



The **September 2014** *Middletown Magnet*

"News that sticks in Middletown Springs"



Historical Society Annual Meeting September 21, 7 pm



Historical Society Open House October 5, 1 - 4 pm

Civil War historian Don Wickman will recount the history of the Ninth Vermont Regiment in the Civil War at the 45th Annual Meeting of the Middletown Springs Historical Society on Sunday, Sept. 21 at the Historical Society Building. The meeting will begin at 7:00 p.m. with a dessert buffet, followed at 7:15 p.m. by a brief business meeting and election of Trustees.

At 7:45 p.m. Don Wickman will tell the story of the Ninth Vermont.

From guarding Confederate prisoners incarcerated at Camp Douglas, Illinois, to the woods of coastal North Carolina and finally to the gates of Richmond, the Ninth Vermont earned a reputation for being well-disciplined and steadfast under fire. Although lacking the renown of other Vermont units, it represented the state well throughout its history.

Wickman's talk is highlighted by the stories of some of the 1,878 Vermonters who comprised the Ninth, as it became one of the most traveled regiments in the Federal army. Royal Lucien Coleman of Middletown served for over a year in the Ninth Vermont and died on Oct. 3, 1864 while in the regiment.

Don Wickman is a Vermont historian who is recognized as an expert on Mount Independence in Orwell and Vermont's Civil War flags. He is a published author and his historical articles are regularly printed in the Rutland Herald. Presently he is the director of the Kent-Delord House Museum in Plattsburgh, NY.

The program is made possible by support from the Vermont Council of the Humanities through its Speakers Bureau program. The meeting is free and accessible to people with disabilities.

The Historical Society Museum Open House on Sunday, Oct. 5, 1-4 pm will feature a slide lecture by textile conservator Michele Pagan on the conservation process that she used in a ten-year-long project to restore the Vermont State Civil War flag collection.

The Open House includes tours of the Society's Collection Storage areas and demonstrations of how the artifacts are conserved, accessioned, stored and maintained. Refreshments will be served before Michele's 2:00 pm presentation.

The Civil War flag collection, owned by the State of Vermont, has been exhibited in a glass display case in the State Capitol building in Montpelier for about a hundred years. Damage done over this period by light, humidity, insects and poor display practice was significant. Michele will be recounting the process of removing these flags from exhibit, their conservation treatment, and their transfer to a new storage facility at the Vermont Historical Society History Center in Barre.

Michele is a native Vermonter, who grew up in Bennington and Rutland. She began her career working at the Colonial Williamsburg Foundation, then successively worked for the U.S. Department of State, the Vermont Museum & Gallery Alliance (VMGA), the Bishop Museum in Honolulu, and the Smithsonian's Museum of American History. She presently holds a Research Associate affiliation at the Smithsonian's Museum Conservation Institute, researching the use of microfiber cloths for cleaning fragile artifact surfaces.

She is a textile conservator in private practice, working in both Washington, D.C. and Brookfield Vt., where she and her husband, John, have homes.

She first became acquainted with the Middletown Springs Historical Society in the mid-1990s, when she gave Collections Care workshops and trainings here for volunteers from MSHS and other area historical societies.

Property Tax Notice

1st Quarter Taxes are due on or before
September 15, 2014

Town Treasurer will be in the town office on
Monday, September 15, from 1pm-4pm
to receive payments.

Special Election September 23!

More information on Page 2

Notice to Middletown Springs

Property Owners

**From: Middletown Springs Listers and
Town Treasurer**

Homestead Declaration for Property Owners

Property Owners must declare whether or not they reside full time in Middletown Springs (Homestead) or not (Non-Residential). This declaration form HS-122 is typically filed by April 15th each year.

This is a reminder that late filing is allowed until October 15, 2014. If you have not filed the proper declaration, please do so by the deadline.

If a property owner does not file the declaration, or the correct declaration, Middletown Springs will be notified by the VT Department of Taxes. At that point, a penalty will be assessed on the property owner, as follows:

If a homestead declared property is NOT a homestead and the homestead tax rate is higher than the non-residential tax rate (which it is for 2014/15), a 3% penalty on the education tax on the property will be incurred.

If a homestead is NOT declared and the homestead rate is higher than the non-residential rate (which it is for 2014/15), an 8% penalty on the education tax on the property will be incurred.

The Select Board will not waive any penalties for tax year 2014/15.

If you have questions, please visit this webpage <http://www.state.vt.us/tax/propertyadjlatefiling.shtml>
Or contact the Vermont Department of Taxes directly.

Library Lawn Sale

Saturday, September 27, 2014

8 a.m. - 4 p.m.

On the Town Green

**Up-cycled Trinkets & Treasures
Housewares, toys, tools, furniture,
small appliances and more...**

Find a bargain and support the library!

**Sponsored by the Friends of the
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More info: Ursula Smith 235-2844**

Want to donate?

Lawn sale donations accepted

Friday, September 26

From 12 to 6 p.m.

Please no clothing, no large appliances, no mildew



Special Election September 23

Article petitioned:

Shall the Town of Middletown Springs vote to raise, deem necessary and appropriate, and expend the sum of \$30,000 for the Middletown Springs Volunteer Fire Department to be used for replacement of the roof of the existing firehouse, determining that these improvements benefit the town with fire protective services?

**Informational Meeting – September 22 at 7:30pm
at the Firehouse**

**Voting on September 23, 2014 from 7am to 7pm
at the firehouse.**

**Last Day to register to vote:
Wednesday, September 17**

**Last day to request an absentee ballot:
Monday, September 22**



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Elementary School News

by Rick Beal, Principal

Where did the summer go? It seemed short but it feels good to be back in school with the students and staff. The school year got off to a great start with MSES's tradition of the First Day Community Breakfast. The students and staff all participated in community-building activities including sharing different greetings and important things that happened over the summer. The big activity was having students contribute to the school's "time capsule" that will be opened on this year's last day of school. I would like to thank our FFE members, the Middletown Springs Volunteer Fire Department, and all the community volunteers who helped to make the event such a success.

As we finish our first week of school, I have a great sense of excitement for the upcoming school year. The staff is energized with the grade level and teaching assignment changes and the students are happy to be back with friends and teachers. With the curriculum changes that are also being implemented, I feel that it will be a successful year for all our students.

Our students did not meet Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) goals in reading and math for 2013-2014. AYP is determined by the results of the NECAP exams that all students in 3rd-6th grade take each October. Under the No Child Left Behind Act (NCLB), as of 2014, all children in our school must score "proficient" on the NECAP test or the school is identified as a "low performing" school under federal law. However, MSES is not alone in not meeting AYP this year. Every public school in Vermont (except the schools that were exempted for piloting the new Smarter Balance Assess-

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ment Consortium (SBAC) assessment) also did not meet AYP. As VT Commissioner of Education, Rebecca Holcombe has stated, it is not realistic to expect every single tested child in every school to be proficient. We have very capable students; some may have unique learning needs that make it difficult for them to demonstrate their knowledge, or events may have happened that preclude a good performance on a standardized test, as well as students who, for whatever reason, are not interested on that day in demonstrating their best work. Perhaps the silver lining in not meeting AYP state-wide will be a renewed discussion on identifying other evidence, besides one yearly assessment, to determine a school's and most importantly, a student's academic achievement.



