

Middletown Minutes

Official Township E-Newsletter



Township Kicks Off Holiday Season with Virtual Christmas Tree Lighting and Santa Drive By!



Committeewoman Pat Snell and Mayor Tony Perry were on hand to help light the Christmas



After taking a tour of Middletown with the help of our first responders, Santa worked some



*tree located at the
Middletown Arts Center.*

*Christmas magic and gave
Mayor Perry the thumbs
up to light the Christmas
tree!*

*Mayor Perry needed a
little help from his favorite
little elf, daughter Reagan,
to flip the switch on the
Christmas tree lights.*

On Sunday, December 6th, Middletown Township hosted its virtual Christmas Tree Lighting and Santa Drive-By! Santa and his sleigh drove through town with a parade of first responder vehicles to wish a Merry Christmas to Middletown residents. He made his way to the Middletown Arts Center with lots of anticipation since Mayor Tony Perry needed a Christmas miracle to get the tree to light up! As he arrived with his entourage of first responder elves, Santa gave his magical thumbs up to light the Christmas tree and kick off the holiday season! The tree lighting was followed by holiday performances and a festive family game of Kahoot Trivia!

**CLICK [HERE](#) TO VIEW PHOTOS FROM THE
EVENT!**

(courtesy of Vlad Berson)

WREATHS BRING CHEER TO MIDDLETOWN BUSINESS CENTERS



**BE SURE TO CHECK
OUT THE
FESTIVE HOLIDAY
DECORATIONS AT
OUR TOWN BUSINESS
CENTERS IN BELFORD
AND LINCROFT.
WE HOPE THEY
BRING YOU A LITTLE
HOLIDAY CHEER!**



**IBCA Lights Up Neighborhood
Christmas Tree**

The Ideal Beach Community Association (IBCA) held its Annual Christmas Tree Lighting on Sunday, December 6th at Roosevelt Park on Port Monmouth Road. Township Committee member Pat Snell joined IBCA members, first responders and the community to light up the Ideal Beach neighborhood with holiday cheer. Stop by to see the beautiful tree!



Middletown Township Hosts Virtual Hanukkah Menorah Lighting!



Watch the Township's virtual Hanukkah Menorah Lighting with a message from Mayor Tony Perry and a special blessing recited by Rabbi Shmaya Galperin of the Chabad Jewish Center as he lights the first candle on the menorah to celebrate the season of Hanukkah.

[CLICK HERE TO WATCH THE MENORAH LIGHTING ON THE TOWNSHIP'S YOUTUBE CHANNEL!](#)

New Town Hall Construction Update



Construction continues on the new Town Hall Building on Kings Highway! The foundation has been poured which will enable the next phase of the project in the upcoming months. Click [HERE](#) to see photos of the construction over time and catch glimpses of what's new!

The new Town Hall will be a 72,000 square foot, three-story, energy efficient facility that will consolidate approximately 55,000 square feet of operations currently located in several facilities across town. The new facility will allow the town to house most its services under one roof which will offer a “one-stop-shop” for community members to take care of business such as paying taxes, getting a passport or applying for a dog license at a single location.

The new building will allow for the growth of our Township, which includes better amenities and resources, and will enable Middletown to take on a greater regional role through shared services with smaller surrounding municipalities.

NEW BUILDING & INSPECTION DEPARTMENT DROP-BOX

The Inspection Department now has a drop box for permits, applications and payments located at the SIDE entrance of the Croydon Hall Annex (900 Leonardville Road). The *drop box is available 8:00 AM-3:00 PM Monday-Friday. All items placed in the box MUST be placed in a sealed envelope with an address.



The drop box is available Monday-Friday from 8:00 AM to 3:00 PM.

***Please do not use the Letters-to-Santa box in the front of the building.**

Watch the December 7th 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 5:00 PM and 8:30 PM through December 21st.

**THE MIDDLETOWN ARTS CENTER PRESENTS:
LETTERS TO SANTA!**



This year, Santa has asked for a little help from the elves at the Middletown Arts Center and Arts Council to once again make sure all of the letters from Middletown children are delivered to the North Pole by setting up mailboxes throughout town (see letter drop off locations listed in the image above)!

