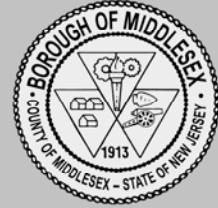




Borough of Middlesex

Municipal Newsletter

Winter 2009



Welcome Mayor John Fuhrmann

Mayor's Inauguration Remarks

Tonight I stand before you honored to be your new Mayor, plucked out of political retirement to help stabilize a municipal corporation which has become a little unsettled.

Toward that end, I suggest together, we pursue a sense of single purpose. The single purpose of the mayor and council working in concert to restore the confidence of our shareholder/citizens in their local government. They must be assured the borough is not without leadership and is functioning in their best interests. To let them know that together we will pursue an austere budget, union contracts that recognize the current economic facts of life and together make every effort not to diminish our municipal quality of life.

Before going any further I want to thank and congratulate Council President Robert Schueler on the great job he did filling in as our mayor. I wish to thank him too for joining the majority and making last Thursday night's vote unanimous. That was a class act Robert, thank you. Thanks and congratulations as well to the other council members and the municipal staff in going forward in the absence of a chief executive and board chairman.

"Trust is the coin of the realm", said former United States Attorney General Griffin Bell. I would like that to be our mantra at all times. Especially in times like these the mayor and council must understand they are not inherent adversaries. We must recognize that we can work together, confident that through mutual respect, trust and especially open communication the responsibilities of municipal government can be met professionally and with success.

In this administration all councilmatic initiatives will be vetted and those that are not budget busters and have merit in the eyes of the majority will proceed no matter which side of the aisle they were initiated.

Yet, I am not so naïve to not recognize that differences of opinion will occur, nor am I so naïve to not be aware

of the political realities inherent in a two party system. However, there will always be time to scrimmage on the political gridiron.

For now I suggest "welcome reason together" paraphrasing Lyndon Johnson to meet the immediate and serious challenges we confront. If this means compromise, compromise we will. But without compromising the trust, respect and open communication I've just mentioned.

We will immediately contact the Police union representatives and the Department of Public Works union representatives to arrange meetings with them to commence negotiations. Negotiation committees are in place and we will move straightaway to insure the timely commencement of these vital talks.

I would like to institute two Saturday morning budget workshop sessions to go over that document thoroughly as a committee of the whole so each and every one of us on the governing body has a total understanding of our spending plan. No effort will be spared to get Middlesex "stimulus dollars". We will direct our professionals to explore every available avenue and reach out to our county, state and federal representatives for assistance in getting our share.

When I first joined the governing body in 1992, we went to great lengths to engage our neighboring communities in shared services and met with limited success. But now times are more critical and it is my hope that we can come upon some practical approaches to cost saving by sharing mutual services with our neighbors.

Right now it appears to me that our Borough is a little frayed around the edges. The street designs on Rt. 28 are wearing out. We will have to address that. Thousands of cars traverse that thoroughfare each day and one has to think about the impression we are making.

.....Continued on back page

Table of contents

Board. of Health page 2,3
Rescue Squad page 3
Community School page 4,5
Girl Scouts page 6

Recreation page 8
Seniors / Library page 9
Police page 10
Special Needs page 11

Board of Health

Child Health Services

The Middle-Brook Regional Health Commission and its member municipalities, Bound Brook, Green Brook, Middlesex, South Bound Brook, Warren, and Watchung, contract with the Community Visiting Nurses Association to offer a monthly child health conference. The child health conference offers services at no cost to children in need who reside in the municipalities of the Commission. Some of the services available are as follows:

- Childhood immunizations
- Infant and Preschool age physicals by a licensed physician
- Counseling and education by registered nurses
- Diet counseling
- Lead testing
- Guidance and education on child development

We encourage our residents who may have difficulty obtaining health insurance for their children or who may have financial constraints that prevent them from providing preventive health services to our youth to take advantage of these services. If you wish to take advantage of these services or want to learn more about the child health conference, please call the VNA at 908-725-9355 for an appointment or information. Together we can keep our young healthy.

Well Water Testing

Numerous residential wells are tested and found contaminated with various potential health hazards every year. In response to this, many municipalities and the State require testing of wells prior to the sale of a property and for rental properties. However, there is no law requiring the private homeowner to test their well on a regular basis and consequently many individuals are likely to be unknowingly exposed to potentially harmful materials. The health department urges all property owners whose properties are served by a private well to test the well on an annual basis. We suggest testing for the compounds identified in the State's Private Well Testing Act, but at a minimum wells should be tested for chemical and bacterial contamination. Well testing must be conducted by a private state certified laboratory. A list of these laboratories can be found at: http://www.state.nj.us/dep/pwta/pwta_lablist.htm or you may contact the health department at 732-356-8090 for information on local labs.

The price of a well test may be more than you want to spend, but think of the potential costs of not testing and you will realize that the test is money well spent.

