



The Town Crier

Informing Village of Middleville Residents | Fall 2022 Special Edition

WELL ROUNDED. PERFECTLY CENTERED.

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Stay Connected!

The friendly staff at Village Hall is dedicated to serving you! Village Hall is normally open Monday-Friday from 9:00 am until 5:00 pm. Summer hours: Mon-Thur 8 am until 5 pm; Fridays 8 am until noon. Summer hours are effective until September 2, 2022. After September 2, office hours will go back to normal Mon-Fri 9 am until 5 pm.

VISIT VILLAGE HALL:
100 E. Main Street,
Middleville, MI 49333

CALL US:
(269) 795-3385

VISIT OUR WEBSITE:
Visit www.VillageofMiddleville.org
for upcoming meetings, events
calendar, permits, payments,
and more.



GET SOCIAL:

Did you know that the Village of Middleville has a Facebook Page? Find us @VillageofMiddleville for special announcements, project updates, and more.



Stay Informed

Members of the public are welcome at all meetings:

VILLAGE COUNCIL

2nd and 4th Tuesday of the month
at 7:00 PM

**VILLAGE COUNCIL
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE**
1st Tuesday of the month at 4:30 pm

PLANNING COMMISSION
1st Tuesday of the month
at 7:00 pm

**DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT
AUTHORITY (DDA)**
3rd Tuesday of the month
6:00 pm

**LOCAL DEVELOPMENT
FINANCE AUTHORITY (LDFA)**
Quarterly on the 3rd Thursday of the
month at 5:00 pm

**ZONING BOARD OF
APPEALS (ZBA)**
Twice a year or as needed on the 3rd
Thursday of the month at 6:00 pm

Redevelopment of 115 High St.

A NEW LIFE FOR THE OLD FIRE STATION



SPRING 2022



SUMMER 2025

IMAGE COURTESY OF ACORN TREEHOUSE VENTURES

For several decades 115 High St. served as the home of Thornapple Township Emergency Services. Some lifelong residents of the area may remember touring the fire station as a child and seeing all of the cartoon characters painted on the walls. Others may remember the station because they or one of their family members served on the department. Over the years, many cherished memories were made at this building.

In 2002 Thornapple Township elected to build a new fire station to replace this building that was becoming outdated. After the new station was built, the old station was sold to the Village in 2005. Since 2005, the property largely sat empty and was only used for storage. For years, a number of different thoughts and ideas about the building's future have been discussed. Finally, earlier this year Village Council voted to send out a request for a proposal for the purchase and development of this property.

The Village received two proposals for development. The proposal that Council voted to move forward with was from Acorn Treehouse Ventures in partnership with Left Field Coffee Shop. The proposed development will remodel the 6,075-square-foot building and will feature an updated façade consisting of new large windows, glass garage doors, metal awnings, and a fresh exterior. The main lower level of the interior of the building will consist of a space for coffee roasting, canning, and a kitchen area on one side. The other side will feature a year-round, indoor/outdoor patio space where customers can sit and chat and community gatherings can be held. The second floor will be remodeled into a modern two-bedroom apartment.

Once the sale is finalized, the Village will be allowed to use the building for one year, allowing the Village time to construct new storage for the Department of Public Works. Renovation to the second floor will begin soon after the sale is final and all renovations are expected to be complete by 2025. Once complete, this project will extend the downtown business area and will bring new life to a building that has been a part of this community for decades.

A Note from Local Leaders

For nearly 200 years, people have found themselves in Middleville. Located along the stagecoach line connecting Grand Rapids with Battle Creek and Kalamazoo, Middleville was a bustling place known to many throughout the Midwest.

They came here to get somewhere.

We were known for comfort.
We were known for warmth.
We were known for good intent.

Our community is a place people come on purpose now.

To raise a family.
To learn & grow.
To build a business.
To feel connected.
To escape.



You come here to get somewhere.

Our TK Schools are a Blue-Ribbon district that offer phenomenal education opportunities. The Thornapple River invites fishermen, swimmers, and boaters to explore the great outdoors. The North Country Trail offers scenic pathways for hikers, bikers, runners, and nature lovers. Our charming village boasts a delightful variety of boutique retailers, restaurants, a meadery, and many professional services. Local produce from the Middleville Market, grocers, and farm stands offer nourishing food for healthy living. Community events mean there is something fun to do in every season. However, the best thing about this community is the genuine, caring people who live here.