Fountain of Youth

Baked Fish, Rice, Vegetable of the Day and Fruit Crisp will be served family style at the Young At Heart Senior Center, Poultney, on September 24. The site opens at 11am with homemade soup and coffee

served at 11:15am. Dinner is served at noon. Area seniors are in for a treat which only costs \$3.25 for seniors 60 years and older. The cost for others is \$4.25. Reservations are required and can be made by calling 287-9200. You won't be disappointed.

Men's Community Prayer Breakfast

Saturday, September 27, at 8 am
Middletown Springs School

*Come join us if you are able
for this informal monthly event*

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Jerry



Library News

CRASH! the Community Potluck and Celebration: Join us for an afternoon of live music, carnival games, clothesline art show and community potluck; Sunday afternoon, September 21, 2-6pm, co-hosted by Rising Meadow Pottery & Middletown Springs Public Library.

In anticipation, the Story Hour: Saturday, September 20 at 10am, will include stories of planes, teamwork and community.

Looking for suggestions for a Fall Movie Series. All titles need to be covered under our movie license [www.movlic.com]. If you have some ideas of movies the library might show for either family, teens, or grown-up audiences please let us know.

New in the Library

Fiction

The Long Way Home / Louise Penny, *We Are Called To Rise* / Laura McBride, *The Longest Ride* / Nicholas Sparks, *All Fall Down* / Jennifer Weiner, *The One & Only* / Emily Giffin, *Written In My Own Heart's Blood* / Diana Gabaldon, *The Vacationers* / Emma Straub, *All the Light We Cannot See* / Anthony Doerr, *The Care and Management of Lies: A Novel Of The Great War* / Jacqueline Winspear, *Landline* / Rainbow Rowell, *Attachments* / Rainbow Rowell, *The Lowland* / Jhumpa Lahiri,

Non-Fiction

One Summer: America, 1927 / Bill Bryson, *Power of Habit: Why We Do What We Do in Life and Business* / Charles Duhigg,

Teens/ Young Adults

Paper Towns / John Green, *Fat Kid Rules the World* / K.L. Going, *Ship Breaker* / Paolo Bacigalupi

Middle Readers

The Adventures of a South Pole Pig / Chris Kurtz, *Escape From Mr. Lemoncello's Library* / Chris Grabenstein, ... and others from the 2015 Dorothy Canfield Fisher Award List

Picture Books

Boy + Bot / Ame Dyckman, *The Three Little Aliens and the Big Bad Robot* / Margaret McNamara,

Movies / DVDs

The Lego Movie, *The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy*, *Apollo 13*, *Indiana Jones and the Kingdom of the Crystal Skull*, *Her*, *Mandela: Long Walk to Freedom*, *Gravity*, *Frozen*, *Catching Fire*, *12 Years a Slave*, *Forrest Gump*, *All Is Lost*, *Wreck-It Ralph*

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VT Foliage Studio Tour

The Vermont Crafts Council is hosting the third annual Fall Open Studio Weekend during foliage season. On October 4th and 5th from 10am - 5pm there will be 107 different locations across the state open to visitors interested in hand made crafts. Locally, potters Diane Rosenmiller and Nicholas Seidner will have their gallery filled with pots from their most recent firings plus tables with seconds for sale. For more information about this event or to download a map visit vermontcrafts.com.



Building Committee Open House

**Saturday, October 4
At the Former Parker Garage
Rain or Shine
9am – 1pm**

Tour the Building Site and the "Footprint" for the new Town Building and parking

View preliminary sketches and floor plans for the Town Office and for the Library

Meet and talk with Building Committee members & Library Trustees

View exhibits on the Town Office & the Library

Children's Activities include "Build Your Own Town Building"

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For more information contact Kristal Hier 235-1297

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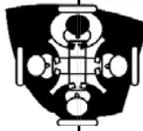
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**Select Board Minutes
July 30, 2014 Special Meeting Approved**



**Select Board Minutes
August 14, 2014 Meeting
Approved**

CALL TO ORDER 6:32 pm

BOARD PRESENT: H. Childress, C. Haynes, S. Moyer, T. Redfield

PUBLIC PRESENT: None

The purpose of this special meeting was to act on a petition received by Town regarding a proposed article for the August 26, 2014 ballot. C. Haynes discussed the petition with Brian Leven, Deputy Secretary of State—since the requested ballot item isn't a special budget vote by a town entity, the warning must be not less than 30 or more than 40 days prior to the election. In addition, a private entity can't name the time and date for the vote as part of the ballot language; that is the responsibility of the Selectboard.

T. Redfield moves that the Selectboard does not accept the petition as presented, due to insufficient time to properly warn the ballot item, given that state law requires that petitioned articles be warned not less than 30 or more than 40 days prior to the election. C. Haynes 2nd. [all in favor, motion carried]

C. Haynes will ask Mark McManus to attend a Selectboard meeting in the near future to discuss the appropriate way of getting this petitioned article onto a future ballot, possibly without the need for obtaining new signatures.

T. Redfield moved to adjourn; C Haynes 2nd. [all in favor, motion carried]. Meeting adjourned 6:55 pm.

REGULAR MEETING CALL TO ORDER: 7:00 pm

BOARD PRESENT: H. Childress, C. Haynes, M. Lamson, S. Moyer, T. Redfield

PUBLIC PRESENT: John Arsenault, Laura Castle, Art Castle, Jim Georg Ed Skwira, Bill Reed

Approval of Minutes: T. Redfield moved to approve minutes from July 24 special meeting; S. Moyer 2nd. [all in favor, motion carried]. T. Redfield moved to approve minutes from July 24 regular meeting as amended; C. Haynes 2nd. [all in favor, motion carried]. T. Redfield moved to approve minutes from July 30 special meeting; S. Moyer 2nd. [all in favor, motion carried].

Public Comment: Ed Skwira, a resident of Rutland Town, has recently bought a camp on Dayton Hill Road and would like to do some work on that road, with town adding fill to firm up and level the roadbed. Bill Reed notes that the town is responsible only for existing bridges and culverts on Class 4 roads, and that Ed will need permission to conduct work in the roadway. He and Ed will make an appointment to visit the site and discuss, and Bill will then make a recommendation to the Board.

John Arsenault resubmitted a petition to the Town Clerk on August 7, on behalf of the Volunteer Fire Department and its efforts to raise \$30,000 from the town to repair the firehouse roof. The town has 15 days to warn a public meeting and election after receiving this petition, and then between 30 and 40 days to hold such a meeting. M. Lamson moves to accept the petition and set a date for a public meeting and special election; T. Redfield 2nd. [Aye—H. Childress, M. Lamson, S. Moyer, T. Redfield; Nay—C. Haynes; motion carried] Board will set date at its special meeting of August 21st, and will ask Town Treasurer to advise on the details of raising and expending out-of-budget funds in mid-year.

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**Remember to visit:
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continued from page 5...

John Arsenault reports that the Volunteer Fire Department has received a grant of \$14,000 from the Poultney Mettowee Conservation District for the planning of a drainage project, and requests the survey of the town lot. Surveyor George Stannard has not yet completed the northern boundary survey; Carl will discuss with him. However, that boundary will not come into play for the drainage project, so the partial survey will suffice for accurate planning.

