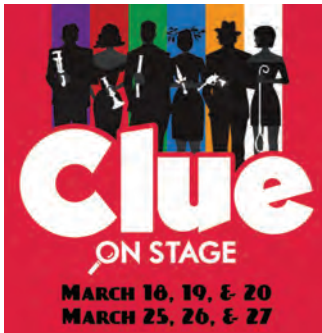


FEATURING **Manville's News** PAGES 3-10

Brook Arts Center Announces Two Great Plays On Their Spring Schedule



Clue

Murder and blackmail are back on the menu when six mysterious guests assemble for a dinner party at Boddy Manor. Was it Mrs. Peacock in the study with the knife? Or Colonel Mustard in the library with the wrench? Based on the cult 1985 Paramount movie and inspired by the classic Hasbro game, this farce-meets murder-mystery is bloody good fun. Can you solve the mystery, before it is revealed?

Order Online: www.brookarts.org or call 732-469-7700. Box Office Opens two hours prior to showtime for walk-up sales. Reserved Socially Distanced Seating. Concessions, Bar, and Free Parking are available.



Guys and Dolls

The Tony Award-winner for Best Musical is about rolling the dice and falling in love! New York's most infamous crap game organizer, Nathan Detroit, hoping for a big pay day, challenges notorious gambler Sky Masterson to a bet he's sure he'll win: take mission girl Sarah Brown to dinner in Havana, Cuba. When bets and love seem at odds, the characters are called to question their priorities to make things right.

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Our publications will be filled with topics that are important, interesting, and relevant. Our readers will be able to use OurTown Press as a valuable source of information about their community. Topics covered will include: history, where to eat, services to call, places to shop, list of events, arts and culture, traveling, finance, and other lifestyle and health topics.

OurTown Press, which includes Manville's News, is provided to our readers for free and published once a month.

AOT Publications would like to hear from you with any comments or suggestions you may have. Share an interesting story about a trip you found interesting, a great photo that deserves recognition, perhaps even a delicious recipe that surprised you and your guests. Tell us about the wonderful committee you serve on that's a lot of fun. You can share it with us. That's what friends are for.

Please email editor@aotpublications.com.

Manville's News



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Mayor Onderko's Corner

Richard M. Onderko
Mayor, Borough of Manville

It has been almost 6 months since remnants of Hurricane Ida caused severe flash flooding throughout New Jersey and set record flood water levels here in Manville. Everyone is wondering including myself, when will New Jersey be given an allocation of federal aid to help our town? It's sad I cannot get an answer as to why there is no sense of urgency for funding an expedited elevation or buyout program.

I would like to touch on a few different programs supported by our federal government to eventually provide aid. The first is FEMA's Hazard Mitigation Grants Program (HMGP-404/406). States receive only a percentage of the total federal share of the declared disaster damage amount, approximately 20%, which is used to fund projects anywhere in the state. The program provides a 75% cost recovery. Manville did receive lim-



ited funds from this program after Hurricane Floyd hit in 1999 and Hurricane Irene hit in 2011. In 1999, 38 buyouts were funded and only 15 buyouts in 2011.

Another source of funding for disaster aid is the Community Development Block Grant Disaster Recovery (CDBG-DR) program. This program was funded for 2020/2021 with an allocation of 5 billion dollars for nationwide disasters. Of that total, 3 billion remain

MAYOR continues on page 9

From the desk of Manville School District Superintendent, Jamil Maroun

On behalf of the Board of Education, we would like to thank the Manville community for their overwhelming support of the 0% Tax Increase referendum. With the approval of the referendum for \$3,950,000, we will be able to address critical infrastructure and quality of experience repairs to improve the health, safety, and wellness of our students, faculty, and community. Remember that the Manville homeowners will have no increase in their property taxes due to the referendum, and the state of New Jersey will contribute 47% or \$1,856,500 of the total cost of the referendum in the form of Debt Service Aide.

The Board of Education is currently working on plans to replace the Boilers and the roof, convert the auditorium to a multipurpose room, and install HVAC at Weston School.

