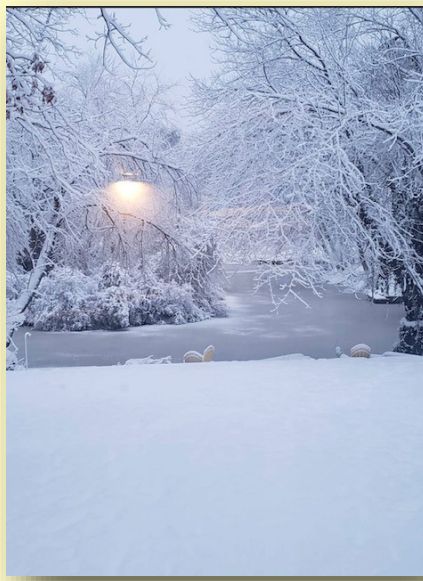




JANUARY 2024



THE MEDFORD MESSENGER

Above Photo—Rancocas Creek in Winter by Eric Strohm

***ADDITIONAL EVENTS:**

(*please check the Twp. website & official Facebook page for more details & updates)

SPECIAL EVENTS: [Township Special Events Page](#)

YOUTH SPORTS: [MYAA](#)

THE ARTS: [Medford Art Center](#)

HISTORY:

[Medford Historical Society](#)

PINELANDS LIBRARY

BUSINESS:

-[Medford Business Association](#)

-[Main Street Merchants of Historic Medford Village](#)

DPW SERVICES:

-[Brush and Leaf Collection](#)

-[Brush and Leaf Zones](#)

-[Recycling](#)

-Trash Related Issues-

Missed Collections and Can Replacements and/or repairs Please contact our vendor Republic Services directly at (856) 533-5270; or email: LWilliams@republicservices.com or Gburnsjr@republicservices.com

IMPORTANT DUE DATE INFORMATION:

[Water & Sewer Bill Due Dates](#)
[Property Taxes Due Dates](#)

OTHER IMPORTANT LINKS:

-[Town Calendar](#)

-[Medford Police](#)

-[Medford Fire & EMS](#)

-[Senior Citizens](#)

-[Parks and Recreation](#) (inc.

JANUARY HOLIDAYS—TOWNSHIP OPERATING HOURS

The Township Offices, including the Township DPW Yard (aka the Dump) will be closed on **Monday, January 1st, 2024** for New Year's Day. Trash collection will be delayed by one day all week. Recycling will be collected on Wed., January 3rd.

Offices will also be closed on Monday, **January 15th, 2024** for the Martin Luther King, Jr. holiday. Trash will be collected as scheduled.

ANNUAL DOG LICENSES

Renewal notices were mailed on December 29, 2023 and the renewal period is from January 2 to January 31, 2024. Dog license fees are \$12 plus an additional \$3 for any dog that has not been spayed or neutered. A late fee of \$15 will be charged for licenses purchased after January 31, 2024. Proof of rabies vaccination is required and must be valid until at least November 1, 2024 in order to obtain a 2024 dog license.

License renewals may be done in person or by mail at/to the Clerk's Office on the 2nd Floor in Town Hall, 49 Union Street. If you have any questions or need assistance, please call the Clerk's Office at 609-654-2608 ext. 334 or 341.

A **Free Rabies Clinic** for both Dogs and Cats will be held on Saturday, January 13th, 2024 from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 Noon at Cranberry Hall, 88 Charles Street. (behind Medford Village Car Care Center on North Main Street)

Licenses may also be obtained that day from 9am till 12:00 noon at the Clerk's Office located in Town Hall.



CHRISTMAS TREE COLLECTION

The Dept. of Public Works will be collecting Christmas trees from January 16th through February 15th. (*Inclement weather may affect this schedule)

Trees should be placed at the street with all lights, ornaments, and stands removed. Residents who wish to dispose of their tree sooner can bring it to our DPW yard, located at 2 Commonwealth Drive during regular operating hours.

Trees that are flocked or treated with artificial snow cannot be recycled and should be brought to the DPW yard. Trees placed at the curb in plastic bags cannot be collected as we transport trees to a recycling center.

Questions about Christmas Tree collection should be directed to Public Works at 609-654-6791.



