

Middletown Minutes

Official Township E-Newsletter



Township Introduces 0% Percent Tax Increase for Second Year in a Row

The Township Committee introduced a zero percent tax increase at Monday evening's Township Committee meeting. The proposed 2018 municipal budget represents an ongoing commitment to minimizing costs while maximizing revenue and services.

"The Township Committee and I are committed to putting taxpayers first and have made a consistent effort to cut costs without sacrificing core government services," said Mayor Stephanie C. Murray. "Despite rising costs of approximately \$2.3 million from pensions and other obligations, the Township Committee was able to sharpen the pencil to avoid any further strain on our residents and taxpayers."

Read more [HERE](#).

K.I.A. Flag Now Flies at Town Hall



On Monday, March 19th, Mayor Stephanie Murray, the Township Committee, and Freeholder Gerry Scharfenberger joined members of the Veterans Affairs Committee and Vietnam Veterans of America to raise the K.I.A. flag at Town Hall. This flag, which is mandatory to fly at government buildings in New Jersey, honors veterans who have made the ultimate sacrifice. The bill that mandates this flag requires that the K.I.A. flag be flown beneath the American and Missing in Action flags. The flag now flies along with the American Flag and POW/MIA flag.

Watch the flag being raised by clicking [HERE](#).

Freeholder Scharfenberger Honored at Township Committee Meeting on March 19th

On March 19th, the Township Committee honored former long-time committee member and mayor Gerry Scharfenberger, Ph.D. Dr. Scharfenberger was recently sworn in as a Monmouth County Freeholder, and the meeting was a chance for the Township Committee and residents to thank him for his years of dedicated service to Middletown.

Freeholder Scharfenberger served over thirteen years on the Township Committee, including six terms as Mayor and two terms as Deputy Mayor. Among his many notable accomplishments are bringing Memorial Sloan Kettering to town, forming the first municipal Veterans Affairs Committee in the state, working tirelessly to help rebuild post-Superstorm Sandy, and spearheading the Township's Economic Development Committee. Freeholder Scharfenberger, whose energy, passion, and leadership as a public official is unmatched, was presented with a proclamation, a Key to the Township, and a commemorative clock.



Freeholder Scharfenberger was honored at the Township Committee meeting on Monday, March 19th. Left to Right: Deputy Mayor Kevin Settembrino, Committeeman Tony Fiore, Mayor Stephanie Murray, Freeholder Gerry Scharfenberger, and Committeemen Rick Hibell and Tony Perry.

He will be missed by those he served in Middletown, but will certainly continue to do great work for our town and county as a Freeholder.

Watch the Latest Minute with the Mayor Segment!

Check out the latest Minute with the Mayor segment filmed on Tuesday, March 14th at the Lincroft Fire Company. Middletown's fire chiefs, volunteer firefighters and Township Committee members joined Mayor Murray to discuss local news and events in Middletown.



[Click the picture to watch the video!](#)

This latest segment features the Canine Company's generous pet oxygen mask donation to the MTFD, Administrative Law Judge Gail Cookson's denial of JCP&L's proposed Monmouth County Reliability Project, and recognizing Mike Fedosh for his 27 years of dedicated service to the Township's Environmental Commission.

Click [HERE](#) to watch the video!



Easter Outreach

Do you have an extra ham? Middletown's Social Services Department would like to put together food baskets for needy families for Easter.

If you would like to donate a ham, please contact Kathy Straniero at 732-616-2085.



[Come join Middletown Recreation, the Arts Center, and the Education Association for an Easter fun-filled day! The first 500 children will receive goodie bags. Enjoy the famous Doodle Dude, arts and crafts, a picture with the Easter Bunny \(bring your own camera\), an egg decorating contest and more! Click the picture to learn more!](#)

[There will be no egg hunt at the Easter Eggstravaganza.](#)

[Please take note: the Flashlight Easter Egg Hunt scheduled for Friday, March 23rd was cancelled due to the snow.](#)



Register Now for Middletown Township Summer Camps!

The Middletown Township Recreation Department is gearing up for a fun-filled 2018 summer camp season! Visit www.middletownnj.org/signup to register online. You can register in-person at the Recreation Administrative

Offices located inside the Nature Center at Poricy Park, 345 Oak Hill Road. Registration can be made for family members only. To read the press release, click [HERE](#).



