



## Santa Brings Christmas Cheer to Annual Tree Lighting



*The Township Committee was thrilled to join Santa in lighting our Christmas tree!*

Thank you to everyone who came to the annual Christmas Tree Lighting event hosted by Middletown Recreation at the Middletown Arts Center! We hope you had a jolly time taking pictures with Santa, enjoying a horse-drawn wagon ride, watching our ice sculptor carve festive designs, listening to the pre-event concert, warming up by the fire pits, eating delicious food, making arts and crafts, and more!

**Shoutout to Old Village Fire Company for giving Santa a lift and the B Naturals and Thorne Band for their seasonal sounds!**

## **Middletown Recreation Hosts Festive Santa & Friends Ferry Ride to Statue of Liberty**



*MTPD and Middletown Recreation staff step outside for a group picture with the Santa Ferry's special guest stars!*

A little rain couldn't stop last weekend's fun when the Santa Ferry was rockin' on the bay! Kids were able to meet Santa, hang out with their favorite characters, and were treated to science, magic, and treats - all on a roundtrip cruise to the Statue of Liberty! Thank you to NY Waterway for hosting this special event.

*Click [HERE](#) to view photos from the Santa Ferry.*

**Save the Date for Our Annual Chanukah Party and Menorah Lighting at the MAC on Sunday, 12/18 at 4:30 PM**



## River Plaza Elementary School Celebrates Centennial



***Mayor Tony Perry addresses students in front of River Plaza Elementary School's new statue!***

Yesterday, River Plaza Elementary School (155 Hubbard Avenue) kicked off its "100 Years of Learning" celebration by unveiling a new statue in front of its property. Mayor Perry was honored to attend this community event and join the school in recognizing this milestone.

## **Middletown Community Affairs Council and Public School District Hold Successful Business Meet & Greet**



*Co-hosts Dr. Patricia Vari-Cartier of MTPS and Community Affairs Council members pose with Committeewoman Kim Kratz and Assemblyman Gerry Scharfenberger.*

On Tuesday, the all-volunteer Middletown Community Affairs Council and Dr. Patricia Vari-Cartier of the Middletown Township Public School District held a business meet and greet for juniors and seniors enrolled at Middletown High School North and South. Many students stopped by the event at the Middletown Arts Center to network with representatives of local businesses and different professional fields.

## **Local Nonprofit The Arc of Monmouth Hosts Annual Winter Glow Event**



*Pictured from left: Senator Declan O'Scanlon, Monmouth County Surrogate Maureen Raisch, Mayor Tony Perry, and The Arc of Monmouth Executive Director Robert Angel*

Last Friday, Mayor Tony Perry was honored to attend The Arc of Monmouth's 56<sup>th</sup> annual Winter Glow. The Arc of Monmouth is a local nonprofit that empowers individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities by helping them maximize their independence and engage with their communities. The Arc has locations throughout the County and provides services to 1,600 people.

## **Girl Scout Troop 60014 Partners with "The James Giving Tree" and Collects Donations for James J. Howard Veterans' Outpatient Clinic**



***Mayor Perry and Committeewoman Kratz were honored to attend this special event.  
Photo courtesy of Kyle Darnell***

Girl Scout Troop 60014 hosted their annual tree lighting ceremony last week at Leonardo State Marina Nature Center. These Leonardo Brownies welcomed friends, family, and community members to celebrate the holidays and donate unwrapped toys and clothing for local veterans and their families. Mayor Tony Perry, Committeewoman Kimberly Kratz, Leonardo Elementary School Principal Pete Smith, and Troops 60508 and 60238 showed up to support.

Troop 60014 partnered with nonprofit "The James Giving Tree" for this incredible fundraiser. The donations were hand-delivered to the James J. Howard Veterans' Outpatient Clinic (970 NJ-70 in Brick Township) by Girl Scout 60014 Troop Leader Debby Dailey, in memory of her son James Veth who was a Marine.



