



Middletown Township & Monmouth County Partner to Offer Enhanced Healthcare Services to Residents



Mayor Tony Perry and the Middletown Township Committee recently authorized an agreement with the Monmouth County Board of Health, through the Monmouth County Health Department, for the provision of state-mandated local public health services. Through this new agreement with Monmouth County, Middletown will enhance its services while saving nearly \$100,000 annually.

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

Middletown Proudly Welcomes and Participates in Wreaths Across America





Thorne Middle School students line up and wait for the event to start, as the American and POW/MIA flags wave in the wind.

Chief Weber and members of PBA 124 pose in front of the New Jersey Vietnam Veterans' Memorial in Holmdel, which was another destination that Wreaths Across America visited. Photo courtesy of PBA 124

Mayor Perry, Committeewoman Kratz, and MTPD Chief Craig Weber were part of the sea of people welcoming the Wreaths Across America entourage at Thorne Middle School.

On Wednesday, Wreaths Across America stopped at Thorne Middle School in honor of Corporal Horace Marvin Thorne who was killed in action during the World War II Battle of the Bulge and received the Congressional Medal of Honor. Thorne Middle School is named after his bravery, and was one of only four stops that Wreaths Across America made in New Jersey. After the wreath-laying outside of Thorne Middle School, everyone was invited inside to see performances and presentations from the students. After, the students recognized all local veterans in attendance and presented Wreaths Across America with a donation of more than \$3,600.

Middletown Township Police Department (MTPD) Chief Craig Weber and members of PBA 124 also performed a 21-gun salute at the Wreaths Across America ceremony in Holmdel.

Wreaths Across America is a national nonprofit that does an annual "Escort to Arlington" event in which volunteers, veterans, and Gold and Blue Star Families drive from Maine to Arlington National Cemetery, stopping at different locations along the way to leave wreaths and remember our fallen heroes.

Celebrate the Start of Chanukah with Middletown Recreation's Annual Chanukah Party and Menorah Lighting at the MAC on Sunday, 12/18 at 4:30 PM



Bayview Elementary School Students Sing and Sign Holiday Songs at Town Hall



Mayor Perry, Committeewoman Kratz, Chief Weber, and Board of Education President Frank Capone take a group picture with their friends from Bayview Elementary School!

This week kicked off on a cheerful note with Bayview Elementary School's annual caroling event! Students from Ms. Amy Jennings, Ms. Shannon Casey, and Ms.

Nicole Rotondella's three multiple disability classes (Grades K-5) stopped by Town Hall to sing and sign holiday carols for members of the Township Committee, Middletown Township Police Department, and Township staff. Along with the students and teachers came paraprofessionals and nurses from the school. Ms. Mary Pat Harrington, who teaches sign language at Bayview Elementary, interpreted everything in ASL and taught audience members a few phrases!

After singing and signing, the students presented Mayor Perry with handmade, recycled ornaments that resemble the American flag and a \$220 donation for the incoming veterans affordable housing complex! The ornaments were created out of the cups that the Bayview Heroes Cafe uses. The Heroes Cafe is a place where these awesome students sort orders and prepare ready-to-brew cups for free. Patrons are encouraged to pay this act of kindness forward by donating money to an important cause. In addition to preparing coffee, the students also sold these ornaments to teachers and staff to raise money for their generous donation.

Thank you to these three classes for spreading holiday cheer and raising money for our veterans!