Middle-Brook Health Commission Steps up to Measure Customer Satisfaction

As part of a larger effort to incorporate quality improvement processes into its operations, the Middle-Brook Regional Health Commission will soon be actively seeking customer feedback for all aspects of its services. MBRHC provides public health services in the towns of Bound Brook, Green Brook, Middlesex, South Bound Brook, Warren and Watchung. "Our customers are many," says Kevin Sumner, Health Officer. "They include direct service recipients such as those who receive a flu shot each year, those who vaccinate their pets against rabies, the restaurants and other facilities we inspect, and those who request marriage and birth

certificates, just to name a few." "Our goal", he adds, "is to ensure that the Commission is best meeting the needs of the communities it serves. The only way to assess that is to ask service recipients directly." He notes that public health agencies across the state and country have been undertaking similar processes. The Commission began the effort in November, by surveying individuals who received flu vaccines or whose pets were vaccinated against rabies. Participants were asked to evaluate the clinics for efficiency, convenience of location and schedule, and the quality of staff interaction. It will further roll out the process in January, by distributing customer satisfaction surveys to facilities that are inspected by the Commission, as well as to individuals who visit the Registrar's Office seeking birth, death or marriage certificates. The Commission plans to have all surveys available for on-line completion by the spring, at www.middlebrookhealth.org. Currently, the agency's only on-line feedback request is for its cable program, *Public Health Matters*, which airs on local cable stations throughout Somerset and Middlesex counties. The Commission will routinely review all surveys, and where needed, adjust processes and systems that are identified as not best meeting the needs of the public. The health department will use this data to develop service standards that will be applied to all aspects of its operations. If you want more information or would like to give us some feedback we are anxious to hear from you. Please contact us at 732-356-8090 or mbrhc@middlebrookhealth.org.

Carbon Monoxide Warning From Health Commission and NJ Poison Information and Education System

Carbon Monoxide Poisoning Kills

With the colder weather comes the concern for Carbon monoxide (CO) poisoning. This season, the New Jersey Poison Information and Education System (NJPIES) has already received over 30 calls for assistance in managing patients who were exposed to CO.

Extreme caution is urged when using sources of carbon monoxide such as unvented kerosene and gas space heaters, gas water heaters, wood stoves, leaking and gas stoves. Other common sources are blocked chimneys which are supposed to vent furnaces and fireplaces, and automobile exhaust from attached or unvented garages when automobiles are being warmed up.

Since Carbon monoxide is an odorless and colorless gas that can deprive the body of oxygen, NJPIES encourages everyone to install carbon monoxide detectors in his or her home. Exposure can produce headaches, sleepiness, fatigue, confusion and irritability at low levels. At higher levels, it can result in nausea, vomiting, irregular heartbeat, impaired vision and coordination, and death.

Life-Saving Tips

- Open flues when fireplaces are in use
- Chimneys should be inspected and cleaned annually
- **DO NOT** idle the car inside the garage
- Use the correct fuel in kerosene heaters

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- **NEVER** use charcoal indoors or in areas with inadequate ventilation
- Have a trained professional inspect, clean and tune-up central heating system like the furnace every year.
- Gas appliances must have adequate ventilation so that carbon monoxide will not accumulate
- Have operational carbon monoxide detectors in your home especially near sleeping areas

Remember, Help Is Just A Phone Call Away!

If you suspect Carbon monoxide poisoning, call the Poison Help Hotline (1-800-222-1222) to speak with a poison information specialist for immediate treatment advice as well as for prevention information. Even after a serious poisoning, symptoms may not appear until many hours later. **DO NOT** wait until symptoms appear. We are available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Services are free.

Rescue Squad News

Year in Review - 2008

At the close of 2008, the Middlesex Boro Rescue Squad roster consisted of 48 volunteer members. Our members range in age from 16 to 70+ years. We added new members to our squad during 2008. Welcome and thank you to all our new volunteer members.

The squad responded to over 950 calls for help throughout 2008. All of our members gave a total of over 3,500 hours of volunteer time and drove our equipment in excess of 11,000 miles to answer those calls for help.

The squad's executive officers for 2009 are Frank Oliver, President; Tracey Coble, Vice-president; Steve Kolis, Corresponding Secretary and Jim Doherty, Treasurer. Rich Sturtevent, Captain; Greg Flipski, Assistant Captain; Rich Newton, 1st Lieutenant; John Hine, 2nd Lieutenant; Chris Bron, Sergeant and Phil Lore, Corporeal.

2008 Fund Drive

The Middlesex Boro Rescue Squad would like to take this opportunity to thank all the residents and businesses in town that have responded to the Squad's annual Fund Drive.

The Squad is an independent non-profit corporation. We own and operate all of our ambulances, rescue vehicles and building. We raise all of our operating funds through the generosity of the people who live and/or work in our community. It is because of the bigheartedness of the people of Middlesex that your Squad is able to purchase a new 2008 ambulance.

If you have not yet mailed in your donation, it is not too late. You may mail your donation to P.O. Box 487 Middlesex, NJ 08846. Thank you again for donating to our annual Fund Drive.

Did You Know?

Each year over a million people in the U.S. have a heart attack. About half of them die. Many people have permanent heart damage or die because they don't get help immediately. When bystanders provide CPR and attach an automatic external defibrillator (AED) and the device delivered a shock, survival rates increase 36%.

The Middlesex Boro Rescue Squad is now offering CPR, use of an AED, first aid and first responder training to the general public. For a modest fee you can learn these life saving skills. Training classes are at the squad building. The instructors are all volunteer members of our squad.

Listed below are upcoming CPR programs. Learn CPR and save a life.

