



MIDDLETOWN MATTERS

Message from Mayor Tony Perry

In early January, I was honored to be chosen by the Township Committee to once again serve as Mayor in 2020, and together we laid out an ambitious agenda which built on the successes we achieved in 2019.

As always, our first priority was to ensure the residents of Middletown that we would continue to remain fiscally responsible and always examine each decision through the lens of the taxpayer. We aimed to be among the first towns in the State to provide affordable independent living housing for the men and women who have honorably served our Nation, our parks and recreational facilities would see upgrades to fields and buildings, and we would turn already-developed property into open space.

In 2012, we watched Superstorm Sandy wash away beaches and destroy neighborhoods, but the next morning, the clean-up began, the rebuild started and despite the hardships and emotion we rallied as a community and embodied "Jersey Strong". Today, we are battling another storm, but a storm that hovers over us all and does not get pushed out toward the ocean. For the last few months, we have been separated from family and friends, unable to go to our offices, prohibited from opening our businesses, or worse we have lost our jobs or have had our paychecks cut. The COVID-19 pandemic has tested us all and our community has responded with that same "Jersey Strong" attitude.

Tragically, Middletown has lost over 40* residents and more than 700 have battled this disease. We lost an incredible volunteer in Robert Weber who dedicated his life to the Port Monmouth Fire Department as well as the Middletown and Fairview First Aid Squads.

While this pandemic has brought us grief, we have been comforted by the bravery of so many people. Middletown welcomed home Major Matthew Zilinski from a year long peacekeeping mission in Kosovo, and with American flags lining the streets and "Welcome Home" signs proudly displayed, it brought us joy and happiness in a challenging time. We watched our police, firefighters and EMTs continuing their difficult work without hesitation and thousands of essential workers that kept the shelves stocked, the supply chain moving and all that we take for granted which gave us a sense of normalcy. Our Nation witnessed the courage and heroism of every doctor and nurse on the frontlines of this fight. These are the individuals who have inspired me, and they have inspired a generation of Americans who watched them fight and win this battle.

While the number of COVID-19 cases decreases and we weather this storm together, we begin our rebuild. Our lives will not immediately go back to the way things were, but I am confident we will find our way. It is imperative that we do all we can to help our small businesses, assist those who lost their jobs or wages and reopen our economy. The Township Committee and I are not setting aside any of the goals we put forward in January and we are confident that Middletown will rise to any challenge.

**Statistics at time of printing.*

Ty Perry



On April 4th, Major Matthew Zilinski hugged his wife and three daughters at the end of his Welcome Home Vehicle Procession that went from Town Hall to his home where his family, close friends and neighbors were waiting for him.



Middletown Township remembers Robert Weber, one of our amazing volunteers who fell victim to COVID-19. Weber was a volunteer firefighter with Port Monmouth Fire Department as well as the Middletown and Fairview First Aid Squads.



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MIDDLETOWN TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE INTRODUCES 2020 BUDGET WITH 0 PERCENT MUNICIPAL TAX RATE INCREASE



The Middletown Township Committee introduced its \$83.4 million dollar budget with a zero percent Municipal tax rate increase at the April 20th Township Committee meeting. The proposed 2020 Municipal budget represents an ongoing commitment to minimizing costs while maximizing revenue and services.

"Despite the global pandemic and declining revenues, the Township Committee has once again delivered a fiscally responsible budget without reducing services, continuing to invest in our parks and recreational facilities, and spearheading initiatives that protect Middletown's most vulnerable residents," said Mayor Tony Perry. "This budget represents the fiscal solvency and stability to withstand this crisis and lost revenues, however it hinges on Middletown and the State of New Jersey getting back on its feet."

Key drivers to the budget this year include planning for increased costs in response to a new law protecting firefighters and other first responders and operational storm response savings.

VISIT WWW.MIDDLETOWNNJ.ORG/BUDGET2020 FOR MORE DETAILS.

TOWNSHIP OPENS RECYCLING CENTER AT MIDDLETOWN TRAIN STATION!

MIDDLETOWN TOWNSHIP CELEBRATED "AMERICA RECYCLES DAY" ON NOVEMBER 15TH WITH THE GRAND OPENING OF THE RECYCLING CENTER AT THE MIDDLETOWN TRAIN STATION OFF OF MIDDLETOWN-LINCROFT ROAD. RESIDENTS ARE NOW ABLE TO DROP OFF RECYCLING, INCLUDING CARDBOARD, MIXED PAPER, PLASTICS AND METAL PRODUCTS IN CONTAINERS PROVIDED IN THE BACK OF THE TRAIN STATION PARKING LOT. THIS RECYCLING CENTER IS PART OF THE TOWNSHIP'S RECYCLING EDUCATION CAMPAIGN TO HELP RESIDENTS LEARN HOW TO PROPERLY RECYCLE. BE SURE TO STOP BY AND SUPPORT OUR EFFORTS TO CREATE A CLEANER AND GREENER MIDDLETOWN!

PICTURED FROM LEFT: SUSTAINABILITY MANAGER AMY SARRINIKOLAOU, DPW ASSISTANT DIRECTORS VIC WYMBES AND LORY HUBBARD, MAYOR TONY PERRY, PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR TED MALONEY AND ASSISTANT SUPERVISOR OF RECYCLING JOE PUZZO



Property Tax Collection Update

Property Tax Reimbursement (Senior Freeze) applications have been mailed by the State. The deadline for filing the application is November 2, 2020. For information, please visit www.njtaxation.org and select "Senior Freeze" or call the Senior Freeze Hotline at 1-800-882-6597.

