



BROTHERS ALL

**Charity ★ Justice
Brotherly Love ★ Fidelity**

February 2024

THE MONTHLY NEWS BULLETIN OF THE MIDDLETOWN B.P.O. ELKS LODGE 2179
251 Church Street • Belford, New Jersey 07718 • (732) 495-2733 • www.middletownelks2179.org

Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks of U.S.A. A Fraternal Organization

EXALTED RULER'S MESSAGE

Greetings All,

Our Elk year is quickly coming to an end, but still a lot of work to be done. So please come out and support our Lodge and committees. I would like to congratulate Madam President Ginger Smith and our Ladies Auxiliary for their final tailgate party of the year, it was a great success and fun was had by all. On January 28th, our Ladies Auxiliary had a packed house for their final Steal Bingo of the year.

On February 7th, please come out and support our Special Children's Committee for our monthly spaghetti dinner. On February 9th, please come out and support PER Kevin Brittan and the PER association for their Annual Cheeseburger in Paradise. For more information please



Donald Anderson
Exalted Ruler

contact Kevin. On February 11th, our House Committee will be hosting our annual day at the lodge for the Big Game. For more information contact PER Nick Figaro. On February 17th, our Convention Committee will be having their first convention sign up, for more information please contact PER Fran Corridon.

Our Charity Ball will be held on March 2nd, please contact PER Tom Cribbin for tickets.

People will remember your example, not your advice.

Donald M. Anderson, Exalted Ruler





ELECTED & APPOINTED OFFICERS 2023-2024

- EXALTED RULER Donald Anderson, PER. . . . 732-915-2371
- LEADING KNIGHT John Steakin, Sr., PER. . . . 732-492-0118
- LOYAL KNIGHT Donald Desfosse, PER. . . . 732-788-4840
- LECTURING KNIGHT Al Smith, PER 732-804-2712
- LODGE SECRETARY . . . Edward Hahn, PDD 732-670-1775
- LODGE TREASURER . . . Mike Trieste, PDD 908-902-3447
- TILER Dave Bennett 732-775-8753
- ESQUIRE John Steakin, Jr. 732-492-0322
- CHAPLAIN Jim Lampert. 732-978-3886
- INNER GUARD Brian Phillips 732-670-1987

TRUSTEES

- ONE YEAR TRUSTEE . . . Kevin Brittian, PER 732-371-7513
- TWO YEAR TRUSTEE . . . Michael Anghelone 732-546-7734
- THREE YEAR TRUSTEE . . Ron Steinberger 732-673-8954
- FOUR YEAR TRUSTEE . . . Richard Mirenda 718-930-9084
- FIVE YEAR TRUSTEE . . . Isaac Dziadzio 732-337-9306

HOUSE COMMITTEE

- Chairman: Nick Figaro, PVP
- Members: Al Smith, PER
- Donald Desfosse, PER
- John Steakin Sr., PER
- Charlie Diehl

Meet the Last Saturday of month at 12:00PM

COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN

- ACCIDENT PREVENTION Donald Desfosse, PER . . . 732-788-4840
- AMERICANISM Edward Hahn, PDD 732-670-1775
- AUDITING Rich Jaeger, PER 732-241-3753
- BAR STEWARD Charlie Diehl. 732-687-5769
- BLOOD BANK. Brian Phillips 732-670-1987
- BULLETIN Edward Hahn, PDD 732-670-1775
- CONVENTION. Fran Corrdion, PER 732-978-0886
- DRUG AWARENESS. . . . John Steakin, Jr. 732-495-0322
- ELKS MEMORIAL DAY. Daniel P. Maloney, PDD . . . 732-915-9351
- FLAG DAY William Nicholl, PER 732-309-5873
- GOLF TOURNAMENT. . . . Charlie Diehl. 732-687-5769
- GOVERNMENT RELATIONS. Donald Desfosse, PER . 732-788-4840
- HALL BOOKINGS Donald Desfosse, PER. . . . 732-788-4840
- HOOP SHOOT Ron Steinberger 732-763-8954
- HOUSE. Nick Figaro, PVP 732-241-5131
- HOUSE & GROUNDS . . . Dennis McInnes 732-546-8255
- INDOCTRINATION Edward Hahn, PDD 732-670-1775
- INVESTIGATION. Rich Jaeger, PER 732-241-3753
- JUSTICE. W. Randolph Smith, PDD
- LAPSATION Edward Hahn, PDD 732-670-1775
- LODGE ACTIVITIES . . . Donald Desfosse, PER. . . . 732-788-4840
- LODGE PHOTOGRAHER. . Al Smith, PER. 732-804-2712
- MEDIATOR. Daniel P. Maloney, PDD . . . 732-915-9351
- MEMBERSHIP Edward Hahn, PDD 732-670-1775
- NATIONAL SERVICE. . . John Steakin Sr., PER 732-492-0118
- OFFICERS TRAINING . . . Edward Hahn, PDD 732-670-1775
- PARADES. Edward Hahn, PDD 732-670-1775
- PUBLIC RELATIONS. . . Donald Desfosse, PER. . . 732-788-4840
- RITUAL Kevin Brittian, PER 732-371-7513
- SCHOLARSHIP. Richard Niekrash 732-671-6347
- SICKNESS & DISTRESS . . Al Smith, PER 732-804-2712
- SOCCER SHOOTOUT . . . Tom Cribbin, PER. 347-451-7913
- SOC. COMM. WELFARE. . . Jim Lampert. 732-978-3886
- SPECIAL CHILDREN . . . Tom Cribbin, PER. 347-451-7913
- YOUTH ACTIVITIES John Martinez 732-720-1546



