

middle TOWN NEWS letter

March 2019

31st Annual Maple Festival

Maple lore & demonstrations, sweet treats from local kitchens, a raffle and a silent auction featuring local artists and craftspersons, merchants and professionals highlight the 31st Annual Maple Festival of the Middletown Springs Historical Society on **Sunday, March 17 from 1-4 pm.**



The event will feature a demonstration of early maple sugarmaking in a cast iron kettle over an open fire by Phillip Mahar. Local sugarmaker Ryan Mahar and historians David Wright and Jon Mathewson will give a presentation on maple sugaring history and current practice using examples from the Historical Society collection.



Homemade soup, chili and delicious maple desserts created by Historical Society members, Vermont maple products and new 2019 syrup will be available for sale. Old-fashioned sugar on snow, pancakes & syrup, and maple cotton candy are always favorites.

Acoustic music by Paul Morgan and friends, and kids' activities enliven the free afternoon event. Videos about Vermont maple sugaring will be shown continuously.

Silent auction offers include Killington ski & golf passes; 100 gallons of heating oil; genealogical research; lessons and services by local professionals; a wine and cheese basket; a Cabot cheese basket; potted flowers; a homemade quilt as well as other fine craft items; homemade pies; maple syrup; a Vermont Teddy Bear; dining gift certificates and other donations from area businesses.

A raffle drawing with many prizes including \$100 and \$50 in cash, maple syrup and maple products, craft items, and gift certificates from local businesses will go on during the festival.

Museum exhibits on Middletown Springs history are on view during the festival. Admission is free and the building is handicap accessible.

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

PIE for Breakfast!

The Library's Pie for Breakfast is **Saturday, March 9, from 8-11 am**, at the School. All you can eat PIE for breakfast with tea, coffee, or juice. The slices are cut thin so it is easy to try many different varieties. There will also be a basket-type raffle with over 30 prizes.

\$7 for adults; \$4 for children 5-12; under 5 are FREE. All proceeds benefit the Middletown Springs Public Library.

For more information, contact the Library at middletownspringslibrary@gmail.com or 235-2435.



Birdhouse Paint and Sip

Friday, March 29, 6:30 - 8:30 pm

at the Historical Society

Hosted by the Friends of the

Middletown Springs Public Library

BYOB, snacks provided; \$25 per person

Space is limited, please sign up ahead of time

by contacting the library at 235-2435

ALL money supports the Library.

Birdhouses donated by a local woodworker.

Rabies Clinic

Saturday, March 23

11 am to 12 noon

at the Middletown Springs Firehouse

\$10 per animal

Services provided by Dr. Steve's team from the Fair Haven Animal Hospital. Town Clerk will be available to issue licenses which are due April 1. Vermont law requires rabies shots for all cats & dogs.

3rd Qtr Taxes DUE!

Third Quarter Property Tax Installment is **due on or before March 15, 2019.**

More information on page 2.

Election Results

The Middletown Springs Town Meeting had a remarkably low turnout: 66 in attendance at the Monday informational meeting, and 246 votes cast in Tuesday's election. This was well below the 321 and 349 of the past two Town Meetings.

For those Town elected offices with candidates standing, all candidates were elected, receiving at least 80% of the votes cast. Congratulations to Kimberly Bushnell (Moderator), Debra House (Delinquent Tax Collector), Terry Redfield and Patty Kenyon (Selectboard), Pat Hemenway (Lister), Juanita Burch-Clay (Auditor), and Beth Miller (Library Trustee and Trustee of Public Monies).

For those Town offices with no candidates on the ballot, the write-ins have been tallied, and the Selectboard will contact the leading vote-getters to ascertain their interest in serving.

For the Wells Springs school district, a total of 445 votes were cast across Middletown Springs and Wells. The proposed budget passed by 223 to 152. The four School District Board seats were unopposed, and all four named candidates won at least 79% of the votes cast. Congratulations to George Gonda and Rachel Martelle of Middletown Springs, and Courtney Bishop and Eric Montbriand of Wells.