THANK YOU continues on page 9

Fire Co. #2 Auxiliary Donates To Our Local Veterans

Fire Co. #2 Auxiliary donated flood relief funds to our veteran organizations for all they have done in the wake of Hurricane Ida. Auxiliary President Denise DeSantis presented \$1,000 checks to Commander Al Pugnet of the American Legion Post 304 and Commander Andy Henkel of the Thomas J. Kavanaugh VFW Post 2290.



Commander Al Pugnet and Denise DeSantis



Denise DeSantis and Commander Andy Henkel

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Disastrous Flooding Demands Bold Action

by Jim Waltman, Executive Director, The Watershed Institute

Raging floods are something we've grown all too accustomed to in the Garden State. Ida and Henri are just the latest entries in a parade of ferocious storms that have slammed New Jersey in the last decade. Irene, Sandy, and the summer's big events caused tragic loss of life, displaced millions of people, and exposed many to the health hazards of floodwaters contaminated with fecal matter, industrial toxins, and other pollutants from overwhelmed storm and sewage systems.

Climate change and the continual creep of development are a double whammy that portends more flood damage to homes and businesses unless federal, state and local governments act decisively. We need your continued help to ensure bold action.

In the northeast, the amount of precipitation dumped during the largest storms increased 55 percent between 1958 and 2016, according to the National Climate Assessment from the U.S. Global Climate Change Research Program. The recent "code red" report from the United Nations concluded that this trend is likely to continue.

To avoid the most extreme changes to our climate, we must dramatically accelerate our transition away from fossil fuels and towards clean, renewable forms of energy. And to protect our state from the storms that will continue to come with greater intensity, we need to implement a four-part policy agenda.

First, strengthen protections against development near streams, rivers, and coastlines. Allowing more homes and businesses to be built near waterbodies will lead to more

costly damage from flooding. State and local policy makers must strengthen protections against building near water.

Second, remove imperiled homes and businesses from harm's way. New Jersey's Blue Acres program uses state and federal funding to purchase and demolish flood-prone structures from willing sellers. The land is then restored so that it can absorb floodwaters, protecting downstream homes.

Third, require developers to build smarter. Flooding can be mitigated by requiring builders to install "green infrastructure" systems to catch stormwater runoff. With your support, we've secured amendments to the state's

stormwater regulations to require more such infrastructure on large new developments. These measures – and municipal ordinances that complement the state rules – must be strengthened to protect our communities from flooding and water pollution.

Fourth, retrofit older developments to address flooding. Most of our state was developed long before there were concerns about runoff or flooding. To really tackle our flooding problems, we must address developments built before these regulations were adopted. The legislature created a great opportunity to do so when it adopted the Flood Defense Act in 2019. The law authorized towns and counties to create utilities to address stormwater runoff from such older developments, but none have done so yet.

Your support is helping us advance this four-part agenda but much more needs to be done to prepare us for the inevitable extreme weather that will bring more flooding.



DPW News

Got Bulk Trash? First pickup date is Tuesday, March 15th

The Borough has two ordinances in place to regulate the disposal of bulk waste items: Ordinance #2017-1180 and Ordinance #2019-1217 and are found on the Borough's website.

Important: Place bulk items at curb at 5pm the day before pickup with the appropriate amount of bulk stickers required for item disposal. Items for disposal left outside days before or after the set pickup dates will be subject to a violation notice and a minimum \$300 fine.

"Bagsters" sold by big box stores may be used but must be placed fully on the property of the resident purchasing the "bagster". "Bagsters" may not be placed on sidewalks or on the street. All "bagsters" must be removed within 21 days.

To promote sustainability within the Borough and promote a "greener" community, the Borough encourages the recycling of bulk items whenever possible. Furniture in good condition can be donated to Manville's Re-Store in the Walmart shopping center.

Please download the **Recycle Coach app, our electronic calendar**, for your smart phone. All pickup dates are listed along with the number of bulk item stickers required for proper disposal of each item. Bulk disposal stickers are currently \$3 each.