In this amazing place that we call home, we live all the best of small town life where we know the true benefit of being close to everything and far from ordinary.

Welcome home to Middleville, Michigan.



Sherry Ronning
Village President



Kimberly Tachim
DDA Chairwoman

Election Information

On March 8, 2022 the Township of Thornapple Election Commission directed the Township Clerk to rearrange the precinct boundaries of 2 and 3, resulting in all three precincts being under the required precinct size not to exceed 2,999 registered voters. The description of precincts 2 and 3 are as follows:

✓ **PRECINCT #2:** All Thornapple Township residents East of M-37 and Village of Middleville residents East of Grand Rapids Street and North of E Main Street.

The polling location for Precinct #2 is at the *Thornapple Township Hall*, 200 E. Main Street, Middleville, MI 49333.

✓ **PRECINCT #3:** All Village of Middleville residents West of Grand Rapids Street and South of E Main Street. The polling location for Precinct #3 is at the *Village Hall*, 100 E. Main Street, Middleville, MI 49333.

For questions, please contact the Township Clerk at (269) 795-7202, Monday-Thursday, 9a.m.-4 p.m.

**THE NEXT ELECTION IS NOVEMBER 8.
POLLS ARE OPEN FROM 7 A.M. - 8 P.M.**

Friendly Reminders

YARD WASTE COLLECTION

Last day for biodegradable paper yard waste bag pick up will be October 10, 2022, weather permitting. After October 10, leaves should be raked to the curbside for vacuuming until the last day, November 11, 2022. Please ensure that the yard waste doesn't cover the sidewalk, interfere with pedestrian traffic, or protrude into any part of the paved roadway. Thank you!

BRUSH COLLECTION

Last brush pick-up will be October 10, 2022, weather permitting.

HAZARDOUS WASTE AND BUILDING MATERIAL DISPOSAL

Last hazardous waste collection at the Expo Center, Barry County Fairgrounds, 1350 N. M-37 Hwy, Hastings, MI 49058, will be on Saturday, September 17, 2022 between 9 am and 1 pm, sponsored by the Barry County Solid Waste Oversight Committee. Visit their website at www.barrycountysolidwaste.org for more information.

TRASH & WASTE HAULER

The Village of Middleville has contracted with Republic Services for residential trash pick-up and curbside recycling. Republic Services is the only residential trash and recycling service available in Middleville.

VILLAGE TAXES

Village 2022 taxes are due on September 14, 2022, at 5 pm.

RECREATIONAL VEHICLE STORAGE

The Village of Middleville Recreational Vehicle Storage Ordinance is temporary suspended of enforcement from September 1 to September 30 in the front yard. After September 30, the ordinance will be enforced. Visit the Village's website for more information

www.villageofmiddleville.org/ordinances/

WINTER REMINDERS

Shake your mailbox! Over time mailboxes deteriorate, the post is damaged, and the wood, if they are mounted on a wood post, begins to rot and decay. When the snow plows came through, they threw snow with a significant amount of force. A well-maintained mailbox can withstand that force. Make sure your mailbox is securely attached to avoid any damage. Thank you!

Winter is coming! Please be aware that the Village Code of Ordinance on Sec. 66-123 (a) and (c) stipulates: "(a) No vehicle shall be parked on any street in the Village between the hours of 2 am and 6 am from November 1 through March 31, and (c) no vehicle shall be parked in any village-owned or operated parking lot between the hours of 3 am and 6 am."

Remember that recycling and garbage containers should be placed behind the curb line or off the roads. By doing so, you are helping our Department of Public Works crew properly clear the snow off the streets.

UTILITIES, TAXES, AND PERMITS PAYMENT OPTIONS

Paying online is like a breath of fresh air.



Save time. Save a trip. Pay utilities, taxes, and permits online.



www.villageofmiddleville.org



Additional fees will be applied

Middleville DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY



Our Mission: A Thriving Community

Over twenty years ago, the Village Council voted to create a DDA, or Downtown Development Authority. According to the State of Michigan, a DDA is a special governmental entity that a local government can create to "halt property value deterioration and increase property valuation in its business district...and promote economic growth." The DDA is funded by a small part of the tax revenue from properties within the downtown district as well as donations from Community Partners. All of the funding for the DDA is then reinvested back into downtown through public improvements that help grow property values and boost the local economy. In Middleville, the DDA takes a three pronged approach and focuses on historic preservation and revitalization, economic growth and development, and community engagement.

