

FALL 2022



MIDDLETOWN MATTERS

Message from Mayor Tony Perry

Bayshore Waterfront Park - Photo by Ashley Lauren



Over the last four years, I have been honored to serve as your mayor. An important aspect of this role, and one that I see as a duty, has been to step up and speak out on issues that impact the residents of Middletown. Public safety has always been the number one priority for the Township Committee. For months, we have worked collaboratively with our Police Chief Craig Weber and Monmouth County Sheriff Shaun Golden to help curb the auto theft wave that has struck Middletown and other municipalities across the state. Unfortunately, New Jersey's failed bail reform policies have created this lack of law and order. As a result, we have increased patrols in targeted areas in town. Since 2020, Middletown has been the only municipality in Monmouth County to have an officer assigned full-time to the State Police Auto-Theft Task Force. We are also working with surrounding towns to ensure that our law enforcement agencies are working together.

The Township Committee and I also continue to focus on completing several important projects over the next year. Our Public Works crews are finalizing some of the structural improvements to the Conover Beacon in Leonardo and it is expected to be painted early next year. The restoration of this historic beacon has been years in the making and we cannot wait to see it once again shine on our shores. Our Veterans Housing project on Leonardville Road is awaiting final environmental approvals from the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection. Once approved, the Township can begin construction. While all the plans are complete, we eagerly anticipate clearance to complete this amazing project.



We are also very excited about the improvements planned for Kunkel, Tindall, and McMahon Parks. At Kunkel Park, the construction of a new skate park will be a tremendous reuse of the old roller rink. Tindall Park will soon become home to the township's first dog park and will provide dogs of all sizes a safe and secure spot to enjoy. Additionally, Middletown was awarded an open space grant and will be building pickleball courts at McMahon Park as the first phase of its renovations. Finally, I want to update everyone about the progress at Town Hall. As many of you have seen, the old Town Hall buildings have been demolished, and while it is bittersweet, the amenities of our new building provide us the ability to better serve our community. The remaining departments at the Croydon Hall municipal building (900 Leonardville Road), Finance and Building/Construction, are expected to transition to the new building when the parking lot is completed toward the end of the year.



In addition to moving forward with projects, the Township Committee and I are always proud to support our first responders. We recently celebrated 100th anniversaries for both Port Monmouth and Community Fire Companies and held a dedication at Middletown Day for Leonardo First Aid Squad's new ambulance. We thank them for their unwavering commitment to our residents.

I wish you all a happy and healthy holiday season and look forward to seeing everyone around town!

T. Perry

The Middletown Veterans Affairs Committee is now accepting nominations for the

2022 VETERAN OF THE YEAR

All nominations must be received no later than Friday, November 11th.

The inaugural Veteran of the Year award will recognize a Middletown resident who has distinguished themselves through outstanding service to the community.

The Middletown Veterans Affairs Committee (VAC) will review and select the veteran to be honored by the Mayor and Township Committee at a public meeting for their continued willingness to serve their neighbors and community with acts of selfless service.

Visit www.middletownnj.org/voty for nomination guidelines and forms. Nomination forms can be mailed to Middletown Veterans Affairs Committee, C/O Mayor's Office, 1 Kings Highway, Middletown, NJ 07748 or emailed to mayorsoffice@middletownnj.org.

TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE 2022



Front row from left:
Mayor Tony Perry, Deputy Mayor Rick Hibell
Back row from left:
Committee members Kimberly Kratz,
Ryan M. Clarke, and Kevin M Settembrino

TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE MEETING OFFICIALS

Anthony Mercantante, P.P, AICP,
Township Administrator
James VanNest, Assistant Township Administrator
Heidi R. Brunt, RMC, CPM, Township Clerk
Colleen Lapp, Chief Financial Officer
Ted Maloney, Township Engineer

MIDDLETOWN MATTERS CREDITS

Tara Berson, Editor
Raven Rentas, Assistant Editor
Jessi Lynn Ticino, Graphic Designer
Jersey Printing, Printer

Send comments and suggestions to:
middletownmatters@middletownnj.org or
Town Hall, 1 Kings Highway, Middletown NJ, 07748

ELECTION BALLOT BOXES ARE AVAILABLE AT THE FOLLOWING LOCATIONS:

- ☒ MIDDLETOWN TOWNSHIP PUBLIC LIBRARY
(55 NEW MONMOUTH ROAD)
- ☒ CROYDON HALL MUNICIPAL COMPLEX
(900 LEONARDVILLE ROAD)

GENERAL ELECTION & EARLY VOTING

The upcoming General Election is on Tues., 11/8 from 6am-8pm at your designated polling place (check the sample ballot you received in the mail for location).

The deadline to register to vote was Tues., 10/18. If you have not already registered, you can do so online at voter.svrs.nj.gov/register or by visiting monmouthcountyvotes.com to download and complete the NJ Voter Registration Form. You can mail the form to Mary DeSarno, Monmouth County Superintendent of Elections, 300 Halls Mill Rd., Freehold, NJ 07728 or drop it off during normal business hours (8:30am-4:30pm) at the Clerk's Office at Town Hall (1 Kings Highway).

Early voting begins Sat. 10/29-Sun., 11/6. Vote locally at Croydon Hall Gymnasium (900 Leonardville Rd., Leonardo). Hours will be Mon.-Sat., 10am-8pm and Sun., 10am-6pm. Visit monmouthcountyvotes.com for additional sites if needed. If you have any questions, please contact the Clerk's Office at 732-615-2014 or townclerk@middletownnj.org.

MIDDLETOWN REMEMBERS 21ST ANNIVERSARY OF 9/11 WITH SILENT MEMORIAL SERVICE

On Sunday, September 11th, Middletown Township held a silent memorial service at the Middletown World Trade Center Memorial Gardens to honor the 37 residents we lost 21 years ago. Hundreds of people, including 9/11 victims' loved ones, Township Committee members, local dignitaries, first responders, veterans, and community members stood in the pouring rain to attend the service.

"Despite the rain, our community came out in droves to support our annual memorial service, which is a testament to how we continue to uphold our vow to never forget," said Mayor Tony Perry. "The addition of our very own Survivor Tree at the memorial is also a reminder of resilience and hope as we continue to move forward."

The Middletown Survivor Tree made its first public appearance at the ceremony, which was graciously donated to the Township by the New York City Department of Parks & Recreation (NYC Parks) in May. It is a descendant of the 9/11 Memorial Survivor Tree, a Gallery pear tree that endured the World Trade Center terror attacks in 2001. Due to how damaged the Survivor Tree was, very few clones exist from its cuttings.

Our tree is the first clone produced from a cutting of the original that NYC Parks gave to a municipality outside of New York City. May it continue to be a living tribute to our strength as a community.



ACCELERATED TAX SALE: DECEMBER 21, 2022

In New Jersey, all municipalities are required to hold at least one Tax Sale per year. The 2022 Accelerated Tax Sale for the Township of Middletown will be an ELECTRONIC TAX SALE held on Wednesday, December 21st for DELINQUENT TAXES AND SEWER.

Delinquent sewer charges will be sold this year. If your sewer account is delinquent, you are strongly urged to contact the Sewer Authority at 732-495-1010 to bring your account current. These delinquent charges will be sold this year unless you are in an agreed payment plan with the Sewer Authority or a utility assistance program with the state. These delinquent sewer charges can place a lien against your property.

All properties sold at Tax Sale are for delinquent municipal charges for the tax year 2022 and prior years. State law regarding the New Jersey Tax Sale process can be found in New Jersey statute: N.J.S.A. 54:5-19. New Jersey statutes can be found at the state's library or at njleg.state.nj.us. Please note the Tax Sale process will begin automatically on November 11th and per this process, delinquencies will be subject to a 2% cost of sale (minimum \$15 but no more than \$100). In addition, delinquencies will be subject to a mailing fee of \$25 for each mailing. Two mailings are scheduled for this process. THESE FEES ARE REQUIRED AS PART OF THE TAX SALE PROCESS AND CANNOT BE WAIVED.

ALL payments received after November 10th for property taxes MUST be made using guaranteed funds: attorney trust check, title company check, cashier's check, cash and/or money order to remove the property from the Tax Sale process. Any other form of payment WILL NOT be accepted. All other checks — online, personal, and business — WILL be returned. In addition, the credit card/ACH payment options WILL NOT be available after 4pm, November 10, 2022, for anyone in the Tax Sale process.

