

middle TOWN NEWS letter

JULY 2022

Primary Election – Tuesday, August 9

The Vermont Statewide 2022 Primary Election will be held on August 9, 2022. Voting will take place at the Historical Society dining room from **7am - 7pm on Tuesday, August 9, 2022.**

Absentee ballots have been mailed to those who have requested them. If you are not sure if you requested a ballot or you would like to request a ballot you can do that on the state's my voter page <https://mvp.vermont.gov/> or reach out to the town clerk.

If you are expecting an absentee ballot but your mailing address has changed since January, PLEASE reach out and let us know or make the change yourself on <https://mvp.vermont.gov/>. This November it will be even more important that our lists are up to date, as the state will be mailing ballots to all voters directly.

If you would like to **register to vote** go to <https://olvr.vermont.gov/> to register online or visit the town clerk's office to fill out a paper application.

More information about absentees & voter registration can also be found on the town's website <http://middletownsprings.vt.gov/town-government/town-meeting-elections/>.

Please feel free to reach out with any questions.

Patty Kenyon, Town Clerk,
middletown@vermontel.net 802-235-2220

Hours: Monday & Tuesday 9am to 4pm
Thursday & Friday 1pm to 4pm

FREE Covid Test Kits

The library has Covid-19 antigen self-test kits to hand out, from the Vermont Health Department, to be used this summer and fall. Pick up a few to have on hand to use if you have symptoms, if you have had close contact with someone who has COVID, or if you are going to travel or go to a big gathering.

Story Time

We're taking a deep breath and diving into our summer programming: **Oceans of Possibilities!** Summer Story Time begins **Wednesday, July 13, at 10am**, each Wednesday through August 10.

Join Kayli O'Donnell, our new summer coordinator, and Kimberly for stories of watery depth and mysterious beauty, then play ocean-themed group games and enjoy a snack!

Summer Story Time is generally geared to 3–7-year-olds, but children of all ages are welcome and encouraged to come. Those younger than 3 must have an adult with them. We will be outside under the big shade tree. We'll be under a tent if it's rainy.

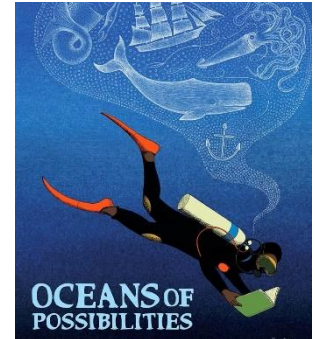
Town-wide Yard Sale

The Friends of the Middletown Springs Public Library invite you to participate in a town-wide Yard Sale on the Community Church Green in the center of town on **Saturday, September 10, 9 am - 3 pm.**

There are 24 (15' x 15') spaces available that will be marked on the green the day of the Yard Sale. Participants can apply for a space for a \$25 fee, or \$20 for Friends members.

Request a registration form and guidelines at the library or by emailing vtlittleflower13@gmail.com.

Completed registration forms may be dropped off at the library or mailed to Wendy Herrick at 2 Buxton Ave. Middletown Springs, Vermont 05757. For more information, call Wendy at 802-235-3999.



Strawberry Festival Thank You

Sunday, June 19 was a beautiful day at the Strawberry Festival! Nearly 400 strawberry lovers of all ages were happy to be outdoors with friends enjoying the delicious strawberry shortcake, listening to Paul Morgan's music, watching Peter Huntoon paint, and admiring the work of local craftspeople. Many visited the new exhibit in the museum.



Photo by April Thomas

This wonderful event would not be possible without the many volunteers that contributed so much to make it a success. It was a record year for the Middletown Springs Historical Society and we are grateful for each and every one!

Thank you so much,
MSHS board and Strawberry Festival volunteers



The Middletown Springs **Historical Society Museum** is open every Sunday until the end of October, or by appointment. Call David Wright at 802-235-2376 for more information

Strawberry Jam Fun Run

On Sunday, June 19, runners and walkers gathered under a festive rainbow balloon garland near the playground at Middletown Springs Elementary School for the first-ever Strawberry Jam 5k and Youth Run!