Historic Preservation: Projects like the Train Depot Restoration, or working with property owners to renovate, rather than demolish, existing buildings (like the Lofts) are great examples of the historic preservation work that the DDA performs.

Economic Development: Through infrastructure projects that create the "small-town" charm Middleville is known for, grants and services that support our small businesses, and programs like the Middleville Market that support local growers and makers, the DDA works to cultivate a thriving business community

Community Engagement: The DDA works to build a sense of place and a sense of belonging for all members of our community with vibrant community events that bring people together, preserve our heritage, help neighbors to forge strong friendships with one another, and bring new patrons to our downtown businesses.

Each of these three focus points are distinct and unique, but they share a united goal: As we work to reinvest in this amazing community, we build a bright future rooted in the rich heritage of the past.

The Middleville DDA has nine voting board members, one at-large member, a director, and a treasurer. The DDA meets in the Council Chambers at Village Hall on the third Tuesday of each month at 6 pm., and the public is always welcome.

The DDA Office is open 9am-5pm, Tuesday through Friday, and is located inside the Mix Coworking Studio at 125 E. Main St. Our staff works closely with local businesses and civic groups, so please call ahead to ensure staff is in the office before dropping by. You can reach the director by calling or texting (269) 241-1170 or by emailing katherine@middlevilledda.org. Learn more about the DDA and all of our programs and events at www.middlevilledda.org, or learn in a hands-on way by volunteering at one of our events (contact Katherine for details).

YEAR TO DATE UPDATE: NEW PROJECTS AND BUSINESSES

COMMUNITY PROJECTS

The Village Council and staff are working hard on several projects this year, including capital improvements to the water treatment and asset management systems. The new dog park is complete and open for public enjoyment. The DDA is working on adding art and improved seating to the Amphitheater area. The DDA is also working with Vintage Building Restoration of Hasintgs to refurbish our Train Depot, which is now on the National Register of Historic Places. A committee is also planning to start a community library that is independent of the school library.

WASTE WATER TREATMENT EXPANSION

Over the last ten months, the Village of Middleville staff and contractors have been working on an expansion of the Village’s Waste Water Treatment Plant. The plant is currently able to treat 500,000 gallons per day. The plant is treating roughly 450,000 gallons per day. When the expansion is complete, capacity will be large enough to serve our growing community for decades to come. The project consists of adding two additional sewer treatment tanks, double the slug storage tank, and a number of mechanical and electrical updates. The expansion project is about two- thirds complete. Mid-October is the scheduled completion date for this project.



GREENWOOD ST & WHIPPOORWILL CT

In mid-August, the process of installing a cured-in-place pipe in The Downs area will begin. This portion of the project is planned to take about two weeks. During this time, residents will have periods when they cannot use the sewer services. Residents should not lose sewer services for more than 6 or 7 hours after the lining is completed. After Labor Day, contractors will be in to start the reconstruction of Greenwood St and Whippoorwill Ct. Residents in the construction area will receive at least one week’s notice before work on Greenwood and Whippoorwill begins.

Welcome to New Businesses & New Locations!

2022 has been a fabulous year for the growing Middleville business community, with a total of five new businesses opening their doors and one established business expanding in a new location! Boasting a wide array of services and shopping opportunities, these businesses bring new life to our downtown district, which stretches from Main Street to the M-37 corridor. As our community continues to grow, expanding the goods and services available right here in the Village improves every day life for residents young and old. These business owners also take a hands-on approach to giving back to the community and leading through service. We are so glad each one of them chooses to call Middleville home. If you haven’t already, check them out. Also, stay tuned for details on businesses who are opening soon, including **THE BANKS ON MAIN**, **THE BOTANICAL CO.**, and **CRAFTED LEAF**.

RAINMAKERS CAR WASH
630 S. BROADWAY

TTS FITNESS
4525 M-37

THE SANDBAR SPRAY TANNING
207 E. MAIN ST.

