

Manville's News



BoroughOfManvilleNJ

A PROUD PURPLE HEART COMMUNITY

www.ManvilleNJ.org



Richard M. Onderko,
Mayor
Borough of
Manville

Mayor Onderko's Corner

By now most of our residents are adjusting to this strange new "stay at home lifestyle" as we fight the coronavirus. I am pleased that the health guidelines put in place are being followed by our residents. However, it is a little troubling to see our confirmed cases continue to hold steady week over week here in Manville and in Somerset County.

I plan on doing weekly updates from here on out to keep everyone informed the best we can. One of the biggest challenges faced in this pandemic has been dealing with the amount of information being provided daily at all levels of government and how best to get the information out to our residents. Our social media sites, Nixle alerts and our Borough's website will continue to be utilized and updated regularly.

For the four weeks in April, we had 29, 15, 19 and 18 cases reported in Manville with 2 more reported so far this week for 111 cases in total. Unfortunately, 4 of our residents have died from the virus. Please keep all those affected by this virus in your thoughts and prayers.

There has been lots of concerns over unemployment benefits. There is a new website called, myunemployment.nj.gov. Hopefully, it is up and operational. If you have any concerns or questions related to this crisis, please email boroinfo@manvillenj.org and someone will get back to you. We are here to help in any way we can.

The coronavirus does not move itself; people move it. That is why it is important to abide by the stay at home executive order



to help stop the spread and only visit stores for essential items. Please wear a mask when out in public and remember to wash your hands often. Social distancing must be practiced, and it looks like social distancing will remain in effect for the rest of this year.

Governor Murphy has recently stated we are still several weeks away before some businesses can reopen. We all must commit to doing our part to flatten the curve so things can begin to get back to normal sooner than later. Also, please help Manville by filing your 2020 Census response if you have not done so already. Be well and stay safe.

Until next month,
Mayor Richard M. Onderko

STAY HOME.

STAY SAFE. SAVE LIVES.

www.co.somerset.nj.us/covid19status



SIGN UP TODAY

Stay Informed and Up-to-Date:

www.COVID19.NJ.GOV

nixle Emergency Alert System
Text 08835 to 888777
Emergency Alerts and Updates

Stay informed! Sign up for Nixle emergency alerts from the Manville Police Department.
Text 08835 to 888777.

To keep informed on the Borough activities,
Follow us on Facebook
@BoroughOfManvilleNJ
and @ManvilleBoroughOEM

Code Red is a reverse 911 emergency alert system to your phone.
Sign up at www.manvillenj.org.

Register READY
www.registerready.nj.gov
The first step in emergency preparedness for individuals who may need assistance in a disaster.

BE COUNTED!



Complete the 2020 Census. Respond for your home in one of three ways: online, by phone, or by mail.

Borough of Manville Adopts Ordinance Prohibiting the Connection of Sump Pumps to the Sanitary Sewer System

The "Inflow" of Unnecessary Rainwater Costs the Borough Hundreds of Thousands of Dollars

Extreme rainfall amounts encountered in 2018 and 2019 have resulted in an ~\$850,000 overage charge that was not budgeted from the Somerset Raritan Valley Sewerage Authority (SRVSA). The Mayor and Borough Council recently took the necessary step adopting a new ordinance to prohibit the connection of sump pumps to the sanitary sewer system. The "inflow" of clean rainwater unnecessarily pumped into the sanitary sewer system is putting a financial burden on the Borough. We ask that our residents voluntarily comply to help reduce this unnecessary and costly "inflow" to the system.

Ordinance 2020-1233 was adopted at the meeting of the Mayor and Borough Council held on April 27, 2020. The ordinance takes effect on June 1, 2020. Connection of sump pumps or rainwater drainage to the sanitary sewer system is prohibited. A certificate of sump pump compliance shall be required prior to the sale and closing of property and prior to a tenant or lessee occupying a rental premise. The fee for this inspection will be \$25.00. The inspection will be performed by the Borough of Manville Building and Zoning Office. A copy of the new ordinance can be found on the Borough's website.

