

# Middletown Minutes

## Official Township E-Newsletter



### Congratulations to the Incoming 2026 MTFD Chiefs



*Pictured from left: Committeewoman Kimberly Kratz, 2026 Third Assistant Chief David D'Arcy, Second Assistant Chief James Abbes, First Assistant Chief Jacob Lawrence, Deputy Chief Kevin Morrissey, Chief Daniel P. Kelly, Mayor Tony Perry, and Committeeman and Ex Fire Chief Ryan Clarke*

On Saturday, the Middletown Township Fire Department (MTFD) held its annual fire chief election. At the event, the 2026 chiefs were elected and announced.

Congratulations to these brave men and thank you to 2025 MTFD Chief Anthony Fulciniti for his dedicated service to our community!

### MTPD Honor Guard Pays Tribute to Veterans at Wreaths Across America Event



*Photo courtesy of MTPD*

**On Wednesday, Wreaths Across America stopped at the New Jersey Vietnam Veterans' Memorial & Museum (1 Memorial Lane, Holmdel) on their journey to Arlington National Cemetery in Virginia.**

**Wreaths Across America is a nonprofit that hosts "Wreaths Across America," an annual event that honors the sacrifices of veterans and their families by laying wreaths on their graves and saying the name of each and every veteran buried there aloud.**

**The Middletown Township Police Department (MTPD) Honor Guard was appreciative to be able to participate in Wednesday's ceremony. The nationwide event will take place this Saturday, December 13<sup>th</sup>.**

## **VFW Post and Auxiliary 2179 Recognizes 84<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Pearl Harbor with Solemn Service**



*Pictured from left: VFW Post 2179 Commander Dan Butler, Committeewoman Kimberly Kratz, and Assemblyman Gerry Scharfenberger*

Last Friday, Committeewoman Kimberly Kratz was honored to attend VFW Post and Auxiliary 2179's Annual Pearl Harbor Service. Committeewoman Kratz was humbled to speak at the event and join attendees in paying tribute to the many men and women who were killed or seriously injured on December 7, 1941.

## **Middletown Parks & Recreation Hosts Annual Santa Ferry**



*Photo courtesy of Middletown Parks & Recreation*

Last weekend, Middletown Parks & Recreation and Seastreak took residents for a yuletide ride on the bay. Attendees met Santa, hung out with their favorite characters, watched science experiments and magic tricks being performed, sang some carols, and enjoyed a scenic journey around the Statue of Liberty!



Click [HERE](#) to view photos from the event.



*Mayor Tony Perry's son, Grant, had a magical time on the Santa Ferry! (Photo courtesy of Patrick Olivero)*

## Community Supports Boy Scout Troop 122's Wreath Sale



*Mayor Tony Perry and Boy Scout Troop 122 show off the beautiful wreaths, which were sold in Campbell's Junction near Veterans Village.*

Last weekend, Mayor Tony Perry was proud to purchase a wreath from Boy Scout Troop 122! Each purchase helps fund the troop's activities and service projects. Thanks to the community's support, all the wreaths were sold!

## Middletown Senior Center Members Celebrate the Holidays Together



*Photo courtesy of Middletown Senior Center*

On Thursday, the Middletown Senior Center hosted its annual holiday party at The Gramercy at Lakeside Manor (410 NJ-36, Hazlet)! Members took to the dance floor, enjoyed some delicious food, and celebrated a year of community and friendship.

Interested in joining the Senior Center? Membership is free for residents 60+! Visit [middletownnj.org/seniorcenter](http://middletownnj.org/seniorcenter) for more information.



## **Township Committee to Host Meeting on Monday, 12/15 at 7 PM**

The Middletown Township Committee Regular Meeting will be held on Monday, December 15<sup>th</sup> 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 [middletownnj.portal.civicclerk.com](http://middletownnj.portal.civicclerk.com). Once you visit the link, please scroll to the information for the Monday, December 15<sup>th</sup> meeting. Once the meeting begins, the event will say "LIVE" and a camera icon will appear. You can click on the camera icon to stream the meeting. After the meeting ends, a recording of it will be available.