## **Congratulations to MTPD's Newest Officers on Graduating!**

Earlier this week, MTPD Chief R. Craig Weber and Deputy Chiefs Paul Bailey and John Kaiser attended the graduation of the MTPD's newest police officers. We wish them all the best and thank them for serving our community!

*Photo courtesy of Kourtney Davis, Assistant to MTPD Chief Craig Weber*

**Watch the Monday, December 5<sup>th</sup> Middletown Township Committee Workshop Meeting**



**Click [HERE](#) to watch the meeting on the Township's YouTube channel or catch it on our TV channel (Verizon FIOS Channel 26/Comcast Cable Channel 20) every night at 5:00 PM and 8:30 PM through Sunday, December 18<sup>th</sup>.**

## **Reflect on the Anniversary of Pearl Harbor at VFW Post & Auxiliary 2179's Annual Service on Sunday, 12/11 at 3 PM**

**REMEMBER**

The Middletown Veterans Affairs Committee invites the community to join them at VFW Post and Auxiliary 2179 for their Annual Pearl Harbor Service to remember, reflect, and revere all the lives lost that fateful day.

**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 11<sup>TH</sup> AT 3:00 PM**  
**1 VETERANS LANE & NJ-36, PORT MONMOUTH**

**PEARL HARBOR**

**The Middletown Veterans Affairs Committee encourages residents to attend this important event.**

**NWS Earle Remembers Pearl Harbor with Ceremony**



*Photo courtesy of Kourtney Davis*

On Wednesday, Committeewoman Kimberly Kratz, Police Chief Craig Weber, and Middletown resident and World War II and Korean War veteran John Alonso attended Naval Weapons Station Earle's Pearl Harbor Remembrance Ceremony.

The ceremony paid tribute to the 2,403 service members and civilians who lost their lives that fateful day, as well as the 1,178 people who were injured in the attack that sank two U.S. Navy battleships and destroyed 188 aircrafts.

**Register Now to Get Your Home on  
Middletown Recreation's Holiday Lights Map!**



Let's light up Middletown! Tell your neighbors that your house is decked out for the holidays by putting your address on the official Middletown Holiday Lights Map. This fun festivity is **FREE** for everyone! Residents must register their address via CommunityPass by noon on Friday, December 23<sup>rd</sup>. Get in the holiday spirit and plan your route today!

*Click [HERE](#) to check out the map.  
Visit [www.middletownnj.org/signup](http://www.middletownnj.org/signup) to register your address.*

**Donate Toys to Middletown PBA 124's Toy Drive by  
Thursday, 12/15**



Middletown PBA 124 is currently accepting unwrapped toys for its "Stuff a Cruiser Toy Drive" at the following locations:

- Middletown Township Police Department (1 Kings Highway, main lobby)
- Junction Barbers (900 Main Street)
- Twin Lights Brewing (4057 Asbury Avenue, Tinton Falls)
- Taliercio's Gourmet Deli (544 NJ-35)
- Sebastian's Hair-Em (872 NJ-36)



