

# Manville's News

A New Beginning with a Proud Past



## Mayor Onderko's Corner

**Richard M. Onderko, Mayor  
Borough of Manville**

Over the past several months, infrastructure work has been on-going in our Borough concerning our old water and gas pipelines that service our residents. All trench work being performed on our roads is covered under a newly adopted 2016 ordinance related to road excavation work done by New Jersey American Water and Public Service Electric and Gas (PSE&G). This new ordinance ensures our roads are properly restored and in most cases re-paved to the center line of the roadway at the expense of the service providers.

Reliable water and gas service will be the direct outcome. Our old six-inch concrete and unlined cast-iron water mains will be replaced with eight-inch, cement-lined, ductile iron pipe. As a benefit of this pipe upgrade, residents will experience increased water flows, continued fire protection, and more reliable water service.

From a PSE&G gas main perspective, the new pipes will improve reliability, reduce the possibility of methane leaks and enable the installation of excess flow valves on service lines. These valves dramatically reduce gas flow if a pipe is damaged. The elevated pressure of the new gas mains will also provide better support for high-efficiency appliances like furnaces and water heaters. In addition, PSE&G recently took action to make the power substation located on South Bridge Street in Somerville more storm resilient. This will help keep the power on in Manville.

Next up in 2017 is a Somerset County bridge replacement project on our South Main Street to replace the bridge over the Royce Brook. This project is a \$1 million dollar project being funded by the New Jersey

Transportation Trust Fund and coordinated by Somerset County Engineering. The construction project will begin in February and run through August of 2018. We will keep an eye on resolving any traffic related problems as construction activities get underway.

Plans will be developed during 2017 for the entire length of our Main Street to address safety concerns with our pedestrian crossings. This project is a \$3 million dollar project also funded by the Transportation Trust Fund and was delayed due to the funding issues. Our Main Street was determined to be one of the most unsafe corridors in Somerset County.

Construction will most likely begin late in 2018 or early 2019. Our Main Street will be going on a "road diet" eliminating one lane in each direction where the roadway is currently four lanes. Center islands and clearly marked pedestrian crossings will ensure safety as one crosses our Main Street. The current traffic merge near our underpass and Police station will occur before the intersection of Dukes Parkway and North Main Street.

I recently had a meeting with representatives from the Rutgers Cooperative Extension (RCE) Water Resources Program with regards to "green infrastructure" to help reduce stormwater runoff and reduce the amount of impervious surface in our water shed. I thank Dr. Obropta and his team for the work they shared with us that will ultimately help Manville.

The RCE will be implementing a rain garden at the Manville Library to help reduce stormwater runoff this spring. With approvals, the RCE Water Resources Program will be moving forward with an educational rain garden session at the library for community members to learn about the benefits of rain gardens. A Rain Garden Rebate Program for Manville residents may begin this spring or summer, and we are looking to conduct a rain barrel workshop in 2017. I have one rain barrel installed on my home and love using rainwater captured to water my tomato plants. I'm looking forward to installing a few more.

To learn more about "green infrastructure" for reducing the impacts of impervious cover on water quality, visit Rutgers' website: [water.rutgers.edu/GreenInfrastructureGuidanceManual.html](http://water.rutgers.edu/GreenInfrastructureGuidanceManual.html)

Please help spread the word to sign up for the Community News, a free monthly publication to stay informed of our progress and activities in Manville. Our four page insert has been well received by fellow residents.

Mayor Richard M. Onderko



## The Manville Arts Council

**\*Call for Artists\***

The MAC is excited to announce the opening of our 2nd Annual Art Expo on May 5, 2017. We are looking for artists to show their work at this free public event at the Manville Public Library. The art works will be on display until May 19th. Visit our website [manvillearts.org](http://manvillearts.org) to download the application to enter your art in the show.

## \*Continuing Art Events\*

The Manville Arts Council continues to bring free and paid art events to our community including the ongoing New Page Writer's Workshop that meets on the fourth Thursday of each month. Don't forget to submit a line drawing for our Design a Coloring Book Page contest. For more information or to become a member visit [manvillearts.org](http://manvillearts.org).



