



Middletown Minutes

Official Township E-Newsletter

**Community Invited to Attend Route 36 Corridor
Redevelopment Information Session: Thurs., 3/16 at 6 PM**

**Route 36 Corridor Redevelopment
Public Information Session**

Hosted by Middletown Township and T&M Associates



Courtesy of T&M Associates

Date:
Thursday, March 16th

Time:
6:00-8:00 PM

Location:
VFW Post 2179
(1 Veterans Lane,
Port Monmouth)

Learn about the Study Area and benefits of the project. Business and property owners along Route 36 are welcome to provide input and participate in the Q&A.

The Township encourages you to attend and make your voice heard!



Middletown Township is working with T&M Associates to complete a redevelopment study for properties along the Route 36 Corridor. There will be a public information session about the project at VFW Post 2179 on Thursday, March 16th from 6-8 PM.

There will be a brief presentation that covers the redevelopment process, the Route 36 Corridor Study Area, and next steps followed by a Q&A.

We hope to see you there!

Click [HERE](#) to RSVP to the event on Facebook.

Middletown Township & Bright Connections Tutoring Center Wrap Up Next Generation Support Program



Smiling students and Bright Connections' staff! Photos courtesy of Bright Connections

Middletown Township and [Bright Connections Tutoring Center](#) (517 Newman Springs Road) partnered to offer free tutoring services to students who suffered learning loss due to the COVID-19 pandemic through the Next Generation Support Program. The successful 6-week program was held at the Middletown Township Public Library and began on January 21st. Over 200 students from elementary school through high school participated and improved in their core subjects.

Middletown Senior Center Hosts Lively Pickleball Game



The pickleball instructor and players take a breather to pose with the Mayor.

Earlier this week, the Middletown Senior Center held its final pickleball class as part of the [Mayor's Wellness Campaign \(MWC\)](#), a statewide initiative to encourage community members to lead healthy lifestyles. Mayor Tony Perry was thrilled to attend the beginner's class and learn the basics of pickleball while playing among some residents!

Want to show off your pickleball skills? Sign up for Middletown Recreation's Pickleball Tournament! Click [HERE](#) for more information.

You can also check out upcoming MWC events, including the Fossil Hunt for kids and the Senior Fitness Day, by visiting www.middletownnj.org/wellness.



Mayor Perry springs into action and dives for the ball!

Port Monmouth Floodgate Closed and In Spring Mode Due to Impending Storm

The Port Monmouth facility was closed today at 3:00 PM to ensure the interior area doesn't reach an elevation +3.5 or more with the anticipated snow/rain over the region. The facility was placed in Spring Mode to allow the gates to open during low tide



cycles so the water can move in and out of the basin to assist the eco system.

Click [HERE](#) to read the advisory.



Watch the Monday, March 6th Township Committee 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, March 19th.

Public Information Session about TNR on Wednesday, 3/15 at 6 PM

 **Monmouth County SPCA**
& Homeward Bound Adoption Center

 **Middletown Township**

present:

WHAT IS TNR?



OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

 March 15, 2023
6pm

 1 Kings Highway
Middletown, NJ

This discussion will be led by
Monmouth County SPCA
Executive Director, Ross Licitra.

— ♡ —

Topics of Discussion

- Explanation of TNR
- Intentions of the program
- Rules and regulations
- Sign up as a colony caregiver

The public is invited to join Middletown Animal Control on Wednesday, March 15th for a discussion with Monmouth County SPCA & Homeward Bound Adoption Center about a TNR (Trap-Neuter-Return) program in Middletown. At the event, speakers will discuss the intentions, rules, and regulations of the program and allow people to sign up as colony caregivers.

Underground Gym Opens New Location in Middletown



There was a full house for Underground Gym's grand opening! Photo courtesy of Yana Bobri

Last week, Underground Gym (NJ-35 327) held a ribbon cutting to celebrate its grand opening in Middletown! Underground Gym is a fitness center that offers a customized holistic training style that focuses on individuals' specific needs.

Please join us in welcoming Underground Gym to Middletown!

Visit www.undergroundgym.com for information about the gym's services.

Middletown Health Department Hosts Successful Immunization Workshop



Jenni Sudhakaran, MPH, Population Assessment Coordinator, presents to a crowd of dedicated healthcare professionals.

Last week, the Middletown Health Department welcomed professionals from all over Monmouth County for an educational workshop at Town Hall. Over 20 individuals, including Registered Nurses, Registered Environmental Health Specialists, and childcare facility directors came together for a refresher on New Jersey's childhood immunization requirements for daycare and PreK.

