

The

November 2012

Middletown Magnet

"News that sticks in Middletown Springs"



The Property Purchase is Complete!!



Photo by Emmett Francois

Members of the Building Committee visit the site to plan a work day to clean up the property (see page 3).

The Middletown Springs Selectboard and Building Committee are extremely pleased to announce that the property formerly known as Parkers Service Station is now owned by the Town of Middletown Springs!

This action was authorized by the voters of Middletown Springs at the March 2012 Town Meeting. The closing took place on November 7, 2012. Between March and November the Selectboard and Building Committee were busy having a property survey performed, researching and fulfilling requirements for redeveloping Brownfields sites, applying for cleanup funding, having an historic study performed on the town green, and planning for the project to move forward.

The purchase of this parcel is the first step towards the larger goal of constructing a new Town Office on the site. The Selectboard is happy to bring this part of the process to a close and the Building Committee is looking forward to beginning the work of making this exciting project a reality.

Thank you to Norm and Sylvia Parker. We wish them well and hope they will appreciate the upcoming changes to their corner.

Thank you also to the taxpayers of Middletown Springs who recognized the value of this property as a site for a municipal building and made it's purchase possible.

The Selectboard meets on the second and fourth Thursday of each month at 7:00 pm.

The Building Committee meets on the first Wednesday and third Thursday of each month at 7:00 pm.

Both meetings are open to the public.

18th Annual
Holiday Craft Fair
Sunday, December 2
10 am - 4 pm
at the
MTS Elementary School

Gifts and Goodies Galore, offering wreaths, maple syrup, honey, soaps, woodenware, paintings, ornaments, jams, quilts, photography, jewelry, and much more.

There will be a food sale and refreshments sold by the 5th and 6th graders to support their class trip.

Contact Marilyn Parker for further info 235-2189.

Christmas in the Park

"Christmas in the Park" will be held on 6pm Sunday, Dec.9th on the green. Join us for the live nativity and caroling while we light the Christmas tree. Then warm up inside with hot cocoa, delicious treats and good friends! All are welcome to take part as shepherds or angels. The Middletown Springs Grange and the Community Church will once again host this event. Donations of cookies always appreciated. If you would like to help with this event, or for more information, please call Rita at 235-2436. Hope to see you there!



Rising Meadow Pottery Holiday Show and Sale

On Saturday and Sunday, December 8th and 9th from 10am to 5pm, potters Diane Rosenmiller and Nicholas Seidner will be hosting their annual holiday show and seconds sale. Pots from recent firings will be available in our gallery.

Can't make the sale? Visitors are welcome to the pottery anytime by appointment or chance, please call 235-9429 or email rmeadow@vermontel.net.

Down the road at Sissy's Kitchen, The Barn Shop and Joshua Axelrod Photography invite you to enjoy a festive holiday week-end. Join us for shopping and refreshments.

From the Town Treasurer

Thanks to all of you who submitted your first quarter taxes on time.

Second quarter taxes are due by or on Saturday, December 15th. I will be available at the Town Office that day from 9 am to 4 pm to receive any last minute taxes. Don't hesitate to submit your taxes early to avoid getting caught up in the holiday commotion.

For those of you who received a tax adjustment in late September for a homestead rebate, please make sure that you have contacted your mortgage company, if they pay your taxes, with the adjusted amount due.

For those of you who may not have received your tax bill at all, it is your responsibility to contact the Treasurer with your correct mailing address.

Thank you!

Jenny Talke Munyak



The Fountain of Youth

Happy Thanksgiving one and all! The Fountain of Youth will join Ira and Poultney seniors at the Young At Heart Senior Center, Furnace St., Poultney on November 28. On the menu is Baked Chicken Breast, Mashed Potato and Gravy, Cranberry Sauce, Green Beans and Cake with Icing. Doors open at 11 am. Homemade soup and coffee will be served. The family-style dinner is served at 12 noon for only \$3.25 for all seniors 60 and over. Please make your reservation by calling Mary Thomas at 287-9200.

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Get the Latest News at www.middletownsprings.vt.gov

As you know, the official town website is up and running. What you may not know is that it is host to a rolling news feed (a blog, really) that will be updated weekly with interesting news and events happening in and around the community. To access that news feed, simply go to the website (www.middletownsprings.vt.gov), click the "News" tab at the top of any page or click on an article of interest under the calendar listings in the right side bar, also on any page.

Items of interest posted there now –

- Single Stream Recycling Guide
- MSES Spaghetti Dinner Details
- Holiday Craft Fair
- Christmas in the Park

This really nifty feature will help you keep up to date on all the news at your fingertips, no need to scour the house for the last issue of The Magnet, just hop onto the website and take a look. Speaking of The Magnet, back issues are also available on the town website.

To keep us current and relevant, please send items to be posted on this news feed to Kimberly Mathewson at kimberly@mtslibrary.comcastbiz.net. New items will be posted weekly and it's a great resource for those last minute events that might have missed The Magnet. We hope that you will use this service and help us to keep it up to date with the latest information.

As always, if you have suggestions for additional content, comments, observations, etc. about the Town Website please let us know. This is YOUR resource for information and news happening around town, we are counting on you to help make sure it fits your needs.

Visit the site at www.middletownsprings.vt.gov

Patty Kenyon

On behalf of the Website Committee

Middletown Springs Building Committee

The regular meeting times for the Building Committee are 7 pm at the Town Office on the **first Wednesday** and the **third Thursday** of each month.

All meetings are open to the public.



Linda Justin, Broker

160 West St., Middletown Springs
802-236-0407 (cell)

Community Church News

As we enter the holiday season, Middletown Springs Community Church has a full calendar of events and opportunities for the community and beyond.



Special Thanksgiving Eve service at the church will be Wednesday, November 21 at 7 p.m.

Our next Free Indeed "free store" will be Saturday, December 1, 9 a.m.-1 p.m. This is a great way for the underresourced to shop for clothes, home goods, and gifts. Everything is free.

Advent worship series begins Sunday, December 2.

The annual community event Christmas in the Park will be held Sunday, Dec. 9th at 6 p.m. on the town green. Join us for the live nativity and caroling while we light the Christmas tree. Then warm up inside with hot cocoa, delicious treats and good friends! All are welcome to take part as shepherds or angels. The Middletown Springs Grange and the Community Church will once again host this event. Donations of cookies always appreciated. If you would like to help with this event, or for more info. please call Rita at 235-2436. Hope to see you there!