PIXEL PERFECT VIDEO GAMES
4525 M-37

B2 BARGAIN BINS
4660 M-37

APOTHECARY ON MAIN
207 E. MAIN ST.

BALANCED COUNSELING
207 E. MAIN ST.



Shop Local. Eat Fresh.

The Middleville Farmer & Artisan Market is now in its 18th year and boasts more than 20 seasonal vendors who bring quality, handcrafted goods and nutrient-rich foods right to our downtown pavilion every Friday, from mid-May to mid-October. In addition to seasonal produce, the Middleville Market also features a fine array of baked goods, farm-fresh eggs, maple syrup, local honey, jams, herbs, organic popcorn, fresh cut flowers, succulents, hand spun yarn, and more. Woodworkers, fiber artists, quilters, seamstresses, soap makers, jewelers, painters, and many other talented craftsmen are also regulars at the market. Whether you are looking to decorate your home, give a unique gift, or feed your family, consider shopping local first!



Middleville
= MARKET =

Featuring
Local Produce
& Artisan Crafts

OPEN EVERY FRIDAY
THRU OCTOBER 14
91 E. MAIN ST
3 PM-7 PM



THANK YOU TO OUR COMMUNITY PARTNERS

In addition to making community festivals and events possible, our partners support the year-round efforts of the DDA by providing vital funding for economic development, business promotion, and historical preservation of the Middleville area. This year’s sponsors have donated over \$13,000. Please join us in thanking them for giving back to our community!

COMMUNITY CHAMPIONS

- Jason Parks Farm Bureau
- Advance Stone
- Opus Artisan Boutique
- Bradford White Corporation

COMMUNITY INNOVATORS

- Balanced Counseling
- Highpoint Community Bank
- Middleville Family Practice
- Therapy Matters
- Community West Credit Union
- Beeler Gores Funeral Home

COMMUNITY TRAILBLAZERS

- Van Dyk Mortgage
- Derek Saunders All State

SPECIAL EVENT SPONSORS

- Gil Concrete
- My Sisters Closet
- Left Field Café on Main
- Design Wear
- The Middleville Lions
- Miller Real Estate
- The Mix Coworking Studio

2022 COMMUNITY EVENTS

Middleville Market

Every Friday, Mid-May through Mid-October, 3:00pm-7:00pm
Location: Middleville Community Pavilion, Downtown
Fresh produce, baked goods, honey, maple syrup, artisan goods, & more!
Like us on Facebook @MiddlevilleMarket

Floral Design Workshops

August 25 & Beyond
Creekside Growers is hosting a floral cutting and design workshop on August 25th called "Mommy & Me," where mothers and children can craft together. Register online at www.creeksidegrowers.com and look for more holiday workshops for florists and crafters of all ages in November and December.

Patriot Day Ceremony

September 11
Flag Ceremony at Veteran's Memorial at 6 pm. Solemn Ceremony of Remembrance at 7 pm at the Pavilion organized by American Legion Post 114 of Middleville

Fall Color Tour

Wednesday, October 19
11 am- 3 pm; Rain Date Oct. 20
Enjoy a free golf cart ride down the Paul Henry Trail! Brought to you by the Village of Middleville & Local Businesses

Java Jog

Saturday, October 29
Join us for an early morning 5K; brought to you by Left Field Cafe on Main in honor of their 4-year anniversary.
Follow @LeftFieldCafeonMain on social media for details.

Dinner Theater for Community Food Pantry

December 2
Dinner at 6:15 pm,
Holiday Theater at 7:00 pm
Held at Middleville UMC;
all proceeds benefit the food pantry

Outdoor Summer UMC Holly Trolley Night

December 20
Trolley runs from 5-8 pm;
Tickets go on sale at 4:30 pm.
Departure from the 111 Church St.
All are welcome.

Special Thanks
to Our DDA
Community Partners!