From the Desk of Borough Administrator, Gian-Paolo (GP) Caminiti

Borough Hall Restoration and FEMA Update

As the weather turned colder in January, Borough Hall was heating up with lots of activities. After awarding the construction bid for having flood damages at our municipal complex repaired, pre-construction meetings were held and the timeline for commencing work came into focus. We now anticipate seeing the contractor's team go into action on or around Feb. 15th and expect the building to be restored by the end of May. Building contents may take a bit longer, as delivery times for replacement furnishings remain unpredictable. After many months of deliberate and controlled drying in a special chamber,

all of the Borough's vital records will finally be returning to the building by the end of February. There will be much additional work involved to reorganize and archive these records, but we are aiming to have them reviewed, scanned, and digitally stored by the end of the year.

Meanwhile, our Borough Hall team continues to work tirelessly for our residents: from getting construction permits and inspections processed quickly, to the speedy completion and submission of the enormous amount of paperwork required by our insurance carriers and FEMA. This is vital to make sure that our

town gets all it deserves. Our goal is to minimize the financial impacts of the flood for all as the Borough prepares this year's budget in the coming months.

On a lighter note, COVID numbers have been steadily declining recently and we expect to lift the mask requirements at Borough Hall in the coming weeks. Spring is right around the corner and our both our Recreation Dept. and DPW have been working hard to get the programs and our fields & facilities ready for the start of the season. Please keep an eye on our Borough website for details.

Be Flood Ready

Another higher-than-average hurricane season is forecast for 2022. With an above-average forecast, one can typically expect 13-16 named storms, 6-8 hurricanes and 2-3 major hurricanes cat-3 or higher. The season officially begins on June 1, 2022 and ends on November 30, 2022.

Please be prepared if we are in the path of a major hurricane. Take the following actions to prepare. Have plenty of bottled water on hand. At a minimum, one should plan on having 1 gallon of water per person per day for at least 3 days. Plan on having a 3-day supply of non-perishable foods, such as canned meats, soups, and granola bars. With current supply chain issues, it wouldn't be a bad idea to stock up further.

A hurricane can cause injuries. Prepare yourself and your family for any basic medical needs with a first aid kit. Have flashlights on hand with extra batteries. Also consider purchasing a NOAA Weather Radio which is designed for emergencies. Our town's emergency AM radio station is 1690 which will broadcast important information during a state of emergency.

Power outages are a possibility with any hurricane encounter. One should invest in a battery charger for your cell phone and consider a battery-backup powered sump pump. In addition, have plenty of gasoline on hand to power a generator. Also, make sure you have at least a 7-day supply of all your medications on-hand. This includes prescriptions and over-the-counter relief for things like colds, upset stomachs, and pain medications.

If you live in a designated flood zone or on the fringe of one, now is a good time to make sure your flood insurance policy is active or consider purchasing a flood policy. There is a 30-day wait period for the policy to go into effect. And during any heavy rainfall event, please pay close attention to the amount of rain fall received in any 12-hour period and consider moving vehicles to higher ground in advance of any potential flooding.

Encuentre este artículo en español en el sitio web del municipio en www.manvillenj.org/579/Get-Flooding-Information.

Please Note Important Ordinances in Effect:

Discharge of Sump Pumps...

#2020-1233 - An Ordinance Providing for Sump Pump Inspections in The Borough of Manville and prohibiting the connection of sump pumps or rainwater drainage devices to the sanitary sewer system.

Rental Homes Inspections...

#2020-1231, 2021-1271 - An Ordinance providing for Rental Housing Registration, Inspection and Permits in The Borough of Manville to protect the health and safety of the person occupying leased, rented, or subleased residential housing within the Borough of Manville. 2022 registration is required.

Sidewalk Snow Removal...

#2017-1181 - An Ordinance in the best interest and safety of the residents of the Borough to require property owners to remove snow, ice, or sleet from properties in a timely manner, and to prohibit property owners from causing such snow, ice, or sleet to be dumped into adjacent streets or roadways.