If you have any questions, please feel free to reach out to the Tax Department at 732-615-2086.

PROPERTY TAX RELIEF PROGRAMS AND ASSESSMENT APPEAL DEADLINES

Visit middletownnj.org/taxcollection and click on Tax Relief Programs for information about the Senior Freeze and ANCHOR (replacing Homestead Benefit) programs.

Application Deadlines

Senior Freeze: Mon., 10/31. Questions? Call the Senior Freeze Hotline at 1-800-882-6597.
ANCHOR: Fri., 12/30. Automated telephone filing is available 24/7 at 1-877-658-2972.

Property Tax Assessment Appeal

You will receive a postcard on or before 11/15 detailing the assessed value for the new year. If you do not believe the assessed value is accurate, you may file an appeal by 1/15. Instructions are on the back of the postcard, but you can also visit secure.njappealonline.com.

TOWNSHIP DIRECTORY

Police, Fire & Rescue Emergencies	9-1-1
ALL NUMBERS BEGIN WITH THE 732 AREA CODE.	
Police Department Non-Emergency	615-2100
Municipal Offices	
Main Number	615-2000
Animal Control (Monday - Friday, 8am-5pm)	615-2097
Animal Control (holidays, nights & weekends)	615-2100
Building & Inspections	615-2106
Communications	615-3226
Community Development	615-2281
Court Administrator	615-2036
Code Enforcement	615-2106
Crossroads (substance use 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 & Engineering/ Recycling	615-2090
Recreation	615-2260
Senior Center	615-2265
Social Services	615-2085
Tax Assessor	615-2089
Tax Collector	615-2086
Township Administrator	615-2013
Township Engineer	615-2110
Township Clerk (elections, permits, marriage/birth/death records, parking permits, passport services, voter registration, Twp. Committee agenda)	615-2015
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	
Middletown NJ Town Hall	
middletown.township	middletownnj
Middletown Township NJ	middletown.nj
If you would like to contact the Township Committee, please email the Mayor's Office at mayorsoffice@middletownnj.org .	



MIDDLETOWN TOWNSHIP EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Looking for a job? If you are interested in working for the Township of Middletown, please visit www.middletownnj.org/jobs to view our available job listings and to download an application.

APPLY
NOW

MAYOR TONY PERRY AND COUNTY COMMISSIONER DIRECTOR TOM ARNONE HOST ANNUAL MIDDLETOWN SMALL BUSINESS ROUNDTABLE



Mayor Perry discusses how government and businesses can work better together.

In May, Mayor Tony Perry and Monmouth County Commissioner Director Tom Arnone hosted their annual Small Business Roundtable in the Training Room of the new Town Hall. They provided advice and information to all the small-business owners in attendance, with the help of guest speakers Monmouth County Commissioner Nick DiRocco, Director of the Monmouth and Ocean County Small Business Development Center Dr. Jackeline Mejias-Fuertes, and Eastern Monmouth Area Chamber of Commerce Executive Director Jennifer Eckhoff.

MIDDLETOWN WELCOMES NEW AND RETURNING BUSINESSES!

- CHARLIE'S OF LINCROFT (700 NEWMAN SPRINGS ROAD)
- FLOATOPIA (269 ROUTE 35)
- FROZEN FLAVORS (490 PALMER AVENUE)
- NJBCA ANNE'S THRIFT SHOP (18 BURLINGTON AVENUE)
- OCTOPUS MUSIC SCHOOL (1009 CHESTNUT STREET)



Charlie's of Lincroft Grand Opening

Middletown Manners

HOW TO BE A MINDFUL COMMUNITY MEMBER

Middletown is a great town made up of many different neighborhoods with unique charm. The township is comprised of families that have lived here for generations, as well as new residents who are becoming part of our community. To enjoy the benefits that come with living in one of the best towns to live, work, and raise a family, we all need to do our part to be respectful of our fellow neighbors. Below are a few tips to help you maintain positive interactions:

Be mindful of noise. It probably isn't in your best interest to throw a backyard bash that runs into the wee hours of the night. Ensure your music isn't blaring and bright lights aren't directed into your neighbor's window. Visit www.middletownnj.org/ordinances to review our local codes. For example, Middletown prohibits noise, such as fireworks and loud music, from 10pm-7am.

Avoid short-term rentals. Don't rent your home or pool for a short period of time. Middletown does NOT permit rentals through third party services such as Airbnb or VRBO.

Don't double park. Parking on the roadside of a vehicle that is already parked is against state law. This can become especially dangerous when people are driving down the road and not expecting your vehicle to be in the way.

PARKS & FACILITIES UPGRADES REPORT

IN PROGRESS

ADA Transition Plan Making parking and park amenities ADA accessible at all Township facilities. Improvements were recently completed at the Middletown Recycling Center, Middletown Animal Shelter, Applebrook Park, Fairview Fields, Ideal Beach, and Shorecrest Park. Future improvements are planned at Poricy Park, Lincroft Acres Park, and several other facilities; funded by capital

Conover Beacon (Leonardo) DPW & Engineering has replaced rusted structural members and metal decking, and is working on repairing structures and painting it; funded by capital

Croydon Hall Ballfield 3 Infield Restoration (Leonardville Rd.) Sod will be replaced after fall; funded by capital

Dempsey House (Hamilton Ave.) Working with Hunter Research to apply this property to the New Jersey Register of Historic Places; funded by a grant

Kunkel Skatepark (Brevent Ave.) Waiting to hear from NJDEP about a few items and working with JIF to approve the design; funded by capital

Library Walk at Poricy Park (Oak Hill Rd.) Working to install a library walk; funded by a grant

Lincroft Acres Playground (Orchard Hill Rd.) Design was finalized and the Township is working with NJDEP for final approval; funded by a grant

McMahon Playground (Atlantic Ave.) Preliminary design is finished and the Township is waiting on the overall park design, which is tied into other renovations, to make this one complete project; funded by capital

Normandy Turf Field (Orchard Hill Rd.) Replacing dead plants, removing sediment, and improving drainage; funded by a grant

Nut Swamp Turf Field (Nutswamp Rd.) Beautifying the field with trees and landscaping; funded by capital

Park PASIs Working with consultants to complete site investigations and further analysis of areas of concern identified in the Preliminary Assessment/Site Investigations (PASIs) for various parks; funded by a grant

Tindall Dog Park (Tindall Rd.) Awarded construction contract. Work will include construction of a dog park (fencing, sod, and park amenities) and reconstruction of the parking lot adjacent to the dog park. Active construction is expected to begin in the spring; funded by a grant and capital

Tonya Keller Community Center (Bray Ave.) Adding new floor in parts of the first floor, removing old AC units, patching the stucco siding, and adding two smart boards for the preschool program; funded by a grant

UPCOMING

McMahon Park Pickleball Courts (Atlantic Ave.) Currently in the design phase for the pickleball courts, as well as a comprehensive park improvement plan which will include renovations to the Field House, ADA improvements, and new accessible paths to connect the various amenities throughout the park; funded by a grant

Murray Farmhouse (Oak Hill Rd.) Roof and windows will be replaced; funded by capital

Poricy Park Watershed Improvements (Oak Hill Rd.) All wooden docks, bridges, and walkways at both the park and Poricy Brook Fossil Beds will be replaced; funded by a grant

Tindall Park Basketball and Tennis Courts (Oak Hill Rd.) Currently in the design phase; funded by a grant

COMPLETED

Hillside Basketball Court (Chestnut Ave.) Basketball court was resurfaced; funded by DPW

Tonya Keller Community Center Basketball Court (Bray Ave.) Basketball court has been resurfaced and repainted, a failing drainage pipe was replaced, several children's games were painted onto the playing surface, and new basketball hoops, benches, and trees were installed; funded by a grant

Community Corner

Middletown South 9U Travel Basketball Team Wins Mid-Monmouth League Championship



In April, Mayor Tony Perry and the Township Committee recognized the Middletown South 9U Travel Basketball team for its 15-0 season and winning the Mid-Monmouth League Championship.