From the desk of Captain Tom Herbst



Covid 19

Who could have thought that putting a mask on to go to the grocery store would be a common practice in our society. Who would have thought the word "pandemic" would ever be mentioned in our lifetime. Who would have thought our kids would be learning on-line. Who would have thought a person coughing next to you would offend you to the point of being mortified. Who would have thought you would accept your bank card back and wipe it with a Clorox wipe (if you were lucky enough to have one). And who possibly could have thought this was in the USA.

These are the stories you watch on the nightly news in different countries, different continents. These are the horrific events that transpire in places far away. As we (all

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New Rental Housing Ordinance Adopted by Mayor and Council

The Mayor and Borough Council adopted an Ordinance to Provide for Rental Housing Registration at the Borough Council Meeting held on April 13, 2020. The purpose of the ordinance is to protect the health and safety of individuals who occupy leased, rented or subleased residential housing within the Borough of Manville. The ordinance takes effect on July 1, 2020. Prior to offering a rental unit to the public for rent, the owner or landlord of the rental unit shall file a Rental Property Registrations Statement with the Borough of Manville.

The registration application will be available at the office of the Housing Official/ Building Department and the Office of the Borough Clerk. The fee for the annual license is \$150 per calendar year. For the purpose of the initial period of adoption of this ordinance the registration period will run from July 1, 2020 through December 31, 2021. Once the registration is filed the Housing Official will conduct a general inspection of the premises and the visible parts of the building exterior and dwelling unit interior to ensure compliance with the required standards.

The ordinance is available on line for review at www.ManvilleNJ.org. Please choose the Icon that says Government and then select Ordinances.



Rock On Manville #ManvilleRocks



My name is Kim Bias (Evans) and this is my son Evan Bias. I am part of the @ManvilleRocks Facebook group. I have almost 200 rocks painted to go out once this stay at home order is over. I love this group. There is so much talent. I enjoy putting rocks out for people to find. Something so small can put a smile on a person's face. I love when people post pictures of themselves with the rock. It's great to see someone is happy because you made something. During the winter I paint bigger rocks and do a rock give away to try to keep the group going when the weather isn't great and people aren't hiding rocks. People "Like" the rocks, then Evan goes Live to pick the winners names. I'm hoping once this stay at home order is all over, more people will join the group, paint rocks and post what they found for everyone to enjoy.

I'd like to thank Jill and Jorge Rodriguez who are amazing artists and very kind people. They have been keeping the rocks group going with their give aways too. Sandra Brunarski, Debbie Agans, and Dorene Pelech Azar also paint and are talented too.

Love this group. Keep on rockin'.

#ManvilleCares

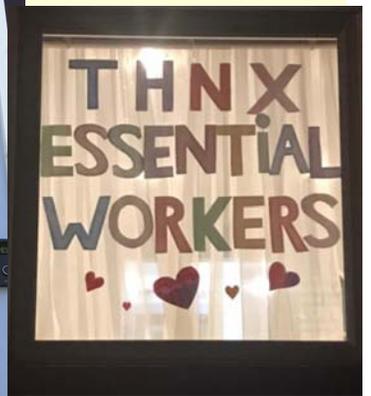
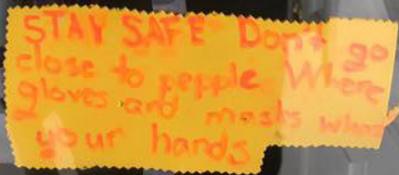
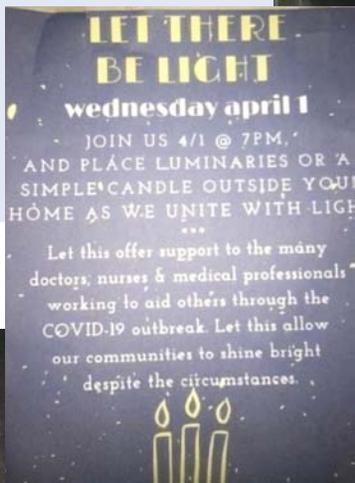
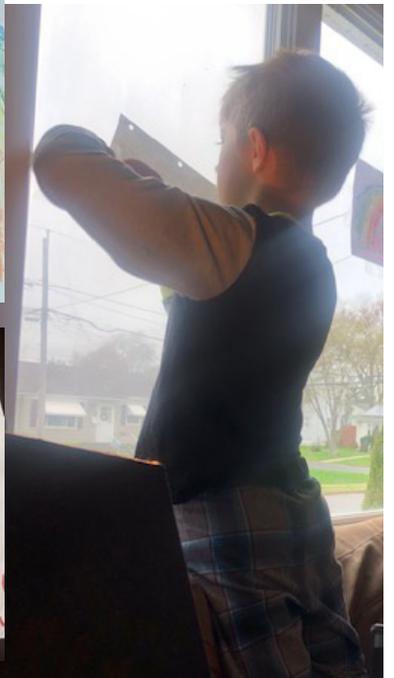
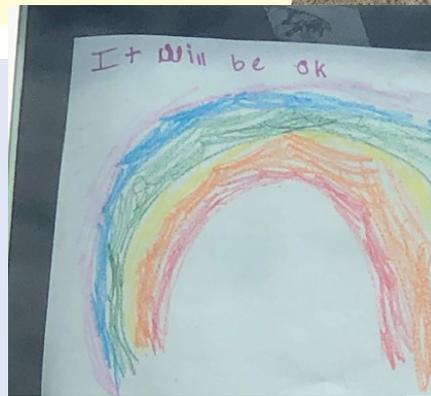
Have noticed all of the outpouring of love and care on windows, doors, and sidewalks throughout the Borough? Here is a showcase of just some of the creative heartfelt thanks to our first responders, healthcare workers, public service workers, and essential employees. Manville Thanks you!

