



MIDDLESEX BOROUGH NEWSLETTER | SUMMER 2019

Please be advised that Borough Hall will be open from 8:30AM - 1PM on Fridays, beginning June 1st through Labor Day. Offices will remain open, Monday through Thursday, during normal operating hours.

Mayor's Message

Middlesex Borough provides so many opportunities to enjoy our great town during the summer months. Whether it is a family picnic in one of our municipal parks, playing baseball on a hot July night, or watching fireworks with your children whose faces are painted like kittens at Community Day, our community and family-friendly Recreation and Senior programs offer something for everyone.

Explore our website and you will find information for all sorts of summer activities. Our pool is open, you can purchase discounted tickets for some of your favorite New Jersey Amusement Parks, join a Zumba or Yoga class, or sign up for adult or children's sports. You can find information about Community Day, National Night Out, and so much more!

We hope to see you enjoying a great Borough-sponsored summer activity over the next few months!

- MAYOR RONALD DIMURA



Middlesex Borough Community Day!

Middlesex Community Day will be celebrated on July 20, 2019 from 4-9pm at Mt View Park with fireworks to follow! Vendors will line the fairgrounds with a variety of products and services available for purchase. Live local music will be playing on the main stage located on the varsity soccer field. Bring a lawn chair and spend the day with us! The portable zip line will be back in addition to bounce houses and other amusements. The rain date for this event is Sunday July 21, 2019. Weather related updates will be available on the Recreation Hotline: (732) 356-7400 x600.

All residents are invited to attend. If you would like to apply to be a food vendor, please click visit middlesexboro-nj.gov/images/events/Middlesex-CommunityDay2019-VendorApp.pdf to fill out our Vender Application form. We hope to see you on July 21st!

Discount Amusement Park Ticket Sales are back! All tickets must be picked up, in person, during our normal business hours. Fall program registration is NOW OPEN! You have the ability to register online or in person with cash, check, or credit card. Our Toddler Program's will be back starting on September 9, 2019! Playgroup sessions will be offered on Monday or Tuesday from 9:00am-10:30am, and Monday night 6:15pm-7:45pm. Additionally, our art class for ages 1-3, Toddler Fun Time, will be meeting on Monday nights from 5:30pm-6:00pm. Non-residents are welcome to join any of our Toddler Programs for an additional fee. Soccer, residents in grades K-8, registration is due by 4pm on Thursday August 1, 2019. Fee is \$60 for the season.

New Information for Middlesex Taxpayers

New Jersey offers several property tax deductions, exemptions, and abatements for taxpayers. These programs are managed by Middlesex tax collector, Darcy Del Vecchio, and tax assessor, Thomas Reilly.

Tax deductions, exemption, and deferment programs include:

- \$250 Property Tax Deduction for Senior Citizens and Disabled Persons;
- \$250 Veteran Property Tax Deduction;
- 100% Disabled Veteran Property Tax Exemption; and
- Active Military Service Property Tax Deferment

For more information, contact Darcy Del Vecchio at (732) 356-7400 x 242 or via email at collector@middlesexboro-nj.gov.

Property assessment, exemption, and abatement programs include:

- Automatic Fire Suppression System Property Tax Exemption;
- Environmental Opportunity Zone Property Tax Exemption;
- Five Year Exemption and Abatement;
- Historic Site Property Tax Exemption;
- Non-Profit Organization's Property Tax Exemption;
- Non-Residential Development Fee Certification/Exemption;
- Renewable Energy System Property Tax Exemption; and
- Urban Enterprise Zone Property Tax Abatement.

For more information, contact Thomas Reilly at (732) 365-7400 x270 or via email at assessor@middlesexboro-nj.gov.

Middlesex Celebrates 30 Years as a Tree City



Middlesex Borough has been awarded the rare honor of being named a "Tree City" for 30 consecutive years. Since 1989, Middlesex Borough and our Shade Tree Commission have maintained and built on the four standards necessary to hold this title, as tested by the Arbor Day Foundation. Middlesex established a Shade Tree Commission, implemented a tree care ordinance, created a community forestry program, and observes Arbor Day annually with a proclamation. Pictured holding the flag which was awarded to them are Shade Tree Commission Chairman Jason Bond and Members Sean Johnson and Dan Gitler.