Property owners will receive an Estimated August 2020 Tax Bill in June and a final 2020/2021 bill in September. Visit www.middletownnj.org/taxcollection for updates.

MIDDLETOWN LAUNCHES NIXLE EMERGENCY NOTIFICATION SYSTEM

Sign up to receive emergency and traffic alerts

TEXT MIDDLETOWNNJ TO 888-777 OR VISIT WWW.MIDDLETOWNNJ.ORG/NIXLE TO OPT-IN

Receive alerts for

Traffic & Detours

Severe Weather

Criminal Activities

Missing Persons

Middletown Township is now using Nixle as its sole emergency communications platform to provide immediate emergency alerts regarding severe weather conditions, traffic detours, health alerts, criminal activity and public safety advisories. "Whether you are a resident, local business owner, have a family member who lives here or if you work in town, Nixle can be a useful way to ensure that you are instantly aware of any traffic or weather-related events that may impact your daily life," said Mayor Tony Perry. Nixle enables "real time" notifications via text or email to registered users. To register for alerts, text MiddletownNJ (no spaces) to the number 888-777 from your cell phone or visit www.middletownnj.org/nixle to register via mobile phone and/or email.

TOWNSHIP DIRECTORY

Police, Fire & Rescue Emergencies	9-1-1
Police Department Non-Emergency	615-2100
Municipal Offices (All numbers have a 732 area code)	
Main Number	615-2000
Animal Control (Monday - Friday, 8am- 5pm)	615-2097
Animal Control (holidays, nights & weekends)	615-2100
Building & Inspections	615-2106
Community Development	615-2281
Court Administrator	615-2036
Code Enforcement	615-2106
Crossroads (substance abuse services)	615-2269
Emergency Management	615-2129
EMS (First Aid)	615-2252
Fire Prevention	615-2270
Health	615-2095
Library	671-3700
Mayor's Office	615-2024
Middletown Arts Center	706-4100
Planning	615-2098
Public Works	615-2109
Public Information	615-2287
Recreation	615-2260
Recycling	615-2008
Senior Center	615-2265
Tax Assessor	615-2089
Tax Collector	615-2086
Township Administrator	615-2013
Township Engineer	615-2110
Township Clerk (elections, marriage/birth/death records, parking permits, passport services, voter registration, Twp. Committee agenda)	615-2015
Social Services	615-2085
Zoning	615-2278

Other Important Numbers

Board of Education 671-3850

Sewerage Authority 495-1010

Comcast Cable 20

VerizonFiOS Channel 26

Emergency Radio 1620 AM

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middletown.township

Middletown Township NJ

Focus on the GOOD

Highlighting the positive stories in our community during the COVID-19 public health crisis.
Visit www.middletownnj.org/focusonthegood for more!

8-year-old Sophia Collett Sews for a Cause

In addition to virtual learning, Sophia Collett, a 2nd grade student at Nut Swamp Elementary School, juggled a side-job of sewing face masks for multiple causes in our community! During quarantine, the 8-year-old made and sold face masks and donated the proceeds to first responders. She raised funds to send meals to the healthcare heroes at local hospitals and the Middletown Township Police Department. Sophia's largest gift was donating \$1,000 to the Middletown Township all-volunteer Fire Department in memory of her mom's uncle, a firefighter who died in the line of duty.



The members of Middletown Township PBA Local 124 gave Kathy Straniero (who happens to be Middletown's Social Services Director) and her team, daughter Laura Straniero and sister Margie Yager, a huge thank you for taking the time to make and donate over 100 Thin Blue Line face masks.



MTFD LENDS A HAND THROUGH COMMUNITY DRIVES



Lincroft and Port Monmouth Fire Companies held drive-thru community drives in May to collect canned and non-perishable food items, baby items and adult toiletries to assist organizations such as Middletown Helps Its Own, the Salvation Army and Lunch Break. The community came out in full force with donations, including gift cards and cash, to support those in need.



Thank you to All American Restoration for disinfecting 70 police, fire and EMS vehicles in Middletown! The company has been offering free disinfecting to all Monmouth County first responders.



MIDDLETOWN SCHOOL NURSES TEAM UP WITH HEALTH DEPARTMENT



The Middletown Township Public School's certified school nurses have been working with the Middletown Township Health Department to assist in COVID-19 case investigations and

contact tracing of positive residents. The collaborative effort was spearheaded by Middletown High School North Nurse Eileen Gavin and Middletown Health Department Director Rich DeBenedetto.

The Middletown School Nurses are dedicated and trained professionals who are also offering case management resources for issues that many people face, such as food insecurities, financial challenges and mental health referrals.

THANK YOU TO THE



GROUP!



We can't thank the Front Line Appreciation Group (FLAG) of Middletown and Holmdel enough for raising funds to purchase meals from our local eateries and donating them to our first responders. Find them on Facebook and consider supporting this worthy cause!

Thank you to everyone who has donated to Middletown Helps Its Own over the last few weeks. Because of your generosity, Middletown Social Services and MHIO have been able to feed over 330 community members per week, including 56 families and 120 senior citizens.



MEMBERS NEEDED!

OFFICE OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AUXILIARY POLICE

MIDDLETOWN TWP. N.J. 16 64

AUXILIARY POLICE

JOIN TODAY!

MIDDLETOWN TWP. N.J.

