

# Middletown Minutes

## Official Township E-Newsletter



### Congratulations to 2021's Final Middletown Township Police Youth Week Graduates!



*Sgt. Kevin Gardiner presents a Challenge Coin to this year's Senior Youth Week graduates.*



*Police Chief Craig Weber shakes hands with a Senior Police Youth Week graduate as Deputy Chiefs Bob Stefanski and Paul Bailey award them with a well-earned certificate and Challenge Coin.*



*Thank you to the officers who run Middletown Police Youth Week! Pictured from left: Deputy Chief Bob Stefanski, Det. Cruz, Cpl. Seymour, Ptl. Mahon, Ptl. Zubkow, Cpl. Kennedy, Ptl. Carr, Sgt. Gardiner, Cpl. Riffert, Deputy Chief Paul Bailey, and Chief Craig Weber.*

**Middletown Township Police Department wrapped up its Senior Police Youth Week Camp today! There were 28 kids between the ages of 12 and 13 who participated in this program which gave them more insight into what it's like to be a police officer. The Police Youth Week program is a combination of classroom style learning and physical training. Participants spent the week working on a former case that was solved by the MTPD. Through this activity, they were able to learn firsthand how to properly look for clues, train like the police, and act like a detective. The program also emphasized the importance of honesty and leadership: two important qualities for both citizens and police officers to have.**

**The week concluded with a graduation ceremony on Friday, August 13<sup>th</sup> at the Brookdale Student Life Center. Each graduate received a certificate and a well-earned Challenge Coin. Police Chief Craig Weber and Deputy Chiefs Bob Stefanski and Paul Bailey congratulated each child. Kudos to our Police Youth Week graduates and the officers who run this amazing program!**

**This graduation marked Sergeant Kevin Gardiner's last Youth Week class after being an integral part of the program since 2003. Sgt. Gardiner is retiring from working with the Youth Camp after 18 years of service and from the Middletown Township Police Department after 25 years. To thank him for his hard work, the**

MTPD awarded him with a keepsake statue of a police officer helping a child, as well as a video commemorating his time with the Police Department. Sgt. Gardiner's leadership and dedication to the MTPD and community will be missed!

**Pick up or Purchase Your 9/11 Remembrance Yard Sign at ShopRite This Weekend from 9 AM to 12 PM**



The Middletown Township World Trade Center Memorial Gardens Committee is selling 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary 9/11 remembrance yard signs to help raise money that will go toward renovations and improvements to our WTC Memorial Gardens (36 Church Street). **The committee will be selling signs at ShopRite (1361 NJ-35 South) this weekend from 9 AM to 12 PM.** Bring your order confirmation number if you already placed an order. Yard signs will be available for \$40.

You can also stop by the Middletown Arts Center (36 Church Street) during regular business hours to purchase a lawn sign by cash or check.

Visit [www.middletownremembers911.com](http://www.middletownremembers911.com) for more information or call (732) 615-2287 if you have any questions.

**Middletown Invites Community to 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of 9/11 Memorial Service on Saturday, 9/11 at 6:30 PM**

*Middletown*  *Remembers*

**20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the  
World Trade Center Tragedy**

**Saturday, September 11<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m.**

*Please join us 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)

Parking will be available at the Middletown Train Station. Police will be directing traffic. Tribute will be held rain or shine.



## **Middletown Township Committee to Host In-Person and Virtual Regular Meeting on Monday, 8/16**

The Middletown Township Committee Regular Meeting on Monday, August 16, 2021 at 7:00 PM will be open to the public and made available live through Webex Event Center.

If you will be participating remotely, you can do so by clicking [this event link](#). To call in to the meeting, dial 1-408-418-9388. The event access code is 179 604 3030 followed by #. Enter 2021 if a passcode is required.

Prior to the Township Committee Meeting, the event link will be published on the Township's [Facebook page](#). The recording of the meeting 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.