Your child will receive a personalized letter back from Santa if you include a complete return address along with your child's name, age, and any related information that Santa might find helpful! To receive a response before Christmas, please drop your letter(s) in any of Santa's special mailboxes across town before December 20th.



[Need a little help with writing a letter to Santa? Click the image for some help!](#)

[CLICK HERE FOR A SAMPLE LETTER TO SANTA!](#)

Although there is no cost, parents are encouraged to make a suggested donation of \$5 per letter by visiting middletownarts.org/donate to help pay for reindeer food and the long trek to the North Pole!

The MTPL Presents Holiday Storytime



[Check out the MTPL's YouTube channel for Holiday Storytime.](#)

Click [HERE](#)or turn on the Township's Municipal TV channel (FiOS Channel 26/Comcast Cable Channel 20) to watch the MTPL's Winter 2020 Storytime series. This week Middletown Township Public Information Officer Tara Berson reads "The Itsy Bitsy Reindeer" at the MTPL. Catch it any day at 7:00 AM and 2:00 PM through Christmas Day.

Check out the MTPL's YouTube channel to listen to other holiday stories from special guest readers!

**Middletown Recreation Presents
Virtual Story Time with Santa 12/13 or 12/20:
Register Now!**



Join Santa Claus and his Elves for a fun and light-hearted night sharing the spirit of family and friends together! Let's gather together virtually to sing Christmas carols, draw with Doodle Dude, and listen to Santa read a festive favorite! Limited spaces available. This virtual event will last approximately 45 minutes - 1 hour.

LIVE events are signed up by household. Please select parent/guardian when registering on Community Pass. Prior to the event, you will be emailed a link to a WebEx Meeting. Please use same email address for logging in, as it is unique for each participant. Events are not recorded.

Visit middletownnj.org/signup to register today!

QUESTIONS ABOUT YOUR PROPERTY TAX ASSESSMENT?

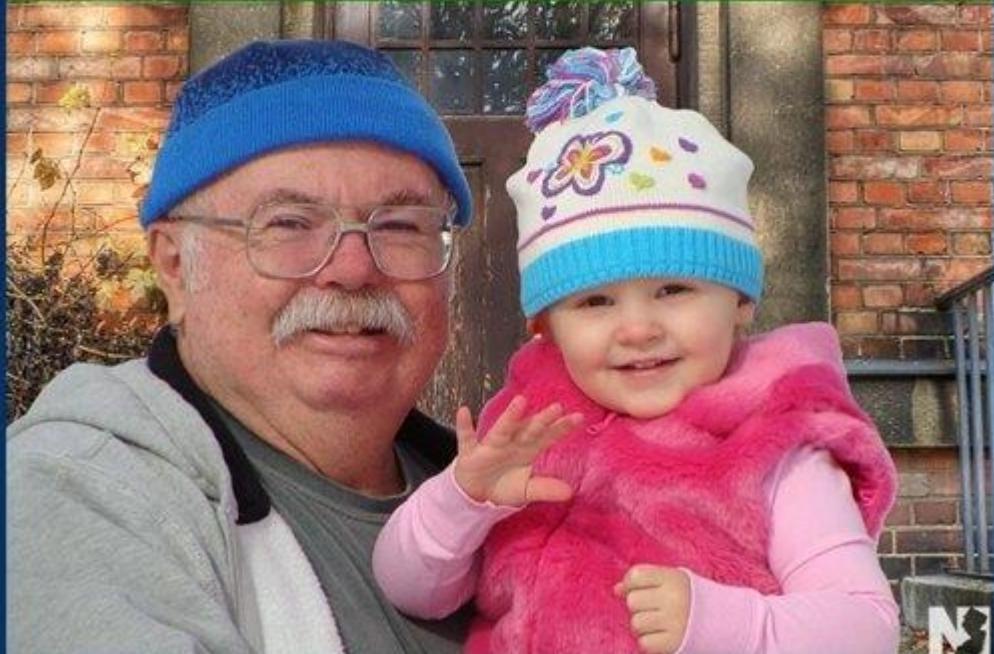
VISIT WWW.MIDDLETOWNNJ.ORG/PROPERTYTAXES
FOR MORE INFORMATION.



