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SPRING 2021

MIDDLETOWN MATTERS

Navesink River- Photo by Stacey Brunson Lebitz

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RECREATION: PAGES 10 & 11

BRUSH COLLECTION: PAGE 12

Message from Mayor Tony Perry

I am incredibly honored to once again be serving as your Mayor for the third consecutive year. Despite all the challenges we continue to face, I see opportunities and am filled with optimism and hope as we emerge from this pandemic. While it is hard to believe that we are now more than a year past our first case of COVID-19, the work of this town and the Township Committee has never stopped and the best is yet to come!

The moment COVID-19 vaccines became available, Middletown began working to acquire as many as possible, and thanks to a strategic partnership with the Visiting Nurse Association of Central Jersey Community Health Center, we have been able to provide vaccines to more than 1,000 of our most vulnerable populations. We also partnered with Bayshore Medical Center and the Middletown Board of Education to immediately begin providing vaccines to any teacher or faculty member who requested. These efforts would not be possible without the dedicated efforts of dozens of individuals working tirelessly to make this program successful.

My last Mayor's Message focused on our Open Space ballot referendum and more than 67% of voters approved this measure to preserve Middletown's open space. With this victory, we are now able to add to our more than 6,000 acres of parks, make the necessary upgrades to our recreational facilities, and protect our historic buildings and farmland.

As a result of your overwhelming approval, Middletown is now able to dedicate the new funding to the acquisition of properties. This is an amazing achievement as this Township Committee continues to provide and improve upon the exceptional quality of life we all enjoy here in this town. To all the voters who supported this initiative - thank you - and if you voted "no" on the open space question, I understand your hesitation to pay more in taxes, but we see this as an opportunity to prove that this investment will be worthwhile.

You may have seen the rapid construction of our new municipal building and I am very happy to report that despite restrictions due to the pandemic, the new Town Hall is expected to be completed this December, and departments will begin moving in immediately. This state-of-the-art facility will provide our residents and employees a place our community will build on all the progress we have been able to make over these past few years. We look forward to welcoming you to this new building and having conversations that will turn into accomplishments for all.

Our community and our Nation have been through difficult times before and none of us will soon forget the year we all just experienced, but the American spirit of hope and optimism will see us through as it has before. It has been my honor to serve as your Mayor and I will forever be grateful for that trust.

See you all soon!

Tony Perry

2021 MUNICIPAL BUDGET PREVIEW

Despite the economic impact that COVID-19 has placed on municipalities across New Jersey, Middletown continues to work to reduce the Township's overall expenses through shared services, grant opportunities, and streamlining efficiencies.

Through the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021, Middletown was allocated $6 million to be used over the next two years to mitigate the impact of the pandemic. At this time, the Township Committee and Administration are gathering information about what the stimulus package can be used for and will make decisions concerning how to best utilize the relief funds over the coming months.

VISIT WWW.MIDDLETOWNNJ.ORG FOR UPDATES.

MIDDLETOWN TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE

ANTHONY S. PERRY, MAYOR
RICK W. HIBELL, DEPUTY MAYOR
RYAN M. CLARKE, COMMITTEEMAN
KEVIN M SETTEMBRINO, COMMITTEEMAN
PATRICIA A. SNELL, COMMITTEEWOMAN
IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO CONTACT THE TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE, PLEASE CONTACT THE MAYOR'S OFFICE AT 732-615-2024.

ANTHONY MERCANTANTE, P.P, AICP, TOWNSHIP ADMINISTRATOR
HEIDI R. BRUNT, RMC, CMC, TOWNSHIP CLERK
TARA BERSON, EDITOR
JESSI LYNN TICINO, GRAPHIC DESIGNER/ ASSISTANT EDITOR
JERSEY PRINTING, PRINTER
SEND COMMENTS AND SUGGESTIONS TO:
PUBLICINFO@MIDDLETOWNNJ.ORG OR
TOWN HALL, 1 KINGS HIGHWAY, MIDDLETOWN NJ, 07748

2021 TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE
Front row (from left):
Mayor Tony Perry and Deputy Mayor Rick Hibell
Back row (from left): Committee members Ryan Clarke, Patricia Snell and Kevin Settembrino

TAX COLLECTOR'S MESSAGE

Middletown Township Tax Collector Debbie Marchetti

Happy Spring! Did you know the Tax Collector's landing page on the Township's website is a good source of information for property owners? Just head to middletownj.org/taxcollection to quickly find the answers to some of the most frequently asked questions. Don't have a computer? No need to worry; you can always call the Tax Department M-F from 8:00 AM - 4:30 PM at 732-615-2086 and we will be more than happy to assist you! Also just a reminder that taxes are always due on the following dates: February 1, May 1, August 1, and November 1. Thank you!

MIDDLETOWN HONORS FORMER MAYOR TONY FIORE FOR 12 YEARS OF PUBLIC SERVICE

The 2020 Middletown Township Committee honored long-standing Committee member Tony Fiore with the "Key to the City" for his 12 years of dedicated public service to our community.

At the virtual Township Committee meeting in December, Mayor Tony Perry and the Township Committee presented the Key to the City to former Mayor Tony Fiore and proclaimed it "Tony Fiore Day" in Middletown in recognition of his 12 years of dedicated service. While Fiore stepped down from the Committee at the end of 2020, he will be forever known for his strength, tenacity and leadership, especially during Hurricane Irene and Superstorm Sandy.

Monmouth County Commissioner Director Tom Arnone presented a proclamation on behalf of the County, and Assemblyman Gerry Scharfenberger, who served on the Township Committee with Fiore for many years, expressed his personal well wishes and congratulated him on behalf of the State. Legislators and Township officials also honored Fiore in a heartfelt video message. We thank Tony Fiore for his fierce dedication to the community, advocacy for youth sports, commitment to fiscal responsibility, and drive to continue bettering Middletown.