## **Girl Scout Troop 61124 Participates in Clean Communities Mini Grant Program**





Last weekend, Girl Scout Troop 61124 out of Nut Swamp Elementary participated in a cleanup of Lincroft Acres as part of the Clean Communities Mini Grant Program. These amazing little ladies did an excellent job of searching the woods for litter. By using Ocean Conservancy's Clean Swell app, we were able to track the cleanup and discovered the girls had picked up over 50 lbs. of trash, including over 150 bottles and cans!

A big shout out to Girl Scouts of the Jersey Shore for their hard work in cleaning up trash that would have otherwise polluted our forests and waterways for years to come. You girls rock!

Click [HERE](#) if you are interested in participating in the Clean Communities Mini Grant Program and for more information.

Participating in your own cleanup? Whether you are working in a group or going solo, you can track your cleanup on Ocean Conservancy's Clean Swell app.

Click [HERE](#) for more information about Clean Swell.

**MTPD Partners with 7-Eleven in Operation Chill to Reward Kids for Good Behavior**



### MTPD Partners with 7-Eleven in Operation Chill to Reward Kids for Good Behavior!

-  If an officer witnesses your child doing a good deed or exhibiting positive behavior, they could receive a coupon for a free small Slurpee® drink at participating stores.
-  If your child is issued a "ticket" for doing a good deed, feel free to share it via social media with the hashtag #MTPDOperationChill.



7-ELEVEN  
**operation**  
**chill**  
RECOGNIZING GREAT KIDS



Five-year-old Dean received a coupon for a 7-Eleven Slurpee and a Smoothie King Kids Cup Smoothie from Sergeant Steve Keller today since he "caught him" riding his bike with his helmet on! This well-behaved resident will begin kindergarten at Middletown Village Elementary this upcoming school year.

Continue to stay safe on the road and enjoy your cold drinks during this hot weather, Dean!



Photo courtesy of Adriana Lapolla.

**MTPD Hosts Free Car Seat Safety Checkpoint on Wednesday, 8/18 from 2 - 6 PM at Old Village Fire Company**



## Middletown Township Police Department



# CAR SEAT SAFETY CHECKPOINT

Residents are welcome to come to this **FREE** Car Seat Safety Checkpoint hosted by the MTPD at Station 11 Old Village Fire Company (1340 NJ-35) to ensure your child is in the right car seat and that it is installed correctly.



## The MAC Musical Theatre Academy Summer Series Presents Annie JR. This Weekend



Musical Theatre Academy  
**Summer Series!**  
with KATHY CONNOLLY

Production	Dates	Times
 <b>WILLY WONKA</b>	<b>JULY 23 &amp; 24</b>	<b>2 PM &amp; 7 PM</b>
 <b>HIGH SCHOOL MUSICAL 2 JR.</b>	<b>JULY 30 &amp; 31</b>	<b>2 PM &amp; 7 PM</b>
 <b>Annie JR.</b>	<b>AUG 13 &amp; 14</b>	<b>2 PM &amp; 7 PM</b>
 <b>SINGIN' IN THE RAIN JR.</b>	<b>AUG 20 &amp; 21</b>	<b>2 PM &amp; 7 PM</b>

**TICKETS ON SALE NOW!**  
▶ GET TICKETS AT [MIDDLETOWNARTS.ORG](https://MIDDLETOWNARTS.ORG)  
ADULTS \$10 SENIOR/STUDENT \$5

The MAC's Musical Theater Academy, helmed by Theater Education Director Kathy Connolly, is excited to bring four Summer Camp student productions to the stage at Middletown Arts Center (36 Church Street)! **Annie JR.** will be performed on Friday, August 13<sup>th</sup> at 7 PM and Saturday, August 14<sup>th</sup> at 2 PM and 7 PM. Tickets cost \$10 for adults and \$5 for seniors/students. Performances are indoors at the MAC theatre. The MAC strongly encourages audience members to wear masks during the show, but does not require them.

