



# TOWN HALL NEWSLETTER

## Middlefield and Rockfall

Volume 1, Number 2

Quarter 2 - 2024

## First Selectman's Message

By Bob Yamartino

Welcome to the second newsletter from the Town Hall. We received significant, positive feedback for our inaugural issue, and we hope to continue publishing on a quarterly basis. May started with our annual town meeting. The fiscal year 2024-2025 budget was unanimously approved with a minimal decrease in taxes. The average home owner will see a \$50 savings in their taxes. This was quite an accomplishment given the recent high inflation rate. Favorable investment management of town funds and enrollment changes that held RSD13 assessment flat helped to hold the line on taxes, but decisions and hours of dedicated work by our elected Board of Finance and Finance Director assured success.

In many CT towns and cities, budgets are determined by a city council and then voted by referendum (votes are yes or no). When attending a town meeting, you are not just a citizen or a voter, you become a legislator. You can help shape our ordinances or change specific budget line items. This distinction became apparent when Carrie Anderson gained support to increase funding for the Old Homes Day celebration. Reach out to Carrie if you would like to help with this town celebration. This year's budget includes \$25k in new funding for reclamation of the Coe Hill town owned conversation land. Brush and thicket have taken over the once productive orchard and hay field. The conservation commission is working to bring the area back to where folks can enjoy the natural setting while improving the biodiversity of this valuable town resource.

Speaking of Conservation Commission, Robin Heath has stepped down from the commission after many years serving the commission as chairman. In addition to his volunteer work with the commission, Robin also has spent many years shaping the life and character of our town's youth through his work with the scouts. Brian Dumas has stepped up to lead the conservation commission going forward. Please thank



Robin and Brian for their service to our community when you see them.

Please join our Resident Troopers and me the evening of August 15, 2024, at 7 P.M. to meet the troopers and learn ways we can protect our town, families and property. There will be information about forming neighborhood watches, discuss your concerns with them and learn how to notify troopers when you are out of town so they can check on your property. With increasing occurrences of car thefts and porch package looting in our town, we hope to initiate more neighborhood watch groups (similar to the Beseck Lake Neighborhood Watch). Remember, suspicious or criminal activity should be immediately reported to 911. When you see it – call it in! (then you can post on social media).

May ended with Memorial Day – the start of summer. I hope you all took some time to remember and honor the memory of those who made the ultimate sacrifice on our behalf. I wish you a great summer. Enjoy the many outdoor activities our town offers; mountain biking, venues, multiple golf courses, our town beach, boating on Beseck Lake, playground at Peckham Park, Wadsworth Falls State Park, and the diverse activities at our orchards/farm stand stores and many restaurants.

Cheers, *Bob*

# Meet Our Recently Appointed Board Members

We are thrilled to welcome these latest members to boards and commissions. Each of them bring different skill sets and experience to aid in making contributions to our town. We thank them for volunteering to serve.

## Water Pollution Control Authority:



*Patricia Flynn:* Pat Flynn of Rockfall, is a long-time real estate agent and a former licensed appraiser. She is a board member of the Sylvan Ridge Condo Association. She joined the WPCA as a way to serve the town and her neighborhood community.

*Ken Hogan:* A lifelong resident of Middlefield, Ken is an avid outdoorsman and a skilled craftsman, considered by many a “Jack of all Trades”. He has always loved volunteering in his community. He is currently part of the Lion’s Club and a Ducks Unlimited member.

## Zoning Board of Appeals:



*Ken Twombly:* Ken is a lifelong resident of Middlefield. He is the President of the Cemetery Association and Past President and Curator of the Historical Society, and is also the chairman of the Charter Revision Committee.

*Gary Kowalewski:* Gary, a retired mechanical engineer, moved to Middlefield in 2019. He loves living in his newly built house on Beseck Lake and is stepping up to serve in the community.



## Firehouse Building Committee:

*Ross Burton:* Ross has lived in town for 32 years. He has been a construction manager for 40 years. He has substantial experience with both firehouse and emergency center build outs.

# Recent Appointed Positions

## New Zoning Enforcement Officer on Board

We are pleased to welcome Zoe Chatfield as the Zoning Enforcement Officer!

Zoe is a Connecticut native who stayed to work in her home state because she cares about making it an even better place to live. She has a Master’s in Community Development and Planning from Clark University and a Graduate Certificate in Geographic Information Systems from UConn. Zoe joined the Tyche team in September, and since then has done zoning enforcement in Deep River, Chester, and Woodstock, along with other project and municipal support work for Old Saybrook, Madison, Newington, New Haven, and Bloomfield. She's excited to get to know the town of Middlefield better.

She can be reached at 860-785-9350, or [zchatfield@middlefieldct.org](mailto:zchatfield@middlefieldct.org).

## Middlefield Facilities Manager

Rob Poturnicki has been hired to act as Facilities Manager for Middlefield. In this new role, he will oversee maintenance, repair and renovation of Town facilities, including Town Hall, the Community Center, the Town garage area, and structures at Peckham Park and Beseck Lake Town beach. In this part-time position, Rob will develop and define plans to systematically improve operations and facilities. He will also develop budget recommendations including capital improvements for our town facilities.

Mr. Poturnicki brings to this position over 25 years of experience as a facilities manager for KinderCare Education, having defined and overseen repair and renovation activities across 300 sites in 9 states. Rob also currently serves as Middlefield’s Emergency Management Director, and is a member of the Water Pollutions Control Agency (WPCA), the Inland Wetlands and Water Courses Agency, and the Charter Revision Commission.

Rob and his wife, Amy live on the west side of Beseck Lake. He can be reached at 860-349-7123, or [rpoturnicki@middlefieldct.org](mailto:rpoturnicki@middlefieldct.org)

# Middlefield Volunteer Opportunities Available

There are more opportunities to volunteer and make a difference in your town! Come join in the fun!

Currently, there are openings on the:

- Conservation Commission,
- Inland Wetlands Watercourses Agency
- Park and Recreation
- Water Pollution Control Authority (Rockfall sewer district resident).

Additionally, we are seeking a:

- Municipal Veteran’s Representative, who would be a liaison to the RiverCog Regional Veterans Committee.

(continued on page 3)



(from page 2)

- Regional Planning Agency Representative, who works with RiverCog's Regional Planning Agency/ Regional Plan of Conservation & Development.

Please reach out to the First Selectman's office for more information at 860-349-7114 x0.

## Public Meeting - Public Safety Facility Building

Members of the town wide Public Safety Facility Building Committee have continued working on design options and have expanded the use of the building to bring all of the town's public safety personnel under one roof, to include the Fire Department, Fire Marshal, State Troopers, and Emergency Management.

The Committee is continuing to explore funding opportunities and have applied for a multi-million dollar federal funding grant through our Senators. Award decisions are expected this summer and if awarded, would be in addition to the \$2.4M grant already awarded to the town from Congress in 2022.

In the meantime, [we invite you to a public meeting on Thursday, June 20, 2024 at 7:00 pm](#) at the firehouse, 406 Jackson Hill Road. The committee to bring the community up to date with their progress, next steps, and answer questions as well as seek input from our community. [The firehouse will be open for the public to tour starting at 6:00 pm.](#)



You can also visit the link below or scan the QR code for additional information, including a 3D tour of the current firehouse, photos and documents, ask questions, and find meeting information and minutes. We are looking forward to presenting to the community this month.