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 access the meeting agenda.

**Nominate a Middletown Veteran for the 2025 Veteran of the Year Award by Friday, 12/26**

The Middletown Veterans Affairs Committee  
is now accepting nominations for the

2025 VETERAN OF THE YEAR

All nominations must be received no later than  
Friday, December 26<sup>th</sup>. Please visit  
[middletownnj.org/voty](http://middletownnj.org/voty) for more information.

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

## Santa Claus is Coming to Town: Check Out the EMS and MTFD's Santa Run Schedule



**MIDDLETOWN TOWNSHIP FIRE & EMS DEPARTMENT'S**  
**SANTA RUN 2025**  
**A COMMUNITY TRADITION**

**Our Fire and EMS Departments**  
are joining forces to bring Santa to visit our community!

Watch for Santa on our apparatus  
as we drive through Middletown  
Township neighborhoods  
spreading holiday cheer!

Please follow your neighborhood  
fire companies Facebook page for  
route details and timing updates.

**We kindly remind our residents**

- Our Firefighters and EMS members are **Volunteers**, and all are **non-profit organizations**.
- While we do our best, it is **impossible** for us to make it down **every street** in the township.
- We strongly suggest that if you hear our trucks, head to your nearest main intersection.
  - Any emergency situations takes precedent over the Santa Run.
  - All dates are weather permitting.
  - All officers hold the discretion to make changes as needed.

It's that time of the year! The Middletown Township Fire Department (MTFD) and Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Department are joining forces for their annual Santa Run.

Please understand that while they do their absolute best, it's extremely difficult to pass every house and come down every street while also balancing the emergency needs of our residents. The MTFD's best advice is if you hear sirens, head to your nearest main intersection to get a glimpse of Mr. Claus!



Times, dates, and availability are subject to change at the discretion of company and chief officers. Please monitor the [MTFD's Facebook page](#) and the individual Facebook page of your community firehouse for the dates and times.



## MTFD Shares Live Christmas Tree Safety Tips

This holiday season, the Middletown Township Fire Department (MTFD) and Middletown Township Fire Prevention Office would like to provide residents with tips on how to take care of real Christmas trees.

Click [HERE](#) to watch their Public Service Announcement on YouTube.

### Seasonal Tip: Pile Snow Downhill When Shoveling

Rain and snowmelt cannot easily infiltrate frozen ground, which inevitably causes flooding.

When shoveling, please pile snow downhill from your home where rainwater naturally flows. Keep your gutters unobstructed and directed away from your foundation.

**MIDDLETOWNNJ.ORG/SEASONALTIPS**

## Fall 2025 Leaf Collection Update

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

POSTAL CUSTOMER

**FALL 2025 LEAF COLLECTION SCHEDULE**

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

COLLECTION ZONE	STATUS
A,B,C,G,I,J	COMPLETE
D,E,F,H,K,L	IN PROGRESS


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.



## Help Keep Our Storm Drains Clear This Season

As heavy rain and freezing temperatures approach, please take a quick look at any storm drains in the street near your property. Leaves are falling fast, and when they pile up on top of a storm drain, they can block water flow and contribute to street flooding and icy conditions.

### How You Can Help

- ✿ If you see a storm drain covered with leaves, please sweep or rake the debris away from the grate to keep water moving safely. Move leaves and other debris out of the roadway so they don't wash back onto the grate when it rains.
- ✿ If the drain is completely blocked or unsafe to access, please report it by calling Public Works at 732-615-2090 or by visiting [middletownnj.org/connectcorrectcategories](https://middletownnj.org/connectcorrectcategories) and submitting a request under "Roads".

DPW crews are out clearing drains across town, but with over 6,000 catch basins in our neighborhood streets, every bit of community help goes a long way.