Monday, March 2 and Tuesday, March 3

Other programs are available. Call 732-356-7400 extension 412 or email MBRStraining@yahoo.com for more information.

Atlantic City Bus Trips

Thank you to all our 2008 bus trip supporters. We appreciate your on-going support of these important fund raising events. Here are the 2009 dates:

Sunday, March 8, 2009

Sunday, May 17, 2009

Sunday, September 6, 2009

Sunday, November 8, 2009

Buses leave the rescue squad building on Mountain Avenue and Legion Place at 11AM. Please call Frank Oliver at 908-392-5785 to book your seats or for additional information.

Contacting Us

If you have any questions pertaining to our Squad, please call the Squad's President, Mr. Frank Oliver at 908-392-5785 or our Publicity Chairperson, Jim Doherty, at 732-356-9458. We welcome feedback from all newsletter readers. Feel free to contact us by dropping a note to P.O. Box 487 Middlesex NJ 08846 or calling our voice-mail at 732-356-7400 ext. 375.

Middlesex Community School WINTER SESSION 2009
300 Kennedy Drive, Middlesex, NJ 08846 Phone 732-317-6000 x 20206

Classes are held at Middlesex High School, 300 Kennedy Drive, Middlesex, NJ. unless otherwise indicated. Please call (732) 317-6000 x20206 or visit the Board of Ed website at www.middlesex.k12.nj.us (click on "Community School") to download forms to register for all courses and Workshops. Check our website for new courses and TRIPS! New courses are forming all the time.

Community School Excursion: WEST SIDE STORY at the Palace Theater in NYC
"...one of the most heart-breaking, relevant and innovative musical masterpieces of our time."

Date: Sunday, April 26, 2009 Boarding: 10:45AM sharp at Middlesex High School

Depart from the parking lot in back of school by Gymnasium Return: 7:00 PM

Cost: \$140.00 per person (includes luxury coach and Front Mezzanine seat)

The revival of *WEST SIDE STORY*— directed by its librettist, current Gypsy Tony® nominee Arthur Laurents will feature Jerome Robbins' original choreography, re-created by Joey McKneely (Tony® nominee for *The Life* and *Smokey Joe's Café*) and will contain both English and Spanish. Patrick Vaccariello will be the production's musical director, as this legendary musical returns to Broadway. A list of reasonably priced local restaurants will be provided for dining before the show. We expect a sellout, so please act quickly to reserve your tickets!! Please call 732-317-6000 x20206 for reservations/information.

Weight Watchers® Leader - Sandy Puca

February 5 – April 30 (12 Thursday sessions) 3:30 PM-4:30 PM

Fee: \$156.00 Middlesex High School Library

Free informational session Thursday, January 29th at 3:30PM in MHS Library

If you've resolved to get in shape by improving your diet regimen after the New Year, but haven't found the right plan, perhaps joining the Weight Watchers At Work Program will make it easy for you to keep that resolution. Weight Watchers' new *TurnAround™* plan is the most versatile to date. Not only will you be able to reach your weight loss goal with a safe, time-honored program, but you'll also be able to attend meetings in a supportive, convenient setting. Come join us and be swimsuit shopping by Spring!

Beginner to Intermediate Yoga Instructor – Chitra Pillai

March 4- April 29 (8 Wed. sessions) 7:30PM – 8:30PM

Registration Fee: \$60.00 MHS Library

Learn slow and controlled movements to lengthen and strengthen muscles, making your back stronger and more flexible. Anti-aging - de-stressing - building core body strength. Recommended for relaxation and stress reduction. Just the remedy to de-stress and stay in shape after the holidays! **Bring your own sticky mat.**

Spring Floral Workshop with Designers, Heather Boehme and Erika Patterson, America's Florist

Wednesday, March 25, 2009 6:30PM – 9:30PM

Fee: \$10.00 registration fee required America's Florist, Union Ave., Bound Brook NJ

A \$25.00 materials fee payable to the instructor will be collected on the night of the class.

Looking to liven up your home for the Spring holidays? Set the scene for your family event with your own artistic floral creation. When serving as a holiday display, this distinctive floral piece is sure to be the center of attention. Floral Designer Heather Boehme of *America's Florist* will teach you the basic techniques of crafting a stylish arrangement. The course will be given on site at *America's Florist*.

Thursday Evening Women's Eclectic Exercise (T.E.W.E.E.) Instructor- Jackie Salisbury

6:30 PM –7:30 PM (8 Thursday sessions) March 5- April 30 and May 7- June 11

Fee: \$60.00 per session Middlesex High School Library

Added an inch or two, an extra pound or three after the holidays? Warm up to gentle music doing easy stretches; work on toning thighs and butts and also on tightening the tummy. To a quicker rhythm, firm up arms and neck. Continue to enjoy a short aerobic segment for the heart performed to a somewhat "heartier" beat. Finally, cool down with soothing meditation to relaxing music. To paraphrase a poet, "Exercise along with me, the best is yet to be!" **Bring an exercise mat and dress in loose, comfortable clothing. Exercise options are given for all ability levels.**

Cooking Smart With Instructor, Sharon Austin

Wednesday, March 11, 2009 6:30-8:30PM

Registration Fee: \$20.00 Middlesex High School Home Ec. Room #305

Free up your time and make your food budget s-t-r-e-t-c-h! Discover how easy it is to prepare foods that taste delicious and are good for you, as we focus on the basic techniques of healthy, economical cooking. This class will provide you with fast, easy, healthful menus for seasonal after-work cooking so you don't have to resort to the drive-through, whether you prepare meals for yourself or a family in this hands-on class. Students will sample items they prepare. Take-home resources and recipes will be provided.