Manville Recreation News

Spring Registration has Sprung

Although we are still in the middle of winter, the Recreation Department is looking forward to being outside, getting exercise and playing sports. Registration for all of our Spring Programs are now open for registration by visiting Community Pass: www.manvillenj.org/308/Recreation

Co-Ed Soccer Program for 3rd to 8th Graders

10 Weekends of games starting April 9th
Practices on Manville Fields - Games in Hillsborough
Coaches NEEDED
\$85 per player

1st & 2nd Grade Developmental Training

8 weeks of training sessions starting April 12th
Tuesdays from 5:30pm to 7pm at Lincoln Avenue Park
\$75 per player

Instructional Soccer

4-6 year olds
8 weeks of training sessions starting April 8th

Fridays from 3:45pm to 4:45pm at Lincoln Avenue Park
\$75 per player

Travel Softball

1st - 8th Graders
Practices start in April
Coaches NEEDED
\$85 per player

T-Ball

4-6 year olds
Practices start in April
Travel for some games
Coaches NEEDED
\$75 per player

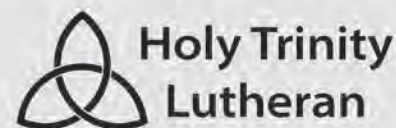
For questions please contact the Recreation Office at 908-725-9478 ext. 106.

Soccer Coaches Wanted

Are you looking to make a difference in the lives of Manville's youth?

Serving as a recreational soccer coach is an incredibly rewarding experience. Recreation coaches play a crucial role in helping the development of children within the sport but also in life. As a coach, you will help children learn the value of teamwork, how to win graciously, how to handle setbacks, when to adjust strategy, and how to persevere. Best of all, coaches have a direct hand in the development of each player. As a parent-coach, you will forge memories with your child that will last a lifetime.

For more information on how to volunteer, contact Kim at 908-725-9478 ext. 106 or visit www.manvillenj.org/663/Volunteer-Coaches.



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Manville Girl Scout Troop #63411 Promotes Reusable Bags With The Theme "Manville Cares About Our Grandchildren's Grandchildren!"



Girl Scout Troop #63411 presented to Council President Lukac, Board of Education member Jo Pschar, and Mayor Onderko their environmental concerns over disposable plastic bags at the Manville Library on Feb. 7th.

Girl Scout Troop #63411 is working on a communication plan to get the word out to residents concerning the up-in-coming May 2022 ban on disposable plastic bags. Teaming up with our DPW and Clean Community's funding, they plan on bringing awareness with a reusable bag give-a-way that shows they care about the future of the environment. This is part of the Troop's work to achieving their bronze level Girl Scout award.

BRING YOUR REUSABLE BAGS WHEN YOU SHOP!
BagUpNJ.com

Starting this May, NJ law bans grocery stores from providing plastic and paper bags.

Don't wait. Start bringing reusable bags now.

Behind on PSE&G Bills? March 16, 2022 winter moratorium ends.
 Utilities will begin disconnecting service for non-payment. PSE&G is here to help.

Steps to Maintain Utility Service

- 1. Customer must set up a Deferred Payment Arrangement (DPA) with PSE&G.**
 - Visit pseg.com/myaccount
 - Call 800-357-2262. When asked, "What would you like help with today?" just say "payment arrangement."
- 2. Customer should apply for utility assistance programs as soon as possible.**
 - Visit: nj211.org/utility-assistance-programs
 - Call 2-1-1

2-1-1
 Get Connected. Get Help.™

It's important to know:

- Customers must apply for assistance programs through the state or non-profit managing the program. PAGE is administered by Affordable Housing Alliance and available to non-citizens. All registration info can be found here: nj211.org
- PSE&G does not manage the application process or these assistance programs.
- There are dozens social service agencies available to assist customers with finding resources and the application process.
- PSE&G has social service agency representatives at six customer service centers.

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Thursday, March 31
 6:30pm - 7:30pm
 Manville Library Community Room



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. The next regular meeting will be March 10, 2022.

Nick Trilone, Membership Secretary, will be collecting 2022 dues at the March meeting. This will be the last month for dues payment.

We will be resuming non-perishable food donations for the food bank. Please bring your donation to the meeting.