<https://middlefieldct.org/255/Firehouse-Building-Committee>



## Middlefield Volunteer Fire Co.

**New Engine 2!** Engine 2's replacement was delivered in May, built by local fire apparatus manufacturer, Gowans

Knight, located in Watertown, CT. Members are currently completing training on the new apparatus before it will be in service and responding. This apparatus was funded through our capital replacement program, which budgets smaller amounts of money every year to save for the full replacement cost.



The Fire Company utilized funds raised from the community to help outfit the apparatus with new and improved equipment and tools.

## Become a Middlefield Firefighter

Congratulations to our two newest members who were sworn in after completing their probationary period.

Firefighter Kyle Bubier and Fire Police Member Tim Morton have both been extremely active and have completed all of their certification and in house training.



As is tradition, their new helmets were issued to them and blessed. *Congratulations!*

Interested in learning out you can get involved? Scan the QR code, or visit [www.middlefieldfire.org](http://www.middlefieldfire.org), <https://sl8.link/OmhqQjVDRXmfOIY5-02Syw>



## High School Education

Congratulations to the students who participated in the "Introduction to Fire Service" course.

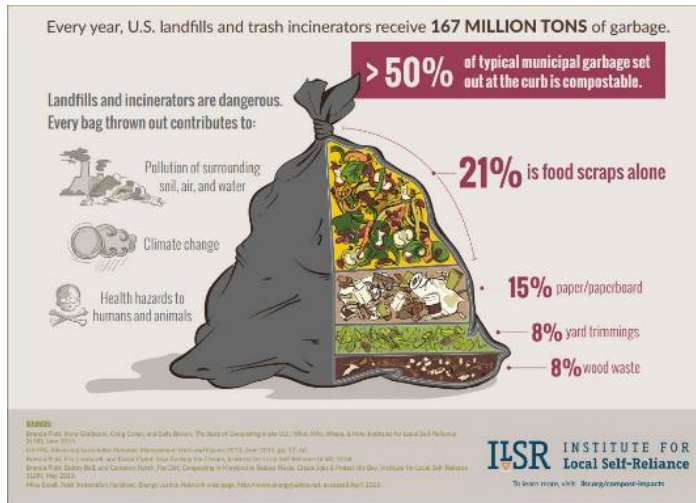
Last month, students in the class organized a mock car crash, reminding students of the consequences of impaired driving. While this has been done in the past, this year the students acted as the actual responders with firefighters assisting them. We're extremely proud of the student's dedication and commitment in making this inaugural class so successful.



## Service Calls - 138 Calls for 1/1– 5/31/24:

Service Calls – 11	Fires – 14
False Alarms – 5	Rescue & EMS – 90
Good Intent Calls – 5	
Hazardous Conditions (no fire) – 13	

## Compost Program - Reduces Costs and Global Warming



**Did you know?** 22% to 35% of food makes up the weight of our municipal waste (garbage).

Every ton of Middlefield and Durham's garbage costs \$131 beginning July 1st (tipping fee) to transport from our transfer station. It is shipped to an incinerator in Preston where the waste is turned into energy.

Removing food scraps from the waste stream is a viable solution to reducing weight and cost for our towns. More importantly, for every million metric tons of organic wastes that decompose, 469 metric tons of carbon dioxide equivalent greenhouse gases in the form of methane are released. Composting—the conversion of such waste into a useful soil reduces those emissions by more than 50 percent.

Solutions to eliminate food scraps at home include compost bins, dropping of scraps at the transfer station, garbage disposals, and home compost piles with leaves and grass.

Compost bins, which are placed in your yard and prevent animals from entering, are available for purchase at the transfer station.

Another option is dropping off your scraps (including bones) at the transfer station by using the Food Scrap Recycling Program. This program will be 3 years old in September. Scraps are taken weekly to an anaerobic digester in Southington, where they are turned into energy and compost. Currently, we are sending one ton a month to the digester at a cost of \$55 per ton brought to this facility.

To participate in the Food Scrap Recycling Program, you can devise your own system or purchase a handy starter kit for \$25 which includes:

- 2 gallon countertop pail
- 6 gallon home storage and transportation bin
- 25 count roll of compostable bags for the pail

- Instruction sheet of how to use the program
- Scraps are dropped off in the blue garbage bins located near the metal dumpster at the transfer center.

Kits can be ordered through Venmo or purchased at the Building Department in Middlefield, the Selectman's office in Durham, or at the Transfer Station.

More information can be found at [www.middlefieldct.org/236/Transfer-Station](http://www.middlefieldct.org/236/Transfer-Station).  
Questions? Email Selectwoman Carol Bufithis at [cbufithis@middlefieldct.org](mailto:cbufithis@middlefieldct.org)

**Scan QR code for Venmo:**



## Land Use/Building Dept

[www.middlefieldct.org/189/Building-Land-Use](http://www.middlefieldct.org/189/Building-Land-Use)  
860-349-7123

## Online Permitting Comes to Middlefield

The Middlefield Land Use Department uses an online permitting software called Permit Link to process all Building and Zoning Permits. The system is user-friendly, create a login, find your address and file for the appropriate permits. You can upload necessary attachments and staff is able to communicate with you through the system portal. When you permit status changes, an email is sent to keep you updated as to how the application is progressing through the reviewing process. Once approved, a permit can be downloaded for your ease. Online payments are accepted. To access the system from the Land Use page, select the link “Building and Land Use Permits (website).”

## Pool Permit Required!

***It's official - summer is here! If you are planning on installing a swimming pool, please review the rules and code requirements for conducting a home-pool project. To find this information, please go to our web page to find an information packet.***

**Before installing, you must apply for a building permit, which must be reviewed by a Building Official prior to beginning any installation processes.**

**Scan here to view Building Code Requirements for Pool Installation!**





# Public Works

## Introducing Our NEW Equipment!

We would like to introduce you to our two newest pieces of equipment – a road sweeper and dump truck! The first truck (left) is a 2024 ODRA Sweeper. This will serve to replace our 2004 Sweeper, which the town has been using for the past 20 years. This new style road sweeper cost less than the older model, contributing substantial savings to the town. The sweeper is currently out preparing the roads for our annual chip sealing.



The second piece (right) is a 2024 Freightliner dump truck that will be replacing a 2012 International dump truck. This unit was ordered in March 2023 and was placed into service in March of this year. These newer editions should serve Middlefield well for the next 15 years, or more!

## Memorial School Pathway



At busy Memorial School events, parking at the school usually overflows from the parking lot to Hubbard St. The lack of sidewalks then forces folks, trying to manage, children, strollers or walkers to walk along Hubbard Street, placing them at risk of being struck by a passing car or truck.

Therefore, to improve safety and avoid a tragedy, the Town of Middlefield, RSD-13 and St. Coleman's Church reached an agreement with St. Coleman church to allow overflow parking for school events at the church parking lot. A new pathway was installed creating a safe walkway

to and from St. Colman's Church parking lot and Memorial School property.

The public works department installed the pathway while also providing a much needed storm drain culvert repair at the same time.

Residents should utilize this area and pathway whenever the Memorial School lot is full, as vehicles parked on the street will be ticketed.

## Conservation Commission

Robin Heath has stepped down as chairman of the Middlefield Conservation Commission. We would like to thank him for all of his time and hard work he put into the commission over the years. Robin has also been a huge influence of many our town's children though his tireless efforts with the Scouting Program in town.

With Robin's departure, Members voted to appoint Brian Dumas as the new commission chairman.