Left to Right: Beth Borrus, Amy Hartmann-Ohlson, Heather Ball, Mayor Onderko and Karen McDermott

On Saturday, January 7, 2017, the Mayor and Council presented the Manville Arts Council with the Community Spirit Award. This is a distinguished award for the person or persons who have exhibited an abundance of community spirit within the Borough of Manville over the course of the past twelve months. In 2016, the Mayor and Council determined that the Manville Arts Council deserved this award for the continuous number of programs the organization conducted during the year. Such programs included chalk art, poem readings and the very popular "Bright Lights over Manville" contest. The "Bright Lights" contest truly brought the community together to create a beautiful holiday ambiance with exquisite light displays on many homes throughout Manville. Congratulations to the Manville Arts Council for receiving this special recognition!



## The Manville Diner

In 1989, George and Peter Kontos established the Manville Diner after deciding to take a chance on taking over a small business on Main Street to see what they could accomplish. After purchasing the business, the brothers from Greece decided to move to Manville and live in the town they grew to love. The Kontos brothers came to know the community well and, before long, they were joined by their youngest brother, Tony. The three brothers devoted their lives to the business, working tirelessly 11 hours each day, cooking behind the grill and helping their staff. Soon, the Manville Diner became a place for the community to meet friends for breakfast, lunch or dinner.

The Manville Diner became known for its menu which includes Greek favorites such as Moussaka, Greek salad and Souvlaki. In addition to these Greek dishes, the brothers cook up a large assortment of customary diner fare. Portions are large and the prices are right. Perhaps this is one of the reasons the Manville Diner was recently



This month, we are featuring the Manville Diner located at 50 S. Main Street in the heart of Manville's downtown.

Left to Right: George Kontos, Diane Kontos, and Tony Kontos. The Kontos' recently received "Best Diner in Somerset County" accolades from NJ.com.

recognized by NJ.com as the Best Diner in Somerset County for 2016, an award the Kontos brothers and the community are very proud to hold.

The diner currently has eight employees and surprisingly serves hundreds of patrons daily between the hours of 6:00 am and 9:00 pm, except on Fridays and Saturdays when the Diner remains open until 3:00 am.

The Manville Diner is a generous sponsor of local sports programs including the Manville Youth Athletic League and the High School Wrestling team. Good food, affordable prices and community spirit are all great reasons to come out and enjoy a meal at the Manville Diner. The Borough of Manville congratulates the Kontos family for their recent Best Diner in Somerset County award and thanks them for being such an integral part of the Manville community.

### POLICE HEADQUARTERS

Non-Emergency.....908-725-1900

### FIRE DEPARTMENT

Non-Emergency.....908-725-1900

Manville School District.....908-231-8500

Mayor's Office.....908-725-9478 x 103

Board of Education.....908-231-8500

Borough Clerk.....908-725-9478 x 103

Public Works Garage.....908-725-5512

Building & Zoning.....908-725-9478 x 117

Health Department.....908-725-9478 x 114

Tax Assessor.....908-725-9478 x 109

Tax Collector.....908-725-9478 x 120

Treasurer.....908-725-9478 x 125

Recreation.....908-725-9478 x 121

Library.....908-722-9722

POISON CONTROL.....1-800-222-1222

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# Manville's News

## 2017 Reorganization Meeting



**The Mayor and Council of the Borough of Manville**

L to R: Andrea Bierwirth, Borough Administrator, Councilman Theodore Petrock, III, Councilwoman Michelle Magnani, Mayor Richard M. Onderko, Councilwoman Dayna Camacho, Councilman Philip E. Petrone, Councilman Stephen Szabo, Councilman Ron Skirkanish and Patricia Zamorski, Borough Clerk.

On Saturday, January 7, 2017, the Borough of Manville conducted its annual Reorganization meeting in the Council Chambers of the Borough Hall. At this very special meeting, the two newly elected members of the Borough Council took the Oath of Office as administered by Borough Attorney, Thaddeus R. Maciag, Esq.. Philip Petrone and Ron Skirkanish will each serve three year terms on the Council through December 2019.

Dignitaries attending Manville's Reorganization Day were Senator Kip Bateman, Freeholder Mark Caliguire, Somerset County Clerk, Brett Radi, Mayor of Raritan, Charles McMullin, Past Mayor of Manville, Angelo Corradino, Mayor of Millstone Borough, Raymond Heck, and Marguerite "Peg" Schaffer, Democratic Chair for Somerset County. Father Stanislaw Slaby, C.S.S.R., Pastor of Christ the Redeemer Parish in Manville, provided the invocation and final benediction.