John Arsenault reports that the Planning Commission has operated a five-person board with three people for some time; this allows them a quorum if and only if all three active members attend. One of the current members is discussing resignation, which will take the Planning Commission below adequate quorum. Under Vermont state law, the Selectboard sets the size of a local planning commission, from a minimum of three seats. H. Childress moves to reduce the size of the Planning Commission from five seats to three, with a resulting quorum of two members, effective October 1, 2014, contingent on the Town being unable to recruit sufficient new members by that date for the current seats; T. Redfield 2nd. [all in favor, motion carried]

Jim Georg notes that the VLCT will be holding a training seminar on the new Public Records Act and Open Meeting Law; H. Childress will attend.

H. Childress reported the results of open comment on streetlight location, noting that some of the recommendations and requests are incompatible with one another. He will make recommendations for new streetlight array, post publicly, and bring recommendations and comments to the Board at August 28 meeting.

Town Officers: No reports.

Town Lands: West Street—M. Lamson has filed a request with FEMA for a letter of map amendment (LOMA) for West Street property; FEMA will notify us of their determination within 60 days (project # 14-01-3143A).

Parker Property—C. Haynes attended Building Committee meeting; although there was no quorum, discussions included cleaning and mowing the lot in preparation for an on-site open house. Carl has requested a possible meeting with the engineer, the Building Committee and the Selectboard to discuss appropriate septic design and location. H. Childress will contact Teers to request removal of downed tree; C. Haynes will clear high grass on lot.

Road Commissioner: Bill Reed will be digging test holes for possible ditch construction on Coy Hill Road; M. Lamson and S. Moyer will be present at 11:30 am Friday August 15.

Bill has prepared bid package for precast box culvert for

North Street construction project. Bids will be solicited in March 2015, followed by a later bid package for excavation based on the winning design for the culvert. Project must be completed by December 2015 under the terms of its grant.

Bill presented quarterly estimates for upcoming equipment maintenance. He will present equipment logs at the beginning of each month.

A new recorded message has been completed for the phone line at the Town garage.

Steve Geno is temporarily restricted to light duty; Bobby Parker returns to work Monday August 18th.

Bill will be meeting on August 21 with Hillary Solomon and representatives of the Fire Department and Community Church to discuss next steps on drainage project.

The grader is at Winmill for repair; the Board authorized Bill to have it trucked back to town upon work completion.

Bill will get one additional quote for tires for the plow trucks before the Board makes purchase.

Mike has investigated time clocks so that the Town can replace the old one at the garage. T. Redfield moves that the Town purchase and install a Latham 1500E self-setting time clock and Staples 2-year support plan; H. Childress 2nd. [all in favor, motion carried]

Bill informed the Board that the recent replacement of the backhoe steering column has not fully solved the problem of locking it into multiple positions.

Road Reclassification: H. Childress notified the Board that the special Town meeting of September 9 at 7pm has been posted; that copy has been sent to the Magnet and to Front Porch Forum; and that certified letters have been sent to the three potentially impacted property owners. Laura will place notices in the Rutland Herald by end of August. This meeting will allow town input on the following three requests:

- That Whites Road be declassified, or “thrown up”
- That Moyer Acres Road be declassified, or “thrown up”
- That Fox Bridge Lane be reclassified as a Class 4 Road

Solid Waste: The Solid Waste Alliance Communities (SWAC) of Rutland County are seeking a grant to implement the new solid waste plan. This grant requires SWAC to provide an \$8,000 match, and the Middletown Springs component of that would amount to \$566.

The final quote for gate replacement has yet to be submitted.

Correspondence: A petition to place a motion at special ballot to raise, allocate and expend \$30,000 to replace the roof of the Firehouse.

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continued from page 6...

- Fill requests from Sue Miller, Ann Marie Mahar
- Service request from David Laurence regarding tree limb overhanging Garron Road. Work completed.
- Service request from Ed Skwira regarding work on Dayton Hill Road (see Public Comment)
- Letter from Town's attorney regarding Pepperman lawsuit.
- Letter from Town's attorney regarding personnel
- BCBSVT newsletter
- Nortrax catalog
- Letter from RRPC clarifying procedure for updating and approval of town plans.

Board Orders: T. Redfield moves to accept Board Orders as presented; H. Childress 2nd. [all in favor, motion carried]

Legal: Town attorney Gary Kupferer and others held a site visit at 9:30 am on August 5. This meeting seems to have resulted in agreement of property boundaries between two of the interested parties.

Other Business: Steve Geno has requested clarification of vacation pay and public holidays. The Board has not finished consideration of new employment policy. The Selectboard will hold a special meeting at 6 pm on Thursday, August 21 to consider employment policy and job descriptions, and also to set the date for a public meeting and election regarding the Fire Department's petition.

Executive Session: T. Redfield moves to enter executive session for personnel matters; S. Moyer 2nd. [all in favor, motion carried]. Executive session begins 10:44 pm.

H. Childress moves to leave executive session; T. Redfield 2nd. [all in favor, motion carried] Executive Session concludes 11:02 pm. H. Childress moves to allow Board Chair to sign the Memorandum of Understanding as amended, and return it to Town's attorney; M. Lamson 2nd. [all in favor, motion carried]



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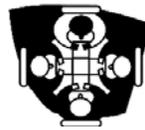
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Adjourn — T. Redfield moves to adjourn, S. Moyer 2nd. [all in favor, motion carried]. Meeting adjourned 11:05 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Herb Childress, Clerk



Select Board Minutes August 21, 2014 Special Meeting Approved

CALL TO ORDER 6:08 pm

BOARD PRESENT: H. Childress, C. Haynes, M. Lamson, S. Moyer, T. Redfield

PUBLIC PRESENT: John Arsenault

Petition for Special Town Meeting and Special Election:

The primary purpose of tonight's meeting was to act on a petition received by Town regarding a proposed article for special election. Deputy Secretary of State Brian Leven has indicated that the petition may be accepted and acted upon; since the petition was received by the Town Clerk on August 7, 2014, that leaves 15 days for the Selectboard to warn a special meeting and vote, which must occur not fewer than 30 days nor more than 40 days after posting.

M. Lamson moved to warn a special meeting at 7:30 pm on Monday September 22, 2014, to precede a vote on Tuesday, September 23, 2014 from 7am to 7pm; HC 2nd. [Aye—H. Childress, M. Lamson, S. Moyer, T. Redfield; Nay—C. Haynes. Motion carried]. The motion to be discussed and voted upon is as follows:

Shall the Town of Middletown Springs vote to raise, deem necessary and appropriate, and expend the sum of \$30,000 for the Middletown Springs Volunteer Fire Department to be used for replacement of the roof of the existing fire-house, determining that these improvements benefit the town with fire protection services?

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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.



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continued from page 7...

The warning was created and signed by all Selectboard members, to be posted 30 days prior to the special meeting.

Town Lands: John Arsenault asked that the Selectboard approve moving forward with the planning grant from the Poultney Mettowee Natural Resources Conservation District. T. Redfield moved to approve that the Volunteer Fire Association and Community Church pursue design solutions for drainage which may potentially affect Town lands; M. Lamson 2nd. [all in favor, motion carried].

