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Neighborhoods.  
One  
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# MIDDLETOWN

## MATTERS

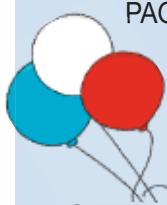
### Middletown Crime Index Drops to Lowest Level Since 1969

#### SPRING 2016

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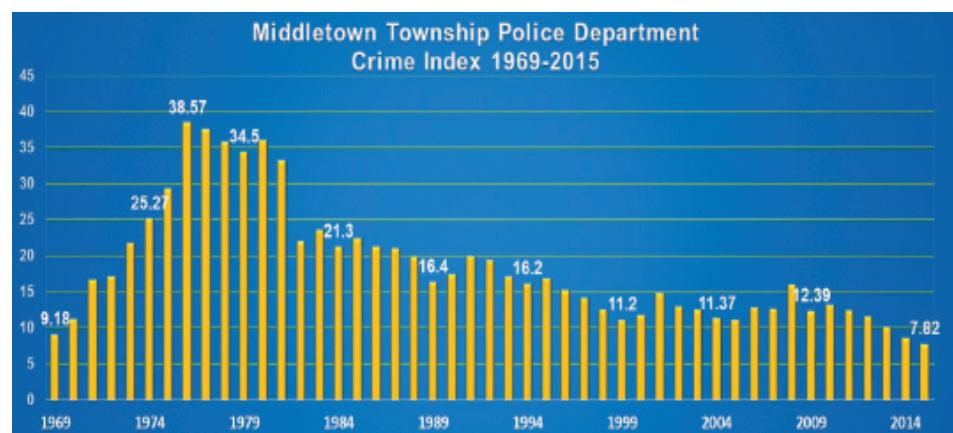
SAVE THE DATE  
MIDDLETOWN DAY  
SEPTEMBER 24, 2016

The number of index crimes in Middletown hasn't been so low since 1969 when Neil Armstrong and Buzz Aldrin first landed on the moon, the Jets and Mets won championships and Woodstock rocked a small town in upstate New York.

"This landmark reduction in crime reflects Middletown's unwavering commitment to public safety," said Mayor Gerry Scharfenberger, Ph.D. "It's a testament to the fact that our Police Department has some of the nation's finest and most dedicated officers."

The Middletown Police Department has reported there were 520 index crimes in 2015, which equates to an Index Crime Rate of 7.82 per 1,000 people. Index crime decreased by 9.72% in 2015, down from 576 index crimes in 2014 when the Index Crime Rate was 8.66 per 1,000 people. Overall, the Index Crime Rate has decreased by more than 23 percent since 2013, when there were 677 index crimes and the Index Crime Rate was 10.18 per 1,000 people, said Police Chief R. Craig Weber.

Index crimes are murder and non-negligent homicide, rape, robbery, aggravated assault, burglary, motor vehicle theft, larceny-theft, and arson. "We had to comb the archives and go all the way back to 1969 to find the last time there were fewer than 520 index crimes recorded in Middletown. In 1969 there were 496 index crimes. Although there were 24 fewer crimes 47 years ago, the Index Crime Rate would have actually been higher at 9.18 per 1,000 people because the population was lower," Chief Weber said. He noted the population in 1969 was approximately 54,000; today it's approximately 67,000.



Under Weber's watch, the number of burglaries in 2015 was also at a 15-year low with 86 burglaries reported, which was a 25 percent decrease from 2014. Comparatively, there were 245 burglaries recorded in 1969. There were also 42 cars reported stolen in 1969, compared to nine cars stolen in the township during 2015.

Police attribute some of their success to a more focused approach on crime, including anti-crime patrols. In the last year, patrol and plain clothes officers caught several suspects in the act of committing burglaries. Another factor has been the relentless investigation of criminal activity. For example, detectives were recently able to solve a burglary from 2013 based on fingerprint evidence and arrested a suspect, Chief Weber said. He noted that leveraging advanced technology and improved information sharing are other contributing factors.



### Horsing Around

Middletown Township police officers and Committeeman Stephen G. Massell recently visited with young riders who participate in the SPUR (Special People United to Ride) program at the Sunnyside Equestrian Center. The group was treated to a special visit from Honor, a Gentle Carousel Miniature Therapy Horse, who works in memory of Police Officer Ken Tietjen. Tietjen, a Middletown resident, was killed in the September 11th terrorist attacks. Honor is specially trained to help soothe victims, first responders and their families in times of crisis.



Switch to County Dispatch Saves Millions  
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## WHAT'S IN A NAME?

Campbell's Junction was named for Derek Campbell. Trolley tracks were laid across his farm in 1904. Three trolley lines from Highlands, Red Bank, and Keyport made connections in this area. Trolleys stopped running in 1923 and stores were built in place of the passenger waiting room.

*(Photo courtesy of the Middletown Historic Preservation Commission)*



### MAYOR'S OFFICE HOURS

Mayor Gerry Scharfenberger, Ph.D. generally holds open office hours the first and third Saturday of the month from 10:00 am to noon at Town Hall, 1 Kings Highway. Visitors are seen on a first-come basis. Mayor Scharfenberger is also available by appointment. Please call 732-615-2024 for more information.

