

# Middletown Minutes

Official Township E-Newsletter



**Join the MTPD at National Night Out on Tuesday, 8/1!**

PROUDLY CELEBRATING  
**NNO 40**  
YEARS  
**NATIONAL NIGHT OUT**  
2023

POLICE • COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS

**TUESDAY, AUGUST 1<sup>ST</sup>**  
**5:00-8:00 PM**  
**MIDDLETOWN HIGH SCHOOL NORTH**  
**63 TINDALL ROAD**

National Night Out will be celebrated at Middletown High School North (63 Tindall Road) this year on Tuesday, August 1<sup>st</sup>! The Middletown Township Police Department (MTPD) will be on site to meet the public, give demonstrations, and have fun. Activities include fingerprinting, K-9 demonstrations, police equipment displays, impaired driving simulator, inflatables, giveaways, food, and more!

We hope to see all our residents at this FREE, family-friendly event!

## Congratulations to the Third Group of Police Youth Week Graduates!



*Photos courtesy of Detective Ric Cruz and Kourtney Davis, Assistant to Chief R. Craig Weber*

Middletown Township Police Department (MTPD) wrapped up its Senior Police Youth Week Camp, run by Detective Ric Cruz, today! There were 35 kids between the ages of 12 and 13 who participated in this program which gave them more insight into what it's like to be a police officer. Participants spent this week learning about different areas of law enforcement. Their days began with physical fitness training, including a platoon run formation. Following the morning workout, the young cadets learned drill and ceremony facing movements and then classroom instruction. Classroom instruction was offered on topics like officer safety, motor vehicle stops, handcuffing, and use of force.

After lunch, the young cadets had to demonstrate what was learned in the classroom by responding to calls for service in a controlled environment. They worked on breaching doors, using verbal de-escalation tactics, and at times using control techniques against the staff to make an arrest. During the motor vehicle stop segment these young cadets utilized golf carts to simulate using a patrol to make a motor vehicle stop. Cadets had to utilize dispatch to check the driver information which many times would lead to an arrest and a search of the motor vehicle for weapons and narcotics.

The young cadets were also invited to the Nickelodeon Universe Amusement Park in the American Dream Mall where they saw and participated in demonstrations by the NJ State Police and Meadowland Fire Department and had full access to the amusement park. Special thanks to Director of Security Anthony Scamardella for allowing the cadets to have such a unique experience!

The week concluded with a graduation ceremony at the Brookdale Community College Robert J. Collins Arena. Each graduate received a well-earned Challenge Coin. Committeeman Ryan Clarke, Police Chief Craig Weber, Deputy Chiefs Paul

Bailey and John Werner, and Detective Ric Cruz personally congratulated each child. Campers chose fellow cadet Cole Butler for a leadership award.

Kudos to our newest Senior Police Youth Week graduates and the dedicated officers who run this amazing program – Cpl. Buhowski, Sgt. Carr, Lt. Gigante, DFC. Kennedy, Ptl. Mahon, Cpl. Riffert, Cpl. Seymour, and Ptl. Zubkow, and volunteers Jack Bailey, Noah Fleming, Braden Gillick, Preston Goode, and Thea Rowland!

## New York Yankees Baseball Player Jake Bauers Receives Key to the Township



*New York Yankees baseball player Jake Bauers shows off his Key to the Township alongside Mayor Perry and his son Grant and Committeeman Ryan Clarke*

On Monday, New York Yankees outfielder Jake Bauers came to town! Hundreds of all-star athletes from across Middletown and RallyCap Sports, as well as veterans, were invited to Ross Brewing to meet Jake and get some photos as well as his autograph. Mayor Tony Perry and Committeeman Ryan Clarke also stopped by to



present Jake with a Key to the Township to thank him for inspiring our next generation of athletes and visiting our home base!

## MTFD Hosts Inaugural Touch-a-Truck



*Mayor Tony Perry and Committeeman and Ex-Fire Chief Ryan Clarke were happy to support the MTFD at this great event! (Photo courtesy of MTFD Photographer Laurie Kegley)*

On Monday, the Middletown Township Fire Department (MTFD) hosted its first annual Touch-a-Truck in the big lot at St. Mary's Church! At this great community event, residents of all ages were able to enjoy delicious food, play fun games, check out fire trucks and fire safety demonstrations, and hang out with our firefighters.