Christmas Eve worship service will be December 24 at 6:30 p.m.

Ongoing opportunities at Middletown Church:

Sunday morning adult study: DVD series on Philippians by Matt Chandler with discussion following. Join us at 9 a.m. in the church fellowship hall.

Join us for worship each Sunday at 10 a.m. You can also download or listen to sermon audio at middletownchurch.org, or subscribe to the podcast via iTunes.

Community groups meeting in homes are resuming. Come meet some great people and learn from the Bible together. Meeting times and locations vary. Call the church 2386 or email jared@gospeldrivenchurch.com for info.

Special message series on Marriage continues in the Sunday service through November until the start of Advent.

Service opportunities:

Operation Christmas Child. Needs ongoing. Contact Betsy at 2097 for info.

Helping Hands: Would you like to help someone in our community? Do you have a need requiring help? Contact Ellen at 2340.

Would you like prayer? Contact Natalie at 2457 or Pastor Jared at 2386. Discretion assured.



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dawn@friendsinadoption.org

*Our Compassion,
Your Decision*

Clean Up Help Needed At New Town Property Nov. 17!

Saturday, November 17 at 10am the Building Committee members will be meeting at the new town property to clear away debris and get things buttoned up for winter. We are looking for volunteers to help us out.

Please be sure to bring work gloves and dress for the weather. We can also use weed whackers, wheel barrows, rakes, shovels, pruners and the like. The plan is to clear away some brush, clean up trash, take down the metal sign posts, and button up the building. We expect to be there most of the day, but would welcome any amount of time you can donate.

Rain/Snow Date: Sunday, November 18 at 10am.

Holiday Prize Bingo

Saturday November 24th 2012

7p.m

Middletown Springs Fire House

Holiday Prizes

You -Pick-'Em

Paper Sheet

Bonanza

Refreshments available

Proceeds benefit Middletown Springs Grange Community Service Activities and Middletown Springs FD Ladies Auxiliary

Men's Community Prayer Breakfast

Saturday at 8 am // November 24

Middletown Springs School

Come join us if you are able

for this informal monthly event

Remember to visit:
Our Newest Town Resource!
Available 24/7 - The Town Website
www.middletownsprings.vt.gov
All the Latest News and
In-Depth Information
At Your Fingertips



Library News

By Kimberly Bushnell Mathewson,
Librarian

Story Hours: monthly on Saturday at 10am

Cranberry Thanksgiving: Nov. 17 - Join us for a cranberry mystery and turkey parade. Stories, craft activities, and a snack designed for children 3-6 years old. Older welcome; younger, too, with a responsible friend.

PIZZA! PIZZA!: Dec 1 - Pizza, stories, pizza, crafts, pizza snack... what more can we say.

Tea & Conversation: Thank you, Emmett Francois, for an engaging and informative conversation about the history of photography and your journey as a photographer. It was a lovely afternoon.

Tea & Conversation is a periodic series of programs at the library in which a neighbor or friend of the library shares experiences and knowledge on a particular topic, followed by time for questions and conversations. Tea and homemade baked goods are served. If you have an idea for future programs please let us know at the library.

Movie Nights: returning this winter to a library near you... Now taking suggestions and offers to volunteer to "host". Watch Front Porch Forum for announcements.

Gift Ideas... this time of year it is not uncommon to experience "gift-giver's block" [similar to writer's block]. For that hard-to-give-to person, remember the library has stenciled green or red canvass bookbags and, new this year, royal blue aprons with library name & logo embroidered. We also offer a library wishlist of books which can be purchased for the library in the name of your loved one. Books will be purchased through our "book jobber" at steep discount and will have a name plate acknowledging your gift.

The Friends of the Middletown Springs Public Library is reemerging as a 501©3 not-for-profit. The enthusiasm and support for the library is palpable. The trustees and librarian are so grateful for the outpouring of genuine appreciation of the library... Thank you.

Thanksgiving Hours: The library is closed Wednesday before Thanksgiving. We expect to be open during our regular hours on the Friday & Saturday after Thanksgiving.

Wednesday, Nov. 21	CLOSED
Thursday, Nov. 22	Thanksgiving Day
Friday, Nov. 23	10am-2pm
Saturday, Nov. 24	10am-Noon

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Join the Friends of the Library

Friends of the Middletown Springs Public Library launched an informational meeting to present the work of the steering committee. The newly formed organization has moved forward by incorporating and registering with the State. Vision and mission statements, by-laws, ethics policy, and memo of understanding with the Middletown Springs Library have all been developed and were presented at the meeting. There was a good turnout and lots of enthusiasm for supporting the viability and vitality of the library. Application for 501c(3) is nearly complete and we anticipate acceptance as a non-profit status.

The first annual meeting will be held Nov 27 at 7:00 at the Library. Refreshments will be served. At this meeting the officers and executive committee will be elected. The executive committee will be composed of: President, Vice President, Recording Secretary, Membership Secretary, Treasurer and two At-Large members.

Membership dues for 2013 were set very low to encourage everyone that wants to support the library to do so at whatever level is comfortable. Please consider becoming a member and joining in at the annual meeting. *Just complete the form and drop it off with your payment at the Middletown Springs Library or mail it to 39 West St., Middletown Springs. Checks should be made to Friends of the Middletown Springs Public Library.* Thank you for your interest and support!

I want to join Friends of the Middletown Springs Public Library:

Name _____

Address _____

Telephone _____

Email _____

- _____ \$5.00 Individual
- _____ \$10.00 Family
- _____ \$50.00 Contributing (individual or family)
- _____ \$50.00 Business
- _____ I would like to be a member of the Executive Committee

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Lamb - individual cuts

Matt, Trish or Leland
235-3812 or
tlp@vermontel.net

Select Board Minutes Regular Meeting September 27, 2012 Approved



Call to Order: C. Larson called the meeting to order at 7:09 pm.

Board Present: Shirley Moyer, Jim Webber, Carl Haynes, Chris Larson

Public Present: David Munyak

Approval of Minutes:

Chris moved to approve 9/11/12 minutes, Jim seconded, Passed 4 yea 0 nay.

Jim moved to approve 9/13/12 minutes, Shirley seconded, Passed 3 yea 0 nay. Chris did not vote.