### Message from the Mayor

# Most frequently asked questions about development



One of the most important issues facing towns throughout New Jersey is how to prevent overdevelopment while encouraging sensible growth. To address this, I thought I would devote the Mayor's column to answer the most frequently asked questions regarding development in the township.

### How could Middletown "allow" a particular development to happen?

The township does not "allow" development to happen, New Jersey State law does, not to mention the United States Constitution. It is important to keep in mind that most development occurs on private property owned by individual property owners or non-governmental entities. Landowners have a legal right to develop their property per state and federal law. There are very strict laws governing land use in New Jersey that are rooted in our very constitutional rights. Towns are provided limited discretion over how developments get built and how they look, but very little control over whether or not they get built.

### Why can't the Planning or Zoning Boards just say no to all future development?

The review process of both the planning and zoning boards is thoroughly dictated by the State Municipal Land Use Law, which provides criteria for determining if an application meets the terms of the statute and local zoning standards. Thus, an application cannot be legally denied simply because a board or the neighbors do not want it. There must be sound legal grounds to deny an application based on some conflict with existing laws or local zoning restrictions. Under the state law, the Planning Board, with the aid of the professional planning staff, drafts a master plan. After public notice and hearings, it is adopted and zoning ordinances setting out what is permitted or prohibited, along with various standards, are adopted by the Township Committee. However, even municipal master plans and zoning ordinances are limited by state and federal law, as well as constitutional limitations. For example, towns are not legally permitted to limit the use of property to "open space" or "farmland" only and the penalty for trying to do so can be severe and costly.

### Why doesn't Middletown prohibit the building of new office buildings or retail space until all existing vacant spaces are filled?

It is illegal to disallow specific types of development simply because the town feels there is already a sufficient supply. Any attempt to do so would be met with massive lawsuits that the town would invariably lose. The free market system allows private citizens and companies the right to build whatever they desire as long as it meets the local zoning standards. Although some developments may appear to employ a bad business model that runs contrary to the law of supply and demand, the town does not have the legal right to oppose them on that basis. The town, however, strongly encourages the redevelopment and utilization of already developed sites whenever possible.

### Why can't the township amend its zoning ordinances to prevent development?

The zoning ordinances that the Township Committee adopts must conform to the guidelines set by New Jersey state law and decades of state and federal case law. Zoning cannot be used to render a property unusable by an owner, or target a specific property to keep it from being developed, or target a property to be developed in a single specific way; so-called "spot zoning." In fact, zoning is extremely complex and must be looked upon comprehensively in the context of the entire township, not just a small section or individual property. Moreover, overly restrictive zoning regulations that unfairly diminish the value or use of a property are generally easily defeated in court, and the litigation caused by them can cost taxpayers dearly.

### Why can't Middletown refuse to build affordable housing?

While it is the township's position that we have fully satisfied our prior affordable housing quotas and that we have never engaged in exclusionary zoning to improperly prevent the development of affordable or work force housing, this is an issue that continues to be the subject of litigation throughout the state. In fact, our great socio-economic diversity is one of the

## Message from the Mayor

hallmark features that helps make Middletown a great community. When the state began mandating affordable housing quotas in the 1980s Middletown always believed that its numbers were too high. For decades, we have consistently made these arguments in court and before administrative agencies, as well as, lobbied for changes to state law providing for more reasonable and workable rules. Unfortunately, many of our pleas have fallen on deaf ears, but in order to maintain control over local zoning policies, we must continue to comply with the rules dictated by the courts in the absence of other legislative or regulatory relief that hasn't been forthcoming. This is a constantly evolving issue that we're addressing on a near daily basis, which continues to be a drain on limited resources as it is not only the planning for such housing, but the administration of the same that is unduly burdensome for municipalities.

### What has Middletown done to control development in town?

Even with all of the pressure on the town from court mandates and COAH quotas, Middletown's efforts to rein in overdevelopment have been largely successful. Evidence of this lies in the fact that Middletown's population has remained flat for the last two decades. This is also reflected in the number of students attending Middletown public schools. In fact, the number of students in Middletown schools is actually lower now than years past. In the mid-1970s our school population was over 13,000. By 1980, there were a total of 11,379 students. As of 2014, there were 9,808. This is the result of a variety of factors including the widening trend toward fewer and fewer children per household and the growth of private school options for kindergarten through high school education. In addition to controlling development, Middletown has also had a very aggressive open space program that has successfully preserved hundreds of acres over the years. Moreover, it is within the right of any individual or group of individuals to purchase property for the sole purpose of preserving the property as open space – a practice that the township strongly encourages in conjunction with the County of Monmouth and other not-for-profit organizations such as the Monmouth Conservation Foundation.

### What can residents do to help the township control overdevelopment?

Fortunately, Middletown has very strong and knowledgeable planning and zoning boards that do everything within their legal powers to limit the negative effects of development on the township. The boards must always be diligent in giving an applicant a fair and impartial hearing, while protecting the

township from a legal challenge in the event that an application is turned down. The latter is often an inescapable part of the process. As a result, it is imperative that the boards not overstep their bounds and follow the law so the township can defend its position if it ends up in court. For example, planning boards cannot legally use traffic increases or the addition of new school children as reasons to deny or even scale back a proposed development. This is often a very big misconception on the part of the public, when concerned about new development and while it may seem illogical, it is in fact the law.