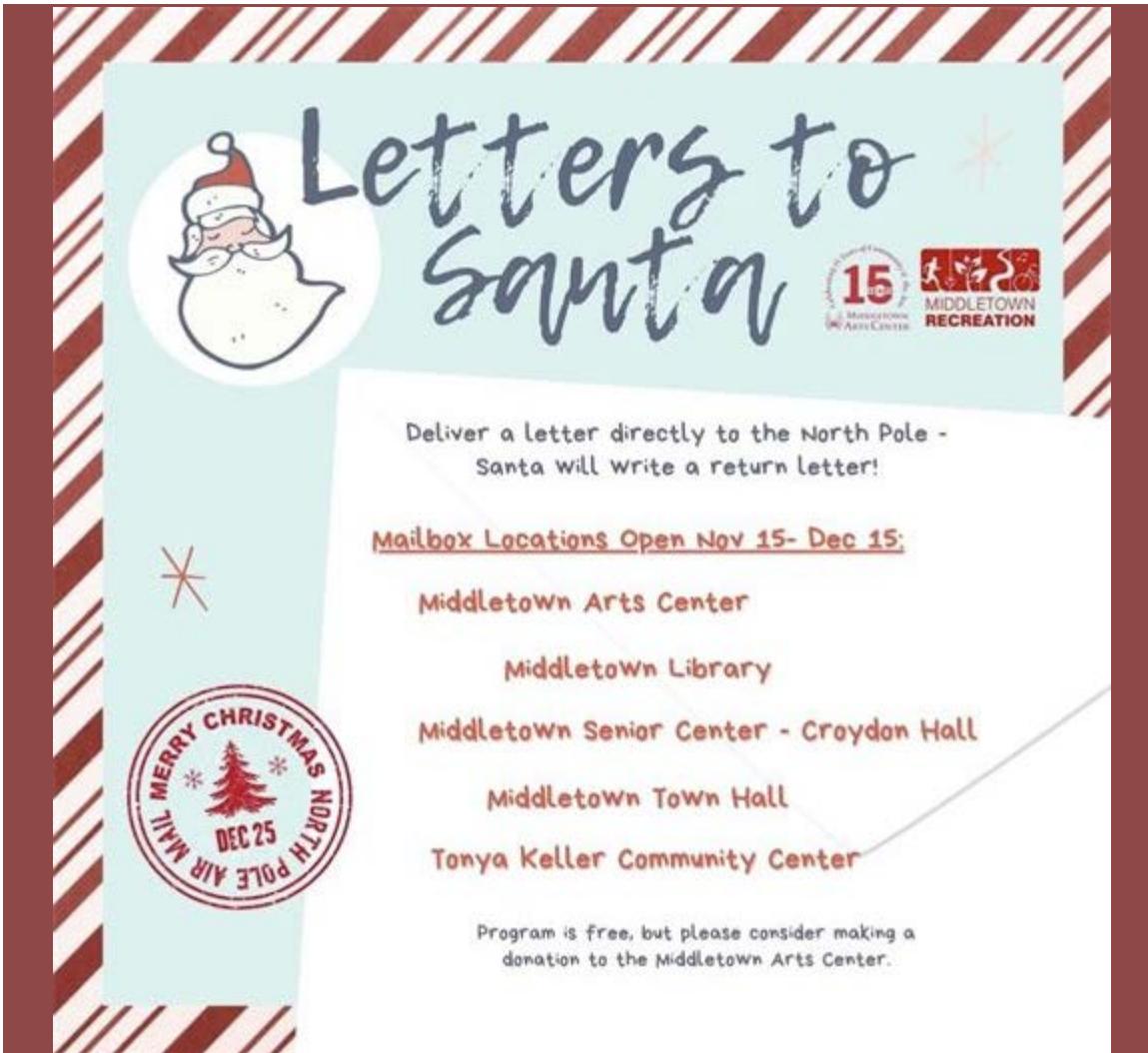
*Residents are already dropping off toys at the Police Station. Stop by today to donate!*

The toys will be distributed to 180 Turning Lives Around, Jason's Dreams for Kids, and Middletown Helps Its Own.

Middletown PBA 124 will also be getting some of our youngest residents to help out by taking students from Thorne Middle School to Target so they can pick out toys to donate. The students will then go to Middletown Helps Its Own to assist with packing food.

*The deadline to drop off toys is Thursday, December 15<sup>th</sup>!*

**Our Middletown Elves are Collecting Letters to Santa:  
Drop One Off by Thursday, 12/15!**



**Letters to Santa**

Deliver a letter directly to the North Pole - Santa will write a return letter!

Mailbox Locations Open Nov 15- Dec 15:

- Middletown Arts Center
- Middletown Library
- Middletown Senior Center - Croydon Hall
- Middletown Town Hall
- Tonya Keller Community Center

Program is free, but please consider making a donation to the Middletown Arts Center.

Let Santa know you've been good this year! Write him a letter and drop it off in one of Middletown Recreation's special mailboxes around town, postage free, and receive a personalized letter directly from Santa to your address!

