

# Middletown Minutes

## Official Township E-Newsletter



### Middletown Township Committee Seeks Voters' Support to Increase Open Space



The Middletown Township Committee unanimously supported a resolution at the Monday, July 20<sup>th</sup> Regular Meeting to include a referendum on the November 2020 General Election Ballot to amend the dedicated Open Space Trust annual collection rate from \$.02 to \$.03 per \$100 in equalized valuation.

The Middletown Open Space Trust was established by the voters of Middletown in 1998 with a dedicated tax levy of \$.01 per \$100 in equalized valuation to ensure that the Township would be able to fund acquisitions and improvements to open space and parkland properties. In 2002, voters supported an amendment to an annual collection rate of \$.02 per \$100 in equalized valuation.

"As we look toward Middletown's future, we must act to ensure that we preserve as much of our undeveloped land as possible, so now we ask the community for their support and vote to help us save it," said Mayor Tony Perry. "All of us have the opportunity to preserve the Middletown we hope to pass along to the next generation."

**Click HERE to read the press release.**

### Township Officials Listen to Needs of Ideal Beach Community



Middletown and the Ideal Beach Community Association hosted a (socially distanced) neighborhood meeting at the Tonya Keller Community Center on Thursday evening. The Township Committee, Administration and the Police Department proposed and discussed solutions to recent concerns of the community.

If you weren't able to attend the meeting, you can watch a replay of the live stream on the [Township's Facebook page](#).

## Watch the July 20<sup>th</sup> Middletown Township Committee Regular Meeting



Click [HERE](#) to watch the meeting on the Township's YouTube Channel or catch it on Middletown Township's TV station (Verizon FiOS Channel

26/Comcast Cable Channel 20) every night at 7:00 PM and 8:45 PM through August 10<sup>th</sup>.

The Middletown Health Department would like to thank the community for responding to [the statement](#) regarding teen COVID-19 cases and reaching out with any necessary



information.

“We have received a large response from parents who weren't aware of the situation and thankful that they could address it with their kids and ensure they get tested/quarantine,” said Health Director Rich DeBenedetto. “Please continue to social distance wherever you are and behave responsibly.”

## **Featured Business of the Week: *Lauren Michael Events***

This week's featured small business is Lauren Michael Events, an event design and rental company based out of Leonardo. From mega balloon installations to yard displays and party rentals, they'll bring a burst of creativity to your celebration plans. Follow them on Facebook and Instagram @laurenmichaalevents for all the latest!

**[CLICK HERE TO VISIT THEIR WEBSITE!](#)**



## COMING SOON: SUMMER SEASONAL SURPRISE BAGS FOR SENIORS!

**COMING SOON!**

SUMMER  
*Seasonal Surprises*

AN ACTIVITY BAG FOR  
MIDDLETOWN SENIORS  
FULL OF  
**OLD - FASHIONED FUN**

[WWW.MIDDLETOWNNJ.ORG/SENIORS](http://WWW.MIDDLETOWNNJ.ORG/SENIORS)

A yellow tote bag with the Middletown Senior Center logo, featuring icons for a book, a person, and a house, with the text "MIDDLETOWN SENIOR CENTER DEPARTMENT OF RECREATION".



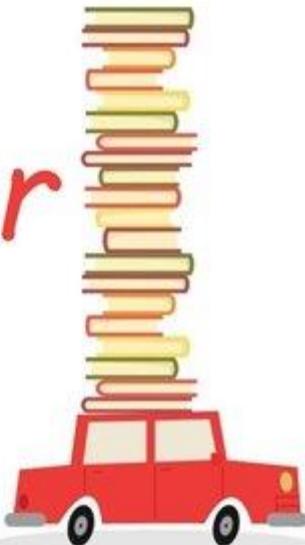
## **Summer Concert Series at the MAC Postponed**

Unfortunately, the Middletown Arts Center Summer Concert Series has been postponed until further notice.

Please continue to visit the [MAC's website](#) for updates and check out their awesome [virtual programs!](#)

**Updates from the Middletown Township Public Library!**

# Outdoor Pickup



We are open to the public and outdoor pickup is still available.