Employment Policy: When Highway employee Steve Geno was made full-time in March 2014, this made him eligible for enrollment in the Town's retirement plan. However, he was not enrolled immediately upon eligibility, so the Town and Steve both owe back contributions for his retirement plan. H. Childress moved that the town will pay the State retirement plan for both the Town's and the employee's components of the contribution for Steve Geno through August 2014, due to the error in his enrollment; beginning September 1, 2014, the Town will contribute 4.0% of his salary and Steve will contribute 2.5% of his salary. M. Lamson 2nd. [all in favor, motion carried].

The Selectboard then worked on revisions to the proposed Town Employment Policy; H. Childress will compile those revisions and bring them back to the Board at its next regular meeting on August 28.

Adjourn: T. Redfield moved to adjourn, M. Lamson 2nd. [all in favor, motion carried]. Meeting adjourned 8:50 pm.

Classified Ad

Don't wait for metal day. Call me. I take metal every day, big or small, plus batteries. Firewood and maple syrup for sale also.
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Paul Colletti, MT

Rising Meadow Pottery



Nicholas Seidner
Diane Rosenmiller

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Middletown Springs
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rmeadow@vermontel.net



Building Committee Meeting July 2, 2014 Approved Minutes

Members present: Kimberly Mathewson, Lois Dansereau, David Munyak, Tom Hurcomb, Fred Bradley, Robin Chesnut-Tangerman, Patty McWilliams, David Wright, Michael Beattie (arrived 7:30).

Absent: Patty Kenyon, Kristal Hier, Carl Haynes, Shirley Moyer, Laura Castle

Public Present: None

Call to order at 7:20 by Dave M.

I. Minutes - Tom H moved that the minutes of June 19, 2014 be accepted as presented, 2nd by Fred B. Approved.

II. Public comment - None

III. Community Support: A) Visioning information - Kimberly M emailed out final drafts of the guiding statements arising from the visioning session at the school. Drafted by Patty K and Kristal H, edited for length by Patty McW and Kimberly M.

Most members did not have time to read the email before the meeting. Tom H Appreciates the effort and wonders how these statements will interface with the Q&A work being done by the Public Relations Committee.

David M asks that before each Statement there be a descriptor regarding the work that Kathy Letendre guided us through both formulating and consolidating the statements.

TASK - All members should read and comment on the Guiding Statements before July 19th, and send comments to both Patty McW and Kimberly M.

Kimberly will then post on the Town website and David M will roll them out on Front Porch Forum singly, about one week apart. They will also be published in the Magnet, half in August and half in September. Open House on the site is scheduled for late September and polling questions in November.

IV. Sub-Committee Reports A) Public Relations - Evolving Q&A - 1. Why is it taking so long to clean up the site? - The answer is the same one posted to that question at the informational Open House.

2. Is there a problem siting both septic and a well on that small site? - David M working on response listing steps taken, studies, etc.

3. Is the site large enough to accommodate a Town Office, a Library, and parking for both? - Michael B says that the best response is visual, presenting 3 options and the tax implications of each pending grant funding. Tom H thinks that response is great information for the open house, but the Q&A info should be simple, succinct answers to questions we are hearing now.

continued on page 9...



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continued from page 8...

Preferred answer being, Yes, the site has parking for 20+ cars and the building footprint.

Digression - Discussion of foot traffic through current Town Office. Fred B will ask Laura C if she would mind using a clicker to count visitors for a given period of time.

Kristal H sent in some questions that she has been hearing as well:

1. The library seems to be working well where it is. Why move it?
2. Why combine a Town Office and a library?

Tom H suggests that we post these questions and answers one at a time on Front Porch Forum. Patty McW will develop a header to use for all of them and David M will post the first one right away, then add it to the Town website.

Open House Planning - Event to be held on the site in late September. Tom and Patty McW suggest separate tables to represent separate aspects of planning: design, site remediation, library, funding, etc. And we should chalk out or otherwise lay out a building footprint. Need someone to plan the social aspect of the event.

Nicholas Seidner is planning an event marking one year since the plane crash in his back meadow. Kimberly M will talk with Nick about the timing of both events. Current thought favors the weekend of September 27 - 28.

Polling Plans - Tom H will meet with Rich Clark at the Castleton Polling Institute on July 11. Based on their phone discussion, Mr. Clark is willing to help us.

B) Fund Raising - Maureen M did not attend this meeting. Robin C-T has not been active in this field. David M and Maureen M will meet to discuss possible grant writers, draft a generic letter, etc. Patty K will help with this after SolarFest is over. Maureen attended a fundraising retreat recently. We look forward to her report.

V. Building and Site Design A) Library Programming - Library trustees and the Friends of the Library have taken on advo-

cacy for a library services center that meets the town's needs. An individual will be visiting the library building soon to evaluate ADA compliance of the existing building and offer information on costs of compliance. When she comes members of the building committee will meet with her as well.

VI. Project Scheduling - Due to ongoing back pain David M has not been as active as he had hoped, but he circulated a draft of the site signage for comment. He has spoken with the contractor about coming back to complete the small amount of soil remediation needed. Also spoke with Frank Parent (civil engineer) about the order of permitting, well drilling, testing, and septic installation. Will issue a RFP (request for proposals) on final cellar hole work.

VII. Other Business - Tom H spoke of the research he has done (with Laura C and Jenny M) regarding the debt burden of the town and how that will change as debts are paid off. He proposes asking the Town Auditors to review and verify the figures he is using. Tom has also done some preliminary investigations into projected expenses of USDA building loans.

Meeting adjourned at 8:41.

Next meeting scheduled for August 6th, 2014 at 7:00.

Respectfully submitted,
Robin Chesnut-Tangerman



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Building Committee August 21, 2014 Approved Minutes

Present: Patty McWilliams, Lois Dansereau, David Munyai, Tom Hurcomb, Michael Beattie, Patty Kenyon, David Wright, Maureen McCormack, Kimberly Mathewson, Kristal Hier

Absent: Carl Haynes, Shirley Moyer, Fred Bradley, Laura Castle, Robin Chesnut-Tangerman

Public: Dawn Smith

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 7:10pm by D Munyai.

I. Minutes: A. Approval of July 2 minutes. - T Hurcomb asked for wording changes under the section titled Public Relations - Polling Plans, to more accurately reflect the conversation.

K Mathewson moved to accept the minutes of 7/2/2014 as amended - P McWilliams seconded and the motion carried.

D Munyai asked that it be noted that there was no meeting held on 7/17/2014 and that there was no quorum on 8/6/2014 so, no official meeting took place.

II. Public Comments: Tabled to the end of the meeting as requested by our guest, Dawn Smith

III. Community Support: A. Visioning information - D Munyai asked where are we on the visioning now? K Mathewson reported that the final version is ready for publication, it did not make it into the August Magnet because of space issues. It will go into the September Magnet and can go up on the web at any time. Once it is up on the web, D Munyai will post the sections individually on Front Porch Forum.

IV. Sub-Committee Reports: A. Public Relations - What's happening on the corner - Q & A's have started on Front Porch Forum and in the August issue of The Magnet.

D Munyai reported a new question he had been asked that he suggests is answered as part of the Q & A series. The question: Is the project stalled due to OSHA violations? The committee agreed that this was a good question to address.

