

Middletown Minutes

Official Township E-Newsletter



**Join MTPD at Annual National Night Out on Tuesday, 8/6
from 5-8 PM**



National Night Out will be celebrated at Middletown High School North's back field (63 Tindall Road) this year on Tuesday, August 6th! Attendees will be able to park in the lot off Swartzel Drive.

National Night Out is an annual police-community building campaign that is celebrated across thousands of communities from all 50 states, U.S. territories, and military bases worldwide to promote neighborhood safety and unity. This is the MTPD's 7th year hosting it.

The MTPD will be on site to meet the public, give demonstrations, and have fun. Activities include fingerprinting, K-9 demonstrations, police equipment displays, impaired driving simulator, inflatables, giveaways, food, and more!

We hope to see all our residents at this FREE, family-friendly event!

Congratulations to New Class of MTPD Senior Police Youth Week Camp Graduates!



The young cadets were able to demonstrate what was learned in the classroom by processing a mock crime scene. (Photos courtesy of Detective Ric Cruz)





Committeewoman Kimberly Kratz stands proudly with the dedicated officers who run this wonderful program.

Middletown Township Police Department (MTPD) wrapped up its Senior Police Youth Week Camp, run by Detective Ric Cruz, on Friday, August 2nd! There were 28 kids between the ages of 12 and 13 who participated in this program which gave them more insight into what it's like to be a police officer. Participants spent the week learning about different areas of law enforcement. Their days began with physical fitness training, including a platoon formation run. Following the morning workout, the young cadets learned drill and ceremony facing movements and then classroom instruction. Classroom instruction was offered on topics like officer safety, motor vehicle stops, handcuffing, and civil disturbances.

After lunch, the young cadets had to demonstrate what was learned in the classroom by responding to calls for service in a controlled environment. They worked on breaching doors, using verbal de-escalation tactics, and at times using control techniques against the staff to make an arrest. During the motor vehicle stop segment these young cadets simulated using a patrol car to make a motor vehicle stop. Cadets had to utilize dispatch to check the driver information which many times would lead to an arrest and a search of the motor vehicle for weapons and narcotics.

The young cadets were also invited to the Nickelodeon Universe Amusement Park in the American Dream Mall where they saw and participated in demonstrations by the New Jersey State Police and Meadowland Fire Department and had full access to the amusement park. Special thanks to Director of Security Thomas Bonham for allowing the cadets to have such a unique experience!

The week concluded with a graduation ceremony at the Brookdale Community College Student Life Center. Each graduate received a well-earned Challenge Coin. Committeewoman Kimberly Kratz, Deputy Chiefs Paul Bailey, John Kaiser, and John Werner, and Lieutenant Steve Keller personally congratulated each child. Campers chose fellow cadet Cole Butler for a leadership award. Kudos to our newest Senior Police Youth Week graduates and the dedicated officers who run this amazing program – Sgt. Carr, Sgt. Mahon, Cpl. Seymour, Cpl. Riffert, Cpl. Buhowski, Ptl. Zubkow, Ptl. McQuade, Det. Cruz, and volunteers Noah Fleming and Thea and Alex Rowland!

MTFD Fosters Stronger Community Connections with

Successful Touch-A-Truck Event



Community members had the opportunity to learn about fire and safety practices.

(All photos courtesy of MTFD PIO Laurie Kegley)



On Monday, July 29th, the Middletown Township Fire Department held its 2nd annual Touch-a-Truck event at the Mater Dei parking lot on Cherry Tree Farm Road. This dynamic community event brought together the entire volunteer fire department along with its valued emergency partners from the Middletown Township Office of Emergency Management, New Jersey Natural Gas, and Jersey Central Power & Light.

The Touch-a-Truck event provided residents with an invaluable opportunity to engage directly with emergency services and learn about fire and safety practices. Attendees had the chance to explore an array of fire and utility equipment up close, participate in informative safety demonstrations, and enjoy a diverse selection of food truck offerings. The event also featured a variety of games, adding to the day's fun and interactive atmosphere.

