

Middletown Minutes

Official Township E-Newsletter



MIDDLETOWN REMEMBERS 9/11 WITH MORNING AND EVENING TRIBUTES



To view the recording of the morning reading of the names, please visit Town Hall's Facebook page ([Middletown NJ Town Hall](#)).



During a morning service held on Friday, September 11th, Mayor Tony Perry read the names of the 37 residents lost 19 years ago in the World Trade Center attacks.



The evening tribute began at 7:30 PM. Mayor Perry and the Middletown Township Committee led the wreath laying ceremony and candlelight walk through the WTC Memorial Gardens.



About 300 community members attended the evening memorial ceremony while adhering to social distancing guidelines.

On Friday, September 11th, Middletown Township held a morning reading of the names and evening silent wreath laying and candlelight tribute at the World Trade Center Memorial Gardens to honor the 37 residents we lost in the World Trade Center attack 19 years ago. The Memorial Gardens, located next to the Middletown Arts Center (36 Church Street), rest under a canopy of trees and features a landscaped path with benches and a personalized memorial to honor each life.

The morning tribute was a poignant service led by Mayor Tony Perry. "Nineteen years ago, our community promised to never forget the 37 souls we tragically lost at the World Trade Center attacks," said Mayor Tony Perry. "When New York City initially decided to cancel the annual reading of the names, Middletown felt compelled to continue this important tribute in their honor and to never forget." Mayor Perry, surrounded by Middletown's First Responder Chiefs, read each name aloud and Fire Chief Russell W. Mount III tolled a bell donated by the Port Monmouth Fire Company in memory of each Middletown resident who perished on September 11, 2001.

The evening tribute began at 7:30 PM. Mayor Tony Perry and the Middletown Township Committee led the wreath laying ceremony and candlelight walk through the Memorial Gardens. About 300 people attended the service while adhering to social distancing guidelines, including 9/11 victims' family members, neighbors, Township Committee members, local dignitaries, representatives from Middletown's Police and Fire Departments, Office of Emergency Management and Emergency Medical Services, as well as contingents from American Legion Posts 338 and 515 and Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 2179. Everyone bowed their heads in a moment of silence at dusk. The silence was broken by 37 bell tolls rung by Fire Chief Russell W. Mount III and Deputy Chief John Friedmann.

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

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



**Please Consider Donating to
Middletown 9/11 20th
Anniversary Fountain and First
Responders Monument**

As we approach the 20th anniversary of the 9/11 attacks, the Middletown WTC Memorial Gardens Board is raising money to add a fountain called “The Rise of Hope” that will be erected near the end of the memorial pathway, giving a quiet space to pause and reflect. They will also be honoring the heroism and patriotism of our First Responders with an additional monument. If you would like to contribute, donations can be sent via PayPal to MiddletownWTC@gmail.com.

**Members of MTPD Run to Honor Victims of
September 11th Attacks**



On Friday, September 11th, officers of the Middletown Township Police Department gathered for a memorial run to honor the victims of the September 11th terrorist attacks and in memory of Detective Lieutenant Joseph Capriotti (ret.) who passed away on June 6, 2019 after a long battle with cancer, which was attributed to his work at the World Trade Center site in the days following the attack.

The run covered a 4.5 mile route, starting at the Middletown World Trade Center Memorial Gardens at 8:46 AM and ended at a second September 11th Memorial, located at the water's edge at the New Jersey State Marina on Concord Avenue in the Leonardo section of the township.

The run was organized by officers Rich Belmonte and Shane Hall, members of Patrolman's Benevolent Association Local #124. Money raised by the run, either through direct donation or through the sale of t-shirts, will be forwarded to the Stephen Siller Tunnel to Towers Foundation whose mission is to honor the sacrifice of firefighter Stephen Siller who laid down his life to save others on September 11, 2001. The organization also honors military and first responders who continue to make the supreme sacrifice of life and limb for our country. Anyone

wishing to make a donation can go to the Middletown PBA #124 website at www.middletownpba.org.

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

Middletown Township Officially Opens Universally Accessible Croydon Hall Playground



Township officials, executives from CME, MRC Gametime and Whirl Construction who worked on the project, and community members of all ages gathered on Friday to cut the ribbon for this universally accessible playground.