The Middlefield Conservation Commission is dedicated to researching and optimizing land use within the town. Working closely with other town entities, state agencies and nongovernmental organizations, the goal is to protect, preserve and manage conservation land within the town. The conservation commission may make recommendations to various town boards and commissions such as Planning and Zoning, Inland Wetlands, Board of Selectmen and Economic Development on proposed land use changes.

The Commission meets the third Monday of each month at the community center to discuss the status of ongoing conservation projects, potential future projects, and any issues brought to the Commission by the town.

Members of the commission have recently begun working with CT DEEP forestry staff to develop a plan for the management of the Coe Hill open space located off School Street. This property encompasses 37 acres dedicated to passive recreation as well as hunting opportunities issued through town permit. The commission's goal at Coe Hill is to make access and trail improvements in order to encourage use of the open space by Middlefield residents. Additionally, we are looking into ways to make this property a more well-rounded, healthy habitat and woodland area. The town has provided \$25k in funding in this year's budget to support the Coe Hill reclamation.

The commission would love to hear from residents regarding projects they would like to be considered or concerns related to conservation of properties in town. Please feel free to reach out to the commission chairman at [BDumas@MiddlefieldCT.org](mailto:BDumas@MiddlefieldCT.org), or attend a commission meeting.

- By Brian Dumas

# Tax Collector's Facts & FAQs

**When do I receive my tax bill?** Tax bills will go in the mail June 30, 2024. If you do not receive a paper bill, you can look it up online, call the office and I will send another bill, or stop in-person and I can print you one.

**If you pay off your mortgage** and are now paying your own taxes, you will need to call the Tax Office. Banks do not notify the Tax Office that they no longer escrow your taxes. It is your responsibility to notify the Tax Office that you no longer escrow your taxes so I can send future bills directly to you.

**How can I pay my bill?** Bills can be paid by mail and Post Office postmarks work as long as they are on time. The drop box is NOT proof of a payment being on time. The drop box will be emptied at 4:00 pm for the last time on the 1st. Any payments dropped in the box after the close of business will be considered delinquent. Also, for those who pay with an online service through your bank, the envelope your check comes in does NOT have a postmark on it.

These payments are delinquent if I receive them after the final day to pay. You can come into the office to pay and chat with any questions. No credit cards are accepted in the office. You can go online to [Middlefieldct.org](http://Middlefieldct.org) and pay by credit card, debit card, or E-check. Remember there is a fee to pay online.

**Can I pay in full in July** Most certainly. A lot of people do this so as not to forget January because there is no reminder January.

**I just bought my house and didn't get a bill?**

Please call the office. Your taxes may have been paid at the time of closing; however, you will need to know the amount of the second half for January.

**If you need to register a car and you have**

**delinquent taxes:** Payment must be in cash or bank a DMV release **immediately**. Personal checks are accepted; however, the release is not done till a week after checks to the bank on Thursday. Online payments will be released 5 business days following payment. And remember it is a name that gets released not a vehicle. If you are tied with someone else, then their taxes must also be current in order to release you.

**What is the penalty if I am late?** All tax bills are delinquent after the 1<sup>st</sup> of the following month the bills are due. The penalty is 1.5% per month, 18% per year from the due date. Motor vehicles will be charged an extra \$2 when being reported delinquent to the DMV.

**Writing a Check:** Please be very careful when you write your checks. I have had to send checks back because of no signature. Also, the written line is the legal line. Many times, the number line is correct but the written line is different. The written line is the amount that the check will be cashed for. If you are short, I will try to notify you but if it is too close to the delinquent date, the short amount will be delinquent.

**Questions?** If you have any questions about your taxes call [Anne L. Olszewski, Tax Collector, 860-349-7117](mailto:Anne.L.Olszewski@townofmiddlefield.org). Facebook is not the place to get your answers. I would rather you call the office and get the right answer then to think the wrong one and find out later that your taxes are not paid and have gone delinquent.

## Beseck Lake Update

### Surveys and Filters at Beseck Lake!

Every spring, the Beseck Lake Environment Committee must plan for continued efforts to maintain the health of Beseck Lake, an important resource of the town.

In 2023 an herbicide treatment was done on the lake to try to eradicate Eurasian milfoil, a bad invasive aquatic plant, invading much of Beseck Lake. Preliminary post-treatment plant surveys were positive.

In May, the Office of Aquatic Invasive Species (OAIS) performed a detailed plant survey of the lake to determine the success of the treatment.



Also in May, All Habitat Services, the Lake Management Company selected by the Environment Committee, began water quality and algae sampling. This water sampling is done through the summer. The water is tested at six specified points; four inflow areas and two deep water locations. The testing covers a range of parameters including total phosphorus, nitrogen, algae, and cyanobacteria communities.

This year the Beseck Lake Environment Committee is emphasizing prevention and treatment of algae/cyanobacteria outbreaks, known as blue-green algal blooms. These blooms can cause powerful toxins capable of causing illness to pets and even people.

Part of a new prevention program, All Habitat will be installing EutroSORB filters in four lake inlet streams to help slow the flow of excess nutrients into the lake. These filters will bind and lock phosphorous in the entering flows, helping to reduce algae formation.

For treatment of possible blue-green algal bloom outbreaks, our DEEP permit is being modified to allow for application of granular and liquid algaecides. The Environment Committee is concerned that continued rainfall and hot weather will increase the chance for algal blooms.

The Environment Committee plans on continuing the Cyanobacteria Monitoring Program at the town beach for the summer with Western Connecticut State University, which runs the program. Along with our programs concerning algal blooms, the Environment Committee will continue aquatic plant surveys to know the lake plant population and to search for any additional invasive aquatic plants.



# Selectmen Propose Blight Ordinance

In last summer’s town-wide survey, Middlefield residents indicated that our Town should pursue a new Blight Ordinance. The sentiment was overwhelmingly positive - by a margin of just under 7:1 (agree:disagree). With that mandate, the BOS have crafted a draft Blight Ordinance for Middlefield to consider this summer in Public Hearing and Town Meeting. [Join us for the initial discussion of the Blight Ordinance at a public hearing on August 6<sup>th</sup>.](#)

In autumn 2023, the Town began reviewing background information, including examples of many other CT town blight codes, conversations with an experienced blight enforcement officer, relevant CT State Statutes, and the International Property Maintenance Code.

This background has led to development of a draft Blight Ordinance for Middlefield that has been reviewed by staff from Planning and Zoning, the Land Office, and the Board of Selectmen - as well as several legal reviews.

Middlefield’s draft ordinance takes a somewhat kinder and gentler approach to early discussions regarding property maintenance issues that have or likely would develop into blighted property. Nearly two months’ worth of dialog with a property owner is allocated, prior to any Written Warning Notification of a code violation. This offers an extended time period for correction and voluntary compliance with code provisions. Further processes include appeal opportunities for the property owner.