Tour of Italy- Authentic Italian Cuisine

With Chefs Michael and Dominic Discenza from *Sapore Ravioli and Cheese, Inc.*

Dates TBD (3 Friday sessions) 6:00PM – 8:00PM

Please consult Board of Ed website for dates of these classes

Registration Fee: \$15.00 per class MHS Home Ec. Room #305

An \$8.00 materials fee payable to the instructor will be collected on the night of the class

Those who have sampled Italian specialties at *Sapore* can attest to their acclaim. Students will learn basic kitchen skills as Michael demonstrates how to assemble a scrumptious meal with international flair that is sure to get raves from your family! Recipes will be provided, and students will be able to dialogue with the Chef as they prepare and sample each evening's creation. Attend one or all classes.

Toddler to Teen Classes

KID COR Gymnastics (Toddler and pre-school) With Instructor, Cheryl Nogan, LLC

February 10-April 7 (8 Tuesday classes) April 21 – June 9

Tuesdays 5:00PM -5:30PM Middlesex High School Cafeteria

Fee: \$10.00 registration fee required per session \$50.00 payable to Instructor on first day of class

KID COR Gymnastics (Ages 6-8 years) With Instructor, Cheryl Nogan, LLC

February 10-April 7 April 21 – June 9 (8 Tuesday classes)

Tuesdays 5:30PM - 6:00PM Middlesex High School Cafeteria

Fee: \$10.00 registration fee required per session \$60.00 payable to Instructor on first day of class

The KID COR gymnastic program is based on the fundamentals of gymnastics with an emphasis on yoga as well as Pilates. Children will do stretches and warm ups on their individual yoga mats (provided by the instructor), and will be taught the principles of rhythmic and other forms of gymnastics. Children are broken up into small age-appropriate groups. Classes are taught by certified instructors, and equipment is sanitized daily. Please register early- classes fill fast!

NEW!

Mother-Daughter Cupcake Workshop with Instructor Barbara Ferris

Saturday, May 9, 2009 12:30PM-2:30PM

Fee: \$25.00 per pair registration fee required Middlesex High School Home Ec. Room #305

Cupcakes are special and so are mothers! Celebrate Mother's Day a day ahead in this creative and trendy workshop. Mothers and daughters will have the opportunity to bake and decorate delicious cupcakes. Lady Bug Cupcakes and Butterfly Cupcakes are just two examples of the whimsical confections we will create. Prizes awarded for the most original; best decorated cupcakes, and more! Space limited to first 10 mother/daughter pairs.

Necklace and Earring Workshop with Christine Perrin Munoz/*Pepa's Custom Beadwork*

Saturday, March 28, 2009 11:00 AM- Noon

Registration fee: \$15.00 Middlesex High School Home Ec. Room #305

A \$25.00 materials fee payable to the instructor will be collected on day of the class

Having trouble trying to accessorize a favorite outfit? Let Christine show you how to create stunning beaded jewelry in this hands-on class that rivals the department stores and boutiques. Learn the basic skills and techniques for making a necklace and earring set that has a professional finished look. A variety of colors and accent beads will be available for your selection.

Educational Services Center SAT Prep Program

February 24 – April 29, 2008 (8 Sessions)

Wednesdays 6:30PM-9:30PM Middlesex High School – Rooms 209 and 211

According to a recent study by the College Board, standardized test scores can be improved by preparing for the exam. The College Board study maintains that while many different preparation methods will improve a student's score, a commercial test preparation program works best. In light of changes to the new SAT, it is more important than ever to comprehensively prepare for the test's new components- a written essay and third-year math. Educational Services Center's services provide a proven, effective vehicle to assist your student in achieving his/her potential for a higher score. For the convenience of students who wish to take a commercial test preparation course, Middlesex High School has allowed Educational Services Center to offer their SAT preparation program at a significant savings. Tuition includes all practice tests, course material and texts needed during the course. ECS will provide two instructors for both the Math and Verbal sections. They will also provide written notice to parents of missed classes or assignments. **Ensure that your child is well prepared for the SAT given in North Plainfield on May 2 and at Middlesex High School on June 6! Please register early.**

MIDDLESEX COMMUNITY SCHOOL SUMMER CAMP

(You may also call the Community School or check the Board of Ed website for updates)

Parents: The Community School will again be offering an affordable all day summer program (7:00AM - 6:00PM) for your children from June 22, 2009 through August 28, 2009. INFORMATION WILL BE RELEASED SHORTLY!



GIRL SCOUTING IN MIDDLESEX BORO



Do you have a daughter in Kindergarten through Grade 12 who would like to join us in our exploration of Girl Scouting? If she is interested in becoming a Girl Scout, please contact Robin Marciniak, Service Unit 9 Recruitment, at (732) 469-3365 or by e-mail at yogaeazjl@aol.com. In addition, flyers will be available at Kindergarten registration and be sent home in April. These can be returned directly to the Troop Organizer listed.

Middlesex Borough Girl Scouts are active in the community, participating in community events and providing service to many local organizations.

