



February 2022



THE MEDFORD MESSENGER

“What’s Up in Medford”

Above Photo—Aerial of the lakes in Medford
courtesy of Blue Vault Aerial

ADDITIONAL SPECIAL EVENTS

[Township Events Page](#)
[Special Events Calendar](#)

SPORTS

[MYAA](#)

THE ARTS

[Medford Art Center](#)

HISTORY

[Medford Historical Society](#)

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

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

SERVICES

[Brush and Leaf Pickup](#)
[Brush and Leaf Zones](#)
[Recycling](#)

Trash Related Issues:
(Missed Collections and Can
Replacements and/or repairs)
Please contact Republic Services
directly at 856-234-4000

OTHER IMPORTANT LINKS

[Town Calendar](#)
[Medford Police](#)
[Medford Fire/EMS](#)
[Senior Citizens](#)
[Parks and Recreation](#) -
Facility Rentals

PRESIDENT’S DAY HOLIDAY//TOWNSHIP OFFICE HOURS

The Township Offices, including the Township DPW Yard (aka the Dump) will be closed on Monday, February 21, 2022 in observance of Presidents’ Day.

TRASH COLLECTION CONTACT INFORMATION

Republic Services has announced a change in the contact number for their customer service hotline. Residents who have a trash related concern, including a missed collection or to request a new or replacement container, should contact Republic Services directly at 856-234-4000.

FREE 2022 SHREDDING EVENTS SCHEDULED
March 19, May 21, September 17, and November 19, 2022
Saturdays -- 8:00 am to 12:00 noon

FOR MEDFORD TOWNSHIP RESIDENTS ONLY!!!!
ABSOLUTELY NO BUSINESSES WILL BE PERMITTED

Protect yourself and your family from identity theft and financial fraud while taking steps to help the Township's Recycling Program.

The shredding truck will be available from **8:00 am until 12:00 noon** at the DPW Yard (Municipal Garage), located at 2 Commonwealth Drive. (off of Gravelly Hollow Road behind Bob Meyer Park)

Residents may bring up to 5 boxes or bags of files (no exceptions) to be shredded on site. An experienced operator will be present in a highly secure, mobile shredding unit where your confidential materials will be shredded as you watch. Please bring paper only; plastic bags, metal, binders and binder clips cannot be shredded. (Paper clips and staples are acceptable)

100% of the paper is recycled and is applied to Medford's recycling totals, for which we obtain grants from the State of NJ under the Clean Communities Program and Recycling Tonnage Grant.

As these dates are the 3rd Saturday of the month, the Garage is open from 8:00 am till 1:00 pm to accept all other waste and recycling materials.

For more information, call Judy Scherf, Recycling Coordinator at 609-654-6791 x322

REMINDER: 1st Quarter— 2022 Tax Bills Due

First quarter taxes were due on February 1st. The grace period runs through the 10th of the month.



175th Anniversary of the Township of Medford



On February 4th, 1847, Medford Township was "set apart from" Evesham by act of the New Jersey Legislature; with the first township meeting being held at the Cross Roads (Route 541 and Church Road) on March 9th, 1847.

In 1670, William Penn and others, acting for Edward Billynge, sold 900 acres of land, what is now part of Medford Township, to Samuel Coles. Other large land owners in the area during that time were Simon Bozorth, John Goslin, John Haines and William Hewlings.

The Braddocks, Pricketts, Wilkins, Strattons and Branins were among many who came to the area during the next few years, and John Goslin started a sawmill at the intersection of Hartford and Taunton Roads, which was later purchased by David Oliphant. Joseph Hewlings' mill was later known as Christopher's Mill and portions remain at the Tuckerton and Christopher's Mill Roads site.

