

January 5, 2012

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Middletown Press

We redefined Middletown on New Year's Eve

To the editor:

The crowds kept growing, as over 10,000 people filled Downtown Middletown on Saturday for Midnight on Main.

You could hear and feel the joy and amazement – whether it was the depth and quality of our performers or that perfect evening weather that made you comfortable strolling all night long, or the charm of a small college town on the Connecticut River with a picture perfect Main Street, or the grace and friendliness of our hundreds of volunteers – on New Year's Eve, we redefined Middletown.

We are no longer a town from which people travel to other places for special events – we are the place people come to, because we have all the right ingredi-

ents here. We just needed to line them up and invite folks to take a look.

Special thanks to our hosting sponsor Community Health Center; our Gold Sponsors: Pratt & Whitney and The Centerplan Companies; our Silver Sponsors: City of Middletown, CPTV, WNPR and The Middletown Press; our Bronze Sponsor: Wesleyan University; our Midnight Sparklers: Middlesex Hospital, Middlesex Chamber of Commerce, Liberty Bank, and Downtown Business District; our Midnight Revelers: Guilmartin, DiPiro and Sokolowski, Connecticut Rental, A.R. Mazotta, MiddleOak, and the Connection; our Midnight Stars: Inn at Middletown, National Paint and Wallpaper, Barker Specialty, Middletown Toyota, Middletown Scion, and Middletown Sears; and our Media Sponsors: Triple Frog, Makiarus Media Services, and WESU.

Many individuals contributed their exceptional talent to make this event a success. Our pro-

gramming committee brought an amazing array of performers to our stages, our volunteer committee recruited nearly 300 citizens, our marketing committee spread the word far and wide, and our steering committee considered all the safety and logistical issues that our event entailed.

Under the leadership of Event Coordinator Lucy McMillan and her team, all those moving parts came together on Midnight to make a magical evening for us all.

The Community Health Center was proud to lead this event as we enter in our 40th year of operations – it was a special thanks to the City and citizens of Middletown – without their support of our efforts, we couldn't do the work we do across Connecticut to bring health care to those in need. Thank you.

**Mark Masselli
Middletown**

Editor's note: Mark Maselli is the president and CEO of Community Health Center.