A joint presentation was given by Jenni Sudhakaran, MPH, Population Assessment Coordinator, and Jennifer Smith, MPH, Health Educator, both with the New Jersey Department of Health's Vaccine Preventable Disease Program.

Due to State rule updates and changes in childcare facility management, the Health Department will now offer this workshop annually and also schedule a future session with our private and public K-12 school nurses.

Entrepreneur and Former College Football Player Eric LeGrand Delivers Inspiring Message at PMFC



Mayor Tony Perry and Deputy Mayor Rick Hibell, along with Vice President of Whirl Construction Jim Davis, were honored to meet Eric LeGrand and hear about his positive approach toward life.

On Wednesday, Whirl Construction held its annual safety meeting at Port Monmouth Fire Company (PMFC) and invited Eric LeGrand to be a motivational speaker. Eric is a former football player at Rutgers University and became paralyzed while making a tackle in 2010. Since then, Eric has not only regained some movement and sensation, but he has also opened several businesses, including LeGrand Coffee House in Woodbridge.

Photos courtesy of PMFC



Eric is a huge fan of firefighters (and fire trucks!) which is why Whirl Construction held the meeting at PMFC. Pictured above, he happily dons part of the firefighter turnout gear!

MTPD Officers (Including K9s) Pay Visit to Project P.L.U.S.



*Patrolman MacDonald
introduces MTPD's newest
K9 Officer Dallas!*



*Detective Sgt. McGrogan and
K9 Officer Jax pose with
Project P.L.U.S. students!*



*Jax received lots of love
when she visited!*

Photos courtesy of Middletown Municipal Alliance

This week at Middletown Municipal Alliance's Project P.L.U.S. was extra special with visits from MTPD K9 Officers Dallas and Jax! K9 Officer Dallas, along with his handler Patrolman Brian MacDonald, stopped by Tuesday's class where Patrolman MacDonald explained Dallas' training and how he works with his partner.

K9 Officer Jax came to Wednesday's class with Detective Sgt. Brian McGrogan, who explained his role as a K9 handler and the important work that Jax, a Bloodhound, does for our community.

A huge thank you to all our officers involved in this amazing program!

Register for MTPD's Police Youth Week



Registration for MTPD's Police Youth Week has officially opened! Applications can be completed online via CommunityPass.

*Click [HERE](#) for more information about Police Youth Week.
Visit www.middletownnj.org/signup to access CommunityPass.*

Apply for Free Home Repairs by Wednesday, March 15th
Jersey Shore Workcamp Volunteers to Do Free Repairs for Qualifying Homeowners



Workcamps are intensive one-week trips that help people grow in the Christian faith through service. Individuals from around the country will be in our community from July 10-14, 2023 to perform home-repair projects for elderly, low-income, veteran, and disabled families. The work at each home will be done by five young people and at least one adult leader representing many Christian denominations.

Both labor and materials are free to qualifying households. Homeowners must be home to qualify. Visit www.middletownnj.org/jsworkcamp for more information and to apply.

Click on the graphic for more information and to apply.

Register for Middletown Recreation's Summer Camp



The advertisement features the Middletown Recreation logo (a stylized tree, flower, and bicycle) and the Poricy Park logo (a green landscape with a blue lake). The main title is "2023 SUMMER CAMPS" in large, bold, white and yellow letters. Below it is a tagline: "the best days are spent at CAMP". A large, rounded pink speech bubble contains the registration information: "Registration Opens MARCH 1ST - 10AM (R) MARCH 8TH - 10AM (NR)". Below this, "More info: MIDDLETOWNNJ.ORG/CAMP" is written. To the left of the speech bubble are three green pine trees, and to the right are various sports balls (soccer ball, basketball, football, tennis ball). Two circular inset images show children in orange shirts (one with a sun logo) and children playing in a pond with nets. The background is yellow with a blue banner at the bottom.

Traditional Camps

- ✓ Tonya Keller Center Pioneers Camp (PreK)
- ✓ Croydon Hall Camp (K-6th)
- ✓ Poricy Park Science Camp (PreK-6th)
- ✓ Trail Blazers Travel Camp (7-9th)

Weekly Camps Run July 5-August 11

Join Middletown Recreation for a great summer by registering for summer camp! Registration has officially opened to both residents and non-residents.