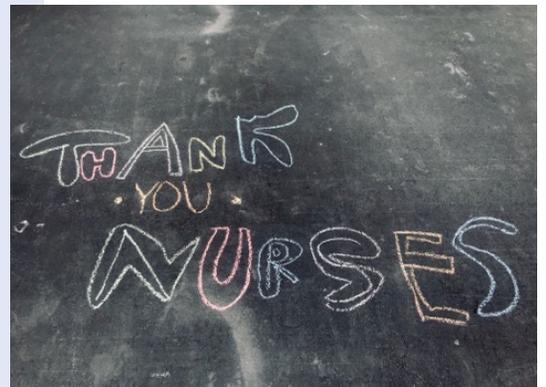
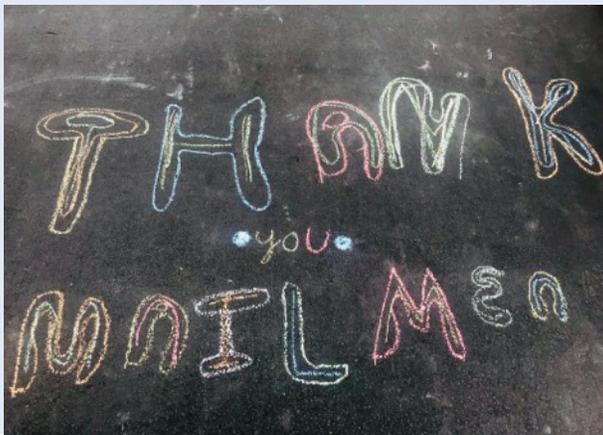
Mrs. Ohlson spearheaded the Hearts for Healthcare workers with her students at Weston and Roosevelt.

"The idea for this project came from a social media group called Hearts for Healthcare workers and Public Service workers. I knew my students were capable of this, and just about every elementary aged student in Manville took on the assignment with gusto!

It's important to remember at this time that there is hope, there is kindness, and there are people that are keeping our country going while we do our part to stay at home. I couldn't be more proud of my students, and their families, for such beautiful displays! Manville has a whole lot of heart."

~ Amy Ohlson,
Art educator
Weston and
Roosevelt Schools





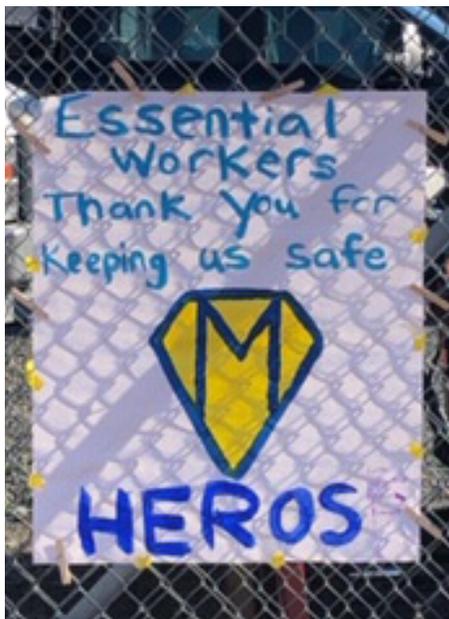
Department of Public Works – Managing the COVID-19 Pandemic

The Department of Public Works extends their appreciation to Manville's residents for their understanding and cooperation as we all work as one through this current worldwide health situation.

