

middle TOWN NEWS letter

April 2018

News from the School

Two teams from MSES compete in the **VT Odyssey of the Mind State Competition** on March 17 in Hinesburg. Both teams chose to work on the “Stellar Hangout” long term problem which had the team members develop a skit on a space hangout (think Star Wars). The skit needed to include three alien characters, some type of entertainment, unique foods served, and a 3D map. The students worked very hard and are already talking about participating next year.

The **Friends for Education (FFE)** are again sponsoring a **weeklong artist in residency** for the students from April 2-6. We are very fortunate to have a dance instructor from New York City who will be working with the students on movement and music and bringing it all together for a Friday evening **Dance Performance at 7 pm on April 6**. A Pot Luck Dinner will be held beforehand at 6:00. Families are asked to bring a covered dish to share. Also on April 6, there will be a **Luncheon and Mini-Performance for grandparents and senior community members at 12 noon**.

Some other things that are happening in the school include: The **Girls on the Run** program that culminates in a 5K run in May for students in 3rd - 6th grades. Our Technology Integrationist is working with students on 3D printing during the school day and a **LEGO Jr. Robotics Club** during the after-school program. Our **Spring Concert** took place on Tuesday, March 27 with the students showcasing a variety of vocal and instrumental talents.

Regarding the school building; the **siding project** on the building addition will start at the beginning of May and be completed by the end of June.

Sincerely,

Rick Beal, Principal

Dance Performance

artist in residency

Dancer/Choreographer Anthony Rosado
from New York City

Friday, April 6, 7 pm at the School

Potluck Dinner at 6 pm.
Bring a covered dish to share.

Sponsored by Friends for Education (FFE)

Memorial Day Parade

As many readers know, in 2017 an ad hoc group of community members took on the organization of the now 49-year-old institution of the Middletown Springs Memorial Day Parade, leaning heavily on the advice and guidance of Alice Hoisington and Cheryl Mahoney. We are looking forward to making a great parade happen on **Sunday, May 27 at 3 pm**. The theme for the 2018 parade: **Home of the Free Because of the Brave**.

But who is this “we”? It is anyone who would like to help and participate! At an initial meeting on March 26, lots of great ideas were floated (get it?), but lots of help will be needed to turn those ideas into realities. We want to encourage not only individuals but organizations to get involved, and we’d like to create a contest category for Best Float by an Organization. Churches, social groups or clubs, garden club, etc.

We would also like to have a Citizen of the Year honored during the ceremonies on the Green. Here’s where YOU come in: what attributes does that citizen have? To create the criteria for that honor, we want to gather your thoughts and suggestions. PLEASE SEND YOUR THOUGHTS to: msmemorialparade@gmail.com.

EVERYONE who wants to help with any of the many aspects of the Parade -- from the logistics of lining up floats and marching groups to helping to hang bunting and flags to directing and/or assisting in preparation, to planning the ceremony on the Green -- is invited to attend the **next committee meeting on Wednesday, April 11 at 7 pm** at the Library. If you can’t attend on that evening, please let us know of your interest in volunteering your time, energy, or ideas by sending an e-mail to msmemorialparade@gmail.com or dropping a note in the Parade Committee Ideas box at the Library or Town Office.

Melissa Chesnut-Tangerman
on behalf of the Parade Committee

FOL Notice

Friends of the Library will meet at the Library on **April 24 at 7 pm** for their regular monthly meeting and to discuss plans for their upcoming Gardening Festival.

All interested are welcome to attend.

REMINDER: File Your VT Homestead Declaration

Homestead Declarations are required annually and **MUST** be filed with the Vermont Tax Department. If you are a Vermont resident and own and occupy a Vermont dwelling as your principal residence on April 1, 2018, you must **file Form HS-122 by April 18, 2018**. The Declaration is necessary so that your property is charged the residential tax rate and is a prerequisite to a Property Tax Adjustment. Late filers will be penalized.

Please Note: If you meet these requirements, except that your homestead is leased to a tenant on April 1, 2018, you may still claim it as a homestead if it is not leased for more than 182 days in the 2018 calendar year.

The Vermont Property Tax Adjustment assists many Vermont homeowners with paying their property taxes. You may be eligible for a property tax adjustment. The maximum property tax adjustment you can receive is \$8,000.