At this special annual meeting, the Presi-

dent of the Common Council is nominated and appointed by the Mayor and Council. For 2017, Councilman Stephen Szabo will serve as President of the Council, his second term as President after serving in this position in 2016.

In addition, the Mayor announced the Standing Committees for 2017. Each Council person is required to chair one of the six standing committees. In addition, each Council person serves on two additional Committees for the duration of the year.

Also at the annual Reorganization, the Mayor announced the professional appointments including Borough Attorney, Borough Auditor, Labor Attorney and many other professional positions that assist the Borough throughout the year. For a full listing of appointments, please visit the Borough's website: [www.manvillenj.org](http://www.manvillenj.org) (minutes for 01.07.2017).

## Manville Fire Chiefs Sworn In at Reorganization Meeting



Borough Attorney, Thaddeus Maciag, swears in (from left to right) Assistant Fire Chief, Robert Kostowski, Deputy Fire Chief, Joe Barilla, and Fire Chief Ken Skirkanish to two-year terms as Chiefs of the Manville Fire Department.

A special and important action at the annual Reorganization Meeting is the swearing in of the Fire Chiefs. This year, Fire Chief Ken Skirkanish, Deputy Fire Chief Joe Barilla, and Assistant Fire Chief, Robert Kostowski were all sworn in to "two-year" terms that will run through December 2018. Thank you, gentlemen, for your service to the Borough of Manville and congratulations on your appointments!

## Municipal Alliance representatives needed in Manville!

Please join us at our next meeting to find out what the Alliance is all about! Our meetings take place on the first Wednesday of the month, 6pm, at the Manville Library. Also, check out our web page "MAC CORNER" on the Borough website - [www.manvillenj.org](http://www.manvillenj.org) for more details. As members, we hope to utilize prevention efforts, educate, and support programs in our community in lieu of substance abuse. Everyone is welcome to join. Bring any fresh ideas, or just stop by to say hi!

**Manville**  
Municipal Alliance Commission  
**Open House**

For the prevention of Alcohol and Substance abuse for all ages.  
Come meet your Alliance members!  
Fun and games for your kids with light refreshments!  
It doesn't get more local

At the Manville Library  
@6:30pm  
**March 22, 2017**

## From The Tax Collector's Office

### Tax Bill Corrections

Please be advised that when any changes are made to your property assessment, your tax bill revision will be made when the new tax bill comes out in August 2017 and cannot be changed beforehand.

## The Borough Tax Collector / Utility Billing Collector

In December's inaugural "Manville's News" publication, we promised we would highlight a few of the Borough of Manville's positions that impact our residents. Last month, the Borough Clerk provided a summary of her role in the Borough. This month, Lisa Gerickont, the Borough's Tax and Utility Collector's position is highlighted. It is estimated that approximately 70% of the traffic visiting the Borough Hall stops in for the purpose of paying a utility or property tax invoice. If you visit the Borough Hall to make a payment, Lisa and Candice will be available to assist you and answer any questions you might have.

The Tax / Sewer Utility Billing Collector is responsible for the billing, collecting and reporting of taxes and sewer bills for all Borough properties. Property taxes are based upon the Borough Assessor's valuation of real property and are levied for the calendar year.

Property taxes are due the first of February, May, August and November. The State of New Jersey does not allow the Tax Collector to accept post-dated checks, therefore, all payments must be received in the tax office no later than the 10th of each of these months. If the 10th falls on a weekend or legal holiday, the taxpayer has until the next business day to make a payment.

Sewer bills are based upon a maintenance fee of \$50/quarter/unit plus a usage fee of \$3.51/1,000 gallons of water consumption. The water consumption amount is provided to the Borough of Manville from New Jersey American Water. Per N.J.S.A. 54:4-67, delinquent interest for both property tax and sewer is calculated at 8% on any balances under \$1,500.00 and 18% on balances greater than \$1,500.

As a statutory officer of the State of New Jersey, the Collector is obligated to follow all the State statutes regarding property tax collection and therefore does not have the authority to forgive interest on delinquent taxes or sewer invoices.

