



**Honor the 80th Anniversary of Pearl Harbor at the VFW
Post and Auxiliary 2179 Annual Service
TONIGHT at 7:30 PM**



REMEMBER



The Middletown Veterans Affairs Committee invites the community to remember, reflect, and revere Pearl Harbor Day and the lives lost at the VFW Post and Auxiliary 2179 Annual Pearl Harbor Service

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 10TH AT 7:30 PM

1 VETERANS LANE & NJ-36, PORT MONMOUTH



PEARL HARBOR



**Santa Brings Magic to Middletown and Helps Light
Township Christmas Tree**



The Township Committee was so excited to see Santa at our annual Christmas Tree Lighting! Pictured from left: Committeeman Ryan Clarke, Committeeman Kevin Settembrino, Committeewoman Kimberly Kratz, Santa Claus, Deputy Mayor Rick Hibell, and Mayor Tony Perry

Last weekend, Santa drove his sleigh through Middletown and used his magic to light our Christmas tree at the Middletown Arts Center (36 Church Street)! After, people were able to take photos with him. Thank you to everyone who welcomed Santa and joined our Christmas tree lighting and Christmas-themed Kahoot. Shoutout to our Police, Fire, EMS, and OEM for escorting Santa and his friends.



Santa proudly rides his sleigh through town and waves hello to residents!

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



Give the Gift of Gardening: Reserve a Plot at the New Township Community Garden Coming Spring 2022

With the holidays approaching, everyone is looking for a meaningful way to give back to their loved ones. What better gift than the gift of gardening?

Middletown Township today announced its community garden that will be opening in March 2022 at Stevenson Park, located on West Front near Shadow Lake. This will be the first public community garden in the town's history and will provide residents with the opportunity to grow and harvest organic produce that benefits the environment, as well as learn and exercise together as a community.

“Many residents have expressed an interest in having a community gardening space where they can get outside and be in nature,” said Mayor Tony Perry. “This

garden will help meet that need, enhance the passive nature of Stevenson Park, and allow us to continue our commitment to making Middletown a greener and more sustainable place to live."

*Click [HERE](#) for more information.
Click [HERE](#) to read the full press release.*

MTPL Donates to WTC Memorial Gardens Fund

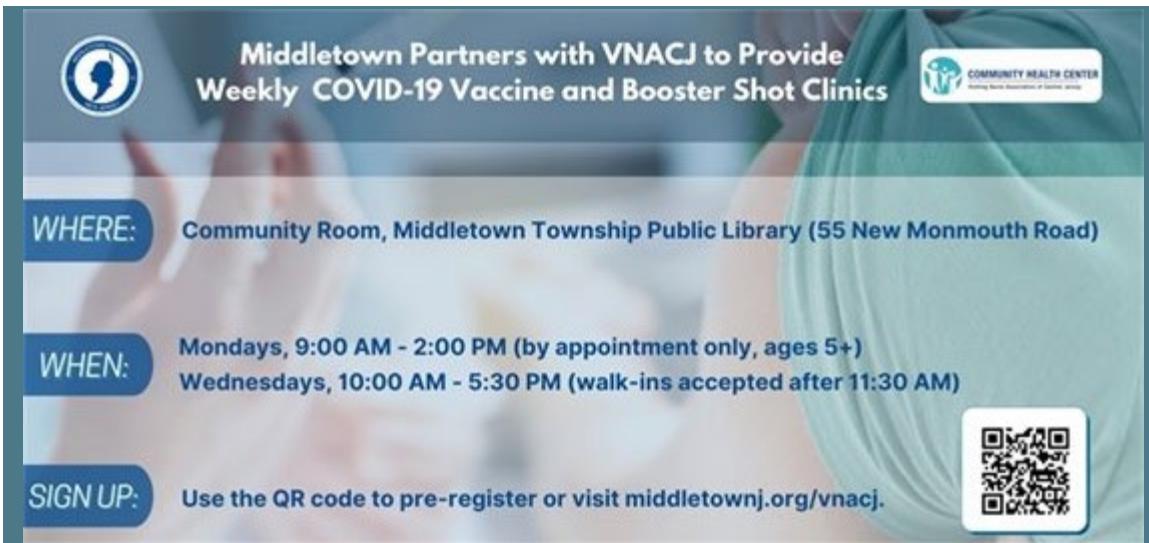


Pictured from left: Committeeman Ryan Clarke, Deputy Mayor Rick Hibell, MTPL Board President Bill Bucco, Mayor Tony Perry, Committeewoman Kimberly Kratz, and Committeeman Kevin Settembrino

The Middletown Township Public Library donated a \$5,000 check to the Middletown WTC Memorial Gardens Fund at the Township Committee Workshop Meeting on Monday. Library Board President Bill Bucco presented the check to the Township Committee. He spoke about the library's mission to preserve its history during its centennial year, and its contribution to ensure the Township will continue to honor the lives lost from 9/11. Thank you to the MTPL for this generous donation.

Click [HERE](#) to watch the meeting on YouTube.