Mayor Tony Perry gave kudos to Middletown South 9U Travel Basketball Head Coach Ron Borys and his players for representing our town so well. Not pictured: Assistant Coach Chris Eibeler

TOWNSHIP CELEBRATES HIGH SCHOOL NORTH HOCKEY TEAM'S SHORE CONFERENCE CHAMPIONSHIP

Mayor Tony Perry and the Township Committee were thrilled to present congratulatory certificates to the Middletown High School North Ice Hockey Team for its recent Shore Conference Championship where the team brought home the Handchen Cup title. In addition to this incredible victory, the team won the NJSIAA Public B Finals.



Mayor Perry stands with hockey champions and coaches in the courtroom at Town Hall.

RESIDENT COMPLETES TWO 100-MILE RACES

In September, resident Andrew Messina was recognized for running TWO 100-mile races in ONE summer! He was the only person from New Jersey to complete both the Western States Endurance Run and the Ultra-Trail du Mont-Blanc (UTMB) this year.



Running champ Andrew Messina poses with Mayor Tony Perry and shows off three prized possessions: his finisher belt from the Western States Endurance Run, vest from the UTMB, and certificate of achievement from Middletown!

Township Committee Recognizes Special Forces Cheer Team

In May, the Township Committee presented congratulatory certificates to members of the Special Forces Cheer Team who made history by winning the 2022 World Cheerleading Championship in the Cheerabilities Elite Division.

Committeewoman Kimberly Kratz and Mayor Tony Perry pose with Special Forces coach Brooke Palle and her amazing team!



TOWNSHIP OF MIDDLETOWN DONATES LAND TO HABITAT FOR HUMANITY



In June, Mayor Tony Perry and Township Administrator Tony Mercantante were honored to visit Monmouth County Habitat for Humanity's 61st site (27-29 Ideal Ave.), which was donated by Middletown. Nonprofit Catholic Daughters of the Americas was also there to present Habitat for Humanity with a \$50,000 check.

Mayor Tony Perry and Township Administrator Tony Mercantante visit the site with members of Habitat for Humanity and Catholic Daughters of the Americas.

CONGRATULATIONS TO MIDDLETOWN'S MAYORS FOR A DAY!



Mayor Tony Perry and the Township Committee brought back the Mayor for a Day tradition this year!

In May, eight elementary students from different schools came to the new Police Station and Town Hall where they were able to take photos with Mayor Perry in front of an American flag and first responder vehicles. The mayors then visited the Mayor's Conference Room, where they enjoyed pizza and discussed the importance of being mayor as well as what laws they would like to make in town. Each young mayor then visited the Mayor's Office where they signed their Mayor for a Day certificate and a proclamation recognizing May 30, 2022 as Memorial Day in the Township of Middletown.

Police Chief Craig Weber then gave the mayors a tour of the new jail cells and led them to the courtroom where Mayor Perry performed each mayor's Oath of Office. This was followed by a mock Township Committee meeting that included the Pledge of Allegiance, reading a proclamation for the record, and the opportunity for the mayors to make any comments to the public.

MIDDLETOWN DONATES PLAQUE TO CEDAR VIEW CEMETERY

Mayor Tony Perry, Committeeman Ryan Clarke, Police Chief Craig Weber, and elected officials were honored to join Friends of Cedar View at its Memorial Day ceremony to unveil the Cedar View Cemetery plaque.

Friends of Cedar View is a local nonprofit that is responsible for helping restore Cedar View Cemetery in Lincroft, which is the final resting place of Black Civil War veterans. Middletown is proud to play a role in preserving this site's history and honoring the heroes who are buried there.



Pictured from left: Committeeman Ryan Clarke, Monmouth County Commander Mary Jo Burkhard, Assemblywoman Vicky Flynn, Friends of Cedar View President John Smack, Friends of Cedar View Trustee Inice Hennessy, Assemblyman Gerry Scharfenberger, Mayor Tony Perry, MTPD Chief Craig Weber, Monmouth County Surrogate Maureen Raisch, and Friends of Cedar View Trustee Rick Geffen

Township Committee and BOE Host Luncheon to Thank School Nurses in Honor of School Nurse Day



Mayor Perry and members of MTPS administration and BOE proudly stand with school nurses.

Wednesday, May 11th was National School Nurse Day! As a token of appreciation, Mayor Tony Perry and the Middletown Board of Education (BOE) provided refreshments to school nurses in the Middletown Township Public School (MTPS) District. Members of MTPS administration also attended to show their support.

Mayor Perry presented each nurse with a certificate of appreciation, signed a proclamation recognizing this special occasion in Middletown, and thanked them for all their work toward ensuring the health and wellbeing of our youngest residents, especially throughout the COVID-19 pandemic.

MIDDLETOWN HS NORTH'S BASEBALL TEAM IS STATE CHAMP!



The Township Committee celebrated Middletown High School North's baseball team for winning its FIRST state championship in the school's 109 years of history at a meeting in August.

Mayor Perry applauds Middletown North baseball coaches, players, and the parents who support them on their championship win.

MIDDLETOWN HS NORTH'S BOYS TRACK & FIELD TEAM WINS STATE SECTIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP

In July, the Township Committee presented congratulatory certificates to Middletown High School North's Boys Track and Field team for winning a state sectional championship!

Mayor Perry congratulates Middletown North Boys Track and Field Assistant Coach Kim Papa and some athletes from the team.





Middletown Officials Participate in NWS Earle's 9/11 Remembrance Run

Mayor Tony Perry and Middletown Township Police Chiefs Craig Weber, Paul Bailey, and John Kaiser joined U.S. Naval Weapons Station (NWS) Earle for the base's inaugural 9/11 Remembrance Run. The run/walk spanned a course of approximately two miles with the New York City skyline in the background.

Help Your Community, Become a Volunteer!



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/MIDDLETOWNJEMS



LINCROFT FIRE COMPANY CELEBRATES NEW ENGINE

In July, Mayor Tony Perry, Committeeman and Ex-Fire Chief Ryan Clarke, and family and friends joined Lincroft Fire Company at a dedication ceremony for the company's new fire truck, Engine 201. MTFD Chaplain Derrick Doherty blessed the fire truck before Mayor Perry and Lincroft Fire Company President Bill Verange christened the vehicle with champagne.



Fun fact: Engine 201 weighs 49,000 pounds and is 34 feet long!

Celeb Chef Guy Fieri Receives Key to the Township at Feeding Our Heroes Event



In April, the Middletown Township Committee presented celebrity chef Guy Fieri with a Key to the Township. The Guy Fieri Foundation partnered with local businesses to feed 400 veterans and their loved ones at VFW Post 2179 in Port Monmouth. Several NFL alumni and Commander Frank Cannon were also in attendance.

Pictured from left: Committeeman Ryan Clarke, Mayor Tony Perry, Deputy Mayor Rick Hibell, Guy Fieri, Committeewoman Kimberly Kratz, and Committeeman Kevin Settembrino

MTFD Welcomes Swift Water Operations Team Members



The Middletown Township Fire Department's (MTFD) Swift Water Operations Team gained 11 members this spring. These volunteers completed a 16-hour training and are ready at a moment's notice to safely rescue victims in hazardous conditions such as flooding disasters.

Pictured from left: Charlie Graham, Kevin Kane, Christopher Kane, John Moreno, Scott Lorensen, Mike Glynn, Instructor Dan Bestwick, Brian Kost, Ex-Chief John Friedmann, Matt Deickmann, 1st Asst. Chief Bill Kane Jr., and Thomas Kane. Not pictured: Instructor Kevin Morrissey

MTFD VOLUNTEER THOMAS SOMERVILLE AWARDED KEY TO TOWNSHIP FOR 50 YEARS OF SERVICE

The Township Committee recently recognized Middletown Fire Company #1 volunteer Thomas P. Somerville for 50 years of service with a certificate and Key to the Township. Thomas has received multiple lifesaving awards and has earned the title of Top Responder for many years. A true leader, he is a founding member of several divisions within the MTFD and has shown admirable dedication and volunteerism.



Pictured from left: Committeeman and Ex-Fire Chief Ryan Clarke, Mayor Tony Perry, Middletown Fire Company #1 Ex-Captain and Life Member Frederick Gorseger, Key to the Township recipient Thomas P. Somerville, MTFD Fire Chief Bernard Chenoweth III, MTFD Third Assistant Chief Daniel P. Kelly, and Deputy Mayor and Ex-Fire Chief Rick Hibell



VFW POST 2179 AND MIDDLETOWN TOWNSHIP INVITE RESIDENTS TO THE 65TH ANNUAL



VETERANS DAY PARADE



Bayview Elementary
(300 Leonardville Rd.)