- They host the Lincoln Day Pilgrimage and plant flowers throughout the Municipal complex in time for the Memorial Day Parade.
- Food is collected and new baby bundles are assembled for the FISH organization.
- In December a toy drive is run for the benefit of children in need.
- Tray favors and cards of encouragement are made and delivered on a regular schedule to area nursing homes.
- Personal care and stationery bags are delivered yearly in February to the Veterans Hospital in Lyons.

- Daisy Park on Voorhees Avenue receives a spring and fall cleanup within the guidelines of the Clean Community Grant.

In addition, Girl Scouts participate in a wide variety of activities based on individual troops' interests, ranging from camping to sports to arts and crafts to science and beyond.

Coming up look for:

- The Lincoln Day Pilgrimage in February from the Town Hall to the Lincoln Statue where "President Lincoln" delivers the Gettysburg Address.
- A Girl Scout display at the library in March for Girl Scout week.

We'd love to have your daughter join us in Girl Scouting at any level. It is never too late to become a member of a troop.

Of course, we always welcome and need adult participation, too. It's a great way to spend valuable time with your daughter, sharing your knowledge and learning new skills.

Conversational Spanish Class

Conversation Spanish classes will be held on Wednesdays at 10:30 in the library beginning February 11. The session runs for 8 weeks and is \$45. If there is enough interest we will also offer an evening class on Tuesdays. Time to be determined. Please call 732-356-0414 to register. Open to all.

Visit www.middlesexboro-nj.gov
for up to date information

ANNUAL DOG/CAT LICENSE APPLICATION – NEW OR RENEWAL
(NOTE INCREASED FEES)

DOG AND CAT LICENSES MUST BE RENEWED DURING THE MONTH OF JANUARY AS REQUIRED BY THE STATE OF NEW JERSEY AND CHAPTER 129 OF THE CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF MIDDLESEX. **A DELINQUENT FEE OF \$10.00 WILL BE CHARGED FOR RENEWALS ISSUED ON OR AFTER MARCH 1ST.**

FEE

Spayed/Neutered Dogs/Cats	\$ 8.00
Unaltered Dogs/Cats	\$10.00

A person showing proof of being a senior citizen (age 62 or over) may secure a license for a spayed/neutered cat at \$3.00.

If dog or cat has been altered, proof must be furnished by a certificate from a veterinarian. Applications for renewals of previously-licensed altered dogs do not require veterinarians' certificates as this information is already on record. Please indicate below if you no longer own the dog/cat.

UPDATED RABIES VACCINATION IS ONLY NEEDED IF THE RABIES VACCINATION EXPIRES PRIOR TO NOVEMBER 1, 2009 OR IF THIS IS A NEW REGISTRATION. IT WILL BE RETURNED TO YOU WITH YOUR NEW LICENSE AND TAG.

PLEASE RENEW BY MAIL AND MAKE CHECK PAYABLE TO THE BOROUGH OF MIDDLESEX AND MAILED TO THE ADDRESS BELOW:

Kathleen Anello, Borough Clerk
1200 Mountain Avenue
Middlesex, New Jersey 08846

Dog and Cat licensing for **NEW ANIMALS** is available at the Office of the Borough Clerk in the Municipal Building. No licenses will be issued before Jan. 1, 2009.



PLEASE
INDICATE
DOG OR CAT _____

OWNER'S NAME _____

ADDRESS _____ TELEPHONE NO. _____

SEX OF DOG/CAT _____ HAIR (long or short) _____ BREED _____

COLOR _____ AGE _____ NAME OF DOG/CAT _____

SPAYED/NEUTERED YES ___ NO ___ RABIES VACCINATION EXPIRES _____

DECEASED/NO LONGER OWN ANIMAL _____

Recreation Department

The Middlesex Recreation Department is proud to announce the following activities. For more information on these programs or if you have any questions please contact us by phone (732) 356-7966 or email: recreation@middlesexboro-nj.gov.

Toddler Playgroup/Pre-K Art

The registration for the Spring session will begin the week of February 9th. Crafts Winter session began the week of The classes may still have room. Toddler Playgroup classes are offered on a Monday or Tuesday. Each class in one hour long the session lasts for 10 weeks. Playgroup is open to children ages 1 – 4. An adult is required to attend the class with the child. Pre-K Arts & Crafts is for 4 and 5 year olds who are not attending Kindergarten. The drop-off classes are held for one and a half hours on a Thursday morning. Registration forms are available in the office or can be downloaded from the Borough website.

Pee-Wee Tennis

Pee Wee Tennis is a comprehensive program designed to introduce children to the game of tennis in a fun and rewarding way. Children will have fun learning beginning tennis skills, eye/hand coordination, listening skills, and how to have fun and enjoy tennis. Three sessions will be offered. Sessions are six weeks long and are offered to children in grades 1 - 8. Classes will be held on Monday evenings in the Mauger School. The dates of the sessions are listed on the registration form. The cost of each session is \$130.00. Forms are available in the office or online.

Youth Baseball/Softball

Registration forms will be available in late January for this very popular program. Forms will be distributed in the public schools and OLMV. Forms will also be available on the website and at the office. Children must currently be attending Kindergarten through age 15. We need volunteer coaches! We would like to have at least two if not three adults per team. If you are interested please call or email the office for information on what all volunteers are required to do. Your help is greatly appreciated and will most certainly change a child's life!