Thank you to Manville Girl Scout Troop 60158 under the leadership of Cindy Rogers and Rachael McGonigle for distributing Valentine cards to the seniors. This was a special gesture and much appreciated by the members. Thank you girls for a job well done. The girls participating were Daisies: Madison Rogers, Isabella Ragusa, Makayla Cascia, Ziva E., Madison Dolan, Lily Holaday and Brownies: Kayla Kohler, Gracie Stashek and Faith Grimshaw. The cards were given to a representative group of seniors at the library on Monday night and then passed out to all seniors attending the February meeting.



Vice-President Asher said AARP Foundation volunteers will be doing tax returns at the Library starting February 15. Contact the Somerset County Office of Volunteer Services at 908-541-5710 to make an appointment. The Friends of the Library Book Sale is ongoing and mark your calendar for the Cupcake Competition on May 11th. Looking for bakers, volunteers to be judges and purchasers for the cupcakes.

Notes from the Tax Office: Sewer bills due March 23. Send a letter to Lisa Gerickont requesting a payment plan for your past due sewer bills and the Green Assessment cards will be mailed out on March 1.

Superintendent Dr. Jamil Maroun thanked everyone for the overwhelming support for the referendum. He encouraged the seniors to join the walking program at the high school on Tuesday and Thursday evenings. The high school will perform Grease the weekend of April 1. Registration is open for pre-school and kindergarten. He also stressed train safety and to have conversations with students regarding ear bud wearing, crossing the tracks while trains idle or walking the tracks at night.

Nan Peterson, Library Director, reminded us the library offers notary service, passport services and federal and state tax preparation. She introduced Somerset County Rental and Utility Assistance representative Jackie Fay. She is available at the library on Tuesdays and Saturdays by appointment. Call the library at 908-722-9722 and they will direct you to her.

Mayor Onderko spoke about the deferred payments and forgiveness programs from PSE&G and New Jersey American Water. Contact the utilities for information. Hopefully, the Main Street road diet program will start this year. This is to help with the traffic issues on Main Street and make it pedestrian friendly. Target date for fully operational Boro Hall is Memorial Day.

Upcoming Trips:

Atlantic City -- Third Wednesday of the month to Caesars. Dates are March 16 and April 20. Bus leaves the VFW at 9 a.m. promptly. Cost is \$40 with \$30 returned. Contact Jo Pschar at 908-722-0156.

Wind Creek -- Bethlehem, PA. Fifth Thursday of the month. The

next trip is March 31. Bus will leave from the VFW at 10 am. Cost is \$40 with \$25 back. Contact Jo Pschar at 908-722-0156.

Lancaster, PA. Sight and Sound to see David -- Wednesday, March 23 with lunch at Shady Maple. Cost is \$148.00. Bus will leave from the VFW at 7:00 am. Contact Jo Pschar for reservations at 908-722-0156.

The Ark Encounter, Williamstown, KY. -- Monday June 6 to Friday June 10, 2022. Trip includes accommodations at the Fairfield Inn, Cambridge, Ohio and Holiday Inn Express Walton, KY. Dinner Cruise at the Greyhound Tavern, full day visit to the full size recreation of Noah's Ark and exhibits at the Creation Museum. Dinner Cruise on the Ohio River and gaming time at the hard Rock Cincinnati Casino. Cost is double occupancy \$799.00 and single occupancy \$1059.00. Contact Kathie or Phil Petrone at 908-526-2948 for information and reservations.

All trips are open to the public.



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Discover scheduled programs spanning March through May 2022. The below programs will be hosted virtually.

Most programs request registration. Visit SCLSNJ.org for more.

To join a virtual program by phone, dial (646) 876-9923. After dialing, you will be prompted to enter a meeting ID, which is unique for every event. The meeting ID is the series of numbers at the end of the Zoom link posted for each event.

Note: All Somerset County Library System of New Jersey (SCLSNJ) branches will be closed on Monday, May 30, 2022

Virtual Book Discussion Salons:

Graphic Novel Discussion: March 1 - sclsnj.libnet.info/event/5869053; April 5 - sclsnj.libnet.info/event/5869059; 6-7 p.m.; "The Vanishing Half" by Brit Bennett; March 2 - sclsnj.libnet.info/event/5884439, 6:30-7:45 p.m.; "The Marrow Thieves" by Cherie Dimaline - March 8 - sclsnj.libnet.info/event/5839776, 6:30-7:30 p.m.; "The Children's Blizzard" by Melanie Benjamin - March 15 - sclsnj.libnet.info/event/5839821, 7-8 p.m.