1:00 pm



Sunday, November 6th

NWS Earle Honors Battle of Midway's 80th Anniversary

Committeeman Ryan Clarke represented the Township Committee at Naval Weapons Station Earle's ceremony honoring the 80th anniversary of the Battle of Midway. Seven World War II veterans were invited to the event, including Middletown resident John Alonso who also served in the Korean War.

Pictured from left: Dennis Clarke, NWS Earle Firefighter (and Township employee) Scott Godley, veteran John Alonso, NWS Earle Captain Edward Callahan and his wife Krista, Committeeman Ryan Clarke, and Monmouth County Surrogate Maureen Raisch



MIDDLETOWN HELD ITS ANNUAL MEMORIAL DAY PARADE WITH AMERICAN LEGION POST 338 TO REMEMBER THOSE WHO MADE THE ULTIMATE SACRIFICE FOR OUR NATION.

TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE APPLAUDS STUDENTS APPOINTED TO WEST POINT ACADEMY AND ENLISTED IN MILITARY



Pictured from left: West Point Academy Admissions Field Force Representative Tricia Maguire, students Jack Latore, James Miguel Conway, Fiona Maguire, and Quinn Arthur, and Mayor Tony Perry

In May, the Township Committee honored four Middletown students who are now attending the U.S. Military Academy at West Point: Quinn Arthur, James Miguel Conway, Jack Latore, and Fiona Maguire. They also recognized three high school seniors who enlisted in the military after graduation: Samuel Funk from Middletown High School South (United States Navy), Robert Truair from Middletown High School North (United States Marine Corps), and Jason DeSanctis from Middletown High School South (United States Coast Guard).



Pictured from left: Petty Officer First Class Paulo Silva, Samuel Funk, Robert Truair, Jason DeSanctis, and Mayor Tony Perry

Sign up to receive emergency and traffic alerts
TEXT MIDDLETOWNNJ TO 888-777 OR VISIT
WWW.MIDDLETOWNNJ.ORG/NIXLE TO OPT-IN

Receive alerts for



Traffic & Detours



Severe Weather



Criminal Activities



Missing Persons



MIDDLETOWN AUXILIARY POLICE NEEDS VOLUNTEERS!

RECEIVE FIRST HAND EXPOSURE TO POLICE WORK

REQUIREMENTS:

- **MINIMUM OF 18 YEARS OLD**
- **NO CRIMINAL RECORD**
- **GOOD PHYSICAL CONDITION**
- **COMMIT TO 160 HOURS OF TRAINING AT AN ACADEMY**
- **MINIMUM OF 150 HOURS A YEAR OF ACTIVE DUTY**
- **WILLINGNESS TO WORK LONG HOURS IN ALL WEATHER CONDITIONS**



FOR INQUIRIES CALL LT. ANTHONY GIGANTE AT 732-615-2075
 OR EMAIL AUXILIARY CHIEF DAVE DEIGERT AT PDEIGERT01@COMCAST.NET.



Mayor Perry swears Sgt. Nicholas Haines into his new role as his brother USAF Lt. Colonel Kevin Haines holds the Bible and his wife, children, and Chief Weber proudly watch.

MTPD OFFICER NICHOLAS HAINES PROMOTED TO SERGEANT

In May, Chief R. Craig Weber promoted Sergeant Nicholas Haines who has been working with the MTPD for almost a decade. Mayor Tony Perry had the honor of swearing Sgt. Haines into his new role at a Township Committee meeting. During his time with the MTPD, Sgt. Haines has completed multiple training courses, including Monmouth County Crisis Intervention Team, Methods of Instruction, and the Basic Narcotics Investigation.



MTPD HOSTS SUCCESSFUL POLICE YOUTH WEEK PROGRAMS

This summer, the MTPD hosted three Police Youth Week camps: two for children between the ages of 8 and 11, and one for children between the ages of 12 and 13. Each program lasted one week and provided campers with firsthand law enforcement experience.

With a combination of classroom style learning and physical training, participants were able to conduct investigations, interact with the K-9 unit, learn safety techniques, and more. New this year, students in the senior class (ages 12-13) were able to enjoy a day at American Dream Mall! Each camp ended with a graduation ceremony where participants received a certificate and challenge coin. Congratulations to all our young residents for getting involved in this wonderful program!

MTPD HOLDS ANNUAL POLICE MEMORIAL SERVICE



On Friday, May 20th, the MTPD held its annual Police Memorial Service during National Police Week. The service was held at the Middletown Police Memorial, located at the corner of Kings Highway and Route 35. The memorial honored our fallen police and K-9 officers who served the MTPD.

MTPD HOSTS 5TH ANNUAL NATIONAL NIGHT OUT!

MTPD and PBA Local 124 held its 5th annual National Night Out on Tuesday, August 2nd at Middletown High School North. National Night Out is an annual community-building campaign that promotes police-community partnerships and neighborhood camaraderie to make our neighborhoods even safer and more caring places to live. MTPD and K-9 officers, Township Committee members and other elected officials, as well as local organizations, were able to connect with the community while residents of all ages enjoyed fun activities like corn hole, inflatables, police equipment demonstrations, a dunk tank, live music, food & more!



MIDDLETOWN TOWNSHIP AND BOE PARTNER TO HIRE ARMED OFFICERS TO PATROL PUBLIC SCHOOLS



Following the tragic shooting in Uvalde, Texas in May, the Middletown Township Committee and Board of Education (BOE) announced a joint decision to implement increased police security at our public schools. At the end of that month, the BOE unanimously approved a shared services agreement with Middletown to hire Class III Special Law Enforcement Officers (SLEOs) for all 16 public schools.



Middletown made history at a Township Committee meeting in August with the swearings-in of the first group of Class III SLEOs who will protect our students, teachers, and staff. Mayor Tony Perry, Middletown Township Police Department chiefs, and members of the Middletown Township Public School administration and BOE kicked off the 2022-2023 school year by personally greeting students, staff, and Class III SLEOs on the first day of school.

INTERESTED IN BECOMING A CLASS III SLEO? VISIT WWW.MIDDLETOWNNJ.ORG/JOBS TO APPLY.

MTPD Gives Back in Annual Torch Run Benefiting New Jersey Special Olympics

On June 10th, the MTPD participated in the 39th annual Law Enforcement Torch Run to raise funds for the Special Olympics of New Jersey (SONJ). The run spans over 750 miles and 26 routes as officers carry the "Flame of Hope" throughout the state. MTPD officers received the torch from the Red Bank Police Department and passed it to the Holmdel Township Police Department. The annual Torch Run's completion sparks the lighting of the cauldron at the SONJ Summer Games Opening Ceremony at The College of New Jersey. The money raised goes directly to SONJ's programs and services, which are completely free to the athletes.



MTPD officers were honored to participate in this year's Torch Run! Photo courtesy of Sgt. Anthony Dellatacoma

MTPD OFFICIALLY MOVED INTO NEW STATION



As of Tuesday, August 23rd, the entire Middletown Township Police Department (MTPD) is officially operating in the new Police Station (1 Kings Highway). The Police Station has a designated parking lot located off Kings Highway. Regular Bureau business hours are 8:30 AM - 4:30 PM, Monday through Friday. The police lobby is open 24/7.

CONTACT US

For emergencies, please call 911.
 For non-emergencies, please call 732-615-2100.



Police Today Moving Into New Headquarters

MIDDLETOWN — Transfer office, which was completed last year, the township hall is a wing of the new executive building is expected to be completed today. The wing was constructed at a cost of approximately \$200,000. Police Chief Earl N. Hoyer, police operations center, said the transfer of the operations center, locker and shower rooms to the new building will be made during the late afternoon and early afternoon. The offices of the court clerk and patrol division, court clerk and Capt. William W. Woodard, patrol division commander, will also be moved. The police chief, traffic officer and the detective division moved to the new quarters about 10:30 a.m. A telephone company representative was on hand yesterday to instruct department personnel in the use of the new switchboard and alarm system. The facilities will be housed at First Ave., Atlantic Highlands, in a wing of the executive building. Phone 231-0721 anytime.—Adv.