Please consider donating to the Middletown Arts Center (MAC) when dropping off your letter. Mailboxes will be removed on Friday, December 16<sup>th</sup>.

**Click [HERE](#) for more information about how to drop off a letter.**  
**Click [HERE](#) for a list of topics that children can write about.**

**Donate to Our Food Pantry this Holiday Season**

**EVERYBODY DESERVES TO HAVE FOOD ON THEIR TABLE.  
PLEASE CONSIDER DONATING TO**



**Middletown Township's  
Food Pantry**

**CALL 732-615-2085 TO SCHEDULE A DROP-OFF APPOINTMENT AND  
VISIT [MIDDLETOWNNJ.ORG/FPITEMS](http://MIDDLETOWNNJ.ORG/FPITEMS) FOR A LIST OF NEEDED ITEMS.**

*Click [HERE](#) to view a list of needed items.*

**Leaf Collection Status Update**

**2022 Leaf Collection Status**

COLLECTION ZONE	START DATE	STATUS
A	MON, 11/28	COMPLETED
B	MON, 11/28	IN PROGRESS
C	MON, 11/28	IN PROGRESS
D	MON, 11/28	IN PROGRESS
E	MON, 11/28	COMPLETED
F	MON, 11/28	COMPLETED
G	MON, 11/28	COMPLETED
H	MON, 11/28	IN PROGRESS
I	MON, 11/28	COMPLETED
J	THURS, 12/8	IN PROGRESS
K	THURS, 12/8	IN PROGRESS
L	THURS, 12/8	IN PROGRESS

*Click [HERE](#) for a list of FAQs, updates, and more information.  
Visit [www.middletownnj.org/zonemap](http://www.middletownnj.org/zonemap) to find your zone.*

**How to Report an Emergency Online Via New Jersey  
American Water's Website**

**New Jersey American Water Website  
(Customers and Non-Customers)  
newjerseyamwater.com**

**THERE ARE TWO WAYS TO REPORT AN EMERGENCY ONLINE**

**MyWater Account  
(Customers Only)  
mywater.amwater.com**

**NOTE:** If you prefer to report a water emergency by phone by calling to our Customer Service Center at 1-800-272-1325, be sure to state that it's an emergency so that the call is routed properly.

**EMERGENCY REPORT**

Using this simple online tool, anyone can report the location and nature of a water emergency through our website. In addition, customers can report sewer backups, water outages or leaks at their property/meter through their MyWater account.

**EMERGENCY REPORT**

**SUBMISSION CONFIRMATION**

Thank you!

We have received your emergency notification. We apologize for any inconvenience you are experiencing. Investigating service emergencies is our top priority, and we are here to assist. We will contact you if additional information is required.

[Click on the infographic to view it in a larger PDF format.](#)

New Jersey American Water (NJAW) would like to inform residents that they can now report emergencies online. If you are aware of a water emergency, you can report it on [www.amwater.com/njaw](http://www.amwater.com/njaw). If you are a customer, you can report it directly from your [MyWater account](#).

If you prefer to report an emergency by phone, you can still call NJAW's Customer Service Center at 1-800-272-1325. Just be sure to say "emergency" so the call is routed properly.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

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

[Purchase Tickets for "It's a Wonderful Life" by the Classic](#)

