

# Middletown Minutes

Official Township E-Newsletter



**Raise Money for Middletown WTC Memorial Gardens  
Fund and Participate in Annual Mayor's Challenge  
Happening TOMORROW (Saturday, 10/25)**

**Mayor's CHALLENGE**  
**5K + 1 MILE FUN RUN**  
PORICY PARK, 345 OAK HILL RD RED BANK  
**SATURDAY, OCTOBER 25TH**  
JOIN US FOR A TRAIL RUN WITH AWESOME PRIZES!  
**ALL PROCEEDS BENEFIT:**  
**MIDDLETOWN'S  
WORLD TRADE CENTER  
MEMORIAL GARDENS  
FUND**

We hope you'll join us tomorrow to run the trails of Poricy Park (345 Oak Hill Road) for a good cause!

Middletown Parks & Recreation is raising money for the Middletown World Trade Center (WTC) Memorial Gardens Fund through this year's Mayor's Challenge. A special 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary improvement project is taking place and this event will help fund it.

The Middletown WTC Memorial Gardens are located next to the Middletown Arts Center (36 Church Street) and pay tribute to the 37 residents who lost their lives on 9/11, as well as the first responders and individuals who have lost their lives as a result of that fateful day.

Visit [middletownnj.org/5K](https://middletownnj.org/5K) for more information and to register.

## Middletown Day 2025: A Celebration of Community Spirit



*During the opening remarks at Middletown Day, the Township Committee, joined by Monmouth County and state dignitaries, surprised Township Administrator Tony Mercantante with a plaque in honor of his 45 years of working for the Township.*

On Sunday, our community came together for Middletown Day, an annual fall tradition that brings out the very best of what makes Middletown a great place to live, work, and raise a family. Hosted at Croydon Hall in Leonardo, the event featured the popular Business and Community Showcase, along with many beloved favorites — a delicious food court, first responder touch-a-trucks, children's inflatables and games, Trunk-or-Treat, and more!

Visitors enjoyed performances by Lakehouse Music Academy, Octopus Music School, and the North and South High School Choirs, while exploring the work of local crafters, nonprofits, and businesses. Kids got creative with Doodle Dude from the Middletown Arts Center and picked pumpkins to take home from the

pumpkin patch.

The day also featured the debut of the Middletown America 250 Experience, where families learned about Middletown's role in our nation's founding, took photos in

the signing of the Declaration of Independence photo booth with the “Founding Fathers”, and brought home themed giveaways.

As the sun set, the Moroccan Shepherders lit up the Main Stage with a high-energy performance from 5:00–6:30 PM, followed by a dazzling fireworks finale that closed out the perfect day.

A heartfelt thank-you to our sponsors, especially C&C Air Conditioning, Heating, and Plumbing and Remington & Vernick Engineers, and to everyone who helped make this year’s celebration such a tremendous success. Middletown Day was filled with hometown pride, community connection, and unforgettable memories!

Click [HERE](#) to view photos from the event. Click [HERE](#) to view photos from the Middletown America 250 Committee’s photo booth.

## Township Committee Recognizes Local Organizations for Donations to Veterans Village



*Pictured from left: Deputy Mayor Rick Hibell, Committeeman Ryan Clarke, Jason's Dreams for Kids Vice President/Treasurer Linda McGinnis, Jason's Dreams for Kids Founder/President Dennis McGinnis, Mayor Tony Perry, and Committeewoman Kimberly Kratz*

At the Township Committee Meeting on Monday, October 20<sup>th</sup>, Mayor Tony Perry and the Township Committee presented plaques to local nonprofit Jason's Dreams for Kids and Middletown Elks Lodge 2179 for their donations to Veterans Village, the Township's affordable housing project for veterans.

The building, which is located in Campbell's Junction, has been years in the making and will offer 12 units to tenants who qualify and have honorably served our nation. There will be a grand opening for the community on Sunday, November 2<sup>nd</sup> at 11:00 AM. Members of the public are encouraged to attend as we celebrate the completion of this project and officially open the doors to this beautiful new place that some veterans will soon call home.

Thank you to these two organizations for your generosity!



*The Township Committee joins several Middletown Elks Lodge 2179 members as they proudly show off their plaque.*

## **Middletown Proclaims October 2025 as Substance Use & Misuse Prevention Month**



At the meeting, Committeewoman Kim Kratz accepted a proclamation on behalf of the Middletown Alliance for Drug and Alcohol Prevention recognizing October 2025 as Substance Use & Misuse Prevention Month.

As the chairperson of the Alliance, Committeewoman Kratz spoke about how the volunteer-run organization educates the community about how to prevent substance misuse, underage drinking, vaping, and other risky behaviors. She specifically spoke about the resolution that the Township Committee passed that evening supporting both the Senate and Assembly's bills criminalizing the manufacture, sale, and possession of substances containing Kratom.

According to the Food and Drug Administration, Kratom has no legitimate medical use and can lead to psychotic symptoms that include hallucinations, delusion, and confusion. Kratom can be found in some ready-to-drink beverages like seltzers and teas. They are often branded as "healthy" herbal tonics or dietary supplements and are typically placed near the checkout counters, alongside items like energy shots, that are easily available at gas stations and in convenience stores. [Click HERE](#) for more information about Kratom.