Public Comments:

Mark McManus resigns from Planning Commission due to an E.M.T. class he wishes to attend. Resignation accepted with thanks for service.

Discussion of a 14' x 51' addition to the north side of the fire house to shelter the hook and ladder truck. Fire Marshal approves. Approx. cost \$25,000 to \$35,000. Can be paid out of operating budget, although possible financing is being looked into via the VT League of Cities and Towns. Currently the Fire Department operates five trucks and the first Response unit.

Parker Property:

Amendment to survey by Mark Courcelle shifting southeast corner marker 10' to form a straight line along eastern side. Revised survey was dated 9/18/12. A discussion followed regarding the change. Chris would like to have an explanation from Mark. Dave Munyak is concerned over the standards used by Vermont surveyors and noted that in Wells Mark Courcelle was reprimanded for failing to provide requested information. Dave requested that the Selectboard follow up by looking into Mark's professional competence. He also asked if Mark has been paid for his services to the town. Chris said that he would be in touch with Mark and would try to learn what was going on, why changes were made and the location of monuments. It was suggested that Mark meet with the Selectboard.

7:40 p.m. Chris attempted to call Mark. A message was left on his answering machine to call back tonight if possible, otherwise to call Chris.

Chris reported on a conversation with Frank Parent regarding the impotable well on the Teer property. An affirmation will be sought from Joe Teer to proceed. Frank had indicated that an objection to the permit to build might slow down the process but would unlikely stop it. Carl H. said that Joe Teer had put in a drilled well after purchasing the house. Chris then suggested that we have Frank Parent contact Joe Teer to discuss the shallow well that is of concern.

Dave M. reported that the Phase I Study had been completed and that a copy will be forwarded to this office. Dan Potter (So. Windsor Co.) has approved the clean-up application. E.P.A. money may also be available for petroleum clean-up and there are also Brownfield funds with a \$20,000 match. Ed Bove is willing to make application to the E.P.A. if needed. Trish Copelino has also been contacted about a

corrective action plan. Ed Bove said that he would pay for this.

Chris moved to authorize the Building Committee to acquire a corrective action plan through the Regional Planning Commission. Carl seconded the motion with the provision that the green wood framed building be included. The motion was reworded to include the building and passed by a 4 yea 0 nay vote.

Dave M. expressed an interest in attending a Brownfield Forum Nov. 9 in Stowe. There is a \$90 fee. Chris suggested that a sign be placed on the future town office site identifying the site as such. Dave agreed and would like a town clean-up of the property.

Safe Routes To School:

Issue #1 involve the timing of the current project, the future sidewalk and traffic flow project

Issue #2 involves the bidding process.

West Street Project: There is a question as to reimbursement Reidinger Lawsuit/ Venturella Lawsuit/ Garron Road:

Chris reported that there is a Montpelier lawyer by the name of Brian Monegan preparing a draft in response to Reidinger's request for a permit. Gary C. will work with Monegan.

Chris asked if the 2010 town map showed a continuation of Garron Road. It was pointed out that the state assigns numbers to town roads and that #21 was assigned to Garron Road up to the turn-around.

Solid Waste/Fort Dumpster:

The electrician is expected to inspect tomorrow 9/28. Shirley says that the doors continue to be a safety issue according to the electrician. Carl noted that the compactor is still not anchored to the cement pad although the electrician said that he would anchor it.

Hubbard vs. Cassella: Mike is checking on pricing. Carl moves to award the contract to Hubbard. Chris seconds motion. The vote is 2 yea, 1 nay, 1 abstain (Jim) Vote does not pass at this time.

Middlebury Gate brought the new gate then returned home with it since nobody was present to accept it. It was explained that nobody knew of the gate's arrival.

Carl offered to repair the end to the cardboard compactor cord tomorrow with a new plug.

Salt Shed Replacement: No business at this time.

West Street Property Disposition:

Ellis Spieth provided a map of the land showing the area in the flood plain. Initial cost estimates were \$800 for communications, \$1,000 for the survey, etc and \$600 for the hydraulic calculations. Following this a LOMA could then be filed. Shirley commented that this seems a very "iffy" endeavor, but asked
continued on page 6...

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where else we could move to if move we must? She feels that the knowledge would be worth the cost. Chris said that with no other options in sight this would seem a good investment. He asked that Ellis send us a contract. Carl and Jim both agreed that it would be a waste of money. Dave Munyak feels that the cost would be a good investment just to know what we would have even if the property is sold at a later date.

Road Commissioner Report: (Bill not present)

Pictures and information were provided regarding Daisy Hollow Road near the John Colvin property along with Bill's recommendations for needed improvements to the road.

Chris has two concerns: the narrowness of the road and the removal of dead trees. Carl suggested we gravel the road to shed water both ways over the adjoining lawns. From John Colvin's pasture to the top of the hill there are 16 dead trees. He also questioned the issue of mud on the upper road. Carl will talk to Bill about gravelling the road up the hill and about cleaning the ditches. Carl asked if there has been any concern over fill material going to Bill's house. He explained that the current policy is that if fill is requested it should first go to the individual(s) making the request. Carl suggested that fill be dumped along West Street and other similar locations to improve the shoulders.

A letter from Bill was read regarding the time clock and time sheets.

The cost of repairing Coy Hill Road appears to be approximately \$18,000. This includes the road near the Arsenault's and from the Moyers to the Fowlers.

There was a question as to whether the transfer station work was to be billed to the Highway Department or to the Transfer Station. Bill had 30 hours at the transfer station and Bob had 31 hours.

Financials/Board Orders:

Carl moves to pay the highway order as presented. Chris seconds 4 yea 0 nay motion passes.

Carl moves to approve the general orders as presented. Chris seconds 4 yea 0 nay Motion passes.

Correspondence:

- Insurance application renewal,
- Law enforcement certification survey to Tim Poole from VT League of Cities and Towns,
- Health insurance information from VT League of Cities and Towns,
- Ventrella status conference at Superior Court in Rutland

Other Business:

It has been suggested that we meet next week regarding bids to do work on roads and the compactor contract.

Meeting adjourned 10:00 pm.

Jim Webber, Acting Clerk

**Select Board Minutes
Regular Meeting
October 11, 2012 Approved**



Call to Order: C. Larson called the meeting to order at 7:02 pm.