The MTFD has 11 individual fire companies and is the world's largest all-volunteer fire department. Interested in volunteering? Visit [www.mtfdnj.org](http://www.mtfdnj.org).

**Excessive Heat Warning through 10:00 PM Tonight:  
Cool Off at MTPL**



# KEEP IT

# COOL

WITH MIDDLETOWN TOWNSHIP

**COOLING STATION**



**Middletown Township Public Library**

**55 New Monmouth Road**

**Thursday: 9:00 AM - 9:00 PM**

**Friday-Saturday: 9:00 AM - 5:00 PM**

**IF YOU NEED TRANSPORTATION,  
PLEASE CALL THE MTPD AT 732-615-2100.**

The National Weather Service (NWS) issued an excessive heat warning through 10:00 PM on Friday, July 28<sup>th</sup>. The Township has a cooling station at the Middletown Township Public Library (55 New Monmouth Road) for community members in need.

Click [HERE](#) to read our alert for tips on how to beat the heat.

**MTPL Opens Joyce P. Murphy Children's Garden in  
Memory of Beloved Employee**



*Photo courtesy of MTPL PIO Jenna O'Donnell*

Last Saturday, the Middletown Township Public Library (MTPL) held a ribbon cutting for the grand opening of the Joyce P. Murphy Children's Garden. The garden honors Joyce Murphy, a beloved long-term employee of MTPL who passed away unexpectedly in February of 2021. During her twelve years at MTPL, Joyce worked in the Children's Department and managed the library's social media. She was a dedicated advocate for children's literacy and learning.



*Photo courtesy of  
Committeewoman Kratz*

Mayor Tony Perry, Committeewoman Kimberly Kratz, and Committeeman Ryan Clarke were proud to join Joyce's family and MTPL board members and employees for this special event.

## **Community Pays Tribute to Resident Lexi Mason's Legacy by Raising Money for Pediatric Cancer Research**





*Mayor Perry was honored to bring his children and join Monmouth County Surrogate Maureen Raisch to support the Mason family's beautiful tribute.*

Ten years ago, Middletown resident Lexi Mason was selling lemonade outside her home to raise money for Alex's Lemonade Stand Foundation for Childhood Cancer.

Later that day, she tragically passed away from cardiac arrest while training with her soccer team. This year, her entire family and members of our community united to honor her memory and raise funds for pediatric cancer by selling lemonade.

**Middletown Welcomes New Dunkin'!**



*Mayor Perry and Committeewoman Kratz presented Dunkin' with a certificate and joined the owners and employees, as well as community members for the ribbon cutting. (Photo courtesy of Mark Esposito)*

On Saturday, Mayor Tony Perry, Committeewoman Kimberly Kratz, MTPD Chief Craig Weber, and several police officers and firefighters joined community members at the grand opening of a new Dunkin' (357-B NJ-36) in Port Monmouth! As a next generation Dunkin', this brand new store has the company's latest technology and many improved features. At the ribbon cutting, Dunkin' also presented donations to local nonprofit Infinite Love for Kids Fighting Cancer and Port Monmouth Fire Company.

Click [HERE](#) for information about Dunkin'.

**The Learning Experience Hosts Official Ribbon Cutting at Foam Party & Touch-a-Truck Carnival**





*Mayor Perry and Committeewoman Kratz join The Learning Experience employees and patrons for the grand ribbon cutting! (Photo courtesy of Fatou Dia)*

Last weekend, Mayor Tony Perry and Committeewoman Kimberly Kratz were thrilled to join The Learning Experience (1287 NJ-35) at its Foam Party & Touch-a-Truck Carnival! Since the childhood education center opened during the pandemic, it decided to incorporate its official ribbon cutting at this fun event.

Mayor Perry and Committeewoman Kratz brought a certificate to congratulate the business on pushing forward with its important mission of educating children and to thank the owners and employees for all their hard work.

Click [HERE](#) for more information about The Learning Experience.

## Troop 246 Boy Scout Soars to Eagle Scout Rank



*Photo courtesy of Christine Sanpietro*

Last weekend, Sean Sanpietro from Troop 246 advanced to the prestigious rank of Eagle Scout. Committeeman Ryan Clarke, who is also an Eagle Scout, attended his Court of Honor ceremony to personally congratulate him with a certificate on behalf of the Township Committee.

