



**Mayor Onderko's Corner**  
Richard M. Onderko  
Mayor, Borough of Manville

Heading into the fourth quarter of 2020, I feel it is a good time to give a quick update on the redevelopment projects on-going in our Borough.

First up is the Main Street road diet that will reduce four lanes of traffic to two lanes with a center turn lane. We are still on schedule to see finalized plans later this year with construction scheduled to start sometime in the spring of 2021. This project is geared towards improving pedestrian and vehicle safety issues that have made it one of the most dangerous roadways in Somerset County. Our Main Street is a County owned roadway and Somerset County engineering is the lead agency. Street corners are designed to make our pedestrian crosswalks safer and will also help slow traffic down so pedestri-

ans can cross safely. This is a federally funded project upwards of \$3 million dollars.

Second is the on-going 20-year saga of the Rustic Mall 12-acre redevelopment site. This site has sat empty since 1999 when the federal government spent over \$300 million dollars cleaning up the creosote left behind from the Federal Creosote Company back in the 1950's. The site has been cleaned to residential soil standards and has been removed from the national superfund site listing in 2015. Three 5-year EPA studies of ground water contamination over the last 15 years have shown no need for any further clean up work. The Borough has worked on new redevelopment plans in conjunction with Local Planning Services of the Department of Community Affairs from Trenton and the Bloustein School of Rutgers University. The new plans primarily focus around providing residential housing with flex space for limited commercial or entertainment venues. Meetings with the property owners will continue to be held to discuss a path forward before the end of the year.

*MAYOR'S MESSAGE continues on page 10*

## Main Street Road Diet Update

Somerset County was awarded a grant to implement safety measures along Main Street, County Route 533, in the Borough. The Grant utilizes Federal Funding to provide engineering design and construction for improvements to pedestrian and vehicular safety. The purpose of the project is to make the road safer for pedestrians, motorists and cyclists.

This project begins at Dukes Parkway (CR608) to the north and ends at JFK Boulevard to the south. In April of 2015, a road safety audit was performed along this corridor by a team from Rutgers University Center for Advanced Infrastructure and Transportation. The primary focus of the study was on pedestrian safety and an examination of ways to improve pedestrian safety. In addition to pedestrian issues the study also found concerns with regards to vehicular traffic. The study found that there were a significant number of left turn crashes, speeding, and difficulty with lane delineation.

The road safety audit recommended the implementation of a 'road diet' in some areas of the main street corridor. The concept behind the 'road diet' is that it will convert an undivided four lane roadway into three lanes made up of the two through lanes and a center two-way left turn lane. New lane striping would provide a center left turn lane at driveways and side street intersections. These measures would improve intersection sight distance by converting the outside travel lane to a shoulder as well as aid pedestrian crossing by reducing the number of lanes and crossing distance. New crosswalk locations and alignments were also proposed for the project.

Mayor Onderko recently met with County Planning and Engineering Officials to discuss the status of the project. The project is in the final design stages and is expected to be reviewed shortly by the Federal Government. Construction is still anticipated to start in 2021.

## Our Local Business SpotLight

Second Anniversary!



### Volunteer

*Meet new friends, Learn new skills, Make a difference.* Our Habitat Restore is growing and we need volunteers every bit as much as we need our donors and shoppers. It's also a great opportunity for high school and college students to earn community service hours! No matter your skill set, you can help us help those in need.

**Volunteer Opportunities:**  
Cashiers • Pricing • Sorting • Sales Floor • Receiving • Merchandising Repairs & Maintenance

### Donate

*Change Lives in the Local Community.* Remodeling, cleaning out, downsizing or just getting organized? Donate furniture, appliances, cabinets, housewares, recycled building materials and more. You'll get the satisfaction of knowing your donations helped support local families - and didn't end up in the landfill. And all donations are tax-deductible.

Visit our website [www.rvhhabitatestore.org](http://www.rvhhabitatestore.org) to schedule a drop off (by appointment only) or free pick-up.

In the Marketplace at Manville, 110 North Main Street, Manville, NJ 08835

Store Hours: Tue.-Sat.: 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.  
[www.rvhhabitatestore.org](http://www.rvhhabitatestore.org) | (908) 458-9770

### What is a Habitat ReStore?

*The Store that Builds Homes...* selling gently used household goods, building materials, and furniture to the public at bargain prices. Owned and operated by Raritan Valley Habitat for Humanity, store proceeds build affordable homes for low and moderate income families in Somerset and Hunterdon Counties.

### Shop

*Bargain Buys and Vintage Finds that Improve Lives!* With our constantly changing inventory, bargain prices, frequent markdowns and one-of-a-kind items, there is something for everyone! You never know what you'll find, so shop often in-store or online: [www.shoprvrestore.org](http://www.shoprvrestore.org).