Board Present: Shirley Moyer, Chris Larson, Jim Webber, Carl Haynes (arrives 7:12), Mike Lamson

Public Present: Laura Castle, David Munyak, Tony Lamberton, John Arsenault, Vicki Arsenault, Tom Hurcomb, Dan McKeen

Approval of Minutes:

S. Moyer moves to approve the 9/27 regular meeting minutes as presented. C. Larson 2nd. [C. Larson – aye, S. Moyer – aye, M. Lamson – abstain, J. Webber - aye, motion carried]

Public Comments:

Tony Lamberton – attends as Trustee of Middletown Springs Community Church. Discusses significant water in the basement which is causing mold. This has historically been a problem. Perception that water is running off Firehouse Lane. Dan McKeen met with Frank Parent, Civil Engineer, to discuss options to deal with the problem. 1st idea was to direct water to the grassy area between the Church and Historical Society however there is a leach field in the area. Alternate option to install a catch basin which would collect water and bring it across the green to the four corners drains. Other options may be possible as well. Mark McManus is looking into grants. Rough estimate of \$50-60K to complete the entire project. Dan requests the board to determine who owns Firehouse Lane. Frank Parent will present some options, the Selectboard will determine ownership of the land, Mark will pursue grant opportunities.

John Arsenault, Vicki Arsenault, Tom Hurcomb – Attend on behalf of Planning Commission. Seeking input from the Selectboard as to village center designation for the town. Provides the potential for tax credits to business in the designated village area and provides preference for future grants (example: SRTS grants). Spoke with other towns and the state and have determined there is no real downside however there may be some costs to initially map the area. John will look into the costs of mapping. S. Moyer points out this has been pursued in the past and the difficult aspect is defining the exact boundaries. Places no restrictions on property owners or on roads. Will have to be filed by the Selectboard, Planning Commission to do the groundwork. More info available VT Agency of Commerce and Community Development.

John Arsenault is the representative to the Rutland Regional Planning Commission – he feels that he may be asked to vote on a resolution to ask the Public Service Board to enact a moratorium on wind development in Rutland County or statewide. Planning Commission has not taken a position and would want input from the town before they did. Town Plan says nothing about wind towers however mentions protecting ridgelines. John inquires if

continued on page 7...

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continued from page 6...

the Selectboard has any input. The board is leery of providing support for or against wind power at this time however asks John to keep us in the loop in case a decision needs to be made.

Planning Commission is in need of an additional member. The Planning Commission is seeking interested parties and requests the Selectboard keep them apprised of any town efforts.

Parker Property:

C. Larson has been in contact with Jenny Munyak and Neil Vreeland regarding the closing. Binder from People's United for \$77,300 @ 2.75% interest.

Neil requests closing date. Chris indicates the proposed deed description will be based on the Courcelle survey which everyone is not entirely happy with. There is an option to prepare the deed per the metes and bounds description, per the survey, or per a new survey.

Letter from Building Committee asking to go on record: "That the Building Committee go on record and express to the Selectboard that the Building Committee is very concerned about the accuracy and integrity of Mark Courcelle's survey of the Parker property and the process used to obtain it. Specifically, the Building Committee is concerned about the referencing of the pins that were not yet set; amending the survey without communication with the Selectboard, and the process used to determine the location of the lines."

Discussion of the changed survey and reasons for doing so. It seems there was a small jog on the Parker parcel which could not be substantiated with any deed research, according to Courcelle. Bill Johnson, surveyor for Teer was in agreement and the survey was altered to remove this sliver from the survey. There has been no response from Courcelle to the boards repeated requests however this was conveyed through Neil Vreeland. The option of having a new survey completed exercising all possible caution may or may not provide the same results and may require a lengthy legal process which would delay closing.

C. Haynes and J. Webber feel that we should proceed with the survey prepared by Courcelle. Carl does not feel there are any grounds to contest the changed survey. C. Haynes moves to proceed with the description in the survey and proceed with the closing. J. Webber 2nd. M. Lamson feels that a discussion with the surveyors should be scheduled if possible and an inquiry be made with Neil Vreeland to determine if a corrective warranty deed could be filed in the future if necessary. [all in favor, motion carried]. Norm informed Carl that the underground storage tanks need to be removed before the end of the year.

Chris inquires if we would like to make a decision on the funding. Carl does not feel we should borrow the full \$77,300 only the amount needed for closing (\$57,300). Shirley inquires if we should borrow the full amount in case we will need to fund the tank removal if grant opportunities fall through. Carl feels the money has been raised by taxes and should be available. C. Larson moves to accept the financing from People's United Bank

3 year fixed rate of \$57,300 @ 2.75% interest. C. Haynes 2nd. [all in favor, motion carried]

Chris will inform Neil and Jenny to proceed.

SRTS Project: None at this time.

West Street Project/Reimbursement:

C. Larson spoke with Bill. Bill is ready to submit for reimbursement minus a bill for a small section of paving.

Riedinger Lawsuit/Ventrella Lawsuit/Garron Road:

Carl inquires if there is a status hearing scheduled for 10/30. C. Larson forwarded the town attorney response and filing.

Insurance Renewal:

M. Lamson moves to allow C. Larson to sign the VLCT Insurance Renewal on behalf of the board. C. Haynes 2nd. [all in favor, motion carried]

Solid Waste/Fort Dumpster:

Single Stream is operational. The gate and fence have been completed by Glen Tarbell. The final cost came in below the original quote. Next steps are to get rid of the trailer and site cleanup.

Salt Shed Replacement: None

West Street Property Disposition:

Chris presents estimates from Ellis Speith Engineering to complete a site survey on the West Street property. This process would make a determination of the actual flood zone limits and steps to remove the site from the Flood Plain by placing fill on the site. This process would include determining base flood elevation, hydraulic calculations, site topographic survey, site grading plan, prepare letter to FEMA, construction staking. Total cost is \$9,198. The process may not require all steps quoted however. Chris will forward the proposal so that the board can further review before further discussion.

Road Commissioner Report:

Rip-rap on 140, stone lining ditches on Coy Hill, wants direction from the board on Daisy Hollow.

Service Request Form from John Scott concerning driveway being washed out by runoff on Daisy Hollow Road. Bill feels a culvert is needed to resolve this issue.

Daisy Hollow – Bill is concerned if the road is not constructed to state standards, eligibility for grants could decrease. Bill requested a work order which the board prepared and C. Larson signed. The board was in agreement with the work order and having Chris sign on behalf of the board.