Riverbank MUSIC SERIES

EVERY FRIDAY @ THE AMPHITHEATER
JUNE 3 - AUGUST 19, 6:30-8:30 PM
CONCESSIONS BY THE MIDDLEVILLE LIONS & ROTARY CLUB



August 19
Out of Favor Boys

BLUES / FUNK / SOUL
SPONSORED BY
THE MIX COWORKING STUDIO



August 26
The Mickeys

AMERICAN / FOLK / ALT. COUNTRY
SPONSORED BY
HIGH POINT COMMUNITY BANK

Movies UNDER THE STARS



August 13
SPONSORED BY
OPUS ARTISAN BOUTIQUE



September 10
SPONSORED BY
BALANCED COUNSELING

STAY
TUNED
FOR
THE
2023
LINEUP

MOVIES START AT DUSK (8:30 PM) AT THE AMPHITHEATER. COME EARLY FOR SPECIAL ACTIVITIES WITH THE SPONSOR!



AUGUST 18, 19, & 20

Thursday Schedule of Events

6-9 PM | COMMUNITY NIGHT OUT at Sesquicentennial Park, sponsored by the Middleville Lions Club; come get up close to emergency vehicles, farm equipment, construction machinery, and Public Works trucks. There will also be an illusion and magic show with Alan Kazam, free vision screening, & activities for the whole family. Concessions will also be available for purchase.

Friday Schedule of Events

3-7 PM | MIDDLEVILLE MARKET
6:30 PM | RIVERBANK CONCERT & ROTARY ROOT BEER FLOATS
ALL DAY | UMC YARD SALE & FREE POPCORN

Saturday Schedule of Events

10 AM | MAIN STREET PARADE

AFTER PARADE-2 PM | CHARLIE PULLEN MEMORIAL AUTO SHOW with DJ Mosaic Sponsored by Community West Credit Union

AFTER PARADE-1 PM | KIDS GAMES & Scavenger Hunt at Stagecoach Park, Sponsored by Community Churches and Blue Zones

11:30 AM | TAPRC PADDLE FOR PARKS at the Canoe Launch

NOON - 6 PM | TAEF & TAC BEVERAGE GARDEN at the Pavilion with a Parklet Lounge Sponsored by Blue Zones

NOON - 6 PM | CORN HOLE TOURNAMENT at the Pavilion to Support TK Highschool Football sponsored by Jason Parks Farm Bureau

3 PM | ROTARY DUCK RACE at Canoe Launch

ALL DAY EVENTS:

9 AM-6PM | MAKERS MARKET & Vendor Fair at Sesquicentennial Park

8:30 AM- END | VOLLEYBALL TOURNAMENT at TVC

10AM-4PM | 3 ON 3 BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT at McFall Elementary Cages. 3rd-9th Grades only. Must pre-register.

10AM-5PM | Self-Guided Historic Tour Downtown

10AM-5PM | Alumni Museum & Legacy Video at Gazebo

11AM-3PM | TK Athletics Carwash Fundraiser at Rainmakers Carwash

3PM-6PM | TTES BBQ Turkey Dinner at the Fire Station

A Spook-tacular Event!

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 14 Middleville will host all of our traditional downtown events, like the pumpkin patch, children's activities, and Trick-or-Treat Market, as well as some new activities that will take place around Middleville. In partnership with the Barry County EDA, Middleville Fall Fest will continue be a part of Barry County Boo-Fest. Visit our neighboring communities and explore their holiday events to see the best of what Barry County has to offer!

FOR DETAILS, FOLLOW @MIDDLEVILLEDDA ON FACEBOOK AND INSTAGRAM



Join us for 3 days of fun-filled Yuletide celebration!

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 8 is the Holiday Business Open House! Take your picture with real live Reindeer, visit Santa, and ride the Holly Trolley to local businesses offering crafts, activities, and goodies for children, free of charge. Festivities run from 6-9 pm, and you will also have an opportunity to give back to our local school district through Classmates Care!

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 9, meet on Main Street at 6pm for our Night of Lights. A Who-Ville themed Tree Lighting Ceremony will be followed by carol singing downtown. Then, grab a map, hop in the car, and help us judge the Christmas Light Decorating Contest!

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 10, Santa will be back for breakfast and a cookie walk at Middleville United Methodist Church (UMC)! Come visit him, then explore the Holiday Market, where you can find unique, artisan crafted gifts and more. Then, join us for the Lions Christmas Parade at 6pm and stop by the Living Nativity at the UMC from 4-6:30pm.

WATCH THE @MIDDLEVILLEDDA SOCIAL MEDIA FOR UPDATES!



MIDDLEVILLE'S
Christmas
-ON-
THE RIVER
DECEMBER 8, 9, & 10