However, failure to correct code violations will lead to

issuance of a Citation and imposition of a fine up to \$100/day. The overall process is illustrated in the Process Timeline. The complete draft ordinance, defining what constitutes “blight” along with the full code details and the draft timeline and complaint form, for review, is at [www.middlefieldct.org/182/First-Selectman](http://www.middlefieldct.org/182/First-Selectman)

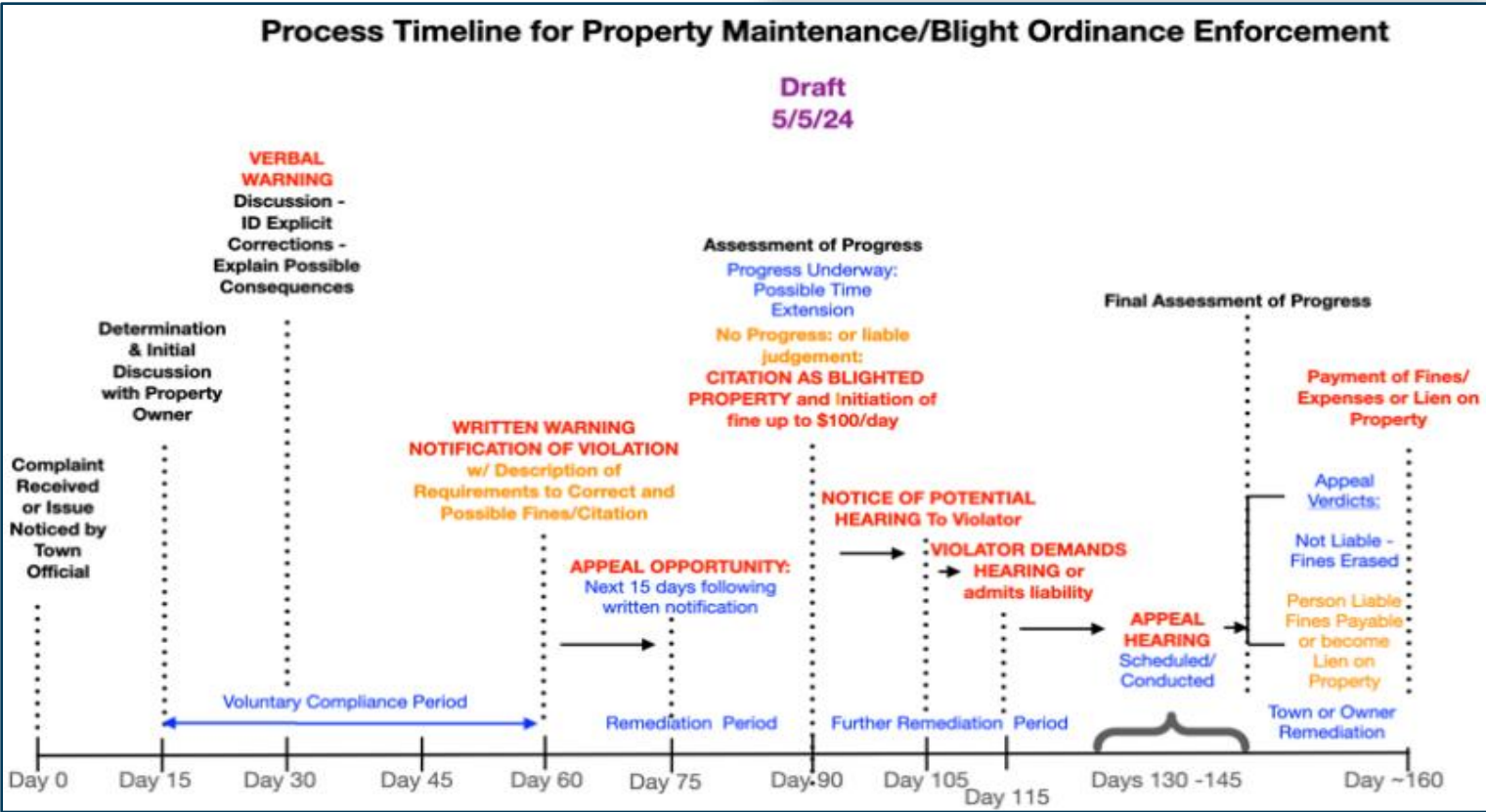
## Unregistered Vehicles

Do you have an unregistered, abandoned, inoperable vehicle on your property? Want a little extra cash in your pocket? Middlefield has made arrangements with a couple of haulers that will come and collect you vehicle and pay you for the vehicle. Residents may contact the following scrap companies which are aware of the program at the following: (or use someone of your own choosing):

- Chuck and Eddies, 203-777-8868, provides a quote.
- Elm City Auto Wrecking, 203-865-4995, \$350 for complete car (engine, transmission, tires, battery, factory catalytic converter); otherwise, pro-rated.

Chapter 395 of Middlefield’s code of ordinances (adopted in 1990) prohibits storage of these vehicles on property. We are asking folks to please make arrangements to remove these vehicles from the property by September 1. After September 1, the town will act upon complaints of violation as provided under the ordinance potentially resulting in forfeiture of the vehicles and/or fines of \$100 per day/vehicle.

If you need assistance or have questions, please call the First Selectman’s office at 860-349-7114 x0.



# Economic Development Committee

**Multiuse Trail:** The EDC is pleased to report that the multiuse trail project is moving forward with the award of a \$172,000 grant for study, analysis, and route planning. The multiuse trail will follow the trolley trail to the Durham town line (and beyond..) and allow access and enjoyment of the Coginchaug watercourse and wetlands. See related article.

**Help needed.** The Middlefield EDC is looking for a computer-savvy intern or volunteer to help us update and improve the EDC section of town website to showcase available properties in town. If you are interested, please email us at [EDC@MiddlefieldCT.org](mailto:EDC@MiddlefieldCT.org).

## Businesses :

- TET Manufacturing, which is located in Middlefield's Industrial Park, is looking to expand and construct a new building near the Zygo complex, allowing the company to move its Middletown branch to town. We are helping to facilitate locating them to about 5 acres of town owned industrial property with access to sewer and water.
- We are pleased to announce that the Cooper Manufacturing building now has a new tenant.
- **Middlefield welcomes Red Fox Amore!**

(l to r) Owners Fikret and Zumra Cecunjanin, on the outside stone patio.



## Town Receives Grant for Emergency Management Expenses

Middlefield has been notified of a retro-active, multi-year grant that can cover some expenses of the Town's Emergency Management Department for 4 fiscal years from 2021-2024. The grant offers ~\$5000 for each of the years. This roughly \$20,000, available through this Emergency Management Performance Grant, is being

awarded by the CT Division of Emergency Management and Homeland Security (DEHMS).

The Emergency Management Performance Grant (EMPG) is a yearly federal grant program from FEMA that provides funding assistance to states for eligible emergency management costs. The state then allocates a percentage of the funding through a matching reimbursement program to CT Towns and communities for eligible personnel, training, equipment and operational expenses related to their emergency management program.

Once contracts are signed, the Town will submit paperwork defining the past years' Emergency Management expenses for reimbursement by the CT DEHMS Department of Emergency Services & Public Protection.

## Primary Election in August

The August Primary is the opportunity for voters to choose the candidates of a party that they would like to be on the November General Election ballot.

**August 2, 2024 at 12 PM** is the deadline for Unaffiliated Voters who want to vote during the Early Voting period to enroll in a party.

If you are not registered but want to vote during the Early Voting period, file your voter registration application for the party holding the primary with the Registrars of Voters by **noon on the business day before the day you want to vote**.

**August 12 at 12 PM** is the deadline for:

- Registering with the Registrar of Voters or Town Clerk to vote in-person on August 13
- Unaffiliated Voters to register

**August 5-11** are the seven days of Early Voting which will take place in room 1 at the Middlefield Community Center between Monday, August 5, and Sunday, August 11. The hours will be 10 AM to 6 PM on Monday, Wednesday, Friday, and Saturday; Tuesday and Thursday, from 8 AM to 8 PM.

**August 13** is Primary Election Day.

**Curbside service** will be available during Early Voting and Election Day to voters unable to enter the polls. Republican and Democratic Deputy Registrars will both assist to ensure privacy and secure the vote.