Hiring winter backup. C. Haynes feel the board should hire a replacement employee for the 30 hour position to replace Joe Castle's position. S. Moyer will coordinate with Laura to have an ad placed in the Free Press and Rutland Herald. Job applicants will file an application which will be forwarded to Bill and Carl who will screen and interview if necessary the applicants and make a recommendation to the board. The process should be completed by November 8.

Carl inquires if we are going to repair the 2/10ths of a mile of Coy Hill from Pepperman property to Moyer property. C.

continued on page 8...



East Poultny
Vermont 05741

Dave

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continued from page 7...

Larson inquires if it would be contracted. Carl estimates cost of \$22,000 including fabric and SLC topcoat. 1. Is this the right procedure to complete the road 2. Is this the priority 3. Is the money available in the budget this year. Chris will ask Bill to attend the next meeting to discuss.

Financials/Board Orders:

Request from Town Auditors to attend VLCT auditor workshop. S. Moyer moves to authorize the auditors to attend the meeting. C. Larson 2nd. [all in favor, motion carried]

C. Larson moves to approve the highway general orders as presented. J. Webber 2nd. [all in favor, motion carried]

C. Larson moves to approve the Selectboard highway salary orders as presented. C. Haynes 2nd. [C. Larson – aye, J. Webber – aye, S. Moyer – nay, M. Lamson – aye, C. Haynes – aye: motion carried]

C. Larson moves to approve the general orders as presented. J. Webber 2nd. [C. Larson – aye, J. Webber – aye, S. Moyer – aye, M. Lamson – aye, C. Haynes – nay: motion carried]

Correspondence:

Building Committee,
Bob Zorn letter,
Electrical inspection results from the transfer station

Other Business: None

Meeting adjourned 10:40 pm.

Mike Lamson, Clerk

Single Stream Recycling Guide



GLASS BOTTLES & JARS: Rinse clean. Food and beverage containers only. NO light bulbs, Pyrex, drinking glasses, window panes, or ceramics.

METAL AEROSOL CANS (EMPTY): Separate cap from container. Do not puncture cans. NO full or partially full containers. Deliver paint, cleansers, automotive sprays, and other hazardous fluids to local hazardous waste disposal site.

ALUMINUM CANS, FOIL, AND PIE PLATES: Rinse clean. NO aluminum with stuck-on food or grease

METAL CANS: Rinse clean. Food and beverage cans only. Labels are OK. Can lids are OK placed inside the cans. NO oil filters or scrap metal.

BOXBOARD (cereal, shoe, and dry-food boxes, soda carries, paper egg cartons, tissue boxes, paper towel and toilet paper cores): Empty. Remove and discard plastic liners. NO styrofoam cups. No stuck-on food or grease.

CORRUGATED CARDBOARD (boxes with a wavy center layer): Empty. Staples, tape, and labels are OK. NO oil, paint, or chemical stained, wet unclean, or wax-coated cardboard. No strapping or string. No plastic, filmy, or foam packing materials.

ENVELOPES & OPENED MAIL (white, colored, gummed, and window envelopes): Remove non-paper enclosers. (e.g., CDs, plastic cards, etc.) and strings. Labels are OK. NO Tyvek or plastic envelopes. No bubble wrap padded mailers..

MAGAZINES & SOFT-COVER BOOKS (glue or staple-bound publications, paperback books, phone books, catalogs, etc.): Must be clean and dry. Phone books are OK year-round. NO plastic wrapping, CDs or plastic covers.

NEWSPAPER (all sections and inserts): Must be clean and dry. Remove from plastic bags. Do not tie with string. NO paper contaminated with food, paint, oil, pet waste, etc. No plastic bags.

SHREDDED PAPER (confidential Documents): Place in clear plastic bags and tie bag shut. NO shredded plastic (credit cards, etc.)

WHITE & COLORED PAPER (printed, letterhead, copier paper, glossy flyers & brochures, file folders, craft paper, manilla folders, index cards, construction paper, non-metallic wrapping paper, tissue paper & cards): Must be clean and dry. No need to remove plastic tabs, paper clips & metal hanging-file strips. Staples are also OK. NO pressure-sensitive duplication forms. NO foil paper. NO paper towels or facial tissue, NO stickers or sticker backing material.

PLASTICS 1-7 & RIGID PLASTICS (containers, bottles & jugs for foods, beverages, beauty, and cleaning products, detergents, dairy tubs [yogurt, sour cream, etc.], 5-gallon pails, laundry baskets, sleds, take-out containers, flower pots and trays, and frozen-food trays. Minimum size: 2" on any 2 sides): Rinse clean. NO filmy or pliable plastic (grocery bags, bubble wrap, etc.). No foam polystyrene (Styrofoam) products such as cups, take-out containers, packaging blocks and peanuts, etc. NO housewares, office products, etc. NO motor oil containers or electronics housing. NO biodegradable plastics (PLA).fiber

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Building Committee Approved Minutes — Oct 18, 2012

Members Present: Dave Muniyak, Patty Kenyon, Patty McWilliams, Maureen, McCormack, David Wright, Fred Bradley, Michael Beattie, Tom Hurcomb, and Laura Castle

Public Present: Bob and Winsome Moran

Guests Present: Karen Davis, Ira Town Clerk; Patty McCoy, Poultney Town Clerk; and Ann Singiser, Town Clerk, and her husband Steve, a member of Mendon's Town Office building committee.

Minutes: Minutes from 10/3/12. Motion to approve Oct 3rd minutes with a second. All in favor.

Public Comments: Do we need meeting room in the new town office? Discussion followed.

Town Clerk Round Table: Dave M. opened the discussion by welcoming the guestclerks and inviting all to partake of refreshments. He introduced M. Beattie as one of our architects and spoke of Tom Keefe's, Vermont Preservation historical consultant, and how he was able to suggest how we might make the new building fit into the character of the green. He then gave a brief summary of work in obtaining funding to get the site ready for building. He invited the guest clerks to address the committee on the pro and cons of their present town office.

Poultney: population 3400. P. McCoy, spoke first saying her building was completed in 1968 and is now very overcrowded. She said she would champion a call for a large vault as the use of the vault had grown way beyond the original projections. They had lost their town records in a fire in 1962 and they have no records prior to 1962. Both Poultney and Mendon said they have the latest in movable storage.

