

TOWNSHIP OF  
— MIDDLETOWN —  
BUCKS COUNTY

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## Celebrate Safe this Holiday Season!

As cases of COVID-19 are surging in our area, Middletown Township residents are advised to take extra precautions this holiday season amid the COVID-19 pandemic. The Centers for Disease Control (CDC) has issued [guidance](#)



[to the public about holiday gatherings](#). Please review these guidelines and discuss with your family about alternative ways to Celebrate Safe this holiday season.

Key guidelines to follow this Christmas and New Year's include limiting gatherings of people from multiple households, avoiding gatherings in crowded or poorly ventilated areas, and wearing facemasks at all times.

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## Supporting our Local Restaurants

Many businesses in our community are being challenged amid the latest statewide safety restrictions, some of the hardest hit being our locally-owned and operated restaurants. These businesses need our help and patronage to support them through the holidays into the new year.



Middletown Township Supervisors Anna Payne recently [shared in a video](#) about how residents can best support their local restaurants.

"Restaurants in particular have felt the impact of the pandemic this year," said Supervisor Anna Payne. "While we may not be able to enjoy them the way we are used to this year, there are still things we can do to support our local restaurants."

The three best ways to help restaurants are to order food to-go, buy gift cards, and to tip

generously if you are able.

Support local businesses this holiday season by Shopping Middletown! A list of businesses in Middletown Township is available in the [Business Directory on our website](#). Businesses can join the business directory by filling out [this form](#). Only businesses located in Middletown Township will be added.

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## Remembering Former Township Manager John Burke

Former Township Manager and long-time resident of Middletown Township John Burke passed away on December 4, 2020, at the age of 74, after a long battle with cancer. John served Middletown Township faithfully for 20 years from June 11, 1984 until March 14, 2004. John was instrumental in countless projects during his time with Middletown Township as the community developed in the 1980s and 1990s.



"John was a long-time manager who had a significant impact on the staff and the community at large," said Middletown Township Board of

Supervisors Chairman Mike Ksiazek. "Middletown has lost a true gentleman and a dedicated public servant."

Our hearts are with John's family during this time of grief and mourning. The Middletown Township community is indebted to John for his work in our community.

John's obituary can be viewed [here](#).

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## Christmas & New Year's Holiday Trash Schedule



There will be no trash collection on Friday, December 25th (Christmas Day) and January 1st (New Year's Day). For those households affected by the holiday, trash (and recyclables) will be collected on the next regularly scheduled collection day; Tuesday, December 29th and Tuesday, January 5th. Up to

twenty (20) containers of trash may be placed out for collection on those days. Curbside Yard Waste collection will continue until January 27th, and will resume April 7, 2021.

If you experience any issues with your trash collection, please call Waste Management at 1-800-255-8479. When calling, say you are from "Middletown Township, Bucks County."

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## Valla Tapped to Take Assistant Township Manager Role

Middletown Township is pleased to announce the promotion of Management Analyst Nick Valla to the role of Assistant Township Manager effective January 1, 2021.



After beginning with the Township in June 2018 as a Management Intern, Mr. Valla was brought on full-time as the Management Analyst in April 2019. In this role, Mr. Valla oversaw phase one of the Neighborhood Sign Program, overhauled the Township's public information efforts, and assisted with other management projects ranging from collective bargaining to software implementation in other departments.

In his new role, Mr. Valla will expand upon his current duties to assist the Township Manager in overseeing departmental activities.

"From day one, Nick has consistently proven himself as a valuable member of the Middletown Township team," said Township Manager Stephanie Teoli Kuhls. "He has played a critical role in improving the township's budget document and enhancing communication with residents and businesses. His appointment as Assistant Township Manager is well deserved and will allow Middletown to continue to enhance services provided to the community."

Originally from Central California, Mr. Valla earned his Bachelor's degree in Political Science and his appreciation for local government while serving as the student body president for two years at Fresno Pacific University. After relocating to Pennsylvania in 2017, he earned his Master of Public Administration from Villanova University in 2019 on a full-tuition scholarship. While at Villanova, Mr. Valla was instrumental in revitalizing the student chapter of the International City/County Management Association (ICMA).

