

middle TOWN NEWS letter

October 2019



Middletown Springs Reads One Book - One Community

The Vermont Reads 2019 selection is the graphic novel *March: Book One*. It is the first of a trilogy written by civil rights icon John Lewis, in collaboration with co-writer Andrew Aydin and award-winning graphic artist Nate Powell. This graphic memoir illustrates John Lewis' childhood in rural Alabama and his lifelong commitment to nonviolent protest in the pursuit of social justice. VT Humanities Council has given us 25 copies of *March: Book One* to circulate and re-circulate for the month of October.

How & Why to Read a Graphic Novel

Wednesday, October 9, 7 pm

Many assumptions are made about graphic novels by readers, teachers, parents, and grandparents. Jon Mathewson will reveal some of the storytelling tactics used, and dig into what distinguishes this medium from others. He has written critical essays on comics, and his interviews of comic creators have appeared online and in print.

Inter-generational Book Discussion

Tuesday, October 22 at 7 pm



Join us for our annual, much-loved inter-generational discussion. It is an evening of hearty conversation and cookies! Pick up a copy of *March: Book One* from the library to read, and share it with your friends and family.

All programs are free and open to the public. For more information contact the library at 802-235-2435

or middletownspringslibrary@gmail.com.

Halloween Rest Stop
Thursday, October 31
5-7pm
at the Library

Warm up, Catch your breath,
Have a snack, Select a book
to keep as your TREAT!!

Historical Society Open House

Join the Middletown Springs Historical Society at our annual Open House on Sunday, October 6, from 2 - 4 pm.

This year we will feature new additions to our collections, and Collections Manager Jon Mathewson will give a behind the scenes talk on label-making.

Come gather with neighbors, and explore the history of Middletown Springs. If you have not experienced our monumental and award-winning Middletown: 1761 - 1971 timeline exhibit, this is a great opportunity to do so. We also have exhibits up telling the stories of the Montvert Hotel and the bottling of waters from the Mineral Springs, and showing the century-old photographs of Dana Carpenter.

Refreshments will be served; admission is free. The Middletown Springs Historical Society is located on the village green in beautiful, bustling, downtown Middletown Springs.

Big Dumpster Day

Large waste and scrap metal will be collected on Saturday, October 5, 6 am-12 noon at the Town property at 577 West Street.



Furniture, toys, small amounts of construction and demolition items are acceptable. NO CONTRACTORS, please.

Large waste will be charged a \$5-per-vehicle fee; scrap metal may be disposed of free of charge.



LAST CALL to order a 2020 Community CALENDAR!

Calendars are \$8 in advance or \$10 after they've arrived.

ALL requests must be received by Wednesday, October 9 so that we know how many calendars to order. Listing your family's birthdays and anniversaries is optional but encouraged. (Click here for the [form](#)).

Business Sponsors: ad info is due - ASAP!

Contact us at the Library: 235-2435 or middletownspringslibrary@gmail.com or stop by during open hours.

Outside Audit

The accounting firm of Sullivan, Powers & Co of Montpelier was hired to conduct a full audit of the finances of the town. That audit has been completed, and the findings are good. The firm conducts roughly a hundred audits a year in Vermont, mostly for towns and school districts, and they were complimentary of our preparation and thoroughness.

Although there were no substantial problems in need of correction or review, the audit firm made several recommendations for accounting practices that they believe will help us more closely and safely manage our affairs. The Selectboard, Treasurer and Auditors are working on implementing changes in procedure, and have already made some of the recommended modifications.

The full audit report of 48 pages and the executive summary (called a Management Letter) are both available for viewing at the Town Office and will soon be posted on the Town website. Thanks to our Treasurer, Auditors, fund trustees, Library trustees, and other officials for getting us through this audit process effectively.

Herb Childress, Selectboard Clerk

Friends of the Library

Thank you to everyone who donated, volunteered time, and purchased items from the Friends of the Middletown Springs Public Library's Saturday Lawn Sale. All proceeds go to support our library.

Thank you also for supporting the Bistro, which helped the sixth graders of Middletown Springs Elementary School raise money for their annual Washington, D.C. trip.

It was wonderful to hear a customer comment on how active and supportive our community is of one another. Thanks, again!

Also, we will have our **Second Annual Pumpkin Festival** at the end of October, on **Saturday, October 26, 1 - 3 pm**, at the Historical Society. More details to come; watch Front Porch Forum for details or for more information contact Ashley Fioretti or Claudia Gonda.



