

# middle TOWN NEWS letter

June 2017

## WARNING - Special Election Tuesday, June 6, 2017

The voters of the Town of Middletown Springs, in the County of Rutland, State of Vermont, who are legally qualified to vote are hereby warned that an election will be held at the Middletown Springs Historical Society's Dining Room, in said Town, on Tuesday, June 6, 2017, on which date business involving voting by Australian Ballot and voting required by law to be by ballot will be transacted.

POLLS WILL BE OPEN JUNE 6, 2017, FROM 7:00 A.M. UNTIL 7:00 P.M.

1. Shall the voters of Middletown Springs vote to disapprove the civic ordinance (junk and junk vehicles) approved by the select board on March 9 2017?
2. Shall the voters of the town of Middletown Springs vote to exempt from property taxes for a period of five years, from July 1 2017 to June 30 2022, the property which is located on Firehouse Lane, and which is owned by the Middletown Springs Volunteer Fire Association, Inc. and is used for the purposes of such organization?
3. Shall the voters of the Town of Middletown Springs deem necessary and appropriate \$500 for the Town to support the Middletown Springs Memorial Day Parade, determining that the parade represents an important commemoration of the service of American servicemembers?

## Informational Meeting on Vote

An informational meeting will be held on Monday, June 5, at 6 pm to discuss the three ballot items to be considered at the Tuesday, June 6 Special Election: the motion to rescind the junk and junk vehicle ordinance, the property tax exemption for the Volunteer Fire Association, and the appropriation of \$500 to fund the annual Memorial Day Parade in May 2018. Town Moderator Kimberly Bushnell Mathewson will oversee the meeting, and all members of the community are welcome to attend. This meeting, as well as the following day's election, will be held in the dining hall of the Historical Society. We look forward to seeing you there.

## Strawberry Festival Strawberry Shortcake, Music, & Art

Strawberry lovers are invited on Sunday, June 25 from 2-4 pm to the Historical Society on the Green where volunteers host the 42nd Annual Strawberry Festival. The festival features delicious strawberry shortcake with fresh local strawberries, homemade biscuits, vanilla ice cream and whipped cream, along with iced tea, lemonade or coffee.

Local musicians will entertain you as you enjoy your strawberry shortcake and browse the creations of the local artists and artisans. A children's activity center will keep the youngsters entertained.

The Historical Society Museum will be open all afternoon, as well as on Sunday afternoons from 2-4 pm through October. Admission is free.

On view in the Museum is a exhibit, "Saving Sylvanus" which is about Sylvanus Haynes (1768-1826), the first pastor of the Baptist church in Middletown. In addition there are exhibits on the Montvert Hotel, Mineral Springs and the Middletown History Timeline.

For more information, contact Pat Hemenway at 235-2421 or David Wright at 235-2376.

## Swimming Lessons

Mark your calendars now for this year's swimming lessons! Lessons will take place the weeks of June 26-July 3 at Crystal Beach on Lake Bomoseen in Castleton. Lessons for Middletown Springs' resident children are FREE. [Permission slips](#) and [class levels/times](#) information sheet went home with Elementary School students and are available at the library. Forms should be mailed to Cheryl Mahoney at the address listed on the permission slip (NOT to the school) by Thursday, June 15.

**4th Quarter Taxes DUE!**

**June 15, 2017**

Details on page 4

## Parade Committee Thanks the Community

WOW! First: hats off to the Grange, aka the Haynes family, for organizing the parade so seamlessly for so long. The transition team worked hard, but we were fortunate to have Cheryl Manning's and Alice Hoisington's support to help us get through our first year.

This parade belongs to the town. We hope that it will continue for another 48+ years. Having said that, we can not make it OUR parade if we don't come together. Please share with us what it is that you liked about past parades that you have watched or been involved in. We hope to make the parade grow, and want to know your thoughts, suggestions, questions and concerns now while it is still fresh in your mind so that we can start planning for next year - our goal is to make this parade as good as it can possibly be!

As we mentioned, we are in awe of the Haynes family and all that they did in the past. In our attempt to fill their shoes, it took quite a few people: Stan Achey, Bob Bruttomesso, Barbie Carr, Robin and Melissa Chesnut-Tangerman, Herb Childress, Pepper Clayton, Kim Eugair, Chris Fenton, Emmet Francois, Mathews George, Claudia and George Gonda, Rita Hansen, Alice Hoisington, Tom Hurcomb, Kathy Letendre, Cheryl Mahoney, Kimberly Bushnell Mathewson, Jon Mathewson, Paul and Meredith Morgan, Cynthia Parent, Joe Parker and the MSVFD, Linda Peavy, Terry Redfield, Leslie Silver, Chris Smid, Hilary Solomon, Ursula Smith, Bridget Tarbell, Peter Roach and the Mill River Marching Band...to name just a few.