A Virtual Trip to Yellowstone National Park - Celebrating the 150th Anniversary of the First National Park: March 1 - sclsnj.libnet.info/event/5035135, 7-8 p.m.

Cooking With Chef Rob - Celebrate St. Patrick's Day by Baking Popular Irish Treats: March 3 - sclsnj.libnet.info/event/5527391, 7-8 p.m.

Planning for Children With a Disability: March 8 - sclsnj.libnet.info/event/5715167, 6:30-7:30 p.m.

Leading Ladies of the Renaissance: March 8 - sclsnj.libnet.info/event/5649031, 7-8 p.m.

Presented by Greater Raritan One-Stop Career Center: Business Etiquette for Jobseekers First Impressions Count - March 9 - sclsnj.libnet.info/event/5853706, 10 a.m. - noon; Neuro Linguistic Programming - Tools for Real Life - April 13 - sclsnj.libnet.info/event/5853844, 10 a.m. - noon; Conquering Your Fear of Public Speaking - May 18 - sclsnj.libnet.info/event/5854253, 10 a.m. - noon

Recipe Club: Casseroles March 9 - sclsnj.libnet.info/event/5838898, 6-7 p.m.; Middle Eastern Food - April 13 - <https://sclsnj.libnet.info/event/5838900>, 6-7 p.m.; Celebrity Chef Recipes - May 1 - <https://sclsnj.libnet.info/event/5838906>, 6-7 p.m.

Poet, Codebreaker, Nazi Hunter - The Puzzle-Solving Adventures of Elizebeth Smith Friedman: March 10 - sclsnj.libnet.info/event/5089302, 7-8 p.m.

Broad Band - The Untold Story of the Women Who Made the Internet: March

14 - sclsnj.libnet.info/event/5460103, 7-8 p.m.

The Audacious Adventures of Nellie Bly: March 16 - sclsnj.libnet.info/event/6071405, 7-8:30 p.m.

Presented by The Greater Raritan Workforce Development Board: SkillUp Greater Raritan - March 18 - sclsnj.libnet.info/event/5875029, 2-3 p.m.; Making Your Job Search Work For You - April 20 - sclsnj.libnet.info/event/5873754, 7-8 p.m.; Career Connections Resources - Local and National - May 13 - sclsnj.libnet.info/event/5875115, 2-3 p.m.

The Price of Popularity - How "Uncle Tom's Cabin" Changed America: March 21 - sclsnj.libnet.info/event/5073546, 7-8 p.m.

Walking with Grandma Gatewood - The Woman Who Saved the Appalachian Trail: March 24 - sclsnj.libnet.info/event/5151644, 7-8 p.m.

My Return to Glacier National Park: March 28 - sclsnj.libnet.info/event/5182659, 7-8 p.m.

Springtime Storytime (ages 3-6 and caregivers): March 30 - sclsnj.libnet.info/event/5898870, 10:30-11 a.m.

Margaret Bourke-White and the Corporate Creation of the Photojournalist: March 30 - sclsnj.libnet.info/event/5676803, 7-8 p.m.

Midcentury Cuisine - American Food Fads From the 1940s Through the 1960s: April 4 - sclsnj.libnet.info/event/5685996, 7-8 p.m.

Designing Discords (grades 6-12): April 6 - sclsnj.libnet.info/event/5847509, 5-6 p.m.

The Lincoln Assassination: April 6 - sclsnj.libnet.info/event/5703843, 7-8 p.m.

Swing Into Spring - Music, Dance, and Comedy Show: April 12 - sclsnj.libnet.info/event/5820564, 4:30-5:10 p.m.

The RMS Titanic, Her Final Days: April 12 - sclsnj.libnet.info/event/5565811, 7-8:30 p.m.

My Letter to the World - A Virtual Tour

of the Emily Dickinson Museum: April 13 - sclsnj.libnet.info/event/5564342, 7-8 p.m.