### **Annie JR.**

With equal measures of pluck and positivity, little orphan Annie charms everyone's hearts despite a next-to-nothing start in 1930s New York City. Based on the popular comic strip and adapted from the Tony Award-winning Best Musical, with a beloved book and score by Tony Award winners, Thomas Meehan, Charles Strouse, and Martin Charnin, **Annie JR.** features everyone's favorite little redhead in her very first adventure.

Click [\*\*HERE\*\*](#) for more information and to purchase tickets!

Learn about Lenape History along the Navesink with the

MTPL on Tuesday, 8/17 at 7 PM



**Tues. 8/17 @ 7PM VIA ZOOM**

## LEARN THE HISTORY OF THE LENAPE ALONG THE NAVESINK



Presented by Claire Garland, Director of the  
Sand Hill Indian Historical Association

Join the Middletown Township Public Library on Tuesday, August 17<sup>th</sup> to learn about the Lenape. Claire Garland, Director of the Sand Hill Indian Historical Association, will present on the little known history of our Native American heritage in Monmouth County. The event will begin at 7 PM and take place over Zoom. Registration is required.

Click [HERE](#) for more information and to register.

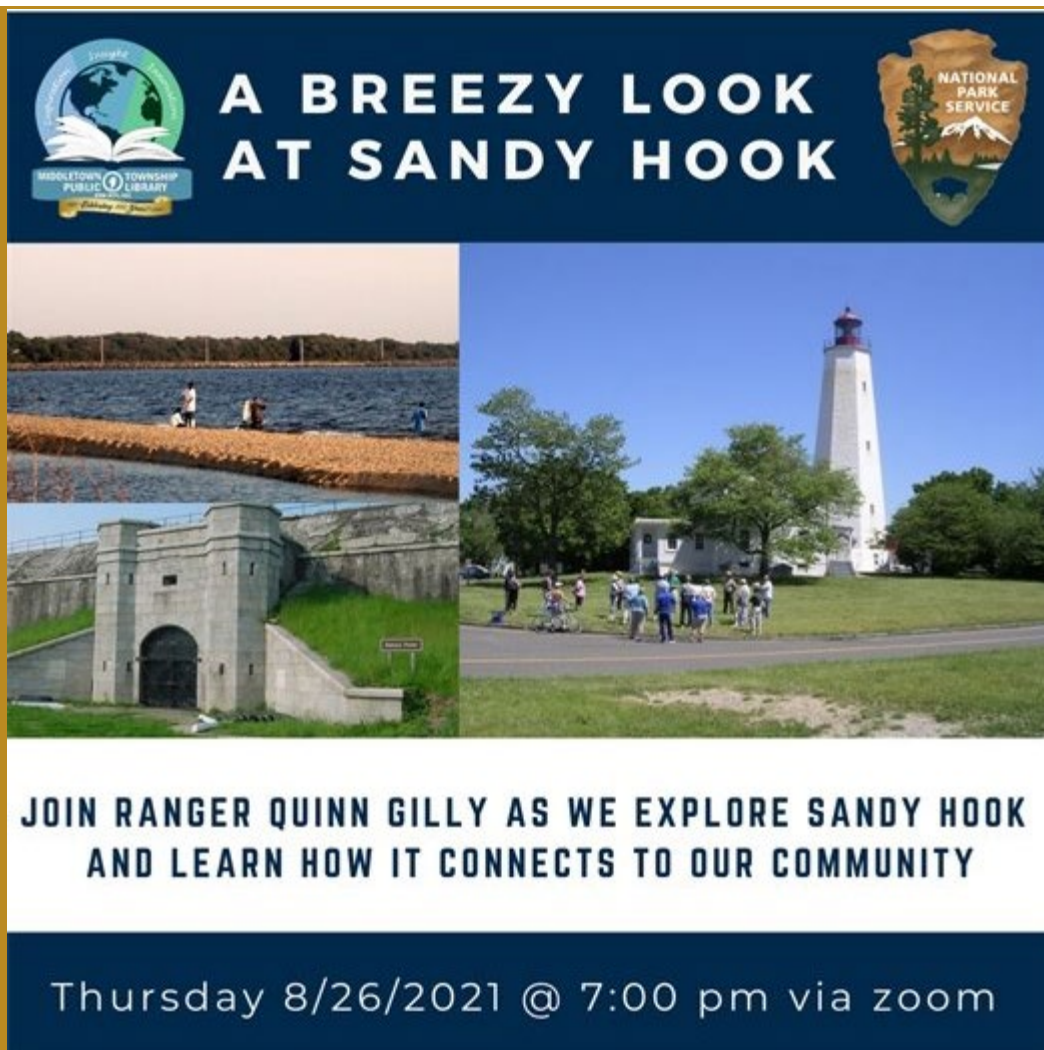
**Save the Date for Middletown Day on Saturday, 9/18!**