We think the parade was a success. We saw many smiling faces and diverse groups of people both helping and participating in the parade. Be sure to contact the committee via Bob Bruttomesso [mykidsandi@aol.com](mailto:mykidsandi@aol.com) with your thoughts.

The Parade Committee

### Library Book Sale

Rain or Shine under tents on the Library Lawn

**June 3 & 4**

**Sat 8am - 3pm**

**Sun 10am - 3pm**

**Wide Selection & Great Bargains**

All proceeds benefit the  
Middletown Springs Public Library

## Memorial Day Contest Winners

The Committee is pleased to announce the winners of the annual Memorial Day Contest. Each year, students create posters, poems, and essays focused on the current theme. This year's theme was "Unity & Sacrifice."

### Grades K, 1 & 2—Posters

1st Place: Ashlynn Carr 2nd Place: Emma Haley  
3rd Place: Johana Mathews

### Grades 3 & 4—Poems

1st Place: Cameron Lamson 2nd Place: Noah  
Bruttomesso 3rd Place: Austin Schneider

### Grades 5 & 6—Essays

1st Place: Annabelle Mahar 2nd Place: Ty Dickerson  
3rd Place: Graham Seidner

## Building Committee News

The Building Committee hosted an Energy Charrette on Wednesday, May 31. A charrette brings together various project engineers, the architect, a professional estimator, a building contractor and members of the committee to review the proposed schematic design in order to discuss options and their experiences in building a net zero building. The day-long workshop, sponsored by Efficiency Vermont, provided a wealth of information to all who were there which will be invaluable as the project moves forward.



### *Milestones*

#### DEATHS:

Edward Marcy  
May 2, 2017

Ellen Secord McKeen  
May 27, 2017

# Library Bookmarks

## Build a Better World Summer Programs at the Library

### Tie-Dye Day: Saturday, July 1

Stop in and learn from a master tie-dyer. Bring a white t-shirt, handkerchief, or other fabric item to the library on Saturday, July 1, 10 am-2 pm and Jen Dattoli will be here to help you tie & dye! Hearts, stars, and peace signs are her specialty, or go for a free-form riot of color. Rain or shine on the Library Lawn (under a tent if need be).

### Library Hour: July 12-August 2 Wednesday at 9:30am

An AWESOME hour of stories & fun things to do... and a snack! Designed for kids ages 4-8; younger children are welcome with a responsible caregiver.

### Lego Club: July 10-July 24 Mondays, 10-11:30 am

Open to Lego Builders of all ages. Stop in and build with other Lego enthusiasts. A Duplo corner will also be available for the youngest builders. Under 6, please bring a responsible assistant builder. Snack provided.

### Deconstruction Junction: TBA

Ever wondered what is inside your dvd-player, laptop, phone, toaster or electronic toy? Now is your chance to take one apart and see. We have been collecting malfunctioning and dead devices with your enjoyment in mind. Children under 8 should have a responsible adult in tow. Safety glasses and tools provided. More details to follow.

**Stuffed Animal Sleepover: Tuesday, August 1**  
Drop off between 2-7 pm. Return Wednesday for pick up and to see photos of all the fun the animals had. Join your stuffed animal for our **Teddy Bear Breakfast at 9 am on Wednesday, August 2** and stay through for Story Hour. Mini muffins and fruit are sure to be on the menu. Alternate pick-up option is 2-7 pm. Stuffed animals should be confident sleeping away from their human for the night.

### Borrow a Pass

**State Parks & State Historic Sites:** Borrow the library's pass for a day of adventure and get free entry for up to eight people in one car at any of the Vt. State Parks or Historic Sites. [www.vtstateparks.com](http://www.vtstateparks.com), [www.historicsites.vermont.gov](http://www.historicsites.vermont.gov)

**Shelburne Farms Pass:** Free walk-in entry for 2 adults and their children (under 18). Enjoy

the walking trails and Children's Farmyard on the scenic shore of Lake Champlain in Shelburne, VT. [www.shelburnefarms.org](http://www.shelburnefarms.org)

**Vermont's History Museum:** Open Tuesday-Saturday, 10 am – 4 pm, next to the State House in the Pavilion Building, Montpelier. Borrow the Library's Family Pass and take in some Vermont History. [www.vermonthistory.org](http://www.vermonthistory.org)

**ECHO Lake Aquarium and Science Museum:** ECHO is on the Burlington waterfront and is open daily 10-5. Library Pass offers \$4 admission for up to 4 people. [www.echovermont.org](http://www.echovermont.org)

**Passport to Vermont Libraries:** how many VT libraries can you visit this summer?

Pick up a "library passport" and get it stamped at every library you visit. Between September 1-14, stop back in this library to show us how many libraries you visited. The patron from each age category (adult, child, YA) who has visited the most libraries will receive a small prize and be entered into the statewide contest where three winners, one from each category, will win a grand prize provided by Vermont Library Association.