Although the planning process is guided by state law, the public can and does play a very important role. When an application comes before a board, the public is encouraged to attend meetings and provide input through oral testimony. This is extremely valuable for the Planning Board, since many issues and potential flaws in an application will only come to light through this exchange with the public. Here are some points to remember when appearing before the boards:

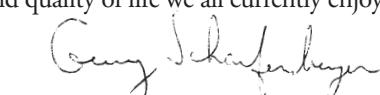
Review the zoning ordinances that govern development on the proposed property and the proposed plans.

If you oppose an application, have concrete reasons and facts based on conflicts with the applied variances as to why the application should be turned down. Just saying you do not want it is not grounds for denying an application.

Whenever possible, provide expert testimony to support your position.

Always remember to present your position in a respectful manner. Insults or threats will only damage what may be a very legitimate objection and actually make it even more difficult for a board to deny an application.

In closing, it is a well-known fact that New Jersey is the most densely populated state in the nation. As such, it is critical that all future development be scrutinized and any negative impacts to the community mitigated to the extent humanly possible within the law. The Middletown Township Committee is dedicated to keeping development in town to a minimum within the constraints of what the law will allow. To that end, we have aggressively pursued expanding the amount of dedicated open space in town, either through direct purchase or conservation easements, while trying to hold the line against destructive policies like excessive new mandated housing quotas that threaten the remaining open spaces and quality of life we all currently enjoy.



## Township Streamlines Commercial Property Improvement Process

The Township Committee recently passed an ordinance that no longer requires businesses to go before the Planning Board for minor improvements.

"It's an attractive incentive for new and existing business owners seeking to update commercial properties," said Mayor Gerry Scharfenberger, Ph.D. "We hope many business owners will take advantage of the streamlined approval process."

Previously expansion of an existing non-residential structure required a site plan approval from the township's land use boards. A business owner would have had to go through the time-consuming site plan review process to construct a small addition or make a small modification such as raising the roof to upgrade an obsolete building in accordance with the current standards.

In the interest of spurring adaptive reuse of existing underutilized shopping centers along the Middletown's highway corridors, the exempt development definition in the Land Development Ordinance was modified to permit limited expansion of existing non-residential development in the non-residential (B-1, B-2, B-3, B/P, OR, OR-1, OR-2, OR-3 and PD) zones without a site plan review. Additions up to 8,500 square or 10 percent of the total gross floor area, whichever is the lesser to existing structures, is permitted under the amended ordinance without site plan review. Additions of 1,000 square feet or less are also now exempt from site plan review. These additions, however, must be within the existing disturbed area and not cause an increase in the existing impervious coverage. The permitted development would be restricted to infill on currently developed sites that do not need any other relief from the zoning ordinances and meet the parking requirement.

Additionally, this ordinance amendment enables a business owner to make improvements such as raising the roof or changing the façade, without going through the site plan process as long as they are in compliance with the zone's requirements.

Previously, the township's land development ordinance did define types of development that would be exempt from the board review; however this definition was restrictive and no expansion of usable floor area for a non-residential use permitted without site plan approval. Call the Planning Department at 732-615-2098 for more information.

### Farmers & Vendors Wanted for Farmers Market

Middletown Township is planning to host a Farmers Market at the Middletown train station parking lot. The township is seeking local and regional vendors that can offer items such as fresh produce, artisan foods, beautiful flowers and healthy nursery plants. Please send an email to [farmersmarket@middletownnj.org](mailto:farmersmarket@middletownnj.org) if you are interested in being a vendor. Updates will be posted to [middletownnj.org](http://middletownnj.org)

## Police Department Updates Roster

The Middletown Police Department has recently promoted two officers and hired several more. Carl Roth and Kimberly Best have been promoted to the rank of sergeant. The newest officers to join the force are Ryan P. Pigott, Timothy R. Walden, Christopher Keller, Eric Van-Shaack and Nicholas Zubkow.

## Township Briefs

### Paper Shredding Day July 10

Is it time for you to dispose of confidential documents and old files? Bring your documents to be shredded on location in Monmouth County's mobile truck. On July 10th, the paper shredding truck will be at Middletown High School North, 59 Tindall Road, from 9am to 1pm unless the truck fills first. Please remove large binder clips. Staples and paper clips can remain. Limit of 100lbs of documents. This is a free service provided to Monmouth County residents.

### Road and Traffic Advisories

The Police Department regularly issues advisories regarding road work and potential traffic delays through the Nixle notification system. Users can opt to receive messages via text and/or email. Visit [middletownnj.org/traffic](http://middletownnj.org/traffic) to view current traffic advisories and register for the free service.

### Connecting the River to the Bay

A \$24,000 state grant from the Recreation Trails Program will be used to enhance and extend an existing trail at the Campo Woods. The goal is to connect the Campo trail, accessible from Route 36 in Navesink, to existing trail systems at Harshtorne Woods Park, the Henry Hudson Trail and Sandy Hook Bay. The project includes the refurbishment and creation of three miles of trails, signage and parking lot site improvements.

The Campo tract was donated to Middletown Township as open space. Special thanks goes to the Middletown Environmental Commission, Campo Family, and the Atlantic Highlands Environmental Commission for making this project possible.