[CLICK THE PICTURE FOR MORE INFORMATION.](#)

Senior Freeze Deadline Extended to Dec. 31

More time to apply for the property tax relief you deserve



This was a turbulent year. If you forgot to apply for the Senior Freeze property tax reimbursement, don't worry. The deadline has been extended to Dec. 31, 2020. Take advantage of the extra time to get the RELIEF you deserve.

Click [HERE](#)to see if you are eligible.

FALL 2020 LEAF COLLECTION UPDATE



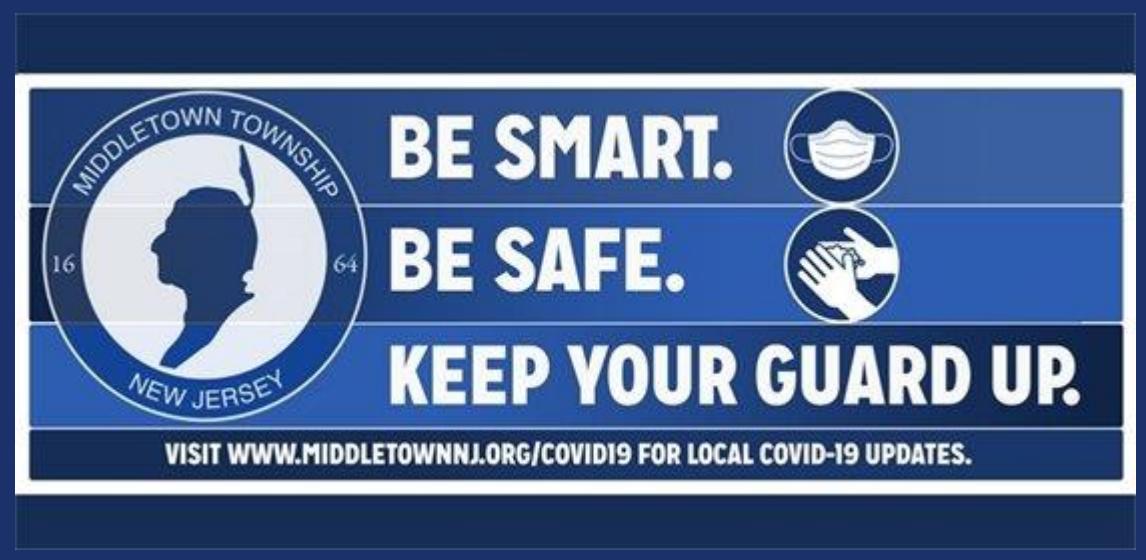
FALL 2020 LEAF COLLECTION UPDATE

COLLECTION ZONE	STATUS
A	In Progress
B	In Progress
C	COMPLETED
D	COMPLETED
E	Not Started
F	COMPLETED
G	Not Started
H	COMPLETED
I	In Progress
J	COMPLETED
K	COMPLETED
L	In Progress

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

CLICK THE PICTURE FOR MORE INFORMATION AND CONTINUOUS UPDATES!

Please note, the Fall 2020 Leaf Collection schedule has been consolidated into three zones. Click [HERE](#) to find your zone.



**MIDDLETOWN TOWNSHIP
NEW JERSEY**

16 64

**BE SMART.
BE SAFE.
KEEP YOUR GUARD UP.**

VISIT WWW.MIDDLETOWNNJ.ORG/COVID19 FOR LOCAL COVID-19 UPDATES.



**Volunteers Needed to Support
Victims of Sexual Violence: You Can
Make a Difference**

Middletown Township Police Department is helping *180 Turning Lives Around* to recruit community volunteers to serve on the Sexual Assault Response Team. There will be a 40-hour mandatory training course via Zoom February 2-25.

Applications are being accepted through Friday, January 22nd.

Click [HERE](#) to read the community advisory for more information.

Municipal Offices Open to Public By Appointment Only

MIDDLETOWN MUNICIPAL BUILDINGS ARE OPEN TO PUBLIC BY APPOINTMENT ONLY



CLICK [HERE](#) FOR A LIST OF DEPARTMENT PHONE NUMBERS TO MAKE AN APPOINTMENT.