Eagle Scouts must complete service projects to earn this impressive title. Sean refurbished eight cast iron chairs, four cast iron tables, an iron bar cart, and two iron love seats for Oasis Farm in Middletown. Oasis Farm is a working farm with a mission to promote the inclusion and acceptance of adults with autism. Sean, with the help of Lincroft Fire Company and fellow scouts and scout masters, power washed, scrubbed, and spray painted the furniture. He also recovered the upholstery on the eight chairs with new fabric and cushions. His project was a two-step process that started in December 2022 and was completed in March 2023.

**Congratulations Eagle Scout Sean Sanpietro!**

**Middletown Department of Public Works & Engineering Hosts Drive for Second Chance Toys**



*Photo courtesy of Second Chance Toys*

On Wednesday, July 26<sup>th</sup>, the Department of Public Works & Engineering hosted a drive for Second Chance Toys with help from New Jersey Natural Gas volunteers at the designated trailer at the Middletown Recycling Center (52 Kanes Lane). Second Chance Toys is a 501(c)(3) organization dedicated to rescuing and refurbishing plastic toys for donation to local organizations that care for in-need youth in Monmouth County and across the nation.

The drive was led by Eric Maggio, Division Head – Recycling, Solid Waste & Clean Communities, and his team who assisted with packing, removal of refuse, and preparing the trailer to accept more toys. A total of 700 toys were collected, cleaned, and put into the hands of children in need – and keeping them out of landfills.

Click [HERE](#) for more information about Second Chance Toys.

**Promote Your Business at Middletown Day 2023!**



A vibrant poster for the Middletown Day Festival 2023. The top half features a large, stylized green banner with the words "MIDDLETOWN DAY FESTIVAL" in white, serif font, surrounded by yellow autumn leaves. Below the banner, the date "Saturday, September 23 2023" is written in a white, cursive font. The background of the poster is a photograph of a crowded festival on a grassy lawn, with several white tents and many people walking around. A yellow box on the left side of the poster contains the text "YOUR BUSINESS HERE!" and "Have your business viewed by over 12,000 people! Sponsorships and vendor spots available." The bottom of the poster has a dark green banner with the text "Croydon Hall 11am-4pm" and the website "middletownnj.org/middletownday" in white.

**MIDDLETOWN DAY FESTIVAL**  
Saturday, September 23 2023

**YOUR BUSINESS HERE!**  
Have your business viewed by over 12,000 people! Sponsorships and vendor spots available.

**Croydon Hall 11am-4pm**  
[middletownnj.org/middletownday](http://middletownnj.org/middletownday)

Middletown Day returns to the Great Lawn at Croydon Hall this year on Saturday, September 23<sup>rd</sup>! Join us as a business, vendor, or sponsor as we come together as a community to celebrate all that makes Middletown so exceptional.

Visit [www.middletownnj.org/middletownday](http://www.middletownnj.org/middletownday) for more information.

**Free Fall Tutoring Program for  
Income-Eligible Students: Apply By Friday, 8/25**



# Next Generation Support Program



for income-eligible Middletown students

This fall, Middletown Township will be offering free tutoring services to students from income-eligible households who have fallen behind academically due to the pandemic. Visit [www.middletownnj.org/ngsp](http://www.middletownnj.org/ngsp) to see if your household qualifies and complete the application.

Tutoring will take place on Saturdays from September 30<sup>th</sup> through November 18<sup>th</sup> at the Middletown Township Public Library (55 New Monmouth Road). Tutoring will not be held on Saturday, November 4<sup>th</sup> or Saturday, November 11<sup>th</sup>.

**Please apply by Friday, August 25<sup>th</sup>.**

If you have any questions, please contact Middletown Community Development Manager Jill Cammarosano at [jcammarosano@middletownnj.org](mailto:jcammarosano@middletownnj.org) and 732-615-2281.

We kindly ask residents to apply by Friday, August 25<sup>th</sup>.

Please visit [www.middletownnj.org/ngsp](http://www.middletownnj.org/ngsp) for more information.

**Route 36 Redevelopment Investigation Study  
Covering Section C to Be Held on Thursday, 8/3**

## Middletown Planning Board to Host Public Special Meeting About Route 36 Redevelopment Investigation Study



**WHAT:** The Redevelopment Investigation Study for the Route 36 corridor will be presented at a Special Planning Board Meeting for action by the Board to determine whether the study area meets the statutory criteria to be designated as an area in need of redevelopment for non-condemnation purposes. The meeting will focus Section C of the corridor. The public is invited to watch the presentations and ask questions after.