All of the Middletown Springs Town articles passed. In detail, expressed in Yes/No, and not counting blanks:

- 2: Auditors' report—228/14
- 3: Town general budget—174/69
- 4: Town highway budget—179/63
- 5: Tax Stabilization fund—180/61
- 6: surplus to Town Facilities fund—168/71
- 7: Rutland Sheriff's Dep't—137/103
- 8: Poultney Rescue Squad—217/27
- 9: First Response—218/26
- 10: Rutland Area Visiting Nurse—202/40
- 11: Green-Up Day— 208/37
- 12: Community Care/Rutland Mental Health—178/62
- 13: SW VT Council on Aging—185/56
- 14: BROC—173/69
- 15: VT Center for Independent Living— 175/63
- 16: VT Rural Fire Protection—196/40
- 17: Poultney Community League—161/69
- 18: Rutland Regional Ambulance—200/36
- 19: Middletown Springs Fire Department—163/75
- 20: NewStory/Rutland Women's Shelter—178/58
- 21: Rutland Humane Society—180/54
- 22: RSVP/Volunteer Center—156/79
- 23: Poultney-Mettowee Natural Resources—163/74
- 24: NeighborWorks—148/87
- 25: ARC—160/73

- 26: Rutland Parent/Child Center—159/75
- 27: VT Association for the Blind—178/56
- 28: American Red Cross—175/64
- 29: Mentor Connector— 146/90
- 30: Child First Advocacy Center—182/60
- 31: Pleasant View Cemetery Ass'n—195/49
- 32: Regional Marketing Initiative—143/95
- 33: Middletown Memorial Day Parade— 193/48
- 34: Front Porch Forum—180/63

Thanks to a great team of election workers for a tightly-run day.

From the Town Treasurer:

3rd Quarter **Property Taxes** are due. Mark your calendars and plan ahead to remit them **on or before March 15, 2019.**



You can remit your taxes in person, or mail them with a March 15 or earlier postmark. Remember any taxes remitted or postmarked after the 15th will immediately incur a 1% interest charge.

The Treasurer will be at the town office to collect your taxes on Friday, March 15, from 1 - 6 pm.

Tax payments should be paid to: The Town of Middletown Springs and mailed to PO Box 1022. If you are paying in cash, please bring exact change.

On another note, as you prepare your income taxes for the government, please also remember that you need to **submit your homestead declaration form to the state by April 15, 2019.** Your declaration will affect your new tax rate for FY19/20, and failure to comply on time may incur penalties. For more information regarding the homestead declaration, please contact the Vermont Department of Taxes, or visit their website at <https://tax.vermont.gov/property-owners/homestead-declaration>

Thank You!

Jenny Talke Munyak, Town Treasurer

FOL Meeting

Friends of the Library will meet at the Library on **Tuesday, March 12 at 7 pm.** All interested are welcome to attend.

For more info, call Ashley at 235-3000.

Hunting and Fishing Licenses

are available at the Town Office.

The Town receives \$1.50 for each License sold!!

Licenses expired on December 31!!

Thanks from Burnham Hollow

A huge thank you to our community for supporting the Eat-A-Thon at Burnham Hollow Farm the weekend of October 21, 2018. The event's entry list with over 50 participants raised \$2,000 split between the Dorset Equine Rescue and the Vermont Equine Riding & Driving Association. Our food sponsors included the Querrey Family, Sissy Hicks and Sam Filloramo at Sissy's Kitchen, and Tom Moon and Corey Best from Best Moon Catering. The following landowners granted permission for participants to pass through their beautiful property and enjoy just a bit of what our community has to offer: Querrey family, Gerry Parker, Glenn Tarbell and Jeanne Arsenault, Byron and Shirley Moyer, Fowler Family, Tom Moon and Corey Best, and Linda Moyer. Countless volunteers helped in all aspects of the event, and we can't thank you all enough.

The event is an eating and drinking frenzy while offering some exercise if you choose. Ride a horse, hike on foot with a leashed pet, or ride the hay wagon! We offered both a short (5 mile) and long (10 mile) marked trail.

The first food station included Sissy's wonderful chili with beverages, both alcoholic and non. The next station took place at Glenn Tarbell's and Jeanne Arsenault's beautiful property. Delicious pork sliders by Sam Filloramo were available as well as more thirst quenchers. The course continued up Coy Hill Road, through Bryon and Shirley Moyer's beautiful fields. Next stop was at Best Moon's secluded haven after traveling through jaw-dropping views from the top of Look Away Farm just beyond the mystical birch forest trail on the Fowler's property. Here you could find delicious craft beers and ciders, picnic tables, beautiful trees to hitch your horse or pooch to while you rest, and some more exquisite food. From here, the course traveled back to old Brown Road and onto Orchard Road, with one important detour. A grassy mowed path serpentine through another section of Old Burnham Hollow Orchard and guided you to yet another breathtaking view. A final descent brought you to a finish line where more food, drinks, and live music greeted you. Several folks dressed up in wildly cool costumes for which there were some fantastic prizes available such as a Peter Huntoon Print, generously donated by yet another of our local gems.