~ Happy New Year ~

2024

BURNING OF CHRISTMAS TREES PROHIBITED

The NJDEP and the Fire & EMS Department reminds residents that it is not permissible to dispose of Christmas trees through open burning or bonfires. NJDEP suggests more sustainable methods of disposal, such as chipping, mulching, donations to animal farms, and/or dune construction. [Click here](#) for more information.



SUMP PUMP DISCHARGE ON SIDEWALKS AND INTO ROADWAYS

As we begin the Winter season, residents are reminded that water discharges onto sidewalks and into roadways can create hazardous icing conditions. While sump pumps or other household equipment and appliances are not permitted to drain to the outside of the property, if any water is flowing onto your sidewalks and/or the street in front of your property, it is your responsibility to clear any resulting ice or other hazards, as per Ordinance 2018-7 (Sidewalks).

If and when the Township is required to treat an icy condition as a result of these discharges, the Township will pursue a tax lien on the responsible property to recover any and all costs associated with de-icing the sidewalk and/or roadway.

We appreciate your cooperation so as to ensure the safety of all who use our sidewalks and roadways.

LEAF COLLECTION PROGRAM

Due to the volume of leaves out for collection, the second rounds are just starting. The order is as follows:

Zones 1 & 2

Zone 5

Zone 3

Zone 4

*****Please note that using our new leaf collection trucks will require residents to follow strict collection guidelines.***

Crews will collect each street once during the collection week. Leaves **MUST** be curbside by Monday morning of the scheduled collection week. Placing leaves at the street after the truck has passed will result in leaves not being collected until the next scheduled collection week.

Residents are encouraged to build enclosures out of four (4) foot vinyl construction fencing available at local home improvement stores. These enclosures should be placed parallel to the roadway and should be no further than ten (10) feet from the edge of the roadway. **PLEASE NOTE THAT TRUCKS WILL NOT LEAVE THE ROADWAY FOR ANY REASON TO COLLECT LEAVES.** Drivers will stay on the roadway to prevent damage to any private property and reduce the chance of getting stuck.

Leaves must be free of sticks, branches, tree parts, rocks, vines, or other foreign materials. These items will clog the suction tube resulting in increased down time and possible delays. Leaf piles that include any of these items **WILL NOT BE COLLECTED.**

*****Any leaves placed at the street by landscapers, contractors, or anyone hired by a homeowner, must be removed by them. Township crews will record addresses where landscapers are actively working and any leaves placed at the street will not be collected by Township personnel.*****

Questions about leaf collection should be directed to the Department of Public Works at 609-654-6791.



WINTER WEATHER RESPONSE UPDATES

The Department of Public Works switches to winter weather operations when a storm approaches our region. Crews prepare the trucks and equipment for the weather based upon forecasters' predictions. Roads are brined when the precipitation is expected to start as snow. As many know, forecasts are tricky and can change quickly. This Department monitors the forecast in collaboration with the Office of Emergency Management (OEM) and Police Department reports of road conditions; and will work around the clock to keep roads clear. We ask that residents utilize off street parking whenever an accumulating snowfall is forecast. Residents are also encouraged to postpone any unnecessary travel when winter weather is expected.

Residents who live in neighborhoods without curbing are encouraged to place reflective markers to indicate the edge of the roadway. The Township is not responsible for any damage in the right of way if the area is not clearly marked.

[Click here](#) to view the Township's Snow Removal & Ice Control web page.



SNOW REMOVAL HELP NEEDED

The Township is currently accepting applications for part-time or per diem snow removal personnel. Personnel should have a valid NJ Drivers License and have a demonstrated ability to operate snow removal equipment, including snowplows, snow blowers, snow shovels, etc. Applicants should be able to lift 50 pounds and pass a background check and drug screening.

Medford Township offers a competitive pay rate and flexible hours for snow removal personnel. Applications or resumes should be forwarded to our Human Resources Coordinator, Medford Town Hall, 49 Union Street, Medford, NJ 08055. Applications can be found online [HERE](#).

Specific questions about winter weather operations or staffing should be directed to Ron Fowler, Director of Public Works at [609-654-6791](tel:609-654-6791), extension 302.

JUDY SCHERF RETIRES AFTER 25 YEARS OF SERVICE

Judy Scherf has been an employee of the Township of Medford since April of 1998, beginning as a Clerk Typist in the Planning and Zoning Office. She retired as of December 31st, 2023 as the Office Manager, Recycling Coordinator and Clean Communities Coordinator in the Department of Public Works & Utilities.