The Science of Political Polling - A Lecture on Recent Industry Trends: April 18 - sclsnj.libnet.info/event/5877046, 7-8 p.m.

Perennials in Pots - Creative Combinations for Jaw-Dropping Containers: April 19 - sclsnj.libnet.info/event/5733656, 7-8 p.m.

The Brilliant and Bizarre Brontë Sisters: April 25 - sclsnj.libnet.info/event/5625878, 7-8 p.m.

Meet Rachel Carson - The Woman Who Advanced the Global Environmental Movement: April 27 - sclsnj.libnet.info/event/5548555, 7-8 p.m.

Meet the Author (grades 6-12): Tehlor Kay Mejia - April 28 - sclsnj.libnet.info/event/5895943, 5-5:30 p.m.; Carlos Hernandez - May 10 - sclsnj.libnet.info/event/5896151, 5-5:30 p.m.

Transatlantic Airships: May 4 - sclsnj.libnet.info/event/5658858, 7-8 p.m.

Understanding Hypertension: May 5 - sclsnj.libnet.info/event/5839456, 7-8:30 p.m.

Broadway - From Back Row to Backstage: May 9 - sclsnj.libnet.info/event/5653828, 7-8 p.m.

The Smallest War Heroes - The U.S. Army Pigeon Service: May 17 - sclsnj.libnet.info/event/5851313, 7-8 p.m.

Moviegoin in America - Nickelodeons to Movie Palaces to IMAX to Netflix: May 18 - sclsnj.libnet.info/event/5806343, 7-8 p.m.

The Jersey Shore - The Past, Present and Future of a National Treasure: May 23 - sclsnj.libnet.info/event/5686380, 7-8 p.m.

Ecological Gardening: May 24 - sclsnj.libnet.info/event/5636154, 7-8 p.m.

Claude Monet - Obsessed With the Natural World: May 25 - sclsnj.libnet.info/event/5664452, 7-8 p.m.

**Raritan Valley Habitat for Humanity
PRESENTS 2022 Hard Hats for Hope,
Dinner, Auction, Tricky Tray
Event, celebrating RVHFH's
work in Somerset and
Hunterdon Counties.**



Please join Raritan Valley Habitat for Humanity, on Friday, April 1, 2022 for our Hard Hats for Hope, Dinner, Auction, Tricky Tray, at the Somerville Elks Club, Bridgewater, NJ. This event is a celebration of RVHFH's work in the community.

Hard Hats for Hope is an inspiring and fun-filled evening to help raise funds, so RVHFH can continue our work, that one day everyone in Hunterdon and Somerset counties has a decent place to live, and a world where everyone has a decent place to live.

The staff, board of directors, and many generous volunteers have been working hard to create this fantastic event. We invite the community to join us in raising funds for our programs which include Habitat home builds, Brush with Kindness Home Safety Repair Program, Critical Home Repair Program and our new Veteran's Home program.

Tickets are \$100.00 per person, which includes dinner, beer and wine (6-10 PM) and a sheet of tickets for the Tricky Tray. Live music by the world-famous band, The NERDS, so bring your dancing shoes!

ABOUT Raritan Valley Habitat for Humanity:

Local citizens-chartered Raritan Valley Habitat for Humanity (RVHFH) as an affiliate of (HFHI) in 1991 to address the growing need for affordable homes in Hunterdon and Somerset counties. People who worked in Somerset and Hunterdon Counties could not afford to live in the area. In 28 years, RVHFH has built over 52 homes, providing homeownership opportunities to those who otherwise could not afford to own a home.

RVHFH partners with families with limited resources to build a home with the community. They attend financial literacy classes and work with a family liaison to reinforce responsible financial behaviors. RVHFH subsidizes the cost of the home and extends an affordable mortgage that reduces monthly housing expenses, allowing families to save and live a better quality of life.

To purchase your tickets please go to our web site www.rvhabitat.org, or stop in our ReStore at 110 N Main Street Manville NJ 08835, Tuesdays 10-7 Wednesday-Saturday 10-6.