A Message from the Middlesex DPW

Summer is great for your yard and garden, and we're here to help you clean up all your trimmings.

Grass clippings must be in compostable lawn and leaf bags placed at the curb ahead of Wednesday's early morning pick-up. Please, remember to keep storm drains clear of yard debris or bags. Effective immediately, Middlesex DPW is enforcing our branch pick-up policy for cut-and-tied four-foot sections; no logs or stumps permitted

and none may exceed five inches in diameter. Branches must be placed at the curb no sooner than the night before. All loose branch piles will be reported to the code enforcer and will not be picked up.



As a reminder, Bulk can be scheduled for pick-up at the curb by calling (732) 968-1603. Each resident is allowed one pick up at the curb and three bulk coupons for use at our recycling center. Please be advised, we are accepting coupons at the recycling center and the town policy for curbside pick-up. Bulk pick up at the curb is not to exceed five (5) cubic yards, approximately the size of two office desks. As a reminder, electronics are accepted at the recycling center and paint is available for drop off on the first Saturday of the month.

Please note the Borough of Middlesex Recycle Center is no longer servicing for the borough's curbside recycling. The Department of Public Works is overseeing the clean up going forward. For any questions or concerns, please call (800) 488-6242.

During the summer months, the Middlesex Road Department will be active throughout the town sealing cracks, cleaning and repairing storm drains, patching pavement, replacing signs, and re-striping all crosswalks and 'Stop' bars. Please make a conscious effort to drive safely around our employees during these projects. Their safety is always our top priority. On behalf of the Middlesex Department of Public Works, thank you and we wish all residents a safe and wonderful summer.

Summer Library Programs

School may be winding down, but the Library is ramping up with some outstanding programs and materials to entertain all ages and encourage literacy this July and August - all for free! We have adult, teen, and kids' summer reading challenges, where participants can read and/or complete a variety of activities for chances to win gift cards and prizes. Our state-of-the-art Makerspace will be open for adults and kids to learn hands-on by using our 3D printer and 3D pens, sewing machines, Silhouette Cameo cutter, circuit sets, and more.



We have weekly kids' programs for ages 1 year and up - story and crafts times, specialized Makerspace programs, and different themed writing challenges. Several special events are planned, including an author visit, indoor planetarium, and even an after-hours Harry Potter Hogwarts Camp! Adult programs include weekly Chair Yoga, and a biweekly Ukulele jam group. Ongoing Library programs include English as a Second Language (ESL) classes and US Citizenship study groups. Take a break from the

heat and enjoy snacks and new releases/independent movies every other Thursday afternoon, and kids' movies (G and PG rated) every Monday afternoon in our Community Room.

And of course, we always have a diverse collection of books, magazines, DVDs, and audiobooks - and online ebooks as well. The Middlesex Public Library is way more than just books - visit us this summer to find out and enjoy everything we have to offer! More information on all Library services can be found on our website, www.middlesexlibrarynj.org.

Middlesex Community Pool

In case you didn't know, **Middlesex** has a **Community Pool**! It has been here over 50 years and has recently been renovated with a new lap pool! It is located behind the Middlesex High School and has **A LOT** to offer:

- Discounted swimming lessons for members of the pool.
- Four 2 week sessions throughout the summer.
- Competitive Swim Team (WRATS) for children 5 to 18
- One of NJ oldest Synchronized Swim Teams (Aqualytes) for girls 5 -18
- Aqua Zumba Classes.
- New Expanded Wading Pool for our younger family members.
- The Main Pool is Olympic Sized and has a diving board and Water Slide.
- Come swim in our new lap pool before work 6 A.M. to 9 A.M. or during normal hours 12 Noon until 8 P.M.
- Many different family events are planned throughout the summer.
- A GREAT place to relax on the weekend, during the week or after work without the expenses and headaches of traveling somewhere else.
- Membership rates which are the LOWEST anywhere!
- Come take a drive by. Visit us on FACEBOOK, ask someone who is a member what a great place it is to spend the summer, or give us a call at 732-752-3366.