The Borough of Manville is a calendar year municipality, which means that the annual budget runs from January 1st of the current year to December 31st of the current year. As of December 31st, any delinquent balances are subject to tax sale in the next year.

Tax relief Programs offered by the State of New Jersey:

Homestead Benefit - phone: 1-88-238-1233  
Property Tax Reimbursement (aka Senior Freeze program) - phone: 1-800-882-6597  
Please visit the State of New Jersey website <http://www.state.nj.us/treasury/taxation/relief.shtml> for additional information.

Other Property Tax Benefits:  
**Annual Property Tax deduction for Senior Citizens and Disabled Persons:**

Annual deduction of up to \$250.00 for homeowners age 65 or older or disabled persons who meet certain income requirements.

**Veteran Deduction:** Annual deduction of up to \$250.00 for qualified war veterans, their unmarried surviving spouses/surviving civil union partners / surviving domestic partners.

To make your property tax and sewer bill payments:

- You may stop by the tax /sewer office during regular business hours with a personal check or cash;
- You may visit our website [www.manvillenj.org](http://www.manvillenj.org) to make a payment using your credit card or checking account (please be aware that a convenience fee will be charged for this service.)

You may also mail your payment to  
The Borough of Manville,  
Tax Collector's Office,  
325 No. Main Street, Manville, NJ  
08835.

**Job Advertisement:**  
**ASSISTANT TO TAX ASSESSOR**  
BOROUGH OF MANVILLE, SOMERSET COUNTY, P/T POSITION (25 HOURS PER WEEK) AVAILABLE IN TAX ASSESSOR'S OFFICE. EXCELLENT CUSTOMER SERVICE SKILLS REQUIRED TO INTERFACE WITH THE PUBLIC. EXPERIENCE IN WORD, EXCEL AND OUTLOOK A MUST. PREVIOUS EXPERIENCE WITH VITAL COMMUNICATION TAX SOFTWARE A PLUS. SEND RESUME TO BOROUGH OF MANVILLE, ANDREA L. BIERWIRTH, BOROUGH ADMINISTRATOR, 325 NORTH MAIN STREET, MANVILLE, N.J. 08835

## Recreation News

### Art Connections

Grant funded art program sponsored by Manville Recreation, Manville Youth Services and the Somerset County Freeholders. This program is held at the Manville Library beginning February 6th and runs through March 6th. The fee for the class is \$10.

### Annual Easter Egg Hunt

Manville's Annual Easter Egg Hunt will be held on Saturday, April 8th starting at 12 noon promptly. The rain date is Sunday, April 9th. Ages Infants to 4th Grade are welcome to participate! Location is to be determined. Please contact the Manville Recreation office for more information.

**Manville Recreation Department**  
**2017 Spring Sports Registration**

Travel Soccer (1 <sup>st</sup> - 8 <sup>th</sup> Grade)	\$45.00
Instructional Soccer (ages 4-6)	\$30.00
T-Ball / Instructional Baseball (ages 4-6)	\$30.00
Travel Softball (2 <sup>nd</sup> - 8 <sup>th</sup> Grade)	\$45.00
Instructional Softball (K - 1 <sup>st</sup> Grade)	\$30.00

**Registrations will be held on the following dates:**  
 Tuesday, January 31<sup>st</sup> 6:00pm - 8:00pm at the Manville Public Library  
 Thursday, February 2<sup>nd</sup> 5:30pm - 7:30pm at Roosevelt School  
 Saturday, February 4<sup>th</sup> 9:00am - 11:00am at Weston School  
 Saturday, February 11<sup>th</sup> 9:00am - 11:00am at Weston School

The Recreation Department is currently looking for volunteers to coach Travel Soccer, Instructional Baseball, Instructional Softball and Travel Softball. If you are interested in becoming a coach please contact the office as soon as possible so we can start the process for background checks and Rutgers Certification Course set-up which is mandatory for all coaches.