### Saluting Our Hometown Heroes

Do you know a Middletown resident in actively serving the armed forces? Send us a 4 x 6 inch photo and a short biography so we can add him or her to our tribute wall at Town Hall. Biographies should include the following: name, branch of service, current deployment, and local schools attended. Please also provide the soldier's expected date of discharge. Submissions can be submitted electronically at [middletownnj.org/heroes](http://middletownnj.org/heroes). They can also be mailed or dropped off at the Mayor's Office. The address is Middletown Town Hall, 1 Kings Highway, Middletown, NJ 07748. All submissions must include a contact name, phone number and mailing address. Call 732-615-2287 for more information.



### FIRE CHIEF EARNS SERVICE AWARD

MIDDLETOWN FIRE CHIEF JOHN GORSEGNER WAS HONORED BY THE TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE FOR 50 YEARS OF DEDICATED SERVICE TO MIDDLETOWN TOWNSHIP FIRE COMPANY NO. 1. CHIEF GORSEGNER JOINED HIS FIRE COMPANY IN 1966. HE IS ALSO FOUNDING MEMBER OF THE DEPARTMENT'S AIR UNIT.

## Health Department Updates

### ZIKA VIRUS

There is a new mosquito related disease that hit the news recently. Zika is a viral infection that is mainly spread by the bite of an infected mosquito. Outbreaks typically occur in tropical Africa and Southeast Asia. In May 2015, Brazil reported the first outbreak of Zika in the Americas. Zika is now present in many tropical areas. Currently, we are learning more each day about this emerging disease. Please visit our website, [middletownnj.org](http://middletownnj.org), for the most up-to-date information.

### RABIES VIRUS CONTINUES TO SPREAD!

Whether the title of this article peaked your interest or just scared you, hopefully it got your attention.

Over the last few years, we have encountered many types of wildlife appearing ill or sick. In 2014, Middletown was aggressively conducting surveillance of these animals. During that year, we found 20 raccoons, 1 skunk and 1 fox testing positive. In 2015, routine surveillance was limited to animals with having exposure to domestic animals and humans. We had 6 raccoons, 3 skunks and 1 fox positive for the rabies virus. But, in November, something else happened. A cat, although feral, which is considered a domestic animal also tested positive.

The Health Department finds it alarming when a cat is found to be rabid. What happened early February 2016 in Aberdeen, just a short distance away, raised the red warning flags. A family dog that had bitten a few people also was found to be rabid! Since the current raccoon variant strain of the rabies virus entered New Jersey in 1989, this is the eighth dog diagnosed with rabies in the state, but Monmouth County's first.

So, the headline wasn't just a ploy to get your attention. The rabies virus is spreading from wildlife to domestic cats and dogs. It is an alarming trend. What's next, a human case?

Rabies is a fatal disease, but it is preventable. It can be found in raccoons, groundhogs, foxes, skunks, bats, dogs and cats. We urge everyone to vaccinate and license their dogs and cats. Do not try and handle any wildlife that appears ill. Call Animal Control at 732-615-2097 or the Police Department after business hours, weekends and holidays at 732-615-2100. Visit [middletownnj.org](http://middletownnj.org) to register for citizen alerts to keep up to date on rabies cases and other important issues.

*By Health Department Director Rich DeBenedetto*

## Distinguished Citizens Honored

The Middletown Township Committee has bestowed Distinguished Citizen Awards upon three men for their extraordinary service to the community. **Thomas Garretson**, a Veterans Affairs Committee member, has donated countless hours to develop the Fallen Veterans Commemorative Street sign program into an enduring tribute to our fallen heroes. **Anthony Panzica**, an inaugural member of the Volunteer Advisory Committee, managed the Croydon Hall Relief Center after Superstorm Sandy and served as a Middletown Disaster Relief Fund Trustee. **Richard Saker**, who heads Saker Shoprites, Inc., is an ardent supporter of the local arts, Middletown Day, and community outreach programs.



### 2016 TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE

MAYOR GERARD P. SCHARFENBERGER PH.D.  
AND DEPUTY MAYOR ANTHONY P. FIORE WITH  
COMMITTEEMAN STEPHEN G. MASSELL,  
COMMITTEEWOMAN STEPHANIE C. MURRAY  
AND COMMITTEEMAN KEVIN M. SETTIMBRINO.



## Emergency Medical Services

### MARINE RESCUE TASK FORCE SEEKS MEMBERS

The Emergency Medical Services Department has a marine rescue task force that serves Middletown and surrounding municipalities. The team, which consists of divers, boat operators, dive tenders, and other land based operational personnel, is currently expanding because of an increased need for water rescues. If you are interested in any (or all) of these aspects of the task force, we'd love to hear from you!

### EMS DEPARTMENT GROWS FOR THE FUTURE

The Emergency Medical Services Department has instituted the position of chief to better command and control large scale incidents, and improve coordination between the department, the five all-volunteer first aid squads, and other agencies. Squads members elected the following to serve in the Chief positions: Bob Pfleger, Chief (Middletown); Floyd Goldstein, Deputy Chief (Fairview); and Kim Kraynock, Assistant Chief (Port Monmouth).