Thompson Middle School Students Host Holiday Craft Shop to Benefit Infinite Love for Kids Fighting Cancer



Pictured from left: Emma Merces, Marlowe Schorr, Lilah Nicosia, Mya Kreite, Tessa Collins, Milena Ciaglia, Alexa Collins, Lia Kreite, Max Schorr, and Avery Nicosia with MTPD officers. Not pictured: Mia Collins and Casey Merces. Photo courtesy of Cybele Schorr



Pictured from left: Marlowe Schorr, Emma Merces, Lilah Nicosia, Mya Kreite, Milena Ciaglia, Lia Kreite, Alexa Collins, Natalie Gorsegner, Andrea Gorsegner, Avery Nicosia, and Max Schorr with Committeeman Ryan Clarke and Committeewoman Kimberly Kratz. Not pictured: Mia Collins and Casey Merces. Photo courtesy of Cybele Schorr



Moms of the students were proud to support their children! Pictured from left: Isabel Ciaglia, Danielle Collins, Cybele Schorr, and Tara Kreite with MTPD officers. Photo courtesy of Cybele Schorr



Pictured from left: Avery Nicosia, Lia Kreite, Mya Kreite, Lilah Nicosia, Emma Merces, Tessa Collins, Marlowe Schorr, Alexa Collins, and Max Schorr with Deputy Mayor Rick Hibell and Board of Education President Frank Capone. Not pictured: Mia Collins and Casey Merces. Photo courtesy of Cybele Schorr

Last Saturday, students from Thompson Middle School and their siblings came together for the third annual Kids Holiday Craft Shop! The students made and sold gifts, jewelry, ornaments, baked goods, and more! The proceeds went directly to Middletown-based nonprofit Infinite Love for Kids Fighting Cancer.

Members of the MTPD, Township Committee, and Board of Education all came out to support the event. Kudos to these students for working hard together to raise money for such an important cause!

Visit infiniteloveforkidsfightingcancer.org to check out the nonprofit.



Photo courtesy of MTFD Public Information Officer Photographer Laurie Kegley

Congratulations to the Incoming 2023 MTFD & EMS Chiefs



Photo courtesy of Middletown EMS

Middletown Township Fire Department (MTFD) 2023 chiefs pictured from left: Chief John Waltz Jr., Deputy Chief William Kane Jr., First Assistant Chief Anthony Fulciniti, Second Assistant Chief Daniel P. Kelly, and Third Assistant Chief Kevin Morrissey

Emergency Medical Services (EMS) 2023 leaders pictured from left: Deputy Mayor Rick Hibell with Deputy Chief Brian McKittrick, Chief Peter Procopio, Department President Diane McGowan, and Assistant Chief Marco Fernandes

Township Committee to Host Meeting

on Monday, 12/19 at 7 PM

The Middletown Township Committee Regular Meeting will be held on Monday, December 19th at 7:00 PM in the courtroom at Town Hall (1 Kings Highway). The meeting is open to the public.



The meeting will also be made available to watch or listen to by visiting www.middletownnj.org/tcmeeting. To call in to the meeting, dial 1-408-418-9388. The event access code is 2338 684 0159 followed by #. Enter 2022 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](#) for more information and to see the agenda.

VFW Auxiliary and Post 2179 Pay Tribute to Pearl Harbor Anniversary with Annual Ceremony



Photo courtesy of VFW Post 2179

Last Sunday, VFW Auxiliary and Post 2179 held its annual ceremony in remembrance of Pearl Harbor's anniversary. Deputy Mayor Rick Hibell, Committeewoman Kimberly Kratz, MTPD Chief Craig Weber, and Assemblyman Gerry Scharfenberger were honored to attend this heartfelt event.

OASIS tlc Hosts Holiday Open House and Art Show



Committeewoman Kimberly Kratz and MTPD Chief Craig Weber were thrilled to check out the incredible artwork and support this wonderful event!

Last weekend, local nonprofit OASIS tlc held its Holiday Open House and Art Show!

The charity's mission is to promote autism inclusion and acceptance by employing autistic adults to work on Oasis Farms. Their employees created the wonderful artwork that was for sale, and some of them were even there to show off their pieces! The money raised goes directly to supporting the farm. In addition to admiring the art, guests also learned about the wonderful programs that OASIS tlc offers.

Visit www.oasistlc.org for more information.



