

middle TOWN NEWS letter

July 2018



Going Local: Vermont Plants Sunday Afternoons at the Library

“Wild things that make my heart sing”

Wild herbs and other edibles in our community

July 8, 2 pm, presented by Leslie Silver

“Natives in your garden”

Tips on incorporating natives in your garden, especially pollinating gardens, and landscaping.

July 22, 2 pm, presented by Sadie Brown.

“A walk in the woods”

Wild Crafting for food and medicine

August 12, 2 pm, presented by Richard Alberty

“Backyard Beekeeping”

Backyard beekeeping and why there is much more than honey.

September 9, 2 pm, presented by Cory Brunner

Hosted by the Friends of the Middletown Springs Public Library, these sessions are FREE and open to the public. The Library is located at 39 West Street. Overflow parking can usually be found at St. Anne’s Church. Refreshments will be served.

For information: contact Maureen at 235-1245 or the Library at 235-2435 / middletownspringslibrary@gmail.com.

Family Fun

Tie-Dye Day: Saturday, July 7

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 7, between 10 am-1 pm**. 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).

Tour de Slate: Bike Ride to End Addiction



Addiction has touched the lives of countless friends, neighbors, coworkers, and classmates. For some it’s too close to home.

For others it’s the story of “someone” else.

In Middletown Springs—and down the back roads of the Slate Valley, it’s a story of redemption. It’s a story of riding bikes to raise money to support the recovery of friends, family – and our own neighbors - at the first annual Tour de Slate “riding to end addiction” bike ride.

Tour de Slate is a bike ride through the Slate Valley on **Saturday, August 4, 2018** to raise money to end addiction.

“Tour de Slate will change lives,” said event coordinator Stan Achey. “100% of this fundraiser’s net proceeds will go directly to cover the expenses of men, women and teens ready to turn their lives around and break the chains of addiction at Teen Challenge Vermont.”

Teen Challenge Vermont is a 15 month, faith-based residential facility with an admissions office in Rutland City, at the Dream Center on West Street.

When asked about the success of the Teen Challenge program, Warren York, IT Supervisor / Public Relations, Teen Challenge Vermont, shared, “I came to Teen Challenge Vermont, broken, hopeless, and suffering from the perils of drug addiction. My friends and family did not want me in their lives. Today, through the skills and training of the program, my loved ones are proud of who I have become - a constructive member of society, who wants to help others overcome addiction.”

No one is ever turned away because of their financial circumstances or inability to pay, which is why fundraising is so crucial.

Achey, an avid road cyclist, was inspired to combine his love for cycling with his desire to support Teen Challenge. “The idea just came to me,” said Achey, “God put this on my heart and I thought ‘I’ve gotta do it.’”

Achey, supporters from the Middletown Springs Community Church, and Teen Challenge VT came together to bring the idea to fruition. Now, they just need riders.

The event is designed so that there is a ride route for everyone. There are three road routes, including a metric century ride (100 km. 63.4mi), and also a “family friendly” rails/trails route. Rest stops and volunteers will be positioned along the road routes to aid riders along the way. All rides will start and end on the Green in Middletown Springs. Riders will receive a Tour de Slate T shirt and a drawstring backpack goodie bag.

An authentic chicken curry dinner will be served free of charge for riders and volunteers at the finish line after the ride.

Organizers hope the event will raise \$20,000, which directly supports the care, clinical counseling, and educational and career services for clients at Teen Challenge Vermont.

Register to ride online at www.tourdeslate.org.

Donations can be made at the same website or mailed payable to “MSCC/Tour de Slate” P.O. Box 1012, Middletown Springs, VT 05757.

Contact Stan Achey for more information at info@tourdeslate.org or (802) 558-0934.

Tour de Slate is being organized by the Middletown Springs Community Church to assist Teen Challenge Vermont as they help to rehabilitate those marred by drug and alcohol addiction.

Teen Challenge Vermont provides adults, teens and families with an effective and comprehensive Christian faith-based solution, clinical counseling, and life-coaching for drugs, alcohol, and other life-controlling problems in order to become productive members of society.

Borrow a Pass - From the Library

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://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

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. <http://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

Heat Relief: at the Library

It’s HOT! and the Library is COOL! The Library is **extending** its **open hours** to provide a cool refuge from the heat. Thanks to the Energy Committee & the Friends of the Library, there is a heat exchange/mini split which efficiently and effectively cools (or heats) the building.

HOURS this week:

Sunday 12 noon - 8 pm

Monday 12 noon - 8 pm

Tuesday 12 noon pm - 8 pm

Wednesday TBA

Thursday 12 noon - 5 pm

Friday 10 am -2 pm (at least)

As the availability of volunteers to cover the extended hours is confirmed, updates will be posted to FPF & the sign in front of the library building.