To join the marine task force or volunteer for a squad, please call 732-615-2252. (Remember - in an emergency, ALWAYS dial 9-1-1)

## Rehab Grants Available for Homeowners

If you are a Middletown homeowner, you may be eligible for a home rehabilitation grant/loan 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.

## A Message from the Tax Collector

The homestead benefit credit has been applied to the May 2016 Tax Quarter. Applicable homeowners will receive an adjusted bill in the beginning of April, indicating the amount of the credit applied and the new amount due for the May 2016 tax quarter. Please pay the adjusted amount.

Taxes are due May 1, 2016. Last day to pay without interest is May 10, 2016. Window hours are 8:00 AM to 4:00 PM. To avoid lines, please mail check and tax stub to Tax Collector, 1 Kings Highway, Middletown, NJ 07748. ACH or credit card payments can be made at [www.middletownnj.org](http://www.middletownnj.org). There is no fee for ACH payments. A convenience fee is imposed by the banks for all credit card payments. Online payments (bill pay) authorize your bank to print a check and mail it to the Tax Office. Please allow ample time for bank processing and mailing. Online payments are not considered certified funds. If returned, they will be treated as a returned check and a fee may apply.

## Upgrading to County Dispatch Service Saves Millions

Middletown Township is transitioning dispatching operations to the Monmouth County's state-of-the-art communications center, thanks to a newly minted shared services agreement.

Callers won't notice the difference in service, but taxpayers may detect a change in the long haul. The move will save taxpayers nearly \$1 million annually in salaries and benefits, plus another \$1.5 million in federally-mandated equipment upgrades.

The township will pay Monmouth County \$475,000 annually to provide dispatching services at the Sheriff's Public Safety Center with annual increases of no more than two percent through December 2019. The agreement comes with three on-duty dispatchers primarily dedicated to taking Middletown's calls. Currently Middletown only has two dispatchers typically on duty and only occasionally three at the township dispatching center. Middletown's current dispatchers have the option to become a county dispatcher, provided they meet the county's basic hiring qualifications.

An added benefit of the switch is immediate access to all the county dispatchers on duty should the need arise. Monmouth County has a staff of more than 100 certified telecommunicators who already dispatch calls for 45 of the 53 towns in Monmouth County. The state-of-the-art facility, which went online in 2013, was constructed with the capacity to dispatch calls for all of Monmouth County.

"It's a win-win. We are confident Middletown will get an enhanced service at a far lower cost. The county can offer cutting edge services, digital technology, greater interoperability and access to a much larger communications staff," said Mayor Gerry Scharfenberger, Ph.D.

"Monmouth County dispatch has a proven track record with us. For many years, our 9-1-1 calls have been going to them when our dispatchers are busy with other calls," the Mayor added.

Besides saving on staff, the township will avoid spending another \$1.5 million in federally-mandated upgrades needed to keep dispatching in-house. The latest upgrades would have included an \$800,000 license for computer-aided dispatch software and \$700,000 for dispatch consoles. Substantial but unknown costs associated with accepting 911 calls via text were also on the horizon.

The township is expected to transfer 9-1-1 operations in April, followed by a full transfer of all dispatching operations sometime in July. A transition team including representatives from Police, Fire and First Aid, will be established to ensure the smooth transition of services.

The current dispatch center, located at Town Hall, will remain operable as a back-up system. Calls can also continue to be dispatched from the township's mobile command unit should events warrant.





## Middletown Recreation

### New Location!

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

### Seasonal Brochures

The Recreation Department publishes seasonal brochures to showcase the various programs and events offered throughout the year. Pick one up at the Recreation Office or visit [middletownnj.org/recreation](http://middletownnj.org/recreation).

### Registration

Register for programs and classes online at [register.communitypass.net/](http://register.communitypass.net/) Middletown. No telephone registrations accepted. Fees listed are for residents. Non-residents may register for a higher fee if space permits.

### Volunteers

Looking for something fun to do? Do you need community service hours? If so, come help us out! At all our special events, adult and youth volunteers are always needed! For more information send an email to: [MtownVolunteer@middletownnj.org](mailto:MtownVolunteer@middletownnj.org)

### Facilities

Croydon Hall Gym  
900 Leonardville Road, Leonardo

**Poricy Park Nature Center**  
345 Oak Hill Road, Middletown  
(732) 615-2260

### Senior Center

Croydon Hall, 900 Leonardville Road,  
Leonardo  
(732) 615-2265

**Tonya Keller Community Center**  
50 Bray Avenue, Middletown  
(732) 615-3250

## Special Events

### Mother-Son Miniature Golf Tournament

**Saturday, May 7, 10:00am to 12:00pm**

Monster Mini Golf, Eatontown

Grades K thru 5. Fee: \$18.50 per person

*Pre-Registration Required. Limited space.*

Mothers and sons in Grades K-5 will team up and test their miniature golf skills! Awards will be given to the lowest mother-son combined score in each grade. A Special Prize will be presented to the "Best Dressed Mom & Son Team." The day includes one tournament round of miniature golf (+ more if there's time), \$4.00 Game Card, a free pass to return anytime, goody bag, pizza, chips and a drink.