## Radio Road Show at the MAC on Sunday, 12/11 at 7 PM

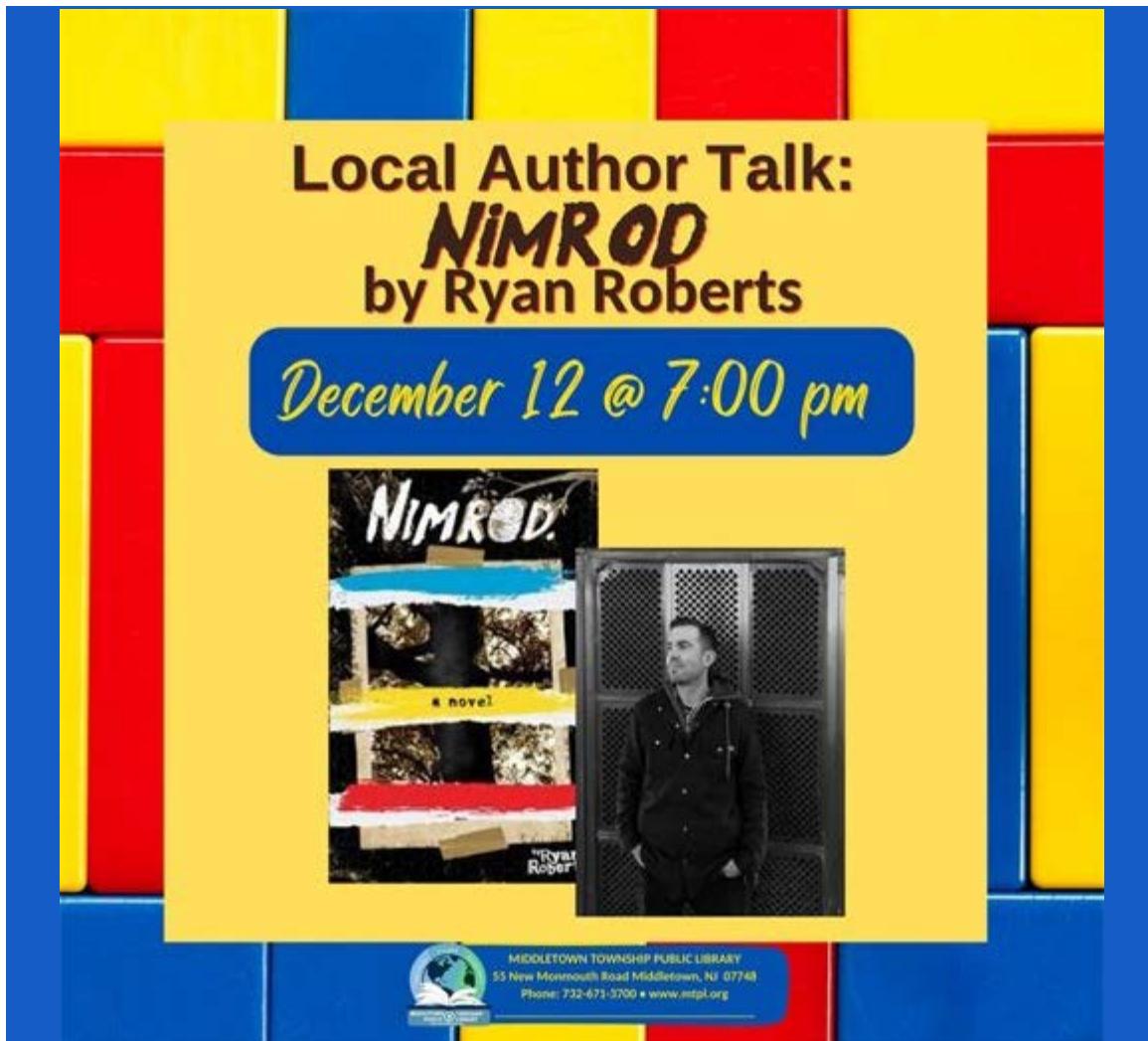


Experience the beloved holiday classic "It's a Wonderful Life" in a whole new way with Classic Radio Road Show's Live Radio Play! The performance will take place at the MAC (36 Church Street) on Sunday, December 11<sup>th</sup> at 7 PM. Tickets will be sold at the door for \$20 per person, but you can call 732-706-4100 to reserve a seat.

The characters of Bedford Falls will be acted by a handful of talented actors and sound effects will be performed by a Foley artist, manipulating props to create a soundscape. Join the actors after the performance for a "It's a Wonderful Life" Trivia Game!