### From the Desk of Ruth Slovik, Board of Health President

Greetings from the Manville Board of Health. Currently, I am the president of this dedicated board of Manville volunteers who work on helping to make Manville an ideal place to live, work, and enjoy.

I don't know about you but I am very very tired about hearing about the Coronavirus. As you, I hear about people who were sickened, people who have died, people who are afraid, people who are now financially strapped, and those who analyze every procedure, rule, or recommendation coming from those "in the know."

The Manville Board of Health (BOH) does not make those recommendations. Neither do we facilitate notification to the people of this great town. That is handled by the Department of Emergency Management, which is headed by John Bentz. This emergency is different than others in that it is continuous. If there is a flood, fire or other emergency, it is usually a one day event with plans to handle the fallout from that event. There is a beginning, middle, and end. This is not the case for this unprecedented pandemic. Every day is the continuation of gathering information, disseminating information and carrying out the plans of the governor for the safety of Manvillians. John works closely with the Somerset County Department of Health

(DOH) who gathers information from the state and our governor. Hats off to John and his staff as they daily work towards protecting us.

So what does the Manville BOH do? As mentioned earlier, we are a volunteer board. We look at health issues around us, issues brought to us by our residents, or issues that are funneled down from the Somerset County DOH. Should there be an ordinance against people raising pigeons? Would having a pet shop on Main Street be beneficial for our town? Would requiring more extensive or stringent food handling ordinances make restaurants safer and in more compliance with current regulations? Health and safety considerations within our jurisdiction are discussed, analyzed, and if legally sound, ordinances can be introduced and put into local law.

If you, as a Manville resident, have an idea for better health or an issue that needs resolving, come to our meetings. Ordinarily we meet on the third Tuesday of the month at 6:30 at the municipal building. Since the building is closed, we are meeting on Zoom as needed. Look for announcements in the Courier News.

We want and need your input to help make Manville the best it can be.



### From the desk of Acting Chief, Tom Herbst



### Stick to It

### N.J. Teen Driver Laws

This year has been an interesting one to say the least, but it also is one of anniversaries for New Jersey teen driver laws. It is the twenty year anniversary of New Jersey's Graduated Driver License ("GDL") program, a three-tiered licensing process – learner's permit, probationary license and basic license – designed to help new drivers gradually develop into a good, safe driver. The law prohibits late night driving, the use of electronic devices, limits the number of passengers, requires the use of seat belts and bans plea bargaining for moving violations.

This year also marks the ten year anniversary of Kyleigh's Law, which requires teens to display red decals on the front and rear license plates of their vehicle when they are driving. The law was named after Kyleigh D'Alessio, a 16-year-old from Morris County, who was killed in a 2006 single vehicle crash involving a teenage driver. The decal is intended to identify the driver's provisional license status to law enforcement to assist them in provisional license restrictions.

Together, these laws have been credited with reducing fatal crashes among teen drivers. New Jersey State Police data shows crash fatalities involving a teen drivers (ages 16 to 20) decreased by more than 47 percent between 2008 and 2018. The same time period showed that the number of passengers under the age of 20 killed while riding in a vehicle driven by a teen dropped almost 60 percent.

Children grow up as passengers watching their parents drive and will adopt their driving habits. Parents are encouraged to drive safely and when the time comes (even if you just had a baby, it will be here before you know it) practice driving as much as possible with their children during the permit and probationary license periods. Parents must stress the amount of responsibility that comes with being a licensed driver.

The New Jersey Division of Highway Traffic Safety has launched a "Stick to It" anniversary campaign. The Division has produced two videos directed at parents and teens. The campaign seeks to educate all those involved on how the GDL program works. Everyone is encouraged to "Stick to It" by continuing to follow both laws.

For more information on the anniversary campaign, visit [njsaferoads.com/sticktait/](https://njsaferoads.com/sticktait/). Drive safely and "Stick to It!"

**WE ARE MAIN STREET STRONG**  
SHOP LOCAL · EAT LOCAL · SPEND LOCAL · ENJOY LOCAL  
*Meet Me in Manville*

### MAYOR'S MESSAGE continued from page 9

In addition, we are designating the south Main Street business district into an area of rehabilitation. This designation will provide property owners with incentives to improve building facades with any available grants and receive tax breaks on improvements made.

The third on-going project is the Valerie Villas townhomes that will provide for private ownership of the units built. Foundation work is underway which will be followed by stormwater management retention. We hope to see this project completed in the fall of 2021.

The fourth project still in the design stage is the Lost Valley Nature Park to be built along the Millstone River. This project is a federally funded \$800,000 grant that will be part of the Somerset County Greenway initia-

tive. With the Weston Mill dam removed from the Millstone River, fish passage is taking place for the first time in over 300 years. This new park and Greenway Initiative will help draw locals to enjoy nature and some great fishing.