For information on sponsorships for the event or monetary donations please email Jess Mauceri at jmauceri@rvhabitat.org.

Thank you for supporting Raritan Valley Habitat for Humanity.

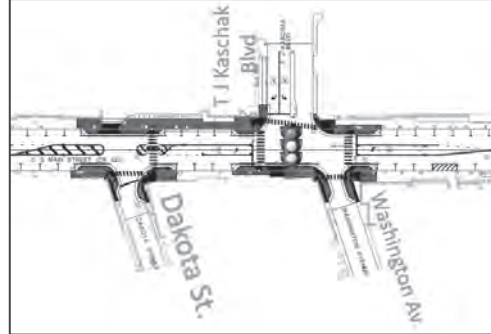
THANK YOU continued from page 3

We are also developing our plans to complete the floor renovations in the kitchens at MHS and ABIS. These exciting projects are projected to be completed this summer, and we will be able to celebrate the improvements for our schools at the start of the new school year.

Also, we would like to take a moment to recognize and thank all of the folks who have worked this school year tirelessly to support and educate our students. Our staff have dedicated themselves to serving our students and have been on the frontline of helping our families as we continue to recover from Hurricane Ida and COVID-19. We want to thank them for all they have done and continue to do for our students and schools. -- *Superintendent Dr. Jamil Maroun*

**Main Street Pedestrian Safety
"Road Diet" Update**

The 6 year long project to reconfigure our Main Street is about to begin the construction phase later this year. Every pedestrian crosswalk will be enhanced for safety, 4 lanes of traffic on the north end will be reduced to 2, and the traffic merge before the underpass will be moved



back to Dukes Parkway. An overview of the entire plan can be viewed on the Borough's website, manvillenj.org.

- Curb Extensions
- Traffic Signals Improvements
- Pedestrian Beacons
- Center Island Refuge

MAYOR continued from page 3

and the allocation of the remaining funds will be made to address the unmet needs from disasters occurring in 2021, including Hurricane Ida. CDBG-DR funds were reallocated to Manville from left over Hurricane Sandy funds to support another round of Blue Acre buyouts that is on-going since 2018.

Our federal government also offers "non-disaster aid" through FEMA's Flood Mitigation Assistance program (FMA) to homeowners who carry NFIP flood insurance policies and own a home in the 100-year (AE) designated flood plain. This is a voluntary and competitive nation-wide program that can award up to 30 million dollars per community. Homes that are classified as severe repetitive loss (SRL), repetitive loss (RL), or recently substantially damaged (SD) are eligible. In the recent past, Manville Borough has been successful in seeking these funds to help homeowners who desired a buyout.

The Borough of Manville deserves its fair share of aid this time around after the devastation caused by Hurricane Ida. We will fight to get our share of federal dollars in the months ahead for those who want to elevate their home or take a buyout. We can no longer afford to be the forgotten town with flood mitigation efforts which require funds to make Manville more storm resilient. Hopefully, the allocation of disaster relief funds to NJ will be made soon.

Until next month,
Mayor Richard M. Onderko



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Friends of Somerset Regional Animal Shelter
Tricky Tray Fundraiser
Sat., April 23, 2022

More details in the next issue. If you'd like to donate good, services, gift certificates for prize baskets, sponsor the event, or make a monetary donation, email FOSRAS at trickytraydonations@fosras.com

BOWLING for Jack's Kids

11th Annual

Sunday, March 6, 2022

\$35.00 PP **Bowlero**
380 US-22, Green Brook

Includes:
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Unlimited soft drinks
Shoe rental

11:30 AM - 2:30 PM
Check-in: 10:30 AM
*MUST PRE-REGISTER

Minimum 3 bowlers per lane
Maximum 6 bowlers per lane

ElksJacksKids1068@gmail.com

Visit <https://jackskids.org> for registration & lane sponsor information

Manville Fire Co. #3
27th Annual
Indoor Fisherman's Flea Market
VFW Post 2290 Hall
600 Washington Ave, Manville
Sunday, March 6, 2022
9am - 3pm
Admission: \$4 (under 12 Free)
New & Used Tackle!
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