NJDEP Places Port Monmouth Floodgate into "Spring Mode" Due to Impending Rain

Due to the impending rain and predicted tide heights, the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection placed the Port Monmouth Road floodgate

into "Spring Mode" at 5:00 AM on Thursday, December 15th. The floodgate will stay in "Spring Mode" until further notice.

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

Click [HERE](#) to view a list of flood-prone streets.

Recycle Your Fridge/Freezer with JCP&L and Receive \$50

Receive \$50 for your old fridge or freezer!



Receive \$50 by recycling your working fridge or freezer in 3 easy steps:

- 1 Schedule your pick up online by clicking [here](#) or by visiting energysaveNJ.com/FRIDGE.
- 2 JCP&L will collect your working fridge or freezer and responsibly recycle it.
- 3 You'll **receive \$50** and save money on your electric bill.

Receive \$25 when you recycle an air conditioner or dehumidifier along with a qualifying full-size refrigerator or freezer.

The Department of Public Works & Engineering (DPW) encourages residents to recycle their working fridge or freezer to receive \$50 from JCP&L! You can also recycle your air conditioners or dehumidifiers along with your fridge or freezer and earn an additional \$25. JCP&L will collect the item and recycle it for you. You can either schedule a pickup online or by calling 1-888-740-8005.

Click [HERE](#) for more information and to schedule a pickup online.

Middletown Arts Center Main Number Currently Down



The Middletown Arts Center's main number (732-706-4100) is currently down. You can reach the Middletown Arts Center at 732-706-4110 in the meantime.

**We will notify the public when the main number is working again.
Please visit middletownarts.org for updates.
Thank you for your patience!**



Photo courtesy of Girl Scout Troop 60014 Leader Kyle Darnell

CORRECTION:

The December 9, 2022 edition of *Middletown Minutes* incorrectly noted Debby Dailey as the troop leader of Girl Scout Troop 60014. The troop hosted their annual tree lighting ceremony and donated toys and clothing to local veterans and their families.

Kyle Darnell is the troop leader and Debby Dailey is her aunt. We regret the error and apologize for any confusion.

UPCOMING EVENTS

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

Register Now for MAC's Winter 2023 Session!



**Registration is now open for the Middletown Arts Center's (MAC) winter session!
This year's selection features exciting new programs along with your favorite
classes in theater, art, dance, and more!**

***Click [HERE](#) to check out and register for youth classes.
Click [HERE](#) to check out and register for adult classes.***

**Enjoy "It's a Wonderful Life" by the Classic Radio Road
Show at the MTPL on Saturday, 12/17 at 2 PM**



Fans of the Frank Capra holiday classic won't want to miss this special live rendition of "It's a Wonderful Life" at the Middletown Township Public Library (MTPL) on Saturday, December 17th! This performance will take place at the MTPL's Community Room (55 New Monmouth Road) at 2 PM.

Registration is not required, and all are welcome to attend!

Listen to Festive Tunes at the MTPL's Shore Voices Holiday Concert on Tuesday, 12/20 at 7 PM



Join the MTPL in its Community Room on Tuesday, December 20th at 7 PM as the Shore Voices women's acapella group performs their annual holiday concert! This festive event is suitable for all ages, and patrons will be "shore" to have fun! Registration is not required.

**Register by Noon on Friday, 12/23 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 23rd. Get in the holiday spirit and plan your route today!

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

Register Now for Recreation's Winter 2023 Programs!



2023 WINTER BROCHURE

REGISTER FOR PROGRAMS LIKE:

MAPLE TREE TAPPING
SCOUT MAPLE SUGARING
ADULT YOGA & VOLLEYBALL

MARCH MADNESS
ST. PADDY'S DANCE, 21+
PRESCHOOL FAIR

DISCOUNT DEVILS TICKETS
DODGEBALL LEAGUE
PLUS MUCH MORE!



Middletown Recreation's winter registration is now open! Discover events and programs for January, February, and March of 2023 in Recreation's brochure.