Click [HERE](#) for information about pricing, trips, camp themes, and more.

Register Now for MAC's Spring Classes



The Middletown Arts Center's (MAC) spring registration is officially open. Pick up a new hobby and check out class listings in theatre, art, dance, and more!

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

Help Neighbors in Need by Donating to Social Services' Easter Basket Drive by Friday, 3/31

EASTER BASKET DONATIONS

Middletown Social Services is collecting Easter grass, candy, and gift cards to create baskets for those in need in our community. Please also consider donating the free ham you can earn through supermarket promotions.

Donations should be dropped off at 180 Main Street in Port Monmouth by Friday, March 31st. Please call Social Services at 732-615-2085 before dropping off donation items to ensure someone is there to receive them.



Questions? Call Social Services at 732-615-2085. We kindly request that donations be dropped off by Friday, March 31st.

Give Back by Donating Blood at Lincroft Fire Company on Tuesday, 4/4 from 12:30-6:30 PM



BLOOD DRIVE

Help accident victims like Jeff.

DONATIONS SAVE LIVES

Tues. April 4 12:30-6:30

Lincroft Fire Company
601 Newman Springs Rd., Lincroft

Appointments suggested. For an appointment call 800-933-2566 or visit nybc.org/drive or scan the QR code. Sponsor code is 70286

Donors 76 and over need a doctor's note unless one is already on file.
16 year olds need signed NYBC parental consent form.



 **New Jersey Blood Services**

800.933.BLOOD • nybc.org #njbloodservices

Click on the graphic to view the image in a larger PDF format.

Please help our community by stopping by Lincroft Fire Company (601 Newman Springs Road) on Tuesday, April 4th to donate blood! Appointments are suggested and can be made by either calling 800-933-2566 or via New York Blood Center's website.

Click [HERE](#) to make an appointment. Remember to search sponsor code "70286".

Apply for MTPD'S DVRT by Friday, 4/14

Middletown Township Police Department Seeks Domestic Violence Response Team Volunteers

Apply Now!

The Middletown Township Police Department (MTPD) is currently recruiting volunteers to serve as advocates on the Middletown Domestic Violence Response Team (DVRT). In affiliation with 180 Turning Lives Around (180), and with the assistance of the response team volunteers, MTPD continues to make this free, 24/7 confidential service available to victims of domestic violence in the aftermath of a highly emotional and traumatic experience.

180 will be conducting the mandatory 40-hour training course for new DVRT volunteers in April and May. Deadline to apply is Friday, April 14th.

Want to Apply?

Contact Lt. Anthony Gigante, Middletown Township Police Department, DVRT DVLO at 732-615-2075 or visit 180nj.org.



Click [HERE](#) for more information.

UPCOMING EVENTS

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

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

Join Middletown PBA 124 and Hazlet PBA 189 at Climb With A Cop Fundraiser TOMORROW, 3/11!

FUNDRAISER

TO BENEFIT

**Special
Olympics**
New Jersey



SATURDAY
March 11, 2023

10:00AM - 2:00PM
Entry fee \$30

*proceeds go to Special Olympics NJ

THE
GRAVITY VAULT
INDOOR ROCK GYMS

LAW ENFORCEMENT
TORCH RUN®
FOR SPECIAL OLYMPICS
NEW JERSEY

**Climb
With
A
Cop**



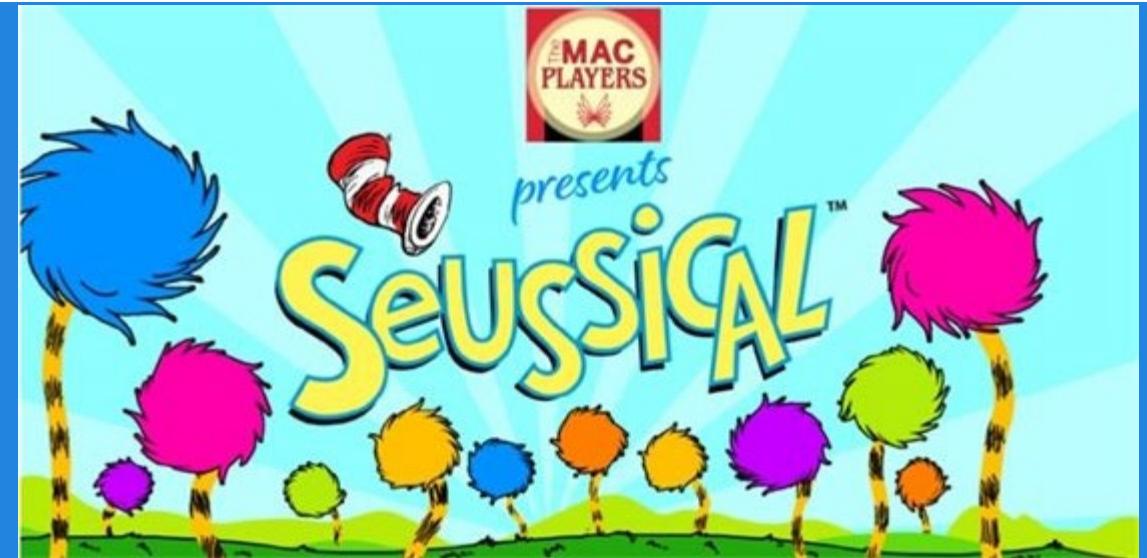
Event will be hosted at The Gravity Vault located in Upper Saddle River, Hoboken, Chatham (3/18/22), Flemington, Middletown, Voorhees, and Brick.