More information on these development projects can be found on the Borough's main website page by clicking on the development icon.

Until next month,  
Mayor Richard  
M. Onderko



## From the Desk of Borough Clerk and Deputy Registrar, Wendy Barras

### Everything you need to know regarding the 2020 General Election

Due to COVID-19, Governor Murphy signed Executive Order #177, ([nj.gov/info-bank/eo/056murphy/pdf/EO-177.pdf](https://www.nj.gov/info-bank/eo/056murphy/pdf/EO-177.pdf)) which has made New Jersey's November 3rd Presidential Election primarily an all paper election conducted by Vote by Mail (VBM) with limited in person polling locations open on Election Day. It is important for voters to understand how the process will work to make sure your vote counts.

- The deadline to vote is October 13, 2020. Registration must be mailed and postmarked by that date. You may also deliver your Registration to the Borough Clerk or the Somerset County Board of Elections by 9 pm on October 13th.

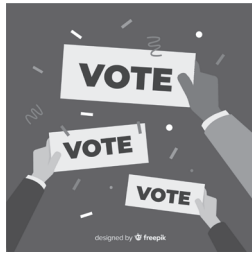
- All active registered voters will automatically be mailed a Vote by Mail Ballot. These ballots should be sent out by October 5th. If you don't receive a ballot reach out to the Somerset County Clerk's office for assistance.

- Similar to the Primary held in July, there will be 10 ballot drop off boxes located throughout Somerset County. As a convenience to Manville voters, there will be a ballot drop off box located in front of Borough Hall. The ballot drop off box will be secured with a lock, monitored by the Borough Clerk, and ballots will be collected daily by a representative from the Somerset County Board of Elections.

- VFW, Post 2290, 600 Washington Ave. is the polling location for the Borough of Manville. However, voters will not be permitted to vote on a voting machine unless they can certify to the Board Worker they are visually impaired and will only be permitted to vote on a machine designed for the visually impaired. Voters who appear at the polling

location will be permitted to vote only on a Provisional Paper Ballot.

- Vote by Mail Ballots can be returned using the return postage paid envelope via USPS; bringing your ballot directly to the Somerset



County Board of Elections at 20 Grove St., Somerville; depositing your ballot in any of the secure drop boxes located through the County; or you may bring your Vote by Mail ballot to the polling location on Election Day. If you are mailing in your ballot it must be postmarked on or before

November 3rd and be received by the Board of Elections by 8pm on November 10th to be considered valid.

- All ballots that are properly cast will be canvassed and counted. Two common errors causing ballots to be rejected are 1) neglecting to sign the Certification and 2) the tampering of the Certificate of Election. Don't detach the Certificate and attempt to tape it.

- This is a General Election and you may vote for the candidate of your choice, you do not need to vote with the Party you are registered with. Your party affiliation will not be listed on the outside return envelope as it was with the Primary Election. However, make sure you are only voting for the number of candidates seeking the office that you are casting a vote for. Voting for more than one creates an Over Vote which discards the vote cast for that contest.

Due to challenges of this election and the time allotted to receive ballots and counted by the Board of Elections; the results may not be available until the end of November. County clerks are required to transmit official results to the State Secretary on or before November 23, 2020.

## Protect your children from more than COVID-19 this season

Routine vaccination has always been a very important care service for children, adolescents, and adults, and is something that should not be delayed because of the COVID-19 pandemic. Ensuring that everyone – especially children – are up-to-date on their immunizations prevents illnesses that lead to unnecessary medical visits and hospitalizations. Children who are not protected by vaccines may be more likely to get diseases like measles and whooping cough, and even the flu.

As communities are opening up, it's important for parents to work with their children's doctor or nurse to make sure their children stay up to date on routine vaccines. Even children who are attending school virtually need to be current with their shots.

Social distancing does not guarantee protection against vaccine-preventable diseases. The risk may be lower, but viruses such as measles and whooping cough are still circulating and can infect children. Routine vaccines help protect children and adolescents from 16 serious diseases. Timely vaccination means that when your children return to interacting with other children, they'll have protection from some serious diseases.

If your child is due for a well-child visit, call the doctor's office and ask about ways they safely offer well-child visits during this time. Many medical offices are taking extra steps to make sure that well visits can happen safely during the COVID-19 outbreak, including:

- Scheduling sick visits and well-child visits during different times of the day.
- Asking patients to remain outside until it's time for their appointment to reduce the number of people in waiting rooms.
- Offering sick visits and well-child visits in different locations.