By 1767, Medford, then known as Upper Evesham, began to resemble a village with a schoolhouse that was also used as the Friends Meeting. The Shamong Trail (Stokes Road) had grown from the footpath that the Indians used to become a narrow, sandy, soggy and sometimes impassable road between Burlington and the busy seaport of Clamtown (Tuckerton). Medford Village continued to develop through the 1780's largely due to the founding of the Etna and Taunton furnaces by Charles Read. The Taunton furnace supplied shot and shell to the Continental armies and Adonijah Peacock manufactured gunpowder for Washington's armies at his farm on what is now Branin Road. In January 1777, Adonijah was killed in an explosion, and is buried in the Peacock graveyard on Chairville Road.

After the Revolution and into the 1800's, Upper Evesham struggled as a little village with a few houses strung along Main Street, and it was Mark Reeve who called a town meeting to propose the name Medford after a visit to Medford, Massachusetts; and in 1820 when the Post Office opened, the town was officially called Medford of Upper Evesham.

Medford, being set apart from Evesham, experienced growth beginning with the coming of the railroad in 1869, including the Star Glass Works factory on Mill Street and numerous sawmills and grist mills running full tilt. With an easy way of getting their products to Philadelphia and New York -- Medford was in its "heyday". In 1889 the Camden & Atlantic Railroad came to town connecting Camden and Medford along a route now occupied by Route 70, with the medical office at 69 North Main Street originally built as the passenger station for this line.

Township Council recognized the 175th Anniversary with a Proclamation at the February 1, 2022 Council Meeting.

Fire Department Retirement

The Township Council and staff would like to congratulate Chief Thomas Thorn on his recent retirement. Chief Thorn began his firefighter career as a volunteer with Medford Township in 1987. Chief Thorn was hired by the Township as a part-time fire inspector in September 1994 and as the full-time Chief Fire Administrator/Fire Marshal in May of 2000. He held this position until 2007 when he was promoted to the position of Deputy Fire Chief. In September, 2010, Chief Thorn was promoted to Fire Chief and remained in this position until his retirement. The Township thanks Chief Thorn for his years of dedicated service and wishes him the best in his retirement.

NEW FIRE CHIEF APPOINTED

Lieutenant Robert Dovi, Jr. has been promoted to Fire Chief for the Township of Medford earlier this month.

Chief Dovi started his career with Medford as a junior firefighter and EMT. Chief Dovi was hired in 2001 as one of the first career firefighters for Medford Township. In March 2004, Chief Dovi was appointed to the position of Lieutenant.

Congratulations to Chief Dovi on his promotion.



PINELANDS LIBRARY 50th ANNIVERSARY

The Pinelands Branch Library will be celebrating its 50th year of operation on February 14, 2022. The original library location at 39 Allen Avenue was recently vacated when the Library moved into its new location at the Medford Town Hall Complex at 49 Union Street.

We congratulate the Pinelands Branch Library and the Medford Library Association on its 50th anniversary, and wish them continued success in serving our residents and neighbors.

AARP TAX ASSISTANCE AT THE LIBRARY

The AARP Tax-Aide Program offers free tax help for taxpayers with low and moderate income, with special attention to those age 60 and over. The Pinelands Branch Library has appointments available on Tuesdays starting February 1st.

Please call the library at 609-654-6113 or choose a date/time/location using the link below to schedule your appointment. <https://www.bcls.lib.nj.us/news-updates/aarp-tax-assistance>.



During re-organization meetings in January, the Economic Development Advisory Commission (EDC) & the Environmental Affairs Advisory Committee (EAAC) will be changing their monthly meeting dates.

The EDC will now be meeting on the 1st Wednesday of each month jointly with the Neighborhood Services Advisory Committee (NSAC), effective in February. These meetings will be held in the Town Hall complex at 49 Union Street or via Zoom starting at 7:00 pm. The details will be included on the Agendas for each Board, which are posted to the Township website under the link to [Boards & Committees](#).

The EAAC will now be meeting on the 2nd Tuesday of each month effective on Tuesday, February 8th. These meetings will be held in the Town Hall complex at 49 Union Street or via Zoom starting at 7:00 pm. The details will also be included on the EAAC Agenda, which is posted to the Township website on the EAAC page under the link to [Boards & Committees](#).



Municipal Center Address: 49 Union Street, Medford, NJ

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

Hours: 8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

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