Eligibility for Property Tax Adjustment is as follows:

- The property must be declared as your homestead.
- You were domiciled in Vermont for the entire 2017 calendar year.
- You must not have been claimed as a dependent for tax year 2017.
- You owned the property as your principal residence on April 1, 2018
- You meet the household income criteria of \$141,000 or less.

Click on <http://tax.vermont.gov/property-owners/homestead-declaration> for more detailed information about your circumstances.

Questions: Contact a member of the Board of Listers:

Sally Achey, Chair – 235-2434, Randy Kniffin – 235-2620, or Patricia Hemenway – 235-2421

PIE for Breakfast!

No matter how you slice it, Pie For Breakfast was a **delicious success**. Many thanks to all the bakers, you outdid yourselves this year with a whopping 75 pies. Kudos to the many volunteers who worked hard slicing the pie, resetting the tables, and brewing the coffee. A special thank you to all who came to enjoy some PIE! for breakfast.

In gratitude,
the Library Trustees



Gardening Festival

Despite some recent weather to the contrary, spring and summer really are coming – actually pretty soon. The Friends of the Library have started to prepare for their 4th Annual Gardening Festival on **Saturday, May 19, 8 am-noon**. In particular, they are looking for donations. Perhaps you can help!

If you are starting plants indoors from seed, please consider starting a few extra plants to donate - flowers or veggies, or both.

If you are going to be cleaning out a garden shed in the next few weeks, please think of setting aside used but serviceable tools, supplies, or equipment for the Friends to sell at the Festival.

If you are planning to divide perennials this year, please consider potting some up for the Friends to sell. (If you have an invasive weed in your garden such as Goutweed, Bishop's weed, or Japanese knotweed, please do not donate.)

Folks come from miles around to buy healthy, local plant divisions.

Later in April the Friends will put out a call for volunteers to help set up, sell, and take down the Festival, as well as for a couple of bakers to donate fresh baked muffins to be sold with hot coffee during the sale.

All proceeds benefit the Friends of the Middletown Springs Public Library. For more info, call Maureen McCormack at 235-1245 or moe@vermontel.net.

Oversize Trash & Metal Day Saturday, May 5

The dumpster is located at 577 West Street (across from Parker Water Wells).

Furniture, toys, small amounts of construction and demolition items are acceptable. **NO CONTRACTORS**, please. **NEW** this year: Fee of \$5 per vehicle load will be charged for large trash. Metals are collected for free.

6 am to noon for BOTH oversize trash and metal.

Sunday Basketball Open Gym

Sundays through April(ish)

4 - 6pm

MSES Gymnasium

All ages and abilities welcome

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

Library Bookmarks

New & New to Us

DVDs:

Call Me By Your Name / Catch and Release / Darkest Hour / Guardians of the Galaxy / I, Tonya / The Italian Job / Lady Bird / The Light Between Oceans / The Missing / Mr. Church / The Shape of Water / Stargate / Three Billboards Outside Ebbing, Missouri / Victoria & Abdul / Wonder

Fiction:

The Immortalists / Chloe Benjamin
The Flight Attendant / Chris Bohjalian
The Tuscan Child / Rhys Bowen
Every Note Played / Lisa Genova
The Great Alone / Kristin Hannah
An American Marriage / Tayari Jones
The Temptation of Forgiveness / Donna Leon
After the Fire / Henning Mankell
A State of Freedom / Neel Mukherjee
Improvement / Joan Silber
To Die but Once / Jacqueline Winspear
Grist Mill Road / Christopher J. Yates

Non-Fiction:

Prairie Fires : the American Dreams of Laura Ingalls Wilder / Caroline Fraser
Killers of the Flower Moon / David Grann
No Time to Spare / Ursula K. Le Guin
Children to the Mountain / Gary Lindorff

Children's Chapter Books:

The War I Finally Won / Kimberly Brubaker Bradley
My Brigadista year / Katherine Paterson

Picture Books:

Triangle / Mac Barnett
The Rooster Who Would Not Be Quiet! / Carmen Agra Deedy
Her Right Foot / Dave Eggers
The Bad Seed / Jory John
Over and Under the Pond / Kate Messner
The Word Collector / Peter H. Reynolds

Library Hours

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday	2-7 pm
Friday	10 am-2 pm
Saturday	10 am-noon

235-2435

middletownspringslibrary@gmail.com

Poetry Evening

In celebration of National Poetry Month, please join us for an evening of "no-pressure" poetry, **Monday, April 30, in the Library at 7pm**. Bring a favorite poem or two, that you or somebody else wrote, to share. Give poetry a chance: it is wonderful to explore, even for those of us who think we don't/won't like it!