Visit www.gravityvault.com, www.njletr.org or call
Contact your Anthony Pulizzano with questions (973) 715-6162.

Must be 5 years old or older to climb. Individuals under 18 must have waiver completed by parent or legal guardian.

Middletown PBA 124 is partnering with Hazlet PBA 189 to host the annual Climb With A Cop fundraiser on Saturday, March 11th. The event will take place at Gravity Vault (37 Kanes Lane) from 10 AM - 2 PM. Proceeds will benefit the Special Olympics of New Jersey (SONJ). We hope to see you there!

Purchase Tickets for *Seussical* at the MAC This Weekend



The MAC Players was excited to kick off its 2023 season last week with *Seussical*, a fantastical, magical, musical extravaganza! Fun for the whole family, *Seussical* creates the witty, wild, and whimsical world of Dr. Seuss as it has never been seen before. When chaos erupts in the Jungle of Nool, it will take The Cat in the Hat, Horton the Elephant, Gertrude McFuzz, and a gaggle of characters to bring harmony back to their world.

The final performances will be from Friday, March 10th - Sunday, March 12th. The Friday and Saturday performances will be at 7 PM, and the Sunday performance will be at 2 PM. Tickets cost \$25/30 for adults and \$17.50/22.50 for students and seniors, depending on the seat. The musical will take place at the MAC (36 Church Street).

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

Register for Middletown Recreation's March Madness Dribble, Dish & Swish Competition on Wednesday, 3/15

 MIDDLETOWN
RECREATION

MARCH MADNESS DRIBBLE, DISH & SWISH

March 15th Croydon Hall Gym



\$5/PLAYER + CANNED FOOD ITEM

AGES 6-9 Boys & Girls 5:00 - 5:30 PM	AGES 10-13 Boys & Girls 5:30 - 6:00 PM	AGES 14-ADULT Boys & Girls 6:00 - 6:30 PM	TOP 3 WINNERS IN EACH AGE RANGE RECEIVE A PRIZE!
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Wear your favorite basketball jersey and dribble, dish & swish your way to victory at Middletown Recreation's March Madness competition! Showcase your basketball skills against your peers by competing in your specific age division for cool prizes on Wednesday, March 15th.

Click [HERE](#) for more information.

Learn About the Benefits of Tea at the MTPL on
Thursday, 3/16 at 1 PM

Tea: Drink to Your Health!



Thursday, March 16 | 1 pm
Via Zoom!

REGISTER AT MTPL.ORG FOR ZOOM LINK.

MIDDLETOWN TOWNSHIP PUBLIC LIBRARY
55 NEW MONMOUTH ROAD MIDDLETOWN, NJ 07748
PHONE: 732-671-3700 • WWW.MTPLORG

Epidemiological studies have indicated possible protective effects from tea consumption in specific chronic diseases. Learn about the history, culture, and these potential health benefits of tea at the Middletown Township Public Library's (MTPL) virtual program on Thursday, March 16th at 1 PM. Registration is required.