Even during these difficult times, the Vaccines for Children (VFC) program provides eligible children vaccines at no cost. Check out the program's requirements at [www.cdc.gov/vaccines/programs/vfc](https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/programs/vfc) and talk to your child's doctor or nurse to see if they are a VFC provider. You can also check with your health department for information on well-baby clinics in your area. In a world of uncertainty, protecting yourself and your loved ones is of great importance. Vaccinations are at the front line of disease defense, and are one of the safest, most cost-effective preventive health measures. Find out more at [www.cdc.gov/vaccines](https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines).



### News and Events at the Manville- Hillsborough Elks

#### Vendor Fair/Craft Fair

Benefits the Manville-Hillsborough  
Elks capital improvement fund

**Saturday, Oct. 10th,  
10AM to 4PM**

### VFW Friday Night Dinners

VFW Post 2290, 600 Washington Ave, is once again serving **Friday Night Dinners**. Come out and dine with friends on Friday, October 2nd, 5-8pm. Dinner will be served in the great hall to allow for social distancing of the tables. Take-out will be available. Proceeds help support the maintenance of the veterans hall. Follow them on Facebook @VFW2290 for the weekly menu.

# Manville Recreation News

From the desk of Ronald Cefalone, Recreation Director

## Manville Recreation – In Anticipation of a New Start in 2021

Together We Can Make Manville the Best Small Town!

As many families endured the COVID-19 quarantine, we at the Manville Recreation Department look forward to seeing the old and new faces as our programs start to launch again. We will be starting our instructional soccer along with our two-tier soccer development program conducted through Next Level Soccer Academy. Also, we hope to be starting our instructional and Intertown Basketball League (RIB) during the winter months. We will be coordinating for building usage with our Manville School District.

Below are some programs and other activities which may be considered in a post-COVID-19 future!

- a. Fall Soccer, instructional and development along with spring inter squad open play
- b. Winter Basketball
- c. Winter Chess Program
- d. Spring Softball
- e. Spring T-ball
- f. Fall & Spring Parent-Child Soccer
- g. Singing Lessons
- h. Nature Tours
- i. Weston Summer Camp

Manville Recreation has planned accordingly during these last several months to improve our parks with a new rope climber at Memorial Park along with a new resurfacing basketball court project at Papawick Park and enhanced recreational programs accessible through our Community Pass portal. We



have also added new wood carpet to all of our Borough playgrounds to meet guidelines on fall zones according to the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC).

We hope to continue to improve parks throughout the Borough as we have requested in our 2021 capital budget for new playground equipment and other recreational resources.

Parks and recreation have three values that make them essential services to communities:

1. Economic value
2. Health and Environmental benefits
3. Social importance

Parks improve the local tax base and increase property values. It is proven that private property values increase the closer such land is to parks. This increase in private property value due to the proximity to parks, increases property tax revenues and improves local economies.

#PlayManville

## The Dept of Public Works Provides Two Means of Leaf Collection

Fall Has Arrived & It's Leaf Season ...

**Bagged leaves** can be put in biodegradable paper bags or containers and placed curbside for collection on the scheduled yard waste days or special bagged leaf days. Plastic bags cannot be accepted.

**Leaf Vacuuming** should begin mid- to late-October. The start of this service is based on the amount of fallen leaves. Residents can place leaves loose curbside once this service begins; however, leaves must be kept at least ten feet away from any storm water catch basin. Loose leaves must be free of any other yard waste (garden debris, branches, etc.) These type items should be bundled or bagged for the scheduled yard waste days.

Should you have a small amount of leaves, please place them in a container or biodegradable bag for pick up on yard waste day.

The service of leaf vacuuming is done in each section of town at least once per week and is dependent on volume and will continue to about mid-December, weather permitting. If the weather becomes inclement, please contact the Department of Public Works for the status of the leaf pick up service.

**Be safety-wise and never park a vehicle close to or on top of leaf piles.**



# The Hair House International

CVS Plaza • 333 South Main Street • Manville, NJ 08835

**We Are a Safe Haven ...**

**Our Salon Team is taking precautions to keep things EXTRA CLEAN & STERILIZED for your safety and ours.**

- All staff wear PPE. • Touchless thermometer checks & Credit Card machine.
- Large salon allows all stations to be 7-feet apart.
- Single use sterilized capes/cover-ups for each customer.
- All instruments & tools are sprayed or washed in BARBICIDE after each use.
- UV lights will be used periodically for sterilization.
- Masks will be worn by everyone during their entire service.

**Before entering the salon, please pause in our foyer to clean your hands and fill out safety forms.**

908.722.3024

www.thehairhouseint.com

Until further notice, for safety reasons appointments are necessary.