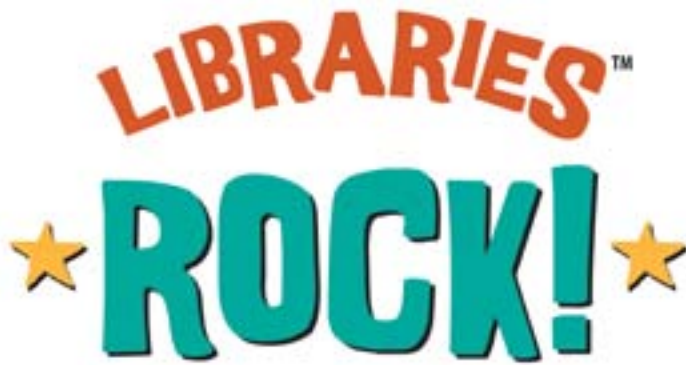
Questions? Please call the library during the hours listed above at 235-2435.



A Strawberry Thank You!

The Strawberry Festival was fun and delicious! A warm thank you to the many volunteers that made the Strawberry Festival **a big success!** Thank you to those that helped prepare for the festival, volunteered during the festival, and the many that came and enjoyed the delicious strawberry shortcake, those that purchased from the craftspeople and listened to the wonderful music. How terrific that the threat of rain did not keep people away. The Historical Society is grateful for each and every person that contributed to make it a wonderful day! The funds raised will be used to maintain the museum and the Mineral Springs Park for all to enjoy.

Summer @ the Library



Summer Challenges

Different Ones for Different Ages
Memorial Day to Labor Day

“Libraries Rock” Bingo

Open to children pre-K - age 9. Pick up a Bingo Card from the Library. Complete 8 of the 11 activities, return the card to the library for verification and a sweet surprise. Enter to win one of two prizes.

Genre Bingo!

Pick up a Bingo Card from the Library (or click here). Challenge yourself to read outside your favorite genres. Ask librarian on duty for book suggestions. Once you've read five (5) in a row in any direction, return your card to the library to be entered to win:

Adults (19+) - \$50 gift certificate to Table 24.

Teens/pre-teens (10-18) - a gift certificate to the movie theater in Rutland (2 tickets & 1 large popcorn)

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 [re-order form](#). Send it in by **September 1** and help the Library Trustees complete their tasks of the Calendar updating and reprinting for 2019. All proceeds benefit the Town Library.

Don't have a 2018 calendar? Pick up a **FREE** one at the Library!

FOL Notice

Friends of the Library will meet at the Library on **Tuesday, July 10 at 7 pm** for their regular monthly meeting. All interested are welcome to attend.

Summer Programs

Lego Club: July 16 - July 30

Three Mondays, 10-11:00 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. Children under 6; please bring a responsible assistant builder. Snack provided.

Story Hour: July 11 - Aug 1

Four Wednesdays at 9:30 am

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.

Stuffed Animal Sleepover:

July 31 & Aug 1

Drop off between 2-7 pm on Tuesday, July 31. Return the next day for pick up and to see photos of all the fun the animals had.

Join your stuffed animal for our **Teddy Bear Breakfast at 9:30 am on Wednesday, August 1** and stay through for **Story Hour and Summer Program Finale**. 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.



Reel Fiction

(book & movie discussion)

Read *High Fidelity* by Nick Hornby during the month of August. Meet with others to watch the movie in September. *High Fidelity* is a wise and hilarious novel about love, heartbreak, and rock and roll. Open to adult readers. Dates to be determined by the group. Please **sign up before July 20** to give the Library time to request the books from other libraries.

Library Hours

Mon, Tues, Wed	2 pm -7 pm
Friday	10 am-2 pm
Saturday	10 am-12 pm

235-2435

middletownspringslibrary@gmail.com



Summer Construction on Norton Road!

This summer will see the long-needed replacement of two large box culverts on Norton Road, which will improve both road safety and road maintenance. Construction will **begin in early July**, and by state mandate must be complete by September 30. If you have visitors coming to town, please let them know that Norton Road will NOT be a good connecting route between VT 140 (West Street) and Spruce Knob Road.

If you have questions about this project, either in general or about its current status at any time along the way, please call a member of the Selectboard, or contact the Highway Garage at 235-2024.

Basket Party!

The Young at Heart Senior Center will be hosting a Basket Party **at the Modern Woodmen Hall in Wells on Saturday, July 14**. More than TWO HUNDRED baskets will be raffled. Doors open at 11 am, and drawings begin at 1 pm. Admission is \$5 and includes the first sheet of tickets. Additional sheets will be available for \$2 each. There will also be door prizes, large raffle items (including a pair of Telescope Casual Furniture director's chairs), a Money Tree, and more! Lunch and snacks will be available for purchase. All proceeds will benefit the Young at Heart Senior Center.

Energy Audits

NeighborWorks of Western Vermont's HEAT Squad is offering **discounted energy audits** (\$100!) for a limited time this summer. HEAT Squad aims to provide low-cost energy audits and information about home efficiency and weatherization improvements. Our BPI-certified energy auditors will assess your home and tell you exactly what problems you may have and how to remedy them. On average, homeowners save an average of 30% on their home heating and cooling costs after making energy efficiency improvements.