Mendon: population of 1100 with a taxable resident base of over 800 completed their town office in 2005. Ann Singiser stated that the size of their vault is big enough at present and has room for more sliding shelf storage. Their new office required the removal of an existing historic schoolhouse. They have a large conference room down stairs that can accommodate 45 to 50 people as well as a meeting room on the second floor. The second floor accommodates storage that does not need to be in a vault or have frequent use. The building is handicap accessible. Ann Singiser and the other clerks spoke about the need to be able to keep in view those who come to do research.

Mendon had several town meetings to keep the residents informed.

A discussion followed on the needs, not apparent to many, on why the town office must have a public meeting room of

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some size.

Population in Ira is a little over 400 with plenty of parking at its site. Mendon has about 25 parking spaces. Parking is a huge problem for Poultney town office with just room for 5 vehicles.

A discussion ensued on privacy needs in the town office. Patty McCoy said she is also the treasurer and often wishes she had privacy to conduct treasurer business and has at times to use the manager's office to do so. All felt the treasurer should have a workspace with privacy.

Mendon has a public computer for land record use.

A discussion followed on security and what kinds of systems were in place for fire and crime as well as desktop security for the clerk. The new town office of Ira and Mendon were built with the very latest in electronic capability.

Mendon total cost was \$565,000. Mendon had a reserve fund of \$300,00 and was bonded for \$275,000. They also received some small grants- one for \$25,000 for the parking lot.

Ira financed all of their costs and did not seek grant money. They were bonded for \$350,000 but the total costs came in for less. They have a 20-year mortgage. The USDA out of Brattleboro supervised Ira's bond. The town clerk sent construction bills to USDA before any money was released. Mendon used a VT Municipal Bond bank. Mendon also received a USDA disability grant.

The Wells Town Clerk was invited but was unable to attend. She and the other clerks invited the BC to tour their respective buildings.

Move to adjourn at 8:28PM

Respectfully submitted,
Maureen McCormack, Clerk



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School Directors Regular Meeting November 5, 2012 Unofficial Minutes



Present: Clarence Haynes, Steven Letendre, Kendra Larson, Karen Mach, Meredith Morgan (Members), Joan Paustian (RSWSU Supt.), Louis Milazzo (Business Mgr.), Richard Beal (Principal), Susan Rosso (Recording Secretary). Also present: Julia Chamberlain (MSES Teacher).

Call to Order: Clarence Haynes called the meeting to order at 6:06PM.

Presentation: Pre-K Teacher Julia Chamberlain spoke to the Board about student book-making taking place in the Pre-K room. She and Kindergarten Teacher, Sherry Lantman, attended a conference on the subject last year and immediately incorporated the practice into the classroom. Book-making speaks to early literacy, matches Mrs. Chamberlain's approach of learning through action, and produces a tangible result. During choice time, children can create books on any subject and can take them home after they have read them to their teacher. Often they will choose to share their books with their classmates. All students from barely 3 years old to fully 5 years old have been able to produce a book. Mrs. Chamberlain shared samples of the books which allow kids to "pretend-write" using whatever symbols or drawings they know, producing a story with a beginning, middle, and end. Now, when she reads aloud to the class, they talk about the author's and/or illustrator's perspective. Mr. Haynes strongly believes that the Pre-K program works in getting these young children ready for education. The Board thanked Mrs. Chamberlain for coming to give her informal presentation.

Approval of Minutes – Unofficial Minutes from October 10, 2012 (regular); October 22, 2012 (special)

Kendra Larson moved to approve the minutes of the regular meeting on October 10, 2012 and the minutes of the special meeting on October 22, 2012, Karen Mach seconded; motion

carried.

Superintendent's Report: Dr. Paustian is setting up a meeting with Clarence Haynes and Chris Larson to award Henderson funds. One application was received this year; information must be sent out by Dec. 15. She reported that Medicaid funds can be used for 504 plans but not for an individual student; must be for a group or class. A half-time Curriculum Coordinator position has been proposed for next year at a cost of approximately \$55,000, including benefits. This can be funded through Title IIA. Supt. Paustian recommends that the SU special education model be maintained in its present form.

Principal's Report: Mr. Beal reported that Fall Parent-Teacher Conferences were well attended and successful. Science Professional Development with Jean Ward on Oct. 29 was cancelled due to the storm. The training has been rescheduled for four days in different schools beginning on Nov. 30. We had CPI (Crisis Prevention Intervention) training at MSES on November 5 and 7. A number of our staff members were trained. Mr. Beal would like to have all staff members trained in de-escalation. The fuel tank had a broken vent pipe and water leaked into the tank (about 200 gallons). The boilers had to be turned off for a few days. This has been repaired and the boilers are up and running. The water project continues to move forward. Grades 5/6 are hosting the Spaghetti Dinner this month. Also this month, a season-ending soccer party will take place. Mr. Beal received positive comments from other coaches on the behavior and sportsmanship of our team. A Harvest Dinner took place at the school to kick off our Farm to School program. The program has three components: kitchen, curriculum, and community. Mr. Beal presented data from the last year's NECAP exams, comparing MSES to the RSWSU and the state. Mr. Beal hopes that the pre-testing work done this year will result in higher scores. This year's results will probably not be available until February, 2013. Mr. Beal shared data using other measures, e.g., the Fountas & Pinnell reading assessments show that between 77 and 85% of first graders achieved the various reading benchmarks. AIMSWeb reading assessments for grades 1-6 show that 79% of students are at or above level in reading. In Math, there are two AIMSWeb assessments which show that between 76 and 100% of students (by grade level) are proficient or above in application and computation. In Writing, we are investigating ways to measure growth and performance aside from the NECAPs. Collins Writing rubrics have been ordered for student self-assessment.

Business Manager's Report:

Financial Statements – Mr. Milazzo distributed the financial statements. Budget will be covered under New Business.

Kendra Larson moved to approve the reports of the Superintendent
continued on page 11...

continued from page 10...

tendent, Principal, and Business Manager, Karen Mach seconded, motion carried.

Approve Warrants:

Warrant #142 in the amount of \$90,155.71 dated 10/12/12

Warrant #143 in the amount of \$20,341.90 dated 10/24/12

Steven Letendre moved to approve Warrant #142 in the amount of \$90,155.71 dated 10/12/12 and Warrant #143 in the amount of \$20,341.90 dated 10/24/12, Karen Mach seconded; motion carried.