Thank you for helping keep Middletown safe and prepared for fall and winter weather!



**Browse Our New Middletown America 250 Merch Store!**





## Introducing the Middletown America 250 Store!

### Items for Sale

- Sandy Hook Lighthouse Ornament
- Middletown America 250 Challenge Coin
- Citizen Soldier Challenge Coin
- Middletown America 250 Mason Jar
- Seabrook-Wilson House Tote Bag
- Sandy Hook Lighthouse Tote Bag
- Murray Farmhouse Tote Bag

### Payment

Payments will be processed directly via [middletownnj.org/america250store](https://middletownnj.org/america250store). Credit and debit cards are the only accepted forms of payment.

### Order Pickup

All items will be available for pickup at Town Hall (1 Kings Highway, Middletown, NJ 07748) at the Clerk's Office window on the Ground Floor. Visit [middletownnj.org/250pickup](https://middletownnj.org/250pickup) to schedule a pickup time.

Join us in commemorating Middletown's pivotal role in the Revolutionary era by purchasing a keepsake from the Middletown America 250 Merch Store!

Visit [middletownnj.org/america250store](https://middletownnj.org/america250store) to explore all items, including our limited-edition Sandy Hook Lighthouse ornament. Crafted by the same renowned company that produces the official White House ornaments, this piece offers a beautifully-made tribute to one of the nation's oldest and most treasured landmarks. You can also browse other Middletown favorites that make thoughtful gifts and meaningful mementos this holiday season.



Each purchase will directly support upcoming events and initiatives that honor our community's rich heritage as we approach our nation's 250<sup>th</sup> anniversary next year.

Once you decide on your item(s), please click "Participate Now" on the online store to place your order! Credit and debit cards are the only accepted forms of payment. All payments must be made through the online store. Items are available for pickup at Town Hall (1 Kings Highway).

Visit [middletownnj.org/250pickup](https://middletownnj.org/250pickup) to schedule your pickup.

**Learn about Revolutionary War Patriot Jehu Patterson in the latest *Locally Sourced* Middletown America 250 Series Podcast**



In the fourth episode of our Middletown America 250 series *Patriot Profiles* — a special edition of Mayor Tony Perry’s *Locally Sourced* podcast — we explore the life of Jehu Patterson, a young Middletown native who witnessed the Revolution unfold right outside his front door. His early experiences during the war helped shape a lifetime of public service, ultimately leading him to become a respected judge who supported the very veterans he once served alongside.

You can listen to the podcast on [middletownnj.org/locallysourced](https://middletownnj.org/locallysourced), Amazon Music, Apple Podcasts, iHeart Radio, Podbean, and Spotify.

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



**Pay Off Late MTPL Fees with Food Bank Donations  
Through Wednesday, 12/31**

A poster for the 'Food for Fines' program. The title 'Food for Fines' is in large white letters on a blue background. Below it, in smaller yellow and white text, is 'PAY OFF LIBRARY LATE FEES WITH FOOD BANK DONATIONS!' and 'Each item donated will eliminate \$1.00 in late fines, up to \$10.00 maximum per card.' To the right is the Middletown Township Public Library logo, which includes a globe and the words 'Inspiration', 'Insight', and 'Innovation'. Below the logo, it says 'ALL DONATIONS WILL GO TO AREA FOOD BANKS'. A yellow banner across the middle says 'Nov. 24 to Dec. 31'. The bottom of the poster features an illustration of a blue water bottle, a green can, and a red can, with wavy lines suggesting liquid or movement.


Food for Fines has officially returned to the Middletown Township Public Library (MTPL) and will run through the end of December! During this time, patrons can pay off library late fees with donations of nonperishable food items. Each item donated will reduce late fees by \$1.00. Patrons can donate up to a total of \$10.00 per library card. Donations may be dropped off at the Circulation Desk.

Please note that donations cannot be applied toward lost or damaged items. Expired food also cannot be accepted. All collected items will be donated to local food banks.