If you are interested in using our outdoor pickup services:

- ◆ Place item on hold.
- ◆ Upon receiving notification items are ready, pickup is Monday-Friday 9:00 am - 4:00 pm with additional hours Wednesday until 8:00 pm.
- ◆ When arriving at the library, call 732-671-3700 ext. 320. Tell us you are here for outdoor pickup, giving your last name and library card number. Meet us under the front entrance canopy to collect your checked-out items.
- ◆ Patrons have 7 days from notification to pick up items.

#### August Hours:

Mon-Friday 9a-5p

Wednesdays 9a-9p

*The patio will open for August!*

DVDs check-out: 7 days, and may be renewed for 2 days. New DVDs check-out is still only 2 days. Other materials are checking out for three-weeks, with a 2-week renewal. Fines are being collected for late items (remember items are back-dated because of quarantine.) Computers are on, patrons need to sign in at reference to use them. All returns are quarantined for 3 days before being checked in.

# MIDDLETOWN SUMMER PHOTO CONTEST

If you love nature and enjoy taking photos, this is the contest for you! Photographers of all levels and experience are invited to enter their original work that shows off the unique beauty of Middletown.

## HOW TO ENTER:



TAKE A PICTURE IN MIDDLETOWN



**TAG IT ON SOCIAL MEDIA USING #SUMMERINMIDDLETOWNNJ**

By posting with the hashtag, you allow Middletown Township to use your photo for promotional use (with photo credit).



SHARE IT AND INCLUDE YOUR NAME (FOR PHOTO CREDIT)  
AND THE LOCATION THE PICTURE WAS TAKEN BY JULY 31, 2020

The three winning photos will be featured on the Township's social media channels, TV station and in the weekly e-newsletter, *Middletown Minutes*, through Labor Day.

*Photo by Jeremy Jaryno*

## MTPD Offers FREE Car Seat Safety Checkpoint

Saturday, August 8<sup>th</sup>

New Monmouth Baptist Church (4 Cherry Tree Farm Road)  
from 7:00 AM-5:00 PM

Middletown Township Police Department



CAR SEAT SAFETY CHECKPOINT

Residents are welcome to come to this FREE Car Seat Safety Checkpoint hosted by the MTPD to ensure your child is in the right car seat and that it is

*installed correctly. We ask that adults wear face masks. Call 732-615-2046 for more information.*



## COVID-19 RESOURCES



MONMOUTH COUNTY  
**COVID-19**  
**TESTING**

Monmouth County Board of Chosen Freeholders and The Grunin Foundation have partnered to bring FREE COVID19 Testing to your community.

No appointment necessary, simply walk up during the times listed below and a health professional will conduct the test.

***You do not have to be symptomatic***

The test consists of a nasal or oral swab

**Monmouth County Testing Locations:**

**Asbury Park** - Asbury Park Transportation Center, 1 Municipal Plaza:  
 Wednesday, July 22 - 3 p.m. - 7 p.m., Monday, July 27 - 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.  
 Saturday, August 8 - 9 a.m. - 1 p.m., Friday, August 14 - 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.

**Freehold Borough** - Freehold Borough Fire Department, 49 West Main St., Rear Annex:  
 Thursday, July 23 - 9 a.m. - 1 p.m., Tuesday, July 28 - 3 p.m. - 7 p.m.,  
 Monday, August 3 - 3 p.m. - 7 p.m., Saturday, August 15 - 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.

**Keansburg** - New Point Comfort Firehouse, 192 Carr Avenue:  
 Friday, July 24 - 3 p.m. - 7 p.m., Wednesday, July 29 - 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.,  
 Tuesday, August 4 - 3 p.m. - 7 p.m., Monday, August 10 - 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.

**Long Branch** - City Hall, 344 Broadway:  
 Saturday, July 25 - 9 a.m. - 1 p.m., Thursday, July 30 - 3 p.m. - 7 p.m.,  
 Wednesday, August 5 - 3 p.m. - 7 p.m.