For the past decade, she has been helping manage Middletown Alliance Leaders, formerly known as Project P.L.U.S. (Peer Leaders Understanding Students), which is an after-school drug & alcohol prevention and leadership program for 5<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade students in Middletown. At the meeting, Committeewoman Kratz shared information about the following upcoming events:

- Red Ribbon Week (Thursday, October 23<sup>rd</sup> through Friday, October 31<sup>st</sup>): Red Ribbon Week is America's largest and longest running drug and alcohol prevention and awareness campaign. The Middletown Alliance funded campaign materials and student giveaways for the 3 middle schools and 2 high schools in town.



*Thanks to efforts of the Middletown Alliance's "Spring Clean Out Your Lungs!" campaign, community members have quit vaping and recycled their vapes in the dedicated container at the Middletown Recycling Center (52 Kanes Lane).*

- Free Public Narcan Training: Thursday, November 6<sup>th</sup> from 5:00-6:00 PM in the Training Room at Town Hall (1 Kings Highway)
- Great American Smokeout: Thursday, November 20<sup>th</sup> from 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM in the lobby at Town Hall

### **Township Surprises Deputy Township Clerk and Alternative Municipal Registrar Kaaren Sena with Plaque in Honor of Upcoming Retirement**



After more than 20 years of dedicated service to Middletown Township, Deputy Township Clerk and Alternative Municipal Registrar Kaaren Sena is retiring at the end of this month. At Monday's meeting, which was also Kaaren's birthday, the Township Committee and Township employees surprised her with a plaque and flowers to congratulate her on this next chapter. We thank Kaaren for her service to our community!

Click [HERE](#) to watch the meeting on the Township's YouTube channel or catch it on our TV channel (Verizon FiOS Channel 26/Comcast Cable Channel 20) every day at 7:00 AM, 12:00 PM, 5:00 PM, and 8:30 PM through Sunday, November 9<sup>th</sup>.

### **Middletown Township Expands Emergency Volunteer Incentive Program to Include Tuition Reimbursement**

**MIDDLETOWN  
TOWNSHIP****PRESS  
RELEASE**

## Middletown Township Expands Emergency Volunteer Incentive Program to Include Tuition Reimbursement

At the Monday, 10/20 Township Committee Meeting, the Committee passed a resolution to adopt participation in the state-authorized Volunteer Tuition Credit Program that allows municipalities to offer tuition credits at no cost to the Township.

Please note that an earlier version of this press release incorrectly stated that the tuition reimbursement program is authorized by the Higher Education Student Assistance Authority (HESAA). The program is authorized by the New Jersey Department of Community Affairs. We regret the error.

Click [HERE](#) to read our updated press release for more information.

Check Out Latest Episode of *Minute with the Mayor*



## MINUTE WITH **THE MAYOR** Episode 26



In this episode of *Minute with the Mayor*, Mayor Tony Perry provides a recap of the fun and festivities at Middletown Day, and gives details about the upcoming Mayor's Challenge 5K + 1 Mile Fun Run on Saturday, October 25<sup>th</sup> that supports the Middletown World Trade Center Memorial Gardens Fund.

He also shares an update about Middletown's participation in the Volunteer Tuition Credit Program as part of the Middletown Emergency Volunteer Incentive Program for MTFD, EMS, and OEM first responders.

Mayor Perry also talks about the upcoming grand opening of Veterans Village in Campbell's Junction on Sunday, November 2<sup>nd</sup>, thanks the many organizations that provided donations to this project, and encourages the community to support our brave local heroes at the 68<sup>th</sup> annual Veterans Day Parade.

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

## MTPD Invites Residents to Participate in Operation Take Back NJ on Saturday, 10/25 from 10 AM - 2 PM

**The Middletown Township Police Department Joins the NJ DEA in**

**OPERATION TAKE BACK NEW JERSEY**

**Saturday, October 25<sup>th</sup> between 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM**

**at Police Headquarters (1 Kings Highway)**



**We encourage residents to turn in unused or expired medications for safe disposal. Officers will be collecting medication in the main lobby at Headquarters.**

**Northern Monmouth Watershed Alliance Partners with Middletown Environmental Commission for "Know Your Stream" Day on Saturday, 10/25 from 1-4 PM**  
**Keansburg Floodgate Walk begins at 12 PM**



The Middletown Environmental Commission invites residents to take part in the first-ever “Know Your Stream” Day on Saturday, October 25<sup>th</sup> from 1:00-4:00 PM, hosted by the Northern Monmouth Watershed Alliance. This will be a fun, educational afternoon exploring the Mahoras/Waackaack and Flat Creek watersheds that flow through our Bayshore communities.

Participants will receive a map of seven viewing sites and a stream observation sheet. At each location you’ll be guided by a knowledgeable Stream Captain who will share insights about water quality, flood protection, and the natural features that connect our towns.

Here is a list of the stream locations: Neil Waackaack Preserve, Tatum Park (Lower Level), Keansburg Flat Creek, Hazlet Library, K-Mart Plaza, Holmdel Pool Club, and Union Beach - Grant Park (Firefighters Park).