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

CALL: 732-615-2129

EMAIL: MTAP.RECRUITING@GMAIL.COM

MTPD SWEARS IN TWO NEW DEPUTY CHIEFS AND FIRST FEMALE LIEUTENANT



At the February 18th Township Committee Meeting, Lieutenant John Kaiser and Detective Lieutenant Paul Bailey were promoted to the rank of Deputy Chief and join Middletown Township Police Chief R. Craig Weber and Deputy Chief Robert Stefanski in Administration. Kimberly Best was also sworn in as the first female lieutenant in Middletown. Four other officers were also promoted and received their Oaths of Office.

Pictured from left: Deputy Chief Robert Stefanski, Lieutenant Kimberly Best, Lieutenant Anthony Ciccone, Deputy Chief John Kaiser, Deputy Chief Paul Bailey, Sergeant David Ringkamp, Sergeant Christopher Dee, Sergeant Stephanie Burke and Police Chief Craig Weber

COMMUNITY COMES OUT FOR "CLIMB WITH A COP" EVENT TO BENEFIT NEW JERSEY SPECIAL OLYMPICS



The second annual Climb with a Cop event supporting the Special Olympics of NJ held at The Middletown Gravity Vault in February was a huge success. A big thank you to the Middletown, Hazlet and Oceanport Borough Police Departments for raising money for a great cause.

Mayor Tony Perry and Committee members Pat Snell and Kevin Settembrino stopped by and everyone got to witness an exciting neck-and-neck race between Mayor Perry and Hazlet Mayor Mike Glackin to the top!

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE 2020 MTFD FIRE CHIEFS



Congratulations to 2020 Fire Chief Russell Mount III, Deputy Chief John Friedmann, First Assistant Chief Bernie Chenoweth, Second Assistant Chief John Waltz and Third Assistant Chief William Kane Jr. on their appointments. We would also like to thank our 2019 Fire Chief Steven Schweizer for his strong leadership and dedication.

Pictured from left: Assemblyman Gerry Scharfenberger, Committeewoman Pat Snell, Third Assistant Chief William Kane Jr., Second Assistant Chief John Waltz, Fire Chief Russell Mount III, Deputy Chief John Friedmann, First Assistant Chief Bernie Chenoweth, Mayor Tony Perry and Committeeman Rick Hibell



Detective and Community Relations Officer Ricardo Cruz gave a virtual tour of the Middletown Township Police Department to a group of first graders from Harmony Elementary School in April. The tour included a trip to the training room, the jail cells and an interview with Mayor Tony Perry in the Mayor's Office!

The Port Monmouth Fire Company held a dinner at the Shore Casino in November to honor 11 members of the Ladies Auxiliary for their decades of exemplary service. Throughout the years, these women have provided an abundance of financial support and aid to the firefighters, including hosting countless fundraisers to purchase much-needed equipment. We thank and congratulate these women for their tireless service and dedication to our firefighters. Of the 11 award recipients, four have achieved Port Monmouth Fire Company Ladies Auxiliary and NJ State Auxiliary Life Member status and received "Keys to the City" for over 50 years of service: Jane Thompson (65 years), Betty Runge (61 years), Maxine Kuczko (53 years) and Cathy Rogers (52 years). Other honorees included: Maggie Konow (42 years, Life Member of the Aux), Marliesje Roerig (39 years), Theresa Barry (36 years), Tess Minor (32 years, Life Member of the Aux), Darlene Mallett (32 years), Edna Bryk (26 years), Kathy Straniero (19 years).



At the end of last year, Mayor Tony Perry had the honor of presenting a Life Saving Valor Award to Robert Clancy, who saved his elderly neighbor from a house fire in the North Middletown section of town. We wholeheartedly congratulate Mr. Clancy on his swift and selfless heroic actions and for inspiring fellow citizens to go above and beyond to help others.



Middletown Invests in 100% Affordable Housing for Veterans



37-45 Leonardville Road in Belford

In January, the Township Committee unanimously voted to acquire property located at 37-45 Leonardville Road in Belford to be utilized for affordable housing units for income-eligible veterans. "The Township Committee and I are excited about the prospect of turning a blighted property in Campbell's Junction into affordable housing units deemed solely for the honorable men and women who have served our Nation," said Mayor Tony Perry. The Township intends to partner with Middletown Housing Authority who currently manages hundreds of affordable housing units in town. "Once the Township closes on the property, the plan is to demolish the existing building, clean up the site and place a rendering of the proposed project in that location for community members to see," explained Mayor Perry.



VFW POST 2179 DEDICATED 57 PAVERS TO TOWNSHIP VETERANS WHO MADE THE ULTIMATE SACRIFICE FOR OUR NATION AND FREEDOMS AT THEIR 2019 VETERANS DAY SERVICE. MAYOR TONY PERRY, COMMITTEEMAN RICK HIBELL, VETERANS AND SUPPORTIVE COMMUNITY MEMBERS GATHERED AROUND THE FAMILIES TO HONOR AND REMEMBER THESE HEROES.



MIDDLETOWN CAME OUT IN FULL FORCE ON A CLEAR, SUNNY DAY TO HONOR OUR VETERANS AT THE 62ND ANNUAL VETERANS DAY PARADE HELD BY VFW POST 2179 AND MIDDLETOWN TOWNSHIP THIS PAST NOVEMBER. MEMBERS OF OUR COMMUNITY LINED THE STREETS WHILE HIGH SCHOOL BANDS, SCOUT TROOPS FROM ACROSS TOWN, AS WELL AS REPRESENTATIVES FROM THE POLICE, FIRE AND EMERGENCY SERVICES WERE ON HAND TO HONOR AND THANK OUR SERVICE MEMBERS.

