

TOWNSHIP OF
—MIDDLETOWN—
B U C K S C O U N T Y

Township Line Road to be Repaved Beginning Wednesday, September 30

More than 4.5 miles of Township-owned roads are being repaved this summer as part of the 2020 Road Improvement Program. Although most roads being repaved this year are in residential areas, a segment of Township Line Road is included and will impact traffic in the coming weeks.



Beginning Wednesday, September 30, traffic will be restricted on Township Line Road between the I-295 bridge and the SEPTA railroad crossing (near Big Oak Road) as crews begin to repave the road. At least one lane of traffic will remain open at all times and will be controlled by workers. The road will also reopen for overnight traffic.

Township Line Road is expected to be under construction for approximately two weeks, and will be completed by October 16.

Motorists should try to find an alternate route when to avoid traffic in this area. Please follow all posted signage and the direction of road crews.

2020 marks the seventh year of Middletown's Fifteen-Year Road Improvement Program. Nearly 70 miles of township roads have been paved since this program began.

Board of Supervisors Approve Apartment Plan for the Oxford Valley Mall



On August 24, the Middletown Township Board of Supervisors approved plans to construct 614 apartments at the Oxford Valley Mall property. This is the first step being taken to revitalize the Oxford Valley Mall.

The apartments will be constructed on 20 acres on the southwest side of the mall property near the site of the former Boscov's store. The project is being developed by Cornerstone Tracy, a firm that has had success in the greater Philadelphia area with apartments that combine resort-style amenities, boutique services and trend-setting architectural design.

"We've reached the first of several milestones in revitalizing the Oxford Valley Mall. This development at the mall site is paving the way for more improvements in the near future at the Oxford Valley Mall," said Board of Supervisors Chair Mike Ksiazek.

Plans for the apartments include major advancements in pedestrian access and connectivity to public transportation. The plans include construction of about one mile of sidewalks to connect to nearby streets and a shuttle bus service from the apartments to the Woodbourne SEPTA station. Construction on the new development is expected to begin in 2021.

Shop With a Cop Comes Early to Middletown!

The Middletown Township Shop with a Cop Back to School Program is designed to alleviate some of the financial stressors related to the cost of getting the kids back to school. In its fifth year, this program sponsored by the Middletown Community Foundation provides resources and toys to children and families in Middletown Township.



Eligible families must submit their application to Middletown Township Police Department to participate in the program. All application records are kept strictly confidential.

"Shop with a Cop is a great program, and 100% of the efforts support members of our own community," said Board of Supervisors Chair Mike Ksiazek. "I would encourage residents and businesses alike to get involved and help in any way they can."

Applications must be submitted to the Middletown Township Police Department (5 Municipal Way Langhorne, Attn: Officer Melissa Robison), or emailed to mrobison@mtpd.org. Applicants will be notified of the status of their application.

Eligible applicants must be from the Neshaminy School District, surrounding townships or boroughs, or referred to the program by a partnering Police Department. Children must be 5-17 years of age. Families that have been faced with a life challenge such as loss of job, homelessness, military deployment, economic shortcomings, difficulties related to COVID-19 or other hardship are eligible for this program. The application and instructions can be found on the Township's website.

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"Halloween Safe" Plans Underway



The Middletown Township Board of Supervisors recently announced that, **Halloween is on in Middletown Township!** Throughout the month of October, the township will be sharing helpful information from the Centers for Disease Control and local health authorities

about how the community can "Keep it Safe and Have Fun!"

Some recommendations for celebrating Halloween Safe includes:

- Trick-or-treat with only the people you live with
- Keep a physical distance of at least six feet from others
- Wear a facemask that covers your nose and mouth
- Do not participate if feeling sick
- Inspect candy before consuming
- Use a flashlight when walking in the dark

- Be respectful of others
- Turn off exterior lights to your home if you wish to not participate.

"So many things have been taken away from our children this year. Let's make sure that Halloween is not one of them," said Board of Supervisors Vice Chair Amy Strouse, "Our "Halloween Safe" campaign will help our community to have a safe and fun holiday!"

Additionally, Middletown Township will be hosting a Drive-Thru Trick or Treat Extravaganza on Thursday, October 29th, from 6 to 8 PM at the Middletown Township Municipal Center. This socially-distanced celebration will include treat bag distribution to residents in their vehicles. Township staff, including police, fire and parks and recreation, will join with community organizations and local businesses in the treat distribution. There is no cost to participate.