An article from the Red Bank Register from April 22, 1965 where Chief Earl Hoyer announced the final move from the basement of the old building (which was the recently demolished Boxing Club) to a wing in the (now old) Town Hall. Fifty-seven years and four months later, the MTPD officially moved into our new Town Hall.

DEPUTY CHIEF PAUL BAILEY GRADUATES FROM FBI NATIONAL ACADEMY



FBI Director Christopher Wray presents Deputy Chief Bailey with a graduation certificate.

Deputy Chief Paul Bailey graduated as a member of the 281st session of the FBI National Academy in Quantico, Virginia on March 17th. Deputy Chief Bailey is the 11th officer in the MTPD's history to complete this prestigious program.

DON'T BE AN EASY TARGET... LOCK YOUR CAR DOORS!



The Middletown Township Police Department would like to remind residents to lock their cars and take the key fob inside. Thefts of cars and property are often due to keys being left inside vehicles and failure to lock the doors.

REMEMBER

LOCKING YOUR DOORS IS AN EASY WAY TO PROTECT YOURSELF AND YOUR PROPERTY!



KNOW YOUR PROPERTY'S FLOOD RISK

Throughout Middletown, there are areas with a high risk for floods from both bay and riverine flooding. To see your flood zone and base flood elevation, please visit www.msc.fema.gov/portal/home and search your address. Residents should reference the preliminary mapping for local building code purposes. To compare effective and preliminary mapping for a property, please use the FEMA Preliminary Flood Map Comparison Tool.

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 since the Township 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. Please contact a licensed insurance agent for more information.

For more information about CRS and floodplain management, residents can contact Stacy Krause, CRS Coordinator, at 732-615-2000 ext. 2167 or visit www.middletownnj.org/floodinsurance.

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

Nonpoint source pollution is a contamination of our groundwater, waterways, bays, and oceans 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 oceans. They can also 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. All our efforts add up to cleaner water and save us from the high costs of cleanup 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 www.middletownnj.org/collection for the rules, guidelines, and schedule for leaf and brush collection. You can also find the schedule on Page 12.

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 humans and animals, especially 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 to our 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. Refer to Chapter 423 & Chapter 540 for Middletown's adopted stormwater pollution ordinances. More stormwater-related topics can be found at www.cleanwater.nj.org and www.middletownnj.org/ordinances.

PORT MONMOUTH FLOOD CONTROL PROJECT UPDATE



The U.S. Army Corps' Port Monmouth Flood Control project is moving closer to its final phases. Completed phases include beach and dune replenishment and the construction of a jetty, levee, floodwall, pump station & tide gate, road closure gate, and the regrading of Route 36 with these features being turned over to the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection for continued operation and maintenance of the project.

Contract 5 was awarded in September and work will soon begin on the Compton's Creek side of the project. Property surveys, appraisals, permits, and easement acquisitions are currently underway to allow the construction of a floodwall & levee system along Route 36, Creek Road, and Main Street. Also included is the construction of a levee, floodwall, elevation of a portion of Port Monmouth Road, installation of road closure gates on Broadway and Campbell Avenues, and construction of a pumping station on Main Street across from Renfrew Place. Construction is scheduled to be completed by 2025.

Visit www.middletownnj.org/floodcontrolproject for more information and updates.

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.

2022 Household Income Limits	
Household Size	Max. Gross Income
1 person	\$62,600
2 people	\$71,550
3 people	\$80,500
4 people	\$89,400
5 people	\$96,600
6 people	\$103,750
7 people	\$110,900
8 people	\$118,050

HOW YOU AND YOUR PETS CAN AVOID RABIES EXPOSURE

By Robert Card, Animal Control Officer

Rabies is a fatal virus transmitted through direct exposure to saliva or the brain/nervous system tissue of an infected warm-blooded mammal. Transmission mainly occurs through a bite, but it is also possible through exposure to mucous membranes (eyes, nose, or mouth) or through an open wound.

An animal with rabies will generally exhibit one or more of the following symptoms:

- Acting overly aggressive or agitated
- Behaving extremely friendly and tame as if they have no fear of humans
- Excessive drooling due to the inability to swallow
- Falling over, spinning in circles, or generally unsteady
- Seizing/paralysis
- Exhibiting neurological issues such as shaking, twitching, or head tilt

Which Animals Carry Rabies?

In our area, the main animals that can carry rabies are raccoons, skunks, foxes, and bats. Groundhogs and deer can also contract the virus, but it is not as prominent. Stray cats account for a large percentage of rabies in domestic animals due to people's poor practices such as open feeding and failure to properly vaccinate them.

It is a misconception that any wildlife out in daylight indicates that it is sick. There are many reasons why animals that are generally nocturnal would be out during the day, including searching for food.



How to Avoid Exposure

Do not approach or handle any wildlife if you do not have trained experience. Injured wildlife that may have otherwise been a candidate for rehabilitation often need to be euthanized and tested for rabies due to risk of exposure by improper handling. To keep your pets safe from rabies, make sure they are current on their rabies vaccination and comply with all state and Township requirements for licensing. Do not allow your pets to roam free or off leash while in parks/wooded areas. Do not feed cats on your property. Open feeding of cats is also open feeding of wildlife. It attracts wildlife to the area and allows cats that are not vaccinated to co-exist with wildlife to the point where exposure is imminent.

Who Should I Contact?

Should a domestic pet encounter, injure or kill wildlife, or if you notice any wildlife acting strangely or appearing to be sick or injured, please contact Animal Control or the Police Department immediately. You can contact Animal Control Monday through Friday from 8am-4pm at 732-615-2097. If you are calling after hours or on a weekend or holiday, call the Police Desk at 732-615-2100 to have an animal control officer dispatched.

SPOTTED LANTERNFLY HOMEOWNER ADVISORY

FOR THE LATEST INFORMATION ABOUT THIS
INVASIVE SPECIES, PLEASE VISIT
WWW.MIDDLETOWNNJ.ORG/NJDOA.



FOR SPECIFIC QUESTIONS, YOU CAN CONTACT
THE MASTER GARDENERS OF MONMOUTH'S
HOTLINE BY EITHER CALLING 732-303-7614 OR
EMAILING MGARDEN@CO.MONMOUTH.NJ.US.



DISPOSING OF MEDICAL SHARPS/SYRINGES

To dispose of used syringes and needles safely in your household trash:

1. Place into FDA-approved sharps container or heavy-duty plastic container (i.e. laundry detergent bottle). The bottle should be sturdy, puncture-resistant, and should not leak.
2. Close the screw-on lid tightly and label the sealed container "Do not Recycle, Contains Sharps".
3. Don't use plastic lids that can come off easily or glass bottles which may break. Do NOT put a plastic container with used needles/syringes out with the recyclables.

Visit www.safeneedledisposal.org for local facility drop-off locations.



The Middletown Municipal Alliance wants to help you DISPOSE OF UNWANTED MEDICATION SAFELY

Dispose of unused medication from:

- DEATH OF LOVED ONE
- PAST SURGERIES OR DENTAL WORK
- VETERINARY MEDICATION

Please Note:

- NO NEEDLES
 - NO SYRINGES
 - NO LIQUIDS
- PLEASE REMOVE
PRESCRIPTION
LABELS.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CALL THE MIDDLETOWN MUNICIPAL ALLIANCE AT 732.615.2277 OR VISIT WWW.MIDDLETOWNNJ.ORG/MUNICIPALALLIANCE.



Township Recognizes Overdose Awareness Day with Flag Display

The Township Committee recognized International Overdose Awareness Day (8/31) with a proclamation. If you or someone you know is struggling with addiction, please reach out to Crossroads at the Lincroft Annex (a NJ-licensed facility that provides substance use services to all residents) at 732-615-2277.



Prevention Coalition of Monmouth County volunteers placed 47 purple flags at the "Tindall Triangle" on Route 35 to honor the 47 lives lost to overdose in Monmouth County from 1/1 - 4/30 this year.

HELP FAMILIES IN NEED THIS HOLIDAY SEASON THROUGH MIDDLETOWN'S



WHAT TO DONATE



All types of canned/non-perishable foods and personal hygiene products are welcome throughout the year, but especially around the holidays. Another way to help during this season of giving is to donate a turkey or ham, especially the free ones you may earn through supermarket promotions, to a family in need.