**Special Feature:** The Keansburg Floodgate viewing area (Bay Walk West boardwalk entrance) includes a one-mile beach walk beginning at 12:00 PM, featuring a live NJDEP demonstration.

Whether you’re a family, student, or outdoor enthusiast, this is a meaningful way to learn how our local waterways impact daily life — and how we can all help protect them.

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

**Mayor Perry and Deputy Mayor Hibell Plant Flags for Annual Field of Flags Ceremony**



On Saturday, Mayor Tony Perry and Deputy Mayor Rick Hibell were proud to help plant flags for the upcoming Field of Flags event at Westminster Presbyterian Church (94 Tindall Road). The annual dedication ceremony will take place on Saturday, November 8<sup>th</sup> at 11 AM and feature nearly 7,000 flags to honor the brave individuals who have served in our military.

### NJBCA Hosts Meet & Greet



*Pictured from left: NJBCA Board members Ellen Bollinger and Doris Dalfonzo, Deputy Mayor Rick Hibell, and NJBCA Board members Sherilyn Przelomski and Dan Velez*

Before going to Middletown Day, Deputy Mayor Rick Hibell was happy to stop by the New Jersey Blind Citizens Association (NJBCA) for their Camp Happiness Meet & Greet.

NJBCA (18 Burlington Avenue, Leonardo) is a nonprofit dedicated to enhancing the quality of life for blind and visually impaired individuals through education and socialization. The organization transitioned to an all-volunteer operational model in September.

NJBCA proudly offers a program known as Camp Happiness to its members. The camp closed in May to focus on reorganization, but officially reopened in September. The organization plans to operate camps twice monthly through the end of 2025, then hopes to transition to weekly camps in 2026.

While at the event, Deputy Mayor Hibell was honored to meet some NJBCA board members and Camp Happiness attendees as well as check out their thrift store.

For more information about NJBCA and Camp Happiness, please visit [njbca.org](http://njbca.org).

### Early Voting Begins TOMORROW (Saturday, 10/25)

## Where to Cast Your Early Vote for the November 2025 General Election



### ★ WHEN ★

Saturday, 10/25  
through Sunday, 11/2

### ★ WHERE ★

Middletown Senior Center  
(900 Leonardville Road)

### ★ TIME ★

10 AM - 8 PM,  
Monday through Saturday  
10 AM - 6 PM, Sunday

**Voting booths are open to all Monmouth County residents. For other polling locations, visit [monmouthcountyvotes.com](http://monmouthcountyvotes.com).**

**Where to Drop Off Your Mail-In Ballot**



By now you should have received your November General Election mail-in ballot. If you choose to vote by mail, please feel free to drop it off at one of Middletown's two ballot box locations: Croydon Hall Municipal Complex (900 Leonardville Road) and the Middletown Township Public Library (55 New Monmouth Road).

Click [HERE](#) for instructions on how to vote by mail. Click [HERE](#) for more information about Middletown's election services.

### Trick-or-Treating Curfew is 8:00 PM



Trick or Treat at Your Local Firehouse on Halloween  
(Friday, 10/31) from 4-6 PM

# FIREHOUSE TRICK or TREAT



TRICK OR TREAT AT YOUR LOCAL  
FIREHOUSE ON HALLOWEEN!

**OCTOBER 31ST | 4 - 6 PM**

Visit [middletownnj.org/mtfd](https://middletownnj.org/mtfd) for a list of the firehouse addresses.

## Check Out the Fall 2025 Edition of *Middletown Matters*!

**MIDDLETOWN MATTERS**  
**FALL 2025**

Thompson Park  
Photo courtesy of Michelle O'Grady @jerseyshorelens

READ THE LATEST ISSUE OF THE TOWNSHIP'S OFFICIAL NEWS PUBLICATION:  
**[MIDDLETOWNNJ.ORG/MATTERS](https://middletownnj.org/matters)**

Our bi-annual newsletter, *Middletown Matters*, will be arriving in residents' mailboxes soon! In the meantime, feel free to read the digital version at [middletownnj.org/matters](https://middletownnj.org/matters).




**You're Invited to Our NRTC Program Breakfast!**

Middletown was recently approved for the Neighborhood Revitalization Tax Credit (NRTC) Program, allowing Middletown and Monmouth County businesses to invest in Middletown.

**DETAILS:**

Thursday, October 30<sup>th</sup>  
9:30–11:00 AM  
Town Hall Training Room  
1 Kings Highway, Middletown, NJ 07748




**CALLING ALL BUSINESS OWNERS!**

Learn more about how our businesses can receive tax credits for economic investments in Middletown.

**HOW TO RSVP:**

Business owners are encouraged to RSVP to the Mayor's Office at [mayorsoffice@middletownnj.org](mailto:mayorsoffice@middletownnj.org).