### Free! How and What Children Learn Thru Play

**Tuesday, May 17, 6:00-8:00pm**

Middletown Public Library, 55 New Monmouth Rd, Middletown

*Pre-registration preferred*

Part 3 of a 3-session series. Bring the whole family! A pizza dinner will be served to all. Then, parents will listen to our guest speaker, Cindy Terebush, CPC, CYPFC, discuss the top while children will be supervised during open play. Staff and volunteer babysitters will be on hand to play games and offer tutoring help, if needed. Registration is free but we are requesting pre-registration for an appropriate headcount.

### Sunday Fossil Hunts

**Sundays, April 24, May 29 or June 26**

11:00am to 12:30pm, 1:00-2:30pm or 3:00-4:00pm

Ages 5-12, \$5.00; Ages 13+ \$8.00

Calling all amateur paleontologists! Come dig up some Middletown history at Poricy Brook Fossil Beds. Expect to find marine fossils from the Cretaceous period, 65-72 million years ago. Meet at the Poricy Park Nature Center for a short orientation before traveling to the fossil beds. An experienced guide will provide you with a trowel and sifter, as well as help you identify your treasures. Please wear rubber boots or old sneakers as your feet will get wet. Sandals, flip-flops, and other slip-on footwear are prohibited. Ages 5+, all children must be accompanied by an adult.

### NEW! Father-Son GPS Challenge

**Saturday, June 11, 9:00am**

Poricy Park Nature Center

Grades K thru 5. Fee: \$18.50 per person

*Pre-Registration Required. Limited space.*

Get on board the world-wide phenomenon of GPS and the Amazing Race! Teams of 2 (maximum of 5) will navigate around Middletown by their car to various GPS coordinates. At each location players will compete in a challenge for points. After the challenges are completed the points will be tallied to determine a 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place winner. This is not a timed race around Middletown – all driving laws must be obeyed. Special Prize for the "Best Dressed Team". This event also includes: a goody bag, lunch and prizes. Do you have what it takes or will you be lost in town?

### Tonya Keller Community Center Activities

#### Open Recreation

Open Recreation is an after school program operating at the Tonya Keller Community Center from 3-5p, Monday through Thursday of each week. The Open Recreation Programs gives Middletown children a safe place to spend time, socialize, complete homework and expel energy. The program is offered for children grades K-5. A monthly schedule can be found online at [middletownnj.org/tkcc](http://middletownnj.org/tkcc). Registration is free.

#### Teen Night

Teen Night is a weekly program operating at the Tonya Keller Community Center, 6:30-8:30p on Mondays, and is offered to adolescents grades 6-12. It provides a place to spend time, relax, complete homework and socialize in a safe environment with peers. Teens are also welcome to attend Open Recreation on Wednesdays from 3-5p. Registration is free.

#### Garden Raising/Garden Club

Help us prepare and grow our community garden! Located at the Tonya Keller Community Center, the Garden Club works to weed, plant and harvest various crops. After harvesting, the crops are then ready for the Garden Club's own summer farmers market. Registration is free.

### NEW! MOTHER-DAUGHTER COLONIAL TEA

**SATURDAY, JUNE 4, 10:00AM TO 12:00PM OR 2:00-4:00PM**

PORICY PARK FARMHOUSE

*GRADES K THRU 5. FEE: \$18.50 PER PERSON PRE-REGISTRATION REQUIRED. LIMITED SPACE.*

WE'RE HAVING A TEA PARTY! TEA AND LIGHT REFRESHMENTS WILL BE SERVED IN OUR HISTORIC 18TH CENTURY FARMHOUSE, WHERE A PERIOD-DRESSED INTERPRETER WILL BE ON HAND TO INSTRUCT IN COLONIAL MANNERS. THEN WE WILL ADJOURN TO THE LAWN FOR 18TH CENTURY GAMES LIKE HOOPS, GRACES, AND STILTS.

## Summer Camps

Your child's ticket to a fun-filled summer starts with us! Mix and match more than a dozen activities, programs and trips to create a personalized camp experience that can last from 1 up to 10 weeks. Camp options begin June 27 and end September 2.

In addition to familiar camps such as the Pioneers (ages 4 – Kindergarten), Buccaneers (Grades 1 – 4) and Explorers Program (grades 5 – 7), there are new offerings such as Trail Blazers, Counselor In Training, Multi-Sports Camps, Golf, Lacrosse, Soccer and Tennis camps. After care options are available for some camps. Also new this year are evening camps such as Monday Night Dodgeball and Basketball Basics.

## Poricy Park Camps

New for 2016, Middletown Recreation is proud to continue Poricy Park's legacy of excellent educational summer camps. Campers have the option of a weekly camp focused on fun science and nature topics or a one-week program focused on a single topic. Camps are available for children as young as 3 years old through 5th grade. Specialty camps include Revolutionary Kids, Surviving Outdoors and Poricy Park Adventures. Be sure to check out our camp brochure for a full listing of themed weeks.

For a complete listing of all camp options with specific descriptions and pricing, visit the Recreation Office or download our camp brochure from the [middletownnj.org/camp](http://middletownnj.org/camp).

## NaviGators Camp

For the third summer, the Recreation Department will offer an Inclusion Camp for students who qualify. This program is designed to allow children with special needs to participate alongside typically developing peers during summer camp. The inclusion program will be specifically targeted to children who struggle with disorders such as ADHD, disruptive behavior disorders, anxiety disorders, Asperger's Disorder, and associated behaviors; however children with other needs are also welcome to apply.

