

Middletown Minutes

Official Township E-Newsletter



Middletown Day Postponed to Sunday, 10/22 Due to Anticipated Bad Weather



New Date - Sun, Oct 22nd
Croydon Hall 11am-4pm
middletownnj.org/middletownday

Due to the anticipated bad weather this weekend, Middletown Day is postponed to next Sunday, October 22nd. Same time, same location, same fun!

Join us as we come together as a community to celebrate all that makes

Middletown so exceptional. The 2023 festival will feature the Business and Community Showcase, the return of the popular Car Show, as well as many familiar favorites including a food court, first responder demonstrations, live entertainment, family activities, and more!

Visit www.middletownnj.org/middletownday for more information.

Mayor's Challenge 5K + 1 Mile Fun Run Postponed to Sunday, 10/22



Exercise for a great cause at the annual Mayor's Challenge 5K + 1 Mile Fun Run, which is now rescheduled to Sunday, October 22nd! Race the trails of Poricy Park (345 Oak Hill Road) to compete for an awesome prize while raising money for RallyCap Sports, a nonprofit that brings recreational opportunities to children and young adults with special needs while also providing life-changing volunteer opportunities. All participants receive a medal. Long-sleeve t-shirts are included while supplies last.

Sign up today at www.middletownnj.org/5K.

NJ DEP to Place Port Monmouth Facility into "Operational Mode" Due to Heavy Rain



Due to the heavy rain and windy conditions predicted to reach our area Saturday afternoon, New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJ DEP) will be placing the Port Monmouth facility into "Operational Mode".

The Pews Creek Tide Gate is ready to function as designed and will be placed in "Operational Mode" on Saturday, October 14th at 2:00 PM. The operation will allow the gates to automatically open and close based on the tides while ensuring the interior drainage basin does not exceed elevation +5.0 NAVD88.

The Road Closure Gate on Old Port Monmouth Road remains open, and no action is planned at this time. DEP will monitor tides and shall coordinate with the municipality and county should weather change and require closure.

Click [HERE](#) to read our advisory for more information.

Register for Nixle to Receive Emergency Alerts & Updates

REGISTER FOR ALERTS: BE IN THE KNOW WITH  **NIXLE** 

Three ways to get emergency notifications, such as severe weather updates, from Middletown Township:

- Text your zip code to 888-777
- Visit www.middletownnj.org/nixle to register for/customize notifications
- Download the Everbridge Nixle mobile app on Apple Store or Google Play to receive/manage notifications and limit text messages



Less urgent messages will be delivered to your email address on file. If it isn't on file, text your email address to 888-777 or download the mobile app.

Visit www.middletownnj.org/nixle to register for Nixle.

Spread Some Cheer with Our Holiday Helpers Program



Looking to spread some **holiday cheer**? Middletown Township is pleased to present **Holiday Helpers** to support our Middletown families in need with our upcoming **Thanksgiving Food** and **Gift** drives!

Please visit www.middletownnj.org/holidayhelpers for a list of food items we are collecting, information about where and when to drop them off, and how to sign up to participate in the Holiday Helpers Gift Drive.

Questions? Call the Middletown Township Health Department at 732-615-2085. Thank you for your generosity and spreading **holiday cheer**!

Township Committee Proclaims October 12, 2023 as Anita Thorne Rochelle-Keyser Day on her 99th Birthday!



Anita was welcomed with a round of applause from students and staff of Thorne Middle School, Middletown Township Public Schools Board of Education members, Mayor Tony Perry, MTPD Chief R. Craig Weber, and family members!

On Thursday, October 12th, Mayor Tony Perry attended the 99th birthday celebration of Anita Thorne Rochelle-Keyser in front of Thorne Middle School in Port Monmouth. Her brother, Cpl. Horace “Bud” M. Thorne, fought in the Battle of the Bulge during World War II and was awarded the Medal of Honor for his courageous actions. The school is named in honor of him.

Anita’s children and family members, along with Middletown Township Public Schools Board of Education President Frank Capone, fellow board members, Thorne Principal Shannon Smith, faculty and students, Middletown High School South (and former Thorne) principal Tom Olausen, and MTPD Chief R. Craig Weber and officers were in attendance to thank her for continuing her family’s legacy to teach our youth about the sacrifices our service men and women make for the freedoms we enjoy today.

The student body gathered outside to sing “Happy Birthday” as well as read messages thanking her brother for his service and her family’s dedication to veterans and their families.



