

middle TOWN NEWS letter

November 2021

Special Vote on Town Office – Nov 9

On November 9, voters will be asked to weigh in on the financing of a new town office on the corner of South & East Streets. In preparation for that vote, we have posted more detailed information on the town's website – <http://middletownsprings.vt.gov/>.

Voter registration information and online registration is found on the [Secretary of State's website](#), or complete [this form](#) and return it to the Town Clerk.

[Absentee ballot request forms](#) can be found on the town website or by signing on to the [state website](#).

Everyone is encouraged everyone to take a few minutes to review the information posted and to attend the information session on Monday, November 8 at 6:30pm, at the Historical Society.

You'll find drawings in the left sidebar under Town Facilities Planning and on the Selectboard page. Election Information can be found on the Town Government drop down and on the Selectboard page.

If you have questions, please contact the Town Clerk at middletown@vermontel.net, 235-2220.

IMPORTANT DATES: (at the Historical Society)

- **Informational Meeting** Monday, November 8, 2021, at 6:30pm
- **Voting** – Tuesday, November 9, 2021. Polls open from 7am - 7pm

NOTICE: The Town Office will be CLOSED Tuesday, November 9, 2021, due to a Special Election.



Friends of the Library

Annual Meeting

The Friends of the Library invites you to our annual meeting when we will discuss our 2021 activities and our goals going forward. The meeting will be conducted via Zoom at **7:15 pm on November 9, 2021**. To obtain a Zoom link, email Friends of the Library at friendsmtspubliclibray@gmail.com.

Story Walk – New Book!

The Story Walk that links the school and the town library has a new book every month. The Friends of the Library installed the Story Walk in September at the start of school. The newest book, *The Lion and the Little Red Bird* by Elisa Kleven will go up in early November.

Library Book Sale a Success!

Thank you to the volunteers, patrons, and shoppers at the library's recent book sale – the first since June 2019. Many people lend their time and energy to make it happen, from hauling books and setting up displays to being on hand at the sale to taking it all down. And it couldn't happen without the kind donations from our community; we have built a reputation as a small but worthwhile sale by many area book connoisseurs.

Starting **November 1**, the library will begin accepting donations for the next sale!

Planning Commission Needs YOU!

Seats are available on the Middletown Springs Planning Commission. Please contact Hilary Solomon at (802) 558-3515 if you are interested. The Planning Commission looks forward to **updating the energy section** in the Town Plan and hopes a few enthusiastic new members will join us in that process!

Keep Your Keepsakes Safe

On **Saturday, November 20**, the Middletown Springs Historical Society will host a hands-on workshop on custom box-making for the family historian and historical society volunteers. The workshop will be from 1 - 4pm, is free to all participants and will be led by Michele Pagan.

If you collect any kind of family heirloom, come learn how to make your own custom boxes, or handling aids, for your collections of valuables.

Using pieces from the collection at the historical society, participants will learn how to estimate the size of the finished box, and step-by-step construction tips to produce a handling aid for these pieces.

Participants should be vaccinated for Covid -19.

Please bring a retractable-blade box-cutter of your own choice, and a glue gun if possible. All archival materials will be supplied.

Registration is limited to 10 participants.

Please call Pat Hemenway at 235-2421 or David Wright at 235-21376 to register.

MSVFD Fundraiser

The MSVFD will be selling raffle tickets as part of a Thanksgiving fundraiser. There will be three chances to win. The first and second prizes will be locally raised, fresh turkeys. Yes, we are giving away two fresh turkey dinners! The turkeys will weigh approximately 18 - 20 pounds and will come with the fixings: potatoes, squash, bread, cranberry sauce, fresh herbs, and a dessert. The dinners will be valued at \$120 each! The first and second prizes, two turkey dinners, will be ready for pick up on Monday, November 22. The third prize will be a \$25 Hannaford gift certificate. The drawing will be held on November 15th at 6pm. Tickets are 3 for \$10. Tickets will be available for purchase at Grant's Village Store and through any MSVFD member.

Why did the policeman ticket the ghost on Halloween? It didn't have a haunting license.

Story Time for Families

Melissa and friends are looking forward to singing, moving, and reading stories with our youngest patrons again this fall!

On **Wednesdays at 10:30** we will meet outside the library for story time, every week we can. If it's nasty pouring rain, we'll skip that week.

Put on your warm clothes and boots and let's get together! Wednesdays **through November 17**.

Fall into a new library book

Adult Non-Fiction

Wildland The Making of America's Fury

by Evan Osnos

Adult Fiction

The Last Thing He Told Me by Laura Dave

Apples Never Fall by Liane Moriarty

State of Terror

by Hillary Rodham Clinton & Louise Penny

The Lincoln Highway by Amor Towles

Harlem Shuffle by Colson Whitehead

Property Tax Reminder

Payment for the second quarter is due on or before **Wednesday, December 15, 2021**.

Payments should be mailed or dropped in the black drop box on the OUTSIDE of the town office building. Please ensure your tax payments are postmarked and/or submitted on or before 12/15/2021.

Payments made or postmarked from 12/16/21 on will be considered late and will generate monthly interest until paid. Postdated checks for the 15th will be accepted and will not be deposited before the 15th, for your convenience.

Thank you.

Jenny Talke Munyak , Town Treasurer

Why was Cinderella bad at football? Because she had a pumpkin for a coach.

Halloween at the Library

On Halloween Night, the library will once again be handing out books for trick-or-treaters to keep.

From **5-7pm on Sunday, October 31**, stop by the library on your trip around town. Enter from the back, up our newly rebuilt rear stairs and exit out the main door for a one-way traffic flow.