*Click [HERE](#) to browse a PDF of the brochure.
Sign into CommunityPass [HERE](#) and choose "Winter Season" to register.*

**HEALTH
RESOURCES**



**Free Pack of At-Home COVID-19 Tests Available
Through USPS**

Order Free
At-home
COVID-19
Tests
Through
USPS

All households in the U.S. are eligible to order one pack of at-home COVID-19 tests through USPS. One pack comes with four individual rapid antigen COVID-19 tests. The entire order, including shipping, is free.

Visit special.usps.com/testkits to place your order.

Click [HERE](#) for more information and to order a pack of COVID-19 tests.

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 to chat with a caring counselor.

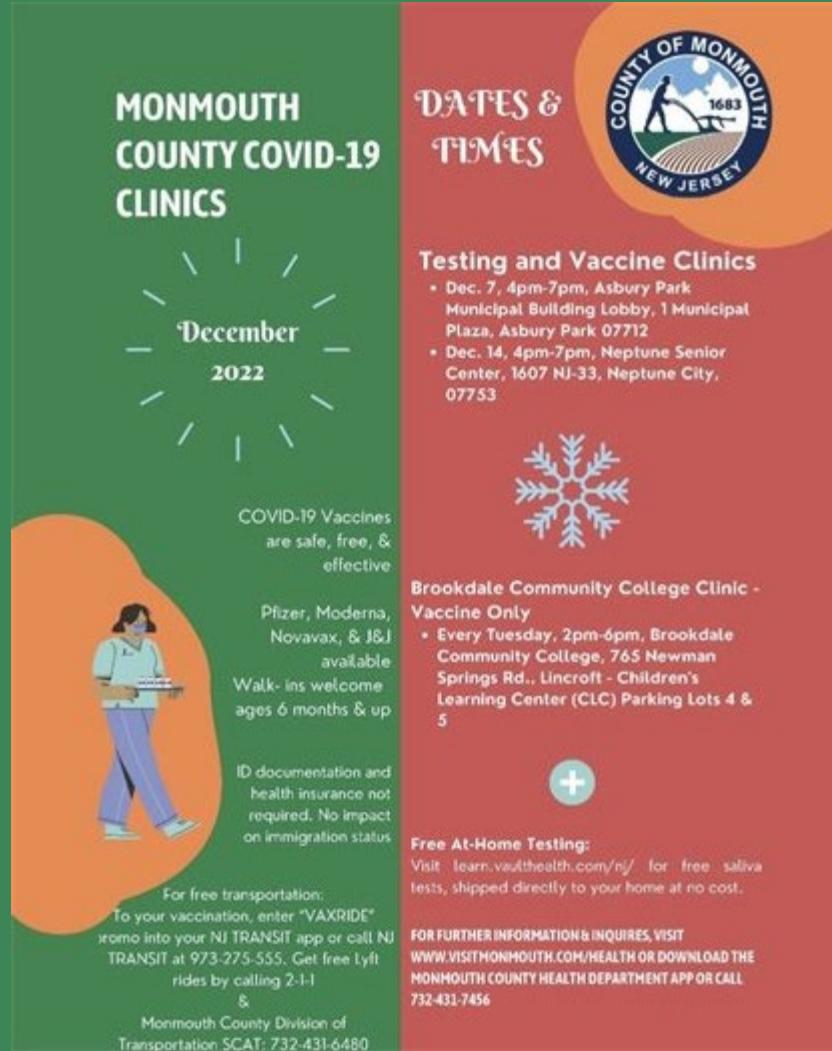
We're here for you.



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 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

COUNTY OF MONMOUTH NEW JERSEY

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/ for free saliva tests, shipped directly to your home at no cost.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION & INQUIRIES, VISIT WWW.VISITMONMOUTH.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 to find other locations to receive a Pfizer or Moderna booster.

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



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Verizon FiOS Channel 26/Comcast Cable Channel 20

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