[Click the image to learn more about what the MAC has to offer!](#)

Check Out the New Video Tour of the Middletown Arts Center!

The Middletown Arts Center (36 Church Street) has created a promotional video to show all of the amazing programs they offer to Middletown residents for all ages and interest levels. If you don't know what is available at the MAC, click [HERE](#) to watch the video and find out!

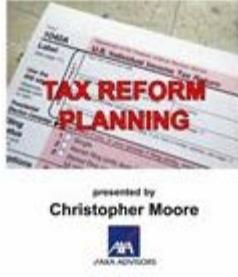
**JCP&L is offering free water & ice to customers remaining out of service.
Customers can pick up water & ice at the following locations:**

- Acme Market, 616 Newman Springs Rd., Lincroft, N.J. 07738
- Saker ShopRite, 1361 Rt. 35, Str. 628, Middletown, N.J. 07748
- Food Circus Food Town, 9 Rt. 36 (3 Bayshore Plz.), Atlanta Highlands, N.J. 07716



Roadwork on Kings Highway & Church Street

There is significant roadwork being done on Kings Highway and Church Street in preparation of the signalization of the roadway. Kings Highway will have lane shifts in place and Church Street will have intermittent closures between 9am and 4pm from Monday, 3/26 through Friday, 3/30. Detours will be in place to follow. Please plan alternate routes. If you have any questions, contact Traffic at 732-615-2045.



[The Middletown Township Public Library Presents: Tax Reform Planning](#)
[Date: Monday, March 26th](#)
[Time: 7:00PM- 8:00PM](#)
[Location: MTPL Community Room \(55 New Monmouth Road\)](#)
[Click the image for more info!](#)



[Middletown Recreation Department presents: Town Wide Garage Sale!](#)
[Date: Saturday & Saturday, May 19th and 20th](#)
[Time: 8:300AM- 4:00PM](#)
[Location: Town Wide!](#)
[Click the picture to learn more!](#)



[The Middletown Arts Center presents: Middle School Meet-Up at the MAC](#)
[Dates: Saturday, March 24th from 6:00PM-9:00PM](#)
[Cost: \\$35](#)
[Location: Middletown Arts Center \(36 Church Street\)](#)
[Click the picture to learn more!](#)

MIDDLETOWN
Township • New Jersey
Many Neighborhoods. One Middletown.

SUSTAINABLE JERSEY
CERTIFIED

FREE Energy Audit Program for Income-qualified Residents

Learn how to save energy and money in your home ... **FREE!**

 The Middletown Township Home Energy Audit Program was developed to help promote awareness of practical resources that will help you save energy and money in your home while bringing us closer to achieving the goal of a sustainable community. Your no-obligation home energy audit will be conducted by a certified auditor from The SAVEGREEN Project® of New Jersey Natural Gas (NJNG) and provides actionable insights on how to save energy and money in your home:

- In-depth home energy audit to help solve comfort issues and understand insulation levels and energy-efficiency of heating and water systems
- Easy to understand report with energy-saving recommendations
- Learn about rebates and financing incentives available to make energy-efficiency upgrades

Use what you learn to improve the comfort and energy efficiency of your home. To qualify, you must have an annual household income between 225 percent and 400 percent of the federal poverty level. For example, this translates to an annual household income between \$55,350 and \$98,400 for a family of four. See [eligibility chart](#) or contact us today to learn more and schedule your FREE home energy audit.

Not eligible? Complete a Comprehensive Home Energy Analysis for \$250 and get a FREE ecobee4 Smart Thermostat. [Learn more](#).

Contact Amy Sarrinikolaou, Director of Community Development for Middletown at (732) 615-2289 for information on Sustainable Jersey and Green Team initiatives.

Contact Christine or Mary-Ellen at New Jersey Natural Gas, and mention Middletown Energy Audit, for details and to schedule your audit.

877-455-NJNG (6564) | savegreen@njng.com

*NJNG makes no warranties or representations, express or implied, as to the fitness for a particular purpose or merchantability of the energy audit/analysis services, or the completeness or amount of energy savings resulting from an audit/analysis. Estimates of energy savings are generalized, and no particular amount of energy savings is promised or guaranteed.

[**Click on the picture to learn more about the Middletown Township Home Energy Audit Program.**](#)

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