Tues, Thurs, Fri: 9am-9pm • Wed 9am-3pm  
Sat: 8am-3pm • Closed Sunday and Monday

Our stylists speak English, Polish, Russian, Ukrainian & Spanish.  
Mowimy Po Polsku. Private Parking & Handicap Access

Follow us on Facebook @theHairHouseInternationalSalon

### Senior Freeze Eligibility

The Senior Freeze (Property Tax Reimbursement) program reimburses eligible New Jersey residents who are senior citizens or disabled persons for property tax increases on their principal residence (home). PLEASE VISIT [www.state.nj.us/treasury/taxation/questions/senior-freeze.shtm](http://www.state.nj.us/treasury/taxation/questions/senior-freeze.shtm) and complete this questionnaire to see if you may be eligible for a 2019 Senior Freeze.

The Senior Freeze Program reimburses eligible senior citizens and disabled persons for property tax or mobile home park site fee increases on their principal residence. To qualify, you must meet all the eligibility requirements for each year from the base year through the application year (the current application year is 2019).

The unprecedented impact COVID-19 has

had on the economy has forced the State to freeze funding for many worthy programs, including Senior Freeze, and prompted the extension of the budget deadline from June 30 to September 30. Therefore, funding for Senior Freeze reimbursements that typically occur during mid-summer is unavailable at this time. Please check back here again in early October for possible updates.

#### 2019 Senior Freeze Applications

Applications were mailed in February to the last address you filed with. If you did not receive your booklet, contact our Senior Freeze Property Tax Reimbursement Information Line for assistance at 1-800-882-6597.

The US Postal Service does not forward application booklets.



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.

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

Even though some of the Governor's directives have been lessened it is still too early to determine when a monthly meeting will be held. We will continue to follow the Governors directives in determining future activities.

A reminder to continue social distancing, maintain self-quarantine, hand washing and use of masks when grocery shopping, going to the pharmacy or doctors office. We will keep you informed periodically on any club changes. Stay safe and hope to see all of you soon. Missing our meetings, luncheons, trips and guest speakers.

### Homestead Rebate Information

New Jersey homeowners will not receive Homestead property tax credits on their November 1st real estate tax bills. Funding for the property tax relief program is tied to the proposed budget for the abbreviated fiscal year beginning October 1st, and there won't be adequate time to process the credits to appear on November tax bills. Eligible homeowners likely will receive two installments of the credit in 2021, the first one on their February tax bills and the second installment in May.

Governor Phil Murphy's proposed \$32.4 billion spending plan includes \$275 million for the property tax relief program, which lowers tax bills for about 580,000 seniors, disabled or low-income homeowners. Prop-

erty taxpayers already missed out on their May 1st credit this year after Governor Murphy froze and then ultimately cut \$142 million in Homestead funding as tax collections cratered in response to the coronavirus and the virtual shutdown of the state earlier this year. Funding for the program was then left out of the \$7.7 billion spanning July 1st to September 30th as state officials scrambled to respond to falling revenues. Governor Murphy's proposed \$32.4 billion spending plan for the fiscal year beginning October 1 restores funding to the tax relief program. Home owners, however won't receive an extra credit to make up for the canceled install-

HOMESTEAD continues on page 15





## VOTED "BEST OF THE BEST"

**Pharmacy, Card & Gift Store in Central Jersey Your Neighborhood Pharmacy That Has Something For Everyone**

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- Extensive Gift Department! We are fully stocked with gift items & have NEW ARRIVALS DAILY! We have great gifts for weddings, anniversaries, birthdays, bridal showers, housewarmings, baby showers, and all occasions.

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Also Offering: • Fax Service on Premises • NJ Lottery • Stamps • Home Health Care & Surgical Supplies, We can special order most items for you.

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# The Manville Public Library

100 South 10th Avenue, Manville, NJ 08835 | 908-722-9722 | [SCLSNJ.org](http://SCLSNJ.org)

## SCLSNJ's Virtual Program Listings: October 2020

All programs listed are virtual unless indicated otherwise.

#BeSafeAtHome and explore these virtual programs and more with the Somerset County Library System of New Jersey (SCLSNJ): [sclsnj.libnet.info/events](http://sclsnj.libnet.info/events).

### All Ages

#### Rutgers Afro-Cuban Ensemble - A Virtual Concert

October 2, 6-7 p.m.

Discover the sounds of the marimba and Afro-Latin percussion. This program was made possible by funds from the Somerset County Cultural & Heritage Commission, a partner of the New Jersey State Council on the Arts and the New Jersey Historical Commission. For more: [sclsnj.libnet.info/event/4481062](http://sclsnj.libnet.info/event/4481062).

### Children and Teens

#### Storytime With a Leader - Gandhi (families)

October 3, 11-11:45 a.m.

Explore stories, books, and puppets. Register now: [sclsnj.libnet.info/event/4500591](http://sclsnj.libnet.info/event/4500591).