The beautiful birthday girl was surrounded by cake, flowers, balloons, and more!

After students returned to class, the celebration continued with a video highlighting all the events Anita has participated in at Thorne, she received birthday cards from students, and everyone sang “Happy Birthday” before eating cake.

Mayor Perry also presented a proclamation recognizing October 12, 2023 as Anita Thorne Rochelle-Keyser Day in the Township of Middletown. Anita is the oldest surviving sibling in a family of 9 children, all of whom were born in Monmouth County. She championed creating the World War II Memorial in Washington, D.C., and is a longtime supporter of Wreaths Across America. We are incredibly fortunate to call Anita one of Middletown’s own. Please join us in wishing her a very happy 99th birthday!

Middletown High School North Celebrates Improvements to Outdoor Learning Lab



Mayor Tony Perry was all smiles holding a chick who was just born earlier this week!



Principal Kevin Cullen and Mayor Tony Perry have a chat

On Tuesday, Mayor Tony Perry and Board of Education President Frank Capone got a tour of Middletown High School North’s award-winning Outdoor Learning Lab! This innovative area includes an indoor/outdoor greenhouse, hydroponic gardening, a chicken coop, a new koi pond that

with some involved teachers in front of the impressive koi pond!

provides water and nutrients for plants, a new heat sink that was installed underneath the greenhouse to regulate the temperature during winter months, and more. Before the tour began, former principal Dr. Patricia Vari-Cartier was recognized with a plaque for all her efforts.

The Outdoor Learning Lab is made possible through Sustainable Jersey for Schools' grants and the hard work of High School North's staff and students, especially those on the Green Team, in AP Environmental Science, and part of the Vision program which helps students with behavioral issues.

Cub Scout Pack 205 Learns About Local Government



Mayor Perry and the cub scouts pose for a photo after their informative and insightful meeting!

On Wednesday, Mayor Tony Perry had the honor of meeting with Cub Scout Pack 205! The scouts stopped by the Mayor's Office to earn a badge and learn about how local government works. Mayor Perry was thrilled to answer their great questions

and talk about his experience as an elected official.



Township Committee to Host Meeting on Monday, 10/16 at 7 PM

The Middletown Township Committee Regular Meeting will be held on Monday, October 16th at 7:00 PM in the courtroom at Town Hall (1 Kings Highway).

The meeting is open to the public.

The meeting will also be made available to watch or listen to by visiting www.middletownnj.org/tcmeeting. If prompted, please enter your name and email address to join. To call in to the meeting, dial 1-408-418-9388. The event access code is 2339 179 3030 followed by #. Enter 2023 if a passcode is required.

Prior to the Township Committee Meeting, the event link will be published on the Township's [Facebook page](#). The recording of the meeting will be aired on the Township's TV channel (Verizon FiOS Channel 26/Comcast Cable Channel 20) and [YouTube channel](#).

Click [HERE](#) for more information and to see the agenda.

Belford Engine Fire Company Hosts Successful Car Show



Check out some of these cool whips!

Deputy Mayor Rick Hibell and Committeewoman Kimberly Kratz recently attended Belford Engine Fire Company's Car Show! The two had a great time enjoying the beautiful weather and antique cars.

Middletown Township Community Garden Hosts 2 Annual Harvest Gathering



*Gardeners enjoy each other's company and the beautiful garden at the annual Harvest Gathering!
(Photo courtesy of Middletown Township Community Garden)*

The Middletown Township Community Garden recently hosted its second annual Harvest Gathering! More than 35 people came together to share delicious food, participate in pumpkin giveaways and door prizes, and talk about how the garden has improved their lives. Middletown is so happy to see our community garden not only grow food, but also friendships.

Thank you to our dedicated gardeners who volunteer their time to upkeeping it. The garden will be closing for the 2023 season on Wednesday, November 15th, but we look forward to seeing what the 2024 season will bring!

K-9 Koda Celebrates Retirement from MTPD



Mayor Tony Perry was proud to join Sergeant Stephen Greenwood and give Koda his well-earned round of a-paws!

Last Friday, the Middletown Township Police Department (MTPD) threw a retirement party for K-9 Koda! Koda dedicated eight years of service to the MTPD and had an impressive career with over 312 deployments which resulted in many arrests, narcotics seized, and suspects located. Koda also proudly served on the Monmouth County Emergency Response Team and aided the Camden office of the New York/New Jersey Fugitive Task Force with the arrest of over 29 wanted fugitives.