**REGISTRATION DEADLINE - March 1, 2017**  
 \*All late registrations will be put on a waiting list and charged a \$15.00 late fee\*

Registrations are always accepted at the Recreation Department during regular office hours.  
 Visit us online: [www.manvillenj.org/Recreation/Department.org](http://www.manvillenj.org/Recreation/Department.org)  
 Follow us: [www.facebook.com/ManvilleRecreation](https://www.facebook.com/ManvilleRecreation)

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# Manville's News

## News from the Manville Public School District



### Congratulations!

Manville School District extends its sincere congratulations to Mrs. Jennifer Esposito, Mrs. Kelly Harabin and Mrs. Sharon Lukac for their appointment / reappointment to the Manville Board of Education during reorganization on January 3, 2017. We look forward to working with all of our Board members for a productive year ahead.

### Athletic Milestones:

Congratulations to Manville Senior Mustang TJ Caswell, who accomplished his 100th wrestling win during the Somerset County Wrestling Tournament on Saturday, January 17, 2017! TJ won during the Semi Final round and advanced to the 145 pound finals.

Congratulations as well to ABIS 8th Graders for achievements in the Princeton Wrestling Tournament during the weekend of January 14th:

- Jack Lombardino – 1st Place**
- Dominic Desanto – 2nd Place**
- Ethan Burlew – 3rd Place**

### College Search Process 101:

Manville School District's College and Career Readiness Initiative at Manville High School continues this month as MHS hosts a "College Search Process 101" session for Junior and Sophomore students and their parents on Thursday evening, January 26th in the Manville High School Media Center at 6PM.

### National Honor Society Induction:

Twenty-five (25) sophomores, juniors, and senior students were honored on Thursday evening, January 12, 2017 at the National Honor Society Induction in the Manville High School Auditorium. This prestigious honor is hard-won, requiring much of each student selected in terms of Scholarship, Service, Leadership and Character. We are extremely proud of all of our students involved.

## MANVILLE'S PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT SPONSORS REPTILE PROGRAM TO BOOST ENVIRONMENTAL AWARENESS

Borough of Manville families were treated to a unique educational experience in early December when Manville's DPW offered a community program that blended both entertainment and conservation education. An educator from Rizzo's Reptile Discovery, Flanders, NJ, delighted the ninety-one people in attendance by parading uncommon animals like a blue-tongued skink, an albino pygmy hedgehog, and a Burmese python around the room for all to see and touch. The event included an age-appropriate discussion on the harmful impact of litter and human carelessness on animals that share our space.

Using New Jersey Clean Communities grant money to fund the event, children learned to "CARE" (Conserve, Awareness, Recycling, Environment) about our planet while interacting with ten rare and wonderful species. The Clean Communities grant stipulates that local municipalities implement programs that promote cleanup, enforcement and environmental education. "Children need to understand the short and

long-term impact of trash on our local ecosystem", said Manville's Director of DPW, Vince LoMedico. "It is a win-win to find an engaging environmental program that provides quality information and concrete examples to pull it all together for the kids. We plan on offering more educational awareness programs like this in the near future."



Katie from Rizzo's Reptiles shows off her skills with a Burmese Python!

### Eagle Scout Recognition

Congratulations to Michael Zangara for achieving the distinguished recognition of Eagle Scout! For his Eagle Scout project, Michael mapped all of the veterans' graves in the Sacred Heart cemetery. Michael was recognized with a special proclamation for his efforts on January 7, 2017 by Mayor Onderko.



Michael Zangara, Eagle Scout and Mayor Richard Onderko

## From the Desk of the Public Works Director

### WINTER EVENTS SNOW OPERATION & EMERGENCY PLAN

Winter has arrived! As this article is being prepared, the winds from a wicked Nor'easter are battering my office window. I thought it appropriate to provide in this issue of Manville's News, a snow operation and emergency preparedness plan informational article.

The Department of Public Works has in place a **snow operation and emergency plan for winter related events**. To properly snow plow streets from curb to curb, residents are asked to remove all vehicles from the streets. On "Emergency Streets" (posted with signs indicating "No Parking When Road is Snow Covered Tow Away Zone"), residents are required to remove all vehicles from the roadway once the snow begins to fall. Failure to remove a vehicle from an "Emergency Street" will result in a traffic summons and the vehicle being towed. The **Snow Emergency Plan** will be dependent upon the nature of the storm. Roads are pre-treated or treated as soon as snow begins to accumulate. The plowing operation does not start until an accumulation of two to three inches of snow. Emergency Streets and main arteries are done first with one to two passes performed on each street during the storm. Curb to curb snow plowing is performed once the storm is over. When curbing the streets, it is unfortunate that snow gets in the end of a cleared driveway. This is unavoidable and it is suggested to residents that cleaning out the end of a driveway be done after streets are fully curbed. Residents are strongly urged to refrain from throwing or shoveling snow into the streets; this is not permissible and creates a safety hazard.

