



### **It's spring!**

It's nearly April and the crocuses are up! It's nice to see some color coming back into the world.

With April comes a new election season. We're pleased to say the Search Committee has done its job and we'll have an announcement to make at a joint Township-Borough Campaign Kick Off event on Friday, May 3. The location is TBD, but please save the date.

We're also thrilled to announce that Diane Dinklage has agreed to serve as Chair of the Mendham Township Democrats, enthusiastically supported by Michael Merritt as Vice Chair, Monica Smith as Treasurer, and Kimberly Gavagan as Secretary. Stop by our next meeting on April 25 (details below) to meet the team and wish them well!

### **Speaking of events . . .**

The Mendham Township and Mendham Borough Democrats has formed a social club called Mendhams Dems & Friends. The club's first event will be the aforementioned Candidate Kick Off. Its purpose is to support Democratic candidates and causes, focused at the local level, by organizing and running interesting and fun social events that will welcome not only registered Democrats, but all potential voters. The club will run as a wholly separate organization from the official Borough and Township Democratic Committees and campaigns but will partner with them. There are no dues; events will be paid through small door fees and voluntary donations at events. Stay tuned for more information.

### **Please support our local candidates**

While we wait for the official announcements of local committee candidates, please remember that Mendham resident [Michael Thompson is running for Morris County Surrogate](#). Also, **Lisa Bhimani** of Mendham and **Darcy Draeger** of Chester are [running for LD25 State Assembly seats](#). Please support these great candidates by donating or contacting them to volunteer.

Morris County still needs two Democratic candidates for [Freeholder](#). [Click here](#) for more information about running for these important positions.

### **Democrats in action**



Mendham Township and Borough Democrats joined a large crowd to march in solidarity with the Muslim Community and to honor the 50 victims of the Christchurch, New Zealand shooting. The march took place at the Islamic Center in Boonton on March 17.





We had a fantastic turnout for our first Mendham-Chesters-Harding Dems Social. Huge thank you to Susan Luciano for hosting!

#### Upcoming Democratic events:

- **March 23**—[New Jersey State Dems/Women's Caucus training](#) at County College of Morris at 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Breakfast and lunch will be served. [Register here.](#)
- **March 25**—The Mendhams Dems and Friends planning meeting, Please email us for location and time. Anyone who would like to meet the team or pitch in with upcoming events is welcome.
- **March 28**—[Morris County Democratic Committee](#) will hold its Nominating Convention at the Hanover Recreation Center, Jefferson Road in Whippany, 6 p.m. All elected officials and district chairs can vote for our Democratic candidates.
- **March 30**—Voter Activation Network (VAN) training, Wharton Library, 10 a.m.
- **April 25**—Executive board meeting of the Mendham Township Democratic Committee, 29 East Main Street, 7 p.m. All welcome.
- **May 3**—Mendham Township and Borough “Meet the Candidates,” co-hosted by the Mendham Township Democratic campaign committee, the Mendham Borough Democratic campaign committee, and the Mendhams Dems & Friends. Time and location TBA, stay tuned.

#### Upcoming Community events:

- **March 22** – Community vigil and prayer service for the victims of the Christchurch, New Zealand shooting. Hosted by Imam Jawad Ahmed of Islamic Society of North Jersey and held at Turkey Brook Park, Mount Olive, 7-8 p.m.
- **March 26**—Mendham Township Committee meeting, Town Hall, 7:30 p.m. The 2019 municipal budget will be introduced and reviewed; public input is welcome.
- **April 8**—Mendham Township Committee meeting, Town Hall, 7:30 p.m. Agenda TBA.
- **April 16**—Autism Awareness & Education Panel, Mendham Township Library, 7 p.m. featuring Trish O'Brien, our 2018 candidate and occupational therapist, a representative from Autism Speaks, and several parents. Hosted by Mendham Township Committeewoman Amalia Duarte as part of the Mendhams Stigma-Free Task Force.

- **April 22** – Community Seder hosted by residents including Jennifer Dubeck, Hilary Kelly, and Debbi Pollinger Dolce. Brookside Community Club, 5 p.m. \$18/adult or \$36/family. [Reserve your spot ahead of time.](#)
- **April 23**—Township Committee meeting, Town Hall, 7:30 p.m. Public hearing and adoption of the 2019 municipal budget.
- **April 28**—Ralston Playground Ribbon Cutting and Grand Re-Opening, 4-7 p.m. This will be a fun, family event – details to be announced soon. Thanks to Mendham Township Comitteewoman Amalia Duarte for leading the effort to restore the playground. Come celebrate! (Rain date May 5).
- **June 15**—Patriot's 5K Race and Kids Fun Run. Registration opening in April and more details to come, but save the date for this great community event in its 11<sup>th</sup> year.