TOWNSHIP DIRECTORY

Police, Fire & Rescue Emergencies	9-1-1
Police Department Non-Emergency	615-2100
Municipal Offices *(All numbers have a 732 area code)*	
Main Number	615-2000
Animal Control *(Monday - Friday, 8am- 5pm)*	615-2097
Animal Control *(holidays, nights & weekends)*	615-2100
Building & Inspections	615-2106
Community Development	615-2281
Court Administrator	615-2036
Code Enforcement	615-2106
Crossroads *(substance abuse services)*	615-2269
Emergency Management	615-2129
EMS (First Aid)	615-2252
Fire Prevention	615-2270
Health	615-2095
Library	671-3700
Mayor's Office	615-2024
Middletown Arts Center	706-4100
Planning	615-2098
Public Works	615-2109
Public Information	615-2287
Recreation	615-2260
Recycling	615-2008
Senior Center	615-2265
Tax Assessor	615-2089
Tax Collector	615-2086
Township Administrator	615-2013
Township Engineer	615-2110
Township Clerk *(elections, marriage/birth/death records, parking permits, passport services, voter registration, Twp. Committee agenda)*	615-2015
Social Services	615-2085
Zoning	615-2278

Other Important Numbers

Board of Education	671-3850
Sewerage Authority	495-1010
Comcast Cable 20	
VerizonFiOS Channel 26	
Emergency Radio 1620 AM	

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MIDDLETOWN DISBURSES $422,500 IN COVID-19 RELIEF GRANTS TO 29 SMALL BUSINESSES AND NONPROFITS

Mayor Tony Perry, Deputy Mayor Rick Hibell and Committeewoman Pat Snell presented No Limits Cafe Founder Stephanie Cartier and her wonderful staff members with a ceremonial check for $15K at the restaurant in February. "We are very grateful to Middletown for supporting No Limits Cafe," said Cartier. "We opened 2.5 weeks prior to the pandemic so we were hit hard. This $15,000 will allow us to continue giving our employees with intellectual disabilities meaningful employment. We love our Middletown Community!"

In February, the Middletown Township Committee ceremoniously presented 8 small businesses with a check for $15,000 through the Middletown Economic Relief Program (MERP): All Natural Dry Cleaners, Code Ninjas, Greens & Grains, Middletown Pancake House, Monmouth Museum, No Limits Cafe, Rock'n Music Academy, and Zeek's Tees.

Through the MERP initiative, the Township was able to award 29 small businesses and nonprofit organizations across town $422,500. Of the 29 small businesses that applied, 26 were awarded $15,000, and the other three were awarded $10,000, $10,500, and $12,500 since that is the amount the business owners requested.

The relief program was launched in October 2020 to help provide financial assistance to eligible small businesses and nonprofit organizations in the municipality that have been affected by the 2020 coronavirus pandemic.

"During this challenging environment, we are very excited to be able to provide some financial assistance to our dedicated and hardworking small-business owners who continue to serve our community as well as employ locally," said Mayor Tony Perry who also serves on the board of the Eastern Monmouth Area Chamber of Commerce.

Business owner and Deputy Mayor Rick Hibell understands firsthand the financial burden this pandemic has had on the community. "This is one way we are able to give back to our small-business owners who have been putting their heart and soul into trying to adapt to the continuous blows COVID has dealt."

Business owners had the money in their hands by the end of February to help them stay afloat and hopefully thrive as COVID restrictions continue to ease up.

Attention Middletown Business Owners: Save-the-Date for the Annual

SMALL BUSINESS BUSINESS ROUNDTABLE

Visit www.middletownnj.org/smallbusiness for more information!

TST BBQ TEAMS UP WITH FRIENDS CONNECT FOUNDATION TO SUPPORT SPECIAL NEEDS TEENS

Mayor Tony Perry stopped by TST BBQ (910 Rt. 36, Leonardo) to congratulate them on their partnership with the Friends Connect Foundation. The Foundation, spearheaded by Middletown resident Sophia Ziajski, brings teenagers with special needs together to form new friendships!

TST BBQ owner Charles Mulea has been a shining example of community leadership by hosting specials needs teens and their families at their mini golf course and restaurant in a fun and safe way. To learn more about the Friends Connect Foundation, visit friendsconnectfoundation.org.

Pictured from left: Friends Connect Treasurer Andrea Ziajski, TST BBQ owner Charles Mulea, Friends Connect Founder Sophia Ziajski and Mayor Tony Perry

LUIGI'S FAMOUS PIZZA IN LINCROFT HOSTS SUCCESSFUL SWEATSHIRT FUNDRAISER FOR SMALL BUSINESSES

In January, the Middletown Township Committee and Assemblyman Gerry Scharfenberger dropped in at Luigi's Pizza in Lincroft for some delicious food and to support their Luigi's Queso Grill sweatshirt fundraiser that benefitted the Barstool Fund to help raise money for small businesses across the country impacted by COVID-19.

A big thank you to owners Kelly and Jason Emerson for donating $5,000 to the Barstool Fund and doing their part to help fellow small-business owners.

Pictured from left: Assemblyman Gerry Scharfenberger, Luigi's Co-owner Kelly Emerson, Committeewoman Pat Snell, Mayor Tony Perry, Committeeman Ryan Clarke and Deputy Mayor Rick Hibell

Middletown Goes Green!

MIDDLETOWN PARKS AND FACILITIES UPGRADES REPORT

Middletown Township is able utilize the Open Space Trust Fund to acquire open space, as well as make upgrades and improvements to the more than 60 parks across Middletown. Here is how some of the funds are being put to good use!

COMPLETED

- Croydon Hall Gym (Leonardville Road) - walls and interior painted, complete brand new subfloor and hardwood, bleachers (coming May/June), new roof

NEARING COMPLETION

- Nut Swamp Turf Field (Nut Swamp Road)
- Normandy Park Project (Nut Swamp Road)

UPCOMING

- Butterfly Pollinator Garden at Poricy Park (Oak Hill Road)
- Bodman Playground (Market Street) - brand new playground; existing fully removed and all brand new elements installed
- Chanceville Playground (Aberdeen Terrace) - brand new playground; existing fully removed and all brand new elements installed
- Countryside Playground (Cherry Tree Farm Road) - brand new playground and new location; playground will be positioned near the basketball court on Cherry Tree Farm Road
- Purchase and installation of an ADA compliant, stainless steel, outdoor water fountain in Roosevelt Park (Port Monmouth Road) in North Middletown. The water fountain features a bottle filler, pet fountain, and hose bib.