**Emergency locations.** The Town of Middlefield now has an emergency location for Early Voting at the Levi E. Coe Library Hall, thanks to the approval of the Library Board and Librarian Jess Lobner. The Election Day emergency location is at the Middlefield Federated Church Hall, with thanks to Pastor Eva Cudmore and its membership. This said and planned, we hope to never need to rely on this hospitality of the church or library!



# Registrar of Voters

## Middlefield Registrars Recognized as Leaders in the State for Early Voting

Middlefield's Registrar of Voters; Janine Skelps and Anne Malcolm as well as Deputy Registrars of Voters, Carol Schilling and Alice Tucker were recognized for their preparations for early voting.



*Left to right: Alice Tucker, Anne Malcolm, Janine Skelps, Carol Schilling*

Carol Conklin, Regional Election Advisor for Middlesex County, River COG (Council of Governments) singled out the work that was done by the Middlefield Registrar of Voters Office in preparation for early voting. At April's COG meeting of municipal leaders in Middlesex County, Carol drew attention to Middlefield as having the best early voting procedures in the State.

Carol reported, "Preparing for early voting in Connecticut required Registrars of Voters throughout the State to quickly learn the legal requirements involved for early voting and to translate that knowledge into procedures for poll workers in their towns to use during early voting. Middlefield's detailed early voting procedures stood out from the rest".

Middlefield's procedures were shared with all Registrars across the State.

**April Primary.** Fifty-seven Middlefield voters turned out during the early voting period leading up to the April 2<sup>nd</sup> Presidential Preference Primary. Although the turnout was low, Registrars anticipate that many more voters will take advantage of early voting during the 7-day early voting period prior to the August 13<sup>th</sup> primaries as well as during the 14-day early voting period prior to the November 5<sup>th</sup> general election.

**Poll Workers Needed.** Additional days of voting for every election and primary means that additional poll workers are needed. If you are interested in working at the polls contact the Registrar of Voters Office by calling 860-349-7119 or by emailing [jskelps@middlefieldct.org](mailto:jskelps@middlefieldct.org)

or [voter@middlefieldct.org](mailto:voter@middlefieldct.org) Training is provided prior to every election, primary, and referendum, and poll workers are paid for the time they work and train.

**Register To Vote.** Contact The Registrar of Voters Office by email or visit the Registrar of Voters office. As an option, you may register to vote at the Town Clerk's Office at the Town Hall. To register online use the QR code below.

**ROV Office.** Hours are Wednesdays from 2:00 to 5:00 p.m.; Thursdays from 5:30 to 7:00 p.m. in the Community Center, 405 Main Street. 860-349-7119.

Scan here to register to vote online:



## Park & Recreation

**Pavilion Rentals.** There are a few more weekend dates and many weekday dates available for rentals. Residents may rent the pavilion for \$25; with bathrooms for \$125; with bathrooms and kitchen for \$150.

**Beach Season.** The Lake Beseck Beach Season is already in full swing! Lifeguards will be on duty every day from 12-6 pm starting June 15<sup>th</sup> through August 18<sup>th</sup>. The parking lot opens at 9am and closes at 8pm.

The beach is restricted to Middlefield and Rockfall residents who possess a pass. The passes are available for \$25 per household and free for residents 65 years or older. You can buy your pass at the beach when the guards are on duty or from the town clerk.

**July Food Truck Festival.** There will be a food truck festival, hosted by Petrillo Events, at Peckham Park on **Saturday, July 20 and Sunday, July 21**. There will be several food trucks, craft tents, and entertainment throughout the day. Free admission and parking.

**Middlefield's End of Summer Bash!** On **Saturday, August 24<sup>th</sup>** there will be an End of Summer Bash for our town. We will have a tent, a local band, a bounce house, yard games, entertainment, and several nonprofit food vendors. Festivities will begin at 5:00pm with the band beginning at 6:00pm. **(Rain date is Sunday, August 25)**

**Kindergarten Picnic.** The Levi Coe Librarians and Middlefield Park & Rec are teaming up again for their 2<sup>nd</sup> annual Kindergarten Picnic and Popsicle Night on **Monday, August 26<sup>th</sup>**, where we will welcome all the incoming RSD13 Kindergarteners for a chance to hangout and enjoy an evening with their new classmates and their families. Free popsicles for all Kindergarten families!

# Resident State Troopers

911 • 860-349-9685 • [police@middlefieldct.org](mailto:police@middlefieldct.org)

## Meet Our Troopers

We would like you to join us at the community center on **August 15<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 P.M. to meet our resident troopers and members of Troop F.**

We will also share information about how you can form a neighborhood watch and register your property when out of town.

### Trooper First Class Christopher Valente

I grew up in Prospect, CT, a majority of my life and studied at Central Connecticut State University where I obtained my bachelor's degree in Criminology in 2012. I worked for the Department of Corrections as a Correctional Officer at the Bridgeport Correctional Center in 2013, before being accepted into the Connecticut State Police academy in 2014. I began my CSP career at Troop H 'Hartford' for the first seven years of my career. During that time, I was able to get on our Tactical unit and Dive/Marine unit. I completed U.S. Navy Dive school in Panama City, FL, to become a Navy certified diver. I transferred to Troop F 'Westbrook' in 2022 and became the Middlefield Resident Trooper. I joined the CT Army National Guard in 2020, commissioned as a 2<sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant and most recently completed Ranger school in 2024.



### Trooper Caleb Stevens

I am from Central Connecticut and studied at Central Connecticut State University where I obtained my bachelor's degree in Criminology in 2018. In that same year, I was accepted into the Connecticut State Police academy. Upon graduation I began my CSP career at Troop H, Hartford. After three years, I transferred to Troop F, Westbrook, and in 2023 became one of the two Middlefield Resident Troopers for the town.



## Middlefield Neighborhood Watch Program Starting

We have recently seen an increase in car burglaries and car thefts in Middlefield and surrounding areas. Beseck Lake neighbors have had a neighborhood watch program for several years now and it has been effective in helping that neighborhood of 200 homes stay informed and alert.



If you are interested in starting a neighborhood watch in your neighborhood, or learning how best to protect your property, please join us for a meet and greet with the resident troopers on **August 15<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 P.M. in room 2 of the Community Center.**

## Vacation Police Patrol Checks

Whether going away for summer vacation or wintering in Florida, we encourage any residents going away to call the office or stop by and complete a Patrol Check Request, available at [www.middlefieldct.org/215/Public-Safety-Resident-State-Troopers](http://www.middlefieldct.org/215/Public-Safety-Resident-State-Troopers)

We will conduct patrol checks of your residence while you're away on vacation.

Furthermore, we want to encourage all residents to call us with any suspicious activity regarding suspicious persons or vehicles in their neighborhood by calling 911. Please try to obtain as much information as possible.

## Middlefield Police Protection

Recently a lot of Middlefield residents have been asking about our town's police protection. Some folks question if we have enough police protection and should we increase the police presence to 24/7.

Middlefield and Rockfall already has 24/7 police protection. The Town of Middlefield has contracted with the Connecticut State Police to have two Resident Troopers. This contract provides Middlefield and Rockfall with two troopers who each work 40 hours a week; one on day shift, one on evening shift. Their days on and off rotate each week. Often their shifts are adjusted to weekends (when there is a town-wide event).