**WHEN:** Thursday, August 3<sup>rd</sup> at 6:30 PM

**WHERE:** Courtroom at Town Hall  
1 Kings Highway

Visit [www.middletownnj.org/rt36](http://www.middletownnj.org/rt36) for more information about the project and the boundaries of each section.

Section B was discussed at the last night's meeting. Missed it? Click [HERE](#) to view the presentation.

Section C will be discussed at the next meeting. Click [HERE](#) to RSVP via Facebook.

### UPCOMING EVENTS

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

**Buy Tickets for MAC's Beauty and the Beast Jr. Today  
and Tomorrow!**





**Beauty and the Beast Jr., a summer children's theater education production, premieres at the Middletown Arts Center (MAC) tonight at 7 PM! There are also two shows at the MAC (36 Church Street) tomorrow at 2 and 7 PM. Tickets cost \$10 for adults and \$5 for seniors and students.**

*Click [HERE](#) to purchase tickets.*

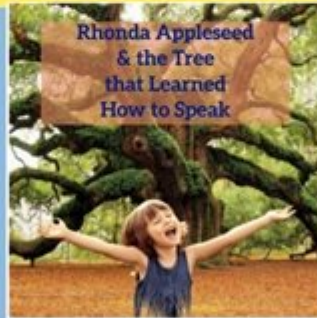
**Register for MTPL's Rhonda Appleseed & the Tree that Learned How to Speak on Monday, 7/31 at 11 AM**



**All Together Now**



**All Together Now:  
Rhonda Appleseed  
& the Tree that Learned How to Speak**



**MONDAY, 7/31 @ 11AM  
FOR ALL AGES**

Please register at [mtpl.org](http://mtpl.org)

MIDDLETOWN TOWNSHIP PUBLIC LIBRARY  
55 New Monmouth Road Middletown, NJ 07748  
Phone: 732-671-3700 • [www.mtpl.org](http://www.mtpl.org)

Join the Middletown Township Public Library (MTPL) on Monday, July 31<sup>st</sup> as Traveling Lantern Theater presents an interactive live show: Rhonda Appleseed & the Tree that Learned How to Speak. This program is best suited for grades K-5 and will take place in the Community Room (55 New Monmouth Road).

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

**Kick Off August with MTPL's Drop-In Table Top Games  
Sessions on Wednesdays from 2-4 PM**

# DROP-IN TABLE TOP GAMES SESSIONS

**Wednesdays in August, 2-4pm  
For Grades K-8**



*Come to the library to play table top games this August. Bring a friend to play with or make a new friend. Children are expected to clean up after themselves. Teen volunteers will be on hand to assist children with games.*

PARENTS ARE REQUIRED TO STAY IN THE CHILDREN'S DEPARTMENT WHILE THE CHILDREN ARE PRESENT.



MIDDLETOWN TOWNSHIP PUBLIC LIBRARY  
55 New Monmouth Road Middletown, NJ 07748  
Phone: 732-671-3700 • [www.mtpl.org](http://www.mtpl.org)

Throughout the month of August, come to the MTPL to play some table top games! Bring a friend to play with or make a new friend while you're playing. Children are expected to clean up after themselves. Teen volunteers will be on hand to assist the children with the games.

Parents/guardians are required to stay in the Children's Department while their children are present.

Click [HERE](#) for more information.

**Register for Middletown Recreation's New Date for its  
Beach Party & Movie Night on Wednesday, 8/9**





Join Middletown Recreation on Wednesday, August 9<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 PM for a free family-friendly night at Ideal Beach (Bayside Parkway, North Middletown)! Party with a DJ, eat free food courtesy of ShopRite, and enjoy fun activities followed by “The Goonies” under the stars at 8:45 PM. Please remember to bring your own chairs and blankets!

Sign into CommunityPass at [www.middletownnj.org/signup](http://www.middletownnj.org/signup) to RSVP.