For a listing of the Borough's "Emergency Streets" go to: [www.manvillepd.org](http://www.manvillepd.org) > Traffic Related Service > Emergency Street List.

## A Message from Fire Department #3

The North End Volunteer Fire Company #3 has proudly been serving the citizens of the Borough of Manville since 1931. Our firehouse is located at the corner of North 8th Ave and Louis Street. The North End Volunteer Fire Company #3 consists of active and exempt members along with the North End Volunteer Fire Co #3 Ladies Auxiliary. One engine and a support vehicle operated by the fire company are stationed at the firehouse. In addition to responding to fire calls, members of the fire company participate at community events such as Touch-A-Truck, American Legion Flag Retirement Ceremony, Community Day, and the Memorial Day Parade. The fire company meets on the first Monday of each month. New members are always welcome.

The fire company members operate a hall that is available for members of the general public to rent for functions. Over the years, the fire company has donated the use of the hall many times for various Boy Scout and Girl Scout functions and special community events, such as dinner dances for organizations that serve individuals with developmental disabilities. The members also perform charitable functions, such as donating holiday meals to families in need.

The North End Volunteer Fire Co #3 Ladies Auxiliary recently celebrated its 50th anniversary. The auxiliary supports the fire company by conducting fundraisers and providing support services during large fires and times of natural disaster. The auxiliary meets on the first Wednesday of the month at the firehouse. Those interested in joining are welcome to attend.

If you are interested in becoming a member of the fire company or auxiliary or would like to inquire about the rental of the hall, please call the firehouse at 908-526-0403.

Congratulations to Michael Zangara for achieving the distinguished recognition of Eagle Scout! For his Eagle Scout project, Michael mapped all of the veterans' graves in the Sacred Heart cemetery. Michael was recognized with a special proclamation for his efforts on January 7, 2017 by Mayor Onderko.

### Manville High School: Did you know?

**HEROIN AND OPIOID ADDICTION IS ONE OF THE FASTEST GROWING EPIDEMICS IN NEW JERSEY IN RECENT YEARS...AMONG TEENS AND PRE-TEENS...AND IT ALL STARTS WITH "GATEWAY DRUGS"...**  
Find out what you can do about it

**WHAT: AN EVENING FOR ADULTS and PARENTS ONLY**

(No children under 14 years of age, please)

**WHO: Hosted by:**

- **Manville School District**
- **Manville PTA / PTO Organizations**
- **The Manville Police Department**
- **The Manville Municipal Alliance**
- **The Partnership for a Drug Free New Jersey**

**WHEN: Thursday, FEBRUARY 02, 2017 – 6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.**

**WHERE: Alexander Batcho Intermediate School Media Center**

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# Manville's News

## The Manville Public Library

100 S. 10th Avenue, Manville, NJ 08807 | 908-722-9722 | SCLSNJ.org

### DIGITAL DETOX AT THE MANVILLE LIBRARY

Change things up this year. Step away from your TV, your tablet, or your cell phone and do something else with the excess screen time. We have a few suggestions for you to consider...

#### Take an exercise class.

Manville Recreation has set up a schedule of classes that reduce stress and increase your fitness level.

Seniors, start the morning with Senior Chair Aerobics, Senior Low Impact Chair Aerobics, Zumba or Senior Chair Yoga. Or end your day with a brisk walk inside the Manville High School when you sign up for Senior Walking program. Call 908-722-9722 for details

#### Research your family tree.

Bob Vornlocker's extensive genealogical knowledge coupled with free access to the Ancestry.com database makes this one of the best investments of your new-found time. Future generations will appreciate your gift of heritage and lineage.

**Find Your Family Tree**  
Wednesday, February 15, 2017  
10:30 AM - 12:30 PM

#### Try your hand at textile arts.

The Crochet Club and Knitting, Too! meets on the last Wednesday night of every month. You'll find assistance from avid enthusiasts in an informal environment. Young adults might try our new sewing classes on Monday afternoons in April. They'll learn the basics of sewing while creating a one-of-a-kind piece using the fabric of their choice.