IN CONGRESS July 4, 1776


Unanimous Declaration of the Thirteen United States of America



*Celebrating America 250*



**Learn How to Clean Historic Cemetery Gravestones with Middletown America 250 on Saturday, 10/25 at 10 AM**



Please join the Middletown America 250 Committee for a

**HISTORIC CEMETERY GRAVESTONE CLEANING CLASS**

**WHEN:** Saturday, October 25<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 AM

**WHERE:** Throckmorton-Lippit-Taylor Burying Ground (Penelope Lane)

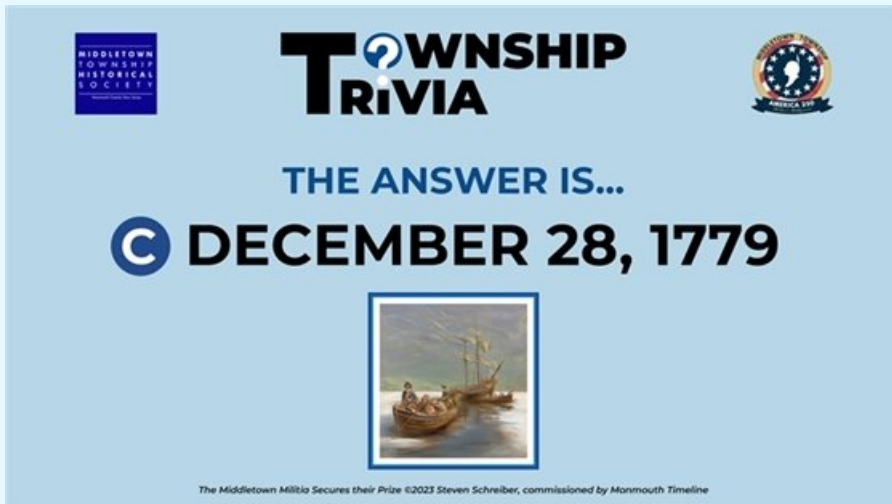
**RSVP:** Email [historic-cemeteries@middletownnj.org](mailto:historic-cemeteries@middletownnj.org) by Friday, October 24<sup>th</sup>.



**RAIN DATE: SUNDAY, OCTOBER 26<sup>TH</sup> AT 12:00 PM**

This Halloween season, trade ghost tours for good deeds. The Middletown America 250 Committee invites you to a hands-on gravestone cleaning class at one of our oldest cemeteries.

## Find Out the Answer to This Week's *Township Trivia* Thursday!



The Middletown Militia Secures their Prize ©2023 Steven Schreiber, commissioned by Monmouth Timeline

The Middletown America 250 Committee and Middletown Township Historical Society are partnering to present *Township Trivia Thursdays* every other week.

Test your trivia skills while learning more about our town and its rich history. This week's question can be found on [middletownnj.org/trivia](http://middletownnj.org/trivia) and the Township's [YouTube channel](#).

The next trivia question will be featured via the Middletown America 250 Committee's Instagram story on Thursday, November 6<sup>th</sup>. The answer will be revealed in the Friday, November 7<sup>th</sup> issue of *Middletown Minutes* and on our Township Trivia page.

Make sure you follow the Middletown America 250 Committee on [Instagram](#)!



## Deadline to Participate in MonmouthNJ 250 Committee's Second Round of Student Contests is Friday, 11/14

The MonmouthNJ 250 Committee recently announced that entries are being accepted for two contests for Monmouth County students as part of the County's commemoration of America's upcoming 250<sup>th</sup> birthday on July 4, 2026.

A Semiquincentennial Poetry Contest for grades three through five invites students to write a poem in response to the prompt "What is America to me?". The Semiquincentennial Essay Contest for grades six through eight invites students to write an essay answering the prompt "What does patriotism mean to me?". This is the second round of student contests – the first round was held this past spring.

Contests are open to students who reside in and/or attend school in Monmouth County. Prizes will be awarded for each grade level. The winning poems and essays will be showcased on the [MonmouthNJ 250 Committee's website](#) and social media channels and will be highlighted throughout the Semiquincentennial celebration.

Submissions must be sent via email to [monmouthnj250@co.monmouth.nj.us](mailto:monmouthnj250@co.monmouth.nj.us) by Friday, November 14<sup>th</sup>. Winners will be announced on Friday, December 5<sup>th</sup>.

Click [HERE](#) for more information about the poetry contest. Click [HERE](#) for more information about the essay contest.

## MonmouthNJ 250 Committee's Parade to Travel through Middletown on Sunday, 6/28 Beginning at 12:30 PM



## October is Fire Prevention Month: Sign Up for a Free Home Smoke Alarm Installation with the MTFD and American Red Cross



# FREE HOME SMOKE ALARM INSTALLATION

**IN PARTNERSHIP WITH** |  American Red Cross

The Middletown Township Fire Department (MTFD) and Middletown Township Fire Prevention Office are partnering with the American Red Cross to install smoke alarms for free throughout Middletown. In light of October being Fire Prevention Month, we encourage all residents to check if their smoke alarms are working.

If you are interested in this free service, please schedule an appointment at [middletownnj.org/smokealarm](http://middletownnj.org/smokealarm).

Click [HERE](#) to watch a Public Service Announcement for more information.