Baseball/Softball Photo Day

Photo day is scheduled for Saturday, April 25th in the Mauger School Old Gym. Please use the entrance on the side in the school nearest Dunkin Donuts. Your coach will let you know the time of your team's photo.

Adult Zumba Class

Get ready to Zumba! Our classes have grown so come and join the exercise craze! Latin and international dance moves combined with exercise. Be true to your new year's resolution and dance your way to fitness. Class given by Zumba certified instructor and Middlesex resident, Beverly Yoson. The program runs Tuesday nights in the Recreation Center and Thursday nights in Mauger School. You can register for one or both. This program has a rolling registration so come and see what it is all about. Because of its popularity this program is now offered year round!

Adult Yoga

The next session of adult yoga will begin mid to late February. The class promotes fitness, flexibility and relaxation. Beginners are welcome. Classes are held on a Monday evening at the Beechwood Firehouse from 7:45-9:00PM. Borough residents over 18 years old and post high school are welcome to register. The fee is \$60 for the eight week session. You must pre-register at the Recreation Department before attending class. Forms will be available in the office as well as the Borough website. Class size is limited so please register early.

Adult Basketball

It's not too late to sign up for open gym. Open gym is held on Wednesday nights from 7:30-9:30PM in Middlesex High School through March 2008. Borough residents over 18 years old and post high school are welcome to register. You must pre-register at the Recreation Department before attending. Forms are available in the office as well as the Borough website.

Summer Playground Staff Applications

Applications will be accepted for summer staff from April 1st through April 30th. Even if you were employed last summer you must re-apply for the position. All applicants will be notified the week of May 11th. For more information on the job positions please email or call us.

Discount Ski Lift Tickets

The Recreation Department offers discount ski lift tickets to the following resorts: Camelback, Shawnee Mountain, Jack Frost/Big Boulder and Mountain Creek. Prices vary for weekday and weekends. Please stop in or call the office for more information. Tickets cannot be returned. We can accept cash (exact change), personal checks or money orders. We also discount tickets to the Adventure Aquarium in Camden, NJ.

Discount Movie Tickets

The Recreation Department offers discount movie tickets to AMC/Lowe's Theatres and Reading Cinema in Manville, NJ. AMC/Lowe's offers two tickets. A Gold ticket is \$7.50 and has no restriction. A Silver ticket is \$6 with a two week restriction. This means you cannot use the silver ticket during the first two weeks the theater runs the movie. Reading Cinema offers one ticket for \$6. This ticket has the same two week restriction mentioned above. We can accept cash (exact change), personal check or money order for these tickets. NEW for the holidays – we have \$10 gift cards for AMC/Lowe's. These gift cards can be used to pay for movie tickets or refreshments inside the theater. Tickets and gift cards cannot be returned.

Easter Egg Hunt

The annual Easter Egg Hunt will be held on Saturday, March 28th at 3PM SHARP! Children ages 1-9 are eligible to participate. No bags or baskets are allowed. The Bunny will be there to pose with all the kids so please bring your own camera. The rain/snow date for this event will be Sunday, March 29th at 3PM with a secondary rain/snow date of Saturday, April 4th at 3PM. If you have any questions please contact the Recreation Dept. at (732) 356-7966 or recreation@middlesexboro-nj.gov.

Office on Aging

Home Energy Assistance Programs

New Jersey has a number of programs to assist residents with their energy costs regardless of the type of fuel used. All have an income ceiling that varies from program to program. The limits range from \$18,204 to \$24,293 a year for a single person, higher for couples. You may receive assistance from more than one program. We have applications in the office and can help you through the process. Please call for more info or an appointment. The deadline for applying is March 1st. However, funds are limited and the sooner you apply the better. The assistance is available for renters as well as homeowners.

Homeowners may also be eligible for weatherization services. This would enable the consumer to upgrade insulation, weather stripping or other means of lowering fuel bills.

Tax Preparation Assistance

Assistance with all income tax and property tax abatement forms will be available after February 1st. You must make an appointment to have your taxes done through our office. A representative from the AARP/NJ State VISA program will be available from February 2nd through April 15. You must have an appointment. Call 732-356-0414.

Tax Reimbursement Program (PTR)

There have been changes in the amount of gross income requirement for eligibility in the reimbursement program (PTR). At the time this item is being written, the exact amounts are not known but we do know they are being increased. The state is sending letters and/or applications to residents they believe may be eligible based on income tax records. We will have forms and the eligibility requirements at our office after February 1st.

Yoga: Get Fit Where You Sit

We are starting a Yoga class this winter. It is a gentle introduction to traditional yoga. It DOES NOT require participants to use a yoga mat. It is all done in a sitting position. Class will be on Wednesdays at 9:30 at the Rec Center.

Part Time Work Available

The Census Bureau is looking for part time help. Set your own hours. The pay ranges from \$13 to \$20 per hour. Work in your own area. Office and field work. Call 646-233-2402 to schedule a test.

55 Alive Driving Class

We will hold a 55 Alive defensive driving course on Monday and Tuesday, April 13 and 14 from 9:00 to 1:00. AARP members \$12.00; all others \$14.00. After completion of the course you may be entitled to a reduction in your auto insurance and can have 2 points removed from your license. Class is limited and you must pre-register. The class is open to all licensed drivers. Call 732-356-0414.