K Hier reported that she will answer a question posed as well. The question: What's going to happen with the Library building if it is vacated?

It was suggested that we also might address the question posed on Front Porch Forum of: Why doesn't the town just buy the FIA building? Committee members talked briefly about this and thought that this question had been answered adequately on Front Porch Forum, so there was no need to re-address it through this series.

Open House Planning – The committee discussed the possible dates for the Open House at length and determined that the only date that was available to hold the open house was October 4. The timing, 9am to 1pm, will coincide with the Transfer Station hours as an attempt to pull in more people.

T Hurcomb reported that he had sent in an official request to the Select Board on behalf of the Building Committee asking that the site be maintained. The text of that request follows:

Service Request 8/14/2014 – On behalf of the Building committee, I request that the Town mow the grass and weed whack the Parker Property, upper and lower levels, on an ongoing schedule; and also request that the construction barrels and barrier tape at the site be straightened as and when necessary.

T Hurcomb also expressed his intent was to be able to put

down a building footprint at the Open House and wanted to make sure that still could happen. Committee members felt that would be possible. There was also a brief discussion about logistics and supplies that would be needed for this event as well as getting the Brownfields cleanup signed produced and some of the potential activities and displays that would be a part of this event. To do items included:

- D Munyai to work on getting the sign installed
- K Mathewson to work on possible activities for kids
- P McWilliams to work on a poster advertising the event

B. Fund raising – The fund raising subcommittee will plan to meet next week to work on the next steps. D Munyai will send an email to the folks on the subcommittee to set a date and time. Subcommittee members are: D Munyai, M McCormack, P Kenyon, K Mathewson, R Chesnut-Tangerman.

C. Long Term Debt – T Hurcomb has talked to the Auditors and they are reviewing his findings. He hopes to have a report back from them before the next meeting. Once we have that we will know where we stand in terms of town encumbrances.

V. Building & Site Design: A. Library programming – K Hier talked about the library's vision for the future and that the library board intends to have information about their needs for the future ready to share with the public at the Open House event in October.

D Munyai asked about the visit from the state ADA consultant. There are two possible dates for this visit, Sept 8 or 15th, the Library Trustees will schedule this visit and let the Building Committee know when it is so that members can attend if they would like.

M Beattie suggested that the Building Committee should be working toward a two-track plan one that includes just a town office and one that includes a library along with the town office. He would like the Building Committee to give the architects instructions as to these next steps so that they can begin some design work.

M McCormack moved that Building Committee asks that Michael Beattie and Mark McManus move forward with two schematic designs, one including the library and one without the library, with cost projections for both. Target date for completion is before the open house on Oct 3. P McWilliams seconded and the motion carried.

VI. Project Scheduling – D Munyai reported that the lead & asbestos clean-up completion still has not happened. He has been pushing the contractor to get here and finish up this job and will continue to push it.

D Munyai also reported that he sent out a Request for Quote to four engineering firms in regard to handling the next phase of the clean-up, which is the PCB removal from the bottom of the lift pit and material under the slab, the deadline was today, 8/21/2014. He received two quotes back and two firms who declined to quote. The two quotes received were as follows: Weston and Sampson - \$29,239 and Ross Environmental - \$20,290.

Ross Environmental has the low bid. D Munyai needs to check with EPA representative to find out if getting these two bids and two decline to bid responses will satisfy their bidding requirements. Because of the tight timeframe, D Munyai would like the committee to send a recommendation to the Select Board

continued on page 11...

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that they accept the low bid pending the go-ahead from the EPA.

P McWilliams moved that Building Committee recommends the Select Board hire Ross Environmental to do the engineering work and project management for the remaining PCB abatement at the Parker site pending a positive response from the EPA Representative. K Mathewson seconded and the motion carried.

It was noted that all of this work will be covered by a grant.

Well and Septic Scheduling – D Muniyak reported that he talked to Frank Parent of Long Trail Engineering regarding our options for a septic system on the site. Frank indicated that Joe Teer maintains that his well is potable and he does occasionally use it. Given that, it would not be practical to try to get a mound system permitted for this site. This leaves us with one viable option, a holding tank system. There are many positives to this type of system as it allows for a more flexible site design, future expansion of the building, and has less maintenance and moving parts than a mound system.

Frank will work up some numbers on cost and would need two to three weeks to complete a design to be submitted to the state. It takes about four weeks for the state to turn around a permit once they receive a design so we are looking at the beginning of November if we start the process now. Once you have a permit you can begin the system construction and drill a well. There is no expiration on this permit, so beginning construction can commence right away or sometime into the future.

D Muniyak asked for a motion to recommend to the Select Board that they move forward on the septic system design work.

M McCormack moved that the Building Committee recommends that the Select Board hire Long Trail Engineering to do the design and make the application to the state for the well and waste water permit. T Hurcomb seconded and the motion carried.

II. Public Comments: Dawn Smith asked if we had any estimate on official ground breaking for a building. D Muniyak estimated probably two years.

She also asked if the committee had an idea for square foot pricing for building these days. M Beattie and D Wright agreed that low end for cost is around \$150 per square foot and the high end around \$250 per square foot.

K Hier asked if there were any changes in quorum needs in the last two months. D Muniyak indicated that this meeting marked the fourth meeting since the requirement went into effect. Attendance will be looked at over the last four meetings and any members who have missed the last four meetings will be automatically dropped. At the next meeting we will be working under

new quorum requirement.

VII. Other Business: A. Next meeting scheduled for Wednesday, September 3, 2014

Adjourn: Meeting was adjourned at 9:08pm

Respectfully submitted by

Patty Kenyon, Building Committee Clerk



School Directors (Regular) Meeting August 4, 2014 - UnOfficial Minutes

Present: Clarence Haynes (Chair), Meredith Morgan (Vice-Chair), Christopher Smid (Member), Sarah Haley (Clerk). Also present: Joan Paustian (Superintendent), Rick Beal (Principal), Susan Rosso (Recording Secretary). Public Present: Jenn Rocque-Tiff, MSES Grade 6 Teacher

1. Call to Order - Clarence Haynes called the meeting to order at 6:05PM.

2. Additions, Deletions, Changes to Agenda - Supt. Paustian states that approval to hire Denise McConville as a new IA will need to be added to the agenda under #9 "New Hires."

3. Consent Agenda: Approval of Minutes –June 2014 (no meeting held July 2014)

Sarah Haley moved to approve the minutes of the June 2014 meeting, Christopher Smid seconded; motion carried 4-0,

Superintendent's Report: Supt. Paustian stated that we received the AYP results today; however the results are presently embargoed (not authorized for release). New Teacher Orientation will take place on August 20. A notice will be sent out to all teachers and staff members regarding the all-SU meeting on August 25 at Poultney High School, starting at 8:00AM. There will be two presentations; the first begins at 9:15AM. Rutland Mental Health has offered to have a school-based clinician work with Middletown, Wells, and Poultney to provide an extra counseling resource to our schools. Greg Styles, our new Technology Coordinator, is researching the feasibility of an extender for cell service at the school.

continued on page 12...