THORNE MIDDLE SCHOOL HOSTS WREATHS ACROSS AMERICA



On December 11th, Thorne Middle School had the distinct honor of being one of the stops on the Wreaths Across America convoy on its route from Maine to Virginia. Wreaths Across America is a nonprofit organization that places wreaths on the graves of many of our service members throughout the country, including all 400,000 graves at Arlington National Cemetery. After the procession, there was a student-run ceremony that paid homage to our veterans and Gold Star/Blue Star families that emphasized the motto of "Remember, Honor, Teach" aimed towards the students and future generations.

ON OCTOBER 8TH, MIDDLETOWN WELCOMED THE GIVE2THOSE MID-ATLANTIC STRIDE & RIDE RELAY TACTICAL TEAM, WHICH INCLUDED A PROCESSION OF VEHICLES AND MOTORCYCLES, TO OUR WTC MEMORIAL GARDENS SO THEY COULD PAY THEIR RESPECTS TO THE 37 RESIDENTS WE LOST ON 9/11. THE RELAY, WHICH SPANS 911 MILES FROM BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS TO ARLINGTON, VIRGINIA, IS HELD AT THE BEGINNING OF OCTOBER TO HONOR OUR MILITARY SERVICEMEN AND WOMEN WHO WERE DEPLOYED OCTOBER 7, 2001.



Middletown WTC Memorial Gardens
next to Middletown Arts Center, 36 Church Street

VETERANS AFFAIRS COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN RECEIVES DISTINGUISHED CITIZEN OF THE YEAR AWARD

The 2019 Distinguished Citizen of the Year award was presented to Middletown Veterans Affairs Committee Chairman Dennis Beauregard in recognition of his tremendous efforts to advocate for veterans. Mr. Beauregard has been President of the Vietnam Veterans of America Chapter 12 for 26 years and served as an original member of the all-volunteer Middletown Veterans Affairs Committee.

He spearheaded a number of projects, such as re-dedicating the recently-restored World War I Doughboy Monument, bringing the 50th Vietnam Veterans Welcome Home Picnic to Middletown and was a key contributor to the success of the Township's Fallen Veterans Commemorative Street Sign Program. Mr. Beauregard was also the driving force behind donating 17 POW/MIA flags to our public schools and fire houses and the VVA Chapter 12 Veterans Cremains Project. We are very fortunate to have such a dedicated, reliable and talented individual as one of Middletown's own.



2019 Distinguished Citizen of the Year Recipient Dennis Beauregard surrounded by his family and Mayor Perry

TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE

ANTHONY S. PERRY, MAYOR
ANTHONY P. FIORE, DEPUTY MAYOR
RICK W. HIBELL, COMMITTEEMAN
KEVIN M. SETTEMBRINO, COMMITTEEMAN
PATRICIA A. SNELL, COMMITTEEWOMAN

IF YOU NEED TO CONTACT A MEMBER OF THE TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE, PLEASE CALL THE MAYOR'S OFFICE AT 732-615-2024.

ANTHONY MERCANTANTE, P.P., AICP,
TOWNSHIP ADMINISTRATOR

HEIDI R. BRUNT, RMC, CMC, TOWNSHIP CLERK

SEND COMMENTS & SUGGESTIONS TO:
PUBLICINFO@MIDDLETOWNNJ.ORG OR
TOWN HALL, 1 KINGS HIGHWAY,
MIDDLETOWN, NJ 07748

TARA BERSON, EDITOR
JESSICA TICINO, DESIGNER/ASSISTANT EDITOR
JERSEY PRINTING, PRINTER



2020 TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE:

Back row: Committee members, Kevin M. Settembrino,
Patricia A. Snell and Rick W. Hibell
Front row: Mayor Anthony S. Perry and Deputy Mayor Anthony P. Fiore

MIDDLETOWN TOWNSHIP RECEIVES SILVER LEVEL CERTIFICATION FROM SUSTAINABLE NEW JERSEY



Middletown's Silver Level status was recognized at the Sustainable Jersey Annual Luncheon on November 19th where Township officials involved in the process were acknowledged for their efforts amongst like-minded "green" communities. In order to receive the certification, towns must achieve a certain number of points for sustainable actions and building healthier communities. Middletown earned a substantial number of points through the Port Monmouth Flood Control Project, the Mayor's Wellness Campaign and the Recycling Education Campaign.

Township Clerk's Office Remote Services

In the interest of adhering to COVID-19 guidelines, please consider taking advantage of the following services rather than visiting Town Hall:

ONLINE SERVICES

1. Parking Permits – EZ Citizens
2. OPRA – Next Request

MAIL SERVICE

The following applications and permits can be found online and mailed to the Township Clerk's Office (1 Kings Highway, Middletown, NJ 07748). **PLEASE NOTE CHECKS ARE THE ONLY FORM OF PAYMENT ACCEPTED.**

1. Parking Permit Applications
2. Bingo and Raffle Applications
3. Liquor License Renewal Payments
4. Certified Copies of Marriage License

Visit www.middletownnj.org/townshipclerk to access these forms and applications. For additional information, call 732-615-2015.

VIRTUAL MARRIAGE APPLICATION

Call 732-615-2094 to make a video conference appointment to obtain a marriage application.

★★ July 7, 2020 Primary Election Changes ★★

According to the Monmouth County Clerk's Office, the Primary Election will now be conducted primarily via Vote by Mail per Executive Order No. 144. Per the Order, all active registered Republicans and Democrats will automatically receive mail-in ballots for voting in the 2020 Primary Election. All registered unaffiliated voters will receive a mail-in-ballot application so they can apply to receive a mail-in-ballot to vote in the election. Some regional polling centers will be open on July 7th for voters to vote by way of paper provisional ballots and to accommodate disabled voters. For updates, visit monmouthcountynjvotes.com.