## JOIN MIDDLETOWN TOWNSHIP ON SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 2<sup>ND</sup> TO HONOR OUR VETERANS



### VETERANS VILLAGE GRAND OPENING

- ★ 11:00 AM
- ★ 37-45 Leonardville Rd., Belford
- ★ Event includes a flag raising, monument unveiling, tours, and more!

### 68<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL VETERANS DAY PARADE

- ★ 1:00 PM
- ★ Step Off: Bayview Elementary School (300 Leonardville Rd.)
- ★ Post Parade: Mater Dei Park parking lot (538 Church St.) until 3:00 PM

**Participate in Our Annual Veterans Day Parade on  
Sunday, 11/2 at 1 PM**

A poster for the Middletown Veterans Day Parade. At the top is a waving American flag and the Middletown Township seal. The text reads: "Honor those who served at the Middletown VETERANS DAY PARADE SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 2ND 1PM STEP-OFF". It lists the start and end locations: "START: BAYVIEW ELEMENTARY, 300 LEONARDVILLE RD, BELFORD" and "END: MATER DEI PARKING LOT, CHERRY TREE FARM RD, MIDDLETOWN". A cartoon Uncle Sam holds a sign that says "WE WANT YOU!". A list titled "Calling All:" includes: Veterans, Community Groups, Scout Groups, Businesses, Floats, and Vintage/Cool Cars. It also says "BE PART OF THE PARADE! COMPLETE THE FORM TO SAVE YOUR SPOT." and provides an email for questions: RECREATION@MIDDLETOWNNJ.ORG.

Honor those who served at the Middletown

# VETERANS DAY PARADE

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 2ND  
1PM STEP-OFF

**START:** BAYVIEW ELEMENTARY, 300 LEONARDVILLE RD, BELFORD  
**END:** MATER DEI PARKING LOT, CHERRY TREE FARM RD, MIDDLETOWN

**WE WANT YOU!**

**Calling All:**

- Veterans
- Community Groups
- Scout Groups
- Businesses
- Floats
- Vintage/Cool Cars

BE PART OF THE PARADE!  
COMPLETE THE FORM TO SAVE YOUR SPOT.

QUESTIONS? EMAIL [RECREATION@MIDDLETOWNNJ.ORG](mailto:RECREATION@MIDDLETOWNNJ.ORG)

Honor those who have served our nation at the 68<sup>th</sup> annual Middletown Veterans Day Parade! All veterans, community groups, scout groups, cool/vintage cars, businesses, floats, and others who are interested in being part of the parade can click [HERE](#) to complete this form.

**Support Veterans Village by Enjoying a Meal at Mule Barn Tavern on Tuesday, 11/11**



On Tuesday, November 11<sup>th</sup>, celebrate Veterans Day by enjoying a meal at Mule Barn Tavern (36 Kearney Road, Highlands). From 11:00 AM to 9:00 PM, the restaurant will generously donate 100% of its sales to Veterans Village, Middletown Township's new affordable housing project for veterans.

Located in Campbell's Junction, Veterans Village will provide 12 affordable units for those who have honorably served our country. The Township will be hosting a grand opening celebration on Sunday, November 2<sup>nd</sup> at 11:00 AM, prior to the 68<sup>th</sup> Annual Veterans Day Parade.

In addition to donating its sales, Mule Barn Tavern will also raffle off three gift baskets featuring gift cards, merchandise, and items from local businesses. Raffle tickets are \$5 (cash only), with all proceeds benefiting Veterans Village.

Local businesses interested in contributing raffle items may email [christina.mulebarntavern@gmail.com](mailto:christina.mulebarntavern@gmail.com).

View the menu at [mulebarntavern.com](http://mulebarntavern.com) and show your support for our veterans – and a local business – this Veterans Day!

**Sign Up for Free Narcan/Naloxone Administration Training Happening on Thursday, 11/6 at 5 PM**



Middletown Township and  
JSAS HealthCare, Inc. are partnering  
to offer the public...



## FREE NARCAN/NALOXONE ADMINISTRATION TRAINING

**When:** Thursday, November 6<sup>th</sup> from 5–6 PM

**Location:** Town Hall Training Room (1 Kings Highway)

**You will receive:**

- ✓ Certificate for completed training
- ✓ Overdose prevention kit
- ✓ Overdose education materials

**Registration link:**

 [middletownnj.org/narcantraining](https://middletownnj.org/narcantraining)

**SCAN TO  
REGISTER!**



**Questions?**

Please call Erika McKee at 732-615-2277  
or email [emckee@middletownnj.org](mailto:emckee@middletownnj.org).

Visit [middletownnj.org/narcantraining](https://middletownnj.org/narcantraining) to register.

**Middletown Township Health Department and Middletown  
Alliance to Provide Resources for Residents on Thursday,  
11/20 to Quit Smoking**




## Great American Smokeout 2025



**MARK YOUR CALENDAR  
TO QUIT SMOKING!**

The Great American Smokeout 2025  
is **Thursday, November 20<sup>th</sup>**!

Stop by Town Hall (1 Kings Highway) from  
9:00 AM to 3:00 PM for a free quit kit.