Knitting Circle

Join novice-to-experienced knitters on **Monday, October 7, 7-9 pm**, at the library for inspiration, technical support, and quiet conversation. Other fiber arts are welcome: bring your crochet, felting, stitchwork, etc. For more info, call Lois at 235-2374.

Friends for Education



Friends for Education is conducting a Fall Bulb Fundraiser until October 15 to raise money for the Spring Artist in Residency.

Friends for Education (FFE) meetings are held the second Wednesday of the month at 7 pm at the School. Parents and interested community members are invited to attend. For more information, contact Ashley Fioretti at 235-3000 or vtlittleflower13@gmail.com

Food Shelf

The Poultney Food Shelf serves the residents of Middletown Springs as well as Poultney, and Hampton, NY. The Food Shelf is located in the Stonebridge (at the northeast corner of Rte. 30 and Main Street), and is **open Tuesdays, 3-5 pm**. Please be prepared to show ID and verify your town of residence (driver's license, utility bill, etc.).

Donations of non-perishable food and fresh produce are always welcome. The Poultney Food Shelf is a 501(c)3 not-for profit. For more info, call 287-9558.

Toddler Time



Toddler Time has moved to Tuesdays! Join Melissa & friends for stories, songs, and a snack. Tuesdays at 10:30 am through November 12. Designed for tots and toddlers and their care givers. For more information, contact the library at 235-2435 or middletownspringslibrary@gmail.com

There was a fellow named Hall
Who fell in the spring in the fall.
‘Twould have been a sad thing
Had he died in the spring,
But he didn't – he died in the fall.

— Anonymous





School News

Middletown Springs Elementary School has had a great start to the new school year. There were number of changes in staff, with Chelsey Hook (5th/6th grade), Steve Kainen (1st grade),

Amanda Doran (special educator), and Erica Lerner (.50 classroom teacher) joining us this year. The classroom music and instrumental teaching positions have been combined with Sam Rodgers as the new teacher. There are plans to have Wells Village School and MSES instrumental students join together as one band.

The school has also started a Spanish Language program for all grades. We are very fortunate to have Erin Welch as our Spanish teacher. The new staff members are a wonderful addition to the school's learning community.

Our third annual Open House was held on September 25. It provided a great opportunity for parents to visit classrooms and have conversations with their children's teachers. One of the things that is very noticeable is the excitement of the children. They have a lot of fun going from classroom to classroom visiting past teachers. Along with classroom visits, we had a home soccer game and a potluck meal.

MSES is starting the second year of "Cauldron" groups. Cauldrons are groups of mixed-grade level students that meet once a week under the direction of a teacher. The students in each Cauldron will stay with that staff member for their entire time at MSES. Cauldrons provide opportunities for developing stronger student relationships across the grade levels. Cauldrons also allow students to develop a strong, consistent relationship with an adult that lasts for their entire elementary school experience. A student survey conducted at the end of last year showed positive results for the Cauldrons.

One last item to note: MSES has a new phone system with voicemail capabilities that allows us to communicate with all other schools in the supervisory union just by dialing an extension. However, as a result, we were unable to keep our old phone number. The school's new phone number is: 802-855-5155. The old number will continue to be operational during this transition period, but we ask that you use the new number when possible.

Thank you.

Rick Beal, Principal



Fall into a Good Book

New & New-to-us Books at the Library

Adult Fiction

- The Testaments* by Margaret Atwood
- Carnegie's Maid* by Marie Benedict
- The Other Einstein* by Marie Benedict
- Vicious Circle* by C.J. Box
- Outfox* by Sandra Brown
- The Water Dancer* by Ta-Nehisi Coates
- Don't Let Go* by Harlan Coben
- Home* by Harlan Coben
- The Late Show* by Michael Connelly
- The Wrong Side of Goodbye* by Michael Connelly
- Labyrinth* by Catherine Coulter
- The Which Way Tree* by Elizabeth Crook
- On Brassard's Farm* by Daniel Hecht
- Dreaming Tree* by Matthew Mather
- Bomber's Moon* by Archer Mayor
- Inland* by Tea Obreht
- The Dutch House* by Ann Patchett
- Unsolved* by James Patterson
- A Better Man* by Louise Penny
- Chances Are...* by Richard Russo
- The Death of Mrs. Westaway* by Ruth Ware

Adult Non-Fiction

- The Last Ocean* by Nicci Gerrard
- The Only Plane in the Sky* by Garrett M. Graff
- Code Girls* by Liza Mundy
- Trick Mirror* by Jia Tolentino

Teen/Adult Graphic Novels

- By Night* by John Allison and Christine Larsen
- Giant Days* by John Allison and Lissa Treiman
- They Called Us Enemy* by George Takei