The Touch-a-Truck event was a tremendous success, effectively showcasing the vital role of the fire department while fostering stronger connections within the community.

Learn About Floodplain Management Resources on *Talk of the Town*



Talk of the Town host Tara Berson interviews Middletown Township's Municipal Floodplain Manager Stacy Krause about flooding in our area, how to find out your base flood elevation, and where to access helpful resources.

Click [HERE](#) to watch the episode on YouTube.



In July 2026, the United States will mark its 250th anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence – and Middletown is preparing to celebrate in a monumental way!

Middletown's America 250 Committee has already started planning thoughtful ways to commemorate this historic milestone by paying tribute to our nation's past and the part that Middletown played in it.

This multi-year initiative will run from July 1, 2024 through July 4, 2026. Much like the Bicentennial Celebration of 1976, this observance will offer a plethora of ways to learn about Middletown's history before and during the Revolutionary War and explore the significant role it had in founding America.

We are excited to embark on this journey toward celebrating this momentous occasion in our nation's history!

Visit www.middletownnj.org/america250 for more information about the Middletown America 250 Committee.

Join Us For Lafayette Bicentennial Sunset Cruise Happening on Wednesday, 8/14 from 5:30-9:00 PM

DAR
MIDDLETOWN CHAPTER

You're Invited

Sail the waters of Sandy Hook Bay and see America as Marquis de Lafayette did upon his arrival for his farewell tour on August 14, 1824!

Lafayette Bicentennial Sunset Cruise

Date: Wednesday, August 14th

Time: Teal Cruises boat boards at 5:30 PM and returns to dock at 9:00 PM

Location: Atlantic Highlands Marina (2 Simon Lake Drive, Atlantic Highlands)

Cost: \$100/ ticket (includes 3-hour boat ride with Lafayette impersonator, heavy hors d'oeuvres, soft drinks & dessert with cash bar)

SCAN TO LEARN MORE, REGISTER, & PURCHASE TICKETS

The Middletown Township Committee encourages residents to join our America 250 celebration by supporting the upcoming Lafayette Bicentennial Sunset Cruise.

Attendees will sail the waters of the Sandy Hook Bay and see America as Marquis de Lafayette, a French nobleman who fought in the Continental Army in the American Revolutionary War, did during his farewell tour exactly two centuries ago.

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

Listen to Local County Tales at "Stories 'Round the Campfire" on Sunday, 8/18 at 7:30 PM

**SUNDAY, AUGUST 18 | 7:30-8:30 PM
MIDDLETOWN ARTS CENTER LAWN
36 CHURCH STREET**

Middletown Township and Sand Hill Indian Historical Association invite you to an evening of listening to local county tales under the moonlight.

Please bring your own lawn chair and blanket so you can sit and relax as you enjoy smores and stories about Middletown's history!

A photograph of a campfire at night, with a full moon in the sky and tall evergreen trees in the background. The text "Stories 'Round the Campfire" is overlaid on the image in a stylized, glowing font.

**Stories 'Round the
CAMPFIRE**

Middletown's America 250 Committee is partnering with Middletown Township and Sand Hill Indian Historical Association to host Stories 'Round the Campfire on Sunday, August 18th at the Middletown Arts Center's lawn (36 Church Street)! We encourage everyone to join us for this free event as we dig deep into our community's rich history and listen to local county tales under the moonlight, similar to how Native American tribes used to do many centuries ago.

Attendees will be able to make s'mores and are encouraged to bring their own lawn chair and/or blanket.

**Middletown Day is on Saturday, 9/28 from 1:00-6:00 PM:
Fireworks at 7:30 PM!**



Middletown Recreation is excited to announce that Middletown Day will be returning on Saturday, September 28th from 1:00-6:00 PM at Croydon Hall (900 Leonardville Road). Enjoy food trucks, live music, local businesses and crafters, touch-a-trucks, children's entertainment, inflatables, and so much more!

