

middle TOWN NEWS letter

December 2017

Run for Town Office!!! *Is it your turn?*

A Message from the Selectboard:

Town Meeting 2018 is approaching sooner than you think, and it's time to consider your opportunities for civic service. The following crucial Town positions are up for election in March 2018 (school-related positions are not included in this list):

Select Board (one two-year seat, one three-year seat)

Town Clerk (three-year position)

Town Treasurer (three-year position)

Tax Collector (three-year position)

Moderator (one-year position)

Road Commissioner (three-year position)

Lister (three-year position)

Library Trustees (two three-year positions)

Planning Commission (one three-year position)

There are a lot of other open positions as well (like Tree Warden, for instance). But these eleven posts are crucial to the well-being and success of Middletown Springs. If you have any questions about these openings, please contact [the current position holder](#) or any member of the Select Board for more information.

If you intend to run for any of these positions, you must submit a nominating petition signed by one percent of the voter checklist (in Middletown Springs, that would be six people) to the Town Clerk **no later than the end of business on Monday, January 29, 2018**—only two months away!

Please consider running for one of these vital positions.

I can assure you, public service is a stimulating, proud and lively enterprise. It is not just a way of life, it is a way to live fully.

—Former U.S. Representative Lee Hamilton

Holiday Craft Fair

Sunday December 3

10 am - 3 pm

at the School

30 exhibitors

Delicious Food Sale

to benefit the

Memorial Day Parade

Sheriff's Department Pilot Project

The Rutland County Sheriff's Department is conducting a trial period of a 40-hour per week patrol shared by Middletown Springs, Ira, Tinmouth and Danby. The current contribution from these four towns equals 25.5 hours per week, and the Sheriff's Department is augmenting those hours in December through March with funds from a grant that it has received. During the pilot period, we should expect to see a Sheriff's deputy in town more frequently, and also have more rapid response to calls for service.

The Select Board is about to begin the 2018-19 budget process in December, and will be deliberating whether to add to our budget for the Sheriff's Department contract for greater hours once this pilot project has concluded. The Board welcomes your input into this question; feel free to contact any of us, or to attend a Board meeting to make your thoughts known.

Note from the Town Treasurer

Property Tax payments for the **2nd Quarter** of Fiscal Year 17/18 are **due on or before Friday, December 15, 2017**.

Please mail your payment to: Town Treasurer, PO Box 1022, Middletown Springs, VT 05757. Envelopes must be postmarked December 15, 2017 or earlier to be considered on time.

The Treasurer will be in the Town Office on Friday December 15, 2017, 1 pm - 6 pm to collect tax payments.

Tax payments received or postmarked AFTER 12/15 are considered LATE. Late payments will incur interest of 1% per month for 3 months, and 1.5% per month, each month thereafter until payment is remitted.

Please plan in advance to remit your tax payment on a timely basis. If you have any questions you can contact Jenny Munyak at 235-3256 or mtstreasurer@vermontel.net.

Thank you, Jenny Talke Munyak



Middletown Springs Historic District Book

The Middletown Springs Historical Society is proud to announce the publication of the Middletown Springs Historic District book, a collection of the photographs and descriptions of the historic properties and places in the village of Middletown Springs.

The book is based on the National Register of Historic Places Nomination Form, prepared by historic preservation architect, Matthew Cohen, and approved by the National Park Service in Washington, D.C. in 1985.

For many years the Historical Society's copy of the Nomination Form and related photographs was displayed in an album in the Museum, accessible to the public during museum hours. However, as the fabric of the album deteriorated, the Trustees looked for a way to preserve the informational material and assure its long-term availability.

It was decided to create a high quality book, using the latest digital technology that could be printed on demand, edited periodically and reproduced in both print and digital formats.

The trustees concern for high quality reproduction led us to Dennis Grady at the Dartmouth College Library, a professional book designer with the up-to-date skills and connections to direct the production process. He and the Trustees' publications committee now present a 202 page book with 97 high resolution black and white photographs that will be equally appreciated in local homes, the Middletown Springs Public Library and in the libraries of some of Vermont's secondary schools, universities and historical institutions.