*Click [HERE](#) for more information.*

**Register for MTPL's Local Author Talk for *Nimrod* by Ryan Roberts on Monday, 12/12 at 7 PM**



A promotional poster for a local author talk. The background is yellow with blue and red vertical stripes. The text "Local Author Talk:" is in black, "Nimrod" is in large, bold, red letters, and "by Ryan Roberts" is in black. Below this, in a blue rounded rectangle, is the text "December 12 @ 7:00 pm". Below the text is a photograph of the book "Nimrod" by Ryan Roberts, showing the cover and a photo of the author. At the bottom, there is a logo for the Middletown Township Public Library and the text "MIDDLETOWN TOWNSHIP PUBLIC LIBRARY 55 New Monmouth Road Middletown, NJ 07748 Phone: 732-673-5700 • www.mtpl.org".

Stop by the Middletown Township Public Library (MTPL) on Monday, December 12<sup>th</sup> at 7 PM for a "Local Author Talk"! Meet local author Ryan Roberts in the MTPL's Community Room (55 New Monmouth Road) as he discusses his debut book, *Nimrod*, and talks about the writing and publishing process. This author talk is especially for fans of the band Green Day. Registration is required.

*Click [HERE](#) to register.*

**Registration for MAC's Winter 2023 Session Opens on Wednesday, 12/14 at 9 AM**



The Middletown Arts Center's (MAC) winter class listings are now available online. This year's selection features exciting new programs along with your favorite classes in theater, art, dance, and more!

[Click HERE to check out youth classes.](#)

[Click HERE to check out adult classes.](#)



According to MTPD, on **Monday, December 12<sup>th</sup>** and **Tuesday, December 13<sup>th</sup>**, Chapel Hill Road will be closed from Kings Highway East to Sleepy Hollow Road from 7 AM to 4 PM for paving and other roadway repairs/improvements. Sleepy Hollow Road and Kings Highway East are the detour. Residents and buses will still have access to homes. Please follow detour signs and officers' directions.

Work on Sleepy Hollow Road is expected to start in the middle of next week.

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



**Looking for Mental Health Support?  
Contact 988 Suicide & Crisis Lifeline if Needed**

**988 SUICIDE & CRISIS  
LIFELINE**

No matter where you live in the U.S.,  
you can easily access 24/7 emotional support.

Call or text 988 or visit [988lifeline.org/chat](https://988lifeline.org/chat) to  
chat with a caring counselor.

We're here for you.



According to the American Psychological Association, 38% of people's stress increases during the holiday season, which can lead to depression, anxiety, and substance use. We encourage our residents to reach out to the 988 Suicide & Crisis Lifeline if they are experiencing a mental health crisis and need assistance.

*[Click HERE for more information.](#)  
[Click HERE to chat with a counselor.](#)*

**Monmouth County December COVID-19 Clinics**

## MONMOUTH COUNTY COVID-19 CLINICS

December 2022



COVID-19 Vaccines are safe, free, & effective  
Pfizer, Moderna, Novavax, & J&J available  
Walk-ins welcome ages 6 months & up  
ID documentation and health insurance not required. No impact on immigration status

For free transportation:  
To your vaccination, enter "VAXRIDE" into your NJ TRANSIT app or call NJ TRANSIT at 973-275-555. Get free Lyft rides by calling 2-1-1  
Monmouth County Division of Transportation SCAT: 732-431-6480

### DATES & TIMES



**Testing and Vaccine Clinics**

- Dec. 7, 4pm-7pm, Asbury Park Municipal Building Lobby, 1 Municipal Plaza, Asbury Park 07712
- Dec. 14, 4pm-7pm, Neptune Senior Center, 1607 NJ-33, Neptune City, 07753



**Brookdale Community College Clinic - Vaccine Only**

- Every Tuesday, 2pm-6pm, Brookdale Community College, 765 Newman Springs Rd., Lincroft - Children's Learning Center (CLC) Parking Lots 4 & 5



**Free At-Home Testing:**  
Visit [learn.vaulthealth.com/nj/](https://learn.vaulthealth.com/nj/) for free saliva tests, shipped directly to your home at no cost.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION & INQUIRIES, VISIT**  
[WWW.MONMOUTH.COM/HEALTH](http://WWW.MONMOUTH.COM/HEALTH) OR DOWNLOAD THE MONMOUTH COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT APP OR CALL 732-431-7456

[Click on the graphic to view the image in a larger PDF format.](#)

Visit [www.vaccines.gov/search](https://www.vaccines.gov/search) to find other locations to receive a Pfizer or Moderna booster.

