



Join Us for Our Santa & Friends Drive-by and Christmas Tree Lighting this Sunday, 12/5



Look who's coming to town! Join us from virtually anywhere or visit one of our viewing stations along the way. If you decide to leave the house, be sure to not block traffic or park in the roadways. The vehicles driving through will not be stopping, so figuring out your viewing location early is key!



Santa and Friends Drive-by and Christmas Tree Lighting



Ways to Watch Santa and Friends

1. Tune in From Home!

You never have to leave the comfort of your home when you log on to the virtual meeting to watch as Santa lights the tree!

2. Do you live along the route?

Come outside and wave hello!

3. Drive to a nearby public lot for viewing

Some great public locations along the route include: Campbell's Junction, the Middletown Public Library, Middletown Marketplace, Old First Church, the Middletown Arts Center, Thompson Middle School, or Normandy Park. You are also able to park on side streets along the route - please do not park directly on the route. The vehicles in the parade will not be stopping.

Don't forget about our special Christmas Kahoot Trivia at 7:00pm! Use the same Webex to see the Christmas Tree Lit and join in the fun!

www.webex.com

Meeting#: 2334 349 6318

Password: Tree2021

Santa will be leaving the NY Waterway Terminal in Belford at 5:00 PM and heading across town for all to come out and wave hello! If you joined us last year it will be the same route. As Santa passes the Middletown Arts Center, he will join Mayor Tony Perry in lighting the town Christmas Tree.

Thank you to the Middletown Police, Fire, EMS and OEM for being a part of this special parade of vehicles!

This is a drive-by and unfortunately the parade of vehicles will not be stopping. Join us virtually or visit one of the public viewing locations along the route.

After the event, head inside for a special Christmas Kahoot Trivia Game! Game will start around 7:00 PM. Remember, you need to be in it to win it!

IBCA Hosts Annual Christmas Tree Lighting



Committeewoman Kimberly Kratz and Mayor Tony Perry (with daughter Reagan) were thrilled to get into the Christmas spirit with Ideal Beach Community Association trustees and Santa & Mrs. Claus!

Last weekend, Mayor Tony Perry and Committeewoman Kimberly Kratz attended Ideal Beach Community Association's (IBCA) annual Christmas tree lighting. Santa and Mrs. Claus stopped by to visit residents and listen to Girl Scout Troop 324 sing Christmas carols for those in attendance. Wishing a happy holiday season to all!

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

Middletown Celebrates First Night of Chanukah with Party and Menorah Lighting



Pictured from left: Monmouth County Surrogate-Elect Maureen Raisch, Mayor Tony Perry, Rabbi Shmaya Galperin, and Assemblywoman-Elect Vicky Flynn

On Sunday, November 28th, Mayor Tony Perry attended a Chanukah party and menorah lighting hosted by the Middletown Arts Center (MAC) and Rabbi Shmaya Galperin from the Chabad Jewish Center of Holmdel. The celebration took place on the first night of Chanukah and began with arts and crafts, latkes, and donuts. The party then moved outside for the menorah lighting, where Mayor Tony Perry lit the shamash and Rabbi Galperin delivered an inspirational speech about the importance of light. Happy Chanukah!



Mayor Tony Perry lights up the shamash at the MAC Chanukah party and menorah lighting.

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



Executive Director of Monmouth County SPCA and County Commissioner Ross Licitra and Mayor Tony Perry hang out on the beach after jumping into the

Mayor Perry Participates in Monmouth County SPCA's First Annual Doggy Paddle Polar Plunge

Last weekend, Mayor Tony Perry participated in Monmouth County SPCA's first annual Doggy Paddle Polar Plunge! Over 250 supporters came to Belmar Beach to jump into the cold Atlantic Ocean to raise money for our furry friends! The event raised approximately \$85,000. Congratulations to Monmouth County SPCA for putting together such a warm-hearted and successful event!

ocean for a good cause!

Mayor Brings Back Coin Toss Tradition at High School North vs. South Thanksgiving Game

Thanksgiving is a day many associate with food, family... and football, of course! Mayor Tony Perry was honored to continue a Thanksgiving tradition and toss the coin at Middletown High School North at the holiday football game.



We hope this tradition continues for many years to come!



Middletown Township Committee to Host In-Person and Virtual Workshop Meeting on Monday, 12/6

The Middletown Township Committee Workshop Meeting on Monday, December 6, 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 2338 868 7827 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.*

Congratulations to Middletown Municipal Alliance's Project P.L.U.S. Graduates!



Earlier this week, a group of fifth graders from Bayview, Fairview, Leonardo, and Navesink elementary schools graduated from Middletown Municipal Alliance's (MMA) Project P.L.U.S. (Peer Leaders Understanding Students). Project P.L.U.S. is a free, after-school peer leadership program that teaches students the personal, health, and legal consequences of dangerous substances and how to become a leader in their community.

The program is now expanding to 8th graders at Bayshore, Thompson, and Thorne middle schools! There will be two sessions: one that takes place from December 7th to December 22nd, and one that begins January 4th and ends on January 19th. Both sessions last three weeks and meet every Tuesday and Wednesday at either the Middletown Senior Center (900 Leonardville Road) or via Zoom.

Monday, December 6th is the last day to register for one of these sessions. Please contact Angela Pepe-Lage at apepe-lage@middletownnj.org or 732-615-2277 if you are interested and have any questions.