Koda was loyal and constantly ensured the safety of the officers on duty, including his handler Sergeant Stephen Greenwood. He celebrated his retirement with a peanut butter cake and lots of love. We hope his retirement is full of treats, naps, and fun!

Pre-Register for Middletown Animal Control's Free Dog Rabies Clinic on Saturday, 10/21 from 8:30-10:00 AM



FREE DOG RABIES CLINIC

PRE-REGISTRATION REQUIRED

SATURDAY, 10/21 FROM 8:30-10:00 AM
CROYDON HALL GYM PARKING LOT (900 LEONARDVILLE ROAD)

This is a drive-thru clinic, but dogs must still be on a leash and accompanied by their owner.

Please call Animal Control at 732-615-2097 if you have any questions and visit www.middletownnj.org/rabies to pre-register.



Visit www.middletownnj.org/rabies to pre-register.



Middletown Selected as Location for U.S.S. NEW JERSEY SSN 796 Commissioning Ceremony in April

Mayor Perry and the Township Committee are beyond honored and excited that our town will be on full display throughout this week-long ceremony. The submarine arrives on Monday, April 1st and Commissioning Day is on Saturday, April 6th. Visit www.njcommissioning.org and social media (USS NEW JERSEY Commissioning Committee) to check out the schedule of community events.

U.S.S. New Jersey Commissioning Committee Holds Souvenir Coin Design Contest: Deadline Tuesday, 10/31!

U.S.S. NEW JERSEY (SSN 796) SUBMARINE COMMISSIONING COIN DESIGN CONTEST



TO CELEBRATE THE 2024 COMMISSIONING OF THE USS NEW JERSEY (SSN 796), THE COMMISSIONING COMMITTEE IS HOSTING A COIN DESIGN CONTEST.

**WINNER WILL RECEIVE \$1,000 SCHOLARSHIP
& TRIP TO COMMISSIONING CEREMONY**

REQUIREMENTS:

- THE CONTEST ENDS OCTOBER 31, 2023.
- MUST BE A HIGH SCHOOL OR MIDDLE SCHOOL STUDENT WHO IS A RESIDENT OF NEW JERSEY AND ENROLLED IN A PUBLIC OR PRIVATE SCHOOL.
- EACH STUDENT CAN SUBMIT ONLY ONE ENTRY (EITHER INDIVIDUALLY OR AS PART OF A TEAM OF UP TO THREE STUDENTS).
- SUBMIT DESIGNS TO:
USSNJCOINCONTEST@GMAIL.COM
- QUESTIONS, PLEASE CONTACT: 732-395-9656 OR
PENGELI121@GMAIL.COM
- THE ENTRY SHOULD INCLUDE A SKETCH OR DRAWING OF THE COIN DESIGN, ALONG WITH A BRIEF EXPLANATION OF ITS SYMBOLISM AND SIGNIFICANCE.
- THE COIN DESIGN SHOULD FIT WITHIN A CIRCLE OF 2 INCHES IN DIAMETER AND REFLECT THE REVERSE (BACK) OF THE COIN.
- THE NEW JERSEY COMMISSIONING COMMITTEE (A NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION OVERSEEING THE COMMISSIONING EVENT) WILL DESIGN THE OBERSE (FRONT) OF THE COIN.

The Commissioning Committee is organizing a commemorative Coin Design Contest for high school and middle school students across the state. The deadline is Tuesday, October 31st.

Each county will select a first and second place winner and the Committee will select an overall winner whose design will be featured on the back side of the souvenir coin to be sold at the commissioning ceremony. The main prize is a \$1,000 scholarship and a ticket to the ceremony at NWS Earle's waterfront in Leonardo.

Watch [this video](#) to learn more about the contest and how to submit your entry.

Honor Fallen Heroes at WPC Field of Flags Events
Flag Installation on Saturday, 10/14 at 9 AM



Westminster Presbyterian Church (94 Tindall Road) will be holding its annual Field of Flags ceremony on Saturday, October 21st at noon. The service is a solemn display of patriotism that pays homage to the men and women who have served our nation. This year, they will plant 5,000 flags to honor veterans from every branch who served in every war and conflict in U.S. military history.

The Township Committee encourages community members to help plant the flags on Saturday, October 14th at 9:00 AM. All are welcome.