Memberships are still available.

Middlesex Police Department

SUMMER NEWSLETTER



Yard & Garbage Sales

Summer is a popular time for yard sales and garage sales. Residents are reminded that New Jersey law prohibits signs from being painted, drawn, erected or maintained upon trees, rocks, other natural features or public utility poles. You may stake signs advertising your sale on your property, or on private property with the permission of the property owner. We also ask prospective buyers to make sure to obey all traffic and parking laws while attending a garage, yard, or estate sale.

2019 Police Unity Tour











Captain Frank DeNick and Sergeant Mike Mastrogiovanni completed the 2019 Police Unity Tour Challenge Ride to honor law enforcement officers that have died in the line of duty. The pair joined over 3,000 law enforcement officers and law enforcement survivors from around the country and







embarked on a three-day, 240 mile bicycle ride from New Jersey to Washington D.C.

Pedestrian Traffic Tips

PEDESTRIANS

-  Always cross at corners, within marked crosswalks where available
-  If crossing in other locations, yield the right of way to vehicles. Failure to obey the law carries a \$54 fine (court costs additional)
-  Look left, right, and left again before crossing; watch for turning cars
-  Always walk facing traffic
-  Obey traffic signals, especially "Walk/Don't Walk"
-  Remain alert! Don't assume that cars are going to stop
-  Wear reflective clothing when walking at night
-  Stay sober. Walking while impaired greatly increases your chances of being struck

MOTORISTS

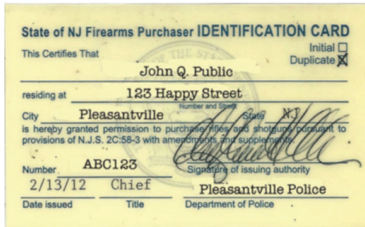
-  Stop for pedestrians in marked crosswalks; failure to stop carries a \$200 (court costs additional) fine, a 2-point license penalty, 15 days community service, and insurance surcharges
-  Watch for pedestrians when turning right on red
-  Obey speed limits
-  Do not block or park in crosswalks
-  Keep your windshield clean for maximum visibility
-  Be alert for pedestrians at all times

Middlesex Police Department

SUMMER NEWSLETTER



Firearm Applications Available Online



When filling out the online application for Middlesex Borough, residents only use ORI NJ0121100.

Contact Detective Paul Steffanelli at 732-356-1900 Ext. 311 or Detective Daniel McCue at 732-356-1900 Ext. 312 with questions or if more information is needed.

Visit njportal.com/NJSP/FARS for more information.

Save the Date!



The Middlesex Police Department reminds you to join them for National Night Out, on Tuesday, August 6th from 6 until 8:30pm at Mountainview Park for National Night Out 2019. More details will follow soon!

Save the Dates!



The Middlesex Police Department will be hosting the Mini-Academy I (6th and 7th graders) and the Mini-Academy II (graduates of Mini Academy I).

Mini Academy I

June 24 through June 28, 2019

Mini Academy II

July 15 through July 19, 2019

Register online at middlesexpd.com

Citizen Services Feature Now Available

We are pleased to announce that the Citizens Services module is now available on our website (middlesexpd.com). The module, which features ease of navigation, will enable residents to provide important information conveniently from the comfort of their own home. Residents and business owners can now register their alarm systems on-line. Residents can also alert the police department to those time periods that their homes will be vacant. Watch for additional features to be added in the coming months.

BIKE SAFETY



BICYCLISTS

- 🚲 Wear a bike helmet that fits you and is properly adjusted. It could save your life in a crash.
- 🚲 Be visible. Wear bright clothing (not dark—fluorescent is best). New Jersey law requires a white light on the front and a red light on the rear of the bicycle when riding at night.
- 🚲 Check your bike to make sure:
 - Tires are inflated properly.
 - Brakes are tight enough.
 - The chain is running smoothly. Spin the crank. If the chain is rusty and making noise, it may need to be oiled.
- 🚲 Check your bike helmet ratings and learn how to properly fit your bike helmet.