ADOPT-A-FAMILY

Middletown Social Services is looking for individuals, groups, and businesses to "adopt" underprivileged households during the holiday season. Social Services will provide a small shopping list of items that a child would like, as well as a few ideas for parents. As a "foster" family, we ask that you kindly provide a few of the listed items or gifts cards, in hopes that your adopted family may have a special holiday season. Donations are accepted at Social Services (180 Main Street). Questions? Call 732-615-2085.





NO CLASS? COME TO THE MAC FOR ITS "DAY OFF FROM SCHOOL PROGRAM"!

The MAC continues to offer day camp programming for elementary school students when the public school district is closed. Creative activities will fill the half-day and full-day options led by Miss Fish, the Doodle Dude, and friends!

Full-Day: \$75 (drop off any time after 8:30am and pick up by 3:30pm)

Half-Day: \$38 ~ Full-Day, Full-Week Discount: \$65 per day

2022 Dates: Nov. 7-11, Dec. 27-30

2023 Dates: Jan. 16, Feb. 20, Apr. 3-7



MAC PARTNERS WITH NJBCA FOR AWARD-WINNING ARTWORK

This summer, MAC's teaching artist Heather Parauda taught workshops at the New Jersey Blind Citizens Association's (NJBCA) Camp Happiness! The artwork was entered into the Monmouth County Fair and several entries, including a mosaic made collaboratively by the campers, won awards. The fact that entries did not specify that entrants were blind or visually impaired made them even more special.

HOLIDAY CLUB MAC IS BACK!

The original Parent's Night Out with Miss Maria, Miss Val, and Miss Kristina is back with lots more fun this fall. Join these three very special teachers for crafting fun, games, pizza, snacks, and a movie! For children ages 3+ (MUST be potty trained). Pre-registration is required and attendance is limited, so register early!

Friday, December 2nd – Elf on the Shelf (5:00-9:00pm)

Come dressed in your favorite holiday pajamas and make a present for your Elf on the Shelf!

Friday, December 16th (5:00-9:00pm) &

Saturday, December 17th (10:00am-2:00pm) – Gingerbread Houses

Decorate and take home your very own full-sized gingerbread house!

MAC INTRODUCES NEW THEATER AND DANCE PROGRAM FOR INDIVIDUALS WITH SPECIAL NEEDS

After a very successful Summer Performance Spectacular and Talent Showcase, the MAC is excited to announce a new theater and dance socialization program for individuals ages 18+ of all abilities. Dawn Ferro, a special education teacher in Monmouth County, has been leading the program's two classes, Theatre Horizons and Dance Horizons, that began in late September. Classes will run through Wednesday, December 7th.

Visit www.middletownarts.org for more information about these classes and other offerings.

ACCOLADES & ACCOMPLISHMENTS

This year, the MAC gratefully accepted the 2022 Beacon of Light Award from the Monmouth Regional Chamber of Commerce. This award recognizes an organization that is a source of light and inspiration to the community and demonstrates superior public service. MAC Director Maggie O'Brien was also honored as the 2022 Community Partner of the Year from The Arc of Monmouth. The MAC is proud to serve our community and humbled to receive these awards!

Elf the Musical Jr.

Join the MAC for a holiday tradition with a student production of *Elf the Musical Jr.*, directed by Kathy Connolly. Tickets are \$10 for adults and \$5 for students.

Dates: Friday, 12/9 at 7:00pm; Saturday, 12/10 at 2:00 & 7:00pm; Sunday, 12/11 at 2:00pm

DUNBAR REPERTORY 2023 SEASON ANNOUNCED

Dunbar Repertory Company is a resident theater company that brings diverse, entertaining, and educational performances to our community. For information about its 2023 season and to buy tickets, visit www.middletownarts.org.

THE MAC PLAYERS BRING OUR COMMUNITY & STAGE TOGETHER

The MAC's new community-based theater group, The MAC Players, presented its first production earlier this year, which opened to sold-out audiences and received rave reviews. The MAC Players is committed to bringing teen and adult actors and production staff together to entertain and provide a meaningful, enriching experience for all. In October, there was a fall production of *The Addams Family*. The magic will continue next year with *Seussical* in March and an early summer production in July. Join The MAC Players either on stage, behind the scenes, or in the audience – you won't be disappointed!

Photo Exhibit by Black Glass Gallery: Friday, November 4th (Opening Reception)-Friday, December 23rd. All work is for sale and would make great holiday gifts! Please call the MAC for gallery hours.



Middletown Township Public Library
55 New Monmouth Road ~ www.mtpl.org

Save the Date: Programming for Teens

NATIONAL NOVEL WRITING MONTH: PROJECT WRITE NOW

Wednesday, 11/2, 7:00-8:00pm

Celebrate National Novel Writing Month with Project Write Now! Learn the best tricks and tips for writing your novel and reaching your writing goal!

GRAPHIC DESIGN CAREER DAY

Tuesday, 11/8, 7:00-8:00pm

Learn about what kind of careers you can have in graphic design and illustration!

SNAPOLOGY PROGRAM: CODING WITH CUBELETS

Wednesday, 11/9, 7:00-8:00pm

Use coding and cubes to solve the mission you create!

BRAIN BUNCH: HARRY POTTER YOUTH MENTAL HEALTH PROGRAM

Wednesday, 11/30, 7:00-8:00pm

Discover martial arts strategies used to promote self-defense and techniques to strengthen your mental health in a Harry Potter-based activity!

LOCAL AUTHOR TALK: NIMROD BY RYAN ROBERTS

Monday, 12/12, 7:00-8:00pm

Meet local author Ryan Roberts as he discusses his debut book, *Nimrod*! Learn about the writing and publishing process behind his novel.

Save the Date: Programming for Adults

THANKSGIVING COOKING LESSON WITH DAVID BURKE

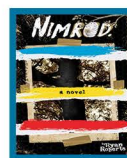
Monday, 11/7, 7:00-8:00pm

Get ready for the holiday season and learn how to make a Thanksgiving side dish with Chef David Burke!

HOLIDAY CONCERT: THE BAND OF THE TWO RIVERS

Saturday, 12/10, 2:00-3:00pm

Enjoy holiday music performed by Monmouth County's *The Band of the Two Rivers*! Suitable for all ages.



Save the Date: Programming for Children

BRIGHTSTAR THEATRE PRESENTS: CHEROKEE TALES

Monday, 11/7, 11:00-11:45am

Learn about the rich culture of the Cherokee people through a collection of myths, legends, and folktales performed by Bright Star Touring Theatre of Asheville, NC, a national and professional touring theater company. Open to children grades PreK-5.

JENKINSON'S AQUARIUM: PENGUIN POINTERS

Thursday, 11/10, 11:30am-12:00pm

Meet one of Jenkinson's Aquarium's famous feathered friends while learning about them and their wild cousins!

***TO FIND OUT MORE OR TO REGISTER FOR THESE PROGRAMS, VISIT WWW.MTPL.LIBCAL.COM/CALENDAR.**



MIDDLETOWN RECREATION



345 Oak Hill Road, Middletown • 732-615-2260 • recreation@middletownnj.org

Special Events

To learn more and register, please visit www.middletownnj.org/events.

TURKEY SOCCER SHOOTOUT & ALUMNI GAME

Saturday, 11/19 | 10:00–11:00am (Shootout), 11:30am–1:00pm (Alumni Game)
\$5.00 + nonperishable food item/participant
Croydon Hall Turf Field (900 Leonardville Road, Leonardo)



Think you've got the best penalty kick in town? Put your skills to the test at Recreation's Turkey Soccer Shootout & Food Drive! Awards will be given to the top scorers in each age group. Stay after the shootout ends to cheer on High School North's and South's alumni as they compete in a friendly scrimmage.

LETTERS FROM SANTA

Tuesday, 11/15–Thursday, 12/15 | FREE!

Our Middletown elves will once again be collecting letters and delivering them directly to the North Pole! Special mailboxes will be placed around town for you to drop your templated letter off postage free. Santa will respond with a personalized letter to your child! Letters are free, but please consider donating to the Middletown Arts Center (MAC).

HOLIDAY LIGHT MAP

Friday, 11/25–Friday, 12/23 | FREE!

Pre-registration required to be included on the map

Let's light up Middletown! Tell your neighbors that your house is decked out for the holidays by putting your address on the official Middletown Holiday Light Map! Register your home for free and get free map access so you can plan your route to visit all the addresses.