*For more information, visit [www.middletownnj.org/middletownday](http://www.middletownnj.org/middletownday).*

**Take a Breezy Look at Sandy Hook with the MTPL on  
Thursday, 8/26 at 7 PM**





The poster features a dark blue header with the Middletown Township Public Library logo on the left and the National Park Service arrowhead logo on the right. The title "A BREEZY LOOK AT SANDY HOOK" is centered in large white letters. Below the header is a collage of three images: a beach with people, a stone fortification, and the Sandy Hook Lighthouse. The text "JOIN RANGER QUINN GILLY AS WE EXPLORE SANDY HOOK AND LEARN HOW IT CONNECTS TO OUR COMMUNITY" is centered below the images. At the bottom, a dark blue banner contains the text "Thursday 8/26/2021 @ 7:00 pm via zoom" in white.

# A BREEZY LOOK AT SANDY HOOK

JOIN RANGER QUINN GILLY AS WE EXPLORE SANDY HOOK AND LEARN HOW IT CONNECTS TO OUR COMMUNITY

Thursday 8/26/2021 @ 7:00 pm via zoom

Accompany the Middletown Township Public Library on Thursday, August 26<sup>th</sup> to learn about the historic connections between Middletown Township and Sandy Hook, as well as Sandy Hook's impact on the local community. This event will be presented by Park Ranger Quinn Gilly and take place at 7 PM via Zoom. Registration is required.

Click [HERE](#) for more information and to register.

**Submit Artwork to DPW and MAC's Trash & Recycling Sculpture Art Contest by Friday, 8/27**

A poster for the Trash Sculpture Art Contest. At the top, the title "TRASH SCULPTURE ART CONTEST" is written in a stylized font, with a large recycling symbol behind the words "SCULPTURE" and "ART". Below the title, it says "CALLING ALL ARTISTS!". Then, it states: "THE MIDDLETOWN DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS AND THE MIDDLETOWN ARTS CENTER ARE SEEKING TRASH SCULPTURES FOR THE TOWNSHIP'S NEW OUTDOOR ECOLOGICAL GARDEN AT DPW!". A section titled "GUIDELINES:" follows, listing four points: 1. Contest is open to children, adults, families and organizations. 2. Entries should be created entirely out of clean trash or recycled materials, although artistic embellishments can be added with waterproof paint. 3. All artwork should be free-standing, sturdy, and weatherproof. Dimensions up to 4 feet high and/or wide are suggested. 4. Deadline extended to Friday, August 27th, 2021 at 4:00PM. Entries should be delivered to the Middletown Arts Center (36 Church Street). Below the guidelines, it says: "WINNERS WILL HAVE THEIR ARTWORK DISPLAYED AS PART OF DPW'S ECOLOGICAL GARDEN AND AT MIDDLETOWN DAY 2021. WINNERS WILL RECEIVE A GIFT BAG INCLUDING A MIDDLETOWN ARTS CENTER GIFT CERTIFICATE." At the bottom, there is a globe graphic with the Middletown Arts Center logo (a red square with a white bird-like shape) and the text "FOR MORE DETAILS AND TO ENTER THE CONTEST, EMAIL JTICINO@MIDDLETOWNNJ.ORG." There is also a small circular logo on the bottom left that says "MIDDLETOWN NJ DEPT. OF PUBLIC WORKS" and "RECYCLE".

