

Middletown Minutes

Official Township E-Newsletter



HAPPY
LABOR
DAY

Municipal Offices will be closed on Monday, September 7th in observance of Labor Day.

Indoor Dining Is Now Open!

INDOOR DINING IS OPEN IN MIDDLETOWN!

**CLICK [HERE](#) TO VIEW INDOOR DINING
REGULATIONS FOR FOOD AND BEVERAGE
ESTABLISHMENTS.**

Per Governor Phil Murphy's Executive Order No. 183, indoor dining resumed on Friday, September 4 at 6:00 AM, provided businesses comply with the health and safety standards issued by the Department of Health.

Click [HERE](#) to read the advisory that includes the guidelines that food or beverage establishments offering in-person service must adhere to under the Department of Health's Health and Safety Standards.

If you feel a Middletown food or beverage establishment is not adhering to health guidelines, please email covid19@middletownnj.org so the situation can be investigated.



Middletown Remembers

19th Anniversary of the
World Trade Center Tragedy

Friday, September 11, 7:30 p.m.

Join us for a moment of silence and wreath tribute to honor our Middletown friends and neighbors lost in the World Trade Center attack.

Middletown WTC Memorial Gardens
36 Church Street, Middletown, NJ 07748
(next to the Middletown Arts Center)

Please wear a mask and follow social distancing guidelines. Parking will be available at the Middletown Train Station. Police will be directing traffic. Tribute will be held rain or shine.

In addition to the evening tribute, on the morning of September 11th, Mayor Tony Perry will read the names of the 37 Middletown friends and neighbors we lost. The reading will begin at 7:00 AM at our WTC Memorial Gardens, located next to the Middletown Arts Center (36 Church Street).

During the reading, the Mayor will be accompanied by Middletown's First Responder Chiefs and it will be live streamed via [Town Hall's Facebook page](#) (Middletown NJ Town Hall) if community members would like to take part virtually. Family members of those we are remembering are welcome to attend in person, provided safe social distancing guidelines are met.

**Virtual Middletown Month is Coming Up in November
Check Out Our Sponsorship Opportunities and Spread the
Word About Your Business!**



As our community weathers and rebuilds from this year's challenges, Middletown Day is going to take a different shape in 2020. Our annual fall festival will be transformed into a month-long event, Middletown Month, that will bring your business's name directly into homes this November.

Click [HERE](#) to see the detailed list of sponsorship opportunities.

Click [HERE](#) to download the Virtual 2020 Middletown Month Registration Form.

Middletown Township Committee to Host Virtual Workshop Meeting on Tuesday, September 8

The Middletown Township Committee Workshop Meeting on Tuesday, September 8, 2020 at 7:00 PM will be made available live through WebEx Event Center.



Members of the public are requested to participate remotely by [clicking this event link](#). To call in to the meeting, dial 1-408-418-9388. Enter the event access code 173 357 6411 followed by #. If a passcode is needed, enter 2020.

Prior to the virtual meeting, the event link will be published on the Township's [Facebook page](#). If residents are not able to view the meeting live, the recording will be aired on the Township's TV channel (Verizon FiOS Channel 26/Comcast Cable Channel 20) and [YouTube](#) channel.

Click [HERE](#) to view the meeting agenda.

Click [HERE](#) to read the full press release.

BECOME A MIDDLETON TOWNSHIP POLL WORKER!

HELP YOUR COMMUNITY, ***** BECOME A MIDDLETOWN POLL WORKER.



VISIT WWW.MIDDLETOWNNJ.ORG/TOWNSHIPCLERK
FOR MORE INFORMATION.

Featured Business of The Week: Ross Brewing Company



Mayor Tony Perry raised a toast to the success of Ross Brewing Company with owner John Ross Cocozza at their groundbreaking ceremony on Saturday, August 29th.

Ross Brewing will have 4,500 square feet of production space, a large tasting room and a dock where you can bring your boat right up to the entrance of their tasting room!

Mayor Tony Perry stopped by the future location of Ross Brewing Company on the Port Monmouth side of Compton's Creek (909 Main Street, formerly the site of Shoal Harbor Lobster Co.) to celebrate their groundbreaking. Check out Ross Brewing's Facebook page for construction progress and updates on their custom brews that will be available locally starting October 1st! Keep an eye out for this new and exciting addition to the Middletown business community in Spring 2021!



