



The Middletown Township Public Library (MTPL) is open.

Check Out the Spring Edition of *Middletown Matters!*

Bayshore Waterfront Park
Photo by Thorne Middle School Student Madeline Pitzer



MIDDLETOWN MATTERS
SPRING 2023

READ THE LATEST ISSUE OF THE TOWNSHIP'S OFFICIAL NEWS PUBLICATION:
www.middletownnj.org/matters.

Our bi-annual newsletter, *Middletown Matters*, will be arriving in residents' mailboxes soon! In the meantime, feel free to read a digital version at www.middletownnj.org/matters.

Port Monmouth Fire Company Installs 2023 Officers



From left: Committeeman and Ex-Fire Chief Ryan Clarke, Port Monmouth Fire Company President John Sanders, Secretary Nicholas Quiles, Vice-President/1st Lieutenant Matthew Topoleski, Mayor Tony Perry, 2nd Assistant Chief of the Department Tony Fulciniti, Financial Secretary William Gilmartin Jr., Captain Robert Svenson, 2nd Lieutenant Michael Allegretta, 3rd Lieutenant Jim Dougherty, Engineer Andy Roerig, Engineer James Kearns, and Committeewoman Kimberly Kratz. (Courtesy of Shannon Topoleski of Port Monmouth Fire Company Ladies Auxiliary)

On Wednesday evening, members of the Port Monmouth Fire Company were joined by Mayor Tony Perry, Committeeman and Ex-Fire Chief Ryan Clarke, and Committeewoman Kimberly Kratz for the installation of the 2023 company officers. President John Sanders introduced the officers followed by Mayor Perry who was honored to administer the Oath of Office.

Please join us in congratulating the 2023 officers and the entire company for all they do to serve and protect our community!

Middletown Recreation & MAC Host EGGcellent Annual EGGstravaganza



Mayor Perry's daughter, Reagan, was super excited to meet the bunny!

Mayor Tony Perry, Committeewoman Kimberly Kratz, and Committeeman Ryan Clarke had a hoppin' good time at our annual EGGstravaganza! The festivity was hosted by Middletown Recreation, the Middletown Arts Center (MAC), and the Middletown Township Education Association. Thank you to everyone who attended!

Watch the Monday, April 3rd 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, April 16th.



**Middletown Community Affairs
Council Partners with MCSO for
Grover Burial Ground Cleanup**



Community Affairs Council members take a break from cleaning to pose for a picture!
(Courtesy of MCSO)

The Middletown Township Community Affairs Council and Monmouth County Sheriff's Office's (MCSO) Inmate Labor Detail recently assisted at the Grover Burial Ground in Lincroft, where they cleared debris and brush and helped maintain the grounds. The crew did such a good job that afterwards the Middletown Community Affairs Council noticed there were four additional headstones buried among the overgrown landscape! As a result of this discovery, the council is researching the identity of those buried so they can be remembered and respected properly.

The Inmate Labor Program, run through the MCSO Corrections Division, is a valuable resource and saves communities from cleanup costs. The service also helps re-integrate individuals back into society.

Middletown's Community Garden Opens Saturday, 4/15: Reserve a Plot Today!



NJAW Conducting Annual Hydrant Flushing: Discolored Water is Harmless and Normal

New Jersey American Water (NJAW) is flushing the pipes in its water distribution system from approximately March 6th to May 12th in Middletown. During this time, you may notice a drop in water pressure or discolored water. This is normal. If this happens, it is not harmful. Simply let your water run until it is clear.

Sign up for NJAW's customer notification system at www.login.amwater.com to receive a call, text, or email to let you know when they'll be flushing in your neighborhood.

Visit www.middletownnj.org/flushing to read NJAW's full alert and view a PDF of the detailed 2023 flushing schedule.

Middletown Recreation's "Open Recreation" After School Program Returns Monday, 4/10: Register Today!



Open Recreation is back at the Tonya Keller Community Center (50 Bray Avenue), beginning Monday, April 10th! Residents can join Middletown Recreation for free homework help, play time, and a light snack. Registration is required.