**DCF Award Books:** For kids in grades 4-8. Dive into the coming year's nominations for the Dorothy Canfield Fisher Award. Read five (5) or more by next April and vote for your favorite. Books available after June 8. ([2017-2018 List](#))

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## School Visits to the Library

On **June 6 & 8**, the students at the Elementary School will visit the Town Library. They come by grades during their school library time. An overview of the summer program is presented. Students can reserve a book which will be held for them for one week. The **Kindergarteners** will receive their own library cards. It is always a bright moment when they realize all the books and movies in the building belong to everyone in the town and with their new card, to them, too.

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**Library Hours:** After a two-month trial period, the Trustees have decided to retain the original Library hours.

<b>Monday, Tuesday</b>	<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>2-7 pm</b>
<b>Friday</b>		<b>10 am-2 pm</b>
<b>Saturday</b>		<b>10 am-12 pm</b>

## Property Tax Q & A

**Q: When are Q 4 property taxes due?**

A: On or before June 15, 2017.

**Q: Who collects property taxes?**

A: The Town Treasurer - Jenny Talke Munyak - collects current year NON delinquent taxes.

**Q: Can I give my taxes to the Town Clerk?**

A: Current property tax payments should be given to the Treasurer.

**Q: What if the Treasurer is not in the office when I want to drop them off?**

A: There are 3 options:

1. Mail your taxes to PO Box 1022 and make sure your envelope is postmarked on or before June 15, 2017. Otherwise you'll incur a PENALTY. Include a Stamped Self Addressed envelope if you need a receipt.

2. The Treasurer will be available in the office on Thursday, June 15, 9 am noon & 1 pm-4 pm, to receive taxes.

3. A drop box for submission of your taxes will be available in the town office during open hours. Include a Stamped Self Addressed Envelope if you need a receipt.

**Q: What forms of payment do you accept?**

A: Checks - made out to "The Town of Middletown Springs."

Cash - please submit the EXACT amount due, as cash is not kept in the Town Office.

**Q: What if I forget to submit my taxes on or before the due date?**

A: Any late taxes and unpaid taxes will incur a PENALTY 8%. The day after taxes are due (June 16) and beyond is considered late.

Town Treasurer, Jenny Talke Munyak

Hours - By Appointment

Contact: [mtstreasurer@vermontel.net](mailto:mtstreasurer@vermontel.net)  
or 235-3256

## New School Districts First Meetings

Vermont Secretary of Education Rebecca Holcomb will be sending a designee to conduct the organizational meetings of the newly merged districts: Quarry Valley Unified Union School District (composed of Poultney, West Rutland and Proctor) and Wells Springs Unified Union School District (composed of Wells and Middletown Springs).

The meetings will be held **Tuesday, June 27:**  
5:30 pm Wells Springs UUSD at MSES  
7:00 pm Quarry Valley UUSD at Poultney HS

## Gardening Festival Bloomed Bright

Many thanks to all who contributed to and attended the 3rd Annual Friends of the MS Public Library Gardening Festival on May 20. New this year was a Breakfast Bistro with a variety of home baked muffins and fresh brewed coffee.

There was a special tribute to Winsome Moran who was a long time resident and a very active volunteer for the MS Public Library and the Friends. A narrative and an arrangement of flowers by Meredith Morgan accompanied photos of Winsome.

Those who attended the workshop/seminars were treated to presentations on *Mini Gardens for Patios and Decks* which included demonstration of how wood pallets can be used to grow vegetables and flowers. Sean Parker, the meteorologist from local TV Channel 22, addressed the issue of weather and climate change as they affect gardening in his presentation *Climate, Cucumbers and Chrysanthemums*.

The volunteers making the 2017 festival a happy place were: Pat Hemenway, Claudia and George Gonda, Lois Dansereau, Deb Squires, Kimberly Bushnell Mathewson, Pete Mathewson, Olivia Hinterberger-Kelly, Judith and Howard Robinson, Erick Ericksen, Ursula Smith, Linda Peavy, Juanita Burch-Clay, Maureen McCormack and Shane Thornton. The Friends want to give a special thanks to the MS Historic Society for their permission to use its facility and kitchen equipment.