**Save the Date for our Annual Veterans Day Parade:
Sunday, 11/5 @ 1:00 PM**



Nominate a Middletown Veteran for the 2023 Veteran of the Year Award by Friday, 12/1

A graphic with a dark background and a stylized American flag in the upper left corner. A central white box with a gold border contains the text. The text is in a mix of bold sans-serif and serif fonts, with a gold circular icon containing a white 'V' between the words 'VETERAN' and 'OF' in the title.

**The Middletown Veterans Affairs Committee
is now accepting nominations for the**

2023 VETERAN  OF THE YEAR

**All nominations must be received no later than
Friday, December 1st. Please visit
www.middletownnj.org/voty for more information.**

Visit www.middletownnj.org/voty for more information.

3 Ways to Vote in Upcoming General Election



ATTENTION

MONMOUTH COUNTY VOTERS



Election Day is Tuesday, November 7th!

New Jersey now has 3 Voting Options

1

VOTING BY MAIL - Apply by filing an application with the County Clerk. Voted ballots must be returned to the County Board of Elections by 8:00 P.M. on November 7:

- Hand deliver to 300 Halls Mill Road, Freehold
- Via Drop Box
- By mail – must be postmarked on or before 8:00 P.M. on November 7

2

EARLY IN-PERSON VOTING - October 28 through November 5, Monday through Saturday, 10 A.M. to 8 P.M., Sundays 10 A.M. to 6 P.M. *(You can vote at any location regardless of where you live in the County!)*

- Colts Neck Township - Colts Neck Public Library, 2 Veterans Way, (Formerly 1 Winthrop Drive)
- Hazlet Township - Monmouth County Library, Hazlet Branch, 251 Middle Road
- Howell Township - Adelphia Fire Company Sta. No. 2, (Rear Entrance), 993 State Rt. 33, Freehold
- Little Silver Borough - The Women's Club of Little Silver (Main Lobby), 111 Church Street
- Long Branch City - Brookdale Community College, Long Branch Campus (2nd Floor), 213 Broadway
- Manalapan Township - Monmouth County Library Hq., (Meeting Rooms 1, 2 & 3), 125 Symmes Drive
- Middletown Township - Croydon Hall (Senior Center), 900 Leonardville Road, Leonardo
- Neptune Township - Neptune Senior Center (Fitness Center), 1607 Corlies Avenue
- Spring Lake Heights - Cornelius V. Kelly Community Center, 902 Ocean Road
- Upper Freehold Township - Hope Fire Co. No. 1, 82 Route 526, Allentown

3

ELECTION DAY VOTING NOVEMBER 7 - Polls are open from 6 A.M. to 8 P.M.

For polling and drop box locations and other information, visit MonmouthCountyVotes.com or download our free "Monmouth County Votes" Mobile App.



Monmouth County Clerk
Christine Giordano Hanlon
300 Halls Mill Road
Freehold, NJ 07728
Phone: 732-431-7790



[Click on the graphic to view it in a larger PDF format.](#)

Where to Drop Off Your Mail-In Ballot

Click [HERE](#) for instructions on how to vote by mail.

Click [HERE](#) for more information about Middletown's election services.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Sun.	Mon.	Tue.	Wed.	Thu.	Fri.	Sat.
Sun.	Mon.	Tue.	Wed.	Thu.	Fri.	Sat.

**Listen to Live Music at the MAC's Music Cafe on Sunday,
10/15 from 4-6 PM**



Join the Middletown Arts Center (MAC) on Sunday, October 15th from 4-6 PM for its monthly singer-songwriters showcase featuring artists Bernie Drury, Jim Crawford, Joanne Calabrese, and Jerry Smith. The concert will take place inside the MAC's theater (36 Church Street). The event is free with a suggested donation of \$5.

Click [HERE](#) for more information about the concert.

Click [HERE](#) to donate to the MAC.

**Register Now for Middletown Recreation's
Halloween Hullabaloo**



This spooktacular evening presented by Middletown Recreation, the Middletown Arts Center, and the Middletown Township Education Association is free for residents and includes a costume contest, cartooning with the Doodle Dude and Miss Fish, craft vendors, an inflatable corn maze, a bonfire, hayrides, goodies, and more! Trick-or-treat bags will be given to the first 500 kids at the event. Registration is recommended.

Click [HERE](#) for more information.