COVID-19 Vaccine and Booster Shot Clinic at MTPL Now Open on Mondays and Wednesdays: Pre-Register Now!



WHERE: Community Room, Middletown Township Public Library (55 New Monmouth Road)

WHEN: Mondays, 9:00 AM - 2:00 PM (by appointment only, ages 5+)
Wednesdays, 10:00 AM - 5:30 PM (walk-ins accepted after 11:30 AM)

SIGN UP: Use the QR code to pre-register or visit middletownnj.org/vnacj.

Community Health Center
Middletown Township Public Library

COVID-19 Vaccines
COVID-19 vaccines are now widely available for people ages 5 and older.
All COVID-19 vaccines are safe, effective and reduce risk of severe illness.

Use the QR code to pre-register or visit middletownnj.org/vnacj

The vaccine clinic at the Middletown Township Public Library (55 New Monmouth Road) will now also be administering COVID-19 vaccines and booster shots, by appointment only, for people ages 5+ on Mondays from 9:00 AM to 2:00 PM, in addition to its regular hours on Wednesdays from 10:00 AM to 5:30 PM.

Walk-ins can receive their vaccines and booster shots on Wednesdays between the hours of 11:30 AM to 5:30 PM.

You do not need to be a Middletown resident to register. Those seeking vaccines should bring their ID and insurance card if they have one. Those seeking boosters should also bring their vaccine card.



[Click on the graphic for information about vaccine eligibility.](#)

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

[Click HERE to pre-register for your appointment.](#)

Leaf Collection Resumes Today: How to Find Your Zone



FALL 2021 LEAF COLLECTION SCHEDULE



COLLECTION ZONE	START DATE
A, B, C, D, J, L	Monday, 11/22
I, G, E	Monday, 11/29
F, K, H	Friday, 12/10

VISIT WWW.MIDDLETOWNNJ.ORG/COLLECTION FOR ZONE UPDATES AND MORE INFORMATION.

COLLECTION START DATES OF INDIVIDUAL ZONES ARE APPROXIMATE AND WEATHER DEPENDENT.
PLEASE NOTE THERE WILL BE ONLY ONE COLLECTION IN EACH ZONE.

LEAF COLLECTION ONLY - NO BRUSH UNTIL SPRING!

DO NOT SET OUT LEAVES AFTER YOUR ZONE HAS BEEN COLLECTED - Violators will be charged up to \$1,250 for a separate individual collection. Do not place material at the curb earlier than 7 days before your zone's start date. Brush, tree stumps, lumber, plywood, fence posts, railroad ties, or garbage will not be collected. Residents can bring leaves to the Middletown Recycling Center (52 Kanes Lane) from Nov. 1st until June 1st. Brush is accepted year-round.

Curbside leaf collection resumed today! This collection is ONLY for leaves. Brush will be picked up in the spring. Please do not put leaves on the curb more than seven days prior to the start date for your zone. Please also refrain from blocking storm drains because that can cause flooding.

[Click HERE to find your zone.](#)
[Click HERE for more information.](#)

UPCOMING EVENTS

Sun.	Mon.	Tue.	Wed.	Thu.	Fri.	Sat.
Sun.	Mon.	Tue.	Wed.	Thu.	Fri.	Sat.

Last Day to Send a Letter to Santa is Wednesday, 12/15

LETTERS TO SANTA MAILBOXES

Drop off your letters by December 15th!

Mailbox Locations:

- Croydon Hall (Outside Senior Center)
- Middletown Arts Center
- Middletown Public Library
- Tonya Keller Community Center
- Town Hall (Outside Clerk's Office)

Suggested donation of \$5.00 per letter to Middletown Arts Center.



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 Thursday, 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.

Donations for Local Families in Need Due Next Week for Christmas Holiday

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.

**Registration for the MAC's Winter Session Opens
Tuesday, 12/14 at 9 AM**



Get 2022 off to a great start by signing up for the Middletown Arts Center's in-person Winter Session! Registration opens on Tuesday, December 14th at 9 AM.

Classes will take place at both the Middletown Arts Center (36 Church Street) and the MAC Annex at the Middletown Reformed Church (121 Kings Highway).

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

**MTPD Hosts Free Car Seat Safety Checkpoint on
Wednesday, 12/15 from 2 - 6 PM at
Old Village Fire Company**



Residents are welcome to come to this **FREE** Car Seat Safety Checkpoint hosted by the Middletown Township Police Department on Wednesday, December 15th 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 checkpoint will be open from 2 - 6 PM.

**Pre-register for Recreation's Moonrise Hike on
Monday, 12/20 at 4:30 PM and Stories by Candlelight on
Thursday, 12/23 at 4:00 PM**



Moonrise Hike

Join Recreation for a hike on the longest night of the year on Monday, December 20th! This free event will begin at 4:30 PM. Bundle up and enjoy beautiful Poricy Park (345 Oak Hill Road) in the early evening. The hike will take approximately 1 hour and cover 1.5 miles of easy terrain, with only one large hill. A headlamp or flashlight is recommended. Warm up after with hot cocoa by the fire and then watch the moon rise. Pre-registration is recommended.