**Enjoy a Free Cup of Hot Cocoa and Connect with MTPD  
Officers on Wednesday, 12/17 from 12-3 PM**



# Cocoa with a Cop




Get into the holiday spirit and enjoy a free cup of hot cocoa with some Middletown Township Police Department officers at their table in Target!

We encourage you to stop by to connect with our officers and discuss how we can all work together to keep our community safe.

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**When:** Wednesday, December 17<sup>th</sup>  
12:00-3:00 PM

**Where:** Target (2105 NJ-35)



## MTPD Encourages Residents to Volunteer with 180 Turning Lives Around



# CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS



YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE

### JOIN 180'S SEXUAL ASSAULT RESPONSE TEAM (SART)

180's specially trained, confidential advocates work closely with law enforcement and the Forensic Nurse Examiners program to provide emotional support and assistance to victims of sexual violence and their loved ones. This support is offered during sensitive hospital medical examinations and police procedures. Advocates also offer telephone support, information about the justice system, and referrals to services. The identities of the volunteers remain anonymous. Prior knowledge of sexual violence is not required. 180 is committed to fostering culturally and socially diverse teams to better serve the community, and bilingual capabilities are highly valued. Training will be provided free of charge to successful applicants.

### JANUARY 2026 TRAINING DATES

**January 13th-January 31st**

**Week 1**  
-Tuesday/Thursday: Zoom 6p-9:30p  
-Saturday IN PERSON: 9:30a-3:30p

**Week 2:**  
-Tues/Weds/Thurs: Zoom 6p-9:30p

**Week 3**  
-Monday/Wednesday: Zoom 6p-9:30p  
-Saturday IN PERSON: 9:30a-3:30p

### HOW TO APPLY

PLEASE CONTACT:  
Jacquelyn Godbey  
Confidential Sexual Violence Advocate Coordinator



908-670-1859  
jacquelyng@180nj.org

Application can be found [HERE](#) or visit our website for more information

### REQUIREMENTS FOR VOLUNTEERS TO APPLY

- ☒ Must be 18+
- ☒ Attend monthly supervisory meetings
- ☒ Be willing to serve on an on-call shift basis
- ☒ Have a valid driver's license and access to transportation
- ☒ Participate in an interview process that includes fingerprinting and a background check
- ☒ Successfully complete the mandatory 40-hour training

DEADLINE TO APPLY: MONDAY, JANUARY 5TH



### 24/7 CONFIDENTIAL HOTLINE

1-888-264-7273

[www.180nj.org](http://www.180nj.org)



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

Click [HERE](#) for more information about how to get involved.

## MTPD to Host Free Car Seat Safety Checkpoint on Wednesday, 1/14 from 2-6 PM



Residents are invited to a **FREE** Car Seat Safety Checkpoint hosted by the Middletown Township Police Department (MTPD) at Station 11 Old Village Fire Company (1340 NJ-35) to ensure your child is in the right car seat and that it is installed correctly. The checkpoint will be open from 2-6 PM.

Car seat safety checkpoints are held every second and fourth Wednesday of the month. There will be no checkpoint on the fourth Wednesday of this month since that is Christmas Eve. Please contact Corporal Michael Reuter at 732-615-2046 if you have any questions or concerns.

## MTPD Promotes E-Bike Safety in PSA



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.

## Sign Up for a Free Home Smoke Alarm Installation with the MTFD and American Red Cross



# FREE HOME SMOKE ALARM INSTALLATION

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH



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. 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](https://middletownnj.org/smokealarm).

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

## Sign Up for Middletown Parks & Recreation's After-School Science Club: Program Begins Monday, 1/5





Join Middletown Parks & Recreation at Poricy Park (345 Oak Hill Road) for the award-winning After-School Science Club! Over the course of several weeks, there will be themed activities, experiments, and hikes in an adventure-packed hour every Monday (except for January 19<sup>th</sup> and February 16<sup>th</sup>).