Thursday, November 20<sup>th</sup> is the Great American Smokeout, an annual event sponsored by the American Cancer Society. People are challenged to stop smoking for at least 24 hours, with the hope that their decision not to smoke will last longer.

If you're having trouble quitting smoking or vaping, the Middletown Township Health Department and Middletown Alliance encourage you to visit [tobaccofreenj.com/gaso](http://tobaccofreenj.com/gaso) for helpful resources. The departments will also be handing out free quit kits in the lobby at Town Hall (1 Kings Highway) on Thursday, November 20<sup>th</sup> from 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM.



### UPCOMING ROAD PAVEMENT RESTORATION

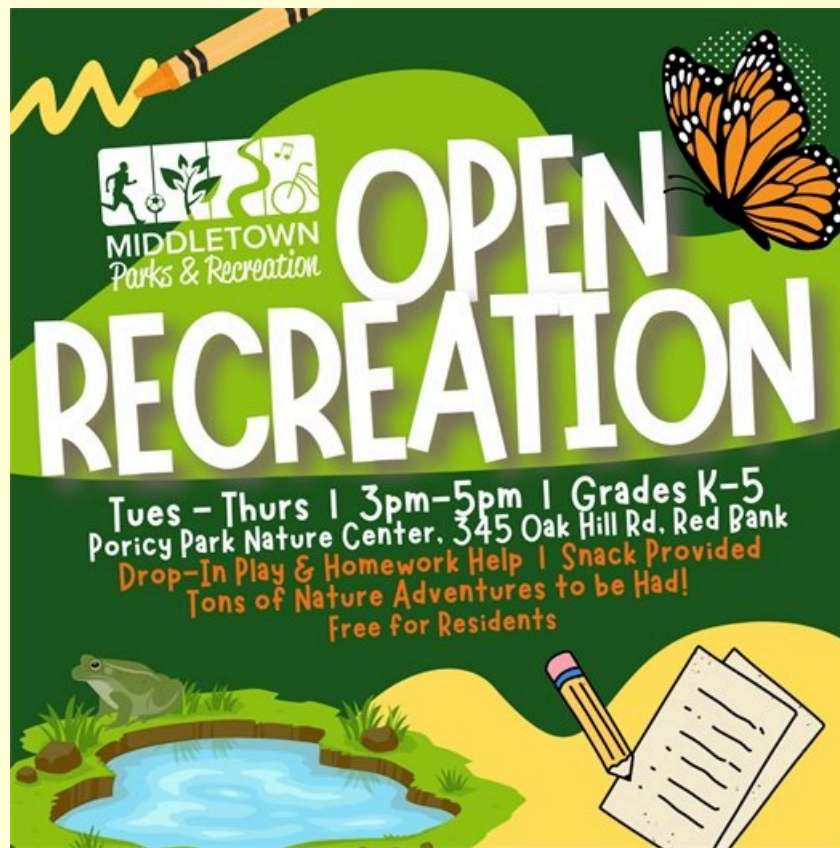


The following roads will be paved from Tuesday, 10/28 through Friday, 11/7:

King Fisher Dr. (from Bamm Hollow Rd. to Pelican Rd.)  
 Heron Rd. (from Bamm Hollow Rd. to King Fisher Dr.)  
 Mallard Rd. (from Bamm Hollow Rd. to King Fisher Dr.)  
 Quail Dr. (from King Fisher Dr. to Heron Rd.)  
 Stork Ct. (from Bamm Hollow Rd. to Bamm Hollow Rd.)

Residents directly impacted will be notified by the contractor in advance. Visit [middletownnj.org/roads](http://middletownnj.org/roads) for information about the contractors and areas of work.

**Sign Up for Middletown Parks & Recreation's Free Open  
Recreation Program**



Open Recreation returns to a new location – Poricy Park (345 Oak Hill Road)! Open Recreation is a FREE after-school program available to all Middletown residents. The program provides homework help and supervised play.

A monthly calendar includes the activities for the day such as crafts, games, nature activities, and parties!

Click [HERE](#) to check out the calendar and complete a registration form.

**Participate in the MTPL's Strategic Planning Survey by  
Sunday, 11/30**



The Middletown Township Public Library (MTPL) is planning for the future — and your voice matters!

The MTPL is working on its next Strategic Plan, which will help guide the library's goals and priorities for the coming years. Your input ensures the library reflects the needs, ideas, and dreams of our community.

Click [HERE](#) to complete the short survey.

## Fall 2025 Leaf Collection to Begin Monday, 12/1



MIDDLETOWN TOWNSHIP  
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS & ENGINEERING  
52 KANES LANE  
MIDDLETOWN, NJ 07748

PRESORTED STANDARD  
US POSTAGE PAID  
RED BANK, NJ  
PERMIT NO. 652  
ECRWSS

POSTAL CUSTOMER

### FALL 2025 LEAF COLLECTION SCHEDULE

COLLECTION ZONE	START DATE
All Zones	Monday, 12/1

VISIT [WWW.MIDDLETOWNNJ.ORG/COLLECTION](http://WWW.MIDDLETOWNNJ.ORG/COLLECTION) FOR ZONE UPDATES AND MORE INFORMATION.