On Friday, Middletown officials, project managers, and community members attended the ribbon cutting ceremony to officially open the new playground at Croydon Hall (900 Leonardville Road). The ADA accessible playground was built using funds from the Monmouth County Municipal Open Space Grant Program and integrates physical activities and equipment for both the

young and old(er!) to enjoy.

Swing by to check it out!

MONMOUTH COUNTY MOSQUITO CONTROL OPERATION ALERT

A graphic for a mosquito control alert. It features the words "MOSQUITO CONTROL" in large, bold, black letters. A red circle with a diagonal slash is superimposed over the "O" in "MOSQUITO", with a black mosquito silhouette inside. To the right is the official seal of Monmouth County, New Jersey, which includes the year 1683. Below the main title is a red banner with the text "MONMOUTH COUNTY MOSQUITO CONTROL OPERATION ALERT" in white. Underneath the banner, a white box contains the following text: "DUE TO CONCERNS REGARDING WEST NILE VIRUS, MONMOUTH COUNTY MOSQUITO CONTROL HAS SCHEDULED AN ADULT MOSQUITO CONTROL OPERATION IN SEVERAL NEIGHBORHOODS IN MIDDLETOWN. SPRAYING WILL BEGIN ON SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 12th FROM 4:00 TO 7:00 AM IN THE RED HILL ROAD AREA BETWEEN BAMB HOLLOW ROAD AND THE GARDEN STATE PARKWAY AS WELL AS THE KINGS HIGHWAY EAST AREA BETWEEN SLEEPY HOLLOW ROAD AND CHAPEL HILL ROAD. THEY WILL ALSO BE TREATING THE AREA BETWEEN NORMANDY ROAD AND EAST ROAD AREA (SOUTH OF RT. 36) ON TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 15th FROM 5:00-7:00 AM. VISIT WWW.MIDDLETOWNNJ.ORG/MOSQUITOCONTROL FOR MORE INFORMATION."

CLICK THE PICTURE TO LEARN MORE.

**Middletown Township Recognizes
Pediatric Cancer Awareness Month**
*Virtual Mayor's Challenge to Benefit Infinite Love
For Kids Fighting Cancer*



Mayor Tony Perry presented Infinite Love For Kids Fighting Cancer Founder Andrea Verdone Gorsegher and her daughter Hannah with the Township's proclamation recognizing September 2020 as Pediatric Cancer Awareness Month in Middletown at the September 8, 2020 Township Committee Workshop Meeting.

At the Township Committee Workshop Meeting on Tuesday, September 8th, Mayor Tony Perry and the Middletown Township Committee proclaimed September 2020 as Pediatric Cancer Awareness Month in Middletown Township in order to help raise awareness for pediatric cancer and its victims. The proclamation was presented to Andrea Verdone Gorsegher, Founder/President of Infinite Love for Kids Fighting Cancer and her daughter Hannah.

Infinite Love for Kids Fighting Cancer's mission is to raise awareness and fund research for childhood cancer, but most importantly to support children and their families in their fight. The organization is also this year's charity of choice for the Virtual Mayor's Wellness Campaign 5K Challenge that will be taking place from October 17th through November 30th. All proceeds from the race will benefit this meaningful cause.

Please visit www.middlestownnj.org/5K for Mayor's Virtual Challenge updates. There will be options for runners, walkers and bikers too!

Local Student Speaks Up to Help Others Overcome Speech Difficulties



Mayor Tony Perry had the honor of meeting 12-year-old Joseph Rogers, a 7th grader at Thompson Middle School, who recently spoke up about overcoming his fear of public speaking because of his stutter. Joseph was diagnosed with childhood apraxia of speech (CAS) at an early age when a stutter emerged at the end of 3rd grade. After being inspired by teen Brayden Harrington who addressed the nation with a stutter during one of the televised political conventions, he shared his journey with The Asbury Park Press and his positive message of not second-guessing yourself and the importance of overcoming obstacles.

We applaud Joseph for being such a great role model!

Watch the September 8th Middletown Township Committee Workshop 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 September 21st.