The Middletown Department of Public Works and the Middletown Arts Center are seeking trash sculptures to display at the Township's new outdoor Ecological Garden at DPW (52 Kanes Lane). Winners will receive a gift bag that includes a MAC gift certificate and they will also have their artwork showcased at Middletown Day as an example of a creative way to reduce, reuse, and recycle! Please see contest rules in the flyer above.

Email [jticino@middletownnj.org](mailto:jticino@middletownnj.org) for more details and to enter the contest. Click [HERE](#) to download the contest's entry form.

**Embark on a Guided Fossil Hunt at Poricy Park on  
Sunday, 8/29 at 11 AM**



# Guided Fossil Hunts

Calling all amateur paleontologists! Come dig up some Middletown history at the Poricy Brook Fossil Beds. Expect to find marine fossils from the Cretaceous period, 65-72 million years ago. An experienced guide will provide you with a trowel and sifter, as well as help you identify your treasures.

Calling all amateur paleontologists! Come dig up some Middletown history at the Poricy Brook Fossil Beds (1803 Middletown-Lincroft Road) on Sunday, August 29<sup>th</sup> from 11 AM - 12 PM. Expect to find marine fossils from the Cretaceous period, 65-72 million years ago.

Meet directly at the Poricy Park Fossil Beds for a short orientation before getting right into the fossil beds. An experienced guide will provide you with a trowel and sifter, as well as help you identify your treasures. Please wear rubber boots or old sneakers, as your feet will get wet. Sandals, flip-flops, and other slip-on footwear are prohibited. The event costs \$5 per participant. The hunt is open to participants ages 5+.

Click [HERE](#) to sign up.



## TRAFFIC SAFETY & DETOURS

MIDDLETOWN  TOWNSHIP



**Kings Highway Repaving Project:**  
Kings Highway, between The Lenape Trail and Red Hill Rd, closed to thru traffic from 8 AM - 5 PM from **Monday, 8/16 through Tuesday, 8/17**

Kings Highway, between The Lenape Trail and Red Hill Road, is scheduled to be repaved on Monday, August 16<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday, August 17<sup>th</sup>, weather permitting. Traffic detours will be posted – please