[Click HERE for more information.](#)

[Click HERE to pre-register.](#)

Stories by Candlelight

Celebrate the holidays at the Murray Farmhouse in Poricy Park! Join Recreation's costumed interpreter on Thursday, December 23rd in reading stories of the season, sipping hot cider, and enjoying the warmth of the hearth fire. Stories by Candlelight will begin at 4 PM and is fun for all ages! Pre-registration is required. Tickets cost \$5 per participant.

[Click HERE for more information.](#)

[Click HERE to pre-register.](#)

Register for MTPL's Virtual History Lesson About Hot Chocolate on Monday, 12/13 at 7 PM

Hot Chocolate:

From Indigenous American Rituals to Victorian Children's Breakfast

PRESENTED BY SARAH WASSBERG JOHNSON
THE FOOD HISTORIAN | THEFOODHISTORIAN.COM



Monday, 12/13 | 7pm  

Heat up a mug of hot chocolate for the Middletown Township Public Library's virtual program on the history of this treat on Monday, December 13th at 7 PM! What's the difference between hot chocolate and hot cocoa? Why was it once a popular breakfast food? How come Victorians wanted children to drink so much of it?

Join food historian Sarah Wassberg Johnson for this engaging, illustrated talk as she answers these questions and shares its history.

Participants will go on a journey from its Indigenous and religious origins, to how it came to be a popular breakfast food in Europe and Colonial America, how and why cocoa is processed into chocolate, and what role chocolate has played in American history. Along the way you'll meet Dr. James Baker, Domingo Ghirardelli, Samuel German, Milton Hershey, and other American chocolatiers.

Registration is required.

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

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



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!



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



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

MIDDLETOWN COVID-19 TESTING CENTER AT TRAIN STATION RE-OPENS

COVID-19 TESTING
\$150/TEST UNLESS MEDICALLY NECESSARY
(EXPOSURE, SHOWING SYMPTOMS, ETC.)

MONDAYS AND THURSDAYS
3:00 PM - 7:00 PM

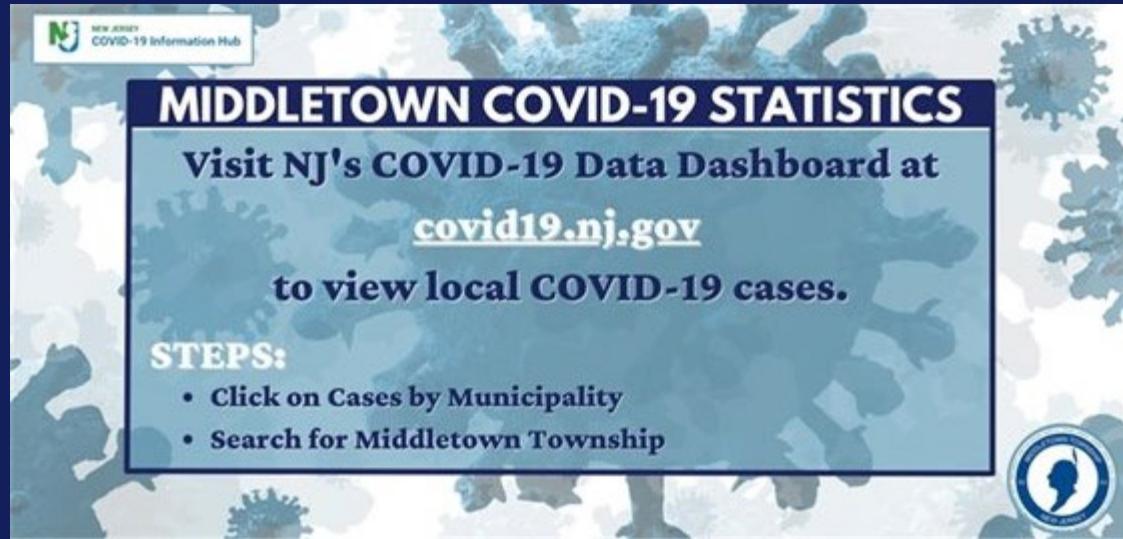
MIDDLETOWN TRAIN
STATION PARKING LOT
MAIN PARKING LOT OFF OF MIDDLETON-LINCROFT ROAD

VISIT WWW.MIDDLETONNJ.ORG/COVID19SCREENING
OR SCAN THE QR CODE ON THE RIGHT TO REGISTER AND LEARN MORE.

Immediate Care will be offering COVID-19 RT-PCR testing at the Middletown Train Station each week on Monday and Thursday from 3:00 - 7:00 PM. Results will be

emailed within 48-72 hours. Testing is covered by insurance unless a test is deemed not to be medically necessary (i.e. you are not showing symptoms or have been exposed).

Click [HERE](#) to pre-register.



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

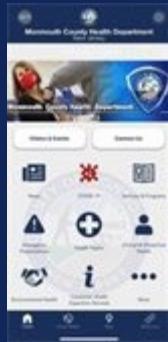
Monmouth County Regional Health Commission Upcoming COVID-19 Vaccine Clinics



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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