Oceanic Bridge Public Information Center Meeting No. 3 Update

If you weren't able to attend the virtual meeting held on Thursday, August 27th, or used the call-in option only, the presentation, handouts, video recording and related documents are now posted for viewing by visiting the [Oceanic Bridge \(S-31\) project website](#).

Written comments will be accepted through Friday, October 16, 2020.

Comments may be mailed, faxed or emailed to:

Fred Passeggio, P.E., Project Manager
Monmouth County Division of Engineering & Traffic Safety
Hall of Records Annex, 3rd Floor
1 East Main Street
Freehold, NJ 07728
Fax 732-431-7765
monmouthcountyoceanicbridge@gmail.com

After the 45 day public comment period ends, the Project Team will create a public meeting summary report that will include all written comments received, but with personal information redacted. Once the report is reviewed and approved, it will be posted to the Oceanic Bridge project website.

Pre-Register for September Cat-Only Rabies Clinic by 9/22



[Click the picture to pre-register now!](#)

Join Middletown Recreation for Parks for Pollinator's BioBlitz Month!



Poricy Park (345 Oak Hill Road) is hosting a Parks for Pollinators BioBlitz during the month of September. Help others understand how we can better protect pollinators and other important wildlife in our community by participating!

Here's how to join the fun:

1. Download the free iNaturalist app.
2. Visit Poricy Park any time in September.
3. Use iNaturalist to take a picture of either a pollinator (i.e. most flying bugs) or a flowering plant.
4. Upload your observation and it will be added to the project.

Click [HERE](#) to learn more.

**THE MAC PRESENTS: In-Person Classes
Outdoors!**



WE'RE BACK!

**REGISTRATION BEGINS
SEPTEMBER 4TH AT 12 NOON**

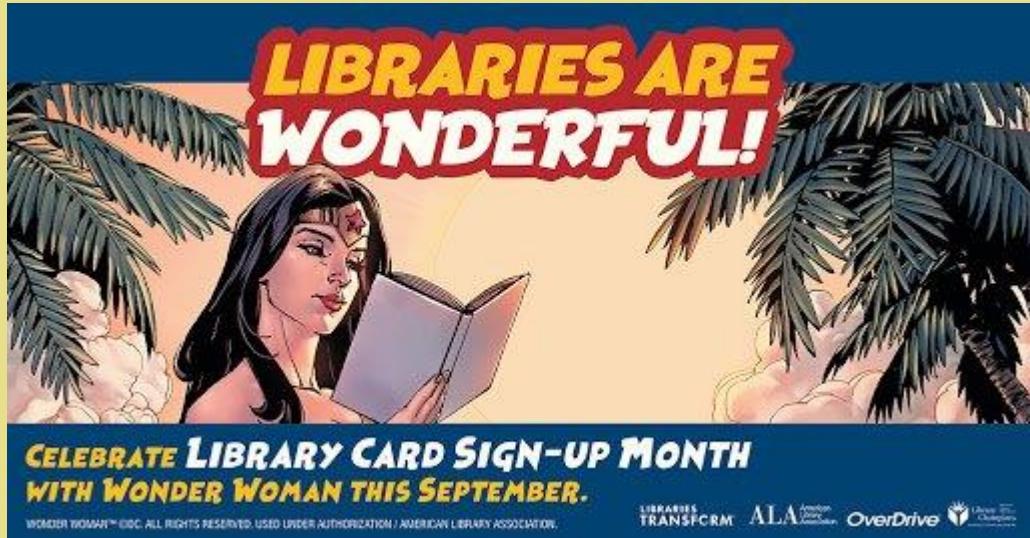
**In-Person Fall Class Registration Opened Today: Space is limited
so sign up quickly!**

The staff at the Middletown Arts Center (36 Church Street) is beyond thrilled to offer IN-PERSON Fall classes in Theater, Dance, Art, Music and more!

Classes will take place **OUTSIDE** on their large patio covered by a professionally-installed outdoor canopy. Additional classes will be held at Poricy Park (345 Oak Hill Road). They will follow CDC guidelines and practice social distancing, small classes and take temperatures.

Click HERE to register.

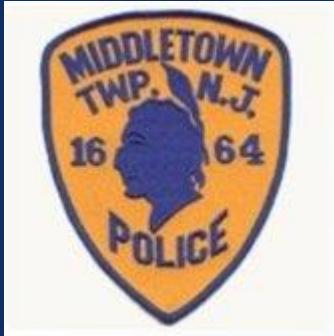
September is Library Card Sign-Up Month



The most important school supply is a library card! With access to technology, innovative programming and educational resources, a library card gives students of all ages the tools to succeed in school.