## Heaters Can Be Harmful: How to Avoid Carbon Monoxide Exposure

## Carbon Monoxide Gas Can Kill Quickly

Knowing the facts can save your life!



**WHAT**

Carbon monoxide, or CO, is a poisonous gas that we can't smell, see, or taste. A smoke alarm cannot detect it. This silent killer can kill in minutes.

**HOW**

The most common symptoms of CO poisoning are headache, dizziness, weakness, upset stomach, vomiting, chest pain, and confusion. CO symptoms are often described as "flu-like." If you breathe in a lot of CO it can make you pass out or kill you.

**WHO**

- **Anyone** can be affected.
- From 2000-2019, the underlying cause of death for 275 New Jersey residents was CO poisoning\*.
- In 2019 alone, 374 residents were treated in emergency rooms for non-fire related, accidental CO poisoning. Their age ranged from less than 5 years old to over 80 years old.

**WHY**

Many household items including gas- and oil-burning furnaces, gas hot water heaters, portable generators, and charcoal grills produce this poisonous gas. The same is true with vehicles, snow blowers, or any gasoline-powered engine left idling in a garage especially one attached to a home or business.

\*Additional data on CO poisonings from NUSHAD  
 • Deaths: <https://bit.ly/2TLLD9x>  
 • Emergency Department Visits: <https://bit.ly/202E9pe>  
 • Hospitalizations: <https://bit.ly/2k0dHfL>

**Be safe. Protect your family. Take these basic precautions<sup>1</sup>:**

**CO Detectors**

- Install battery-operated or battery back-up CO detectors near every sleeping area in your home.
- Check CO detectors regularly to be sure they are working properly.

A survey showed an estimated 20% of residents in some NJ counties reported not having a CO detector in their home: <https://bit.ly/3IWMa3>

**Portable Generators**

- Never use a generator inside your home, carport, or garage, even if doors and windows are open.
- Only use generators outside, more than 20 feet away from your home, doors, and windows.

**Oil and Gas Furnaces and Hot Water Heaters**

- Have your heating and hot water appliances inspected at least once a year

\*For additional information:  
 EPA: [Protect Your Family and Yourself from CO Poisoning](https://www3.epa.gov/protect-your-family-and-yourself-from-co-poisoning)



Division of Epidemiology, Environmental and Occupational Health  
 Consumer, Environmental and Occupational Health Service  
 Environmental and Occupational Health Surveillance Program  
[https://www.nj.gov/health/ceoh/documents/ceoh/N20context/CO-poisoning\\_housersmms\\_2021\\_May\\_2023.pdf](https://www.nj.gov/health/ceoh/documents/ceoh/N20context/CO-poisoning_housersmms_2021_May_2023.pdf)

**Reminder: Make sure that both your furnace and CO detectors are in good working order. To prevent exposure to carbon monoxide, the Middletown Township Health Department and Fire Prevention Office encourage residents to read the New Jersey Department of Health's fact sheet above.**

**[Click HERE to read a PDF of the fact sheet in English.](#)**  
**[Click HERE to read a PDF of the fact sheet in Spanish.](#)**

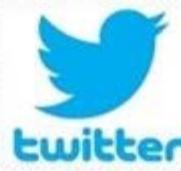
**Click [HERE](#) to access hi-res photos from this e-newsletter.**



@middletownnjtownhall



Middletown Township Channel



@middletownnj



middletown.township

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[Youtube](#)

## Verizon FiOS Channel 26/Comcast Cable Channel 20

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[!\[\]\(004d352ca3e5c974252147a5c78e6fbb\_img.jpg\) Share via Email](#)

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