In mid-March to comply with the various Federal, State, and Local declarations, Public Works began a split shift work schedule to provide essential services. The department was able to maintain weekly municipal waste curbside collection as well as respond to numerous sewer related concerns. The shift schedule allowed for the employees to minimize their potential exposure to the virus. Residents were asked to remove trash can lids and place all waste in plastic bags; these efforts limited the surface area exposure for the crew.

During April, yard waste curbside pickups were completed on the 7th and the 21st. Unfortunately, the bulk trash pickup service was canceled for the 14th.

With the early Spring season, grass clipping drop off commenced early on the 11th but residents were required to place their clippings in the appropriate truck/dumpster themselves to comply with the social distancing guidelines.



The thanks continue; on the various routes, the DPW crew along with others are appreciated by residents expressing their feelings artistically with sidewalk chalk.

In today's era of uncertainty, someone took the opportunity to be positive, creative, and innovative and make the best use of their time thinking of those who are "essential".

One morning as the DPW employees were arriving to work they were greeted with signs of appreciation as heroes.

Thanks to the resident(s) who made this "good feeling" possible; it was very heart-warming.



Public Works and the Police Department acquired a sanitizing system to decontaminate trucks, pickups, and police cars. Daily, the department disinfects various vehicles; this service has been extended to the Borough's Fire Department, OEM, and Rescue Squad.

Public Works MAY Schedule

The Public Works Administration Office will remain closed to the public until State orders are modified or lifted. Residents can call the office with any concerns 908-725-5512. Requests will be handled as promptly as possible. DPW operating hours are Monday through Friday from 7 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Messages left outside of these hours will be handled the next business day.

If you experience a sewer backup issue after normal operating hours, please contact the Manville Police Department at 908-725-1900, indicate your call is a non-medical emergency, state your concern as a sewer issue, and someone will be dispatched to assess your situation.

Bulk Item Pick Up for May 12th is canceled.

Yard Waste Items will be picked up curbside May 5th and May 19th in accordance with the guidelines.

Saturday Grass Clipping Drop-Off at the Public Works Yard on Saturdays will continue. To comply with the social distancing guidelines, residents will need to place or dump their clippings in the ap-

propriate dumpster. Grass clippings need to be in biodegradable paper bags only; no plastic bags. An employee will be on site to only direct residents accordingly but without any interaction. The drop off site will be open from 8 a.m. to noon.

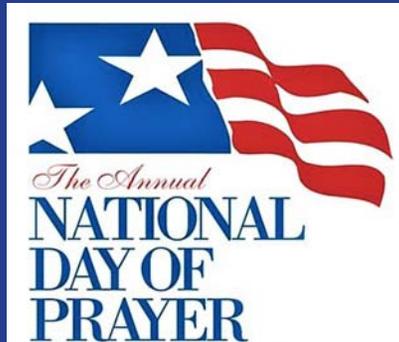
Municipal Waste – All municipal waste for pickup must be placed curbside by 7 a.m. on the scheduled day in a plastic bag whether or not it's in a garbage can. Any loose waste that is not in a plastic bag will not be picked up. Also lids may be left off of cans.

In observation of the Memorial Day Holiday, the Department of Public Works will be closed on Monday, May 25th. Monday's municipal waste will be collected on Tuesday, May 26th.

Summer Hours:

The Department of Public Works Department will be operating on a summer schedule starting May 25th. Operating & office hours will be Monday thru Friday 6:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. This schedule will be in effect through Labor Day, September 7th.

During Summer Hours, residents are requested to have items curbside by 6 a.m. on the various collection days.



Thursday,
May 7, 2020

Manville Seniors' Digest

The Manville Senior Citizens meet at noon on the second Thursday of each month at the VFW on Washington Avenue. Membership is open to anyone age 50 or older, residents and non-residents.