**Crochet Club & Knitting Too!**  
Last Wednesday of every month – next session is February 22, 2017  
6:00 PM - 8:00 PM

**Sewing Class with Ruth Slovik**  
Monday, April 03, 2017  
3:30 PM - 4:30 PM  
Grades 4-8

#### Write your opus.

We have two writing programs facilitated by writing coaches running in February and March. Writing Wednesdays meets every Wednesday afternoon and focuses on personal narratives. New Year, New Leaf, New Page meets once a month beginning in January and provides a comfortable environment to share work and ideas.

**Writing Wednesdays: A Time to Write**  
Wednesdays, January 4 through February 22, 2017  
1:30 PM - 3:30 PM

**New Year, New Leaf, New Page**  
Thursdays, January 26, February 23, March 23, April 27, May 25, and June 22, 2017  
7:00 PM - 8:30 PM

#### Get a hobby.

Our Adult Craft Night fills up the minute registration opens. It is THAT good. Past projects include etched glass, tumbled marble coasters, bleach-pen t-shirts and aged French terra cotta flower pots. All materials supplied. For a new afterschool endeavor, try Art Connections, sponsored by Manville Rec., or Art Studio for the little guys.

**Adult Craft Night**  
Last Wednesday of every month – next session is February 22, 2017  
6:30 PM - 7:30 PM

**Art Connections**  
Mondays and Wednesdays, February 6 through March 6, 2017  
3:15 PM - 4:30 PM  
Grades 4-8 (a real bargain at \$10 for all 8 sessions!)

**Art Studio**  
Fridays, January 13 through February 24, 2017  
3:30 PM - 4:15 PM  
Ages 5-8

#### Play.

Highly underrated and yet oh-so-necessary for a creative spirit and healthy mindset. We have Lego Club, Minecraft Club, and tabletop gaming events like Magic: The Gathering and Yu-Gi-Oh! Tournaments. Mid-Week Mania promises a variety of afternoon school activities to help kids destress after school. Adults, stop by for Dominos on Tuesday afternoons or check out the latest craze at our Adult Coloring Station.

**Lego Club**  
Thursdays, January 19 through May 9 2017  
4:00 PM - 4:45 PM

**Minecraft Club**  
Saturdays, January 7, February 18, March 18, April 15 and May 13, 2017  
1:30 PM - 3:00 PM

**"Magic: The Gathering"**  
Second Wednesday of every month through May 2017  
6:00 PM - 8:00 PM

**Yu-Gi-Oh! Tournament**  
Saturday, February 11 & March 11, 2017  
1:00 PM - 4:30 PM

**Midweek Mania**  
Every Wednesday, March 1 through June 14, 2017  
3:30 PM - 5:30 PM

**Teen Tech Week: Music & Digital Media**  
Friday, March 10, 2017  
3:00 PM - 4:30 PM

Have you ever dreamed of making your own music? Stop by the Manville Library and test out a variety of online digital music production software, including virtual drum kits, sound sequencers, and background vocals. This program is in conjunction with YALSA's Teen Tech Week and is open to ages 13-18.

#### Read more.

Besides modeling terrific life-long learning behavior for your kids, books will either whisk you away to worlds unknown or ground you with stories that reinforce the challenges of our collective human condition. We run two book clubs to not only provide opportunities to discuss what you've read with kindred spirits, but to discover new authors and new literary "classics."

**Evening Book Discussion Group**  
Second Monday of every month  
6:00 PM - 7:45 PM  
February 13: The Last Letter from Your Lover by Jojo Moyes  
March 13: A Man Called Ove by Fredrik Backman

**Daytime Book Discussion Group**  
Third Wednesday of every month  
12:00 PM - 1:00 PM  
February 15: The Liar by Nora Roberts  
March 15: The Storied Life of A.J. Fikry by Gabrielle Zevin

Program dates and times are subject to change. All programs are free and registration is required unless otherwise indicated. Visit SCLSNJ.org or call the Library at 908-722-9722 for more information and to register.