**Register Now for Middletown Recreation's Rescheduled  
Daddy-Daughter Beach Bash on Thursday, 8/24**



Middletown Recreation's Daddy-Daughter Beach Bash is back on Thursday, August 24<sup>th</sup>! Attendees are invited to Ideal Beach (Bayside Parkway, North Middletown) to enjoy a DJ, fun activities, and a delicious dinner. This year's theme is Mermaids & Pirates and is geared for girls entering K-6 grades.

Please remember to bring your beach chairs and blankets. If the event cannot be held outdoors for some reason, it will be moved to Croydon Hall Gym (900 Leonardville Road) that same night.

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

# RESOURCES

## NJDOH Health Advisory: Preventing Heat-Related Illness and Death Among People Most at Risk

A heat advisory is expected for Thursday, July 27<sup>th</sup> through Saturday, July 29<sup>th</sup> with heat indices forecasted to reach excessive heat levels up to 103 degrees Fahrenheit or higher on Friday, July 28<sup>th</sup>.

Click [HERE](#) to read a newly-released New Jersey Department of Health fact sheet that outlines the steps to prevent heat-related illness.

Click [HERE](#) to read the New Jersey Department of Health's (NJDOH) full advisory.



## Be Prepared: Register for Middletown Township's Emergency Alerts!

Sign up to receive emergency and traffic alerts  
**TEXT MIDDLETOWNNJ TO 888-777 OR VISIT  
[WWW.MIDDLETOWNNJ.ORG/NIXLE](http://WWW.MIDDLETOWNNJ.ORG/NIXLE) TO OPT-IN**

Receive alerts for

			
Traffic & Detours	Severe Weather	Criminal Activities	Missing Persons

Middletown Township encourages all residents to register for Nixle, our emergency communications platform. Once registered, you will receive alerts about traffic detours, severe weather, criminal activities, missing persons, and more.



Text "MiddletownNJ" to 888-777 or visit [www.middletownnj.org/nixle](http://www.middletownnj.org/nixle) to register.

## Quarterly Taxes Due Tuesday, 8/1

### THE NEXT QUARTERLY TAXES ARE DUE AUGUST 1, 2023.

Final 2023/2024 Preliminary Tax Bills will be mailed no later than July 28, 2023. August 2023 tax amounts are also available now on the online payment portal. The extended grace period for the August 1<sup>st</sup> quarter will be August 22, 2023.

Any payment received after 4 PM on Tuesday, August 22<sup>nd</sup> either in the Tax Collection Office (1 Kings Highway) or via our online payment portal will accrue interest back to the statutory due date of Tuesday, August 1<sup>st</sup>.



QUESTIONS? CONTACT THE  
TAX COLLECTION OFFICE AT 732-615-2086.

Click [HERE](#) for information about how to pay your taxes.



### Rabid Raccoon Found Near Kings Highway East, Sarah Lane, and Presidential Path

The Middletown Township Animal Control Division responded to a call for a sick raccoon on Friday, July 21<sup>st</sup>. The animal was found in the area of Kings Highway East, Sarah Lane, and Presidential Path. Middletown Animal Control Officers captured the raccoon. Lab results confirmed the raccoon was positive for rabies. There was no exposure reported.

Click [HERE](#) to read the full alert for important reminders.

**Monmouth County Accepting Written Comments About  
South Laurel Ave. Bridge Study until Monday, 8/28**

## Concept Development Study Operational Safety Improvements to South Laurel Avenue (CR 52) At the Railroad Bridge



Public Information Center

June 27, 2023

5 – 7 PM



Township of Holmdel & Township of Middletown

Monmouth County, in cooperation with the New Jersey Department of Transportation (NJDOT), hosted a Public Information Center (PIC) meeting in June to inform local residents, officials, businesses, and the general public about the Concept Development Study for the Operational Safety Improvements to South Laurel Avenue (CR 52) at the Railroad Bridge, located in the townships of Holmdel and Middletown.

The presentation from the PIC can be found on YouTube. Written comments regarding the study and presentation will be accepted through Monday, August 28<sup>th</sup>. Comments may be mailed to the Community Involvement Facilitator, Nicole Pace-Addeo, Stokes Creative Group, 1666 Route 206, Vincentown, NJ 08088. You may also email them to [npace@stokescg.com](mailto:npace@stokescg.com).

Click [HERE](#) for more information about the PIC and click [HERE](#) to watch the presentation on YouTube.

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



@middletownnjtownhall



Middletown Township Channel



@middletownnj



middletown.township

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