**Bucky James Community Center**, 231 Wilbur Ray Avenue:  
 Saturday, July 25 - 9 a.m. - 1 p.m., Thursday, July 30 - 3 p.m. - 7 p.m.,  
 Tuesday, August 11 - 3 p.m. - 7 p.m.

**Neptune** - 60 Neptune Boulevard - North Lot  
 Friday, July 31 - 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.

Midtown Community School / Atkins Avenue (West Lot)  
 Thursday, August 6 - 3 p.m. - 7 p.m., Wednesday, August 12 - 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.

**Red Bank** - Pilgrim Baptist Church, 172 Shrewsbury Avenue:  
 Saturday, August 1 - 9 a.m. - 1 p.m., Friday, August 7 - 3 p.m. - 7 p.m.,  
 Thursday, August 13 - 3 p.m. - 7 p.m.


## ReferenceUSA Hosts Webinars for Entrepreneurs and Job Seekers Throughout July 2020!

ReferenceUSA, in collaboration with several public libraries, are offering webinars for the public through the end of July. We encourage local business owners, entrepreneurs and job seekers to sign up.

Click [HERE](#) to learn more.

- July 28 from 4-5:30pm [Newark Public Library](#)
- July 30 from 6-7pm [Ocean City Free Public Library](#)

Click [HERE](#) for other small business resources.



**Middletown Township Public Library Encourages  
Residents to Participate in the COVID-19  
Local History Archive Initiative**

MIDDLETOWN TOWNSHIP REMEMBERS

# Our Town During the COVID-19 Pandemic

A Local History Archive Initiative

We are currently experiencing and living through an unprecedented situation.

The Middletown Township Public Library is looking for your help in documenting this historical event by submitting your personal photos, feelings, artwork, stories for our local history archive.

Thank you for your assistance with this local archive initiative!

[CLICK HERE TO LEARN MORE.](#)

## **What is the recommendation for wearing a face covering/mask inside while patronizing a business?**

According to the New Jersey Department of Health, accommodations can be made if someone is not able to wear a face mask due to a medical condition. Essential businesses that never closed (e.g. a grocery store or a pharmacy) cannot refuse entry to someone who has a medical condition and can't wear mask. They may offer options, such as to provide curbside delivery and limit time spent inside store, but the person must be allowed to enter.

If the person doesn't have a medical condition, but refuses to wear a mask, essential businesses *can* refuse entry but must arrange curbside delivery or provide a mask, if available. No one can be asked for medical documentation due to various laws that already existed, so people do not need to "prove" why they can't wear a mask.

## **MINIMIZING THE RISK OF COVID-19**

The spread of COVID-19 can be broken down into four factors: TIME, SPACE, PEOPLE & PLACE.



Keeping these factors in mind can help you assess your risk while participating in activities.

#### Minimizing the Risk of COVID-19

- Limit capacity, especially indoors
- Social distance from others (6 feet)
- Avoid crowded areas
- Choose outside activities vs. inside (dining, worship services, etc.)
- Don't share food/drink, cups or utensils with others; bring your own or use disposable items at outdoor gatherings
- Wear face coverings in public areas
- Wash hands often or use hand sanitizer with 60% alcohol

Singing, yelling/shouting and close contact increase the risk of contracting COVID-19.



June 30, 2020



## COVID-19 SUBSTANCE ABUSE HELP

WE ARE ALL FACING OUR OWN CHALLENGES DURING THIS UNCERTAIN TIME.

OUR SUBSTANCE ABUSE COUNSELORS AT CROSSROADS ARE HERE FOR YOU AND OFFERING VIRTUAL SERVICES.

IF YOU, A FRIEND OR FAMILY MEMBER ARE STRUGGLING

CALL 732-615-2277 OR EMAIL  
[CROSSROADS@MIDDLETOWNNNJ.ORG](mailto:CROSSROADS@MIDDLETOWNNNJ.ORG).

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



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## Verizon FiOS Channel 26/Comcast Cable Channel 20

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