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

LEAF COLLECTION ONLY – NO BRUSH UNTIL SPRING!

DO NOT SET OUT LEAVES AFTER YOUR STREET HAS BEEN COLLECTED – Violators will be charged up to \$1,500 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 Kaness Lane) from November 1<sup>st</sup> until June 1<sup>st</sup>. Brush is accepted year-round for residents.

Visit [middletownnj.org/collection](http://middletownnj.org/collection) for more information.

## OCTOBER IS BREAST CANCER AWARENESS MONTH



The Middletown Township Health Department would like to remind our community that the NJ Department of Health's Cancer Education and Early Detection (NJCEED) Program provides screenings and services to underinsured and uninsured individuals.

Visit [middletownnj.org/breastcancer](https://middletownnj.org/breastcancer) to see screening locations throughout NJ or call 1-800-328-3838 for additional resources.

Visit [middletownnj.org/breastcancer](https://middletownnj.org/breastcancer) to view a list of breast cancer screening locations throughout New Jersey.

### Last Day to Pay Quarterly Taxes Without Interest is Monday, 11/10 by 3:45 PM

THE NEXT QUARTERLY TAXES ARE DUE NOVEMBER 1, 2025.

THE LAST DAY TO PAY THE NOVEMBER QUARTER WITHOUT INTEREST IS ON MONDAY, NOVEMBER 10<sup>TH</sup> BY 3:45 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.

### MTPD Promotes E-Bike Safety in PSA

# E-BIKE SAFETY

A MESSAGE FROM THE MIDDLETOWN  
TOWNSHIP POLICE DEPARTMENT

Across the country, and right here in Middletown, we're seeing a surge in injuries involving electric bikes and scooters, especially among young riders.

Deputy Chief Paul Bailey of the Middletown Township Police Department (MTPD) shares some crucial information in this Public Service Announcement (PSA) about the different types of micromobility devices and the regulations that riders should follow when using them. Please tune in and stay safe!

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

## UPCOMING EVENTS

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

**Santa Ferry Residents-Only Ticket Sales to Take Place on  
Monday, 10/27 from 5:30-7:30 PM**



Middletown Parks & Recreation is back on the bay to celebrate Christmas! The annual yuletide ride features Santa and friends, presents, entertainment, and a scenic ride around the Statue of Liberty.

The residents-only presale will be on Monday, October 27<sup>th</sup> from 5:30-7:30 PM at the Poricy Park Nature Center (345 Oak Hill Road). Tickets are only sold in person. Sales for both residents and non-residents will begin on Wednesday, October 29<sup>th</sup>.

Click [HERE](#) for more information and to complete the required registration form.

**Register for MTPL's Virtual Retirement Roadblocks  
Workshop Happening on Tuesday, 10/28 at 7 PM**

# RETIREMENT ROADBLOCKS WORKSHOP



via Zoom!



featuring

**CORNERSTONE**  
COLLEGE & WEALTH SOLUTIONS



**Tuesday 10/28 @ 7 pm**

registration required  
for zoom invite.

Are you on the straightest path to your financial goals? Join this informative virtual session hosted by the Middletown Township Public Library (MTPL) to learn how to protect your retirement savings, combat inflation, optimize Social Security, and plan for healthcare and taxes.

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

**Shop at the MAC's Holiday Antique, Vintage &  
Collectibles Marketplace on Saturday, 11/1**



The Middletown Arts Center (MAC, 36 Church Street) will be hosting a special Holiday Antique, Vintage & Collectibles Marketplace on Saturday, November 1<sup>st</sup> from 9:00 AM to 2:00 PM!

The event will feature over four dozen vendors offering a huge selection of unique and one-of-a-kind antiques including vinyl records, costume jewelry, vintage clothing, collectibles, postcards, toys, dolls, and so much more. Admission is \$5.

A limited number of vendor tables are available for just \$25. Please call Janet at 917-880-1222 to reserve a spot.



## TRAFFIC SAFETY & DETOURS

MIDDLETOWN  TOWNSHIP



- On Friday, October 24<sup>th</sup>, please avoid Palmer Avenue (southbound) on the Hazlet/Holmdel side between NJ-36 and NJ-35 from 6:00 PM to 6:00 AM due to a road closure.
- In June, Monmouth County began the construction of the replacement of Bridge S-14 on County Route 50 (Swimming River Road). The road will remain open throughout construction and two 11-foot-wide travel ways in each direction will be maintained. Construction is anticipated to take two years. Please follow all posted signs and stay alert while driving in the area, as temporary changes to traffic patterns may occur. *Click [HERE](#) to read the County's press release for more information.*
- Church Street in Belford (near Saint Mary's School) between Leonardville Road and Drift Road is currently closed to replace Bridge MT-10. It will be closed 24/7 to vehicular traffic through October, but pedestrian access will be maintained throughout the course of the project.
- As of Monday, January 13<sup>th</sup>, Broadway is closed between Main Street (Port Monmouth) and Church Street (Belford) due to construction of the final phase of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' Port Monmouth Flood Control Project. Broadway will be closed for approximately two years. Detours were posted. Port Monmouth Road between Main Street (Port Monmouth) and Church Street (Belford) reopened on Monday, January 13<sup>th</sup>, providing an alternate detour route for the Broadway closure.