ELK OF THE MONTH

FEBRUARY 2024

**My Elk of the Month is
Tom Cribbin.**

Thank you for all
your hard work.

#getyourelkon



ASK A FRIEND to JOIN



LODGE OF SORROW

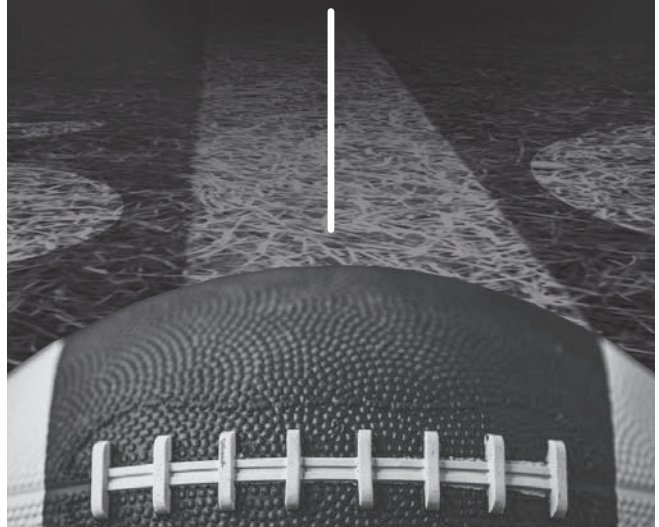
ROB FAIRHURST, PER

REST IN PEACE

SUPERBOWL SUNDAY

FEB | 11 | 2024

**OUR HOUSE COMMITTEE
WILL BE HOSTING
OUR ANNUAL DAY AT
THE LODGE FOR
THE BIG GAME.**



MIDDLETOWN ELKS #2179

AMBASSADOR - CAMERON FIORELLO

MARCH 2, 2024



Our beautiful baby boy Cameron was born on March 10, 2021. Sadly, while pregnant I suffered from migraines and our OBGYN prescribed medication considered to be “pregnancy safe.” The afternoon after he was born, life came to a stop when the doctor informed us Cameron was born addicted to Barbiturates, which was an ingredient in the migraine medication I took. While Cameron’s case was considered mild, as he did not need medical intervention, we still had to leave the hospital without him. When he came home after five days, our family was ready to put it all behind us and start life as a family of 4.

We assumed he was advanced when he started rolling over at a week old, instead of recognizing the red flag that it was. After additional symptoms appeared, Cameron was sent for his first MRI at 4 months old to rule out Cerebral Palsy. The scan returned normal and we were relieved. We were grateful and ready to put this behind us and move forward. Cameron seemed to be a “normal” baby in many ways, but in other ways he was still struggling.

He would arch his back away instead of cuddling, he couldn’t tolerate solid foods, he had Hypotonia, which is weak muscle tone, and he had a head lag long past the normal age. We were encouraged to start Physical and Occupational therapy, so we began services through Early Intervention along with feeding therapy to work through our concerns.

At 11 months, Cameron began to struggle with tremors which culminated in a 24-hour EEG, which again returned normal. When he was 18 months, he was referred to Children’s Specialized Hospital and started private therapies to address additional emerging issues. At this point Cameron was a professional knee walker. He wouldn’t plant his feet or walk like an average child but he could outrun anyone on his knees. It seemed painful to everyone but him, and although it was funny to watch, it was frustrating that he wouldn’t try to walk or stand.

Even with multiple therapy sessions a week, Cameron wasn’t progressing as he should. Every additional genetic test, blood panel and even a repeat MRI returned normal results. We regularly heard that this could all be a lingering side effect of his birth history, so all we could do was wait. We continued to seek out additional specialists, tests and treatments through Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia, with no further answers. At age 2, Cameron was diagnosed with Autism Spectrum, like his older brother, which enabled additional services and the ability to start school early.