#### The Sorcerer's Apprentice (grades 3-8)

October 3, 1-1:45 p.m.

Discover the mystical world of Harry Potter. Register now: [sclsnj.libnet.info/event/4303640](http://sclsnj.libnet.info/event/4303640).

#### Trekking Through Mexico (families)

October 5, 7-7:45 p.m.

Learn about fascinating instruments and dances. Register now: [sclsnj.libnet.info/event/4478507](http://sclsnj.libnet.info/event/4478507).

#### Halloween Magic Show (families)

Discover a Halloween-themed show with comedy magic, juggling, puppets, and lots of laughs.

• October 6, 6:30-7:15 p.m. Register now: [sclsnj.libnet.info/event/4303925](http://sclsnj.libnet.info/event/4303925).

• October 31, 1-1:45 p.m. Register now: [sclsnj.libnet.info/event/4303958](http://sclsnj.libnet.info/event/4303958).

#### SAT Strategy (grades 9-12)

October 7, 4-6 p.m.

Learn tips and strategies to successfully tackle the exam. Register now: [sclsnj.libnet.info/event/4479933](http://sclsnj.libnet.info/event/4479933).

#### Kids in the Kitchen (grades 2-5)

October 8, 4-5 p.m.

Explore the art of cooking. Register now: [sclsnj.libnet.info/event/4488367](http://sclsnj.libnet.info/event/4488367).

#### American Sign Language Storytime (ages birth - 5 years and caregivers)

October 9, 10:30-11 a.m.

Explore vocabulary, speech, and expression. Register now: [sclsnj.libnet.info/event/4362980](http://sclsnj.libnet.info/event/4362980).

#### Graphic Novel Book Club (grades 3-5)

October 14, 4:15-5 p.m.

Discuss and share a love of graphic novels. Register now: [sclsnj.libnet.info/event/4490027](http://sclsnj.libnet.info/event/4490027).

#### RISE - Reach, Inspire, Serve, Empower (grades 7-12)

October 28, 5:30-6:30 p.m.

Discuss various local and global issues including health, education, and social concerns, and how they impact the lives of others. Register now: [sclsnj.libnet.info/event/4497216](http://sclsnj.libnet.info/event/4497216).

#### Understanding the College Essay (grades 9-12)

October 29, 7-8 p.m.

Learn about the expectations, discuss the common application, and review some of the most common questions. Register now: [sclsnj.libnet.info/event/4479936](http://sclsnj.libnet.info/event/4479936).

### Adults

#### Remember the Ladies - A Brief History of Our First Ladies

October 14, 7-8 p.m.

Explore the history, interesting stories, and valuable contributions of our country's First Ladies. Register now: [sclsnj.libnet.info/event/4376208](http://sclsnj.libnet.info/event/4376208).

#### Halloween's Haunted History - Presented by Kevin Woyce

October 19, 7-8 p.m.

Discover the strange history of the holiday. Register now: [sclsnj.libnet.info/event/4382780](http://sclsnj.libnet.info/event/4382780).

#### Stranger Stop and Cast an Eye: An Introduction to New Jersey's Historic Burial Grounds

October 20, 7-8 p.m.

Learn about these treasure troves of information for historians, genealogists, archaeologists, and art historians. Register now: [sclsnj.libnet.info/event/4393434](http://sclsnj.libnet.info/event/4393434).

### Job Skills Needed Today

October 21, 2-3 p.m.

Presented by The Greater Raritan Workforce Development Board of Hunterdon and Somerset counties. Register now: [sclsnj.libnet.info/event/4501311](http://sclsnj.libnet.info/event/4501311).

### The Psychological Control of Superstitions: Presented by Carlotta Holton

October 21, 7-8 p.m.

Discover the origins and more of superstitions. Register now: [sclsnj.libnet.info/event/4421543](http://sclsnj.libnet.info/event/4421543).

### The Origins of Halloween and Witch-es: Presented by Jeff Kampf

October 27, 7-8 p.m.

Discover the ancient Celtic roots of the holiday, view clips from iconic music and movies, and take a virtual trip to Transylvania. Register now: [sclsnj.libnet.info/event/4479143](http://sclsnj.libnet.info/event/4479143).

### Inside the Real World of Ghost Hunting: Just in Time for Halloween

October 28, 7-8 p.m.

Explore the world of Paranormal Consulting and Investigations of New Jersey. Register now: [sclsnj.libnet.info/event/4414790](http://sclsnj.libnet.info/event/4414790).

### Hail to the Chief: A Brief History of the American Presidents

October 29, 7-8 p.m.

Discover basic facts as well as little-known trivia about our past leaders. Register now: [sclsnj.libnet.info/event/4376225](http://sclsnj.libnet.info/event/4376225).