General Public Comments: None.

Old Business:

Determine date for Henderson Fund applications to be reviewed. This is pending; a meeting is being scheduled to meet the Dec. 15 deadline.

Town Website – Meredith Morgan met with Kimberly Mathewson about what items from the school should be included on the town website. Discussion ensued on various topics that could be included. Clarence Haynes asked Meredith Morgan to prepare a draft of some information items that could be reviewed at the next board meeting. Mrs. Morgan agreed to do so.

New Business:

Approve Action Plan – By consensus, the Board agreed to table approval of the Action Plan until the next meeting, so they can have ample time to review it.

Pre-K Policy – There is no written Pre-K entrance policy. Our past practice has been that students must be three years of age by September 1 to enter Pre-K, unless they have been identified as having special needs and are on Individual Education Plans. In those cases, we are required to admit the students once they reach age 3 and are discharged from birth-to-three programs. Mr. Haynes asked Mrs. Chamberlain for her input; she shared her thoughts. Mr. Letendre asked that Mr. Beal present a recommendation at the next meeting. Mr. Beal will do some research

on the subject of Pre-K entrance age, and present his findings to the Board so a written policy can be developed.

FY14 Budget Work: Drafts 1 & 2 of the 2013-2014 budget were presented by Louis Milazzo. He reviewed the budget with the Board page by page. He detailed anticipated increases in health insurance, workmen's compensation, and salaries. He discussed revenues such as surplus and anticipated elementary school tuition. He also discussed expenses including food service, salaries, supplies and books. Itinerant expenses (Art, PE, Music, Nursing, and Counseling) were reviewed as well as Ed Media, Library, Principal's Office, and Building Maintenance. Secondary regular education costs should be fairly stable. Elementary special education costs will increase due to student IEP counts while secondary special education costs will increase due to high student needs. The Board discussed the lack of control they have over special education costs and how few cost cutting measures are actually available to the Board. Discussion ensued about the need for roof repairs and the option of financing the cost of these repairs.

Policies: None this month.

Action on Personnel Contract:

New Hires:

Cathy Ward Turner – ASP Art Instructor

Kim Carr – ASP Assistant

Resignations: None

Terminations: None

Other: None

Steven Letendre moved to approve the hiring of Cathy Ward Turner as ASP Art Instructor and Kim Carr as ASP Assistant, Kendra Larson seconded; motion carried.

Set Next Board Meeting (Regular) & Agenda Building:

Next Board Meeting set for Tuesday, December 11, 2012 at 6:00PM at MSES.

Other Lawful Business:

Clarence Haynes attended the recent VSBA meeting and sought the Board's input regarding submitting his expenses for reimbursement. Based on board consensus, he will submit his receipts for approximately \$168 to the SU to be divided among the schools. Clarence Haynes has been appointed Board Member at Large of the VSBA and will attend monthly meetings. He shared information from the meeting on governance and policy, school calendars, and distance learning. He felt the meeting was quite valuable and shared how impressed he was with the verbal input given by students from various schools around the state who also attended the meeting.

Adjournment: Kendra Larson moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:24PM, Karen Mach seconded; motion carried. Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
Susan Rosso

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Firefighters James Reed, Joe Castle, and Tyler Manning (L to R) don personal protective gear before doing a demonstration at the Elementary School as part of National Fire Prevention Week.

Learn to Track Wildlife!

Learn wildlife tracking with George Leoniak! Leoniak is a Vermont tracker and ecologist, trained by a series of well-known experts including Paul Rezendes, Mark Elbroch, Jon Young, and Tom Brown, Jr. He also teaches at Antioch University New England. Workshop participants will gain general animal track identification skills, tips on interpreting animal behaviors from tracks and other sign, and guidance on observation techniques. The workshop will be held twice, once in Pittsford and once in Benson, and each will contain indoor and outdoor components. While no commitment is required, participants are encouraged to volunteer to use their new skills helping The Staying Connected Initiative to verify important wildlife road crossing areas in Rutland County, which will be explained during the workshop. Sponsored by the Staying Connected. Pre-registration required, as space is limited.

Pittsford Town Offices

Saturday, December 1st, 9:00am-3:30pm

Benson Community Hall

Saturday, December 8th, 9:00am-3:30pm

Please contact Monica Erhart for additional information or to pre-register: monica.erhart@gmail.com, (802)431-5061. See also <http://stayingconnectedgreensadks.wordpress.com>, or tracker George Leoniak's webpage, <http://leoniak-tracking.com>.

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The Walking School Bus

During the first week of October the students and teachers of the Elementary School took the bus to school... the Walking School Bus! Since 2008, this annual event, sponsored by Safe Routes to School & the MSES Friends for Education, offers children a safe, healthy, and fun way to get to school.

This year's Walking School Bus week coincided with International Walk to School Day (October 3). Middletown Springs Elementary School was one of over 40 Vermont schools to participate adding our numbers to the hundreds of thousands of students, parents and community members across the globe celebrating International Walk to School Day.

The weather was dreary and several mornings it drizzled. This did nothing to dampen the enthusiasm of the students who participated. Buses left from the corner of North Street and Spruce Knob Road, on West Street at St. Anne's Church, the corner of Fitzgerald Road and Apple Mountain Lane, and from the South Street Deli.



Many thanks to the parent "bus drivers": Diane Rosenmiller, Elizabeth Hinterberger, Tracy Weatherhogg, Kathy Clark, Betsy Shaw and Shirl Harrington.

More info is available at www.walkbiketoschool.org/.



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Tinmouth Contra Dance Friday, November 23 at 8:00

Come to an exuberant contra dance with Mary Wesley calling and toe-tapping live music with Pete Sutherland on fiddle and Brendan Taffe on guitar at the Tinmouth Community Center on Friday, November 23 from 8 pm.-11 pm.

The dance takes place in the Tinmouth Community Center, Rte 140 in the center of Tinmouth, Vermont, 5 miles west of Wallingford. Dancing takes place every fourth Friday of the month. Please bring clean, non-marring shoes. Admission is \$9, \$7 for teens and free for children 12 and under. Refreshments will be available. Call 235-2718 or 446-2928 for info or directions or www.Tinmouthvt.org.