If you feel your child may require special accommodations to participate in this program, we ask that you fill out our Inclusion Profile, which can be downloaded from our website at [middletownnj.org/recforms](http://middletownnj.org/recforms). This profile is designed to enable your child to have the best possible experience by providing our staff with pertinent information about your child's care. Call the Recreation Department to set up a Meet & Greet with our Inclusion Director or for more information.

## Preschool Registration Underway!

Classes are available for children 18 months thru Pre-Kindergarten. During these classes, children will learn valuable skills, such as alphabet and number recognition, counting, coloring, reading stories, arts and crafts, music and much more! The Pre-K program is a structured program that teaches kindergarten readiness skills.

### Youth and Adult Classes

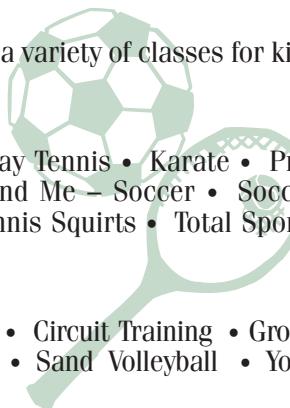
Middletown Recreation offers a variety of classes for kids and adults through the year.

#### Youth Classes

Dodgeball League • First Play Tennis • Karate • Pre-Academy Soccer • Parent and Me – Soccer • Soccer Squirts • T-Ball Squirts • Tennis Squirts • Total Sports Squirts

#### Adult Classes Offered

Adult Fitness • Cardio Sculpt • Circuit Training • Group Personal Training • Pilates • Sand Volleyball • Yoga • Yoga Stretch



## MIDDLETOWN LIBRARY

55 NEW MONMOUTH RD  
MTPL.ORG • 732-671-3700



- Tribute concert to Nat King Cole & Johnny Mathis – May 5th at 7:00pm
- Intro to Robotics and Programming – First Tuesday of each month at 4:15pm
- Young Adult Book Club – June 18th at 2:30pm
- Banjo Rascals Patriotic Concert – June 30th at 7:00pm
- Summer Reading Kickoff: Power & Energy Program – July 13th at 2:00pm



36 Church Street . [middletownarts.org](http://middletownarts.org) . 732-706-4100

*It's a Musical May at the MAC! ...*  
An Evening with Rebecca Ryann and Friends Fundraiser – Friday, May 6  
Johnny Cash Tribute Show – Saturday, May 7

Sal Catapano's Band Showcase – Sunday, May 15  
Cameos and the Legends of DooWop – Friday, May 20  
Peggy Saxton's Piano Student Recital – Sunday, May 22  
Bill Anania Performance – Sunday, May 22

*Every month, the Middletown Arts Center has an exciting line-up of events and activities for all ages. Visit [MiddletownArts.org](http://MiddletownArts.org). There is something for everyone!*

**Thank you, Columbia Bank!**

The Middletown Arts Center is a recipient of a \$15,000 grant from the Columbia Bank Foundation. The grant, specifically dedicated to upgrading the technology at the Arts Center, will help the MAC continue to provide interactive arts education while increasing the efficiency of operations.

## Senior Center Events

The Senior Center welcomes independent Middletown residents 60 and older to become members. A variety of special events, trips and weekly activities are offered throughout the year. Transportation is available to registered members by reservation.

### HEALTH AND WELLNESS FAIR

May 19, 10:00am to 1:00pm

Join us in the East Wing for free screenings. Blood pressure, cholesterol, glucose, stroke risk assessment, body mass index, and bone density will be provided by Meridian Health. Health care professionals will be on hand to answer your questions. There will also be health information, giveaways and light refreshments.

### OPEN HOUSE

June 23, 10:30am to 2:30pm

Come visit and discover all the fun activities the Senior Center has to offer. From exercise to charter bus trips, we have a variety of offerings to suit your interests. Registration is free to all independent residents age 60 and over. Light refreshments will be available.

### ANNUAL SUMMER PICNIC

July 8, 11:30am to 2:30pm

Enjoy a summer picnic in air-conditioned comfort of the East Wing with music & dancing by Bob Breschia, games, door prizes, and a hot dog picnic lunch. Tickets cost \$6.00 and must be purchased by July 1st.

### FAREWELL TO SUMMER EVENT

August 26, 11:30am to 2:30pm

Don't miss the chance to join your friends in the East Wing for a catered buffet by Taliercio's, entertainment, and great fun! Tickets are \$15.00 and must be purchased by August 18th. Transportation is available for all events by advance reservation.

### Summer Arts Camps

Nominated for Jersey Arts "Best of Summer Camp" The arts are the focus of the various camp programs that will be offered at the MAC this summer. New components of the ever-popular camp include a Band Enrichment Program, a Musical Theater Intensive program and a new "Teen/Tween Program." Space is limited and camps fill up quickly. Before and after care and week-by-week options available.

### The ARTS MATTER! Get Involved!

The arts foster personal development and growth, promote health and healing, enrich our lives, encourage civic engagement, and foster economic development. There are lots of ways to get involved. Become a member, make a donation, volunteer, join our Board of Trustees...share your time and talents with the community. If you haven't been to the MAC, please visit! Generous support from individuals, businesses and organizations enables the Middletown Arts Center to provide free and affordable quality arts programming to the community.