This winter's theme is The Power of Magnets — sign up via RecDesk for some hands-on learning fun!

Visit [mtownrec.recdesk.com](https://mtownrec.recdesk.com) for more information and to register.

**Register for Middletown Parks & Recreation's Winter Skateboarding Classes: First Class is on Tuesday, 1/13**



Does your child want to learn how to skateboard or expand their existing skillset? Regardless of their experience, Middletown Parks & Recreation's winter classes will teach them the fundamentals of skateboarding in a safe, courteous manner and at a skill level appropriate to everyone. Beginners and intermediates will be broken into two classes.

Visit [mtownrec.recdesk.com](https://mtownrec.recdesk.com) to sign up.

**New Year, New Hobby: Make an Artistic Resolution and Register Now for MAC's Winter Classes!**



Registration for the Middletown Arts Center's (MAC) winter classes has officially opened! Pick up a hobby and sign up for a class in theater, dance, visual art, music, yoga, and more. Classes begin in January.

Click [HERE](#) to view the youth classes and click [HERE](#) to view the adult classes.

### **NJAW Lead Service Line Replacement Program Door-to-Door Canvassing Continues**





The Middletown Township Police Department is aware of the canvassing. If you have any questions about LSLRP, please email [njawlead@cdmsmith.com](mailto:njawlead@cdmsmith.com) and [LeadFreeNJ@amwater.com](mailto:LeadFreeNJ@amwater.com).

## UPCOMING EVENTS

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

**Register for a 15-Minute Slot with MTPL's Read to a Dog Program Happening on Monday, 12/15 from 6-7 PM**

### READ TO A DOG

**Monday, December 15**

**6-7 pm**

**For Grades K-5**



Visit [mtpl.org](http://mtpl.org) for details and registration.



**MIDDLETOWN TWP.  
PUBLIC LIBRARY**  
WWW.MTPL.ORG

The Middletown Township Public Library (MTPL, 55 New Monmouth Road) is helping young readers in grades K-5 build confidence and improve literacy by offering them the opportunity to read to a friendly, non-judgmental furry listener.

Four time slots are available on Monday, December 15<sup>th</sup> from 6:00-7:00 PM. Sign up your child and enjoy some quality reading time with the MTPL's canine companions!

Click [HERE](#) to check out the time slots and register.

**Listen to Shore Voices Perform Holiday Tunes at the MTPL on Tuesday, 12/16 at 7 PM**

# HOLIDAY CONCERT SHORE VOICES



TUESDAY DECEMBER 16  
AT 7 PM

REGISTER TO GUARANTEE SEATING  
COMMUNITY ROOM

Celebrate the holidays with Shore Voices, a talented a cappella group based in Middletown, at their live concert in the MTPL's Community Room!