Computer and Internet Literacy Class

These classes are held on Monday and Tuesday mornings at 9:00 in the library and each session runs for three weeks. You must register. NO FEE.

Friends of the Middlesex Library

Making Your Home More Secure

Tuesday. February 24. at 7:30 p.m. Sgt. Frank DeNick of the Middlesex Police Department, will speak on Home Safety. Learn from the experts what you can do to increase your peace of mind.

Spring Concert

Sunday. March 8. at 3:00 p.m. Carol Buttke, soprano, will entertain us. Other artists will be announced later.
Refreshments

The Quilt

Sunday March 15. at 3:00 p.m. Remember the Middlesex Heritage Quilters - the ones who made that gorgeous quilt that was raffled off last spring? The Quilters are presenting an exhibition of their quilting skills on March 15. Featured on the program will be actress Michele LaRue in her presentation of Dorothy Canfield Fisher's story *The Quilt*. *Refreshments*

DEMONSTRATION LUNCH

Monday. March 23, at noon. Try out some Easter recipes with us - cheesecake included: of course. Registration is required: 732-356-6602.

AN ADULT BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP MEETS AT THE LIBRARY THE SECOND TUESDAY OF EACH MONTH AT 7:00 P.M FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CALL BEVERLY WEBER AT 732-356-3536

The Friends of the Middlesex Library are extremely grateful to the following benefactors who have given generously to the Friends during the past year: Mr. and Mrs. David Oliver, Ms. Betty Sperr, Ms. Rose Munroe, Woman's Literary Club of Bound Brook, Mr. and Mrs. Ronald Dobies, Ms. Jean Markley, Ms. Dawn Dukinas, Ms. Carnie Sacco.

LOOKING AHEAD: MARK YOUR CALENDAR FOR SUNDAY, APRIL 19, AT 3:00 P.M. PRESIDENTS AND THEIR FIRST LADIES WILL RETURN WITH ANOTHER WONDERFUL PROGRAM.

Middlesex Police Department News

Snow Removal Laws

Important - Residents and business owners are reminded of the following local ordinances that apply to snow removal. Please take some time to prepare before snow arrives and avoid an unnecessary summons.

Ordinance #1311-94 prohibits parking vehicles on any borough street that is snow covered until *after* the snow has stopped falling *and* the streets have been thoroughly plowed so that parking will not interfere with the normal flow of traffic. This ordinance also prohibits placing (i.e. shoveling or blowing) snow or ice onto or upon any street or sidewalk in the borough.

Ordinance #360 requires the removal of snow from sidewalks within 12 hours of daylight after the snow has stopped falling. **The ordinance requires that the entire surface of the sidewalk be cleared**, not just a narrow path for walking.

State law requires that snow and ice be removed from handicapped parking spaces within 48 hours of the snowfall. The law also requires that curb cuts for handicapped access be cleared within 48 hours. **Businesses and residents with corner properties please take special note.**

Before driving your vehicle on the roadway, all windows, lights and license plates must be cleared of any ice, snow or any other obstruction. If not cleared, you can be issued a traffic summons AND held civilly liable for any injury or damage caused by debris that comes off your vehicle when driving.

Citizen Police Academy

Sign Up Now for our next Citizen Police Academy. Classes will begin on Wednesday, March 11, 2009 and will be held each Wednesday night for approximately 8 weeks, depending on curriculum and class size. Classes include detailed information on topics such as uniformed patrol, special operations, criminal investigations, youth/criminal law, use of force, vehicle pursuits and many other interesting subjects. Also included are elective field trips to facilities such as the Middlesex County Corrections Facility and/or the Middlesex County Prosecutor's Training Center where attendees can use the firearms training simulator for "live action" training. To register, or for more information, contact Capt. Kevin Reilly at (732) 356-1900 ext. 229.

Report Suspicious Activity

We urge you to report any suspicious activity to the police immediately. Trust your instincts. If something doesn't seem right to you, call us and we will check it out. Over the past few months we have had two incidents where thieves were apprehended by police just minutes after they broke into homes because alert neighbors called and reported suspicious activity. Help protect yourselves and those around you by being vigilant and by calling the police whenever something doesn't seem right.

Crime Statistics Released

The New Jersey State Police have released the 2007 Uniform Crime Report (UCR) and once again Middlesex Borough was reported as one of the safest communities in

the state. The overall crime rate (number of crimes per 1,000 residents) for Middlesex was 10.5, the violent crime rate was 0.7 and the non-violent crime rate was 9.7. These crime rates were among the lowest in the state for communities of all sizes. For a further breakdown of the crime statistics see the information provided on our web page at www.middlesexpd.com or review the entire UCR Report at www.njsp.org/info/ucr2007.

Division of Youth and Family Services (DYFS)

The Division of Youth and Family Services (DYFS) is New Jersey's child protection and child welfare agency. Its mission is to ensure the safety, permanency and well-being of children and to support families. DYFS is responsible for investigating allegations of child abuse and neglect and, if necessary, arranging for the child's protection and the family's treatment. The Child Abuse Hotline receives all reports of child abuse and neglect 24-hours a day, 7-days a week. (1-877-NJ-ABUSE [877-652-2873]). DYFS contracts with many community-based agencies throughout the state to provide services to children and families. Such services include counseling, parenting skills classes, substance abuse treatment, in-home services, foster care and residential placement. DYFS also operates three Residential Treatment Centers for youth with intensive behavioral health needs. For additional information, please visit the DYFS website at www.state.nj.us/dcf/division/dyfs.