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

Register for MAC's Summer Arts Camps



The MAC is thrilled to offer its popular summer arts camps in two safe, spacious locations — both indoors and outdoors!

Click [HERE](#) for more information, to view a PDF of the camp brochure, and register!

Compete in Middletown PBA Local 124's Battle of the Bags Cornhole Tournament TOMORROW, 4/8 at 11 AM

Battle of the Bags Cornhole Tournament

Hosted by Middletown PBA Local 124
Sponsored by
HANUS & PARSONS, L.L.C.
Attorneys at Law

SATURDAY APRIL 8, 2023

Middletown VFW Post 2179
1 Veterans Lane
Port Monmouth, NJ 07758

\$40 per person
(\$25 to hang out but not play)

Ticket Price Includes:
Entry into tournament and food

Cash Bar provided by Middletown VFW

11am start
Registration begins at 10am

If you have any questions or to register, please email cornhole@middletownpba.org

Hanus & Parsons, L.L.C.
1715 NJ 35, Suite 301
Middletown, NJ 07748
(732)737-8488

Scan QR code to register





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

Grab your cornhole partner and show off your skills by playing in Middletown PBA Local 124's Battle of the Bags Cornhole Tournament on Saturday, April 8th! This fun event will begin at 11 AM at VFW Post 2179 (1 Veterans Lane, Port Monmouth). Proceeds will assist the PBA with the various charities that it supports on an annual basis. Mayor Perry will be competing and encourages everyone to participate!

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

MTPD Hosts Free Car Seat Safety Checkpoint on Wednesday, 4/12 from 2-6 PM at Old Village Fire Company



Residents are invited to a FREE Car Seat Safety Checkpoint hosted by the Middletown Township Police Department on Wednesday, April 12th 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.

Car seat safety checkpoints are held every second and fourth Wednesday of the month. Please contact Officer Michael Reuter at 732-615-2046 if you have any questions or concerns.

MTPD Encourages Residents to Volunteer and Apply for Local DVRT by Friday, 4/14

CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS

JOIN 180'S DOMESTIC VIOLENCE RESPONSE TEAM (DVRT)

Volunteer Advocates are civilian members of the community who work collaboratively with law enforcement to provide confidential support to survivors of domestic violence. Advocates help to empower victims to make informed decisions for themselves and their families. The identities of the DVRT volunteers are kept anonymous. Prior knowledge of domestic violence is not required. 180 and the police departments are committed to culturally and socially diverse teams to better serve the community. Bi-lingual capability is helpful. Training will be provided free of charge to successful applicants.

SPRING 2023 TRAINING DATES

April 25-May 18 6:00p-9:30p
In-person and via Zoom on Tuesdays/Wednesdays/Thursdays

Week 1 is in-person at the Holmdel Community Center. Weeks 2 & 3 are via Zoom. Week 4 is in-person at Ocean Township Police Headquarters.

HOW TO APPLY

PLEASE CONTACT:

Tina Morgan
Assistant Victim Support
Program Coordinator
732-264-4360, Ext. 4272
tinam@180nj.org

Application can be found [HERE](#) or visit our website for more information

REQUIREMENTS FOR VOLUNTEERS TO APPLY

- Must be 18+
- Be willing to serve on an on-call shift basis (min. 4 shifts per month)
- Participate in an interview process that includes fingerprinting and a background check
- Attend monthly supervisory meetings
- Have a valid driver's license and access to transportation
- Successfully complete the mandatory 40-hour training

DEADLINE TO APPLY: APRIL 14TH

24/7 CONFIDENTIAL HOTLINE
1-888-843-9262
www.180nj.org

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

[Click **HERE** to read MTPD's press release for more information.](#)

Middletown Health Department Recognizes National Public Health Week

APRIL 3RD - APRIL 9TH IS NATIONAL PUBLIC HEALTH WEEK 2023!

This week, Middletown has been highlighting a variety of factors that impact your health.