DPW OFFERS RECYCLING EDUCATION TOURS FOR LOCAL GROUPS: BOOK YOURS NOW!

The Middletown Recycling Division offers COVID-friendly outdoor recycling educational tours of the Middletown Recycling Center (52 Kanes Lane) to local groups. In February, the Recycling Division hosted Cub Scouts Lion/Tigers Pack 142. These Kindergarten and first grade students had a lot of fun and learned how to "recycle right" in Middletown! If you are interested in participating in an educational tour, please contact Amy Sarrinikolaou, Division Head Recycling and Clean Communities, at 732-615-2040 Monday-Friday between 8:00 AM to 4:00 PM.

MIDDLETOWN PLANS TO INSTALL SOLAR PANELS AT THE TRAIN STATION PARKING LOT

Middletown recently applied to the NJ Board of Public Utilities (BPU) to build the car canopy/solar farm. The canopy will cover about half of the train station parking lot. The proposed parking canopy solar facility will enhance the parking area by providing shade and cover from inclement weather.

The energy generated from the solar farm would be used exclusively to power two affordable-housing senior apartment complexes located nearby, meant for low-to moderate-income seniors. (The Middletown Housing Authority pays the electric bills for those buildings.) The town estimates the solar panels would output about 2.255 megawatts, which is enough to give a 10-20 percent reduction to the 252 total residential units. Middletown would run the solar power through existing Jersey Central Power & Light lines to the senior housing.

Middletown will be paying for the project through the use of federal and state energy tax credits. "There will be no cost to Middletown or its residents to build the car canopy/solar panels," said Township Administrator Anthony Mercantante. Middletown also plans to install four to eight electric vehicle charging stations in the train station parking lot, all of which will further the sustainable vision of Middletown.

MIDDLETOWN RECEIVES GRANT FROM THE NJ DEP TO ENHANCE RECYCLING PROGRAM

Middletown was recently awarded a grant for $110,242 from the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection for its impressive recycling efforts. The purpose of the grants, which were distributed to municipalities statewide, is to enhance waste reduction and recycling efforts throughout New Jersey.

The grant money will be used to continue building upon the town's already award-winning recycling program which will include improvements to the Middletown Recycling Center, increasing the Township's recycling education efforts through videos and on-site education, sponsoring town-wide recycling events, and expanding access to recycling across town.

"Middletown earned this grant due to the Township's concerted effort to increase our sustainability by educating residents about the types of items that can be recycled at our centers, including Styrofoam, plastic toys, and plastic bags," said Mayor Tony Perry. "We have already made plans to continue these efforts and this grant will certainly help us work toward that goal."

DPW INTRODUCES "WHERE DOES IT GO?" RECYCLING EDUCATION VIDEO SERIES

The Middletown Department of Public Works launched its new "Where Does it Go?" recycling education video series where they demonstrate what happens to different items in the stream after they are dropped off at the Middletown Recycling Center (52 Kanes Lane). Check out the first episode on Middletown's YouTube Channel (Middletown Township NJ) that highlights what happens to electronics, (including televisions, wires and computers) as they go through the process of being recycled.

SHADOW LAKE VILLAGE "FLIPS THE SWITCH" ON SOLAR ENERGY!

Mayor Tony Perry was honored to "flip the switch" on the new solar panel project at Shadow Lake Village this Fall. This effort, which was spearheaded by Shadow Lake Village Board President Deborah Herr along with the Board of Trustees, did not cost the residents of the association a single penny and will reduce the electric bills of their community. We are always thrilled to see initiatives that reduce the carbon footprint of Middletown which will help preserve its beauty for generations to come!

MIDDLETOWN EMS EXPLORERS SEEK NEW MEMBERS FOR HANDS-ON PROGRAM

2021 Middletown EMS Explorer Post Officers from left: Fiona Maguire (President), Emily Pedersen (Captain), Danny Burke (Lieutenant), Andrew Wrede (Vice President)

The Middletown EMS Explorer Post is a program jointly sponsored by the Township of Middletown EMS Department and the Boy Scouts of America. It is made up of teens ages 14-18. The program trains teenagers on how to assist on emergency medical calls. Once they are 16 years of age, they have the option of doing clinical hours on an ambulance responding to 9-1-1 EMS incidents, and access to classes needed to become a certified EMT.

While some of the explorers' activities were reduced due to the pandemic, they did manage to stay active in the program. Much like other programs, training continued online via Google Meet. Explorers eligible to ride on an ambulance were still given the opportunity to do so when the exposure risk was low. The explorers had a successful chocolate sale fundraiser to raise money for their program. President Fiona Maguire and Captain Emily Pedersen set up a service project with the Middletown High School South Key Club that gave the five volunteer EMS Squads of Middletown baked goods for their crews in the weeks surrounding the holiday season. Explorers Danny Burke, Sara Deuidicibus, Kasey Doughney, Chris Nolan, Emily Pedersen, and Tatum Sinopoli got their EMT certifications following completion of their EMT class despite test centers being closed.

The Explorers are always looking for new members. If you, or someone you know, would be interested in being a part of the program, contact explorers@middletownems.org or follow their instagram @middletown_ems_cadets.

MIDDLETOWN NAMED 17TH SAFEST TOWN IN NATION

Middletown Township has yet again been named one of the safest towns in the United States! The report, which was published by MoneyGeek, cites Middletown as one of the safest small cities in the nation based on the violent and property crime rates. Being ranked one of safest towns in the nation doesn't happen without the dedication and professionalism of the men and women of the Middletown Township Police Department. We thank them for their service to our town!

MIDDLETOWN EAGLES CHEERLEADERS SHOW SUPPORT FOR MTPD

This Fall, Middletown Eagles Cheer Commissioner Lauren Tiven and her 10U Cheer Team paid a visit to the Middletown Police Department to show their support. They did a cheer and dance and presented the officers with gift bags and blue carnations. They also had the opportunity to meet Mayor Tony Perry and Committeewoman Pat Snell. The event was a positive experience for all involved!

CONGRATS TO THE 2021 MIDDLETOWN FIRE & EMS CHIEFS!