Aside from his work at Middletown Township, Mr. Valla is involved with the Lower Bucks County Chamber of Commerce and Villanova University. Additionally, Mr. Valla is a classically-trained violinist, currently playing with Orchestra Concordia in Wayne, PA.

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## Municipal Center Holiday Hours

Earlier this month, the Middletown Township Municipal Center shifted to an appointment-only visitation





schedule in an effort to reduce the spread of COVID-19. The public is encouraged [to communicate with staff by email](#) to conduct business and to coordinate a time to visit the building. A drop box is available at the Municipal Center for

documents.

From December 28 - 31, all employees will be working remotely. Please reach out to our staff by email to schedule an appointment in January. The Municipal Center will be closed on the following dates:

- Thursday, December 24
- Friday, December 25
- Thursday, December 31 (OPEN 8:30 AM - 12:00 PM)
- Friday, January 1

Beginning Monday, January 4, 2021, the Middletown Township Municipal Center will resume its prior appointment-only visitation until further notice.

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## Supervisors' Reorganization Meeting Scheduled for January 4, 2021

The Middletown Township Board of Supervisors will be holding its reorganization meeting on Monday, January 4, 2021. This meeting will be held 100% virtually.

Residents will be able to view this meeting on television (Comcast 22,

Verizon 30), or by streaming on the Township's website (a link will be posted shortly before the meeting).

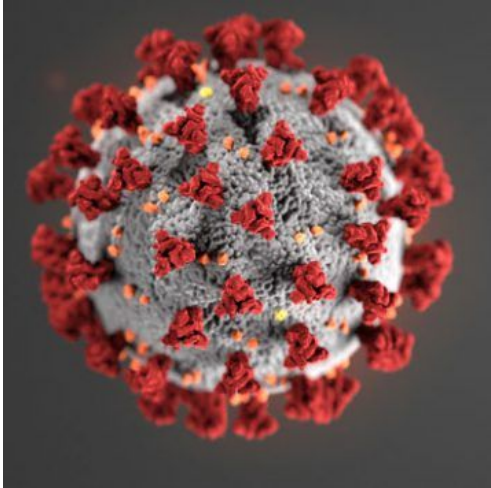


Residents wanting to make a public comment before the meeting (prior to 5 PM on a meeting day) may do so by email to [info@middletownbucks.org](mailto:info@middletownbucks.org), or by text to (215) 995-1249.

Residents wanting to make a public comment during the meeting can participate by Zoom. The Zoom link and instructions for the meeting are available [here](#). Please make sure your device is set up appropriately to make a comment to avoid technical delays.

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# COVID-19 Testing Locations in Our Area



Cases of COVID-19 are on the rise in Pennsylvania. If you are experiencing symptoms of COVID-19, contact your doctor to schedule a COVID-19 test. Testing is available in Middletown Township at St. Mary Medical Center (Langhorne-Newtown Road) and Genesis Diagnostics (Town Center Drive near the Oxford Valley Mall). A full list of testing locations in Pennsylvania is available on the [Pennsylvania Department of Health's](#)

[website](#).

Symptoms of COVID-19 may appear 2-14 days after exposure to the virus. Symptoms can include fever, cough, shortness of breath, difficulty breathing, diarrhea, chills, repeated shaking, muscle pain, headache, sore throat, and/or loss of taste or smell.

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Middletown Township  
3 Municipal Way, Langhorne, PA 19047  
215-750-3800

[www.middletownbucks.org](http://www.middletownbucks.org)

Thank you for reading this edition of the Middletown Township E-News. Feel free to share with friends, family, and neighbors!

We'd like to hear from you! If you have an idea for something that we can cover in the E-News, please let us know by emailing Nick Valla at [nvalla@middletownbucks.org](mailto:nvalla@middletownbucks.org).

Stay Connected!



**Middletown Township Board of Supervisors**

Mike Ksiazek, Chairperson

Amy Strouse, Vice Chairperson

Tom Tosti, Secretary

Anna Payne

Dawn Quirple

Stephanie Teoli Kuhls, Township Manager