Costume wearing and vehicle decoration is encouraged! Families participating in the event will remain in their vehicle throughout the event. Businesses and organizations interested in participating in the event or donating should contact Joanne Morelli at jmorelli@middletownbucks.org by October 15th.

Township Continues to Crack Down on Short-Term Rentals

Short-term rentals in Middletown Township are only allowed with a variance approved by the Zoning Hearing Board. A short-term rental is any room or residence that is rented out for a short period of time, typically for only one or a few nights. Short-term rentals are often booked through a third-party service such as Airbnb or VRBO.



If you know of an unlawful short-term rental in your area, please notify Code Enforcement Officer Sandra Morgan at smorgan@middletownbucks.org.

When making a report, please provide as much information as possible, including the owner name and address of the property in violation.

Deadlines Approach for Voter

Registration, Mail-In Ballot Applications



The 2020 General Election is coming soon -Tuesday, November 3! For anyone intending to vote in the 2020 General Election, the last day to register to vote in Pennsylvania is October 19, 2020.

Due to the pandemic, Pennsylvanians can request a mail-in ballot to vote in the 2020 General Election. The last day to apply for a mail-in or civilian absentee ballot is October 27, 2020. If voting by mail, voters must carefully follow the included instructions to enclose your ballot in the secrecy envelope, followed by the mailing envelope. Anyone voting by mail is strongly encouraged to complete and return their ballot as soon as possible.

To register to vote or to apply for a mail-in or absentee ballot, go to www.votespa.com.

In Bucks County, all registered voters are assigned to vote at a specific polling place based upon their address. To find this list, please [visit the Bucks County Board of Elections website](#).

NOTE: Residents of voting district Middletown Township Upper #1 will now be voting at the Middletown Municipal Center, 3 Municipal Way in Langhorne.

In 2020, the following state and national offices are up for election:

- President of United States
- US House of Representative
- PA House of Representatives
- PA Treasurer
- PA Attorney General
- PA Auditor General

African American Museum of Bucks County to be Located at Historic Middletown Property

During their meeting on Tuesday, September 8, the Middletown Township Board of Supervisors

recognized the establishment of the African American Museum of Bucks County at the historic Boone Farm property in Middletown Township. The museum was first established in 2014 as a mobile exhibit honoring



the legacy of the African American experience, heritage, and journey in Bucks County. The President and CEO of the Museum, Linda Salley, was joined by Chair of the Bucks County Commissioners Diane M. Ellis-Marseglia and Bernard Griggs, Jr., Project and Diversity Officer for Bucks County in making an informative presentation to the community.

"So many families came out of the south looking for a safe haven, and they came to our area and worked at Boone Farm," said Executive Director Linda Salley. "We're happy to be located at Boone Farm. It's part of our history."

Located at the intersection of Bridgetown Pike and Langhorne-Newtown Road, Boone Farm was once an active farm property with structures originating to c. 1716. Some structures including the Godfrey-Kirk House and a stone barn foundation are listed on the National Register of Historic Places, among some of the most significant preserved properties in the United States. Bucks County acquired the property in August 2000 to preserve the property's significance. In the early 1900s, many African Americans migrating to Bucks County as part of the Great Migration found work on the Boone Farm when many African Americans struggled to find work.

"I want to congratulate the African American History Museum for finding their home in Middletown," said Board of Supervisors Secretary Tom Tosti. "I am looking forward to this being something that the whole county can enjoy."

A full copy of the proclamation can be found [here](#).

Make a Public Comment at the Next Board of Supervisors Meeting



Residents are invited and encouraged to participate in all Virtual Board of Supervisors meetings. To make a comment or provide input, residents can join meetings at <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86791905582> and use the "Raise Your Hand" feature. Public comments can be made on agenda items as they are discussed, or at the end of the meeting on non-agenda items.

Email and text public comments still welcome and must be submitted by 5 PM on the day of a meeting. To submit an email comment, send your remarks to info@middletownbucks.org. To submit a text comment, send your remarks to (215) 995-1249.

A full name and address is required for all public comments. The meeting can be viewed via the Zoom meeting, government-access television (Comcast Channel 22 or Verizon Channel 30), or on YouTube.

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We'd like to hear from you! If you have an idea for something that we can

cover in the eNews, please let us know by emailing Nick Valla at nvalla@middletownbucks.org.

Stay Connected!



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Amy Strouse, Vice Chairperson

Tom Tosti, Secretary

Anna Payne

Dawn Quirple

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