When our resident troopers are not on duty (scheduled time off, vacation, training, injury, sick, etc) our town is protected by a Patrol Trooper out of Troop F - Westbrook State Police Barracks. The Patrol Trooper exclusively covers Middlefield, Durham, and select state owned properties in Middletown. This patrol is active 24/7 even when Middlefield's resident troopers are on duty. In other words, this Trooper is

*(continued on page 11)*



(from page 10)

actually cruising through Middlefield, Durham, and the state properties during the graveyard shift and/or other times when our resident troopers aren't on duty. So, when you call 911 - anytime day or night – there is a trooper available in the immediate vicinity (not driving up from the shoreline).

The following are the crime statistics for the town of Middlefield from 1/1-5/24/2024. The following information helps provide some insights into police activity in our town. Note, this is not a breakdown of every type of call the Troopers have responded to.

Town of Middlefield Crime Statistics 01/01/2024 - 05/24/2024	
Motor Vehicle Accidents (Non-Injury)	34
Motor Vehicle Accidents (w/ Injury)	4
Motor Vehicle Accidents (Fatality)	0
DUI (Alcohol and/or Drugs)	5
Criminal Investigations	39
Traffic Stops	133
Motorist Assists (Disabled, Abandoned, etc.)	50
Patrol Checks (Schools, roads, town/state property, residential)	799
Medical (State Police Dispatched)	17
Alarms	31
Total Calls for Service	1,345

## If You See Something – Say Something

Middlefield taxpayers spend over \$60,000 per year for the 911 service. We spend almost \$400,000 on police protection. It's valuable, but baffling to see people on social media inform their neighbors of a suspicious vehicle in their neighborhood, report a package taken from their stoop, post a video of someone trying to open a locked vehicle; and never report it to police.

***If you see something – say something***, especially if it is time sensitive! Say it by calling 911 for the troopers to respond in a timely fashion. The troopers prioritize calls based on many factors including, but not limited to, seriousness of the crime, injuries sustained or protentional for injuries and time sensitive crimes.

If you don't want to dial 911:

- Add the Troop F Barracks number to your phone so it's available when you need it - 860-399-2100.
- Join us for the Neighborhood Watch meeting on **August 15th at 7pm.**

We do live in a small safe community, but we must be mindful there are those in town and from out of town that aren't respectful of other's property or well-being. *Stay vigilant. Stay safe.*

## Middlefield Defines 37 Town-Owned Properties for Potential Sale



The Town of Middlefield is interested in selling a number of town-owned properties zoned for "residential use" that offer little opportunity for municipal use. Proceeds from the sale will be held in reserve for acquisition of more attractive properties as they present themselves (i.e. Reidy property adjacent to Peckham Park or the Town Green – both of which the town has a right of first refusal).

The BOS is proposing 37 properties, identified and available for review at [www.middlefieldct.org/250/Board-of-Selectmen](http://www.middlefieldct.org/250/Board-of-Selectmen). The current list shows their 2021 appraised market value. As of 2021, these properties had a market value of ~\$1.3 million. They are currently being appraised for this potential sale opportunity. This information is available at:

### Town-owned property public hearing is on July 30<sup>th</sup>.

These 37 parcels may be offered to individuals, including neighbors, or developers for purchase. All have been acquired by the town through donation, foreclosure, or by deed turnover - due to the owner no longer being interested in paying the property tax. These parcels have been off town tax rolls since acquisition.

Middlefield's total area is ~8500 acres. Overall, the Town owns ~660 acres. Town buildings and recreational acreage includes ~116 of those acres. The remainder of town owned land, over 540 acres, is currently open area.

The candidate 37 parcels occupy only ~9 of those 540 acres. All are currently zoned - residential. A number of parcels may be combined, to enable them to be considered a building lot.

We are publicizing this project to Middlefield residents because we would like to simplify the sales process if approved by the town. The Town Charter requires any/every town sale or lease valued above \$20,000 to be approved by Town Meeting. This many sales create a cumbersome and inefficient approval process.

For simplification, the Board of Selectmen (BOS) proposes a public hearing for thorough discussion, followed by a Town Meeting to consider a motion that would authorize the BOS to sell any or all of the identified properties at or above the appraised market value.

If passed, the BOS would then request realtor bids for listing the package of properties, with proposals for competitive commission rates. A realtor or agency would be selected, and the properties would go on the market.

Questions may be forwarded to Selectman Jim Irish at [jirish@middlefieldct.org](mailto:jirish@middlefieldct.org).

# Animal Control

## June is dog licensing month

Licenses are obtained at the town clerk's office. Please bring your fee and an updated rabies certification. More information can be found at [www.middlefieldct.org/220/Dog-Licenses](http://www.middlefieldct.org/220/Dog-Licenses)

## Statistics

Many people adopted pets during the Covid lockdown and are now abandoning those pets. Since the beginning of the year, six animals were impounded or found in town. One was adopted, one hit by a car, and the others were returned to their owners.

## Improvements to the Kennel

Improvements this past year include a new hot water heater and as of this April, the installation of an air conditioner/heat system. Additional maintenance is scheduled to be done will be resetting the floors and painting the building.

**It's tick season** as the warm weather is here. So, check your pets often and get the preventatives from your vet.

**Please pick up** after your dogs when walking on the roads and at Peckham Park, and make sure your dog is on a leash at all times.



*Dave Chowanec, Middlefield's Animal Control Officer, and the D.A.R.T. tending to an injured Dalmatian after a horrific crash which sent two folks to the hospital, left this dog injured and killed three other dogs.*

## The 2024 Rabies Clinic

Sunday, June 23rd from 9:00 am – 12:00 pm at Brenda's Main Street Feed, 58 Main St, Durham, is sponsored by D.A.R.T. (Durham Animal Response Team, a volunteer org that provides vital animal rescue services to our community.) Bring dogs on leashes & cats in carriers for their own safety. If you bring a previous certificate, your pet will obtain a 3-year rabies vaccination. \$20 in cash or check. Call 860-349-0410 for any additional questions.

# Middlefield Charter Revision

The Charter Revision Commission was charged in 2022 with updating our current Charter, which was last revised about 30 years ago. The Commission was composed of 2 Unaffiliated voters, 2 members of the Republican Party, 2 members of the Democratic Party, and the Town Attorney. The Commission met twice monthly and spent a considerable amount of time and effort in researching and discussing proposed changes.

Some of the recommended changes are to bring the document up to date with changes in state statutes and current town policies. Many others are to correct punctuation and grammatical errors that exist in the current charter. That Commission, with the exception of the attorney, has now been re-charged in order to revisit some of the prior board's recommendations and offer voters a chance to weigh in on some individual items. The changes in the electoral process for the Tax Collector and Town Clerk were soundly defeated and are off the table.

There are two recommendations that seem to have triggered significant discussion; filling Board of Selectmen vacancies and term limits for Board and Commission members.

We had just been through the loss of First Selectman Ed Bailey and getting through the process of replacing him was a daunting task to complete within the 30 days required by the Charter. After much discussion, the Commission recommended changing the time requirement from 30 to 45 days. That extra couple of weeks can ease the transition considerably, yet still fills the need for expediency.

The second item was recommending that term limits for Boards and Commissions be changed from 3 consecutive terms to no term limits. It has been noted that some residents are concerned that unlimited terms may end up with members becoming "stale" in their roles. That is a possibility. The Commissions had to look at other arguments, however. We live in a small town. We are all busy with our work and other obligations; civic organizations, our children and their activities, hobbies, and just plain down time. Getting people to volunteer their time to a Board or Commission is extremely difficult, not to mention the loss of talent and expertise of existing members who may well be willing to continue their positions.