Middletown Township Celebrates 100th Anniversary of Women's Right to Vote



Middletown Township held a presentation recognizing the Centennial of Women's Right to Vote at the Township Committee meeting on February 18th. February 9th marked the 100th anniversary of the passage of the 19th Amendment in New Jersey giving women the right to vote. Several women elected officials were invited to the February 18th meeting to celebrate this important milestone. The Township also honored six elementary-school-aged girls for their recent achievements demonstrating leadership, commitment and passion. Honorees from left to right: Finley Elias, Emma Mercus, Mia Collins, Marlowe Schorr and Lilah Nicosia (not pictured, Brenna McCormick)

License Your Cat and Help Combat Rabies!

According to Animal Control in the Health Department, there isn't a day that goes by where they don't get calls regarding cats. Calls range from found cats, lost cats, injured cats, free-roaming cats and cat licensing. "While taking these calls, it has become apparent that the majority of residents are unaware that Middletown has required cat licensing for well over 25 years," said Health Director Rich DeBenedetto.

Every September, Animal Control starts the licensing year for cats, while dogs start in January. The license fee for a neutered cat is \$20.00 and \$25.00 for a non-neutered animal. Progressive late fees do apply to non-renewals starting in October.

WHY SHOULD YOU LICENSE YOUR CAT(S)?

History shows that mandatory dog licensing has reduced the incidence of canine Rabies. What was once a major issue, Rabies in canines has only accounted for 8 cases over the last 30 years in New Jersey. Over that same time period, Rabies in felines accounted for 522 cases, including 21 cases in 2019. Raccoons and skunks are the only other terrestrial animals that have a higher incidence of Rabies.

Combating Rabies is a priority for Middletown. The Health Department licenses cats, and each cat will have a documented Rabies vaccination. In addition, the license information also allows Animal Control to try and identify any strays and return them to their owner.

"It's important to vaccinate your cats and dogs so they are protected when and if another animal sneaks into your yard and bites them," said Mr. DeBenedetto. Middletown is home to foxes, raccoons and species of bats that may be carrying this fatal disease. "Remember, there is no cure for Rabies, only prevention."

License your cat and document a Rabies vaccination for them. If you have questions, please feel free to contact Middletown Township Animal Control at 732-615-2097 or visit www.middletownnj.org/petlicensing for additional information.



COVID-19 Message from Health Director Rich DeBenedetto

As the Township begins to reopen at a safe pace, we understand that some of you may feel relieved about getting back to some sense of normalcy, while others may feel anxious. We need to work together as a community to protect each other from this virus, so it is very important to continue to maintain social distancing, wear masks when necessary and practice good hand hygiene.

Information about what you should or shouldn't do has been ever-changing throughout the pandemic. To stay on top of the most recent guidance, Middletown Health Department recommends the following resources that feature active documents and continuous updates:

NEW JERSEY COVID-19 Information Hub
covid19.nj.gov
Call 2-1-1
Text NJCOVID to 898-211 to receive alerts

Middletown COVID-19 Updates
Visit www.middletownnj.org/covid19
Text MiddletownNJ to 888-777 to register for alerts

Please be aware of scams during this time. Middletown Health Department staff or school nurses may call you when doing contact tracing during case investigations, but they will never ask for your social security number. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to reach out to the Health Department at 732-615-2095 or email covid19@middletownnj.org.

Stormwater Pollution Prevention Program: A Guide to Healthy Habits for Cleaner Water

Non-point source pollution is a contamination of our groundwater, waterways, bays and ocean that results from everyday activities such as fertilizing the lawn, walking pets, changing motor oil, washing cars and littering. With each rainfall, pollutants generated by these activities are washed into storm drains that flow into our waterways and ocean. They also can soak into the ground and contaminate the groundwater below. The collective impact of non-point source pollution threatens aquatic and marine life, recreational water activities, the fishing industry, tourism and our precious drinking water resources.

Stormwater pollution is one of New Jersey's greatest threats to clean and plentiful water, and that's why we are asking for your help to do something about it. By sharing a portion of the responsibility and making small, easy changes in our daily lives, we can keep these common pollutants out of stormwater. It all adds up to cleaner water and it saves the high costs of clean-up once it becomes polluted.

As part of New Jersey's initiative to keep our water clean and plentiful, and to comply with federal requirements, the Township of Middletown has adopted ordinances to prohibit various activities that contribute to stormwater pollution, including ordinances regarding Pet Waste, Wildlife Feeding, litter Control, Improper Disposal of Waste, Containerized Waste/Yard Waste Collection, Private Storm Drain Inlet Retrofitting and Illicit Connection.

Here are some ways you can help reduce nonpoint source pollution:

Place litter in trash receptacles. Place litter, including cigarette butts and fast food containers, in trash receptacles. Recycle, Recycle, Recycle!

Avoid overuse of fertilizers. Do a soil test to see if you need to add fertilizer. Avoid the overuse of fertilizers and do not apply them before a heavy rainfall. If you use fertilizers, follow the label directions carefully.

Use alternatives to pesticides. Many household products made to exterminate pests are toxic to humans, animals, aquatic organisms and plants. Follow the label directions carefully and use alternatives whenever possible.

Clean up after your pet. Animal wastes contain bacteria and viruses that can contaminate shellfish and cause the closing of bathing beaches. Pet owners or their keepers must pick up and properly dispose of pet waste dropped on public or other people's property. Dispose of wastes in the garbage or toilet.

Don't feed wildlife. Do not feed wildlife, such as ducks and geese, in public areas.