Judy and her husband reside in Medford and raised their family here. Residents who interacted with the Public Works Department will remember her fondly as she worked diligently to address residents issues for trash, recycling, dead animals, non-working street lights, missing street signs, and so much more.

As Recycling Coordinator Judy organized and supervised many Community Shredding days and received Clean Communities grant funds to purchase the popular re-usable/insulated shopping bags for residents.

In addition, as the Clean Communities Coordinator, Judy worked with the Girl Scouts, Boy Scouts and many other civic and community organizations arranging litter abatement clean-up days in our parks, along roadsides, and in other areas around the Township. She also coordinated educational workshops in the schools.

Judy also organized several Clean Community Days in Freedom Park as a part of Medford's Earth Day observances. She is shown here pictured at one of the events.

Judy was recognized for her efforts by the NJ Clean Communities Council in 2016 when she received the Clean Communities Municipal Coordinator Award for a decade of service to the New Jersey Clean Communities Program.

The Township Council, on behalf of all Township employees and residents, expressed their heartfelt gratitude to Judy for the honor, integrity, proficiency and dedication she brought to Medford Township and the Department of Public Works & Utilities during ceremonies at the Township Council meeting on December 19th.



COUNCIL RE-ORGANIZATION SCHEDULED FOR TUESDAY, JANUARY 2nd, 2024 **Michael Czyzyk and Bethany Milk set to join Council**

The Medford Township Council Re-Organization Meeting will be held on Tuesday, January 2, 2024 in the Courtroom at the Public Safety Building, located at 91 Union Street, beginning at 7:00 pm. The Regular Council meeting will follow immediately thereafter.

During ceremonies on December 19th, outgoing Council members Frank Czekay and Lauren Kochan were recognized for their service. Councilman Czekay was first elected to Council in 2012 after many years of service on the Zoning Board, and Councilwoman Kochan served one term after being elected in 2020. She had previously served on the Economic Development Commission

All Council meetings are livestreamed & recorded via our website link here:
<https://medfordtownship.com/live-meetings/>



ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT I PART-TIME

\$15.00 per hour Position is for 16 – 20 hours/week and does not include benefits. This is an entry level position in the Construction Office. Must possess excellent communication skills, be proficient in Microsoft Word and Excel, and have the ability to learn the Township's construction permitting software. Resumes or applications should be sent to Dawn Bielec, HR Coordinator, Township of Medford, 49 Union St., Medford, NJ 08055-2432. Applications & resumes will also be accepted by email to: dbielec@medfordtownship.com. EOE

HELPER - PUBLIC WORKS (Full-time)

Applicants must possess a high school diploma or equivalent and be a minimum of 18 years old. The successful candidate will perform various tasks including road maintenance, buildings and grounds maintenance, park and playground maintenance, leaf collection and snow removal. Applicants should possess or have the ability to obtain a NJ Commercial Driver's License, Class B with Air Brake endorsement within one (1) year of employment and have a clean driving record. Applicants should be able to lift a minimum of 50 pounds, be in good physical health. Candidates must submit to a thorough background and drug screening prior to employment. Salary for this position is \$18.43/hour or \$38,334.40/year. Position includes paid holidays, vacation time, sick time, as well as a comprehensive health benefits package. Applications may be obtained by clicking [HERE](#) or at 49 Union Street, Medford, NJ 08055. Resumes or applications should be sent to Dawn Bielec, HR Coordinator, Township of Medford, 49 Union St., Medford, NJ 08055-2432. Applications & resumes will also be accepted by email to: dbielec@medfordtownship.com. EOE

LINESMAN—UTILITY DIVISION OF PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT (Full-time)

Linesman within the Department of Public Works-Utilities Division. Position includes paid holidays, vacation time, and sick time; as well as a comprehensive benefit package. Applicants must possess a high school diploma or equivalent and be a minimum of 18 years old. Applicants should have a mechanical ability and experience in use of power equipment. Applicants should possess or have the ability to obtain a NJ Commercial Driver's License, Class B with Air Brake endorsement and have a clean driving record. Applicants should be able to lift a minimum of 50 pounds, be in good physical health, and submit to a thorough background check and drug screening prior to employment. Salary for this position per the Union Contract is \$17.62/hour or \$36,649.60/year. Applications may be obtained by clicking [HERE](#). Applications or resumes should be sent to Dawn Bielec, HR Coordinator, Township of Medford, 49 Union St., Medford, NJ 08055-2432. Applications & resumes will also be accepted by email to: dbielec@medfordtownship.com. EOE