President Phil Petrone advised that there is no further activity for the club at this time.

We can be found on Facebook @ManvilleSeniorCitizens. Check out our past activities and pictures.

There is no date for the Homestead Rebates for application to the property taxes.

There was no meeting in April due to the coronavirus. A reminder to maintain social distancing, self-quarantine, hand washing, use masks and gloves when grocery shopping, going to the pharmacy or doctors office. Stay safe and hope to see all of you soon.

Upcoming trips:

Wednesday, July 22 trip to Sight & Sound for "Queen Esther" and lunch at

Shady Maple. Cost is \$132. Contact Jo Pschar for reservations at 908-722-0156.

September 13-17 Haunted trip to Mystic, Salem, Boston and Portsmouth. Cost is \$749 double, \$979 single. Tour Governor Sprague Mansion, live witch trial performance a Witch Dungeon Museum, Boston Harbor islands cruise and much more. Contact Kathie Petrone for reservations at 908-526-2948.

Casino trips on hold until state sanctions are lifted:

Atlantic City - Third Wednesday of the month in to Caesar's. Bus leaves VFW at 9 a.m. Cost is \$35 of which \$30 will be returned. Contact Josephine Pschar at 908-722-0156.

Wind Creek in Bethlehem, PA. will be on the fifth Thursday of the month. The next trip is July 30, 2020. Bus will leave from the VFW at 10 a.m. Cost is \$30 with \$25 back. Contact Jo Pschar at 908-722-0156 for reservations.

All trips are open to the public.

Mayor and Council Adopt an Ordinance to Increase Sewer Rates

The Mayor and Council adopted an Ordinance to increase the Sewer Rate at the scheduled meeting of the Borough Council held on April 27, 2020. The sewer rate for the Borough has not been raised since 2006. The Borough hired the consulting firm of Phoenix Consulting Group to conduct a comprehensive study of the Borough utility's sewer rates.

During the past two years the State of New Jersey has experienced higher than normal rainfall rates. The additional rainfall infiltrates our sewer system resulting in higher than normal flow amounts into the Somerset Raritan Valley Sewerage Authority (SRVSA). The increase costs and billing of sewage treatment by the SRVSA necessitates the need for the increase in sewer rates at this time. The per dwelling fixed fee will be increased from \$200 per year or \$50 per quarter to \$220 per year or \$55 per quarter. The per gallon charge based on 1,000 gallons, or fraction thereof of water used will increase from \$3.51 to \$4.03. The average increase based on moderate usage will be approximately \$11.76 per quarter. Again, this is only an approximation. Any increase in your per quarterly sewer utility usage charge is highly dependent on the water usage of the individual household.

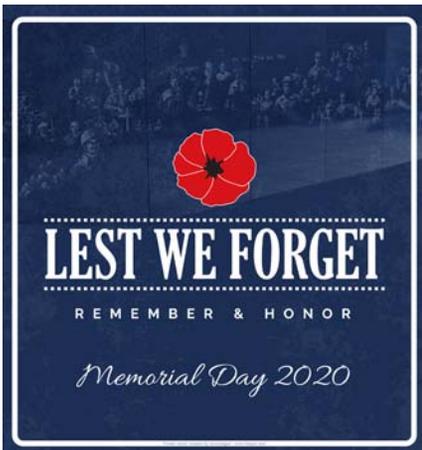
Sustainable Manville Helps the Community Celebrate Earth Day

By Tim Kenyon, Sustainable Manville Co-Chairman



This year, residents of Manville had to celebrate the 50th anniversary of Earth Day a little differently due to social distancing guidelines. Sustainable Manville hosted a virtual Earth week celebration on social media, which culminated in a virtual Earth Day on April 22nd. Residents shared how they were protecting

Manville's environment while practicing social distancing. The Weber, Brown, and Balicki families cleaned-up around their neighborhoods. While the Colucci's and Fleming's got started on their gardens. The Kenyon's got busy upcycling with an art project and a new house for Barbie. To see more of how Manville celebrated Earth Day connect with Sustainable Manville on Facebook: www.facebook.com/SustainableManville/.