For more information, contact David Wright (235-2376) or Pat Hemenway (235-2421)

News from the School

MSES's Student Council sponsored a **Friday Night Harvest Fest**. Parents brought in potluck items for a community dinner. After eating, students had the option of staying inside to watch a movie or go outside to play. Students were excited about having a bonfire, cooking marshmallows for s'mores and playing flashlight tag. Everyone had a wonderful time with interest in having this be a yearly event and also doing something similar during the winter. Everyone's effort to make the event a success was appreciated.

The school will once again be participating in **Odyssey of the Mind**. There is enough interest to

have at least two teams. Students in kindergarten through third grade will also have an opportunity to participate in **First Lego League Junior**. This is an engineering challenge using Legos and Lego Robotics software. Similar to Odyssey, students will collaborate together to solve open-ended problems. Both of these after school groups help students develop important life skills.

Basketball season has started for another season. There will be a 5th/6th and a 3rd/4th grade team. Chere Tournet and Justin Hier will be the coaches. Team members are excited for their first game and the opportunity to go back to the Glodzik Tournament in March.

Invitation for Proposals 2017 Town Report

The Town of Middletown Springs invites any interested person or business to submit a proposal for the **layout and design of the 2017 Town Report**. An electronic copy of the 2016 Town Report is available on the Middletown Springs website, <http://middletownsprings.vt.gov>, or in person at the Town Clerk's office.

This project requires close coordination with the Town Clerk, members of the Selectboard, and other elected officials and volunteer organizations to gather and organize information. The selected vendor will need to scan and/or transcribe hard-copy documents for inclusion in the electronic file, as well as modify the format of Microsoft Word, Excel, and other files to fit the final layout plan. This will require visits to the Town Clerk's office to pick up documents as they become available, and active e-mail access to receive electronic materials. Past years' layout and design work have taken approximately 35-50 hours.

It is expected that the selected vendor will deliver a print-ready electronic document to the Town's selected printing contractor during the first week of February, 2018. The Town will be responsible for printing and mailing the final report by its deadline of February 24.

Proposals should include a fixed-fee or hourly cost for layout, design and coordination as described above; designate the layout/design software that they will use; and include at least one sample of a prior project they have completed that is similar in scope (either in paper or in PDF electronic version). Proposals are due at the Middletown Springs Town Office **by 4pm on Friday, December 8, 2017**.

If you have any questions about this request for proposals, please contact Select Board Chair Chris Fenton or Select Board Clerk Herb Childress.

New 2018 Town Phone Directory

Accepting New Listings and Changes

The 2018 Town Phone Directory is now in progress and we need your help to bring it up-to-date. Please review the 2015/16 Directory (available at the library if needed) to determine if **CHANGES** need to be made to your listing, to create a **NEW** resident listing or to notify us of any **DELETIONS**.

WHERE AND HOW TO SUBMIT INFO:

SECTION 1: PERSONAL RESIDENT LISTINGS

(Name, street/road, one phone # per listing.)

Email Pat Hemenway at ladyh@vermontel.net or call 235-2421.

SECTION 2: BUSINESS/SERVICES LISTINGS

(For businesses in Middletown Springs, use the 2015 directory as a format guide for submitting changes, deletions and new business info.)

Email Kathy Letendre at kathy@letendreassociates.com or call 235-1369.

With your help we hope to make the 2018 Directory as accurate and complete as possible.

Would you like to advertise in 2018 Town Phone Directory?

The **ADVERTISING** section of our town Directory is a great place to advertise your Middletown Springs business/services for long-term local community exposure while helping to support the Directory.

HOW TO INCLUDE YOUR AD:

Step 1) Reserve new ad space or renew your existing ad, changes, payment, questions: email Leslie Silver at lsilver@vermontel.net or call 235-2335.

Step 2) Artwork, file transmission, production, questions: email Maria Riley at rileydesign@vermontel.net or call 235-2624.

ADVERTISING RATES

1/4 page "business card" size

\$25 existing ad / \$30 changes or New ad

1/2 page ad size

\$50 existing ad / \$55 changes or New ad

Full page ad - \$100

Printing and distribution of the Directory are paid for entirely through advertising fees.

Thank you for supporting our town Directory!

- The Directory Volunteers

Sunday Basketball Open Gym is back!