Beginning Tuesday, September 8, the library will resume its regular hours: Monday-Thursday 9a-9p and Friday and Saturday 9a-5p. Stop by the library (55 New Monmouth Road) and get your card today!

Click [HERE](#) for information about how to apply for your library card.



Volunteers Needed for Middletown Township Police Department Domestic Violence Response Team

Middletown Township Police Department is currently recruiting volunteers to serve on the Middletown Domestic Violence Response Team (DVRT). In affiliation with 180 Turning Lives Around (180), and with the assistance of the response team volunteers, Middletown Township Police Department

continues to make available this service to victims of domestic violence during the initial stages of a highly emotional and traumatic experience.

180 will be conducting an intensive 40-hour mandatory training course for DVRT volunteers October 6 - 29, Tuesdays/Wednesdays/Thursdays, 6:00pm-9:30pm, via Zoom. Applications are currently being accepted. Please contact Sgt. Kevin Gardiner, Middletown Township Police Department, DVRT DVLO, at 732 615-2075 to obtain an application or for additional information.

[CLICK HERE TO READ THE PRESS RELEASE.](#)

How to Report Tree Problems to JCP&L

Before the next storm hits, check your surrounding area to make sure that trees aren't growing too closely to any of JCP&L's power lines.

If you notice a problematic tree near wires, please click [**HERE**](#) to report it.

Jersey Central
Power & Light
A FirstEnergy Company



GET AHEAD OF THE STORM

Text MiddletownNJ (no spaces) to 888-777 or visit www.middletownnj.org/nixle to receive storm alerts.

MIDDLETOWN AUXILIARY POLICE NEEDS VOLUNTEERS! RECEIVE FIRST HAND EXPOSURE TO POLICE WORK

REQUIREMENTS:

- MINIMUM OF 18 YEARS OLD
- NO CRIMINAL RECORD
- GOOD PHYSICAL CONDITION
- COMMIT TO 160 HOURS TO THE AUXILIARY ACADEMY
- MINIMUM OF 150 HOURS A YEAR OF ACTIVE DUTY
- WILLINGNESS TO WORK LONG HOURS IN ALL WEATHER CONDITIONS



FOR INQUIRIES CALL THE SGT. KEVIN GARDINER AT 732-615-2075 OR EMAIL AUXILIARY CHIEF DAVE DEIGERT AT PDEIGERT01@COMCAST.NET.

COVID-19 RESOURCES



NJ Poison Control Center Provides Tips for Navigating Daily Life While Protecting Your Health

Preventing people from getting sick and slowing the spread of COVID-19 is all we can do to help keep our community safe until there is an approved vaccine, cure, or treatment. As COVID-19 continues to pose a significant risk to the health and well-being of all

residents, public health officials recommend you and your loved ones consider the following when making the decision to participate in daily activities or events.

Practice health behaviors that prevent infection – There is no cure, treatment, or vaccine for COVID-19. The best way to stay healthy is to prevent exposure to infected respiratory droplets which are projected into the air or land on surfaces when talking, laughing, sneezing, coughing, singing, yelling, etc. Simple [prevention measures](#) can greatly reduce your risk of infection and stop the spread of COVID-19.

Wear a face covering/mask whenever social distancing is not possible – Distance helps prevent respiratory droplets from reaching others. In the event keeping your distance is not possible, the next best option is to wear a face covering that covers your mouth and nose. Masks have been found to be incredibly effective in keeping sick individuals from spreading the virus — some recent studies have found that traditional surgical masks may reduce respiratory droplets/particles by as much as 75 percent.

Know before you go – In order for recreation/outdoor areas, businesses, and other venues to remain open, they are required to have specific safety protocols in place to protect visitors, customers, and staff from COVID-19 infection. It's important to be

prepared; be aware of the establishment's protocols before you plan your outing. Face coverings/masks are required in all indoor and outdoor areas when social distancing is not possible (except when eating or drinking). If you plan to travel, check [travel advisories](#), restrictions, and suggested quarantine guidelines for the place you are visiting and also for when you return back to your state. It is important to stay updated on this information as it changes often.