Township Now Offering Free Screened Compost!

MIDDLETOWN TOWNSHIP
PUBLIC WORKS & ENGINEERING

The Township is now offering free screened compost that can be used as a natural, organic way to repair and enhance your yard and garden.

This compost is created from our own leaf collection and is a wonderful way to avoid using harsh chemical fertilizers while keeping Middletown green.

Pick it up at the Middletown Recycling Center (52 Kanes Lane) during business hours (Thursdays-Mondays 8:30 AM-4:30 PM).

**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.



FALL | IN-PERSON CLASSES

WE'RE BACK!

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

The MAC is thrilled to offer IN-PERSON Fall classes in Theater, Dance, Art, Music & more! Classes will take place OUTSIDE on their large patio covered by a professionally-installed canopy. Their amazing instructors and staff will follow CDC guidelines and practice social distancing, small classes and take temperatures.

Click [HERE](#) to check out the classes and register.
Spots are filling up quickly!

**MTPL Offering Free Online Tutoring
through Brainfuse with Library Card!**



Whether you are learning from home or at school, Brainfuse is here to help with free live online tutoring and more.



(available at your library or at home through your library's website)

Check out the MTPL's Database of the Month "Brainfuse-Help Now" that offers live tutoring and more. Live online tutoring is FREE with your Middletown Township Public Library card!

Tutors are available every day from 2:00 PM - 11:00 PM. If you don't have a library card, stop by the MTPL (55 New Monmouth Road) to apply for one.

[CLICK HERE TO LEARN HOW TO REGISTER!](#)

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

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

DID YOU KNOW?

"The Gulf Fritillary Butterfly
is a pollinator."



JOIN US FOR THE

Parks for Pollinators BIOBLITZ



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.

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



FREE CAT RABIES CLINIC

PRE-REGISTRATION REQUIRED

SATURDAY, 9/26 FROM 9-10:30AM
CROYDON HALL GYM PARKING LOT (900 LEONARDVILLE ROAD)

Due to COVID-19, pre-registration, facemasks and social distancing are required. Cats must be accompanied by owner and in its own carrier. Please visit www.middlestownnj.org/rabies or call Animal Control at 732-615-2097 for more information.



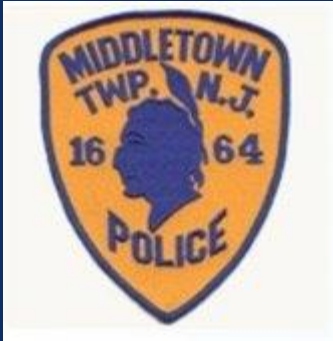
[Click the picture to pre-register now!](#)

BECOME A MIDDLETOWN TOWNSHIP POLL WORKER!

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

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





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

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 PDEIGERTO1@COMCAST.NET.


COVID-19 RESOURCES

9/12/20 COVID-19 Community Health Advisory Concerning Middletown Sports Complex

Middletown Township Department of Health and Social Services is currently investigating a cluster of approximately 13 COVID-19 cases with a common connection to the Middletown Sports Complex/Ice World facility. The investigation has revealed that the earliest onset of symptoms was on 9/3/20. Management has been working diligently with the Health Department to identify anyone who may have been in the facility since that time. Although they have a comprehensive cleaning procedure, the Township would like to advise anyone who was in the facility to get tested for COVID-19 as a safety precaution.

Per the Governor's [Executive Order No. 149](#), contact sports that are considered "medium risk" and "high risk" are prohibited indoors at this time. For additional information, please read the [NJ Department of Health's Guidance for Sports Activities](#). After discussions with the Health Director, Middletown Sports Complex Management may close the facility for up to 14 days to allow for further contact tracing, notifications, and deep cleaning in an effort to break the chain of infection.

The Health Department is conducting contact tracing in an attempt to better track and narrow down the extent of this cluster. It is imperative that everyone cooperate in this potentially serious matter as we continue to fight this virus. If you have questions or concerns, please contact the Health Department at 732-615-2000, ext. 2165 or email questions to covid19@middletownnj.org. You can also visit covid19.nj.gov for additional information and resources.



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@MIDDLETOWNNJ.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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