## Somerset County Library System of NJ and Somerset County Cultural & Heritage Commission Partner for Virtual Programs This Fall

While the pandemic has caused us to miss out on gatherings and celebrations, you can still #BeSafeAtHome and celebrate culture with the Somerset County Library System of New Jersey (SCLSNJ) in partnership with the Somerset County Cultural & Heritage Commission. This September and October, the Library System's virtual branch, Explore From Home, will present two programs showcasing women's history and Hispanic heritage.

"We are excited once again to partner with the Somerset County Libraries highlighting the culture and heritage of our great com-



SCLS PARTNER continues on page 15

## SCLSNJ to Host Virtual Business Programs This Fall

According to a recent article from NJ.com, New Jersey's unemployment rate is at 16.2 percent. In response to this community need, the Somerset County Library System of New Jersey (SCLSNJ) will host a series of virtual programs for the business professional and job seekers this fall.

The Library System will partner with the Raritan Valley Community College Workforce Training Center and The Greater Raritan Workforce Development Board of Hunterdon and Somerset counties for several of these programs as well as offer programs led by the System's expert librarians.

### Explore virtual programs for the job seeker:

#### Creating a Dynamic Job Portfolio: Presented by Jan Goodman

- October 1, 7-8:30 p.m. Program is virtual. Register now: [sclsnj.libnet.info/event/4498376](https://sclsnj.libnet.info/event/4498376).

#### Business Databases: ReferenceUSA and DemographicsNow

- October 13, 2-3 p.m. Program is virtual. Register now: [sclsnj.libnet.info/event/4497313](https://sclsnj.libnet.info/event/4497313).

#### Job Skills Needed Today

- October 21, 2-3 p.m. Presented by The Greater Raritan Workforce Development Board of Hunterdon and Somerset counties. Program is virtual. Register now: [sclsnj.libnet.info/event/4501311](https://sclsnj.libnet.info/event/4501311).

#### Internet 101 for the Job Seeker

- November 4, 11 a.m. - noon Program is virtual. Register now: [sclsnj.libnet.info/event/4532613](https://sclsnj.libnet.info/event/4532613).

### Using Online Job Applications

- November 17, 7-8 p.m. Presented by The Greater Raritan Workforce Development Board of Hunterdon and Somerset counties. Program is virtual. Register now: [sclsnj.libnet.info/event/4519407](https://sclsnj.libnet.info/event/4519407).

### The RVCC Workforce Training Center: Career Pathways and Continuing Education

- November 18, 7-8 p.m. Hosted by the Raritan Valley Community College Workforce Training Center. Program is virtual. Register now: [sclsnj.libnet.info/event/4527666](https://sclsnj.libnet.info/event/4527666).

#BeSafeAtHome and explore these virtual business programs, resources, and more with SCLSNJ: [sclsnj.org/besafeathome](https://sclsnj.org/besafeathome).

## HOMESTEAD continued from page 13

ment in May. The two credits scheduled to be paid out in 2021 are for property taxes paid in year 2017 and are based on homeowners 2006 property tax bills. Senior and disabled homeowners with income below \$150,000 average receive \$534 benefits and other eligible homeowners with less than \$75,000 receive an average of \$410, according to the Governor's February budget proposal.

Funding for the Homestead Benefit and/or Senior Freeze program will be determined by the new budget proposed by the Governor and agreed to by the Legislature, which is scheduled to go into effect October 1st.

## SCLSNJ PARTNER continued from page 14

munities," said Freeholder Director Shanel Robinson.

Celebrate women's history on September 29 from 7-8 p.m. by discovering the life of **Elizabeth Cady Stanton**, a leading figure during the women's rights and suffrage movements, through a virtual reenactment. During the program Kim Hanley, a professional performing artist, will delve into the history of women's rights and the women's suffrage movement. Register for this virtual program: [sclsnj.libnet.info/event/4493028](https://sclsnj.libnet.info/event/4493028).

As part of SCLSNJ's **National Hispanic Heritage Month** celebration, Rutgers Afro-Cuban Ensemble will bring their virtual concert to the Library System's YouTube channel on October 2 from 6-7 p.m. The performance will showcase traditional Afro-Cuban and Afro-Latin music with marimba and percussion instruments. To register for this virtual program: [sclsnj.libnet.info/event/4481062](https://sclsnj.libnet.info/event/4481062).

"Our partnership with the Somerset County Cultural & Heritage Commission is a natural fit that benefits our community," said Darryl Voorhees, manager of adult services programming and collaborations, public services.