The Social Black Bear:

What Bears Have Taught Me About Being Human

Ben Kilham, Independent Wildlife Biologist, will give a talk on the black bear on Friday, November 30 at 7 pm at the Otter Valley High School Auditorium (2997 Route 7, Brandon).



Black bears, thought to be solitary, have a different type of social behavior that possibly parallels early human behavior. They show evidence of reciprocal altruism, food sharing, and early group formation of unrelated individuals. Bears can live for as many as forty years, which allows them long-term benefits from forming relationships with fellow cooperators.

Ben Kilham is a wildlife biologist based in Lyme, New Hampshire. His love of and devotion to black bears has enabled him to study their habits and interact with them for more than two decades. He, his wife Debra and sister Phoebe have accepted orphaned bear cubs into their facility and enabled them to successfully return to the wild. Ben has been the focus of several news articles and documentaries, including National Geographic's A Man Among Bears and Animal Planet's Papa Bear. He is also co-author of the book *Among the Bears: Raising Orphaned Cubs in the Wild*.

All are welcome. A free event. With questions, please contact Monica Erhart at 431-5061. Hosted and with a brief introduction by The Staying Connected Initiative. Co-sponsored by the Hawk Hill Committee.



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Gift-of-Life Marathon

On behalf of the American Red Cross, Green Mountain Power and WJRR, I am writing to seek your help in supporting the 10th annual Gift-of-Life Marathon on Dec. 18.

With an outpouring of community spirit, last year we came very close to breaking the national one-day community blood drive record! In fact, we didn't miss the record because of a lack of donors, but because we couldn't handle all the folks who turned out. As a result, we have added a fourth location this year, and increased Red Cross staffing by nearly 50 percent. Rutland will get its last chance to break the national record on Dec. 18!! Please join us!

To reach our goal and provide critically needed blood during a time of habitually low supplies, we need your help! Please make an appointment today, and encourage your employees, members and friends to join us on Dec. 18. Attending the Gift-of-Life Marathon together is a wonderful activity for co-workers, teammates, students, families and friends, and first-time donors are especially encouraged to attend. Children as young as 16 may donate blood with parental consent.

For detailed information on eligibility, which could help you avoid making an appointment if you are ineligible to donate, please visit the following website:
<http://www.redcrossblood.org/donating-blood/eligibility-requirements>

Appointments are strongly encouraged. To sign up, please call 1-800-RED-CROSS today or visit www.giftoffliferun.com! Appointments are available from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., and given the huge influx of additional Red Cross staff this year, we expect to keep any waits to a minimum.

I hope to see you there!

Steve Costello, Vice President
Generation and Energy Innovation
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Blood Pressure & Foot Care Clinics

The Rutland Area Visiting Nurse Association & Hospice is offering the following Blood Pressure and Foot Care Clinics. There is a suggested donation of \$2 for blood pressure and \$5 for foot care. For more information please call 775-0568.

11/21/12	Rutland	Sheldon Towers	9:30 am
11/21/12	Rutland	Linden Terrace	11:00 am
11/21/12	Dorset	Dorset Nursing Office	9:00 am
11/22/12	Rutland	Maple Village	10:00 am
11/28/12	Rutland	Godnick Center	12:30 pm

Got Cholesterol?

The Rutland Area Visiting Nurse Association & Hospice (RAVNAH) is offering a comprehensive cardiovascular / cholesterol health risk screening, including total lipid profile and blood glucose at the RAVNAH office on 7 Albert Cree Drive, in Rutland on Wednesday, November 7, beginning at 8:30 am. Please call (802) 775-0568 in advance for an appointment. The total lipid profile is a group of tests to determine risk of coronary heart disease. The blood glucose test screens for diabetes. The complete lipid profile requires 8-12 hour fast prior to the test to ensure accurate results. The cost for a complete lipid profile and glucose is \$30.



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Tinmouth Community Center, 573 Rte 140, Tinmouth. For more information call 235-2718 or mosquier@vermontel.net.

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Calendar

November

Building Committee Meeting	Thurs. 15	7 pm	Town Office
Cranberry Story Hour	Sat. 17	10 am	Library
New Town Prop. Clean Up	Sat. 17	10 am	Town Center
Tinmouth Game Supper	Sat. 17	4 pm	Tinmouth
BINGO!	Mon. 19	7 pm	Fire House
Fire Dept. Training	Tues. 20	6 pm	Fire House
HAPPY THANKSGIVING!	Thurs. 22		
Contra Dance	Fri. 23	8 pm	Tinmouth
Men's Prayer Breakfast	Sat. 24	8 am	School
Holiday Prize Bingo	Sat. 24	7 pm	Fire House
BINGO!	Mon. 26	7 pm	Fire House
Friends of the Library Meeting	Tues. 27	7 pm	Library
Fire Dept. Meeting	Tues. 27	7:30 pm	Fire House
Young at Heart	Wed. 28	11 am	Poultney Center
The Social Black Bear	Fri. 30	7 pm	OVHS Brandon

December

Magnet Deadline	Sat. 1		
Learn to Track Wildlife	Sat. 1	9 am - 3:30 pm	Pittsford
Pizza! Pizza! Story Hour	Sat. 1	10 am	Library
Middletown Spgs Craft Fair	Sun. 2	10 am - 4 pm	School
Knitting Group	Mon. 3	7 pm	Library
Planning Commission	Mon. 3	7 pm	Town Office
BINGO!	Mon. 3	7 pm	Fire House
Library Trustees Meeting	Wed. 5	9 am	Library
Building Committee	Wed. 5	7 pm	Town Office
Historical Society Trustees	Thurs. 6	7:30 pm	Hist. Soc. Bldg.
Learn to Track Wildlife	Sat. 8	9 am - 3:30 pm	Benson
Pottery Sale	Sat. 8 / Sun. 9	10 am - 5 pm	Rising Meadow
Christmas in the Park	Sun. 9	6 pm	Green
BINGO!	Mon. 10	7 pm	Fire House
School Board	Tues. 11	6 pm	School
Conservation Commission	Tues. 11	7 pm	Library
Select Board	Thurs. 13	7 pm	Town Office
Property Taxes Due	Sat. 15	9 am - 4 pm	Town Office

Messages to *The Magnet*:

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Thank You!

The volunteers at *The Magnet* would like to
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If you would like to be a part of the dynamic
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