EMERGENCY MEDICAL TECHNICIANS (Part-time)

The Department of Fire & EMS is currently accepting resumes for Part-Time Emergency Medical Technicians. Applicants must hold current NJ EMT-B, current CPR Certification, a valid NJ driver's license & be physically capable of performing all duties involving emergency medical services. Interested applicants will complete an oral interview, criminal background check, and a physical agility test. Send resume to Township of Medford, Personnel, Attn: Chief Robert Dovi, 1 Firehouse Lane, Medford, NJ 08055. EOE

CROSSING GUARDS

Substitute positions available. Obtain application from the link below or at Medford Town Hall, 49 Union St., Medford and submit to the Personnel Office. EOE

All employment opportunities and a Job Application Form are posted to the Twp. Website on the Careers tab found at the top of the home page (www.MedfordTownship.com/JobOpportunities)

JOIN OUR TEAM

MEDFORD TOWNSHIP
25
DEPARTMENT OF
FIRE & EMS
NEW JERSEY

**FIRE & EMS
VOLUNTEERS NEEDED**

APPLY AT JOINMEDFORD.ORG

**FIND OUT MORE
ABOUT MEDFORD
FIRE & EMS
VOLUNTEER
OPPORTUNITIES AT:
[medfordfire.org/
volunteer](http://medfordfire.org/volunteer)**



CRANBERRY HALL SENIOR CENTER PROGRAM SPOTLIGHT

Mah Jongg is a tile-based game that was developed in the 19th century in China and has spread throughout the world since the early 20th century. It is played by four players (with some three-player variations) Similar to the card game rummy, Mah Jongg is a game of skill, strategy, and luck. To distinguish it from mahjong solitaire, it is sometimes referred to as mahjong rummy.

Mah Jongg meets every Monday at 10:00 am and Friday at 12:00 noon. If you are interested in learning, come to the Medford Senior Center for either session to play or observe. We welcome men and women, new and experienced players. Mah Jongg cards and handouts are available. We can accommodate up to 16 players at a time. The rules of the National Mah Jongg League are followed. Come join us for a pleasant time with a congenial group!

Cranberry Hall is located at 44 Charles Street; behind the Medford Village Car Care Center on North Main Street and adjacent to Dr. Still Park.

BRIDGE

It is time to create a schedule for Bridge classes in 2024. Bridge is a game where you never stop learning. To increase your skills there are three possible classes offered based on the books from the American Contract Bridge League. To create a schedule, the Bridge Coordinator, Lora Kline, needs to know your interest. Please respond to her indicating which classes you are interested in. If there is a time of year when you are not available, it would help her to know that also.

1. **Bidding in the 21st century.**

This is the class for beginners, and it is also good for those who wish to improve their bidding. Topics include the basics process, evaluating a hand, opening bids, responses, responses by the opener, overcalls, takeout doubles and responses and the Stayman convention.

2. **Play of the Hand**

Topics include planning the play, promoting high cards and developing long suits, finessing, ruffing (trumping), entries, avoiding defense strategies, managing trumps and Jacoby Transfer.

3. **Defense**

Topics include opening leads, third-hand play, second-hand play, signals to partner, developing tricks, interfering with the declarer, making a plan and negative doubles.

All classes include 8 sessions, on Tuesdays from 2:00 to 4:00.

Lora Kline. Email: 1Lora.Kline2@gmail.com, Phone: 609-206-1842

PINELANDS BRANCH LIBRARY HAPPENINGS

Looking to learn a new language in the New Year? Check out [Pronunciator](#) at the library! This resource is a fun and free way to learn any of 163 languages with self-directed lessons, live teachers, movies, music, and more.

If you are looking for ways to learn on-the-go, download the Bluebird app and bring Pronunciator language courses with you on a tablet or smartphone. If you have previously registered with Pronunciator, you are able to [log into Bluebird](#) with the same credentials. If you have not started courses in Pronunciator, it's not a problem, as you can register directly in Bluebird. Download the free app from the [App Store](#) or [Google Play](#).



Town Hall Address:

49 Union Street, Medford, NJ 08055-2432

Phone: (609) 654-2608 // Fax: (609) 953-4087

Hours: 8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

www.medfordtownship.com

<https://www.facebook.com/medfordtownship/>