Click on the image to view the

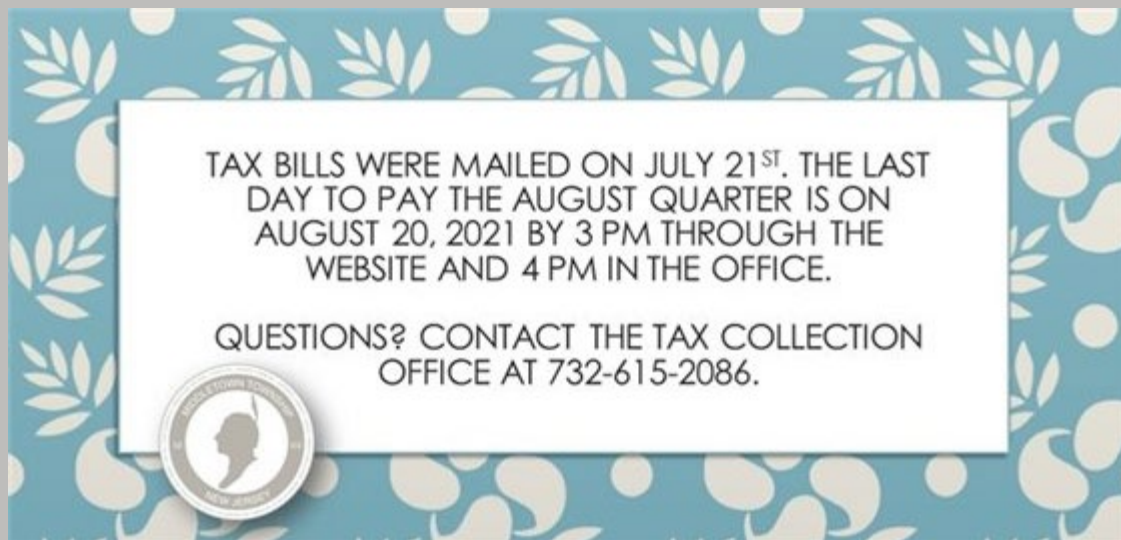


follow posted detours. Local traffic will be able to [map in a larger format.](#)  
access Kings Highway and Marlpit Place on Monday, August 16<sup>th</sup>. However,  
on Tuesday, August 17<sup>th</sup> from 8 AM - 5PM, there will be no vehicular access to or  
from this section of Kings Highway and Marlpit Place as the new asphalt is put in  
place.

Arrangements have been made to allow residents to park vehicles in the Village  
Elementary School parking lot, the church parking lot accessible from The Lenape  
Trail, and the metered parking lot at the train station. Paid parking at the metered lot  
at the train station will not be enforced on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday.

In the event of an emergency, access for first responders will be accommodated.  
Should you have any concerns with access during construction or require special  
accommodations, please contact Lt. Neal Hansen, Traffic Division Commander,  
Middletown Township Police Department at (732) 275-7447.

## Last Day to Pay the Quarter Property Tax Payment is Friday, 8/20



Quarterly taxes were due August 1, 2021. To avoid interest, please pay your taxes  
no later than 4:00 PM on Friday, August 20<sup>th</sup> in the Tax Collection Office located at  
the Croydon Hall Municipal Building (900 Leonardville Road) or by 3:00 PM through  
the website.

Click [HERE](#) for more information.

# NOW HIRING



**SEASONAL LABORERS AT THE RECYCLING CENTER**

**VISIT [WWW.MIDDLETOWNNJ.ORG/JOBS](http://WWW.MIDDLETOWNNJ.ORG/JOBS)**

**OR CALL 732-615-2017 TO APPLY.**

This position is ideal for someone who likes to help others, enjoys being outdoors, and doesn't mind a little exercise! Rate of pay is \$15.00 per hour.

Click [HERE](#) for more information and to apply.

**Be Prepared: Register for Middletown Emergency Alerts**

Please ensure that you OPT IN to the Township's emergency communications platform to receive real-time emergency alerts regarding public health and safety, traffic detours and severe weather by texting MiddletownNJ to 888-777.

Visit [www.middletownnj.org/nixle](http://www.middletownnj.org/nixle) to register via email.



**Middletown Office of Emergency Management Shares  
Hurricane Survival Guide  
*Volunteers Wanted***



# Volunteers Wanted

## Emergency Management

### Monthly Meeting Train Online

# 732-615-2129



The Middletown Office of Emergency Management (OEM) is looking for volunteers to join its team! OEM is responsible for the Township's all-hazard Emergency Operations Plan, which outlines how Middletown will function during emergency or disaster conditions. With peak season for hurricanes in New Jersey approaching from mid-August through October, now is the perfect time to volunteer and support your community! OEM volunteers train online and meet monthly. Please call (732) 615-2129 if you are interested in volunteering.

In case of an emergency, there is a Middletown Emergency Radio station. Please tune in to 1620 AM for emergency and community information.

Click [HERE](#) for more information about Middletown's OEM.

Click [HERE](#) for OEM's guide to help you prepare for emergencies.

## Updated COVID-19 Information

The Middletown Health Department has recently updated its website with additional COVID-19 information and resources.

Brookdale Community College (765 Newman Springs Road) is offering walk-in vaccination



appointments for people ages 12+.

Please check out the graphic to the right for more information about Monmouth County COVID-19 vaccines.



Click on the image to view the flyer in a larger format.

Visit [www.middletownnj.org/covid19](http://www.middletownnj.org/covid19) for more information and resources.

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



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