Assess your risk of infection – Certain settings and activities may increase the risk of getting or spreading COVID-19. Higher risk activities: indoors, close contact for long periods of time, lots of people in small space, no distance between people. Less risk activities: outdoors, no close contact, less people in a big space, more distance between people.

Have the 'COVID talk' – COVID-19 can quickly, effectively, and silently spread through communities with no warning given the following factors — it's spread through respiratory droplets and touching contaminated surfaces, the virus has a long incubation period (anywhere from 2-14 days) which means it has lots of time to spread to others, and there are many asymptomatic patients (showing no symptoms of illness but still spread the virus). Before gathering/spending time with people you do not live with (friends, family, coworkers, neighbors, etc.) take time to discuss how to best prevent infection; i.e., gathering outdoors, stay 6 ft apart; wear a face covering if you cannot distance, avoid large gatherings, refraining from hugging/touching, etc.

Cooperate with public health contact tracers – When someone tests positive for COVID-19, he/she may have spread the virus to others without knowing it. Those individuals could now be infected with the virus and putting their loved ones at risk as well as others in their community. This is how we get widespread infection across the state. [Contact tracing](#) is the key to stopping the spread of COVID-19 and protecting your loved ones and neighbors. If you are called by a contact tracer, it is so important that you answer the phone. Contact tracers will let you know about the risk to you and your family and provide you with information to protect your loved ones and your community. Contact tracers will not ask for social security numbers, bank or credit card information, health insurance information, immigration status, or criminal history.

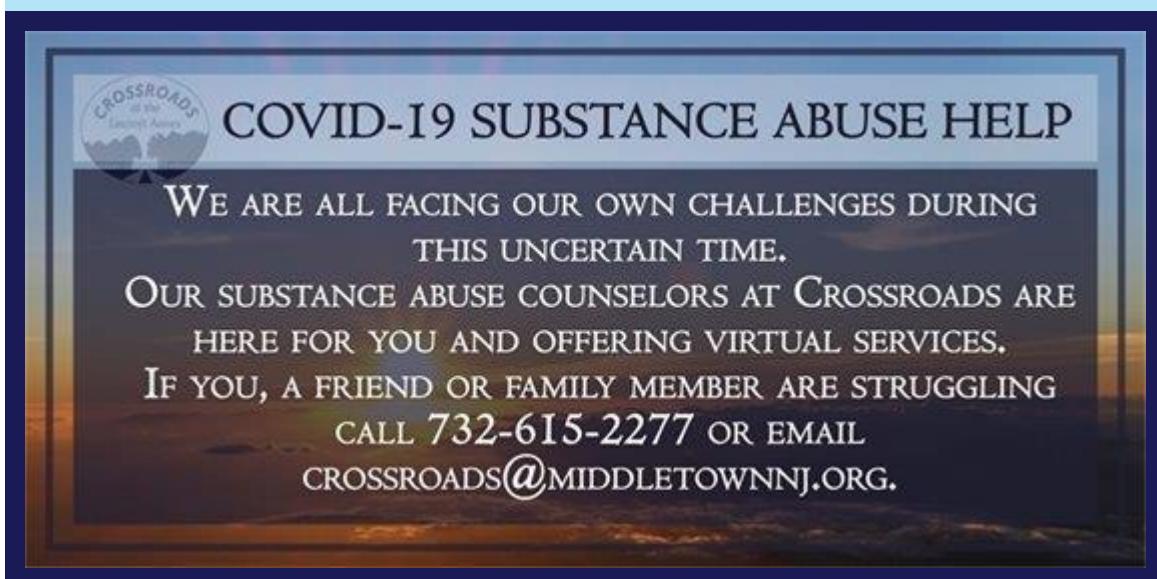
Get all information from credible public health sources – Since COVID-19 remains an emerging health crisis, information changes day to day. Be sure you are getting and sharing credible information. Misinformation is dangerous to the health and well-being of communities. Information shared via social media, word of mouth, or by media outlets may be incorrect or outdated. In New Jersey, credible public health resources were established to provide the general public and healthcare professionals with important COVID-19 information; the Coronavirus Hotline at the New Jersey Poison Control Center at 1-800-962-1253 for medical-related information; 2-1-1 for general COVID-19 information; text **NJCOVID** to **898-211** to receive alerts; and visit [New Jersey COVID19 Information Hub](#) for FAQs and more.

[CLICK HERE TO READ THE FULL PRESS RELEASE.](#)

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.



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



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