**Leaf Collection Resumes on Friday, 12/10:
How to Find Your Zone**

experience levels are encouraged to join!

More information will be shared in the coming weeks. Those interested can email communitygarden@middletownnj.org to keep up with the latest information and to have the first opportunity to sign up for a plot!

Upcoming Events

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

**Register for Club MAC's Gingerbread Party TOMORROW
Saturday, 12/4 at 10 AM and 5 PM**



Looking to finish your holiday shopping and need a place to send your kids? Club MAC has got you covered! Kids can be dropped off at the Middletown Arts Center (36 Church Street) TOMORROW, December 4th from 10 AM - 2 PM OR 5 PM - 9 PM for four hours of fun!

Each child will be decorating and taking home their own gingerbread mansion. They will also enjoy pizza and snacks, watch a movie, and play games!

This fun event is for children ages 3+. All children must be potty trained. Pre-registration is required. Admission costs \$40 per child.

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

**Register for MTPL's Holidays Around the World Show on
Monday, 12/6 at 6:30 PM**



Get into the holiday spirit and come to the Middletown Township Public Library (55 New Monmouth Road) on Monday, December 6th for a festive performance! Bright Star Touring Theatre of Asheville, NC, a national professional touring theater company, will perform their acclaimed show *Holidays Around the World* in the Community Room at 6:30 PM.

Holidays Around the World

When the tour guides for Worldwide Tours get separated at holiday time, a worldwide adventure awaits. As they travel around the world in search of each other, these guides share what they learn about the season from a wide variety of places and cultures. Celebrate holidays from all over the globe – the Lohri Festival, St. Lucia Day, Hanukkah, Kwanzaa, Christmas and more!

Registration is required. Social distancing and masks are strongly suggested.

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

"Letters to Santa" Mailboxes are Out NOW!



Our Middletown elves are collecting letters and delivering them directly to the North Pole! Drop off a letter in one of our special boxes to receive a personalized letter from Santa in return. Below are the mailbox locations:

- Croydon Hall, outside the Senior Center (900 Leonardville Road)
 - Middletown Arts Center (36 Church Street)
- Middletown Township Public Library (55 New Monmouth Road)
 - Tonya Keller Community Center (50 Bray Avenue)
- Town Hall, outside the Clerk's Office entrance (1 Kings Highway)

To ensure delivery, mailboxes will be removed on December 16th. Letters are free, but please consider making a donation to the Middletown Arts Center.

Click [HERE](#) for more information about this magical delivery.
Click [HERE](#) to donate to the MAC.

How to Support Middletown Social Services Division's Holiday Food Drive and Adopt-a-Family Program

HELP FAMILIES IN NEED THIS HOLIDAY SEASON THROUGH MIDDLETOWN'S



WHAT TO DONATE



All types of canned/non-perishable foods and personal hygiene products are welcome throughout the year, but especially around the holidays. Another way to help during this season of giving is to donate a turkey or ham, especially the free ones you may earn through supermarket promotions, to a family in need.



ADOPT-A-FAMILY



Middletown Social Services is looking for individuals, groups, and businesses to "adopt" underprivileged households during the holiday season. Social Services will provide a small shopping list of items that a child would like, as well as a few ideas for parents. As a "foster" family, we ask that you kindly provide a few of the listed items or gifts cards, in hopes that your adopted family may have a special holiday season. Donations are accepted at the Health Department's office (180 Main St.). Questions? Call 732-615-2085.

**Donate to the MTPL's Holiday Gift Drive through
Wednesday, 12/22**



Spread the love and support local families in need through the Middletown Township Public Library's (55 New Monmouth Road) "We Are Loved" Holiday Gift Drive! The library is collecting unwrapped new gifts and gift cards for children of all ages until Wednesday, December 22nd.

Please leave unwrapped gift donations in the gift-wrapped donation box near the "Staff Recommendations" bookshelf, which is across from the circulation desk.

Thank you in advance for your generous donation!




From Monday, December 6th to Wednesday, December 8th, Middletown Lincroft Road (also known as County Road 50) will be closed for road repairs. These repairs

will be taking place near the Middletown Township Train Station. There will be no thru traffic, but there will be access to the train station parking lot. Please follow detours and plan alternate routes.

Click [HERE](#) to register for emergency and traffic alerts.




 **MIDDLETOWN COVID-19 STATISTICS**

Visit NJ's COVID-19 Data Dashboard at
covid19.nj.gov
to view local COVID-19 cases.

STEPS:

- Click on Cases by Municipality
- Search for Middletown Township



Click [HERE](#) to view the state's data dashboard.

**Weekly COVID-19 Testing at Middletown Train Station
Mondays and Thursdays from 3 - 7 PM**

Monmouth County Regional Health Commission Upcoming COVID-19 Vaccine Clinics



Click on the
graphics to view
them larger!

Click [HERE](#) for
Township COVID-19
information and
updates.



Screenshot of the MCHD app

Monmouth County Launches Health Department App

The Monmouth County Health Department (MCHD) has launched its new app which will look to provide residents and visitors to Monmouth County with real-time news and information about services available through the County Health Department.

The "Monmouth County Health Department" app is available in the Apple App Store and the Google Play Store. For more information, call MCHD at 732-431-7456 or go to www.visitmonmouth.com.

Click [HERE](#) to read the County's full press release.
Click [HERE](#) to download the app from the Apple App Store.
Click [HERE](#) to download the app from the Google Play Store.

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



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