Receiving a walker from the Middletown Elks was a turning point for Cameron and his progress. He gained so much confidence from being able to walk independently, that he started climbing and standing. As time went on, Cameron actually started to walk on his own, without the help of the walker or holding onto someone or something. Our older son Emmett told Cameron “You have to walk by 3,” and here we are! He may still be weak and is not able to run or jump, but we are so happy with how he is improving.

Cameron is so lucky to have some of the best therapists and doctors there are. They have been such a blessing and we do not know where he would be if it wasn’t for them. He also has the best extended family and friends who have always rooted him on. They say raising a child takes a village and we couldn’t love ours more.

We may never have an answer to why Cameron is delayed and we’ll always wonder if it was from the medication I was prescribed while pregnant. So, our main takeaway from this story for anyone is to always trust your gut and ask additional questions. While our path hasn’t been easy, we wouldn’t change it. With his infectious laugh and a smile that can light up every room, Cameron is a blessing in our life and we are so grateful God gave him to us. As a family we will continue to do whatever we can to help him live his best life. We cannot wait to see what the future has for him! I hope the world is ready because he’s going to do great things.



Please complete and send with check to
Middletown Elks #2179
SCC Charity Ball Souvenir Program
251 Church St
Belford, New Jersey 07718
DUE BY: February 17, 2024



Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____

Phone Number: _____

Cover pages will be reserved on a first come first served basis. Please select the size advertisement you wish and attach a check.

¼ Page \$25.00

½ Page \$50.00

Full Page \$100.00

Booster \$5.00

(Name only in Ad Journal)

Please attach advertisement or requested wording. (PLEASE PRINT)



Special Children's Committee



Middletown Elks Welcomes You To Join Us
For Our Monthly Spaghetti Dinners!

January 3rd, 2024

Special: Lasagna

February 7th, 2024

Special: Buffalo Chicken Penne

March 6th, 2024

Special: Stuffed Cabbage

April 3rd, 2024

Special: Penne Vodka

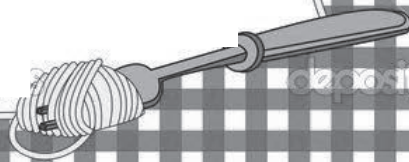
Menu:

\$10 Spaghetti with Meatballs or Sausage

\$12 Monthly Special

All meals come with Salad, Bread, and Dessert

Specials will be published in bulletin and in the lodge monthly



TRUSTEE'S MEETING

3rd Thursday of the month @ 6:30 PM

**Please have vouchers and all other business
for our review submitted to the Trustee's mailbox
prior to this time.**





Spotlight Lady

**My Spotlight Lady for February is
Lind Bennet.**

Linda aka our cupcake maker. lol
Thank you for everything you do.
We are lucky to have you be
apart of our team.

Ladies Auxiliary Officers 2023-2024

- PresidentGinger Smith 732-495-4693
 - 1st V.P.Michelle Fairhurst.
 - TreasurerTara Miranda 347-512-8724
 - Recording Secretary.Debby Gerardi 201-978-7223
 - Corresponding Sec.Janet Desfosse. 732-788-4839
 - Chaplain.Lauren Eckleberry
- Executive Board
- Kathy Corridon.732-673-4756
 - Tisa Dziadzio732-693-5678
 - Lisa Hahn.732-757-2981

LADIES AUXILIARY UPCOMING EVENTS

- February 28thLadies Auxiliary Meeting
- March 2nd.Charity Ball



Madame President's Message

Hello Everyone,

What a great way to start off the new year. We put out snacks and appetizers. The lodge was full all afternoon. Great to see everyone. The Ladies Auxiliary hosted a tailgate for the playoffs. Thank you to everyone who came out and supported, ate and donated. Steal Bingo what a great day. Sunday fun day room was full of people having a good time all asked when is the next one. Janet Desfosse, you always go out of your way to make sure its the best day. Don Desfosse, thank you for all you do for the Auxiliary. You are a huge supporter always. Thank you to everyone who helped set up and clean up. Thank you, PDD Mike Dickie I had heard he was a very funny bartender LOL I appreciate everything all the Ladies and Elks do for the Auxiliary. WE are a great team. We have 2 more meetings left before new officers take over.

We had a few people pass away this month, please keep their family in your prayers. February, we are getting closer and closer to spring. Stay warm. Good luck to the Elk officers ER Donald Anderson and his team of officers will compete in the Ritual end of February. Best of luck always gentlemen. Charity ball is coming . Get your tickets and come out and support the cutest little boy and his family. PER Tom Cribbin always does a good job making it a fun night for the family and everyone, great job. Please keep everyone in your prayers for a healthy year.