Dispose of yard waste properly. Keep leaves and grass out of storm drains. Use leaves and grass clippings as a resource for compost. Refer to our website, www.middletownnj.org, for the Township's rules, guidelines and schedule for leaf and brush collection.

Properly use and dispose of hazardous products. Many common household products contain toxic ingredients. Use natural and less toxic alternatives whenever possible. Do not pour any hazardous products down a storm drain because storm drains are usually connected to local water bodies.

Recycle used motor oil. Used motor oil contains toxic chemicals that are harmful to animals, humans and fish. Recycle all used motor oil by taking it to a local, public or private recycling center.

Wash your car only when necessary. Consider using a commercial car wash that recycles its wash water. If you wash your car at home, use a non-phosphate detergent.

Inspect your septic systems annually. An improperly working septic system can contaminate groundwater and create public health problems. Inspect your tank annually and pump it out every three to five years depending on its use.

Keep pollution out of storm drains. The Township has labeled and marked all storm drain inlets. Labels remind residents that these storm drains are connected to local waterways. Do not let sewerage or other wastes flow into a stormwater system.

Don't dump boat sewerage overboard. Dumping boat sewerage overboard introduces bacteria and viruses in the water. It may also be illegal. Boat owners should always use marine sanitation devices and pump-out facilities at marinas.

It is important to remember these easy things you can do to assist with restoring the health of our streams and environment. Please refer to Middletown Township Ordinance Chapter 423 & Chapter 540 for our adopted stormwater pollution ordinances. Additional stormwater related topics can be found at www.cleanwaternj.org and www.middletownnj.org.

The Township kicked off 2020 with a new "Welcome to Middletown" sign that pays homage to our town's rich history. The sign is located at Navesink River Road and Route 35. Keep an eye out for future signs that will be located at entry points on both major highways!



PORT MONMOUTH FLOOD CONTROL UPDATES

- The 40-ft-wide tide gate and massive pumping station that has emerged at the mouth of Pews Creek is currently in the testing stage and is expected to be fully functional before the end of the summer. The tide gate will connect to the half-mile long floodwall along Port Monmouth Road completing the bayfront defense portion of the project.
- On the final phase of the project, utility upgrades, property surveys and easement acquisitions have begun ahead of the planned construction of a floodwall & levee system along Hwy 36, Creek Road and Main Street. The Comptons Creek pumping station will be built on Main Street across from Renfrew Place. This will complete the overall Army Corps project and will also eliminate decades of nuisance flooding on Wilson, Monmouth and Brainard Avenues.

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers expects to complete the work by Summer 2023. For more information and updates, visit the Township's project website at www.middletownnj.org/floodcontrolproject.



PROTECT OUR WETLANDS

- ◆ PICK UP LITTER
- ◆ RECYCLE
- ◆ PLANT LOCAL SPECIES OF TREES, SHRUBS AND FLOWERS
- ◆ USE PHOSPHATE-FREE DETERGENTS AND NON TOXIC CLEANERS TO LIMIT HAZARDOUS RUNOFF



Middletown Township Public Library ~ 55 New Monmouth Road ~ www.mtpl.org

THE MTPL GOES DIGITAL!

The Middletown Township Public Library Staff has created MTPL@Home while library programming has been affected due to COVID-19. This page includes virtual events, escape rooms, digital resources, staff recommendations for digital content, the library's chat service and much more. Check out the MTPL's YouTube page to see new videos that will be posted weekly. They will also be posting content to Facebook and Twitter daily. Visit www.mtpl.org/mtplathome to get started!

SUMMER Reading 2020!



MTPL'S summer reading fun starts in June for kids and teens in grades K-12.

This year's theme is "Imagine Your Story". Registration will begin Monday, June 22 and the program will run until Monday, August 17. Those registered and logging their summer reading will be eligible for raffles, prizes, special challenges and a chance to win a special Grand Prize. There are lots of other fun surprises planned this year so stay tuned! Be sure to visit mtpl.org and their social media outlets for information on Summer Reading as well as other important library information and the many resources available!

MTPL Plans for 2021 Centennial Anniversary

Libraries hold a special place in our hearts. Many of us have fond memories from childhood, and as adults, we look back and smile thinking about the books we read.

Libraries in Middletown have been in continuous operation since 1921. Actually, our library history goes back even a little further since two independent libraries formed a few years earlier; Navesink, established in 1914 and Middletown in 1916. However, the Middletown Township Library appeared as a full-grown entity in June 1921.

Middletown provided a pioneering model for rural library service nearly two years before Monmouth County voters approved the establishment of a County library.

In 1921, Middletown Township Library operated one of the first "book wagons" or bookmobiles to travel around the countryside and also would mail books to our rural community. If we compare 1921's postage budget dollar value to 2020's postage budget dollar value, we spend 48% less on postage today!

The library's circulation in 1921 was 34,297 items. Today, our circulation is over 600,000 items a year!

The history of the Middletown Township Public Library is long and storied. We will be celebrating 100 years of Middletown Township Public Library in 2021! If you would like to get involved with the MTPL's Centennial Committee, please contact Library Director Heather Andolsen at handolsen@mtpl.org.



VIRTUAL ARTSCENTER



MIDDLETOWN ARTS CENTER ONLINE PROGRAMMING

Miss the MAC? They miss you too, but YOU don't have to miss out on all of their great programs! The MAC is proud to keep their mission of serving the community through the arts alive through the MAC Virtual Arts Center, a collection of online content to share with you all.

Drop by www.middletownarts.org and their social media sites for classes, get-togethers, rehearsals, workshops & more! Feel free to watch and share as much as you like until the MAC staff can see you again in person!