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

MTPL Shines a Spotlight on Local Artists & Musicians on Saturday, 3/18 from 2-4 PM



The MTPL invites artists to its Community Room (55 New Monmouth Road) for the first of three sessions devoted to local artists. Session 1 on Saturday, March 18th will include a panel with experienced, local musicians and artists from 2 to 3 PM. The panel features Dylan Anderson, Sam Bremekamp, Mike Dawson, Kris Gillespe, Toby Gowing, John Lebitsch, Kate Okeson, and Yao Tsao. Hear about how they got their start and how they continue to hone their craft. From 3 to 4 PM, the session will be open for all artists to collaborate, share, and connect with one another. Artists will also have the opportunity to show off their talent open mic style!

Click [HERE](#) for more information.

Spend Spring Break at Poricy Park

SPRING BREAK



@ PORICY PARK

MON 4/3 Fossil Hunting 11am-12pm	TUES 4/4 Pond Netting 3pm-4pm	WED 4/5 Pond Netting 11am-12pm	THURS 4/6 Fossil Hunting 3pm-4pm
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Drop-In Mon-Thurs
9am-4pm
FOSSIL HUNT GUIDE &
EQUIPMENT RENTALS \$5

Join Middletown Recreation for fun, educational programming this spring break! Come dig up some Middletown history at the Poricy Brook Fossil Beds or discover what's at the bottom of the Murray Pond. Activities only cost \$5 per person, so register via CommunityPass today!

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

**Hop into April with Middletown Recreation's
EGGstravaganza on Saturday, 4/1 from 10 AM - 12 PM**



Join Middletown Recreation on Saturday, April 1st for a family-fun day of spring crafts and activities like planting your own flower, taking photos with a bunny, watching a balloon artist, hanging out with Doodle Dude & Miss Fish, interacting with animals at a petting zoo, and more! This festive event is free for residents and will take place at the MAC. Registration is encouraged.

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

RESOURCES

**Register Your School-Aged Children for Free TB Skin Test
(Mantoux) Appointment on Monday, 4/3**

TB Skin Test (Mantoux)

• First Monday of every month: 8:30 am – 9:30 am
PPD administration
(by appointment: middletownnj.org/tbtest

AND

• PPD read first Wednesday of every month:
8:30 am – 9:30 am

FOR SCHOOL-AGED CHILDREN ONLY
NO CHARGE

Middletown Health Dept.
1 Kings Highway
Middletown, NJ 07748



The Middletown Township Health Department is proud to partner with Monmouth County to offer free TB Skin Tests (Mantoux) on the first Monday of every month, beginning Monday, April 3rd. These tests are only available to school-aged children up to 18 years old.

Appointments for the tests are required and will last ten minutes. The nurse will schedule a follow-up appointment with you after the exam. Test readings will be done on the first Wednesday of every month. You can schedule an exam appointment by visiting www.middletownnj.org/tbtest.

Middletown Health Department Reminds Residents to Stay Updated About the Flu

**What You Need to Know:
Influenza (Flu)**



Influenza (flu) can cause mild to severe illness, and at times can lead to death. The best way to prevent flu is by getting a flu vaccine each year.

Get up-to-date NJ information, including:

- Vaccine recommendations & details
- Surveillance data
- Answers to common questions

Visit bit.ly/njflu or scan the QR code:



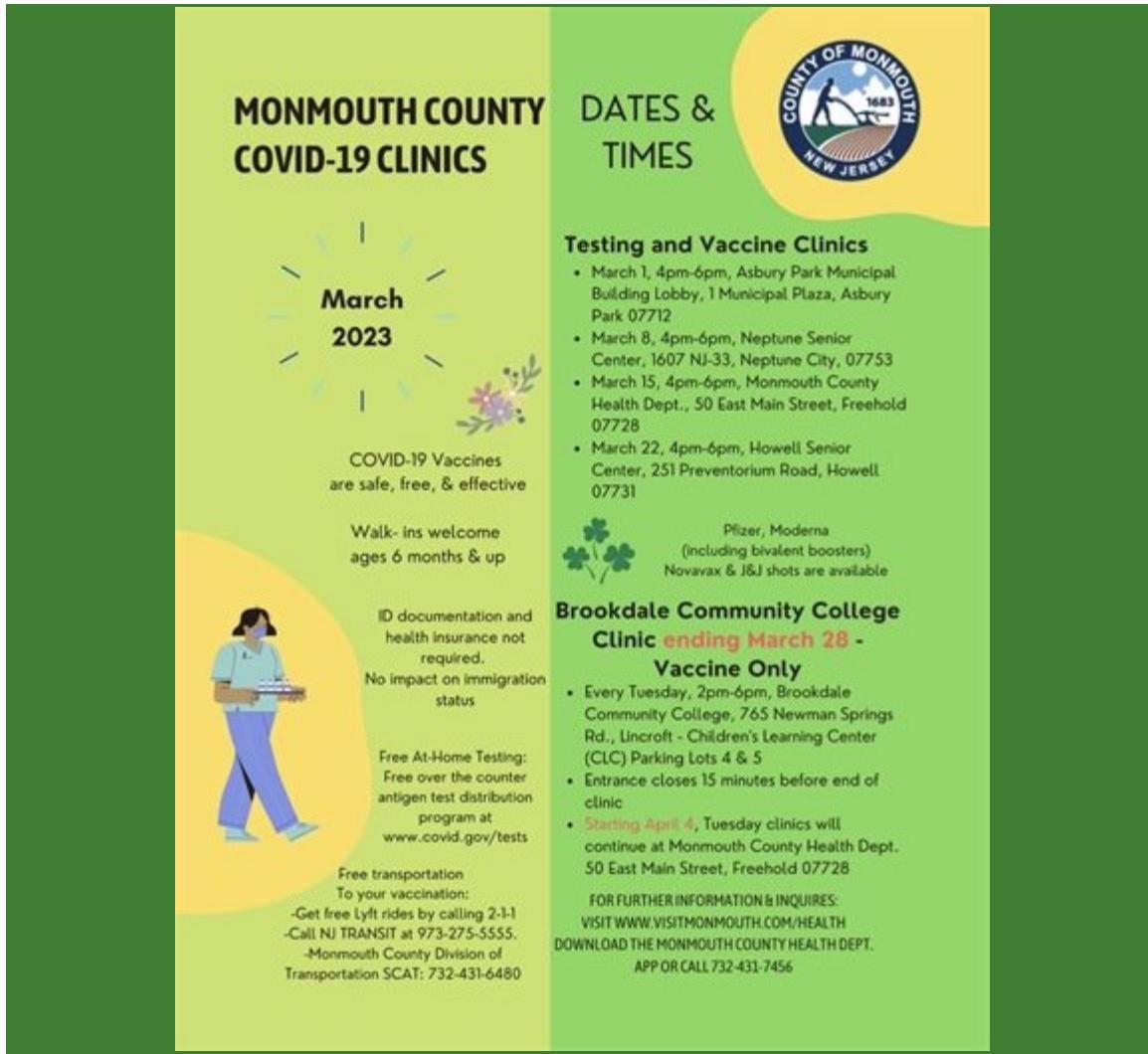
Stay Safe & Healthy, New Jersey!



Click on the graphic to view the image in a larger PDF format.

Click [HERE](#) for more information.

Monmouth County March COVID-19 Clinics



MONMOUTH COUNTY COVID-19 CLINICS

March 2023

COVID-19 Vaccines are safe, free, & effective

Walk- ins welcome ages 6 months & up

ID documentation and health insurance not required. No impact on immigration status

Free At-Home Testing: Free over the counter antigen test distribution program at www.covid.gov/tests

Free transportation To your vaccination:
-Get free Lyft rides by calling 2-1-1
-Call NJ TRANSIT at 973-275-5555.
-Monmouth County Division of Transportation SCAT: 732-431-6480

DATES & TIMES

COUNTY OF MONMOUTH NEW JERSEY

Testing and Vaccine Clinics

- March 1, 4pm-6pm, Asbury Park Municipal Building Lobby, 1 Municipal Plaza, Asbury Park 07712
- March 8, 4pm-6pm, Neptune Senior Center, 1607 NJ-33, Neptune City, 07753
- March 15, 4pm-6pm, Monmouth County Health Dept., 50 East Main Street, Freehold 07728
- March 22, 4pm-6pm, Howell Senior Center, 251 Preventorium Road, Howell 07731

**Pfizer, Moderna (including bivalent boosters)
Novavax & J&J shots are available**

Brookdale Community College Clinic ending March 28 - Vaccine Only

- Every Tuesday, 2pm-6pm, Brookdale Community College, 765 Newman Springs Rd., Lincroft - Children's Learning Center (CLC) Parking Lots 4 & 5
- Entrance closes 15 minutes before end of clinic
- Starting April 4**, Tuesday clinics will continue at Monmouth County Health Dept., 50 East Main Street, Freehold 07728

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION & INQUIRIES:
VISIT WWW.VISITMONMOUTH.COM/HEALTH
DOWNLOAD THE MONMOUTH COUNTY HEALTH DEPT. 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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