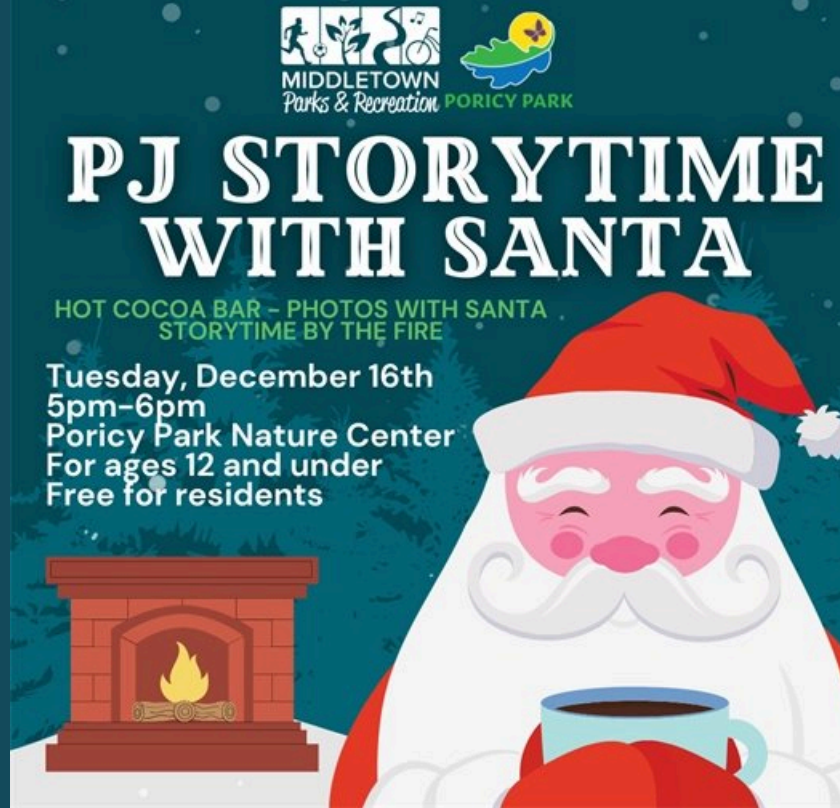
**Attend Our Annual Chanukah Menorah Lighting at the  
MAC on Wednesday, 12/17 at 5:30 PM**





Please join us at our annual Chanukah Menorah Lighting with the Chabad Jewish Center at the Middletown Arts Center (MAC, 36 Church Street)! There will be crafts, food, and more at this free event.

**Enjoy a PJ Storytime with Santa and Middletown Parks & Recreation on Tuesday, 12/16 at 5 PM**



Cozy up by the fire at the Poricy Park Nature Center (345 Oak Hill Road) as Santa reads a Christmas classic. After, take photos with the "Big Guy" and enjoy a hot chocolate bar. No need to register — just show up to this free event!

Middletown Parks & Recreation kindly asks that participants do not bring strollers in the Nature Center to allow room for more people.

**Sign Your Child Up for Gingerbread House Parties**  
**Happening at the MAC on Friday, 12/19 & Saturday, 12/20**



Treat your child to a sweet holiday experience with Club MAC at the Middletown Arts Center (MAC, 36 Church Street)! Kids will decorate and take home a full-sized gingerbread house, plus enjoy pizza, drinks, and snacks.

There are two time slots for this fun and festive event: Friday, December 19<sup>th</sup> from 5-9 PM and Saturday, December 20<sup>th</sup> from 10 AM - 2 PM. Spots go quickly, so sign up today!

Click [HERE](#) for more information and to register for the Friday time slot.  
Click [HERE](#) for more information and to register for the Saturday time slot.

### Sign Up for a Winter Solstice Hike Happening on Sunday, 12/21 at 5 PM



Join Middletown Parks & Recreation for a hike on the longest night of the year! Bundle up and enjoy beautiful Poricy Park (345 Oak Hill Road) in the early evening. A headlamp or flashlight is recommended. Warm up after with hot cocoa by the fire!

Visit [mtownrec.recdesk.com](https://mtownrec.recdesk.com) to register.

### Reorganization Meeting Set for Sunday, 1/4 at 10 AM





## TRAFFIC SAFETY & DETOURS

MIDDLETOWN  TOWNSHIP

- 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 most likely be closed 24/7 to vehicular traffic for the remainder of 2025. Pedestrian access will be maintained throughout the course of the project, which is expected to be completed by the end of this year.

### U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' Port Monmouth Flood Control Project Road Closures and Updates:

- Broadway remains closed between Main Street (Port Monmouth) and Church Street (Belford) due to ongoing construction. Broadway will be closed until May 2026.
- Campbell Avenue will be closed at the intersection with Creek Road starting January 12, 2026 and is estimated to remain closed until October 2027.
- Detours will be posted. Vehicles traveling between Belford and Port Monmouth can use Highway 36 or Port Monmouth Road.