Today's Theme:
Rural Health



There are many beautiful areas in town that offer a rural landscape that can be enjoyed and used as a means to improve mental and physical health. Middletown Township Health Department encourages residents to participate in any or all of the following outdoor activities:

- Take a walk on the Henry Hudson Trail
- Visit the Belford Seafood Co-op
- Explore the many events and programs offered by Middletown Recreation and the Monmouth County Park System
- Relax at Ideal or Leonardo Beach



Middletown Township Health Department



In recognition of National Public Health Week, the Middletown Health Department has been highlighting a variety of factors that impact your health by sharing informational graphics with daily themes and local resources.

Please visit www.middletownnj.org/nphw to view a slideshow of all the themes!

Register for Free & Confidential Access to Reproductive Health and HIV Services (ARCH) Appointment

The poster features a photograph of seven pairs of legs and feet of diverse individuals standing in a row. Below the image, the text "Talk. Test. Treat." is displayed in large, bold, colorful letters (purple, blue, and green). A red banner with white text reads "Access to Reproductive Health and HIV Services (ARCH)". A blue banner below it says "Make a FREE & CONFIDENTIAL Appointment" and provides the phone number "732-431-7456 Ext.7435". The text "Free Services:" is followed by a list: "Rapid HIV and Hepatitis C Testing", "STD testing for and treatment of Syphilis, Chlamydia, Gonorrhea and Trichomonas", "Narcan distribution and education", and "Adult vaccines: Flu, Covid, Hep A, Hep B, TDap and HPV". A decorative row of red dots is positioned between the service list and the event details. The event details include "Second Friday of each month beginning May 12, 2023" and "10am-1pm". A note states "*No insurance or ID required". Logos for the "COUNTY OF MONMOUTH NEW JERSEY" and "MIDDLETOWN TOWNSHIP NEW JERSEY" are at the bottom.

The Middletown Township Health Department and Monmouth County are partnering to offer free services (such as rapid HIV and Hepatitis C testing, STD testing, Narcan distribution, and adult vaccines like flu, COVID-19, HPV, etc.) on the second Friday of every month from 10 AM - 1 PM. Appointments will take place at the Middletown Township Health Department (1 Kings Highway).

This free service begins on May 12th. Please call 732-431-7456 ext. 7435 to make an appointment. Insurance and ID are not required.

UPCOMING EVENTS

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

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

MAC Presents American Watercolor Society's Annual International

Traveling Exhibit until Saturday, 4/29



The MAC (36 Church Street) is honored to present the American Watercolor Society's 155th Annual International Traveling Exhibition (2022-23) until Saturday, April 29th! The traveling show comprises of 40 exceptional paintings chosen during the exhibition's Jury of Awards, featuring a variety of water media including watercolor, gouache and acrylic.

Click [HERE](#) for more information.

Register for MTPL's Read to a Dog Program on Thursday, 4/13 (4-5 PM) and Monday, 4/17 (6-7 PM)

Read to a Dog

Thursday, 4/13
4:00 - 5:00 pm

Monday, 4/17
6:00 - 7:00 pm

Grades K-5

Location: Children's Quiet Reading Area

Space is limited. Visit mtpl.org calendar to sign up.

