

This looks like a friendly community - President Teddy Roosevelt about Middleport during a trip along the Erie



THE MIDDLEPORT MESSAGE...

May 2019

PUBLICITY NEEDED?

If your civic or not-for-profit organization needs extra publicity for an event, let us know at the Clerk's Office & we'll promote it on the Village's Facebook Page.

REMINDER: There is a drop box for unused prescription and OTC drugs & dietary supplements in the Police Office. Stop in the Clerk's Office anytime they're open for assistance in disposing of these items.

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That pesky water bill has arrived and, WOW, did it increase! What the heck?!

Most increases in water use are caused by leaks, and the biggest culprit tends to be toilets.

Toilet leaks usually run undetected for quite some time before a homeowner hears or sees the water entering or leaving the toilet bowl. Put some food coloring or testing tablets in the tank and then wait 30 - 60 minutes to see if any color appears in the bowl. If it does, the flap-valve needs to be replaced.

If it's not the toilet, another way you can determine if there is a possible leak is to write down

the meter readings before going to bed. Include all the numbers on the "odometer" and draw a picture of the sweep hand location showing the single gallons. Do not run a dishwasher, laundry or sprinkler line, or flush a toilet during this time. Write down the new reading the next morning and subtract the prior reading. You can also do this by reading the meter before everyone leaves for the day and then reading it again when you get home again, making sure no one uses water before you read the meter. If there has been

any change it is probably due to a leak, and it's time to start looking. You may need to contact a plumber if the leak is not easily found.

According to the American Water Works Association, a leaking toilet can waste as much as 200 gallons per day. That's 36,500 gallons over a six-month period.



Is It a Leak?

Find Village Information on Facebook!

If you have a Facebook account, please consider "following" the Village's page. This page is updated nearly daily with information of interest to residents. We let you know when things are happening, why things are happening, and post information about events you may want to join in on!

We recommend checking in at least once a day so you don't miss out on any important information! You can find us by searching for Middleport, New York on Facebook!

A big thank you to the nearly 2,100 folks who already follows us! We greatly appreciate it when you repost information to "get the word out," when necessary.

Check Out the Village's Website

Have you visited our website recently or ever? There is lots of information there, and if there's something you'd like included but don't see, please let us know! Things you'll find on our website:

- A link to report street light issues
- A link to pay your taxes or water/sewer bill online
- The annual recycling pickup schedule
- How to rent the Scout House or Pavilion

- How to dispose of electronics and unused prescriptions
- Assessment & Real Property information
- Free rabies immunization clinic schedule
- Information on the Village's sidewalk repair program
- Rec & Swim Program information
-and so much more!

Check us out at www.villageofmiddleport.org

2018 ANNUAL WATER QUALITY REPORT FOR THE VILLAGE OF MIDDLEPORT

The Village's Annual Water Quality Report for 2018 may be accessed at the following website address:

<https://villagemiddleport.digitaltowpath.org:10141/content/Generic/View/15:field=documents;/content/Documents/File/199.pdf>

Copies are also available at the Village Hall, 24 Main St., Middleport or the Royalton Hartland Community Library, 9 Vernon St, Middleport.

From the Code Enforcement Department

SWIMMING POOLS



2015 International Swimming Pool and Spa Code, permits are required for inground and above ground swimming pools.

If you have plans to install a swimming pool, please take note that per the 2015 International Swimming Pool and Spa Code, permits are required for inground and above ground swimming pools.

In addition, per Sec. 305.2 Barrier Requirements, outdoor pools and spas... shall be surrounded by a barrier that complies with section 305.2.1 through 305.7. Please contact our office at 716-735-3303 for questions and details.

NYS Code requires that every swimming pool that is installed, constructed or substantially modified after December 14, 2006, must be equipped with an approved pool alarm.

If you have questions or want more information, please contact our office at 716-735-3303, ext. 401, or by email at Code.Enforce@villageofmiddleport.org

CAMPFIRES

Campfires must be self-contained and limited to 4 logs of dry wood, each log not to exceed 18 inches in length and 6 inches in diameter. Consideration should be given to your neighbors and a nuisance should not be created as a result of the campfire.....



Open burning is permitted for small recreational fires, including small cooking and campfires, by NYSDEC regulations. Burning of waste products or garbage is prohibited, including but not limited to newspaper, paper, plastic, chemically treated wood (pressure treated) and plywood. Complaints call NYSDEC @ 1-877-457-5680

A word of caution from the Niagara County Health Department: Many people do not know that wood smoke can be a cause of air pollution. Campfires, residential fireplaces, and wood stoves all release toxic chemicals when they burn wood. Burning only clean, dry wood with an adequate supply of oxygen can greatly reduce air pollution and smoke. *Burning particleboard or wood that is treated, stained, painted or wet must be avoided because when burned, they release very toxic chemicals.*

The small particles in wood smoke can worsen heart conditions by preventing oxygen from reaching tissues. Breathing difficulties, such as asthma, may increase in adults or children if they breathe any quality of smoke. Other health problems aggravated by burning include lung infections such as acute pneumonia and bronchiolitis. Allergies can also be worsened. Niagara County Department of Health requests the residents adhere to the provisions of the Niagara County Sanitary Code when recreation campfires are being conducted on their properties. Campfires must be self-contained and **limited to 4 logs of dry wood, each log not to exceed 18 inches in length and 6 inches in diameter.** Consideration should be given to your neighbors and a nuisance should not be created as a result of

the campfire, even if it complies with the specifications noted above. Violations of Chapter XII of the Niagara County Sanitary Code can result in a cease-and-desist order and the imposition of penalties up to \$500. Local law enforcement agencies to include the Middleport PD, the Niagara County Sheriff's Department and the NYSDEC Conservation offices will be assisting in the enforcement of the Sanitary Code.