# RESOURCES



STATE OF NEW JERSEY  
GOVERNOR PHIL MURPHY

## Governor Murphy Declares State of Emergency for Propane Shortage

On Thursday, December 11<sup>th</sup>, Governor Phil Murphy declared that New Jersey will enter a State of Emergency effective at 9:00 AM on Friday, December 12<sup>th</sup> due to anticipated impacts on the delivery of propane for home and commercial heating purposes caused by a service disruption at a major propane distribution plant in Marcus Hook, Pennsylvania. Executive Order No. 408 allows for a statewide exemption on hours-of-service regulations concerning the transportation of residential heating fuel.

New Jersey residents who may be impacted by the propane shortage should visit [ready.nj.gov](https://ready.nj.gov) for important updates and safety information and [NJ211](#) for information on resources and warming centers.

Click [HERE](#) to read the State's press release for more information and click [HERE](#) to read a PDF of the executive order.



## 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**

## RENTAL UNIT OWNERS CERTIFICATE OF INSURANCE REGISTRATION IN MIDDLETOWN

In accordance with Ordinance No. 2023-3369, all owners of a business or the owner of a rental unit(s) located within the Township are required to maintain liability insurance for negligent acts or omissions.

**Annual Registration:** Prior to January 1<sup>st</sup> of each calendar year, the owner of a rental unit(s) located within Middletown must register their Certificate of Insurance (COI) with the municipality. To complete the registration form, visit [middletownnj.org/rentalregistration](http://middletownnj.org/rentalregistration).

**Minimum Coverage:** The law mandates a minimum level of liability insurance as follows:

- \$500,000 for combined property damage and bodily injury for most rental properties
- \$300,000 for multi-family homes with four or fewer units if one is owner-occupied

**Proof of Insurance:** Landlords must submit a copy of their insurance certificate to the Township.

**Administrative Fees:** The annual registration fee is due and payable at the time of registration. The fees are based on the number of units owned.

**Penalties for Non-Compliance:** Failure to comply with the registration program can result in fines of \$500.

### How to Comply with a COI Registration Program:

1. Obtain a COI.
2. Submit your annual registration form and the COI to Laura Russo-Kay in the Planning, Zoning & Community Development Department. Contact Laura at 732-615-2000 ext.2283 or [lrussokay@middletownnj.org](mailto:lrussokay@middletownnj.org) if you have any additional questions.
3. Pay any required administrative fees.

## VACANT/ABANDONED PROPERTY



### POLICIES IN MIDDLETOWN



In accordance with Ordinance No. 2022-333, all business owners and owners of vacant or abandoned properties are required to register their property with the Township within 30 days of it becoming vacant.

1. Register your vacant and abandoned property within 30 days of vacancy by visiting [middletownnj.org/abandonedpropertyform](http://middletownnj.org/abandonedpropertyform). Property owners or creditors should be required to renew the registration each year as long as the property remains vacant and/or abandoned and will pay a registration or renewal fee for each property registered.
2. Property owners or creditors must post a sign affixed to the building indicating name, address, and telephone number of the owner or the owner's authorized agent. The sign should be placed in a location that it is legible from the nearest public street or sidewalk, whichever is nearer, but should not be less than eight inches by ten inches.
3. Property must be kept in good condition to prevent hazards, blight, or other code violations.
4. Secure the building from unauthorized entry.
5. Continue to maintain the structure in a secure and closed condition and keep the grounds in a clean and well-maintained condition.
6. Provide proof of property and casualty liability insurance in an amount of no less than \$1,000,000.

**Compliance is mandatory. Failure to register may result in fines or other enforcement actions.**

If you have any questions, please 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). Thank you for helping keep Middletown clean, safe, and thriving!

## Prepare Your Home for Winter Weather





The Middletown Township Office of Emergency Management (OEM) encourages residents to winterize their home ahead of the winter season. Follow the tips above and visit [weather.gov](https://www.weather.gov) for additional information. Stay safe and warm!

## 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](https://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.



**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](https://middletownnj.org/oem).

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



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