# RES OURCES



## THE NATIONAL FLOOD INSURANCE PROGRAM HAS LAPSED: WHAT TO KNOW



### What You Need to Know

- The NFIP cannot issue new or renew existing flood insurance policies until the program is reauthorized.
- Consumers who had a pending policy application or renewal should confirm with their agent that they have coverage.
- Homeowners with active NFIP policies will still be covered until their expiration date, including a 30-day grace period.
- NFIP will continue to adjust and pay claims as funds are available. If funds are depleted, claims payments will be delayed until additional funds become available.
- If you have private flood insurance, you are NOT affected.

### Information for Homebuyers

- In some cases, homebuyers may be able to assume the seller's existing NFIP policy.
- Lenders may continue making loans during a lapse, but must still conduct flood determinations, provide accurate borrower notices, and follow all other flood insurance regulations. They are also expected to manage safety, soundness, and legal risks, and consider private flood insurance options.
- Private flood insurance remains an option and should be strongly considered.

### Are Floodplain Regulations on Hold?

No, Middletown Township must continue to enforce local, state, and federal regulations during the lapse.

**MIDDLETOWNNJ.ORG/FLOODPLAINMANAGEMENT**

## Register for Middletown's 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](http://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.

## Need Assistance? Utilize the Monmouth ACTS Navigation System

# Monmouth ACTS Navigation System

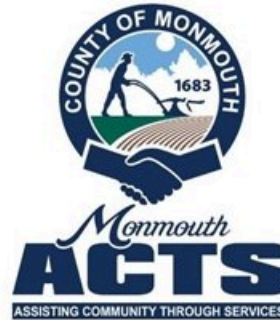
Warm Line: 732-683-8959



**The Navigation System offers residents a comprehensive and accessible way to connect with resources in the Monmouth County area.**

**This tool provides easier access to services including :**

-  Mental Health
-  Food
-  Housing
-  Substance Use
-  More



Monmouth County proudly offers the Monmouth ACTS Navigation System – an easy way for residents to find and access appropriate services in Monmouth County to meet their needs. Created as part of Monmouth County's Department of Human Services, the Navigation System serves as one point of entry for residents to be connected to any human service provider in the County without needing to make multiple calls.

Call the Warm Line at 732-683-8959 to reach countless service providers and visit [monmouthacts.org](https://monmouthacts.org) for more information.

**Middletown Township Building & Inspection Department  
Launches New SDL Online Permit Portal**

**CONNECT WITH MIDDLETOWN TOWNSHIP'S  
Building & Inspection Department**

- ✓ Request Building Inspections
- ✓ Search Town Data
- ✓ Access Town Maps



**Middletown is on the SDL Portal, an online hub where residents and professionals can access information, check status updates, and submit requests 24/7.**



**Visit [sdlportal.com](https://sdlportal.com) to get started or scan the QR code above to access the SDL Citizen Portal.**

*Visit [sdlportal.com](https://sdlportal.com) to access the portal and create an account.*

*Need assistance? Click [HERE](#) for step-by-step instructions on how to create an account.*

**Connect with the Township to Help Correct Concerns**



Middletown Township is now utilizing the “See-Click-Fix” platform so residents can easily contact the Township to report any concerns. The Township is branding this reporting tool as *Connect & Correct* since you can submit your request via the website and track its progress through completion.

Visit [middletownnj.org](http://middletownnj.org) and click on the *Connect & Correct* button. This link will direct you to a page of categories you can choose from to report your concern.

Simply choose the relevant category from the list such as lost pet, pothole, sidewalks, playgrounds, etc. and add a brief description of the issue. You will be able to enter an address or pinpoint the location of the issue on the map. You will also have the option to attach a photo if you would like, and then you can click to submit the report.

You will then be able to track the status of the issue through updates on the platform or via email notifications.

Exciting news — the *Connect & Correct* app is now officially available on the [Apple App Store](#) and [Google Play](#)! The goal of the app is to make it even easier to report your concerns on-the-go as well as streamline communications regarding any concerns you may have.

## VACANT/ABANDONED PROPERTY POLICIES IN MIDDLETOWN

Middletown Township has an ordinance that requires owners of a business or vacant and abandoned property to maintain liability insurance for negligent acts and omissions.

The ordinance holds property owners responsible for maintaining and securing the property since vacant, abandoned, and blighted properties can cause a cycle of neighborhood deterioration. The ordinance penalizes owners whose property remains vacant year after year.

## HOW TO REGISTER OR REPORT VACANT/ABANDONED PROPERTY

Please visit [middletownnj.org/abandonedproperty](http://middletownnj.org/abandonedproperty) to either register your vacant/abandoned property or report a vacant/abandoned property.

You can also contact Laura Russo-Kay from the Planning, Zoning & Community Development Department at 732-615-2000 ext. 2283 or [lrussokay@middletownnj.org](mailto:lrussokay@middletownnj.org) if you have any additional questions.



**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 [middletownnj.org/oem](http://middletownnj.org/oem).

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



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