Sundays November 19 - April(ish)

4 - 6pm

MSES Gymnasium

All ages and abilities welcome

Contact Justin Hier for more info
235-1297 or justinhier@hotmail.com

Free Indeed!

Free Indeed - a giant yard sale where everything is "sold" for free - is open for business **Saturday, December 2, 9 am - Noon** at the Middletown Springs Community Church. Plenty of toys, household items, gifts, adult and children's clothing and more are available and are all for free! This event truly is free indeed.

Free Indeed is sponsored by Middletown Springs Community Church. Please call 235-2386 with questions.

Spaghetti Dinner Thank You!

The Spaghetti Dinner fundraiser for the 6th grade class trip to Washington, D.C. was a HUGE success, raising over \$1500! Thank you to everyone that came out to eat spaghetti and support this great educational opportunity for our students.

A special thanks to our many kind and generous sponsors who include: Blanchard Trucking, Fair Haven Shaws, Larson's Morningside Farm, Morgan Mountain Organics, Rutland Hannaford, Stewarts, Tarbell Farm, West Rutland Price Chopper, Grant's Village Store and Denise McConville.

Additionally, online donations through [Do-norsChoose.org](http://DonorsChoose.org) funded lodging for the DC trip! The speed with which the lodging request got fully supported was amazing. A new opportunity to contribute will be posted soon, so keep an eye on DonorsChoose.org.

Our next big event is a Basket Raffle in March... stay tuned for details!

Did You Order a Community Calendar from the Library?

If you ordered your Community Birthday Calendar but haven't had a chance to pay, please get your \$8 to the library soon. The price will go up to \$10 upon delivery, which will happen in mid-December.

Feel free to drop it off at the Library during open hours, or anytime in the box outside, or send to PO Box 1206.

Thanks! Kristal Hier, MSPL Board of Trustees

Milestones

Cypris Björna Brosnan

born November 10, 2017

to parents Tamzen & Hakan Brosnan

Join the Creative Network!

In 2016 the Vermont Arts Council launched the **Vermont Creative Network** to support the work of the **Creative Economy initiative**. The Arts Council divided the state into six "creative zones" to help fully realize the potential for economic impact and renewal in our communities. The Addison-Rutland creative zone was formed in June of this year. Melissa Chesnut-Tangerman is a member of the zone's leadership team.

The creative sector includes organizations, businesses and individuals whose work centers on creativity, the arts, culture, and innovation. This encompasses lots of people: visual arts and crafts, performing arts, literary arts and publishing, film and media, design, culture and heritage, artisan food **as well as** creatives engaged in other fields. Vermont's vibrant creative sector is essential to the state's economic and general well-being, contributing almost 9% of the economy as well as in a myriad of unquantifiable ways.

Earlier this month the Arts Council held a two-day Summit in Montpelier to focus on action steps for the network. Ted Brady of the Agency of Commerce and Community Development, Wendy Knight from Vermont Department of Tourism and Marketing, Abbey Willard from the Agency of Agriculture and Paul Costello of the Vermont Council of Rural Development were among the presenters. The state of Vermont is solidly behind working through the Creative Network to reach goals in these three areas: **public and private investment** (What can the sector do right now to encourage greater investment?) **Vermont's identity** (What role can the sector play to heighten Vermont's livability and attractiveness?) and **infrastructure** (What policies, spaces, or resources can the sector activate to increase the sector's capacity?).

The Arts Council's model is the Farm to Table network that succeeded in enhancing agriculture, farmers markets, restaurants, specialty foods and ultimately tourism throughout the state. Can the Vermont Creative Network succeed in a similar way? We won't know unless and until it's abuzz with creative people communicating - and everyone is creative in some way.

Please join! Here is the link to a survey our zone created to get a sense of what and who is out there and what the needs are. Three questions will take maybe five minutes. https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSf_a6gzFX1Nwcqv5s15gYo_0XMaNihxkAFNHQ5mOeGMLppIw/viewform



Food Shelf

The Poultney Food Shelf serves the residents of Middletown Springs as well as Poultney and Hampton, NY. The Food Shelf is located in the Stonebridge (at the northeast corner of Rte. 30 and Main Street), and is **open Tuesdays, 3-5 pm**. Please be prepared to show ID and verify your town of residence (driver's license, utility bill, etc.).