A link to the complete list of proposed changes may be found at [www.middlefieldct.org/251/Charter-Revision-Commission](http://www.middlefieldct.org/251/Charter-Revision-Commission).

**There will be additional public hearings before final proposals go to vote on the November ballot.** Please register on the town website to receive notification of the meetings and public hearings to stay informed.

– By Ken Twombly



# Middlefield Awarded CT Recreational Trails Grant

On June 3rd, Gov. Lamont announced Middlefield as one of the award winners for a planning/design and outreach of extension to the Peckham Park Trolley Trail.

The \$172,000 grant will be used to plan routing and preliminary design for a multi-use, ADA accessible pathway starting at the south side of Peckham Park and extending into and along the Coginchaug River Basin's natural environment - down to the Durham town line.

Besides traditional fishermen and birders, the current thinking for the expanded trail will offer recreational use by hikers, joggers, parents with strollers, ADA capable manual and motorized wheelchairs, regular and recumbent bicyclists, including kids on bikes to attend baseball or soccer games at the park.

The recent, summer 2023 town-wide survey indicated a high preference for making this Trolley Trail extension a town priority. Further public hearings will be conducted during the planning phase to gain community input and support.

## Senior Center Kitchen Grant

Thanks to Sue D'Orvilliers, Marc D'Orvilliers, and Jim Irish, Middlefield has been awarded a \$15,831 grant from the CT Department of Aging and Disability Services that will be used to help renovate the upstairs kitchen in the Middlefield Community Center Senior Services area.

The kitchen that currently serves the Senior Center was last updated in 1994 as part of the building renovation to create the Community Center for the Town of Middlefield. The kitchen is used M,W & F for senior lunches, serving approximately 25-30 individuals each day and up to 70 individuals for special events.

The grant, along with funding in our Capital Non-Recurring Fund, will be used to replace existing cabinets, fixtures and appliances and to update efficiency and storage capacity of this small kitchen.

Quotes for new equipment and cabinetry are being received, and renovation work is anticipated over this summer. Minimal disruption to regular Senior Center activities will be attempted.

## Senior & Social Services

**Volunteers Needed!** We are looking for volunteers to join our Senior Advisory Board, as well as serve lunches on Monday, Wednesday or Friday's. To find out more information please call Susan D'Orvilliers, Director of Senior & Social Services at: 860-349-7121

**Thank you!!!** Senior & Social Services Office would like to thank the following organizations for their ongoing generosity and support of our food bank and Middlefield Community Services Council: Boy Scout Pack 33 (Baked goods Drive), Durham Middlefield Girl Scout Troops, Debbie Huscher (donation of over 40 boxes of cookies and Thanksgiving Food Bags for 40 families), Lions Club of Middlefield: Ongoing support though financial donations to the Middlefield Community Service Council to support the food bank and the ongoing Amazon donations (these deliveries have enabled us to provide the "extras" to the families that need assistance), Middlefield Federated Church Confirmation Class food drive, and the K-Club.

### UPCOMING PROGRAMS:

- Wednesday, June 12: Advanced Directives Program 12:30–2:00 p.m. Attorney John D. Watts (Advance Directives give people more control over their health care decisions when they are unable to make or communicate their decisions.)
- Wednesday, June 19: Annual Summer Picnic featuring the Magic of Christopher.
- Wednesday, July 17: Christmas in July.
- Monday, July 22: National Ice Cream Day Celebration.

### COMING SOON (MID-SEPT):

- 1 pm Tuesdays - Chair yoga with Sue Schade
- 1 pm Mondays - Fitness for Everyone

#### ONGOING EVENTS: IN CASE YOU MISSED THEM!

- **Foot Care Clinic**
  - Provided by RN
  - Invaluable service available to all
- **Blood Pressure Clinic**
  - Provided by Health District
  - Occurs Monthly
- **Senior Lunch Program**
  - Hosted Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays
  - Open to all ages 60+
  - Lunches provided by The Estuary
- **Knitter's Club**
  - Every Thursday at 9:30
- **Sewcial (crafting group)**
  - Every Thursday at 2:30
- **Card Players**
  - Every Tuesday at 1:30
- **Fitness Classes**
  - Meet remotely via zoom (call office to get link)
  - Hosted Mondays, Wednesday's, and Friday's
- **TOPS (Taking off Pounds Smoothly)**
  - Meet Wednesday evenings at 6:00 pm



# WPCA - *Water Pollution Control Authority*

**The proper use of the sewer system** and conservation will help to control operating and maintenance costs!

## Never put down a drain or toilet:

- Adult, baby and cleaning wipes
- Diapers, Q-Tips, socks, rags, or cloth
- Sanitary napkins or tampons
- Cat litter
- Plastic objects (toys, utensils, etc.)
- Kitchen grease (keep a grease cup/jar/can near your sink)
- Lubrication oils, gasoline, etc
- Glass and metal

## Never connect to the sewer:

- Downspouts
- Sump pumps
- Driveway or outdoor surface drains
- Swimming pool drains, overflows, or filter backwash

## Alarm/Emergencies -- Lake Beseck Sewer System

The control box is either on your house, in your yard, or on a neighboring property, which has a red light and audible alarm. If the light and/or alarm sounds, please restrict water usage for about an hour (occasionally the flow into the pump chamber may exceed the capacity).

If the red light does not go out, or for any emergency, contact: Williamson Pump, 617-884-9200. Generally, a service technician will respond within a few hours. If there is no response and the problem continues, call the W.P.C.A.'s 24-hour telephone number at 860-982-1465.

## Alarm/Emergencies -- Harvest Wood Rd / Sunrise Ridge Grinder Pump Sewer System

The control box is in/on your house which has a red light and audible alarm. If the light and/or alarm sounds, please restrict water usage for about an hour to see if the pumps catch up (occasionally the flow into the pump chamber may exceed the pumping capacity). If the red light does not go out, or for any emergency, contact: Williamson Pump, 617-884-9200, or a contractor of your choice.

# Levi Coe Library

## Coming September 3rd – New Hours!

The library is pleased to announce that we are expanding our open hours beginning this fall. Our new hours will be: Monday through Thursday, 10-7 and Saturday, 10-2 (after Labor Day and until Memorial Day).

## Want to Get Involved?

Did you know that 18 residents of Middlefield/Rockfall serve as the Library Board of Directors? There are 6 Association positions, 6 Town-appointed positions and 6 Honorary positions. The Board meets the first Tuesday

of every month and is the governing arm of the library. They organize all of the fundraising and maintain the beautiful building and grounds. While there are currently no open positions on the Library Board, we are always looking to expand our Friends Group. If you would like more information, please contact the library at 860-349-3857 or email us at [Levicoelibrary@gmail.com](mailto:Levicoelibrary@gmail.com).

## Meet Our Amazing Staff

The Director, Jess Lobner, started at Levi Coe in 2000 as a technical assistant while in library school. After long-time Children's librarian Lucia Ginter retired, Jess took over the Children's department until her second son was born. Some may remember that she brought her first baby, Jack, to work with her – now a 19 year old college student! Jess came back to Levi Coe 9 years ago to serve in her current role.

Our Assistant Director, Susan Mizla, has worked at the library for 18 years, also starting as a technical assistant. Sue enjoys visiting and photographing lighthouses and crafting. If you've ever participated in our take home crafts, those are courtesy of Susan's creativity.

Miss Vicki, Head of Children's Services, loves living in Middlefield where there are so many beautiful places to walk before her workday begins. She also enjoys getting together with her stitching group, SEWcial, on Thursday afternoons at the Community Center. November marks Miss Vicki's 19<sup>th</sup> year in this role.