# RECYCLING



## Recycling Is Mandatory!

Recyclables must be separated from garbage. Garbage that includes recyclables will not be collected. Violators may be fined. Recyclable items may NOT be placed in plastic bags! Visit [www.middletownnj.org/recycling](http://www.middletownnj.org/recycling) for information.

Recyclable Material	ACCEPTED:			
	Curbside (Single Stream) Collection	Kanes Lane Recycling Center	Train Station Recycling	Curbside Garbage Pick up
	Per zone, see schedule	Thurs. – Mon. 8:30 AM - 4:30 PM	Open 24 Hours	
<b>APPLIANCES</b> 	A/C Units	✓ (\$25)*	✓ (\$10)	NO NO
	Refrigerators	✓ (\$25)*	✓ (\$10)	NO NO
	Stoves	✓ (\$20)*	✓	NO NO
	Washer/Dryer	✓ (\$20)*	✓	NO NO
<b>CARDBOARD</b> 	Cardboard (broken down)	✓	✓	NO NO
	Food-contaminated cardboard	NO	NO	NO ✓
<b>ELECTRONICS</b> 	Computers/monitors/laptop	NO	✓	NO NO
	DVD Players/Stereos/VCRs	NO	✓	NO NO
	Printers/Tel/Fax/Copiers	NO	✓	NO NO
	TVs	✓ (\$20)*	✓	NO NO
<b>GLASS</b> 	Bottles/Jars	✓	✓	✓ NO
	Ceramics/Dishware**	NO	NO	NO NO
	Lightbulbs/Windows**	NO	NO	NO NO
<b>PLASTICS</b> 	Containers (#1, 2, 5 symbol)	✓	✓	✓ NO
	Containers (#3, 4, 6 symbol)	NO	NO	NO ✓
	Buckets/Storage Bins	NO	✓	NO NO
	Kid's Toys/Play Equipment	NO	✓	NO NO
	Coolers/Trash Receptacles	NO	✓	NO NO
<b>METALS</b> 	Aluminum/Tin/Steel Cans	✓	✓	✓ NO
	Aluminum Foil/Trays/Pie Tin	NO	NO	NO ✓
	Metal Hangers/Scrap Metal	NO	✓	NO NO
<b>ALL PAPER</b> 	Ads/Catalogs/Magazines	✓	✓	NO NO
	Cereal Box/Br Paper Bags	✓	✓	NO NO
	Copy/Fax/Office Paper	✓	✓	NO NO
	Envelopes /Soft Cover Books	✓	✓	NO NO
	Hardcover Books	✓ (no cover/binder)	✓ (no cover/binder)	NO NO
	Non-Metallic Wrapping Paper	✓	✓	NO NO
	Cups/Plates/Food Wrappers	NO	NO	NO ✓
	Newspaper	✓ (tied in bundles)	✓ (tied in bundles)	NO NO
	Newspaper used for Pet Waste/Household Projects	NO	NO	NO ✓
<b>MISCELLANEOUS</b> 	Aerosol Cans	NO	NO	NO ✓
	Batteries - household	NO	NO	NO ✓
	Batteries-car & rechargeable	NO	✓	NO NO
	Bowling & Golf Balls	NO	NO	NO ✓
	Construction Material**	NO	NO	NO NO
	Fence Posts (w/o concrete)	NO	✓	NO NO
	Grass Clipping/Tree Stump**	NO	NO	NO NO
	Latex Paint, lid off (dried)	NO	NO	NO ✓
	Plastic Hangers/PVC piping	NO	NO	NO ✓
	Rubber Products (Hoses)	NO	NO	NO ✓
	Tires – Automobile (< 17" Rim)	NO	✓ (\$2 off rim/\$3 rim on)	NO NO
	Tires – Pick-up Trucks/SUV	NO	✓ (\$7, off rim only)	NO NO
	Propane Tanks/Motor Oil	NO	✓	NO NO
	Vinyl Products (manageable size)	NO	NO	NO ✓

\*Must be scheduled and paid for prior to pick up.

\*\*Contact the Monmouth County Landfill at 732-683-8686 for disposal.

## Township Directory

Police, Fire & Rescue  
Emergencies

Dial 9-1-1

Police Department  
Non-Emergency

615-2100

Municipal Offices

(All numbers have a 732 area code)

Main Number 615-2000

Animal Control 615-2097

(Monday - Friday, 8am- 5pm)

Animal Control 615-2100

(holidays, nights & weekends)

Building & Inspections 615-2106

Community Development 615-2281

Court Administrator 615-2036

Code Enforcement 615-2106

Crossroads 615-2269

(substance abuse services)

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 615-2015

(elections, marriage/birth/death records,  
parking permits, voter registration,  
Twp. Committee agenda)

Social Services 615-2085

Zoning 615-2278

Other Important Numbers

Board of Education 671-3850

Sewerage Authority 495-1010

Comcast Cable 20

Verizon FiOS Channel 26

Emergency Radio 1620 AM

middletownnjtownhall

middletownnnj

Phone App: My Middletown