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Principal's Report: Principal Beal welcomed our new sixth grade teacher, Jenn Rocque-Tiff and introduced her to the board members. Mr. Beal is very happy to have her on board; she brings much experience in math and science at the middle school level. Students will have an opportunity to work with a specialist from Smokey House on a wetlands project. The project will include field study, graphing, and engineering. The cost is quite reasonable (\$600-\$700); grants and other funding sources will be researched. We only had fourteen students attending the Summer Program in the morning, and fewer were coming to the afternoon session, so the afternoon portion was cancelled. Mr. Beal has some ideas on how we can increase participation next summer. We will be supplementing Math instruction with a Facts Fluency program which will be used each school day for ten minutes. Mr. Beal will be at the VPA conference next week. RSWSU administrators and two teachers will be involved in piloting the new teacher supervision and evaluation program. Training will take place this Friday regarding best practices of supervision and evaluation (comparable to the Danielson model). With the decision not to have our students attend the Young Scholars Program, there is a need for enrichment to take place here at MSES. Mr. Beal has been consulting with a local principal on a program called WIN (What I Need). This model uses enrichment and also boosts needed support. Mr. Beal will be implementing the program in the afternoons; we will continue to challenge high achieving students. The water system project has been delayed by the state--we needed to provide additional engineering information. We now have the green light from the state but Benson

Electric still needs to order the panel. Unfortunately, it does not appear that the work will be done before school starts; we will look at alternate dates. Mr. Beal reports that a portion of the new roof needs to be re-shingled soon. IA Melinda Coupe has accepted a teaching position at Tinmouth School. Regina Murphy has been hired as our new School Counselor. The Farm to School harvesting session scheduled for July 30 will be rescheduled for late August/early September. FFE will be assisting with the First Day Celebration Breakfast. Mr. Beal distributed charts that show results in reading from the Fountas & Pinnell tests administered periodically during the school year. He also shared results of school climate and afterschool program surveys completed by students. Discussion took place.

Business Manager's Report - Financial Statements: Mr. Milazzo is not in attendance; he sent a financial report including food service program data, which will be covered later. We were originally looking at an approximate deficit of \$60,000. We were able to reduce spending and are now looking at an approximate deficit of \$48,000 which will have to be addressed in the next fiscal year.

Sarah Haley moved to approve the Consent Agenda, Christopher Smid seconded; motion carried 4-0.

4. Approve Warrants:

- a. Warrant #188 in the amount of \$482,337.34 dated 6/18/14
- b. Warrant #189 in the amount of \$43,242.29 dated 6/30/14
- c. Warrant #190 in the amount of \$70,911.61 dated 7/9/14
- d. Warrant #191 in the amount of \$18,179.26 dated 7/23/14

Clarence Haynes moved to approve Warrants #188 in the amount of \$482,337.34 dated 6/18/14, #189 in the amount of

\$43,242.29 dated 6/30/14, #190 in the amount of \$70,911.61 dated 7/9/14, and #191 in the amount of \$18,179.26 dated 7/23/14, Sarah Haley seconded; motion carried 4-0

5. General Public Comments: None

6. Old Business: None

7. New Business: a. Review any letters of interest for open Board seat - We currently do not have any letters of interest. Clarence Haynes moved to solicit letters of interest on Front Porch Forum and in The Magnet, and also to send a donation of \$100 to The Magnet which helps us defray costs by publishing school warnings and information. Christopher Smid seconded; motion carried 4-0.

b. Analysis of Food Service Expenses - The food service expense and revenue reports provided by Mr. Milazzo were reviewed by the Board.

c. Review and Approve Food Prices for FY15: Mr. Milazzo suggests that MSES keep prices the same for students and adults this coming school year. Meredith Morgan moved to keep prices the same, Clarence Haynes seconded; motion carried 4-0.

8. Policies: None

9. Action on Personnel Contract: a. Resignations: Melinda Coupe (IA)

Clarence Haynes moved to accept, with regret, the resignation of Melinda Coupe and to release her from her contract, Sarah Haley seconded; motion carried 4-0.

b. New Hires: IA – Denise McConville

c. Other: Renewals:

- i. Susan Rosso – Medical Designee, ASP Biller and School Board Recording Secretary
- ii. Donna Dudley – Before School Program Assistant and Lunch & Meeting Coverage
- iii. Kim Carr – ASP Individual Student Assistant
- iv. Cheryl Mahoney – Before School Program Assistant
- v. Paul Morgan – Soccer Coach
- vi. Tracey Tinsley – Sports Coordinator

Clarence Haynes moved to approve the above contract renewals (i-vi), and the hiring of Denise McConville, Christopher Smid seconded; motion carried 4-0.

10. Set Next Board Meeting & Agenda Building: By consensus, the next MSD board meeting will be held on Thursday, Sept. 11 at 6:00PM at MSES. There will be a general presentation on wood pellet boilers (6:00PM) before the next RSWSU meeting to be held at Wells Village School on August 25 (6:30PM). Custodians will be invited to this meeting as well.

11. Executive Session 1 VSA § 313 (1-9) (a) (b) if warranted
a. Anticipated for personnel matters. - None needed

12. Other Lawful Business: None

13. Adjournment: Sarah Haley moved to adjourn at 7:45 PM, Christopher Smid seconded; motion carried 4-0.

Respectfully submitted,
Susan Rosso



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Community Church News

After slowing down to enjoy a glorious Vermont summer in God's creation, the Community Church is returning to its regular schedule of classes and groups - open to all.

Sunday Worship Service happens at 10am. A Sermon Series on the book of Genesis continues in September, with a special series on "Grace" in October, both by Pastor Jared Wilson.

Children's Church (ages 4 - 6th grade) continues during the Sunday Worship Service.

The Adult Study Class and Teen Class (grades 7-12) resume on the first Sunday in October, 9am before the 10am Sunday Service. The adult class will be taught by Adam Robles, our new pastoral ministry resident.

Youth Group (grades 7-12) continues to be led by Jessie and Meg Larson, and meets at Jon and Jody Dickerson's home on West Street, Thursday nights, 7-9pm. All local teens are invited to drop by and check it out. Good food and good discussions on life's big questions.

Ladies' Bible Study starts up again at the church, each Tuesday, starting September 23, 9:30am - 11. This is open to all women in the area, and you don't have to attend our church to take part. Barbara Severy will lead an exploration of Paul's letter to the Colossians.

The Men's Study Group meets every first and third Monday at 6:30pm at the church. Pastor Jared is the lead teacher. This group is open to all men in the area, and church attendance is not a prerequisite.

To listen to past sermons, and for more info regarding the Middletown Springs Community Church, go to www.middletownchurch.org or Pastor Jared Wilson's office 235-2386

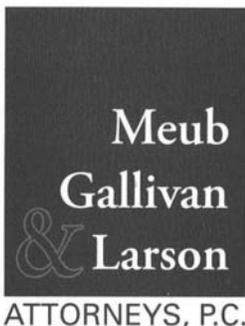
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CRASH!!

Community Potluck



It's been one year since a plane buzzed the Library Book Sale and crashed into the Rising Meadow hillside. Join your friends and neighbors for an afternoon of live music, carnival games, clothesline art show and community potluck; Sunday afternoon at Rising Meadow Pottery, September 21, 2-6pm, co-hosted by Rising Meadow Pottery & Middletown Springs Public Library.