CHRISTMAS TREE LIGHTING

Sunday, 12/4 | 5:00–7:00pm | FREE!



Get in the holiday spirit and catch the MAC's Tree Lighting, followed by a holiday performance! Bring the whole family – get your photo taken with Santa, take a horse-drawn carriage ride, enjoy crafts, and watch the ice sculpture demonstration! Stay tuned for the Hanukkah Celebration & Menorah Lighting's event date.

13TH ANNUAL DODGEBALL TOURNAMENT & TOY DRIVE

Monday, 11/28–Friday, 12/9 | \$55.00 + unwrapped toy/team
Croydon Hall Gym (900 Leonardville Road, Leonardo)

Come out for a jolly good time at Recreation's annual dodgeball tournament as toys are collected for the holiday season! Assemble your team to be crowned the winner in your division – adults and children welcome. All toys will be donated to residents in need. Visit www.middletownnj.org/dodgeball for more information.

MIDDLETOWN NIGHT AT THE NEW JERSEY DEVILS

Sunday, 1/22 | 2:00pm (puck drop) | \$75.00/ticket
Prudential Center (25 Lafayette Street, Newark)



Cheer on Jersey's team during Middletown Night! Tickets include a post-game shoot from the blue line, an on-ice experience, and a New Jersey Devils swag bag! Reduced parking and half-priced concession options available.

DADDY-DAUGHTER SWEETHEART DANCE

Friday, 2/10 | 6:00–9:00pm | Grades K-8 | \$70.00/adult & \$50.00/child
Jacques Catering Hall (500 Palmer Avenue, North Middletown)

Dance the night away at the Daddy-Daughter formal dance, returning this year! The theme is sweetheart – dress to impress by wearing your best red or pink. All pairs receive a keepsake photo and frame to commemorate the night. Tickets will sell out, so buy them in advance!

MARCH MADNESS: DRIBBLE, DISH & SWISH COMPETITION

Wednesday, 3/15 | 4:30–6:30pm (Grades 1–4), 6:30–8:30pm (Grades 5–9)

\$5.00 + nonperishable food item/resident

Croydon Hall Gym (900 Leonardville Road, Leonardo)

Wear your favorite basketball jersey and show off your skills at Middletown's annual basketball competition! Prizes will be given to the top winners in each grade range. New this year, Recreation will be splitting age ranges and capping attendance for increased fun and participation!

EGGSTRAVAGANZA

Saturday, 4/1 | 10:30am–1:00pm | FREE!

MAC (36 Church Street)



Celebrate Easter with a family fun morning filled with spring-themed activities, crafts, and photos with the Easter Bunny! New this year is the Easter bonnet parade! Decorate and wear your best hat for the chance to win an awesome prize.

BEACH EGG HUNT

Saturday, 4/1 | 3:00–5:00pm | Grades PreK–8 | \$5.00/participant

Ideal Beach (Bayside Parkway, North Middletown)



This year, the Easter egg hunt returns to the beach! Sign up for your age-appropriate time slot and hunt for eggs with prizes – you may even find the Easter Bunny! Pre-registration required, limited space available. Children must be at least 3 years old. Please bring your own basket.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

All the activities below will cost \$5.00/participant and take place at Poricy Park.

Pre-registration is required for all paid programs.

Visit www.middletownnj.org/signup to register via CommunityPass.

FIND FOSSILS IN MIDDLETOWN!

Ready to head out to the Poricy Brook Fossil Beds but not sure where to start? Drop by the Poricy Park Nature Center from Monday–Friday, 9:00am–4:00pm to rent an equipment set and discover different types of fossils! A set (\$5.00 each) includes a screen, trowel, field guide, and directions.

TURKEY TROT HIKE

Wednesday, 11/23/22 (2:30–3:30pm)

Come stretch your legs before your Thanksgiving feast! Participants will hike the trails of Poricy Park, enjoy the beautiful scenery, and keep their eyes peeled for wildlife. The hike will cover roughly two miles. Geared for children ages 5+, but younger hikers are welcome.

WINTER SOLSTICE HIKE

Wednesday, 12/21/22 (4:30–5:30pm)

Join Recreation for a hike on the longest night of the year! Bundle up and enjoy beautiful Poricy Park in the early evening, and then warm up after with hot cocoa by the fire! A headlamp or flashlight is recommended.

TRACK-HUNTING HIKE

January 2023, TBA Weekday (4:00–5:00pm)

A few days after snowfall is a great time to see which animals are active in the winter. Recreation will wait for the snow and then schedule a hike! The hike will cover 1.5 miles of terrain through the snowy hills of Poricy Park.

MAPLE TREE-TAPPING

Thursday, 2/9/23 (4:00pm)

In the dead of winter, trees begin to prepare for spring. Join Recreation at Poricy Park to drill holes, hammer in tappers, and hang buckets – the first steps of making maple syrup!



MIDDLETOWN RECREATION



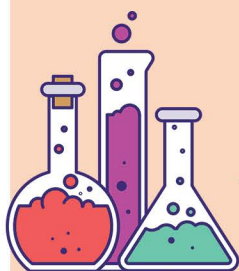
345 Oak Hill Road, Middletown • 732-615-2260 • recreation@middletownnj.org

BIRTHDAY PARTIES!

Looking for an outdoor adventure for your child's next birthday party? Poricy Park has themed science and nature parties appropriate for ages 4-10. Popular topics include: Fossil Hunting, Pond Netting, and Wild Kratt Adventures.

Each 2-hour party includes 90 minutes of instructor-led activities and 30 minutes of "party room" time. Basic paper goods provided; all food is supplied by birthday family. Price is \$315.00 for 15 children (\$8.00 per additional, up to 25 total).

AFTER-SCHOOL SCIENCE CLUB



Tuesdays (4:00pm-5:00pm) | Grades K-3 | \$120.00
Winter Session (8 weeks) 1/10/23-2/28/23
Spring Session (8 weeks) 4/11/23-5/30/23

Join Recreation for its popular science club at Poricy Park! There are STEM activities to do, nature to explore, and adventures to be had!

SUMMER CAMP REGISTRATION OPENS WEDNESDAY, MARCH 1ST!
FIND MORE INFORMATION AT WWW.MIDDLETOWNNJ.ORG/CAMP.

CALLING ALL SCOUTS!

Poricy Park offers guided programs for Cub Scouts and Girl Scouts, both weekday afternoons and weekends. Rates start at \$90.00 for a 90-minute program. Whether you're a Brownie or a Bear (or any other level), Recreation has a badge-specific program for you! Fossil Hunts are by far Recreation's most popular program. Want something shorter? Recreation offers 30-45 minute guided hikes that are perfect for a quick after-school meetup. \$5.00 per child. Topics include: Evergreens, Tracks, Nature Photography, Invasive Plants & more!

Permits are available for these rental spaces: Fire Pit, Fossil Beds, and the Green Pavilion.

SCOUTS MAPLE SUGARING PROGRAM – With cold nights and warm days, the later months of winter are when maple sap is produced in New Jersey. Join Recreation to learn why you can collect sap only during this time of year, how to identify maples, and how boiling increases solution concentrations to create syrup! Groups can choose a one-hour session on Saturday, February 25th or Saturday, March 11th.

LET'S GET SOCIAL - FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA!



@MIDDLETOWNREC



@MIDDLETOWNREC NJ

Middletown Seniors



Come to the Senior Center – a place where friendships are made and there is something for everyone to enjoy!

The Senior Center offers a variety of trips, classes, clubs, and games. This includes daily exercise classes, weekly art classes, monthly Paint & Sip classes, educational speakers, card games, Mahjong, bingo, seasonal-themed parties, entertainment, and more!

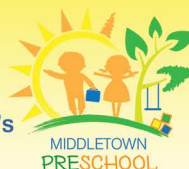
Membership is free for residents ages 60+. Non-residents are welcome to join for an annual fee. Learn more or register at www.middletownnj.org/seniors.

YOUTH AND ADULT CLASSES

Recreation offers a variety of classes for kids and adults throughout the year. Activities include Gone Running Youth Club, Snapology, adult indoor volleyball, yoga, pickleball, dodgeball, kickball, and more! Visit www.middletownnj.org/recreation to find a listing of all sports and exercise classes.