If you **call during July**, you will be eligible to receive your energy audit for only \$100! Please note that the audit may take place after July, however you must call before the end of July to secure this discounted price. Visit www.heatsquad.org or call (802) 438-2303 for more information and to schedule your energy audit today.

Free Kids' Camp at MSCC

The Middletown Springs Community Church is offering a Free Kids Camp (aka VBS) again this summer! **August 6-9 (Mon-Thurs) 9 am - 12 noon**.

All kids ages 5-12 (younger kids accompanied by a responsible adult) are welcome to come! Our theme for this year is "Who am I?" We will have Arts & Crafts, Snacks, Games, Music and Lots of Fun!

Questions and RSVP to Jennelle Carr. email: jen-scarr3@gmail.com or call/text 802-779-7200.

Note from the Town Treasurer

Coming in August! - Property Tax Bills for the new fiscal year 2018/2019. Calculations for our New Property Taxes are in process.

Property taxes are a combination of the Town tax rate approved by the Select Board, and the School tax rate, calculated by the State of Vermont.

For your interest, the following is how our Property Taxes are created:

1. Our Listers compile the Grand List of the home values of all of our properties in town.
2. Then, the tax rate is calculated based on the total Grand List and the Town and Highway budgets that we approved on Town Meeting Day March 2018.
3. Once the town/highway tax rate is calculated, the Selectboard will discuss and approve it.
4. The rate will then be applied to the value of your property to produce your share of town taxes due.
5. Concurrently, the State of Vermont provides us with a tax rate for the School tax and that rate is applied to the value of your property to produce your share of school taxes due. As of 6/29/18 estimates for our School tax rate are:

Middletown Spgs Homestead: 1.3592

Non Residential: 1.4593

Finally, the State of Vermont will download to Middletown Springs, a list of Homestead rebates that will be applied to your tax bill, if you are eligible. If you have any questions regarding the status of your homestead rebate, contact the Vermont Department of Taxes at: <http://tax.vermont.gov/home>

This is a process and will take several weeks to complete. We expect the **new property tax bills** for 2018/2019 to be mailed **early to mid August 2018**. Your **first payment** for the new year will be due on or before **September 15**.

IMPORTANT: If your mailing address has changed, please contact Sally Achey, Lister Chair, ASAP. She will update your address so that your tax bills are sent to the correct address. Please contact her at mtslisters@vermontel.net or 235-2220.

Calendar of Events

July

Planning Commission	Mon 2	4 pm	Town Office
Fire Dept. Training	Tues 3	6:30 pm	Firehouse
Historical Society	Thurs 5	7 pm	MSHS
Tie-Dye Day	Sat 7	10 am-1 pm	Library
VT Plants Talk	Sun 8	2 pm	Library
Fire Dept. Training	Tues 10	6:30 pm	Firehouse
Story Hour	Wed 11	10 am	Library
School Board	Thurs 12	6 pm	School
Selectboard	Thurs 12	7 pm	Town Office
First Response	Sun 15	6:30 pm	Firehouse
LEGO Club	Mon 16	10 am	Library
Fire Dept. Training	Tues 17	6:30 pm	Firehouse
Story Hour	Wed 18	10 am	Library
Building Committee	Thurs 19	7 pm	Library
VT Plants Talk	Sun 22	2 pm	Library
LEGO Club	Mon 23	10 am	Library
Fire Dept. Training	Tues 24	6:30 pm	Firehouse
Library Trustees	Wed 25	7 pm	Library
Story Hour	Wed 25	10 am	Library
Selectboard	Thurs 26	7 pm	Town Office
LEGO Club	Mon 30	10 am	Library
Stuffed Animal Sleepover			
Drop Off	Tues 31	2-7 pm	Library
Fire Dept. Training	Tues 31	6:30 pm	Firehouse

August

Teddy Bear Breakfast	Wed 1	9:30 am	Library
Story Hour & Finale	Wed 1	10 am	Library
Building Committee	Wed 1	7 pm	Library
Historical Society	Thurs 2	7 pm	MSHS
MSSC Kids' Camp begins	Mon 6	9 am	MSSC
Planning Commission	Mon 6	4 pm	Town Office
Fire Dept. Training	Tues 7	6:30 pm	Firehouse
School Board	Thurs 9	6 pm	School
Selectboard	Thurs 9	7 pm	Town Office
VT Plants Talk	Sun 12	2 pm	Library
Fire Dept. Training	Tues 14	6:30 pm	Firehouse
Friends of the Library	Tues 14	7 pm	Library
Building Committee	Thurs 16	7 pm	Library
First Response	Sun 19	6:30 pm	Firehouse
Fire Dept. Training	Tues 21	6:30 pm	Firehouse
Library Trustees	Wed 22	7 pm	Library
Selectboard	Thurs 23	7 pm	Town Office
Fire Dept. Training	Tues 28	6:30 pm	Firehouse

Calendar Events – subject to change.

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

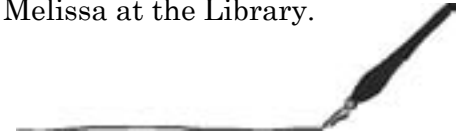
TOWN NEWSLETTER

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.



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

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

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