Ongoing Seed Swap at the Library

Ready to start some seedlings or make plans for the garden? Thanks to a generous donation from the Biondi family, our seed supply to trade has more than doubled! As in past years, we also have donated seeds donated by High Mowing in Wolcott. Please come and peruse the packets - take what you will use (we have envelopes). Trade some of your own saved seeds, or just come and pick some up. It is not a requirement that you bring seeds to swap in order to take some away.

Welcome spring!

HeritageQuest Online

Interested in genealogy? Working on your family's history? **Access HeritageQuest online for free** with your library card.

HeritageQuest Online is one of the largest and most useful online data collections for family historians. It has US censuses from 1790 to 1930, more than 26,000 family and local history books, Revolutionary War pension files, the Periodical Source Index (PERSI) to 2.1 million-plus articles in genealogy and history periodicals, Freedman's Bank records of former slaves, and petitions to Congress back to 1789.

To log in, go to the library's website (<https://middletownsprings.wordpress.com/>) and click the "HeritageQuest" image in the right hand margin. This will redirect your browser to HeritageQuest's Vermont Libraries login page. Simply enter your library patron barcode and press "connect".

If you do not have a MSPL Library Card, stop in to sign up as a new patron. If you don't remember your 14-digit patron barcode number, or can't find your library card, call the library during open hours and we will look it up for you. If you are taxing your memory to remember your 1-, 2-, or 3-digit library number, don't bother. You need a 14-digit number to access HeritageQuest. Come in and we will give you one.

Questions? Contact the Library 235-2435 or middletownspringslibrary@gmail.com

Calendar of Events

April

Planning Commission	Mon 2	4 pm	Town Office
Knitting Circle	Mon 2	7-9 pm	Library
Fire Dept. Training	Tues 3	6:30 pm	Firehouse
Building Committee	Wed 4	7 pm	Library
Historical Society	Thurs 5	7 pm	MSHS
Dance Performace	Fri 6	7 pm	MSES
Fire Dept. Training	Tues 10	6:30 pm	Firehouse
School Board	Thurs 12	6 pm	School
Selectboard	Thurs 12	7 pm	Town Office
First Response	Sun 15	6:30 pm	Firehouse
Fire Dept. Training	Tues 17	6:30 pm	Firehouse
Building Committee	Thurs 19	7 pm	Library
Fire Dept. Training	Tues 24	6:30 pm	Firehouse
Library Trustees	Wed 25	7 pm	Library
Selectboard	Thurs 26	7 pm	Town Office
Poetry Night	Mon 30	7 pm	Library

May

Fire Dept. Training	Tues 1	6:30 pm	Firehouse
Building Committee	Wed 2	7 pm	Library
Historical Society	Thurs 3	7 pm	MSHS
Planning Commission	Mon 7	4 pm	Town Office
Knitting Circle	Mon 7	7-9 pm	Library
Fire Dept. Training	Tues 8	6:30 pm	Firehouse
School Board	Thurs 10	6 pm	School
Selectboard	Thurs 10	7 pm	Town Office
Fire Dept. Training	Tues 15	6:30 pm	Firehouse
Building Committee	Thurs 17	7 pm	Library
First Response	Sun 20	6:30 pm	Firehouse
Fire Dept. Training	Tues 22	6:30 pm	Firehouse
Library Trustees	Wed 23	7 pm	Library
Selectboard	Thurs 24	7 pm	Town Office
Memorial Day Parade	Sun 27	3 pm	
Memorial Day	Mon 28		
Fire Dept. Training	Tues 29	6:30 pm	Firehouse

Calendar Events – subject to change.

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

Town Meeting Results

An unofficial tally was posted to Front Porch Forum at the time of the election. All articles passed. In the only contested race, Laura Ann Castle was re-elected Town Clerk. For further information about who's who in our town government and to see which positions still need to be filled, go the the town website.

<http://middletownsprings.vt.gov/town-government/town-officers/>

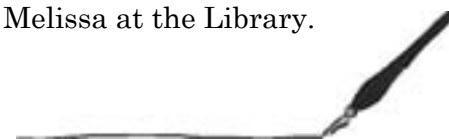
TOWN NEWSLETTER

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.

