currently going through a major technology upgrade that will enable improved, and flexible scheduling, along with increased programming capabilities. This means more programs for the channel's viewers, the ability to bring back more favorites from the past and better scheduling options to meet the needs of the viewing audience. In addition, the station will be rolling out expanded bulletin board capabilities to allow community organizations to update their information online from their offices and in real time. Finally, later in April/early May the station will begin offering free online Video on Demand from the MendhamTV website for the current schedule of programs as well as archived programs. The Video on Demand service will be accessible from all computer devices. As the community's public access station, it is MendhamTV's goal to inform, educate and entertain by broadcasting programs developed by local producers and organizations covering a wide variety of local topics and interests. Please be patient with the station as these exciting upgrades are implemented over the next several months. Mendham TV can be viewed on Comcast channel 29 and Verizon Fios channel 22. For more station information and a current programming schedule go to www.mendhamtv.org

POLICE DEPARTMENT

News and Notes from the Chief

First, I would like to take this time to thank the residents of Mendham Township for their vigilance and assistance in reporting suspicious incidents to the Police. Our officers have seen an encouraging increase in reported suspicious incidents to the Police Department. Our officers, in turn, have investigated many incidents that may have previously gone unreported. This demonstrates a true neighborhood collaboration between the Police Department and the community. Secondly, as spring approaches please remind your landscape contractors of Mendham Township's local ordinance regarding power equipment use.

Outdoor Power Equipment Regulations

The purpose of this ordinance is to regulate the hours of construction and the use of power equipment out-of-doors in order to protect and promote the health, welfare and safety of the public and the peace and tranquility of the township.

Restricted Activities:

The construction, maintenance, repair, alteration or demolition of any building or structure or the laying of any pavement, including but not limited to making an excavation movement of earth, clearing of land and loading or unloading of construction material, equipment or supplies shall be unlawful.

Operating any power equipment, including but not limited to a power saw, hammer, sander, drill, grinder, lawn mower, leaf blower, wood-chipper, thatcher, generator, air compressor or like power equipment.

Permitted Hours of Restricted Activities:

The activities restricted shall be permitted only during the following hours:

Weekdays: 7:00 am to 8:00 pm
Saturdays: 8:00 am to 6:00 pm
Sundays and
Legal Holidays: 9:00 am to 6:00 pm

Such activities on Sundays and legal holidays may be conducted only by the owners or occupants of the premises or their family members and not by contractors or employees.

For More Information:

Please contact the Township Clerk's Office at (973) 543-4555 x 111. Thank you and have a safe and healthy spring.

Register for Email Notifications from Township Website

Residents interested in receiving email notifications when news items are added to the Township website may do so by going to the Township Website and clicking the link under the Transaction header on the right navigation bar (front page) titled [Register for Email Notifications](#). From this link residents can also sign up for calendar updates and to receive the newsletter via email. Directions on how to complete the registration process are provided. Residents with questions about this service should call Town Hall at 973-543-4555.

PUBLIC WORKS NEWS & NOTES

Wood Chips/Mulch and Firewood:

Wood Chips /Mulch are available year round to residents, at no charge

There are two types of chips available, regular wood chips, and rough cut mulch, (rough cut mulch has some fine pieces of sticks in it).

Firewood is also available (not split), 3 yard delivery capacity.

All deliveries are made on Wednesdays

Chips/mulch are available for delivery by the truck load:

Mason Dump Truck = 4 Yards

Single Axle Truck= 8 Yards

Tandem = 16 Yards

Dump Trailer=34 Yards (must have large area to dump chips)

Residents requesting chips or firewood should call the Department of Public Works at (973) 543-4509 to arrange for delivery.

Driveway Permits

The township requires a driveway permit for any driveway restoration work or construction of a new driveway.

Applications can be obtained from the Township Road Department at 40 Mount Pleasant Road, or download at www.mendhamtownship.org.

Township Recycling Program for Tires, Batteries and Oil

Under the Township's recycling program, residents may drop-off their old tires, batteries and oil any time during the year at the township garage. Residents interested in recycling any of these items should contact the Public Works Garage at 973-543-4509 to schedule an appointment for drop-off.

Location: DPW Garage: 20 Mount Pleasant Road

Fee for Disposal: Tires- \$3.50, Tires with rims- \$6.00, batteries- \$1.00, oil- No Charge

Spring 2013 Electronic Recycling Dates

The Mendham Township and Mendham Borough once again are co-sponsoring an Electronics Recycling Day. The date of the event is Saturday, May 11th from 9:00 am – 1:00 pm. The event will be held at the Mendham Borough Public Works Facility located at 37 Ironia Rd. For further information and/or to arrange pick up (limited pickup for the disabled) contact Lisa Smith at 973 543-6535 by May 6th.

Mendham Township Library Shredder Day

Mendham Township Library will be holding Shredder Day on Saturday, May 18th from 8:30-12:00. Collect all of your sensitive papers and bring them to the library. For more details, please visit the Mendham Township Library website at www.mendhamtownshiplibrary.com.

RANDOLPH POUND

Animals Available For Adoption

1345 Sussex Turnpike

Randolph, NJ 07869

973-989-7090 or go to www.pound.petfinder.org

If you are contemplating the addition of a four-legged furry friend to your family, why not give one of these animals a second chance? The adoption procedure is a simple one and the adoption fee is a nominal \$50.00.

Become A Friend: The Friends of the Randolph Animal Pound is a group of individuals who advocate for homeless animals by providing support services for the pound. Membership is open to residents of all communities. The Friends serve the cause by raising funds for veterinary services and by contributing and soliciting dog and cat food, bedding, toys and other items needed by pound "residents." Some of the members help out at adoption days, serve as dog walkers or act as foster parents for kittens who need to be socialized before they are ready to be adopted into their forever homes. To contact please call 973 886-1485.

Historic Home Tour Sunday, May 5th

The Trustees of the Mendham Township Library are proud to present the 2013 Historic Home Tour. Six of the Township's antique homes will be open to the public for exploration and discovery. Tickets are \$30.00 per person and can be purchased at the Library Circulation desk at 2 Main St. Brookside. For more information call 973 543-4018.