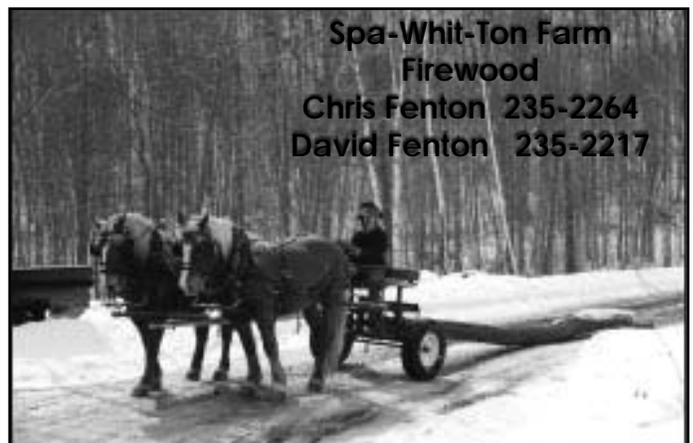
Relieved no one was seriously injured in the crash, we were moved to witness the quick response to the emergency. From volunteers at the library book sale and sprinting neighbors who were first on the scene, to the volunteer firefighters and rescue heroes who arrived next ready for anything, to the state troopers who came from all over the county ... all drawn to the site by such an astonishing and significant event. For the next week, until the plane was removed, people continued to come from the Rutland airport manager and insurance agents, to aviators and fly-bys over the meadow, to curious neighbors. And, we told each other stories of what had happened, where we were when it happened, and what we thought of a small plane falling out of the sky to crash into a hillside in our small town.

Let's come together again on the first anniversary of the crash to celebrate and have some fun. We are planning some live music, backyard carnival games, and delicious food. There will be kiln baked pizza and we hope you will bring a dish to share. Music and games start at 2pm. We'll eat around 4pm.

Consider bringing your stories about the day a plane crashed in our small town. What was your experience? Do you have photos or drawings of the crash you would like to include in the clothesline art show? We have discussed the idea of somehow including all the stories, photos, art, poems, and stories this event sparked into a small limited edition book to present to the historical society for safe-keeping. Details about how this might work are still under discussion.

Please join us. Bring a dish to share and your favorite beverage, your family, maybe a lawn chair or blanket, and gather with your neighbors for good food and a great time.

For more information, contact Nicholas Seider [235-9429] or Kimberly Mathewson at the library [235-2435].



Spa-Whit-Ton Farm
Firewood

Chris Fenton 235-2264
David Fenton 235-2217

Fire Department News



MSVFD Receives Grant

Open House a success - Our annual summer open house and basket raffle was a real success. Over fifty wonderful baskets were raffled off to the lucky winners. Meanwhile, free refreshments were served while kids and adults alike tried their hand at extinguishing "kitchen stove fires". The firefighters also demonstrated vehicle extraction techniques to the spectators.

Special election - The firehouse desperately needs a new roof, and this fall, voters will be asked to vote on funding for the project. Holes are visible in the metal panels, water stains are all over the ceiling, and some of the lights have been damaged. Pieces of sheetrock have started falling onto the trucks. We need your support, so please vote in the special election, Tuesday, Sept. 23, 2014. Also, please come to the informational meeting on Monday, Sept. 22 @ 7:30 PM and see for yourself.

Rifle raffle - This fall, the Middletown Springs Volunteer Fire Department will be raffling off a Savage Axis 7mm0-08 rifle with a synthetic stock. Proceeds from the raffle will go towards the purchase of equipment that we need in order to operate safely and efficiently. Please keep an eye out for posters to find out more info, and where to get raffle tickets. Thanks you for your continued support.

New pumper in service - This past summer, the Fire Department traded in pumper ETA 531 for a new (used) model from the Proctor Fire department. The trade was made possible through the dealer that was supplying Proctor with a new vehicle.

Although the trucks are approximately the same age, our new vehicle has many more features that will benefit our department. The new truck has a six-person cab (instead of 2) with 5 built-in air packs. More horsepower will enable us to negotiate our hilly roads easier. More storage compartments allows us to outfit the truck with more equipment, further adding to its versatility.

Even though this is quite an upgrade, no additional department funds were needed to complete the deal. Future plans include the eventual replacement of ETA 532 with another used vehicle that will become available soon. Possible reduction in the overall number of department vehicles is also part of our long range plan.

Unfortunate incident - A recent incident at the Firehouse has caused the Fire Association Board of directors to reconsider our policy of renting the fire hall out to private parties. A motor vehicle was involved in an apparent hit-and-run accident with property damage at a recent event. Considerable damage was done to a garage door and the exterior wall. The claim is being handled by our insurance company and the incident is being investigated by the Vermont State Police.

The Middletown Springs Volunteer Fire Association (MSVFA) has been awarded a grant to contract for the design of a storm water mitigation plan for the road and parking areas around the Firehouse, Community Church, and the Historical Society Building. The grant is a part of the Vermont Ecosystem Restoration Program, and is funded through the Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation (VTDEC). Storm-water mitigation is a high priority for the VTDEC; and this project qualifies due to its proximity to the Poultney River.

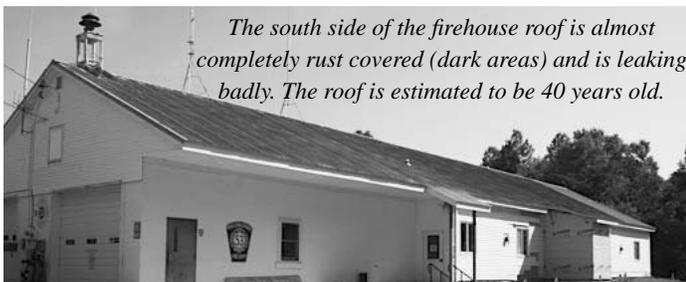
Partnering with the MSVFA on this application is the Poultney Mettawee Natural Resources Conservation District (PMNRCD). Hilary Solomon, District Manager of the PMNRCD and local resident, spearheaded the grant application process. The genesis for the project is the issue of storm water flooding the Community Church basement on a regular basis. The ultimate goal of the project would be to solve the flooding problem, and to also treat the storm water runoff to decrease the amount of silt and pollutants flowing directly into the Poultney River.

Project support from the Select Board, Community Church Trustees, and Historical Society Trustees was integral to the application process. Once the storm water mitigation plan is designed, a public meeting will be held to review the plan. Upon the design plan approval from all the parties involved, the MSVFA plans to apply for a construction grant to complete the project.

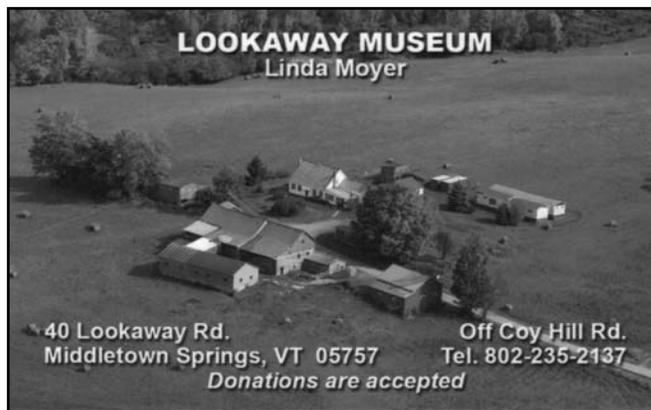
Total project budget for the design phase is \$13,580. Middletown Springs residents Bill Reed, Carl Haynes, Jay Sileski, Dan McKeen and others will be donating their time and labor on the project as part of a \$1600 town match towards the grant. This is a great opportunity for the various town groups to work together on a project that not only benefits Middletown residents; but also benefits our neighbors downstream in the Poultney River Watershed.