These programs were made possible by funds from the Somerset County Cultural & Heritage Commission, a partner of the New Jersey State Council on the Arts and the New Jersey Historical Commission. For more information visit: [nj.gov/state/njsca](https://nj.gov/state/njsca). Explore culture, heritage, and more with your Library: [SCLSNJ.org](https://SCLSNJ.org). For more about Somerset County Cultural & Heritage Commission, visit [www.co.somerset.nj.us/government/public-works/cultural-heritage](https://www.co.somerset.nj.us/government/public-works/cultural-heritage).

# DON'T MISS AN ISSUE OF MANVILLE'S NEWS!

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call: **732-474-0107**

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### 2020 FINAL TAX RATE 3.149

On July 24, 2020, the County Tax Administrator provided the final approved tax rate to be used for calculating the 2020 property taxes. We are proud to announce that the new rate is 3.149. This new rate is a decrease of .118 from the 2019 rate of 3.267.

In 2020, the value of the average home in Manville is \$243,600. Based on the final tax

levy. The reduction in the school district's tax levy played a vital role in the overall decreased tax rate for the year 2020. We look forward to the continued diligent work of the school district managing their budget.

#### REASSESSMENT INFORMATION

The Borough of Manville entered into an annual re-assessment program in 2017. This

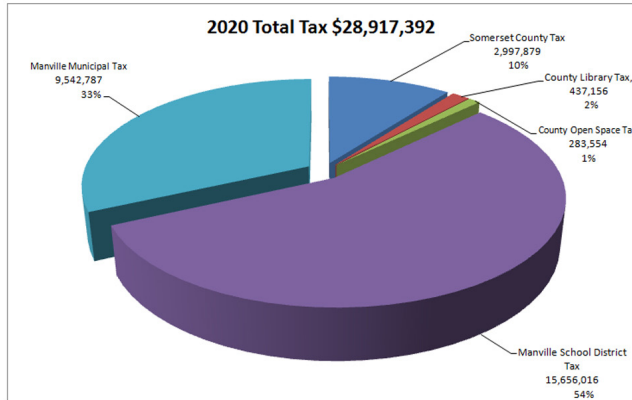
program considers the current real estate market and updates the assessed values of all properties in the Borough each year. Maintaining the annual program also eliminates the need for a costly full re-valuation program every 10 to 15 years. This program has been successfully implemented in several other Somerset County municipalities and has shown greater accuracy of assessments which ensures a fair and equitable distribution of taxation across the town.

tions of the next 20% of the properties in the North Side section of the Borough. For 2020, Appraisal Systems Inc. will continue completing inspections in the same manner as 2018 & 2019. A letter explaining the process will be sent to the property owners in this year's areas, including the remainder of the North Side (south of Brooks Boulevard) and a significant portion of the South Side section north of West Camplain Road.

#### SUMP PUMP DISCHARGE REMINDERS

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact the Assessor's office at 908-725-9478, Ext. 109. Please make sure your sump pump discharges properly outdoors and not into the city's sanitary sewer system. This practice is illegal in most cities, townships, and boroughs. Illegal hook ups can lead to hundreds of gallons of extra flow, which can increase backups and ultimately increases the cost for sewerage treatment. Down spouts from your house should not be tied into the sanitary sewer system for the same reasons. Water should be discharged to the street or to the storm water system.

The Storm water catch basin system and the sanitary sewer collection system are two separate infrastructures. The storm water catch basin system, which are grates along the roadway curb lines, collects rainwater and directs it to the waterways through catch basins and outfalls. The Sanitary Sewer Collection System, which begin as sewer lines from your home to the main sewer lines and manholes, transfers sewer waste water to the treatment plant. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact the DPW at 908-725-5512.



rates, the average homeowner in Manville will pay approximately \$7,670.96 in total property taxes. Of this amount, \$2,530.20 will go to the municipality to provide the services that

you, the resident, benefit from including police protection, infrastructure maintenance, garbage collection, recreational programming and many other services; \$4,149.63 will go to the School District to educate our future leaders; the remaining \$991.13 will go to the County.

The chart below presents the total taxes (in dollars) to be raised by each governmental body in 2020. The school district accounts for 54.10% of the total taxes raised, while the municipal tax accounts for 32.98%, Somerset County taxes make up the remaining 12.92% of the total taxes to be raised.

We would like to recognize and thank the school district for all their hard work in controlling their costs and reducing their tax

**25 cash prizes!!!**

## ENTER FOR YOUR CHANCE TO WIN!!!

**Each ticket is only \$25.00.**  
**The drawing will be held on October 11th at Christ the King School.**

**Tickets can be purchased by calling Christ the Redeemer Parish office at 908-725-0072 or order tickets online at [www.ctrmanville.com](http://www.ctrmanville.com).**

50% of the proceeds to be awarded and based on sales of 2,000 tickets. The following 25 cash prizes will be awarded: 1st \$5,000; 2nd \$3,750, 3rd \$2,500 and 22 prizes of \$625.