Tonya Keller Community Center

MIDDLETOWN PRESCHOOL LOCATED AT THE
TONYA KELLER COMMUNITY CENTER
50 BRAY AVENUE, MIDDLETOWN



Join in on the fun and love for learning in Middletown Preschool's small teacher-to-student ratios. Its certified Early Elementary Education teachers have over 30 years of combined classroom management. The age-appropriate curriculum includes: social skills, arts & crafts, stories, music, numbers, letters, shapes, colors, science, sight words, writing skills, physical education, and games.

The preschool's schedule typically mirrors the Middletown Board of Education's schedule. Classes are expected to span 10 months, beginning mid-September and ending June 15, 2023. Please be aware that your child's age on October 1, 2022 determines the class they will be registered for. The preschool offers full and half day options. Rolling admissions available with prorated rates. Visit www.middletownnj.org/preschool for more information and pricing.

Thank you to all our sponsors, volunteers, staff, vendors, nonprofits, entertainers, and attendees for making this year's Middletown Day so much fun! Be sure to save the date for next year's Middletown Day fall festival happening on Saturday, September 23rd!





MIDDLETOWN RECYCLING CENTER OFFICIALLY REOPENS!

The Middletown Recycling Center (52 Kanes Lane) has officially reopened to the public! The Center was closed for approximately two months while it was undergoing renovations. Some improvements include increasing access and efficiency to the recycling drop-off bins, improving traffic circulation, allowing room for the expansion of recyclable commodities in the future, and ensuring ADA compliance to both the Middletown Recycling Center and Administrative Building.

Visit www.middletownnj.org/rcupdates to view a slideshow of the new features and a slideshow of the construction updates.



Mayor Tony Perry, Township Administrator Tony Mercantante, and Department of Public Works & Engineering employees share big smiles in front of one of the Recycling Center's new signs!

DPW Division Spotlight: Road Maintenance & Construction

By Ian Imber, Division Head – Road Maintenance & Construction

The Department of Public Works & Engineering consists of five divisions: Administration & Engineering; Buildings & Grounds Maintenance; Fleet Maintenance; Recycling & Clean Communities; and Road Maintenance & Construction. To help residents better understand the responsibilities of each division, we'll be highlighting one in each issue of *Middletown Matters*.

First up – Road Maintenance & Construction:

Repair and maintain 350 miles of Township roadways. Workers address pothole issues and sinkhole repair, as well as maintain stormwater inlets and basins, including necessary pipe repair and/or replacement. Some road paving and sidewalk repairs are also performed by the Roads Division with more of these projects planned for 2023. Visit www.middletownnj.org/roads for updates.

Trim and remove trees. They also maintain roadway vegetation to ensure adequate sight visibility and resident access to streets.

Maintain drainage structures, facilities, and waterways. To prevent flooding, Roads Division crews repair and maintain drainage inlets and basins. They also clear debris from pipes, drainage ditches, and streams that ultimately carry stormwater to the Navesink River and Sandy Hook Bay.

Remove snow and ice from Township roadways. This division spreads salt brine on roadways prior to predicted winter storms to prevent snow and ice from freezing to the surface. They also salt, sand, and plow roads to make them passable for emergency vehicles and residents.

Assist other Township departments with issues. Road crews often assist other departments as needed. Calls often include cleanups from motor vehicle accidents, animal control assistance, parade route preparation, and assistance with other Township special events.

This division is on call 24 hours a day and 365 days a year to handle requests for any issues related to the above.

Questions or concerns? Reach out by calling 732-615-2125 or via our online service request portal at www.middletownnj.org/citizenrequest.



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

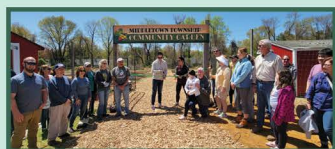
Clean Communities Continues Mini-Grant Program!

Throughout the summer, DPW's Clean Communities Division continued its Mini-Grant Program by partnering with nonprofits to clean litter at various locations across town. Participants included several Girl and Boy Scout Troops, Smiles for Katie, and the Vincent T. Lombardi Knights Of Columbus Council #6552. Groups that participate in cleanups are eligible for \$500 grants that are offered by NJ Clean Communities and can be put toward their own purposes.

A big thank you to these groups for working hard to keep Middletown clean! For more information about the Clean Communities Mini-Grant Program, email jtcino@middletownnj.org.



Members of Girl Scout Jersey Shore Troop 61230 with the bags of plastic and other harmful materials they collected while cleaning Ideal Beach.



Mayor Tony Perry and Recycling & Clean Communities Coordinator Jessi Ticino cut the ribbon with gardeners and several DPW employees.

MIDDLETOWN'S COMMUNITY GARDENERS REAP SUCCESSFUL HARVEST

This spring, Middletown officially opened a community garden at Stevenson Park, located on West Front Street near Shadow Lake. Over 50 gardeners wasted no time in getting started on that beautiful spring day by building support for their future produce and getting plants in the ground!

The purpose of the Community Garden is to give residents an opportunity to grow organic produce, learn about planting food that respects the environment, and improve their health and ecosystems.

Since the opening of the Community Garden, members have held several gardening public information sessions, collected over 54 jars of honey from their beehives, and donated over 200 pounds of fresh assorted produce to Calico Cat Thrift Shoppe on Kings Highway.

If you have extra produce that you would like to donate, the Calico Cat Thrift Shoppe accepts fresh fruits and vegetables on Tuesdays. Please call 732-671-0550 for more information. Calico Cat collects food for Monmouth County's food bank, Fulfill.

While all Community Garden plots are currently reserved, keep an eye out for upcoming seasons! Visit www.middletownnj.org/communitygarden for information and updates.



Barbara Ely speaks about winter gardening at a public information session.



The beekeeping team, led by Antoinette Ingulli, checks on the hives at the garden.

FALL 2022 LEAF COLLECTION SCHEDULE

COLLECTION ZONE	START DATE
A,B,C,D,E,F,G,H,I	MONDAY, 11/28
J,K,L	THURSDAY, 12/8

VISIT WWW.MIDDLETOWNNJ.ORG/COLLECTION FOR ZONE UPDATES AND MORE INFORMATION.

COLLECTION START DATE IS WEATHER DEPENDENT. PLEASE NOTE THERE WILL ONLY BE ONE COLLECTION IN EACH ZONE.

LEAF COLLECTION ONLY – NO BRUSH UNTIL SPRING!

DO NOT SET OUT LEAVES AFTER YOUR STREET HAS BEEN COLLECTED – Violators will be charged up to \$1,250 for an individual collection. Do not place material at the curb earlier than 7 days before start date. Brush, tree stumps, lumber, plywood, fence posts, railroad ties, or garbage will not be collected. Residents can bring leaves to the Middletown Recycling Center (52 Kanes Lane) from November 1st until June 1st. Brush is accepted year-round for residents.

CURBSIDE LEAF COLLECTION FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

WHERE DO I GO FOR MY LEAF COLLECTION ZONE & COLLECTION STATUS?

Scan the QR code or visit www.middletownnj.org/collection to find your zone and where crews are working.

HOW MUCH CAN I PUT OUT?

Maximum volume of leaves is 4 cubic yards (3 ft. wide, 2 ft. high, 18 ft. long).

WHEN CAN I PUT MY LEAVES OUT?

Place loose leaves (not in bags) at the curb no more than one week prior to start date. Do not place leaves on sidewalks, gutter lines, storm drains, or in lanes of traffic. This creates a serious hazard for children walking to school and other pedestrians, as well as an unsightly condition in your neighborhood.

THEY DIDN'T COLLECT MY LEAVES ON THE START DATE – WHAT SHOULD I DO?

Hang tight! Multiple crews will be working throughout the township simultaneously. Individual collection dates will vary. Do not set leaves out after your street has been collected.

WHAT IS NOT ACCEPTED IN CURBSIDE LEAF COLLECTION?

- Do not bag leaves. Bagged leaves will not be collected.
- Do not mix brush, branches, or seed pods with leaves.
- Grass clippings are NOT accepted curbside or at the Middletown Recycling Center.



**NOTICE TO RESIDENTS: LEAF AND BRUSH
COLLECTION ZONES WILL CHANGE BEGINNING IN 2023.
VISIT WWW.MIDDLETOWNNJ.ORG/COLLECTION FOR UPDATES.**