Friends of the Middletown Springs Public Library

3rd Tuesday of the month, 7:00 pm
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The south side of the firehouse roof is almost completely rust covered (dark areas) and is leaking badly. The roof is estimated to be 40 years old.



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What's Happening at the Corner?



Kristal & Dave answer your questions

In an effort to keep people informed about the Town Office project, the Building Committee will be posting and publishing a series of Q&A's about the project. The questions in this series will be answered by David Munyak, Chair of the Middletown Springs Building Committee, or by Kristal Hier, President of the Middletown Springs Public Library Board of Trustees.

Q: If the Library moves to a new building at the corner what happens to the current Library building?

A. (from Kristal) We, as the Board of Trustees for the Library, and as a town, are all very attached to the current building. It holds a great deal of history and will always have a very special place in our collective hearts. The building is a town building, and what happens to it-if it were to become vacant, is a town decision. If and when that situation presents itself, the Trustees would work closely with the Board of Selectmen and the community to decide the best course of action.

There could be any number of possibilities for the use of that building and we will certainly be looking for input and ideas from the community as we go through this process.

Have other questions you would like addressed? Be in touch with any Library Trustee, Building Committee member, or just send a note to me c/o the Library.

Q. Nothing has happened on the property for quite a while. What are the next steps and when?

A. (from Dave) Activity slowed during spring and summer due to busy schedules, but things are picking up again.

The Building Committee has been busy with a number of tasks, the results of which should be appearing shortly. These include:

Completion of the lead and asbestos cleanup. The cleanup specs require that a layer of soil be removed along the west side of the former garage building. The contractor has been busy but we expect that this work will be completed sometime in September.

Completion of the PCB cleanup. Traces of PCB's were detected in one of five soil samples taken from the bottom of the excavation during previous cleanup attempt. The fact that there is no test that can be performed on site to detect this material complicates the process, since samples must be sent to a laboratory for analysis. A Request for Proposal has been sent out to environmental engineering firms and their quotes should be in hand as you read this. Once a firm is selected, they will prepare a Request for Bid which will allow the town to hire a qualified contractor to remove the remaining PCB's, the concrete slab, and the contents of the existing basement. This work is expected to be completed by the end of October and will be paid for with grant money from the Vermont Agency of Commerce and Community Development.

Building design is ongoing. Michael Beattie and Mark McManus, working pro bono, have interviewed town officials, reviewed the results of the Visioning Session, and evaluated other town's projects to determine the types and amounts of space needed in the building. They have also had meetings with the Library Trustees to do the same. The goal is to produce two conceptual designs. One with a town office alone and one including a library. Then to prepare preliminary cost estimates, and, finally, to identify the various funding methods available and create projections of what the actual tax implications will be for each of the two options.

Building Committee Visioning Info

The Building Committee has posted the results of the November visioning process on the town's website. The document can be found at <http://middletownsprings.vt.gov/wp-content/uploads/2012/08/2014-Visioning-Layouts.pdf>

These statements were the focus of our February 8th town wide informational meeting. The original visioning session took place on November 23, 2013, at the Elementary School. The process started with one question that looked to the future and a successful outcome of the building project. That question was:

It is now 2018 and we have a well-used and appropriate multi-use building on the corner of East & South Streets. What do you see as you visit or pass by?

The question generated hundreds of ideas from the 16 town residents who took part in the visioning process. The participants were instructed to arrange their ideas into groups that were related in some way. This resulted in 22 statements that were intended to capture all the ideas in each group. The Building Committee then took those 22 statements and performed the same exercise to pare them down to seven overarching statements. It's those seven statements that we are focusing on in this series, one statement at a time.

Statement number one is:

The building and site fit seamlessly into the character of the village and is a thriving, well-used asset inside and out.

This statement was formed in an attempt to capture the commonality of ideas in the following statements generated by the November visioning process.

It is a timeless building that is historic in its design, is compatible with the surrounding buildings and green, and reflects the architectural details of neighboring buildings.

The building has a well planned landscape and provides usable space for residents and visitors.

The exterior is welcoming and inviting, reflecting a thriving community.

Some examples of the original thoughts produced by the initial brainstorming session in these groups include the following:

I see a wrap around porch

I see hallways wide enough for public use

I see one story

I see a building with no more than two stories

I see a building designed in keeping with historic architecture

I see landscaping to enhance the building

I see flowers

I see a "spring" incorporated into the design or an outdoor sculpture

I see workers enjoying lunch at picnic tables

I see a building that welcomes people to the center of town

I see a friendly relationship between Grant's Store and the town building

I see the heart of Middletown's thriving community

These are just a sampling of the ideas that were generated at the meeting. There are hundreds more along with the remainder of the statements available for viewing on the town's website. <http://middletownsprings.vt.gov/wp-content/uploads/2012/08/2014-Visioning-Layouts.pdf>

For a list of participants and more in-depth information visit the Building Committee's page on the town website.

Calendar

September

Property Tax Due	Mon. 15	1-4pm	Town Office
Fire Dept. Training	Tues. 16	6:30 pm	Fire House
Friends of the Library	Tues. 16	7 pm	Library
Building Committee	Thurs. 18	7 pm	Hist. Soc. Bldg.
Library Story Hour	Sat. 20	10 am	Library
CRASH - Potluck	Sun. 21	2 - 6 pm	50 West Street
MSHS Annual Meeting	Sun. 21	7 pm	Hist. Soc. Bldg.
Conservation Comm.	Mon. 22	7 pm	Library
Special Election	Tues. 23	7 am-7 pm	Fire House
Fountain of Youth	Wed. 24	11 am	Poultney
Select Board	Thurs. 25	7 pm	Town Office
Men's Breakfast	Sat. 27	8 am	School
FOL Lawn Sale	Sat. 27	8 am - 4 pm	Town Green

October

Building Committee	Wed. 1	7 pm	Hist. Soc. Bldg.
First Response	Thurs. 2	6:30 pm	Fire House
MSHS Trustees	Thurs. 2	7:30 pm	Hist. Soc. Bldg.
VT Foliage Studio Tour	Sat./Sun. 4/5	10 am - 5 pm	Statewide
Bldg. Com. Open House	Sat. 4	9am - 1pm	Town Bldg Site
MSHS Open House	Sun. 5	1 - 4 pm	Hist. Soc. Bldg.
Planning Commission	Mon. 6	3 pm	Town Office
Energy Committee	Mon. 6	7 pm	Town Office
School Board	Thurs. 9	6 pm	School
Select Board	Thurs. 9	7 pm	Town Office
Building Committee	Thurs. 16	7 pm	Hist. Soc. Bldg.

Calendar Events – subject to change.

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

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