2021 Fire Chiefs (pictured from left) Third Assistant Fire Chief Anthony Fulciniti, Second Assistant Bill Kane, First Assistant John Waltz, Deputy Chief Bernie Chenoweth and Chief John Friedmann stand with Mayor Tony Perry, Deputy Mayor Rick Hibell and Committee members Kevin Settembrino, Pat Snell and Ryan Clarke at Brevent Park Fire Company.

2021 EMS Deputy Chief Colleen Kelly and Chief Floyd Goldstein stand with Mayor Tony Perry, Deputy Mayor Rick Hibell and Committee members Pat Snell, Kevin Settembrino and Ryan Clarke after their swearing-in ceremony.

MIDDLETOWN FIRST RESPONDER SAVES FATHER'S LIFE IN MCDONALD'S PARKING LOT

This October, Bill Gardell, a Middletown volunteer firefighter and former member of Fairview First Aid, saved his father Dennis's life when he had a heart attack in the parking lot of McDonald's on Highway 35. "If he didn't immediately start performing CPR, his father likely would have not survived," said Middletown Emergency Medical Services Public Information Officer, Django Weigers. Emergency Medical Services volunteers from Lincroft, Fairview and Port Monmouth first aid squads arrived shortly after the 9-1-1 call and assisted with chest compressions and used a defibrillator to restart his heart. Hackensack Meridian Healthcare paramedics also arrived on the scene to help save Mr. Gardell's life.

Help Your Community, Become a Volunteer!

MEMBERS NEEDED!

OFFICE OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AUXILIARY POLICE

JOIN TODAY!

CALL: 732-615-2129

EMAIL: MTAP.RECRUITING@GMAIL.COM

MIDDLETOWN EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT SEEKS RESIDENTS TO VOLUNTEER FOR FIRST AID SQUADS

CALL 732-615-2252 OR EMAIL PUBLICINFO@MIDDLETOWNEMS.ORG TO LEARN MORE ABOUT THE SQUAD THAT SERVES YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD AND HOW TO VOLUNTEER. NO EXPERIENCE NECESSARY.

FACEBOOK.COM/MIDDLETOWNNJEMS

MIDDLETOWN VETERANS AFFAIRS COMMITTEE HONORS ALBERT T. BUCHHOP WITH STREET SIGN DEDICATION

Members of the Middletown Veterans Affairs Committee stand proudly with Mayor Tony Perry, the Middletown Township Committee, Assemblyman Gerry Scharfenberger, and the Buchhop family after their tribute and street sign dedication to WWII KIA Albert T. Buchhop.

In October, the Middletown Veterans Affairs Committee (VAC) held a fallen soldier commemorative street sign dedication ceremony at the intersection of Buchhop Lane and West Front Street (Hiddenwell Estates) in memory of Albert T. Buchhop who served in the U.S. Navy in World War II. Former VAC member Tom Garretson hosted the poignant ceremony that included a color guard and the playing of Taps. Mayor Tony Perry also said a few words regarding the importance of remembering our veterans' past sacrifices for future generations. Mr. Garretson then brought attention to the Buchhop family in attendance and gave credit to Albert Buchhop's niece, Lois Hammond, who reached out to the VAC on behalf of her uncle and began the process of the street sign renaming. The VAC also presented the Buchhop family with a Gold Star Families flag, which is bestowed upon family members of those who gave their life for our country during a time of conflict. As part of the Township's Fallen Veterans Commemorative Street Sign Program, more than 50 signs have been added township-wide to pay tribute to Middletown veterans who were killed in action from World War I to present. The commemorative sign includes the soldier's full name, an American flag, branch of service campaign served, and a gold star representing the gold star mother and family. The program is managed by the all-volunteer Veterans Affairs Committee with support from the Public Works Department.

20th Anniversary of 9/11

HELP MIDDLETOWN HEAL THROUGH HOPE

Donation Opportunities

MEMORIAL BRICKS

The walkway into our beautiful WTC Memorial Gardens will be lined with bricks bearing messages of support and tributes to loved ones lost or the families they left behind. Donate a brick inscribed with your personalized message. All bricks must be purchased by April 30th in order to be installed for the 20th anniversary remembrance ceremony.

$150

REMEMBRANCE YARD SIGNS

Let the families and survivors of 9/11 know that we as a community will never forget those lost by displaying a remembrance sign in your yard.

$40

$500

PERSONALIZED STREET BANNERS

Middletown will line Kings Highway and Church Street leading up to the memorial with beautiful remembrance banners. Add your business or family name to one of these banners to show your support and keep forever.

VISIT WWW.MIDDLETOWNREMEMBERS911.COM OR CALL 732-615-2287 FOR INFORMATION ABOUT HOW TO DONATE OR PLACE YOUR ORDER.

MIDDLETOWN WELCOMES NEW COMMANDING OFFICER OF NAVAL WEAPONS STATION EARLE

Pictured from left: Commanding Officer of Naval Weapons Station Earle Captain Ed Callahan, Mayor Tony Perry, Township Administrator Tony Mercantante, Community Plans and Liaison Officer Dennis Blazak, and Lieutenant Commander Jack Smock, Executive Officer, Naval Weapons Station Earle

Mayor Tony Perry and Township Administrator Tony Mercantante were invited to Naval Weapons Station Earle this December to meet the new Commanding Officer of the station, Captain Ed Callahan. The Naval station has been deeply rooted in Middletown's history since its original construction in 1944 where it played an integral part in World War II, providing the majority of ammunition used by the Allies for the invasion of Normandy.

It is important that leaders from both the Naval station and our Township continue to work together to best serve the town in an emergency. The meeting touched on the continuing projects happening in Middletown, including increasing the resiliency of our coastline for protection against future weather events.

WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH HOLDS FIELD OF FLAGS DEDICATION TO HONOR FALLEN VETERANS

Pictured from left: Deputy Mayor Rick Hibell, Assemblyman Gerry Scharfenberger, Air Force Veteran Daniel DeMotta, WPC Reverend Joseph Hein, Mayor Tony Perry, MTPD Police Chief Craig Weber and Township Committee members Pat Snell and Kevin Settembrino. Photo Credit: MTPD Detective Anthony Dellatacoma

In honor of Veterans Day, Westminster Presbyterian Church (WPC) held its annual Field of Flags ceremony on the church's Great Lawn (94 Tindall Road). The memorial displayed 7,002 flags to represent each serviceman or woman who lost their life in the conflicts in Iraq and Afghanistan in defense of our great nation. WPC's Field of Flags service is a poignant reminder of the true cost of the freedoms we enjoy today.