Thank you so much to our food sponsors, generous



land owners, participants, volunteers, and organizers. This event was a huge success and we plan to host again October 19, 2019. Mark your calendars! Please contact us if you have any questions, concerns, or suggestions. We'd love to hear from you. 235-2005, ggequestrian@gmail.com

- The Querrey Family (Dan, Judy, Steven & Kyle)

New Vermont Books

Thanks to the Middletown Springs Historical Society and a grant from the Stewart's Shops we have added the following books to the Library's Vermont Collection (listed in no particular order):

Daisy Turner's Kin by Jane Beck

Battle of Hubbardton by Bruce Venter

Inventing Ethan Allen by John Duffy

Children of the Longhouse by Joseph Bruchac

Hunter's Promise by Joseph Bruchac

Rebels: A Well Regulated Militia by Brian Wood

Vermont Difference by J. Kevin Graffagnino

Tricking the Talleyman by Jacqueline Davies

A Hidden History of Vermont by Mark Bushnell

Deluge: Tropical Storm Irene by Peggy Shinn

Thirty-Eight: The Hurricane by Stephen Long

Moses Robinson by Robert Mello

Vermont Voices, 1609-1990s

Champlain and the Silent One by Kate Messner

A Very Fine Appearance by Donald H. Wickman

More Than Petticoats by Deborah Clifford

Historic Photos of Vermont by Ginger Gellman

Blind Date with a Book

This year, 60 books were taken out on a Blind Date. Just as in real life, not all the dates went well but all the readers had fun taking a chance on a book sight unseen. A drawing was held on Wednesday, February 27 to determine the winners of the heart-shaped boxes of chocolates.

Congratulations!

Alice Bush & Sam Tarbell



Library Seed Swap!



Spring is coming. Stop in the Library, the Seed Swap is open for business!

Calendar of Events

March

Planning Commission	Mon 4	4 pm	Town Office
Town Info Meeting	Mon 4	6:30 pm	School
POLLS OPEN	Tues 5	7 am -7 pm	MSHS
Fire Dept. Training	Tues 5	6:30 pm	Firehouse
Scrabble Night	Tues 5	7 pm	Library
Wells Springs Board	Wed 6	6 pm	MSES
Building Committee	Wed 6	7 pm	Library
Historical Society	Thurs 7	7 pm	MSHS
Pie For Breakfast!	Sat 9	8-11 am	School
Knitting Circle	Mon 11	7 - 9 pm	Library
Fire Dept. Training	Tues 12	6:30 pm	Firehouse
Friends of the Library	Tues 12	7 pm	Library
Selectboard	Thurs 14	7 pm	Town Office
Property Tax Due	Fri 15	1-6 pm	Town Office
Maple Fest	Sun 17	1-4 pm	MSHS
First Response	Sun 17	6:30 pm	Firehouse
Scrabble Night	Mon 18	7 pm	Library
Fire Dept. Training	Tues 19	6:30 pm	Firehouse
Building Committee	Thurs 21	7 pm	Library
Fire Dept. Training	Tues 26	6:30 pm	Firehouse
Library Trustees	Wed 27	7 pm	Library
Auditors	Wed 27	7:30 pm	Town Office
Selectboard	Thurs 28	7 pm	Town Office

April

Planning Commission	Mon 1	4 pm	Town Office
Knitting Circle	Mon 1	7-9 pm	Library
Fire Dept. Training	Tues 2	6:30 pm	Firehouse
Scrabble Night	Tues 2	7 pm	Library
Wells Springs Board	Wed 3	6 pm	WES
Building Committee	Wed 3	7 pm	Library
Historical Society	Thurs 4	7 pm	MSHS
Fire Dept. Training	Tues 9	6:30 pm	Firehouse
Friends of the Library	Tues 9	7 pm	Library
Selectboard	Thurs 11	7 pm	Town Office
Scrabble Night	Mon 15	7 pm	Library
Fire Dept. Training	Tues 16	6:30 pm	Firehouse
Building Committee	Thurs 17	7 pm	Library
First Response	Sun 21	6:30 pm	Firehouse
Fire Dept. Training	Tues 23	6:30 pm	Firehouse
Library Trustees	Wed 24	7 pm	Library
Auditors	Wed 24	7:30 pm	Town Office
Selectboard	Thurs 25	7 pm	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.

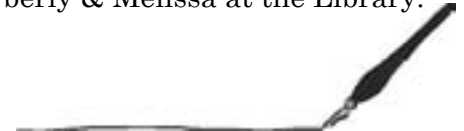
TOWN NEWSLETTER

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 e-mail 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 e-mail 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.