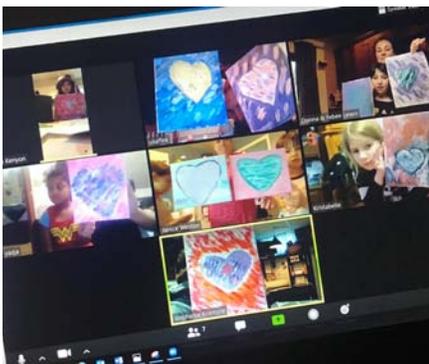


Congratulations Eagle Scout Cole Chapkowski of Troop 193!

The Mayor and Council recently read a Proclamation: Cole Chapkowski has earned the rank of Eagle Scout. Cole's project was to make improvements to the Bocce Ball Court by building a bench and sign for the enjoyment of the community. Congratulations, Cole!

Manville Girl Scouts Are Keeping Busy

With a "shelter in place order" in effect along with our library being closed, Manville Girls Scouts have been keeping busy using the Zoom virtual meeting platform. The week of March 8th through the 14th was National Girl Scout Week in America. The Mayor and Council read a proclamation into the public record recognizing their efforts that have made a positive impact in our community. And a special shout out to all the troop leaders who help nourish these girls into our future leaders of tomorrow.



Working on badge projects by making Thank you card for our health care workers and showing their creativity during a virtual meeting.



Everybody loves a hand made card!

Manville Recreation News

Staying Physically Active Amid Stay-at-Home Orders

Hello Manville residents, amid concerns around the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic, individuals in communities across the country and around the world are being encouraged to stay home. We need you to continue to stay physically active while at home.

Exercising is probably not top of mind as we struggle with how to protect ourselves, our families, and our communities during the COVID-19 pandemic. Perhaps it should be, because physical activity can be a valuable tool for controlling COVID-19 infections and maintaining quality of life. We need you to be healthy so you can get out and #PlayManville!

Physical activity is one of the most powerful forces for good health. Physical activity helps prevent and/or treat many physical and mental health conditions by improving functioning of numerous physiological systems. Stay strong and continue to be a good neighbor, soon we will be back on track.

Below is the information for our Thursday's in May Fitness with Liz ZOOM classes.

Fitness Class - Get Fit with Liz!

Starting May 7th, the Manville Recreation Department will be hosting a Free ZOOM Fitness Class open to all fitness and age levels. The class will run from 11 AM until 11:45 AM.

THIS PROGRAM WILL BE OFFERED FREE TO OUR BOROUGH RESIDENTS DURING THIS HOME BOUND PERIOD.

Participants MUST pre-register through Community Pass by visiting www.manvillenj.org/308/Recreation.

Any questions please email recinfo@manvillenj.org.



Latest Activities from Boy Scout Troop 193

Most people, even those with just a casual awareness of what the Boy Scout program is all about, are familiar with the Scout motto: "Be Prepared." In light of the current pandemic and the sobering number of fatalities that have resulted from it, the life advice these words provide seems all the more poignant.

When 5 Scouts from Manville's local Boy Scout unit Troop 193 decided to construct nest boxes for local bird species two days before Christmas, Covid-19 was as yet undiscovered. The simple hope was to be prepared for the early spring migration of eastern blue birds and tree swallows, two species observed by Scout leaders in proximity to the Millstone River in the Lost Valley section of town.

"Service, to the community, to one's fellow citizens, to the environment, is an important component of the Scouting program", said unit leader Kirk Weber. "The Scouts did a great job constructing the bird houses in just a few hours and we were on target to meet our goal of a

late winter installation." Two and a half months later the whole project seemed somewhat trivial in comparison to what was happening, so it was put on hold.

Eventually, many people settled into a new normal. After a brief hiatus, the Scouts resumed their weekly meetings, only not in person. For the first time in its 65+ year history, the Troop leaders initiated remote meetings, embracing video conferencing technology to help the boys stay in touch and keep the program relevant. The nest boxes were installed a week before Earth Day and a pair of bluebirds were witnessed nesting in one of the boxes just two weeks later.

Regardless of what hardships challenge us and the changes we see in the world, the key messages of Scouting endure. Be trustworthy. Be a good citizen. Be prepared.