55 New Monmouth Road, Middletown, NJ
732-671-3700 *MTPL.ORG

Registration required

MIDDLETOWN TOWNSHIP PUBLIC LIBRARY

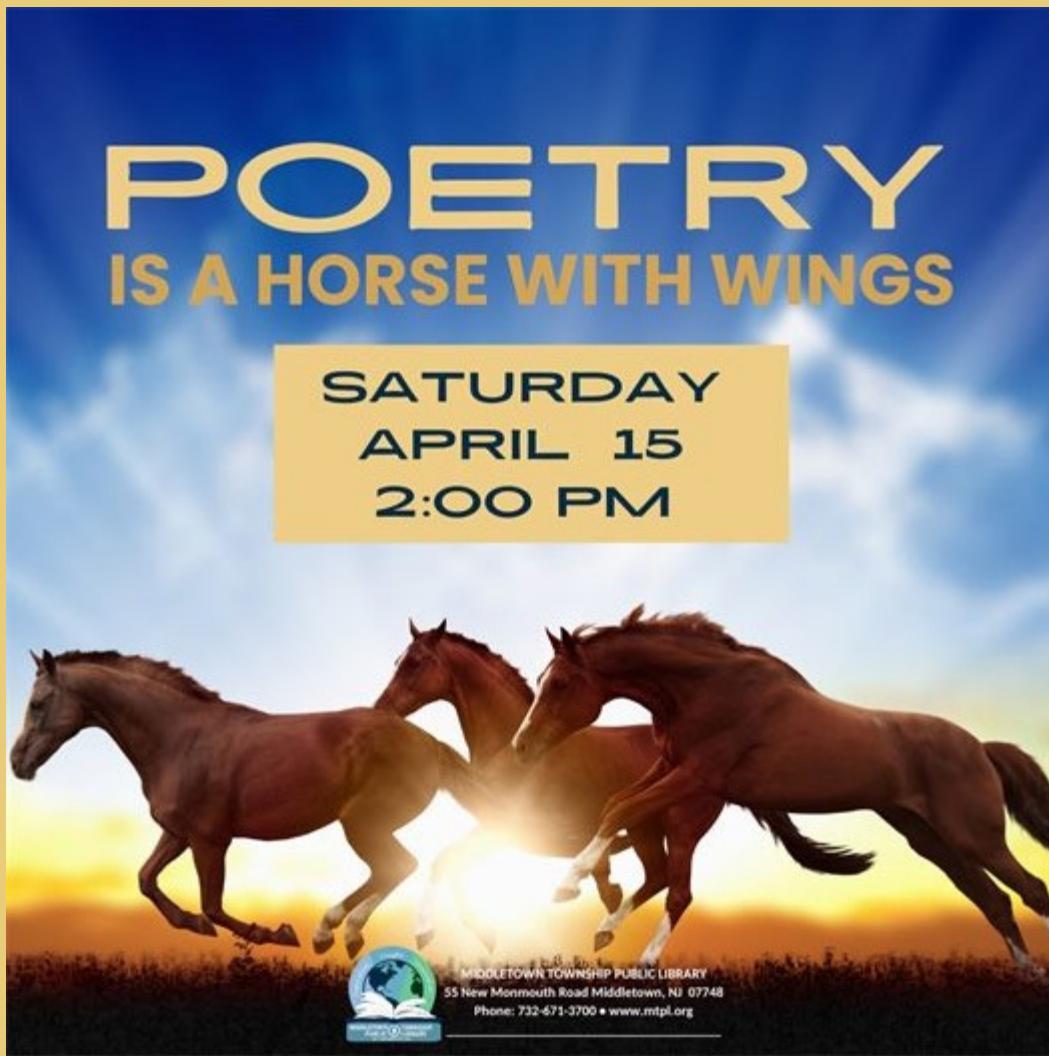
The MTPL (55 New Monmouth Road) is excited to announce its Read to a Dog program, taking place on Thursday, April 13th and Monday, April 17th!

The program is a great way to improve the literacy skills of children. It encourages children to read by providing a non-judgmental listener in our furry friends.

Independent readers in Grades K-5 can sign up for the 15-minute intervals and choose a book they'd like to read to a certified therapy dog.

Click [HERE](#) to visit the MTPL's April calendar to sign up.

Attend MTPL's Poetry is a Horse with Wings Program on Saturday, 4/15 at 2 PM



Celebrate New Jersey's state animal, the horse, with poetry at the MTPL! Flora Higgins and Mike Maxwell will read poems about horses at the MTPL's Community Room on Saturday, April 15th at 2 PM. Discussions, questions, and comments are welcome.

Click [HERE](#) to read Flora's and Mike's bios.