Test Your Tim Burton Knowledge at the MTPL's Trivia Night on Thursday, 10/19 at 7 PM



Patrons ages 18+ are invited to join the Middletown Township Public Library (MTPL) on Thursday, October 19th for a Halloween-themed trivia night dedicated to Hollywood's most off-kilter director's body of work! From Batman to Beetlejuice and beyond, come to the MTPL's Computer Lab (55 New Monmouth Road) and test your Tim Burton trivia knowledge. Registration is required.

Click [HERE](#) for more information and to register.

**Celebrate Oktoberfest and German Traditions at the MTPL
on Friday, 10/20**

Oktoberfest Show

featuring Richard Stillman

Friday,
Oct. 20 | 2pm



Registration is
recommended, not
required at mtpl.org.



Come to the MTPL's Community Room on Friday, October 20th at 2:00 PM to celebrate Oktoberfest, a German tradition, with Richard Stillman. There will be Oktoberfest songs on concertina, guitar, and banjo. The show will also include tap dancing to German waltzes and a musical washboard routine! Registration is recommended, but not required.

Click [HERE](#) for more information and to register.

'Tis the Season to Give: Donate Blood at Lincroft Fire Company on Tuesday, 11/7 from 12:30-6:30 PM

The season to


GIVE

BLOOD DRIVE

Tuesday, Nov. 7 12:30-6:30pm


Lincroft Fire Company
601 Newman Springs Rd., Lincroft





Appointments recommended. For an appointment call 800-933-2566 or visit nybc.org/drive or scan QR Code and search for sponsor code 70286



Donors 76 and over need a doctor's note unless one is already on file.
16 year olds need signed NYBC parental consent form.

Appointments are preferred however walk-ins will be welcomed if space permits. Please remember to eat, drink, and bring your ID with your name and photo. Visit nybc.org/coronavirus for complete COVID-19 safety protocols.

 **New Jersey Blood Services**

800.933.BLOOD • nybc.org     [#njbloodservices](https://twitter.com/njbloodservices)

[Click on the graphic to view it in a larger PDF format.](#)

Please help our community by stopping by Lincroft Fire Company (601 Newman Springs Road) on Tuesday, November 7th to donate a pint of blood. Appointments are suggested and can be made by either calling 800-933-2566, visiting the [New York Blood Center's website](#), or scanning the QR code pictured above. If you register online, please search sponsor code "70286".

Click [HERE](#) to make an appointment.

RESOURCES



Report Your Missed Trash, Recycling, or Bulk Collection to DPW

**WAS YOUR TRASH, RECYCLING,
OR BULK NOT COLLECTED?**

LET DPW KNOW!



Please complete an online form at
www.middletownnj.org/missedpickup.

QUESTIONS?

Please call DPW at
732-615-2090.



THANK YOU!

We encourage you to complete a form at www.middletownnj.org/missedpickup if
your trash, recycling, or bulk was not collected.

Please call DPW at 732-615-2090 if you have any questions.

Click [HERE](#) to complete DPW's form.

**Middletown Township Health Department Provides
Resource to Find Vaccines**

Looking for a vaccine?

Visit vaccines.gov to find a
location near you.



**MIDDLETOWN
TOWNSHIP NJ**

Department of Health



[Click on the graphic to find vaccines.](https://vaccines.gov)



Tap into Federal Housing Administration's 203(k) Program to Help Rehab or Renovate Your Home

If you want to finance the purchase of a home that needs rehabilitation or finance improvements to your current home, the [Federal Housing Administration's \(FHA\) Section 203\(k\) Rehabilitation Mortgage Insurance Program](#) (203(k) Program) may be the right choice for you. This program is available through FHA-approved lenders and allows homebuyers to finance the purchase of a home or homeowners to refinance a current mortgage, combining the cost of renovations, repairs, or remodeling into a single loan.

The program permits homebuyers and homeowners to have home repair

improvements incorporated into their mortgage. This way you can quickly and easily tap into cash to pay for property repairs or improvements, such as those identified by a home inspector or an FHA appraiser. Those who are buying a home can make it move-in ready by remodeling the kitchen, painting the interior, or purchasing new carpet. Homeowners can make property repairs, improvements, or prepare their home for sale. The 203(k) Program is also often used to rebuild or repair after a natural disaster such as a flood or hurricane. It is also available to HUD-approved non-profit organizations and government agencies.

For more information and resources, check out [this pamphlet](#).

Click [HERE](#) to access hi-res photos from this e-newsletter.


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