Each year the NYS Dept. of Environmental Conservation imposes a burn ban on opening burning from mid-March to mid-May. This is to prevent the quick spread of wild-fires. Violations of this ban can result in \$250 fines. Campfires using charcoal or untreated wood are allowed during the ban, but people should never leave such fires unattended and must extinguish them.

Refuse & Recycling

The Village's contract with Modern Disposal allows for 6 items to be put to the curb each week, which includes garbage bags and/or cans, the recycle cart, and one large item (as described later in this article). Putting more than 6 items to the curb on a regular basis may cause Modern to charge you a fee for extra removal or refusal to pick up the refuse. Please also note that cardboard does not have to be placed in the recycle cart. It may be set next to it. This can free up space in your cart. Crushing cans and plastic bottles/jugs can also free up space in the cart. The Village of Middleport does not have a "large item" pick up day. One large item may be placed to the curb weekly. If two people can pick it up, it may be put out for removal.

Refuse & recycling should be placed to the curb between 6:30 pm the night before & 6:30 am the morning of pickup. Drivers' schedules change regularly, so you can't rely on yours being picked up at the same time, even if it seems it is. If, for some reason, your refuse or recycling does not get picked up, please call the Clerk's office (if it's after hours, leave a message) to let them report it. Leave whatever didn't get picked up at the curb, as it will be picked up within 24 hours of your call.

Please remember that the green & gray recycle carts are the property of the Village. They are numbered, so the Village can keep track of where they belong. Only one recycle cart is allowed per taxable residence or business. The annual recycling pickup schedule is available at the Village Hall and online at the Village's website (see previous article).

When you're cleaning, keep in mind that the Village Historian's Office would love your gently used castoffs! If you have photos of local people & places, yearbooks, or any kind of Village memorabilia, please consider donating to Historian Christa Lutz instead of just tossing it! She's also looking for photos to scan, if you want to keep the originals! It's true that one person's trash is an historian's treasure!!!! Mrs. Lutz is at the Village Hall Tues & Thurs from 10 am to 3 pm. Stop in when you can!

Yard Waste and Disposal

The Village of Middleport Public Works Department reminds Village residents of its yard waste pickup policies:

BRUSH: will be chipped each Monday *except for the months of January, February and March*. Brush is to be placed at the curb on Sunday evenings, butt end toward the street, stacked no more than 4 feet high. Please do not place roots, stumps, vines or rose bushes out for chipping. *Failure to follow this advice*

can cause all of the brush to be left at the curb. Continually leaving brush at the curb too early can be cause for citation of the Village's yard maintenance law. When tree or lawn work is performed by a private contractor, they should take away the debris.

WOOD CHIPS: Wood chips are available for Village residents' yard use. Please call Bryan Bobbitt at 735-3303 for arrangements.

LEAVES: in the fall, leaves are to be raked to the edge of the street and left in open piles. *Any other time they are to be bagged and placed out with garbage.*

UNDER NO CIRCUMSTANCES SHOULD YARD WASTE BE THROWN INTO THE STREET OR DITCHES. THIS CAN CAUSE DITCH OR STORM DRAIN BLOCKAGE WHICH IN TURN CAN CAUSE FLOODING.



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SUMMER READING PROGRAM!

3...2...1... Blast off!

This summer, explore a UNIVERSE OF STORIES with the summer reading program! Prevent the summer slide by registering for the Reading Rocket Challenge! Grades K-8 are the captains of their own spaceships to navigate the solar system through reading! Every 20 minutes read or program attended gets them a Moon Rock to put on their Captain's Chain and a raffle ticket at a chance at any of our stellar prizes! This program begins on July 9 and ends on August 17 with a party with games, snacks, crafts, and fun to celebrate our space explorers! Any participant who reads 1,000 minutes during this time will also get a new book in the library dedicated to them!

Why should kids get all the fun? Patrons ages 13 and up can play BOOK BINGO for their own chance at prizes and a book dedication!

Stay up to date with library events by visiting their website(<http://royhartcommunitylibrary.com/>) or liking them on Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, or Pinterest.



Royalton Hartland
Community Library
9 Vernon St.
Middleport, NY 14105

Annual Events in the Village

Mr. Ed's Run – 5K walk & run benefits the Mr. Ed's Scholarship sponsored by the Middleport Fire Co., No. 1, Inc. Held Super Bowl Sunday. Pre-register online or register at the Fire Hall day of event.