Recognize Earth Day with Middletown Recreation's and Middletown Green Team's Earth Day Celebration



The poster features a green border. At the top left is the Middletown Recreation logo with icons for walking, cycling, and a tree. Next is the Happy Earth Day logo with a stylized Earth and leaves. To the right is the Middletown Green Team logo. The main title 'EARTH DAY CELEBRATION' is in large green block letters. Below it is a colorful illustration of a hand holding a small globe with green plants growing out of it, with a sun, clouds, and rain falling above. To the right, the event details are listed: 'Sat April 22nd 9-11am Lincroft Acres'. Below that, in smaller text, are 'Trail Maintenance', 'Park Beautification', and 'Community Service Hours'.

EARTH DAY CELEBRATION

Sat April 22nd
9-11am
Lincroft Acres

Trail Maintenance
Park Beautification
Community Service Hours

Celebrate Earth Day in the parks! Join Middletown Recreation and the Middletown Green Team on Saturday, April 22nd from 9-11 AM to beautify Camp Hope in Lincroft Acres (Orchard Hill Drive). Volunteers will line and maintain its trails.

This great community service project is free for all residents. Scout groups interested in participating should email recreation@middletownnj.org for additional service hour opportunities leading up to the event.

Click [HERE](#) for more information.



The section has a blue header with the word 'RESOURCES' in large blue letters. A small circular logo for the Monmouth County Poll Worker program is positioned between the 'E' and 'S' in 'RESOURCES'.

RESOURCES

Earn Extra Money by Becoming a Monmouth County Poll Worker

Become a Monmouth County Poll Worker Today!

EARN EXTRA MONEY...

\$300.00 per election for *June Primary* or
November General Election. Must be a
Monmouth County Registered Voter.

**For More Information Call
732-431-7802 x7150**

Report Your Missed Collection

WAS YOUR TRASH, RECYCLING, OR BULK NOT COLLECTED?

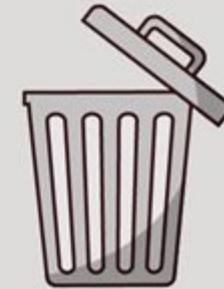
LET DPW KNOW!



Please complete an online form at
www.middletownnj.org/missedpickup.

QUESTIONS?

Please call DPW at
732-615-2090.



THANK YOU!

Click [HERE](#) to complete DPW's form.