STRIDE & RIDE PAYS RESPECT TO 9/11 VICTIMS

FOR THE THIRD CONSECUTIVE YEAR, MIDDLETOWN WELCOMED THE GIVE2THOSE STRIDE & RIDE RELAY TACTICAL TEAM, WHICH INCLUDED A PROCESSION OF VEHICLES AND MOTORCYCLES, TO OUR WTC MEMORIAL GARDENS SO THEY COULD PAY THEIR RESPECTS.

THE RELAY, WHICH SPANS 911 MILES FROM BOSTON, MA TO ARLINGTON, VA IS HELD AT THE BEGINNING OF OCTOBER TO HONOR OUR MILITARY SERVICEMEN AND WOMEN WHO DEPLOYED OCTOBER 7, 2001.

THE ORGANIZATION PRESENTED MAYOR PERRY WITH A CUSTOM-MADE WOODEN FLAG PLAQUE TO HONOR THE 37 MIDDLETOWN RESIDENTS WHO PERISHED ON 9/11. THEIR NAMES WILL BE FOREVER ETCHED ON THIS PLAQUE MADE WITH "PURPLEHEART" LUMBER.

MIDDLETOWN CELEBRATES VFW POST 2179'S 75TH ANNIVERSARY!

On Saturday, November 14th, Mayor Tony Perry and Committeewoman Pat Snell stopped by Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 2179 in Port Monmouth to recognize its 75th anniversary. Our community is very fortunate to have such a committed, devoted, and respected organization supporting our veterans of all wars, their families, and those in need for the last 75 years.

Stormwater Pollution Prevention Program: A Guide to Healthy Habits for Cleaner Water

Nonpoint source pollution is a contamination of our groundwater, waterways, bays and ocean that results from everyday activities such as fertilizing the lawn, walking pets, changing motor oil, washing cars and littering. With each rainfall, pollutants generated by these activities are washed into storm drains that flow into our waterways and ocean. They also can soak into the ground and contaminate the groundwater below. The collective impact of nonpoint source pollution threatens aquatic and marine life, recreational water activities, the fishing industry, tourism and our precious drinking water resources.

Stormwater pollution is one of New Jersey's greatest threats to clean and plentiful water, and that's why we are asking for your help to do something about it. By sharing a portion of the responsibility and making small, easy changes in our daily lives, we can keep these common pollutants out of stormwater. It all adds up to cleaner water and it saves the high costs of clean-up once it becomes polluted.

As part of New Jersey's initiative to keep our water clean and plentiful, and to comply with federal requirements, the Township of Middletown has adopted ordinances to prohibit various activities that contribute to stormwater pollution, including ordinances regarding Pet Waste, Wildlife Feeding, Litter Control, Improper Disposal of Waste, Containerized Waste/Yard Waste Collection, Private Storm Drain Inlet Retrofitting and Illicit Connection.

Here are some ways you can help reduce nonpoint source pollution:

Place litter in trash receptacles. Place litter, including cigarette butts and fast food containers, in trash receptacles. Recycle, Recycle, Recycle!
Avoid overuse of fertilizers. Do a soil test to see if you need to add fertilizer. Avoid the overuse of fertilizers and do not apply them before a heavy rainfall. If you use fertilizers, follow the label directions carefully.
Use alternatives to pesticides. Many household products made to exterminate pests are toxic to humans, animals, aquatic organisms and plants. Follow the label directions carefully and use alternatives whenever possible.
Clean up after your pet. Animal wastes contain bacteria and viruses that can contaminate shellfish and cause the closing of bathing beaches. Pet owners or their keepers must pick up and properly dispose of pet waste dropped on public or other people's property. Dispose of wastes in the garbage or toilet.
Don't feed wildlife. Do not feed wildlife, such as ducks and geese, in public areas.
Dispose of yard waste properly. Keep leaves and grass out of storm drains. Use leaves and grass clippings as a resource for compost. Refer to our website, www.middletownnj.org, for the Township's rules, guidelines and schedule for leaf and brush collection.
Properly use and dispose of hazardous products. Many common household products contain toxic ingredients. Use natural and less toxic alternatives whenever possible. Do not pour any hazardous products down a storm drain because storm drains are usually connected to local water bodies.
Recycle used motor oil. Used motor oil contains toxic chemicals that are harmful to animals, humans and fish. Recycle all used motor oil by taking it to a local, public or private recycling center.
Wash your car only when necessary. Consider using a commercial car wash that recycles its wash water. If you wash your car at home, use a non-phosphate detergent.
Inspect your septic systems annually. An improperly working septic system can contaminate groundwater and create public health problems. Inspect your tank annually and pump it out every three to five years depending on its use.
Keep pollution out of storm drains. The Township has labeled and marked all storm drain inlets. Labels remind residents that these storm drains are connected to local waterways. Do not let sewerage or other wastes flow into a stormwater system.
Don't dump boat sewerage overboard. Dumping boat sewerage overboard introduces bacteria and viruses in the water. It may also be illegal. Boat owners should always use marine sanitation devices and pump-out facilities at marinas.

It is important to remember these easy things you can do to assist with restoring the health of our streams and environment. Please refer to Middletown Township Ordinance Chapter 423 & Chapter 540 for our adopted stormwater pollution ordinances. Additional stormwater related topics can be found at www.cleanwaternj.org and www.middletownnj.org.

Rehab Grants Available for Homeowners!

If you are a Middletown homeowner, you may be eligible for a home rehabilitation grant of up to $25,000 from the Township's Home Rehabilitation Program funded by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. This program is for low and moderate income households. Call (732) 615-2281 for more information.

Si usted es un dueño de casa de Middletown, usted puede ser elegible para una beca de rehabilitación de la casa de hasta $25.000 del programa de rehabilitación del hogar del municipio financiado por el Departamento de vivienda y desarrollo urbano de los Estados Unidos. Este programa es para hogares de bajos y moderados ingresos. Llame al (732) 615-2281.