Left to Right - Melissa Skrabal, Ruth Bielanski, Nanette Peterson, Amy Atzert, Adam Petroski and Sandra Scrape

### EXPECTO MORE POTTERUM?

3rd Annual Harry Potter Event  
Saturday, February 25, 2017  
2:00 PM - 4:00 PM

We have more fun planning this "experience" than any other program in our repertoire. We hope fans of all ages will join us in our annual celebration of these unforgettable books. There will be games, fandom crafts, and other magical activities to keep everyone entertained. And did we mention our signature wands...?

This year, the Wizarding Examinations Authority will be administering O.W.L. exams to all Hogwarts students. While O.W.L. examinations are traditionally carried out over the course of two weeks, students will be challenged to complete our O.W.L.s within two hours. Do well, and you will progress to N.E.W.T. level classes with all the rewards this brings. Perform badly, and you will receive the classification of a "Troll." (Please note that Anti-Cheating Spells will be applied to all O.W.L. exam papers, and Auto-Answer Quills, Remembralls, Detachable Cribbing Cuffs, and Self-Correcting Ink are banned from the examination hall.)

Exams start promptly at 2 PM on Saturday, February 25th at the Manville Library. Please call 908-722-9722 to confirm your place.

## FAMILY PROGRAMS

**Before You Can Say "Jackie Robinson": Black Baseball in America and New Jersey in the Era of the Color Line**  
Saturday, 2/18/2017  
2:00 PM - 3:00 PM

This presentation by history professor Dr. Lawrence Hogan includes exhibit materials, as well as selections from the acclaimed video documentary of the same name. The black part of our national game is explored, and the speaker examines in depth the rich relationships that comprised "Blackball" during America's era of segregation. The program will feature a rendition of the unique "Breaking the Line with the Mudville Nine," a Negro League version of "Casey at the Bat" by storyteller, poet and actor Kevin Kane. This narrative poem was first performed in 2013 at the Cooperstown Baseball Hall of Fame. Veteran Negro League baseball player James Robinson will also share his experiences. This program is funded by the Horizons Speakers Bureau of the New Jersey Council for the Humanities, a state partner of the National Endowment for the Humanities.

**Determined Spirit: The Story of Amelia Earhart**  
Saturday, March 18, 2017  
2:00 PM - 3:00 PM

Actress and historian Monica Hoffman performs as Amelia Earhart in a one woman show that reveals the life and legacy of the world's most celebrated female aviator. Earhart and her co-pilot mysteriously disappeared while flying over the Pacific Ocean 80 years ago, in July 1937.

During the course of the 40 minute show, Amelia recalls the events of her life from childhood through her final flight. Au-

diences are allowed a unique and fascinating glimpse into history, and the unforgettable experience of meeting a true American icon.

**NJ Makers Day: F.A.S.T. Activities for the Whole Family**  
Saturday, March 25, 2017  
1:00 PM - 5:00 PM

Manville Library is celebrating Maker Day with activities featuring Fabrics, Art, Science, and Technology (F.A.S.T.). Explore one or all stations:

**Fabric Basket:** By using cotton clothesline, makers will wind, wrap and sew fabric strips to create unique storage containers. This is a group project and the final results will be raffled amongst participants.

**Geometric Artwork:** Makers will use a Spirograph to spin their way to beautiful geometric-based artwork.

**Paper Circuitry:** Makers will use copper tape and surface-mount LEDs to build their own paper circuits creations.

**Animation Creation:** Makers will bring their original stories to life through stop-motion animation and Stikbots.

### AARP Tax Assistance

Tuesdays, Thursdays and some Saturdays  
February 2nd through April 13th  
Volunteer tax counselors have been trained to assist Somerset County residents in preparing their federal and New Jersey income tax returns. Appointments are required. Please call the Somerset County Office of Volunteer Services at (908) 541-5710 to schedule a meeting time for this FREE service.

### TECH TRAINING FOR THE PUBLIC

The library is now offering computer classes on a wide variety of topics. Future programs include Internet for Beginners, Microsoft Office skills, and Social Media.

**Adult Computer Literacy for Beginners**  
Mondays, March 6, 13, 20 & 27  
12:00 PM - 1:00 PM

Join our librarians for a series of classes on computer literacy. Topics include how to use a mouse, how to use a keyboard, how to create an email account, and how to safely navigate the internet. Space is limited and registration is required.



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