ON THE ROAD

- 🚲 Ride to the right of the road in the same direction as traffic. Go with the flow—not against it.
- 🚲 Keep at least one hand on the handlebars. If you need to carry books or groceries, put them in a bike carrier or backpack. Keep both feet on the pedals.
- 🚲 Be extra cautious at intersections—about half of crashes occur there. Obey traffic signals, and scan for traffic around you. Before making a turn, always look behind you for a break in traffic, then signal and position yourself in the proper lane.
- 🚲 When passing a pedestrian or another bike, warn them of your approach with a bell or shout (as in, “on your left!”).
- 🚲 Don’t wear headphones or earbuds when you ride—you need to hear what’s going on.
- 🚲 Watch for hazards such as glass, rocks, potholes or other hazards that can cause you to lose control of your bike.
- 🚲 When riding near parked cars, be aware of doors that could suddenly opened in your path. The best bike safety practice is to ride far enough away from parked cars (about 4 feet) to avoid being hit by a door.
- 🚲 Every person riding a bicycle on a roadway is granted all the rights and subject to all of the duties of the motor vehicle driver. In New Jersey, the law states a bicyclist must obey all state and local automobile driving laws. A parent may be held responsible for the child’s violation of any traffic law.

MOTORISTS

- 🚗 Look for bicycle traffic, especially at intersections.
- 🚗 Yield to bicyclists when changing lanes, turning or emerging from a driveway.
- 🚗 Refrain from blocking or parking in bike lanes.
- 🚗 Refrain from using your horn to intimidate bicyclists (sudden loud blast will likely startle the cyclist and could cause them to lose control).
- 🚗 Slow down and provide adequate clearance when passing a bicyclist (three feet absolute minimum at slow speeds, five feet is better, trucks, even more).
- 🚗 Don’t follow a bike too closely. Give bikes room to maneuver to avoid road hazards.
- 🚗 Don’t litter. New Jersey law makes the driver of a vehicle responsible for litter by passengers (N.J.S.A. 39:4-64).
- 🚗 Avoid distractions like head phones and cell phones.
- 🚗 When passing another vehicle on a two-lane road, be sure to look out for bikes coming towards you, and if you see them, yield to them, aborting the passing maneuver if need be.
- 🚗 For more information, consult the New Jersey Bicycling Manual www.state.nj.us/transportation/commuter/bike/pdf/bicyclingmanual.pdf

Senior Messenger

Senior Messenger



JULY & AUGUST 2019

DEPARTMENT OF SENIOR & DISABLED SERVICES

Music in the Park



Spring Lake Park Gazebo
Maple Avenue, South Plainfield, NJ
Sunday evenings, 6 to 7:30 PM
Please be sure to bring a folding chair.

July 7: Greg Giannascoli, marimba
& Barry Spatz, piano - Gershwin,
Bernstein and more

July 14: The Pery Brothers -
Irish Favorites and more

July 21: The Jersey Polka Stars -
Polka and Variety Music

July 28: Tribute to Musical Cornucopia -
The Great American Song Book

August 11: Hotel Excelsior Orchestra -
Tin Pan Alley...Hot and Sweet Jazz

August 18: NY State of Mind -
The Music of Billy Joel

August 25: George Krauss Memorial
Band - Anniversaries of 2019.

We will be leaving the Senior Center at
3:30 PM. Please call to reserve your spot.

Hunterdon Hills Presents... Barefoot in the Park

This Tony Award winning comedy is directed by film and television star **Clarence Gilyard** (*Die Hard*, *Top Gun*, *Matlock* and *Walker, Texas Ranger*) and features **NSF founder Richard Bugg** as Velasco. In "*Barefoot in The Park*," Neil Simon manages to take the silly squabbles of a young married couple and make them absolutely hilarious! Corie, the young bride, sees their tiny new apartment as cozy and romantic. Paul, the groom, only see five flights of stairs, a gaping hole in the skylight, and heat that doesn't work. Add oddball neighbor, Victor Velasco, and Corie's well-meaning mother into the mix, and it's a recipe for non-marital bliss!