The Scouts and leaders of Boy Scout Troop 193 wish you and your families good health and invite you, when Borough parks are reopened, to visit the nesting



L to R: Johnathan Schumacher, Damian Schumacher, Colin Weber, Zach Pizzoli, Nick Mattei

boxes near the ball fields in the Lost Valley. Please stay at least 50' from the boxes so as not to disrupt the birds' nesting behavior.

If you would like more information about the Boy Scout program in general or Troop 193 specifically please feel free to contact us at bsanjtroop193@gmail.com.



From The Office of the Borough Clerk, Wendy Barras

Everything you wanted to know about Voting but were too afraid to ask.....

Date of the Primary and General Election

As per Governor Murphy's Executive Order #120, the Primary Election scheduled for Tuesday, June 2, 2020 has been postponed until **Tuesday, July 7, 2020**. The General Election as this article goes to print is still scheduled for Tuesday, November 3, 2020.

Polling Location & Hours

The seven voting districts all vote at the VFW, 600 Washington Ave. in Manville. Polls are open from 6:00 am till 8:00 pm for both the Primary and General Election.

Voter Registration Requirements

In order to register you need to be at

least 18 years of age, a United States Citizen, and must be a resident of New Jersey and of the County for at least thirty (30) days before the Election. Voter registration in New Jersey is permanent, provided the voter remains at the same address that they have registered in. Once a voter moves within the County they must file a change of address notice with the County Board of Elections. If the voter moves to another County or State, a new registration form must be completed.

How Can I Register to Vote?

You can obtain a voter's application from Somerset County Board of Elections website, the Borough of Manville website, the Borough of Manville Clerk's

Office, or the Board of Elections office. Completed applications can be mailed to or dropped off in person to the Somerset County Board of Elections.

Voter Registration Deadline

The deadline to register is twenty-one (21) days before an Election. In order to vote in the Primary Election one must declare themselves with either the Republican or Democratic Party. Voter who wishes to declare or change their party affiliation must do so fifty-five (55) days before the Primary Election. A party affiliation card can be found on the Somerset County Board of Elections website or on the Borough of Manville website.

Vote by Mail

Any registered voter can choose to vote in any election by using a mail-in ballot. Vote by mail applications can be found on the Somerset County website and the Borough of Manville website. It needs to be returned to the Somerset County Clerk at least seven (7) days prior to the Election if mailed and by 3:00 pm on the day prior to the Election if the Voter appears in person at the County Clerk's office. A voter has the option of indicating on the mail-in ballot application that they would prefer to receive a mail in ballot for specific elections or for all future elections.

Captain Herbst Continued From Page 1

US citizens) enter into week 8 of this life changing ordeal, we are challenged each day by the limitations upon us and our family. Yes, this is difficult, yes this is unbelievable, and yes it is the new normal for us each and every day.

These times are beyond incomprehensible. With the loss of life and jobs, families are struggling on many fronts. But the one common occurrence that continues to prevail is the persistence of everyday people tackling the situation head-on. Besides the uncountable big corporations building respirators and making masks

and other essential protective equipment. Let's not forget about the generosity of our smaller businesses donating meals to our health care workers. The special hours set aside for our senior citizens to have the ability to get their supplies and food. Our neighbors watching out for each other, when in the past you may have never thought about it. Let's not forget about the everyday workers in stores who are thrust into a position where it could literally cost them their lives. Everybody's patience is being tested, we have been at it for 8 weeks and the signs are getting

better. It's easy to be pessimistic, I prefer to pull a positive out of it and move on for the greater good.

When we are faced with difficult, adverse, and in this is instance the unmanageable, lets continue to do what we are doing. Take the step back and relax, take the long slow breathe when your patience is wearing thin with the kids. Make the phone call to a grand-parent or mom and dad to check on their well being. Ask the elderly neighbor if they need anything from the store. Being negative is easy, being positive is a challenge.

So, for the remainder of this pandemic, try and find that one positive aspect and build upon it. Thank the worker the next time you're at the store, instead of complaining somebody's within 3.5 feet of you. Have a little extra patience with your kids, maybe help with the homework as opposed to telling them to do it. Remember it's easy to be negative, being positive is challenging. Probably most important is your mental well being which is essential in times like these. Always find a few minutes for you yourself.