New this year, there will be fireworks at 7:30 PM! Join us beforehand for "Tramps Like Us" – NJ's #1 Bruce Springsteen Tribute Band from 6:00-7:30 PM. Please bring your own blankets and chairs. Sponsorship and vendor spots are still available, so apply today!

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

Tindall Park Tennis and Pickleball Courts Are Closed Through August



Middletown Recreation would like to inform the community that the Tindall Park tennis and pickleball courts will be closed for renovations through August. These updates are necessary to ensure that the facilities remain safe, functional, and enjoyable for everyone.

Click [HERE](#) for more information.



Bray Avenue near Pews Creek is expected to be closed through the end of August. Please avoid the area and plan alternate routes.

Visit www.middletownnj.org/nixle, text your zip code to 888-777, or download the Everbridge Nixle mobile app to sign up for the Township's emergency notifications, which include alerts about road detours and closures.

UPCOMING EVENTS



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

Register for Middletown Recreation's Upcoming Guided Fossil Hunts

Guided Fossil Hunts

\$5.00 per participant (Age 5 - Adult). Hunts last 1 hour.

July 21	11:00am - 12:00pm
August 13	10:00am - 11:00am 4:00pm - 5:00pm
August 18	11:00am - 12:00pm
September 22	11:00am - 12:00pm



Dig up some history at the Poricy Park Fossil Beds! Middletown Recreation's

instructor will help identify your treasures to take home.

Click [HERE](#) to sign up for upcoming hunts.

Register Now to Go Pond Netting at Poricy Park on Thursday, 8/15



Find what's at the bottom of the Murray Pond! Look for frogs, turtles, and snakes. Use our nets to catch tadpoles, fish, insect larvae, snails, and other critters. Dress to get muddy!

Click [HERE](#) to register.

**MTPL's Summer Scares Series Continues with
Frankenstein Radio Play on Thursday, 8/8 at 7:00 PM**



Come to the Middletown Township Public Library's (MTPL) Community Room (55 New Monmouth Road) for a theatrical radio play retelling of Mary Shelley's infamous monster novel! Recommended for adults and teens ages 13 and up.

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

Kids Can Read to a Dog at MTPL on Thursday, 8/8 at 10:00 AM and Tuesday, 8/20 at 3:00 PM



August Happenings



READ TO A DOG

Drop-In Summer Program!

**Thursday,
8/8 at 10am
and
Tuesday,
8/20 at 3pm
Grades K-5**



Close out the dog days of summer by heading to the Middletown Township Public Library's (55 New Monmouth Road) Read to a Dog Drop-In Summer Program in August! Independent readers in Grades K-5 can bring a book they'd like to read to a dog or pick one out at the library.

No registration is required.

**Clear Your Mind with Meditation Session Held at MTPL on
Saturday, 8/10 at 9:30 AM**



Twin Hearts MEDITATION

LED BY DEBBIE MCCANN-CALL

SATURDAY,
AUGUST 10
9:30 AM
COMMUNITY
ROOM



registration recommended at mtpl.org; age 18+



Practice using mental and physical techniques to clear or focus your mind and promote a sense of inner harmony, calm, and peace. Join Debbie McCann-Call in the Middletown Township Public Library's Community Room (55 New Monmouth Road) as she leads attendees in a meditation session.

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

RESOURCES

**Middletown Veterans Affairs Committee Invites
Community to Attend County Veterans Resource Fair on**

Wednesday, 8/14



Click [HERE](#) to view the flyer.

**Last Day to Pay Quarterly Taxes Without Interest is
Monday, 8/26 by 4 PM**



THE NEXT QUARTERLY TAXES ARE DUE AUGUST 1, 2024.

THE LAST DAY TO PAY THE AUGUST QUARTER WITHOUT INTEREST IS ON MONDAY, AUGUST 26TH BY 4 PM EITHER IN THE TAX COLLECTION OFFICE (1 KINGS HIGHWAY) OR VIA OUR ONLINE PAYMENT PORTAL.