Happy Gardening!

The Friends of the Library

***"If you have a garden and a library, you have everything you need."*** -- Cicero

## Friends Meeting

The Friends of the MS Public Library will hold its June meeting on **June 13, 7 pm**, at the library. All are welcome.

## Community Calendars

It is almost time to send in your updates for the Community Calendar. Between the calendar pages for June & July there is a [reorder form](#). Send it in **by August 1** and help the Library Trustees complete their tasks of the Calendar updating and reprinting for 2018. All proceeds benefit the Town Library.

Don't have a 2017 calendar? Pick up a FREE one at the Book Sale or later at the Library!



# Calendar of Events

## June

Historical Society	Thurs 1	7 pm	MSHS
Listers Meeting	Fri 2	1 pm	Town Office
<b>Library Book Sale</b>	<b>Sat 3</b>	<b>8-3 pm</b>	<b>Library</b>
<b>Library Book Sale</b>	<b>Sat 4</b>	<b>10-3 pm</b>	<b>Library</b>
Planning Commission	Mon 5	4 pm	Town Office
<b>Informational Meeting</b>	<b>Mon 5</b>	<b>6 pm</b>	<b>MSHS</b>
<b>POLLS OPEN – Vote</b>	<b>Tues 6</b>	<b>7-7 pm</b>	<b>MSHS</b>
Fire Dept. Training	Tues 6	6:30 pm	Firehouse
Building Committee	Wed 7	7 pm	Library
School Board	Thurs 8	6 pm	School
Selectboard	Thurs 8	7 pm	Town Office
Fire Dept. Training	Tues 13	6:30 pm	Firehouse
Friends of the Library	Tues 13	7 pm	Library
<b>Property Taxes Due</b>	<b>Thurs 15</b>		
Building Committee	Thurs 15	7 pm	Library
<b>Father's Day</b>	<b>Sun 18</b>		
First Response	Sun 18	6:30 pm	Firehouse
<b>Last Day of School!</b>	<b>Mon 19</b>		<b>MSES</b>
Fire Dept. Training	Tues 20	6:30 pm	Firehouse
Selectboard	Thurs 22	7 pm	Town Office
<b>Strawberry Festival</b>	<b>Sun 25</b>	<b>2-4 pm</b>	<b>MSHS</b>
<b>Swim Lessons start</b>	<b>Mon 26</b>		<b>Crystal Beach</b>
Fire Dept. Training	Tues 27	6:30 pm	Firehouse

## July

<b>Tie-Dye Day</b>	<b>Sat 1</b>	<b>10-2 pm</b>	<b>Library</b>
Planning Commission	Mon 3	4 pm	Town Office
<b>INDEPENDENCE DAY</b>	<b>Tues 4</b>		
Building Committee	Wed 5	7 pm	Library
Historical Society	Thurs 6	7 pm	MSHS
Fire Dept. Training	Tues 11	6:30 pm	Firehouse
School Board	Thurs 13	6 pm	School
Selectboard	Thurs 13	7 pm	Town Office
First Response	Sun 16	6:30 pm	Firehouse
Fire Dept. Training	Tues 18	6:30 pm	Firehouse
Building Committee	Thurs 20	7 pm	Library
Fire Dept. Training	Tues 25	6:30 pm	Firehouse
Library Trustees	Wed 26	7 pm	Library
Selectboard	Thurs 27	7 pm	Town Office

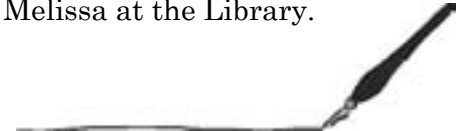
## TOWN NEWSLETTER

Lots of information in a snippet & list format, plus a Calendar of Events. No ads, articles, or minutes.

This supplements and enhances the Town website & Front Porch Forum and will serve the needs of those who don't regularly use computers.

Digital copies are available as a PDF. The PDF is posted to FPF or the Town website or is sent free via email to those who sign up. It is also available in hard copy, delivered by USPS, to those who subscribe for \$6 a year postage. Copies are posted at the Town Office, Grant's Village Store, and the Library.

**Questions:** Call 235-2435, or email [middletownspringslibrary@gmail.com](mailto:middletownspringslibrary@gmail.com) to reach Kimberly & Melissa at the Library.



### Submit News & Events to:

Middletown Springs Public Library  
PO Box 1206  
Middletown Springs, VT 05757

[middletownspringslibrary@gmail.com](mailto:middletownspringslibrary@gmail.com)

Deadline: 25th of the month  
for inclusion in upcoming issue.



*Calendar Events – subject to change.  
When in doubt, please check with the organization for details.*