Fish Dinners - by the Cataract Lodge, 20 Main Street - Fridays during Lent

Maple Weekend - pancake breakfast served by Boy Scout Troop 23 at Middleport Fire Hall on a Sunday in March. Watch for signs.

Village Elections: Third Tues in March. If the 3rd Tues is 3/17, election is 3/18.

Easter Egg Hunt - by Boy Scout Troop 23 at Rotary Park, 131 Telegraph Road. Saturday, day before

Easter.

Arbor Day Celebration - by Village's Tree Board last Friday in April at 9:30 a.m. Location TBA

National Day of Prayer Service - held at the Commons, corner of Main & Park, noon, 1st Thursday in May.

Village-Wide Garage Sale - first Saturday in May. Set up & sell. No list to get on or registration needed. Includes the Friends of the Roy-Hart Community Library book sale.

Poppy Drive - during May. Find Clute Phillips American Legion Unit 938 Auxiliary members throughout the Village or donate at the Village Hall. Please support our veterans.

Memorial Day Parade, Services

& Celebration - Memorial Day - Services held by Clute Phillips American Legion Post 938 & Middleport Volunteer Fire Co. No. 1, Inc. Contact Kathy Kindle (716) 735-6807 to participate in the parade. Rotary Club Duck race in canal following services. Refreshments available.

Classic Car Cruise hosted by the Middleport Volunteer Fire Co. No. 1, Inc. - Sunday following Labor Day Includes book sale sponsored by the Friends of the Royalton Hartland Community Library.

Trick or Treating Halloween Day, 5 pm to 7 pm. Party for kids up to age 12 at the Fire Hall 7 pm

Veterans' Day Service & Boy

Scout Flag Retiring Service the Commons, corner of Main St. & Park Ave. - Veterans' Day at 11 a.m.
Annual Michelle's Memorial 5K - Saturday before Thanksgiving. Proceeds fund the Michele A. Bewley Scholar Athlete Award. Pre-registration is through the Michelle's Memorial Face Book page. Registration on the day of the race is at the Fire Hall.

Annual Thanksgiving Service - 2 pm Sunday before Thanksgiving by the Middleport Area Churches & Clergy Association. Location changes each year.

Village Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony - Early December. Watch for notices.

Village Summer Recreation Program sign ups will begin during Summer Swim Program sign up. Village residents entering Kindergarten through 6th Grade in Fall 2019 are eligible to join in the fun. Find more information on our website after June 1, 2019.

2019 Roy-Hart Summer Swim Program sign up will be Sat. 6/8/19 at the Village Hall., 24 Main St., Middleport, from 9 am - 11:30 am. More info on our website.

CONTACT VILLAGE OFFICES

VILLAGE CLERK'S OFFICE

(716) 735-3303

Rebecca A. Schweigert

Clerk-Treasurer

Notary Public

Marriage Officer

Registrar

Office Hours: 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., Mon. to Fri.

Email: MiddleportNY@villageofmiddleport.org or
ClerkTreasurer@villageofmiddleport.org

NOTARY PUBLIC SERVICES: Must have photo ID with you to have documents notarized. Services available during office hours. Exceptions may be made in emergency situations.

MARRIAGE OFFICER: Marriage ceremonies can be performed within the Village limits. Contact the Clerk's office for details. Marriage licenses are obtained from Town or City Clerks.

The Clerk's Office welcomed village resident Lisa VanBuren as Deputy Village Clerk-Treasurer in March. She is a wonderful addition to the office. Stop in & say hi when you're in the neighborhood!

POLICE DEPARTMENT

(716) 735-3373, ext. 201

Police Office: (716) 735-3373, ext. 202

Police Chief John J. Swick, ext. 201

Office Hours: 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., Mon. to Fri.

Non-emergency calls: 735-3700 (NCSD Dispatch)

Emergency calls: 911

Email: MiddleportPD@villageofmiddleport.org

PUBLIC WORKS DEPT.

(716) 735-3373, ext. 301

Village Coordinator Bryan Bobbitt

Hours: 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., Mon. to Fri.

Email: MiddleportDPW@villageofmiddleport.org

BUILDING INSPECTION/CODE ENFORCEMENT

(716) 735-3303, ext. 401

Brian Belson

Office Hours: 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. Saturdays

BY APPOINTMENT Mon., Tues., or Weds. evenings

Email: Code.Enforce@villageofmiddleport.org

CONTACT YOUR ELECTED VILLAGE OFFICIALS

Here's how to contact your elected officials:

Mayor Richard Westcott: mayorwestcott@villageofmiddleport.org

Deputy Mayor Tom Conley: trusteeconley@villageofmiddleport.org

Trustee Wayne Blunrick: trusteeblunrick@villageofmiddleport.org

Trustee Dennis McAvoy: trusteeemcavoy@villageofmiddleport.org

Trustee Diane Edwards: trusteeedwards@villageofmiddleport.org

If you do not use email, call or send a letter to the Village Hall.

Village Hall: (716) 735-3303

24 Main St.

P.O. Box 186

Middleport, NY 14105-0186

VILLAGE OF MIDDLEPORT
PO BOX 186
MIDDLEPORT NY 14105-0186

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