Donations of non-perishable food and fresh produce are always welcome. The Poultney Food Shelf is a 501(c)3 not-for profit.

For more information, call 287-9558.

NEW Books at the Library including:

NON-Fiction

No Baggage : a minimalist tale of love & wandering
by Clara Bensen

Tie-Dye 101: how to make over 20 fabulous patterns
by Sulfiati Harris and Suzanne McNeill

What Unites Us by Dan Rather

Fiction

My Husband's Wife by Jane Corry

Manhattan Beach by Jennifer Egan

Hardcore Twenty-Four by Janet Evanovich

Presumption of Guilt by Archer Mayor

Trace by Archer Mayor

Children's Books

George and Martha by James Marshall

Soccer for Girls : an introductory step-by-step guide
by Graham Ramsay

The Trumpet of the Swan by E.B. White



Christmas in the Park

Sunday, December 10, at 6 pm

Want a wonderful way to feel the joy of Christmas this season? Come celebrate with friends and neighbors at **Christmas in the Park**. Enjoy the live Nativity scene and sing carols while we light the Christmas tree on the Green. Then head inside and warm up with tasty treats and good conversation! All ages are invited to take part as angels and shepherds.

Call Rita at 235-2436 for more information.

Calendar of Events

December

Free Indeed	Sat 2	9 - Noon	MSCC
Craft Fair	Sun 3	10 am-3 pm	School
Planning Commission	Mon 4	4 pm	Town Office
Knitting Circle	Mon 4	7-9 pm	Library
Fire Dept. Training	Tues 5	6:30 pm	Firehouse
Building Committee	Wed 6	7 pm	Library
Historical Society	Thurs 7	7 pm	MSHS
Fire Dept. Training	Tues 12	6:30 pm	Firehouse
Friends of the Library	Tues 12	7 pm	Library
School Board	Thurs 14	6 pm	School
Selectboard	Thurs 14	7 pm	Town Office
Property Tax Due	Fri 15	1-6 pm	Town Office
First Response	Sun 17	6:30 pm	Firehouse
Fire Dept. Training	Tues 19	6:30 pm	Firehouse
Building Committee	Thurs 21	7 pm	Library
Christmas Day	Mon 25		
Fire Dept. Training	Tues 26	6:30 pm	Firehouse
Selectboard	Thurs 28	7 pm	Town Office
New Year's Eve	Mon 31		

January

New Year's Day	Mon 1		
Fire Dept. Training	Tues 2	6:30 pm	Firehouse
Building Committee	Wed 3	7 pm	Library
Historical Society	Thurs 4	7 pm	MSHS
Planning Commission	Mon 8	4 pm	Town Office
Knitting Circle	Mon 8	7-9 pm	Library
Fire Dept. Training	Tues 9	6:30 pm	Firehouse
Library Trustees	Wed 10	7 pm	Library
School Board	Thurs 11	6 pm	School
Selectboard	Thurs 11	7 pm	Town Office
MLK, Jr Day	Mon 15		
Fire Dept. Training	Tues 16	6:30 pm	Firehouse
Building Committee	Thurs 18	7 pm	Library
First Response	Sun 21	6:30 pm	Firehouse
Fire Dept. Training	Tues 23	6:30 pm	Firehouse
Auditors	Wed 24	7:30 pm	Town Office
Selectboard	Thurs 25	7 pm	Town Office
Nominating Petitions Due	Mon 29		Town Office
Fire Dept. Training	Tues 30	6:30 pm	Firehouse

Calendar Events – subject to change.

When in doubt, please check with the organization for details.

Join Front Porch Forum ... to know what is happening

Middletown Springs' Forum started January 1, 2011. Since then, 374 members from our 320 households have made 4150 **postings**.

It's free. It's local. And it's friendly.

Check it out at <http://FrontPorchForum.com/>

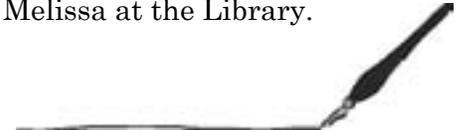
TOWN NEWSLETTER

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 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

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