THE ARTS MATTER! GET INVOLVED!

The arts foster personal development and growth, promote health and healing, enrich our lives, encourage civic engagement, and foster economic development. There are lots of ways to get involved. Become a member, make a donation, volunteer, join the MAC's Board of Trustees...share your time and talents with the community. If you haven't been to the MAC, please visit! Generous support from individuals, businesses and organizations enables the Middletown Arts Center to provide free and affordable, high quality arts programming to the community.

Calling Artists of All Ages for the Middletown Arts Center's Sign of the Times Public Art Event

Deadline June 30th

A plastic lawn sign will be your blank canvas. The MAC is looking for the most artistic and creatively decorated signs! Everyone is encouraged to participate, regardless of age or ability. You can paint a picture, create a design, write an inspirational message or decorate it in any way you like using weather-proof materials.

All decorated signs must be returned to the MAC (36 Church St.) by Tuesday, June 30 to be included in an outdoor display. In addition to the public display, all entries will be photographed and shared virtually with the community. All entries will be judged by the public through a voting process to be announced, and ribbons will be awarded in several categories. Suggested donation of \$20 for each sign.

Proceeds from this event will help support arts programming in our community. Place your order by calling 732-706-4100.





**MIDDLETOWN
RECREATION**



345 Oak Hill Road, Middletown • 732-615-2260 • recreation@middletownnj.org



**MIDDLETOWN
RECREATION**

STAY CONNECTED
FOR INFORMATION ABOUT
UPCOMING EVENTS



@MIDDLETOWNREC



MIDDLETOWN TOWNSHIP NJ



Inaugural Mayor's 5K Challenge Raised Over \$7,000 for Middletown First Responders

A big thank you to everyone who supported the inaugural Mayor's 5K Challenge last October at Poricy Park, including the businesses that sponsored the event! Over 100 residents, first responders and local dignitaries came together to run and walk the beautiful trails of the park. A great turn-out meant that the Township was able to raise over \$7,000 to benefit our First Responders!



MIDDLETOWN RECREATION

CAMP IN A BOX

2020 SUMMER PROGRAMMING

Weekly Themes and Activities

Week 1: Patriotism
06/29—07/03

Fun filled week full of all things USA! This week campers will show their American pride through art and games.

Week 2: Fossil Hunting
07/06—07/10

Rev up your time machines for a trip into NJ's Cretaceous-era past. We'll get you started to become a real fossil hunter!

Week 3: Essential Camp Skills
07/13—07/17

Missing those classic camp activities? Look inside the box to find what you need to make lanyard bracelets, learn new card games, and more!

Week 4: Russell the Traveling Duck
07/20—07/24

Meet Russell, Recreation's Traveling Duck! Name your new family duck and show it off! Where will your duck go this week?

Week 5: Nature BioBlitz
07/27—07/31

Help us study the local flora and fauna of Middletown by joining in on our BioBlitz. We are also including a real dissection specimen!

Week 6: Art for Everyone
08/03—08/07

The perfect opportunity to experiment with water colors! From beginners to experts, for all ages, lets get creative and make a masterpiece together!

Week 7: Let's Get Physical
08/10—08/14

Fitness is more fun with friends! Roll the die and take a chance to learn new movements to keep your body in motion. This week you'll have an opportunity to tune in and show off your new moves.

Week 8: Science of Water
08/17—08/21

While you are splashing around this summer, we've got some water science experiments and challenges for you.

Week 9: STEM Building Challenge
08/24—08/28

In the final week, if you manage to wait this long, we'll challenge your building skills and then end the season with a very silly camp sing-a-long!

Campers will receive a **CONFIDENTIAL** camp box full of the supplies needed to complete the weekly activities. Also included in each box is a one of a kind Camp in a Box T-shirt.

Camp in a Box is \$18, register online, while supplies last: www.middletownnj.org/signup



**MIDDLETOWN
SENIOR CENTER**

900 LEONARDVILLE ROAD

(732) 615-2265

WWW.MIDDLETOWNNJ.ORG/SENIORS

**The Senior Center building is currently closed due to COVID-19.*

New Programming

Register through Community Pass online:
www.middletownnj.org/signup

Must have internet access and a valid email account.



Virtual Bingo

Thursday, July 9th, 11am

Don't miss out on this all time favorite game with your friends, from the comfort of your home. You choose the device you feel most comfortable with



Virtual Trivia

Thursday, July 23rd, 11am

Don't let those trivia skills fall by the wayside! You can still practice them while social distancing. Join us in a fun game on Kahoot!

Not a Member?

Join the Senior Center!

If you are interested in becoming a member of the Senior Center you must be age 60+ and independent. Membership is FREE for Middletown residents.

Need help with registration? Contact us!

recreation@middletownnj.org

732-615-2265

VISIT US AT MIDDLETOWNNJ.ORG/SENIORS

Middletown Recreation Receives Awards from New Jersey Parks and Recreation Association



Middletown Recreation is pleased to announce it received two awards presented by the New Jersey Recreation and Park Association (NJRPA). The purpose of the NJRPA's Awards Program is to honor and identify dedicated leaders, employees and volunteers in the field of Parks and Recreation, and to recognize the State's outstanding Recreation and Park agencies for excellence in programming, publicity and facility design. Middletown was presented the **Agency Showcase Award for a Digital Media Promotion** for its Mayor's Wellness Campaign Family Bike Ride video which demonstrated excellence for an in-house video production. The video was done entirely in-house by the Middletown Township staff and helped spread the word about the Mayor's Wellness Campaign and boosted enrollment of subsequent events in the campaign. To view the video, visit the Township's YouTube Channel, Middletown Township NJ.