ALWAYS BE KIND YOU JUST MIGHT MAKE SOMEONES DAY

Ginger Smith, President

BULLETIN BOOSTERS

Each booster helps to offset printing and mailing costs of this monthly newsletter. Boosters are for one year, and payable in advance. Please note your name, and when it is due. Thank you.
ANY OVER DUE HAVE BEEN DROPPED FROM LIST

January

Tom & Flo Gormley

February

Tom McColgan

April

In Memory of Gene Ruck

Mary Ruck

Ed and Frann Glenney

In Memory of Lou & Kay Dandorph

Bill and Joan Burger

Edna Bryk

In Memory of Ray Bryk

May

Joan McTigue

Jim and Pat Waked

Mary and Richard Bryk

Nicholas and Donna DiGrigorio

June

In Memory of

Dan Marchetti

Dan and Carol Maloney

In Memory of Robert J. Brant

July

Chris Marchetti

Red, White, & Blue

Mike and Nancy Brandine, Jr.

August

In Memory of Jack Spann

Joe and Rosemary Keeney

John and Kathy Steakin

Ed and Lynn O'Kane

September

In Memory of Mary Brant

Frank and Dianne Zechman

October

In Memory of PER John McTigue

In Memory of

Kathleen L. McCartan

Dan McCartan

Al and Cathy Grabau

Bob and Alice Eckert

In Memory of Bob Brant

Kathleen Brant

November

In Memory of Willy Fix

Chuck and Adrienne Bolin

Cathy Grabau

December

In Memory of Ken Thompson

Jane Thompson

"God's Little Miracles"

Coach Saige

Please check to see if your payment is due - those more than two months in arrears will be dropped. Thank you for your support.

Please support your Bulletin Committee expenses of printing and mailing with a Booster.
\$10.00 per person for a year • \$15.00 per couple
 Complete this coupon and send your check to:
Middletown Elks #2179
ATTN: Lodge Secretary
251 Church St., Belford, NJ 07718

Name _____
 Address _____
 City _____ State _____ Zip _____

FEBRUARY LADIES BIRTHDAY

10TH. . . LINDA BAZZAUKAS

. JO FIX

26TH. . . NANCY HAMMOND

ENJOY YOUR BIRTHDAY!

AUXILIARY MEMBERS

Please remit your dues for 2022-2023.

\$20.00 If you have any questions, please

feel free to call Janet Desfosse 732.788.4839

Corresponding Secretary

SUNSHINE CHAIRLADY MESSAGE

Any Member Ill....or in the Hospital...

Please contact Debby Gerardi at

201-978-7223 to receive flowers or get

well message.

HALL RENTALS

Contact Don Desfosse

732-788-4840

for Information



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Alicia Kedz Sarin OWNER / SENIOR DIRECTOR N.J. lic. # 4062

153 CHURCH STREET BELFORD N.J. 07718

732-787-0333

268 Seabreeze Ave. Middletown, NJ 07748



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John Viera License # 11761

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Imperial

Susan Montanti

Broker Associate SRES, Senior Real Estate Specialist

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Charlie Diehl Owner

Cell: 908-890-5893 Fax/Office: 732-495-3119 ThreeCsBackhoe@Aol.com



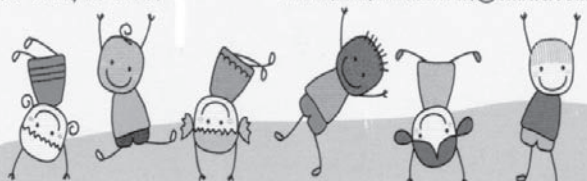
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732-832-6444 THINKLEARNINGCENTER@GMAIL.COM



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 251 Church Street
 Belford, New Jersey 07718

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 PERMIT NO. 370

or Current Resident

Calendar Events For February 2024

<i>Sunday</i>	<i>Monday</i>	<i>Tuesday</i>	<i>Wednesday</i>	<i>Thursday</i>	<i>Friday</i>	<i>Saturday</i>
				1	2	3
4	5	6 CORNHOLE	7 SCC SPAGHETTI DINNER	8	9 CHEESEBURGER IN PARADISE	10
11 SUPERBOWL	12	13 CORNHOLE	14 VALENTINE'S DAY	15 REGULAR MEETING	16	17
18	19	20 CORNHOLE	21	22	23	24
25	26	27 CORNHOLE	28 LADIES AUXILIARY MEETING	29		

Calendar Events For March 2024

<i>Sunday</i>	<i>Monday</i>	<i>Tuesday</i>	<i>Wednesday</i>	<i>Thursday</i>	<i>Friday</i>	<i>Saturday</i>
					1	2 CHARITY BALL
3	4	5 CORNHOLE	6 SCC SPAGHETTI DINNER	7	8	9
10	11	12 CORNHOLE	13	14 REGULAR MEETING	15	16
17	18	19 CORNHOLE	20	21	22	23
24	25	26 CORNHOLE	27 LADIES AUXILIARY MEETING	28	29	30
31						