QUESTIONS? CONTACT THE TAX COLLECTION OFFICE AT 732-615-2086.

Click [HERE](#) for more information about how to pay taxes.

**Planning a Vacation?
Renew Your Passport at the Middletown Town Hall
Passport Acceptance Agency**

*Take a trip to the
Middletown Town Hall
Passport Acceptance Agency*

For more information, please call the Middletown Town Hall Passport Acceptance Agency at 732-615-2014, email passport@middletownnj.org, visit www.middletownnj.org/Passports, or stop by the Clerk's Office at 1 Kings Highway.

The Middletown Township Clerk's Office would like to remind residents about the Middletown Town Hall Passport Acceptance Agency (1 Kings Highway). Please visit www.middletownnj.org/passports for more information. You can also email passport@middletownnj.org or call 732-615-2014 if you have any questions.

Register for Middletown's Emergency Alerts & Updates

REGISTER FOR ALERTS: BE IN THE KNOW WITH 

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.



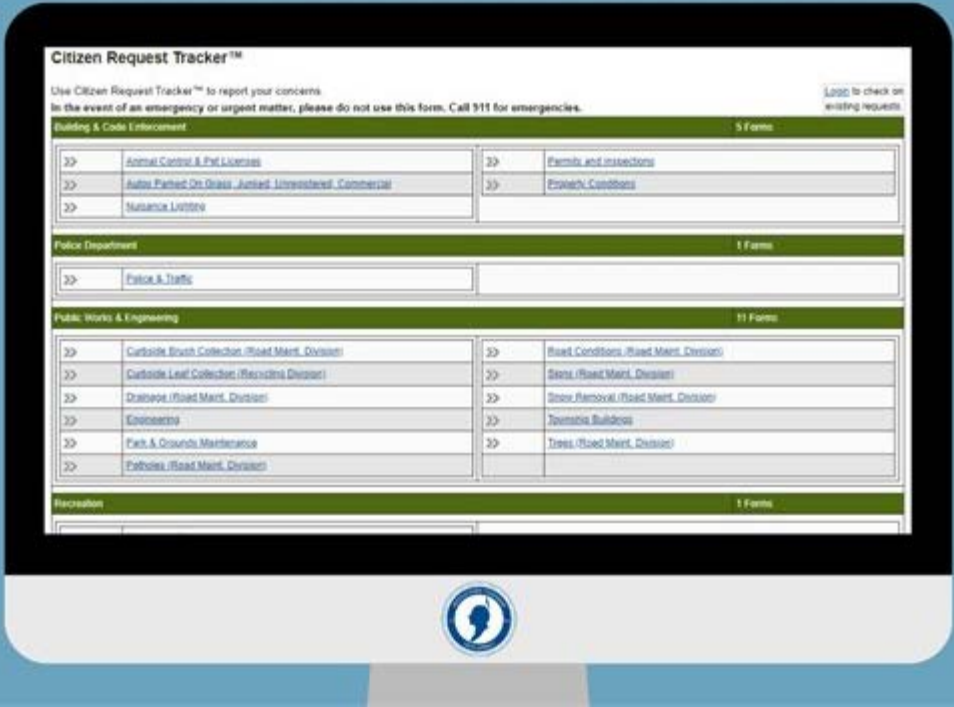
**Know Someone with a Disability?
Make Sure They Register with NJ
Register Ready!**

Middletown's Office of Emergency Management encourages residents with disabilities to register with NJ Register Ready. This free program is designed to assist first responders and emergency planners in identifying community members who may need assistance evacuating in advance of an emergency.

For more information about the program and the three ways you can register, visit www.middletownnj.org/oem.

REPORT A CONCERN

Visit www.middletownnj.org/reportaconcern to notify the Township about matters such as property and/or road conditions, traffic safety, and others.



You will need an account to log in. If you don't have an account, it only takes a few minutes to create one.

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



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