Miss Pam, also in the Children's room, and is the library's Social Media Manager and does an excellent job keeping residents informed of all the programming and activities the library provides (all free, of course). She has been at the library for 17 years and lives in the house she grew up in. Pam has many interests and changes hobbies frequently; the newest is caring for houseplants and sharing cuttings with patrons at our propagation station. She will have a new focus in a few months when she becomes a first-time grandmother!

Our Adult Services librarian, Suzanne, has worked at the library for 6 years. She heads the popular Thursday Night Book Club, often held at her house with refreshments. In addition to being our resident artist, Suzanne is an avid sewer and enjoys genealogy.

Our newest addition, Angela, may be recognizable to many parents and kids due to her former position working at Middlefield Children's Center for the past 7 years. She is a Certified Kundalini and Radiant Child yoga teacher and holds a degree in Early Childhood Education. She is also a proud member of the North East Boston Terrier Rescue (NEBTR).

Come in to say "Hi" sometime. Visit our Facebook, Instagram pages, or website, [www.leviecoe.com](http://www.leviecoe.com) to keep informed of all of our exciting summer programming!



# The Giving Garden



The Durham / Middlefield Giving Garden is off to a wonderful start this season. Thanks to ARPA funding earmarked by Ed Bailey, we

have a smaller new shed, a new compost area built by the Durham Lions Club, with wood donated from PermaTreat. We've been picking peas and early season veggies to donate to area senior centers.

If you would like to come join the gardening fun, please come to the garden on Wednesday mornings from 9-11, and Monday mornings for harvesting, starting July 1st. We look forward to seeing you!



## Health District

### Test Your Tick!

The South Central Health District will test deer ticks for Lyme, anaplasmosis, and babesiosis. Place it in a sealed plastic bag and drop it off at 196 N. Main St, Southington, Monday-Friday, 8:30A-4:30P, with a \$5 check or cash. Questions? Call 860-276-6275.

## On Another Note...

### Jewelry Found

A good Samaritan has dropped off jewelry that was found in Middlefield at the end of April. If you, or someone you know, has recently lost some precious jewelry, please reach out to the Middlefield First Selectman's office at [police@middlefieldct.org](mailto:police@middlefieldct.org) or 860-349-7114 x0. Please describe what was lost, where it was lost, and a picture if you have one, to claim it.

### K-9 Broko Way

On April 10, a sign marking the entry to the State Police K-9 training facility, east of the reservoirs on Rt 66, was dedicated to the memory of K-9 Broko. Broko, a "fallen

hero" killed in December while trying to subdue a fleeing suspect, was credited with protecting the lives of his handler TFC Fascendini, state troopers, and other officers. He was first Connecticut State Police dog killed in the line of duty by gunfire and was honored posthumously with the state's first K9 Medal of Valor.

Although the upcoming training class for State Police dogs was full, the state made an exception and purchased a dog for TFC Fascendini.



Recently, the sign has been moved down the road, closer to the training facility, so it is no longer visible.



*Top: TFC Fascendini with his new K-9.*

*Bottom: Fellow K-9 State Troopers surprise TFC Fascendini with a sign dedicated to his fallen K-9.*

## Stay Connected!

Do you want to stay connected with the town? Get involved and informed by signing up for text or email notifications at [www.middlefieldct.org](http://www.middlefieldct.org).

For a few examples, you can request to be notified when agenda and minutes are posted, emergency alerts, beach closings, road closures, warming/cooling center information, and news from the various town departments.

On Facebook, for current information and other news, you can follow:

- Town of Middlefield, Connecticut
- Middlefield Senior & Social Services
- Middlefield Park and Recreation
- Middlefield Volunteer Fire Company
- Other references

Park & Rec's Programs – online registration  
[www.middlefieldct.recdesk.com/Community/Program](http://www.middlefieldct.recdesk.com/Community/Program)

Park & Rec's Pavilion Rental  
[/www.middlefieldct.org/281/Peckham-Park-Pavilion-Rental](http://www.middlefieldct.org/281/Peckham-Park-Pavilion-Rental)

Middlefield Volunteer Fire Company  
[www.middlefieldfirect.org](http://www.middlefieldfirect.org)

# TOWN of MIDDLEFIELD, CONNECTICUT



PRSR STD  
ECRWSS  
U.S. POSTAGE  
**PAID**  
EDDM Retail

**LOCAL POSTAL  
CUSTOMER**

## TOWN HALL

393 Jackson Hill Road / P.O. Box 179  
Middlefield, CT 06455

**Robert C. Yamartino** - *First Selectman*  
**Carol Bufithis** - *Selectwoman*  
**Jim Irish** - *Selectman*  
**Judi Rand** - *Executive Assistant*  
**Al Rusilowicz** - *Finance Director*  
**Mary Ann Zieminski** - *Treasurer*  
**Tyna Kollar** - *Accounts Payable*  
**Pam Deziel** - *Assessor*  
**Anne Olszewski** - *Tax Collector*  
**Tonya Hogan** - *Town Clerk*  
**Kim Garvis** - *Assistant Town Clerk*  
**Jason Wickham** - *Public Works Supervisor*  
**Bruce Villwock** - *Tree Warden*  
**David Chowanec** - *Dog Warden*

## MIDDLEFIELD COMMUNITY CENTER

405 Main Street  
Middlefield, CT 06455

**Bill DeMatteo** - *Building Inspector*  
**Nancy Davidson** - *Land Use Assistant*  
**Randy Bernotas** - *Inland Wetlands Agent*  
**Robin Newton** - *Town Planner*  
**Zoe Chatfield** - *Zoning Enforcement Officer*  
**Hannah Malcolm** - *Park & Recreation*  
**Anne Malcolm** - *Registrar of Voters (D)*  
**Janine Skelps** - *Registrar of Voters (R)*  
**Susan D'Orvilliers** - *Senior & Social Services*  
**TFC Christopher Valenti** - *Resident State Trooper*  
**Tpr Caleb Stevens** - *Resident State Trooper*  
**Ryan Fitzgibbons** - *DMYFS*  
**Rob Poturnicki** - *Emergency Management, Facilities Manager, WPCA*

## MIDDLEFIELD VOLUNTEER FIRE CO.

406 Jackson Hill Road  
Middlefield, CT 06455  
860-348-7124 / [www.middlefieldfire.org](http://www.middlefieldfire.org)

**Peter Tyc** - *Chief*  
**Steven Tyc** - *Deputy Chief*  
**Jeffrey DiCostanzo** - *Assistant Chief*

## TOWN OF MIDDLEFIELD

393 Jackson Hill Rd.  
P.O. Box 179  
Middlefield, CT 06455  
860-349-7114

[www.middlefieldct.org](http://www.middlefieldct.org)



Facebook

## IMPORTANT TOWN DATES

June 20	<b>PUBLIC MEETING</b> Public Safety Facility Building
July 30	<b>PUBLIC HEARING</b> Town Property Sale
August 6	<b>PUBLIC HEARING</b> Blight Ordinance Discussion
August 5-11	<b>PRIMARY ELECTION</b> Early Voting Middlefield Community Center
August 13	<b>PRIMARY ELECTION</b> Middlefield Community Center
August 15	<b>MEET THE TROOPERS</b>
August 15	<b>NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH MEETING</b>
August 20	<b>TOWN MEETING</b> Vote on Property Sale and Blight Ordinance
August 24	<b>MIDDLEFIELD'S END OF SUMMER BASH!</b>