2020 Household Income Limits

Household Size	Max. Gross Income
1 person	$54,950
2 people	$62,800
3 people	$70,650
4 people	$78,500
5 people	$84,800
6 people	$91,100
7 people	$97,350
8 people	$103,650

PORT MONMOUTH FLOOD CONTROL PROJECT UPDATE

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers completed utility upgrades in January, including the regrading and elevation of Highway 36. The final contracts of the project on the Compton Creek side could start as soon as the end of the year. Property surveys, appraisals, and easement acquisitions are underway to allow the construction of a floodwall & levee system along Highway 36, Creek Road, and Main Street. This will include the construction of a levee, floodwall, mitigation, Port Monmouth Road being raised, road closure gates on Broadway and Campbell Avenue, and a pumping station on Main Street across from Renfrew Place. Work is expected to resume by the end of the year and is scheduled to be completed by 2023.

For more information and updates, visit www.middletownnj.org/floodcontrolproject.

COVID-19 Resources

MIDDLETOWN'S COVID-19 LANDING PAGE: middletownnj.org/covid19. The page features community COVID-19 updates and resources.

MONMOUTH COUNTY COVID-19 INFORMATION CENTER: visitmonmouth.com (click COVID-19 and Vaccine Information from homepage). The Monmouth County Health Department COVID-19 Phone Bank is available from 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, by calling 732-845-2070.

NJ COVID-19 INFORMATION HUB: covid19.nj.gov. The hub features searchable resources and vaccine eligibility, scheduling, and location information.

MIDDLETOWN TOWNSHIP

COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTER
Visiting Nurse Association of Central Jersey

has partnered with the VNACJ to offer registration appointments to Middletown Seniors (ages 65+) for

COVID - 19 VACCINATIONS

VNACJ has secured a limited number of weekly vaccines that are dedicated to our senior community. Call **732-615-3228** or email **covid19@middletownnj.org** to make your pre-registration appointment!

Due to high volume and COVID-19 restrictions, walk-ins are not accepted.
Only those with an appointment will be assisted.

MIDDLETOWN MUNICIPAL ALLIANCE HOSTS 5K FUNDRAISER THIS AUGUST FOR OVERDOSE AWARENESS

MIDDLETOWN MUNICIPAL ALLIANCE

Overdose deaths have been on the rise for decades and has greatly impacted the Middletown community. In recognition and support of International Overdose Awareness Day on August 31st, the Middletown Municipal Alliance will be hosting a 5K fundraiser during the month of August that will have both virtual and in-person components.

The Middletown Municipal Alliance has been providing free prevention programs to the youth in our town for years, and they would like to keep it that way. We hope that you will support the Alliance so they can keep current programs in place, as well expand their offerings. For more information about the 5K fundraiser, program information, and other ways you can help, follow the Middletown Municipal Alliance on Facebook (Facebook.com/middletownmunicipalalliance) and Instagram (@middletownmunicipalalliance).

KNOW YOUR PROPERTY'S FLOOD RISK

Throughout Middletown, there are areas that are more high-risk flood areas than others. To find out whether you live in a flood-prone area, visit www.floodsmart.gov and click on Flood Maps and Zones (My Flood Zone) to access the Flood Map Service Center. You can search the flood map using your property's address.

If you are a homeowner in Middletown and interested in purchasing or renewing flood insurance policies, you may be eligible for a discount on your policy because Middletown participates in FEMA's Community Rating System (CRS). FEMA's CRS provides discounts for flood insurance premiums within and outside the Special Flood Hazard Area (SFHA), commonly known as the 100-year floodplain.

For more information about CRS and floodplain management, residents can contact the Middletown Building Department at 732-615-2104 during regular business hours, Monday-Friday between 8:00am to 4:00pm, and visit www.middletownnj.org/floodinsurance.

UPDATES FROM THE TOWNSHIP CLERK'S OFFICE

VOTER REGISTRATION: The voter registration deadline for the Primary is *Tuesday, May 18th*. Visit monmouthcountyvotes.com and click on "Voter Registration" to download and complete the form, or you can register to vote online. You can also fill out the registration at the Township Clerk's Office located at Town Hall (1 Kings Highway, Middletown).

VOTE BY MAIL: Any voter may apply for a Mail-In Ballot by Authorized Messenger. Messenger shall be a family member or a registered voter of this County. No Authorized Messenger can (1) be a Candidate in the election for which the voter is requesting a Mail-In Ballot or (2) serve as messenger for more than THREE qualified voters per election, except that an authorized messenger or bearer may serve as such for up to five qualified voters in an election if those voters are immediate family members residing in the same household as the messenger or bearer. You can get a Vote by Mail application by visiting monmouthcountyvotes.com and clicking on "Request a Ballot".

MIDDLETOWN NORTH HIGH SCHOOL HEROES RECEIVE LIFE SAVING VALOR AWARD

The Middletown Township Committee was honored to present five Middletown High School North freshmen with a Life Saving Valor Award at the virtual Township Committee meeting on January 19th. In December, these brave young men formed a human chain to rescue two children who had fallen into a frozen pond while sledding. Congratulations to Kieran Foley, Tyler Armagan, Ryan Day, Drew Scalice and Joseph Dietrich (not pictured) on their incredible act of heroism. We commend them for being role models and hope that their selfless actions will inspire fellow citizens to go above and beyond to help others.

Spring & Summer events at the MAC!

The Middletown Arts Center is here for you! Many new and exciting outdoor programs are planned, including in-person summer camps and concerts, as well as theatrical productions, gallery exhibits, and lots more enriching arts experiences.

Visit www.middletownarts.org for updates and information.

Middletown Arts Center

HELP THE MTPL CELEBRATE ITS 100TH ANNIVERSARY!

Middletown Township Public Library — Insight, Inspiration, Innovation — www.mtpl.org — 1921 · Celebrating 100 Years! · 2021

In March, Middletown Township Public Library (MTPL) kicked off its centennial year and National Endowment of the Arts Big Read with a virtual interview with Nathaniel Philbrick, author of New York Times Bestseller, "In the Heart of the Sea: The Tragedy of the Whaleship Essex". MTPL partnered with businesses, nonprofits, universities and storytellers to create virtual maritime-themed programs based on this book through the end of April.