Traffic Safety

The NJ Department of Highway Traffic Safety (NJDHTS) reports their preliminary data indicates there were 597 traffic related fatalities during 2008, a decrease of 17.8% from the year before and the lowest number of fatalities since 1947. This is great news, but more needs to be done. Sadly, in the first 15 days of 2009 there have been 15 traffic related deaths, with 12 of those being pedestrians. Residents are reminded that when driving, be careful and courteous with pedestrians, and when walking, be alert for vehicles and do not assume the driver sees you.

March 1, 2009, will mark the 1st anniversary of the new cell phone law. Overall, it appears that cell phone use is down, but there are still too many violations taking place. The NJDHTS will be starting a new driver awareness campaign called "Hang Up! Just Drive." Enforcement has increased dramatically throughout the State and here, in Middlesex, we will continue with special patrols to address this problem.

Press Releases

Occasionally, we are asked why certain crimes or significant events that happen in Middlesex do not appear in the newspaper. The police department sends a weekly press release to the news media every week. In addition, we send "special press releases" whenever there is a significant event or important announcement. The media decides what is "newsworthy" and what to publish based on a number of factors. If you are interested in seeing our entire press releases, you will find them posted on our police department website at www.middlesexpd.com.

Emergency Special Needs Registry

The Offices of Emergency Management and the Mayor of Middlesex Borough are compiling a registry of individuals in the Borough who may require assistance or an evacuation of their home or business during an emergency such as flooding, gas leaks etc. Residents due to physical or other limitations or lack of transportation are encouraged and requested to complete the attached form and return it to **Office of Emergency Management, 1200 Mountain Ave, Middlesex, NJ. 08846**. These forms will be used to compile a “**special needs**” registry so that we will know who will need special help in advance of an emergency situation when time is of the essence.

Residents who are ambulatory or wheelchair bound, bedridden or critically ill, suffering from Alzheimer’s or a similar condition, diagnosed with impaired eyesight or loss of hearing or have limited mobility have a special need and should register with the Middlesex Office of Emergency Management. All information will remain confidential and will be used only in time of emergency evacuations. Establishing a “**special needs**” registry in advance will enable first responders to prepare and allow them to make the best use of limited time and resources to provide help to those with limited options for evacuation during an emergency.

If you or a member of your household have “**special needs**” that makes it difficult for you to successfully complete an evacuation of your home or place of business within the Borough of Middlesex during an emergency, please complete the “**special needs**” form and return it to us. With the right preparation today an emergency doesn’t have to be a disaster.

Please take a few minutes and return this form today. It could save your life or that of a loved one

Emergency Special Needs Registry Form **With the right preparation, an emergency doesn’t have to be a disaster.**

The Middlesex Borough Office of Emergency Management wants to know if you need help in the event of an emergency. If you or members of your household have a ‘**special need**’ that would make it difficult for you to successfully evacuate your home or business during an emergency, please let us know who you are so we can help you. Please fill out the following form and return it to:

Office of Emergency Management
1200 Mountain Avenue
Middlesex, NJ 08846

Name of Special Need Person _____

Address _____

Phone Number (s) _____

Your Special Need(s) _____

Emergency Contact Person _____

Contact Person Phone _____

We are not waiting until disaster strikes, neither should you. Send your form in today.

.....Continued From the desk of Mayor John Fuhrmann

There are all manner of vehicles parked on our streets and on our properties, boats, trailers, oversized trucks etc. The streets of Middlesex Borough were not designed to become marinas and trailer parks. As property values dwindle extra ordinary vehicle parking makes the problem worse. We must tighten up that situation as well.

I want to see an invigorated Environmental Commission. With the environment being a front burner issue I think it is vital to have our commission in good operating order. Because as Kermit has reminded us so often over the years, "It's not easy being green."

I would like to see a special area designated for skate boards and line skaters. The tennis surfaces at Mountain View Park were expensive to install and the wear and tear from the skates for which the surface was not designed is increasing. Maybe we can find some money in an existing ordinances for a handball court.

These are small matters to be sure, but they do affect our every day borough quality of life and have an effect on us and how we view our community.

I wish I had a grand scheme to lighten the increasing economic burden the country, state, county and municipal governments are experiencing. To say nothing of our households. But I don't have one. What I

do have is a guarded sense of optimism that at some point everything will come together and we, governments at all levels, will work our way out of the current situation.

That said, it is imperative that we here on Main Street work in concert to insure that Middlesex Borough will have done its part to make that New Day come sooner than later.

So now it's time to go to work, but just before we do I want to thank those members of my family who were able to be here this evening. Thanks to Mackenzie, Katelyn and Haiden for holding the bible. A special thanks to Sheila for her encouragement as we embark on this unanticipated phase of our life together.

To Mr. & Mrs. Middlesex I want to say thank you for the warm reception you have given my nomination. I will do my best, working with the council not to let you down.

Thank you all very much.

John Fuhrmann



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