We save up nearly-new donated children's books all year to be ready for this event. We look forward to seeing your goblins and ghosts.

(The stairs and other exterior renovations were undertaken this fall by Tarbell Carpentry and paid for with a grant from the VT Preservation Trust and matching funds from the Friends of the Library.)

Firehouse Halloween & Trunk-or-Treat

The MSVFD is getting ready for Halloween at the Firehouse. Halloween at the Firehouse will be held on Sunday, October 31, starting at 5pm. **The date has been switched back to Halloween night.** Please stop by with your ghosts and goblins for some spooky fun, witches brew (hot cider complete with eyeballs), and treats! The firehouse will be decorated with a spooky scene and frightful friends. The Halloween event is not a fundraiser. It is something we like to do for the kids each year! We hope you stop by!

Community members are welcome to set up a Trunk-or-Treat next to the firehouse. Trunk-or-Treat is a safe and fun way to add to the Halloween spirit. Many community members live on back roads, and they do not see the trick or treaters. This way all town folk can enjoy a fun evening with the kids! If you are interested in setting up a Trunk-or-Treat, please contact Karen Castle at kmc3265@gmail.com or 235-2160.

October is fire safety month. While visiting us during Halloween, we will have information available on safety plans, escape routes, and meeting points. MSVFD will also be available to discuss chimney fire prevention, replacing smoke alarms, and fire extinguisher inspections.

Free Online Resources

Did you know? Library patrons have free access to these online resources provided by the Department of Libraries.

Learning Express: Provides training for workplace, academic, and job-hunting skills. It offers training for occupation exams, skills for school, exploration of careers, resume and interview help, and more. The resource pick of the month is **Career Tutorials and Practice Exams**. One of the many side effects of the pandemic has been the number of people changing jobs and even careers. Learning Express has tutorials and practice exams for a wide range of careers: appraising and real estate, firefighting and law enforcement, commercial driving (CDL), nursing and medical assistant/technician, postal work and civil service, law enforcement and the military, electrician and plumbing, air traffic control, cosmetology, and more. Users create an account, and then access all resources for free.

Universal Class: Offers a wide range of online courses (from business to cooking, computers to social work) that are led by a real instructor, and that can be completed at your own pace. The **most active classes** statewide are Writing Basics, Basic Math, American Government, French Culture, Serial Killers, Christianity, Accounting, Goal Setting, US Citizenship Prep, Genealogy, Administrative Assistant.

Vermont Online Library: Offers a wide array of electronic databases through Gale/Cengage on a variety of topics geared to a variety of age levels, for both generalists and specialists, including magazine and newspaper articles, as well as DIY car repair and business help. These informative databases are produced by known and trusted publishers. The **most used databases** statewide are Academic OneFile, Opposing Viewpoints, Biography, US History, General OneFile, News, Science, Virtual Reference Library.

Front Porch Forum

Join Front Porch Forum to know what is happening between issues of the middleTOWN NEWSletter. It's free. It's local.

Calendar of Events

FOL Halloween Story Walk	Oct 30	Sat, 10 am-12 pm	School to Library
Halloween at the Firehouse	Oct 31	Sat, 5 pm	Firehouse
Halloween at the Library	Oct 31	Sun, 5-7 pm	Library
Informational Meeting	Nov 8	Mon, 6:30 pm	Historical Society
Special Town Vote	Nov 9	Tues, 7 am-7 pm	Historical Society
FOL Annual Meeting	Nov 9	Tues, 7:15 pm	Zoom
Box-making Workshop	Nov 20	Sat, 1-4 pm	Historical Society
Property Tax DUE	Dec 15	Wed, all day	Town Office

<u>Regular Meetings</u>	<u>Schedule</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Contact Person</u>
Conservation Commission	2nd Thurs /TBA	TBA	Elizabeth Cooper (235-1406)
Fire Dept. Training	Every Tues /6:30 pm	Firehouse	Joe Castle (235-2160)
Friends of the Library (FOL)	2nd Tues / 7:15 pm	Library	Ashley Fioretti (235-3000)
Historical Society	1st Thurs / 7 pm	MSHS	David Wright (235-2376)
Library Trustees	4th Wed / 7 pm	Library	Kristal Hier (235-1297)
Planning Commission	1st Mon /	Town Office	Hilary Solomon (235-1115)
Selectboard	2nd & 4th Thurs / 7pm	Town Office	Terry Redfield (235-2084)
Town Facilities Planning	1st & 3rd Thurs / 7 pm	Town Office	Terry Redfield (235-2084)
Wells Springs School Board	1st Wed	MSES/WES	Meredith Morgan (235-2059)

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 (FPF) and will serve the needs of those who don't regularly use computers.

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

Submit News & Events to:

Middletown Springs Public Library
middletownspringslibrary@gmail.com

PO Box 1206
 Middletown Springs, VT 05757

Deadline: 25th of the month



Pumpkin Bread

Get the most out of your post-Halloween pumpkin - here's a recipe shared by Laura Derrindinger:

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| Makes 2 large loaves | 350° oven |
| 8 eggs | 6 c. whole wheat flour |
| 1 c. water | 3 tsp salt |
| 2 c. vegetable oil | 4 tsp baking soda |
| 2 c. cooked pumpkin | 4 tsp cinnamon |
| 2 ½ c. molasses | 2 tsp nutmeg |
| 2 c. brown sugar | 1 tsp clove powder |

Beat eggs until fluffy. Beat water, vegetable oil, pumpkin, molasses, and brown sugar into eggs. Sift flour, salt, baking soda, and spices into egg mixture. Stir until smooth. Butter loaf pans and pour in. Bake 45 minutes to an hour at 350°.