MTPL will be hosting an event at the library (55 New Monmouth Road) on Friday, June 4th at 4PM to celebrate its 100th Anniversary! All are welcome and there will be activities for all ages! For more information on the 100th Anniversary, visit www.mtpl.org/centennial or follow MTPL on Facebook @ Middletown Township Public Library.

GET READY FOR SUMMER READING FUN AT THE LIBRARY!

Tails and Tales

Join the MTPL for a "Myths, Fables & Tall Tales" themed summer reading program for kids and teens. There will be activities, games and prizes. Sign-ups begin Monday, June 21st. For more information, visit www.mtpl.org.

UPCOMING SPRING & SUMMER EVENTS

Looking for something to do? Visit www.mtpl.org and click on Calendar to check out the library's activities and events.

National Night Out 2019

SAVE THE DATE FOR NATIONAL NIGHT OUT!

TUES, AUGUST 3RD, 2021

POLICE COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP

TOWNSHIP CUTS RIBBON ON NEWLY-RENOVATED CROYDON HALL GYM

Township officials were thrilled to cut the ribbon on the newly-renovated Croydon Hall Gymnasium (900 Leonardville Road) at the end of March. The new maple floor features the Township logo and is lined to provide for overlapping full-size basketball and volleyball courts as well as two additional short-sided basketball and volleyball courts. In addition to the new floor, the gym's roof was replaced, the interior was painted, and new bleachers that have adjustable seat areas along the lower row to provide ADA access when needed will be arriving in May. We are looking forward to wellness and sporting programs starting up again!

MIDDLETOWN RECREATION

345 Oak Hill Rd | 732-615-2260 | recreation@middletownnj.org | middletownnj.org/recreation

LIKE SHARE & FOLLOW @MIDDLETOWNREC

Middletown is excited to make our community a healthier place to live, work, and play with the **Mayor's Wellness Campaign**!

MAYOR'S WELLNESS CAMPAIGN | MAY - OCT 2021

FOR FULL DETAILS, SCHEDULE & REGISTRATION INFORMATION VISIT:
WWW.MIDDLETOWNNJ.ORG/WELLNESS

The Mayor's Wellness Campaign coordinates programs throughout the year that are designed to promote healthy activities and well-being in the Middletown community. The goal of this campaign is to increase opportunities for residents of all age groups, from youth to seniors, to participate in physical activity with a long-term goal of improving health.

Join us this year at our various activities around town and online to boost your health!

Kick off each month with "Wellness Wednesdays", held on the last Wednesday of each month, starting April 28th at 7:00pm.

Middletown Month is back this year with a full schedule of activities both in-person and online. Be sure to mark your calendar!

MIDDLETOWN MONTH 2021 | SEPT 1-30

FOR THE CALENDAR OF EVENTS & SCHEDULE INFORMATION VISIT:
WWW.MIDDLETOWNNJ.ORG/MIDDLETOWNDAY

Our annual fall festival will be transformed into a month-long event, **Middletown Month**, that will be full of both virtual and in-person activities.

During the month of September, we will be hosting live musical entertainment and movie nights, as well as shows and activities for kids and families!

Sponsorship opportunities will be available, please visit the Middletown Month website for more information.

MIDDLETOWN RECREATION

LIKE SHARE & FOLLOW @MIDDLETOWNREC

345 Oak Hill Rd | 732-615-2260 | recreation@middletownnj.org | middletownnj.org/recreation

DID YOU KNOW?

Middletown Preschool is holding in-person classes for the 2021-2022 school year!

3 Year Old & 4 Year Old Classes

Monday - Thursday
9:00am - 12:00pm

Tonya Keller Community Center
50 Bray Ave, Middletown

Contact us to learn more about our rolling enrollment, class availability and tuition fees.
www.middletownnj.org/preschool || 732-615-2260 || recreation@middletownnj.org

PORICY *programming*

MIDDLETOWN RECREATION

TO REGISTER, VISIT WWW.MIDDLETOWNNJ.ORG/SIGNUP

Community Fossil Hunts | **Poricy Park Fossil Beds**
$5.00 (R)
Ages 5 - Adult
Wednesdays | April 14, May 12, June 9, July 14, August 11, September 8, October 13 | 4:00p-5:00p
Sundays | April 25, May 23, June 27, July 25, August 29 | 11:00am – 12:00pm
Pre-registration required

Pond Netting at Poricy Park | **Poricy Park Nature Center**
$5.00 (R)
Fridays (Pre-K) | April 23, May 21, June 18 | 10:00am-11:00am
Wednesdays (K-5) | April 28, May 26, June 23, July 28, August 25, September 22 | 4:00pm-5:00pm
Pre-registration required

Spring Observation Walks / Wonder Walks | **Poricy Park Nature Center**
$25.00 (6-sessions plus blank journal)
$5.00 (drop-in fee)
Adults, 18+
Tuesdays | April 6, April 20, May 4, May 18, June 1, June 15 | 9:00am-10:00am
Pre-registration required

FUN FOR SCOUTS

PROGRAMS BOOKED BY APPOINTMENT, CALL 732-615-2239

Guided Programs

$90.00 (NR $108.00) for first 8 scouts, $8.00 (NR $10.00) per additional child

90 minute programs
- Fossil Hunts
- Geocaching Challenge Course
- Pond Netting
- Farmhouse Tours

Badge Specific Programs

$90.00 (NR $108.00) for first 8 scouts, $8.00 (NR $10.00) per additional child
- Daisy: Eco Trekker
- Brownie: Bugs
- Junior: Animal Habitats
- Tiger: My Tiger Jungle
- Wolf: Finding Your Way
- Bear: Fur, Feathers, and Ferns
- Webelos: Earth Rocks

Guided Hikes

$5.00 (NR $6.00) per child, max 15 total children
30-45 minutes program A variety of topics available

Stop by the Poricy Park Nature Center to rent supplies and take the challenge!

Supplies are available to rent during business hours only.

Monday - Friday | 9:00am - 4:00pm
$5 per set rental*

(set includes one Garmin GPS Device and lanyards)

*A credit card and a valid driver's license in the name of the renter will be required at the time of rental.