Children's Books

- Football: A Guide for Players and Fans* by Matt Chandler
- Real Friends (graphic novel)* by Shannon Hale
- Best Friends (graphic novel)* by Shannon Hale
- Diary of a Wimpy Kid Old School* by Jeff Kinney
- Tangled in Time: The Portal* by Kathryn Lasky
- Babysitters Club - Boy-Crazy Stacey (graphic novel)* by Ann Martin
- Trials of Apollo #4: Tyrant's Tomb* by Rick Riordan
- On the Internet* by Dr. Jillian Roberts
- On the News Our First Talk About Tragedy* by Dr. Jillian Roberts
- Guts (graphic novel)* by Raina Telgemier

23rd Annual

Spaghetti Dinner

Friday
November 8
5 to 7 pm

Middletown Springs Elementary School
Support the 6th Grade Class Trip to D.C.

Calendar of Events

October

Fire Dept. Training	Tues 1	6:30 pm	Firehouse
Wells Springs Board	Wed 2	6 pm	WES
Building Committee	Wed 2	7 pm	Library
Historical Society	Thurs 3	7 pm	MSHS
Large Trash Day	Sat 5	6 am-Noon	West Street
MSHS Open House	Sun 6	2 - 4 pm	MSHS
Planning Commission	Mon 7	4:30 pm	Town Office
Knitting Circle	Mon 7	7 - 9 pm	Library
Fire Dept. Training	Tues 8	6:30 pm	Firehouse
Friends of the Library	Tues 8	7 pm	Library
Why&HowtoReadaGraphicNovel	Wed 9	7 pm	Library
Friends For Education (FFE)	Wed 9	7 pm	School
Selectboard	Thurs 10	7 pm	Town Office
Fire Dept. Training	Tues 15	6:30 pm	Firehouse
Building Committee	Thurs 17	7 pm	Library
First Response	Sun 20	6:30 pm	Firehouse
Fire Dept. Training	Tues 22	6:30 pm	Firehouse
VT Reads Discussion	Tues 22	7 pm	School
Library Trustees	Wed 23	7 pm	Library
Selectboard	Thurs 24	7 pm	Town Office
Pumpkin Festival	Sat 26	1 - 3 pm	MSHS
Fire Dept. Training	Tues 29	6:30 pm	Firehouse
Halloween Rest Stop	Thurs 31	5 - 7 pm	Library

November

Planning Commission	Mon 4	4:30 pm	Town Office
Knitting Circle	Mon 4	7 - 9 pm	Library
Fire Dept. Training	Tues 5	6:30 pm	Firehouse
Wells Springs Board	Wed 6	6 pm	MSES
Building Committee	Wed 6	7 pm	Library
Historical Society	Thurs 7	7 pm	MSHS
Spaghetti Dinner	Fri 8	5 - 7 pm	School
Fire Dept. Training	Tues 12	6:30 pm	Firehouse
Friends of the Library	Tues 12	7 pm	Library
Friends for Education (FFE)	Wed 13	7 pm	School
Selectboard	Thurs 14	7 pm	Town Office
First Response	Sun 17	6:30 pm	Firehouse
Fire Dept. Training	Tues 19	6:30 pm	Firehouse
Building Committee	Thurs 21	7 pm	Library
Fire Dept. Training	Tues 26	6:30 pm	Firehouse
Library Trustees	Wed - TBA	7 pm	Library
Selectboard	Thurs - TBA	7 pm	Town Office

Calendar Events – subject to change.

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

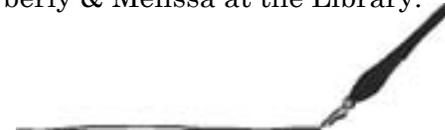
TOWN NEWSLETTER

Lots of information in a snippet & list format, plus a Calendar of Events. No ads, articles, or minutes.

This supplements and enhances the Town website & Front Porch Forum and will serve the needs of those who don't regularly use computers.

Digital copies are available as a PDF. The PDF is posted to FPF or the Town website or is sent free via e-mail to those who sign up. It is also available in hard copy, delivered by USPS, to those who subscribe for \$6 a year postage. Copies are posted at the Town Office, Grant's Village Store, and the Library.

Questions: Call 235-2435, or e-mail middletownspringslibrary@gmail.com to reach Kimberly & Melissa at the Library.



Submit News & Events to:

Middletown Springs Public Library
PO Box 1206
Middletown Springs, VT 05757
middletownspringslibrary@gmail.com

Deadline: 25th of the month
for inclusion in upcoming issue.

Big Dumpster Day!!

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