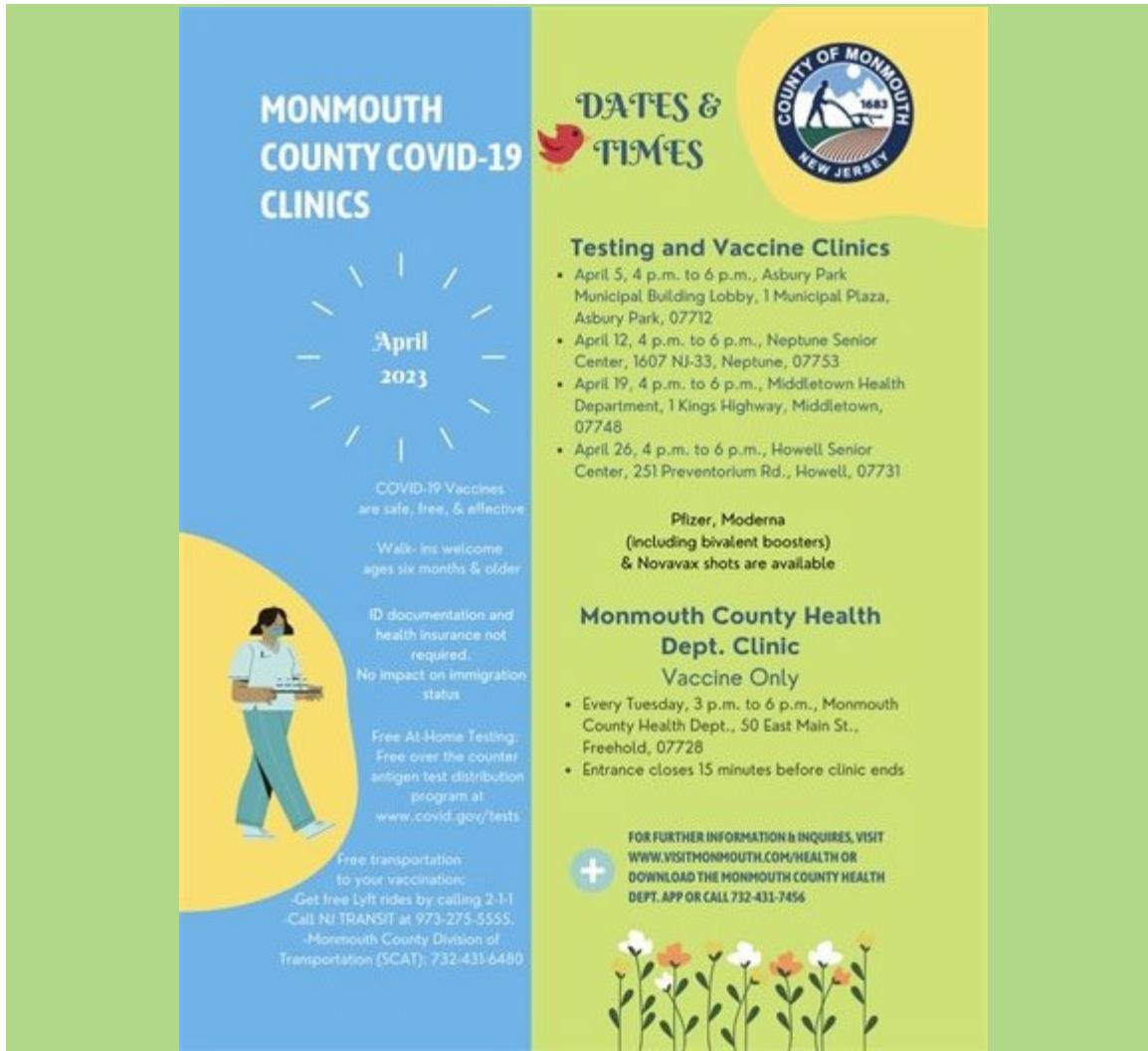
NJNG Offers In-Person Energy Assistance to Customers through Friday, 6/30

Last month, New Jersey Natural Gas (NJNG) announced it will provide customers with personal support — at the company's Asbury Park and Lakewood walk-in payment centers — to help access energy assistance grants to pay for their energy bills. On select days through June 30, 2023, representatives from local Community Action Partnership (CAP) agencies will be on hand to help customers determine eligibility for grants and other energy assistance programs and with the application process.



Click [HERE](#) to read NJNG's press release for more information.

Monmouth County April COVID-19 Clinics



MONMOUTH COUNTY COVID-19 CLINICS

DATES & TIMES

April 2023

COVID-19 Vaccines are safe, free, & effective

Walk-ins welcome ages six months & older

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

County of Monmouth New Jersey

Testing and Vaccine Clinics

- April 5, 4 p.m. to 6 p.m., Asbury Park Municipal Building Lobby, 1 Municipal Plaza, Asbury Park, 07712
- April 12, 4 p.m. to 6 p.m., Neptune Senior Center, 1607 NJ-33, Neptune, 07753
- April 19, 4 p.m. to 6 p.m., Middletown Health Department, 1 Kings Highway, Middletown, 07748
- April 26, 4 p.m. to 6 p.m., Howell Senior Center, 251 Preventorium Rd., Howell, 07731

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

Monmouth County Health Dept. Clinic Vaccine Only

- Every Tuesday, 3 p.m. to 6 p.m., Monmouth County Health Dept., 50 East Main St., Freehold, 07728
- Entrance closes 15 minutes before clinic ends

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION & INQUIRIES, VISIT WWW.VISITMONMOUTH.COM/HEALTH OR 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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