To help ensure the safety of visitors and employees, municipal offices are now open to the public *by appointment only*. The only exception is for in-person tax payments at the [Tax Collector's Office](#).

Employees and visitors must wear a face mask and adhere to social distancing guidelines. If you would like to schedule an appointment, you can reach the various departments at the phone numbers listed [HERE](#).

JCP&L Helicopter Pre-Flight Notification

Haverfield Aviation will be assisting in the completion of various JCP&L maintenance items on either **Sunday, December 13th or Monday, December 14th**, weather permitting. The helicopter will either be seen transporting line workers and equipment to and from the work area(s) or will be seen hovering extensively while in the work area(s) as a line worker performs repair work via platform that is attached to the helicopter.



The pilot will be in communication with any local airports, when in their airspace. The helicopter is a black MD500 helicopter with red tail number N4265J (see photo).

Middletown Online Tax Sale is December 29th



Click on the image for tax sale information that can be viewed free of charge. Please visit www.middletownnj.org/TaxCollection for more information.

Middletown Arts Center

Annex

NEW MIDDLETOWN ARTS CENTER ANNEX!

The Middletown Arts Center is excited to announce the opening of its new Annex in the Middletown Reformed Church Education Building right at 121 Kings Highway (and around the corner from the MAC)!

The building's first floor classroom space with many windows for added ventilation make it an ideal location for their classes and programs while the MAC is being repaired. They have equipped each classroom with a medical grade air purifier, hand sanitizing stations, and a state-of-the-art electrostatic disinfectant sprayer to help keep you safe and comfortable.

Visit www.middletownarts.org for updates!

Middletown Township Public Library Presents:

**New Jersey Career Network Job Seeker
Community Introduction
Wednesday, January 13th at 1:00 PM**

Are you looking for advice and ongoing support for your job search? Join NJCN to learn more about its online Job Seeker community, a FREE online community where you can participate in daily events, connect with other job seekers and get support for the search.

Click HERE to register for the event.

Click HERE to visit the NJCN Job Seeker Community.



Are you a New Jersey resident and looking for work?

Do you want to be part of a community of job seekers and volunteer coaches who want to support and encourage each other along the way? If so, consider joining the NJ Career Network Job Seeker Community today!

What is the NJ Career Network Job Seeker Community?

A FREE online community to help you in your job search and to connect you with other people who are looking for jobs and with our volunteer coaches. This community offers a supportive network so you know where to turn with your questions and concerns. Volunteer experts and your peers will be here to help you navigate your job search and cope with all aspects of searching for work.

Why should you join?

The job seeker community will share resources, facilitate conversations, and welcome questions about looking for a job. You will gain access to exclusive community member-only events when you join. We also understand that your job search will not be successful unless you are okay, both physically and mentally. That's why the community will be a place for you to share challenges that get in the way of or discourage your job search.



NJ Career Network
Job Seeker Community

What this community is:

- A safe space to ask questions and share your concerns.
- A chance to connect with your peers.
- A place to participate in conversations and events.
- A place to share and contribute your knowledge and expertise to your fellow community members.
- A place to figure out solutions to problems.
- A network to offer support for your overall well-being.
- An opportunity to help yourself and others looking for employment.

What this community is not:

- A job board or other impersonal networking.
- Networking that ignores the rest of your life.
- A place to just get information without participating.

I'm in! Now what?

Please visit nj-career-network-jobseeker-community.mn.co and join us! One of our coaches or moderators will reach out to answer any questions you may have and to help you get started!

We are using the Mighty Networks online platform to host the NJ Career Network Job Seeker Community. When you join the online community, any references to Mighty Networks are in regard to the community's hosting platform service.

[Click the picture to enlarge the flyer.](#)

COVID-19 RESOURCES

Monmouth County COVID-19 Testing Sites for December



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.

Monmouth County Residents Only! 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 swab

Monmouth County Testing Locations:
Monmouth County Residents Only!