When: Thursday, September 19, 2019

Bus leaves at 10 AM. Cost is \$65. Please have your money in by August 26 or you will lose your reservation.
Limited Availability



Senior Center Summer Hours

The summer operating hours for the Senior/Recreation Center are
8:30 AM - 4 PM: Monday - Thursday
8:30 AM - 1 PM: Friday

Summer's Senior Messenger is now available, packed with great activities to enjoy with friends and family.

Marimba, piano, polka, sweet jazz, and more will be playing at the Spring Lake Park throughout summer, starting July 7.

In September, relax and enjoy the Tony Award winning comedy, *Barefoot in the Park*, directed by Clarence Gilyard.

The Middlesex Police Department has an important announcement regarding phone and email scammers targeting seniors. Finally, don't forget to check out the calendar to plan your summer activities.

**The summer Middlesex Senior Messenger can be viewed at:
middlesexboro-nj.gov/index.php/departments/seniors**

Amusement Park Ticket Discounts!



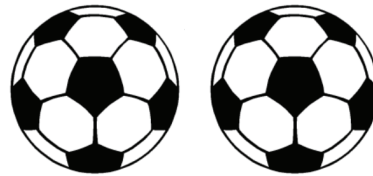
Middlesex Recreation is offering discounted tickets for the 2019 season at Adventure Aquarium, Morey's Piers, the Philadelphia Zoo, and many more!

Cash or personal checks are accepted, made out to "Middlesex Recreation Department."

Tickets cannot be exchanged and all sales are final. For additional questions or inquiries, please call or email Middlesex Recreation Department at (732) 356-7400 x277 or recreation@middlesexboro-nj.gov.

LEARN MORE: middlesexboro-nj.gov/index.php/departments/recreation

Soccer Registration



Children entering grades K through 8 in September of 2019 are eligible to participate. All games will be played on Saturdays, September through November.

Practice is typically once a week and at the complete discretion of the volunteer coach.

The Recreation also needs volunteer coaches for the teams! If interested, please call the office at (732) 356-7400 x277.

LEARN MORE: middlesexboro-nj.gov/images/departments/recreation/2019/2019-Soccer-Registration-Form.pdf

Mosquito Control Alert



The American Mosquito Control Association has published a new factsheet available to all Middlesex Borough and Middlesex County residents.

As summer unfolds, the AMCA is urging residents to remember the 3 D's of protection against mosquitos: Dress, Drain, Defend. Simple tasks like cleaning your pets water bowls regularly and wearing light-colored, loose-fitting clothes can protect you from mosquito bites.

To review the entire fact sheet, click the link below and download the PDF.

LEARN MORE: middlesexcountynj.gov/Government/Departments/PSH/Pages/MCMosquito.aspx

Upcoming Borough Meetings

JUNE 25 | Mayor & Council Meeting, 7PM, Council Chambers

JULY 16 | Mayor & Council Meeting, 7PM, Council Chambers

JULY 19 | Swimming Pool Commission Meeting, 7PM, Middlesex Community Pool

AUGUST 8 | Board of Health Meeting, 7PM, Borough Hall

AUGUST 13 | Mayor & Council Meeting, 7PM, Council Chambers

AUGUST 21 | Swimming Pool Commission Meeting, 7PM, Middlesex Community Pool

SEPTEMBER 10 | Mayor & Council Meeting, 7PM, Council Chambers

SEPTEMBER 12 | Shade Tree Commission Meeting, 7:30PM, Borough Hall

SEPTEMBER 18 | Swimming Pool Commission Meeting, 7PM, Middlesex Community Pool

VIEW FULL CALENDAR:

middlesexboro-nj.gov/index.php/get-involved/middlesex-calendar#-year=2019&month=6&day=30&view=month



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