Middletown Recreation Director, Janet Dellett, also received the **NJRPA Public Service Award** for her dedication and service to the association over the last decade as a member. Ms. Dellett currently serves as the NJRPA's Vice President and has served on the Board of Trustees in the elected positions of Member-At-Large and District IV Chair. Throughout her membership, she has served on a number of committees including Community Recreation, Public Affairs, Website and Technology Taskforce, Education and Professional Development, Resource Development – Mentorship, and as a liaison to the New Jersey League of Municipalities Legislative Committee. She is both honored and humbled to receive this award and is committed to keeping parks and recreation a top priority within the Township. Ms. Dellett currently holds the state certification of Recreation Administrator and is in the process of testing for the National Certified Park and Recreation Professional.



Middletown First Town in New Jersey to Purchase Styrofoam Recycling Machine



Township officials with the new Styrofoam Recycling Machine located at the Middletown Recycling Center. Pictured from left: Recycling Assistant Supervisor Joe Puzzo, Sustainability Manager Amy Sarrinikolaou, Deputy Public Works Director Vic Wymbs, Committee members Rick Hibell and Pat Snell, Mayor Tony Perry, Deputy Public Works Director Lory Hubbard, Public Works Director Ted Maloney, Deputy Mayor Tony Fiore and Committeeman Kevin Settembrino

Middletown Township is proud to be the first town in New Jersey to purchase a Styrofoam Recycling Machine. Since December, residents of Middletown and Monmouth County have been dropping off clean EPS (Expanded Polystyrene) foam packaging materials from large items such as televisions, appliances, computers and furniture at several locations throughout town. The recycling collection sites are located at the Middletown Recycling Center (52 Kanes Lane; open from 8:30 AM-4:30 PM Thursday through Monday) and the Middletown Train Station (located in the main parking lot off Middletown-Lincroft Road; open 24/7). There will be another drop off point in the north section of town in the near future.

“By recycling Styrofoam, we are saving a significant amount of space in the County landfill and giving a product that could be harmful to our environment a second life,” said Mayor Tony Perry. The Township has been selling its end product to Princeton Moulding where they transform the densified foam material into durable products such as picture frames and crown moulding. Over the last six months, the Township has collected about 18 tractor trailers of Styrofoam!

By accepting Styrofoam from the entire County, Middletown will be saving a significant amount of space and extending the life of the landfill. Since the Township pays for landfill use by the ton, taking this material out of the equation will also result in savings for taxpayers.

For additional information about recycling Styrofoam in Middletown, visit www.middletownnj.org/styrofoam. To learn more about how to properly dispose of items and view your personalized garbage, recycling and bulk collection schedule, visit www.middletownnj.org/recycling or download the free Recycle Coach app.

NO PLASTIC BAGS IN THE RECYCLING CART



DO NOT BAG RECYCLABLES

Collecting recyclables in a bag? Empty the contents into the cart.

Return plastic bags to retailers.

RECYCLE: STRIVE FOR FIVE!



NOT ACCEPTED:



QUESTIONS? VISIT WWW.MIDDLETOWNNJ.ORG/RECYCLING OR DOWNLOAD THE [recycle coach APP](#). MIDDLETOWN DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS, 732-615-2109

MIDDLETOWN TOWNSHIP STYROFOAM* RECYCLING PROGRAM



ACCEPTED:

CLEAN PACKAGING MATERIALS FROM:

- ✓ TELEVISIONS
- ✓ APPLIANCES
- ✓ COMPUTERS
- ✓ FURNITURE
- ✓ FOAM COOLERS

NOT ACCEPTED:

- ✗ PACKING PEANUTS
- ✗ FOOD PACKAGING
- ✗ COLOR STYROFOAM
- ✗ PACKAGING WITH TAPE OR LABELS

Visit www.middletownnj.org/styrofoam to find out how to recycle food service styrofoam & packing peanuts.

Styrofoam* can only be recycled if brought to the Middletown Recycling Center (52 Kanes Lane) or the Middletown Train Station Recycling Center (Main Parking Lot of Train Station off Middletown-Lincroft Road). Do not put Styrofoam* in your blue curbside recycling cart.

MIDDLETOWN TOWNSHIP DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS
52 KANES LANE, MIDDLETOWN, NJ 07748 732-615-2109 WWW.MIDDLETOWNNJ.ORG/RECYCLING

*Styrofoam is a trademark brand of Expanded Polystyrene (EPS) Owned and Manufactured by the Dow Chemical Company.

Need Wood Mulch? It's Available!

DELIVERY:

- \$6/cubic yard (available in 4CY increments)
- Mail check & Mulch Delivery Request Form to DPW (52 Kanes Lane, 07748)
- Delivery on Wednesdays only



MIDDLETOWN RECYCLING CENTER:

- FREE if you load your own vehicle
- Residents only - No business vehicles permitted

732-615-2109
www.middletownnj.org/mulch

Amy Sarrinikolaou, Head of the Recycling and Clean Communities Division of the Department of Public Works, has been appointed to the Board of Directors of the Association of New Jersey Recyclers (ANJR). ANJR is a non-profit, non-partisan network whose mission is to serve as the voice of recycling in New Jersey through education advocacy and the promotion of professional standards. Ms. Sarrinikolaou and her team have led several key recycling initiatives for the town, including the Styrofoam Recycling Program, upgrades to the Train Station satellite recycling center, and the Township's Strive for 5 Recycling Education and Enforcement Program.