Questions: 732-615-2239

Seasonal Surprises

WWW.MIDDLETOWNNJ.ORG/SIGNUP

LET'S CONNECT! ACTIVITIES CAN BE DONE VIRTUALLY ONLINE OR IN-PERSON

AN ACTIVITY BAG FOR MIDDLETOWN SENIORS FULL OF

OLD FASHIONED FUN

*IN-PERSON, OUTDOOR SESSIONS HAVE LIMITED SPACES AND WILL BE AVAILABLE BY SIGN-UP ON A FIRST COME, FIRST SERVED BASIS.

If you are interested in becoming a member of the Center you must be age 60 or older. Middletown residents receive a complimentary membership, while non-residents may become a member for a small fee. Please call **732-615-2265** for information or email **kdavis@middletownnj.org.**

Mondays
9:15AM - MOVE TO THE GROOVE
11:00AM - BOOK CLUB

Tuesdays
10:15AM - FITNESS AND MOBILITY
2:00PM - GAMES WITH FRIENDS

Wednesdays
9:15AM - GENTLE STRENGTH
11:00AM - MIXED MEDIA ART

Thursdays
10:15AM - CHAIR YOGA
2:00PM - BINGO OR TRIVIA

Fridays
9:30AM - STRENGTH WITH KOURTNEY

- ***PAINT & SIP CLASSES OFFERED ONCE A MONTH***
- ***MONTHLY COMPLIMENTARY GRAB & GO LUNCHES FOR RESIDENTS WHO ARE REGISTERED MEMBERS.***

To make sure you receive weekly updates of all current and new event offerings, and information on when the Center will re-open, please make sure the Senior Center has your email address.

COMMUNITY EVENTS

THINGS TO LOOK FORWARD TO...
www.middletownnj.org/events
recreation@middletownnj.org
To register for events, visit: www.middletownnj.org/signup

MOTHER-SON CORNHOLE TOURNAMENT

Friday, April 30 | 4:30pm
Croydon Hall Fields
Grades K– 5
$40.00 per pair, $15.00 each additional child (R)

DADDY-DAUGHTER DAY

Friday, June 4 | 6:00 – 7:30pm
Poricy Park, Nature Center Lawn
Grades K–5
$50.00 per pair, $20.00 each additional child (R)

TOWN WIDE GARAGE SALE

May 15 & 16 | 8:30am - 4:00pm | Middletown Township
Fee: $8.00 per household | Pre-registration required
Fee includes lawn sign and items featured on webpage to advertise.

MOVIES IN THE PARK

Thursdays | June 24, July 22, August 26 | Sunset | $5.00 per family
6/24: Poricy Park - Nature Center Lawn, 7/22: Croydon Hall Lawn,
8/26: Middletown Arts Center - Lawn

COMING SOON

Nintendo Switch Mario Kart Challenge: Dust off your karts and practice your racing skills! Middletown Recreation challenges you in a race! Racers will be divided by grade and skill level. Adult groups will be available, too!

Online Scavenger Hunts: Special hunt codes will be posted on our website and social media pages, so be on the lookout! Download the Scavify app and get ready to join the fun!

MIDDLETOWN TOWNSHIP
PUBLIC WORKS & ENGINEERING

SPRING 2021 BRUSH COLLECTION SCHEDULE

*COLLECTION START DATES ARE APPROXIMATE AND WEATHER DEPENDENT.

COLLECTION ZONES	START DATE
C	MARCH 22
D	MARCH 22
A	MARCH 29
B	MARCH 29
I	APRIL 5
J	APRIL 12

COLLECTION ZONES	START DATE
K	APRIL 19
L	APRIL 26
E	MAY 3
G	MAY 10
F	MAY 17
H	MAY 24

MAXIMUM VOLUME OF BRUSH PILE: 4 CUBIC YARDS (2'WX3'HX18'L). MAXIMUM LIMB LENGTH: 3'

RESIDENTS MAY BRING BRUSH AND LEAVES TO THE MIDDLETOWN RECYCLING CENTER (52 KANES LANE) FREE OF CHARGE. BRUSH IS ACCEPTED YEAR ROUND AND LEAVES CAN BE DROPPED OFF BETWEEN NOVEMBER 1ST- JUNE 1ST. BRUSH AND LEAF DROP-OFF BY LANDSCAPERS IS CURRENTLY SUSPENDED.

VISIT WWW.MIDDLETOWNNJ.ORG/COLLECTION FOR MORE INFORMATION.

MIDDLETOWN RECEIVES RECYCLING AWARD FROM THE NJ DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

Pictured from left: Recycling Assistant Supervisor Joe Puzzo, Recycling & Clean Communities Division Head Amy Sarrinikolaou, Mayor Tony Perry, Public Works Director Ted Maloney and Deputy Public Works Director Lory Hubbard

In November, Mayor Tony Perry and members of Middletown Department of Public Works & Engineering participated in a virtual ceremony to accept the Recycling Award from the Department of Environmental Protection in the Government category for increasing its recycling rate from 65% to 75% throughout town. This was accomplished through single-stream curbside recycling, the two recycling centers in town, which offer a convenient way to recycle a variety of materials, the new leaf compost recycling initiative, as well as being the only town in the State of New Jersey to recycle Styrofoam/polystyrene. Congratulations to the recycling education team and our community for improving our recycling efforts to keep Middletown beautiful for future generations!

THE MIDDLETOWN DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS IS SEEKING

SEASONAL WORKERS

ROAD MAINTENANCE
PARK MAINTENANCE
BUILDING MAINTENANCE
FLEET MAINTENANCE
RECYCLING & CLEAN COMMUNITIES

VISIT WWW. MIDDLETOWNNJ.ORG/JOBS FOR MORE INFORMATION.

DOWNLOAD

recycle coach

FOR UPDATES SENT VIA TEXT OR EMAIL INCLUDING:

- ✓ PERSONALIZED COLLECTION CALENDARS
- ✓ EMERGENCY COLLECTION NOTIFICATIONS
- ✓ WHAT GOES WHERE LOOK-UP TOOL

VISIT

WWW.MIDDLETOWNNJ.ORG/RECYCLECOACHAPP

TO DOWNLOAD ON APPLE OR ANDROID DEVICES

NEED WOOD MULCH?

Mulch delivery is available for residents. Visit www.middletownnj.org/mulch or call 732-615-2109 for more information.