Asbury Park – Asbury Park Transportation Center, 1 Municipal Plaza:
Tuesday December 1 - 9 a.m. - 12 noon, Thursday December 10 - 4 p.m. - 7 p.m.
Monday December 21 - 9 a.m. - 12 noon

Freehold – Freehold Boro Fire Department (Main Building), 49 W Main St:
Thursday December 3 - 4 p.m. - 7 p.m., Tuesday December 15 - 9 a.m. - 12 noon
Wednesday December 23 - 4 p.m. - 7 p.m.

Keansburg – New Point Comfort Firehouse, 192 Carr Avenue:
Wednesday December 2 - 4 p.m. - 7 p.m., Saturday December 12 - 9 a.m. - 12 noon
Tuesday December 22 - 4 p.m. - 7 p.m.

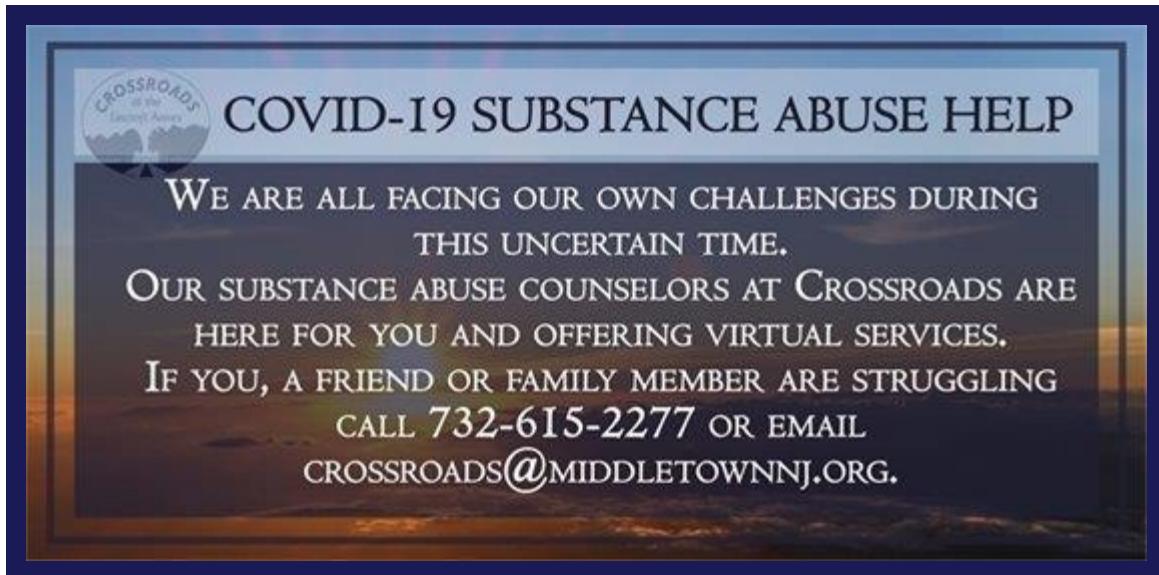
Long Branch – Bucky James Community Center, 231 Wilbur Ray Avenue:
Tuesday November 24 - 4 p.m. - 7 p.m., Tuesday December 8 - 4 p.m. - 7 p.m.
Thursday December 17 - 4 p.m. - 7 p.m.

Neptune – Neptune First Aid, 5 Neptune Blvd.
Wednesday November 25 - 9 a.m. - 12 noon, Wednesday December 16 - 9 a.m. - 12 noon

Neptune – Neptune Senior Center, 1607 Hwy. 33
Saturday December 5 - 9 a.m. - 12 noon

  GRUNIN

Click the picture to enlarge and see other COVID-19 testing sites across New Jersey.



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



[Facebook](#) [Twitter](#) [Instagram](#) [Youtube](#)

Verizon FiOS Channel 26/Comcast Cable Channel 20

[!\[\]\(26388bf82a9d28864e0ddb284e508cab_img.jpg\) Share on Facebook](#)

[!\[\]\(d4e92a70a184987c4cee61bbacf99330_img.jpg\) Share on Twitter](#)

[!\[\]\(898a81de9c4aff71234b2158571b7213_img.jpg\) Share via Email](#)

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