The youth runners kicked off the event with a quick lap around the soccer field, to the sounds of the Hermit Hollow String Band. The 1st place finisher received a \$50 gift card to Dick's Sporting Goods. The 2nd and 3rd place finishers earned a free strawberry shortcake at the Strawberry Festival later that afternoon.

Next, the 5k racecourse led the runners and walkers up a fearsome hill on North Street and along Spruce Knob Road. They were greeted with live and stereo music, cheering spectators, and freeze pop and water stations. Principal Rick Beal, who ran the course alongside community members, students, and parents, said, "I want to thank all participants for adjusting to the course change (what goes up, must come back down and what a view from the top) and hope that you will come back again next year!"

The organizing committee, members of the school's Friends for Education (FFE) group, wish to thank the event's many generous sponsors, including diamond level sponsors Casella Waste Systems, Green Mountain Timber Frames, and Telescope Furniture and several of our town's small businesses.

Between sponsorships, race registrations, and on-site crepe sales, the event raised several thousand dollars for the school. Principal Beal gave an example of how the money is used: "FFE has subsidized our winter sports program so that cost isn't a factor in keeping any student from experiencing skating, skiing or snowboarding." FFE has also been raising money for an outdoor classroom.

The FFE would also like to thank the many volunteers who made the run possible—Bailey, Bill, Carol, Elizabeth, Laura, Justin, Hadrien, Haley, Olivier, Robin, Sarah, and Tracy—and congratulate all participants on a great race! To view photos, give feedback, or sign up to sponsor, volunteer, run, or play music at next year's event, please visit strawberryjamrun.wordpress.com.

Book Walk Changes Direction!

This month the Book Walk will start at the Middletown Springs Public Library and end at the Middletown Springs Elementary School.

Dear Mr. Blueberry
by Simon James

Seashore
by Lucy Beckett-Bowman

Many thanks to Jeanne Arsenault for making these walks come to life!



Summer at the Library

Make a big splash at the library this summer with **Oceans of Possibilities**, the summer program. Planning is underway for a series of sea-worthy story times, nautical take-and-make activities, movie nights, and stuffed animal sleepover.

Story Time – Wednesdays at 10am: Join our new summer coordinator, Kayli O’Donnell, for stories, games and activities, and a snack outside under the big shade tree, Wednesdays at 10 am, July 13 – August 10.

Stuffed Animal Sleepover: Back by popular demand! Drop-off is Tuesday, August 9, 2-6 pm with pick up at Story Time on Wednesday, August 10. Watch for more details.

Drop-in for Self-Guided Activities: Over the course of the summer, learn some new knots, challenge yourself with ocean trivia, or use the chalk to draw a seascape on the library sidewalk.

Adult Summer Reading Bingo: Why should kids have all the fun? Pick up a bingo card. Complete one line of at least five squares, return it to the library to be entered in a drawing to win a prize.

Check out “Something to Do” with Activity Kits, Museum or Park Passes, and Lawn or Board Games:

Dive into a new experience! Borrow an ACTIVITY KIT from the library. Purchased with a grant from Stewart’s with the help of the Friends of the Library, each kit circulates for one week. New kits will be added in July!

- Circus Skills
- Abracadabra - Magic Tricks
- Backyard Stargazing.
- Shapes and Colors
- Tracks & Scat
- Hands Down Fun
- Microscopic Explorations
- Ocean Lab (coming soon)
- Maps – Making & Reading (coming soon)

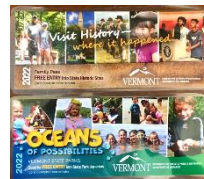
Board Games – partial list

- Floor Puzzles: Farm Friends, Animal Parade, and Dinosaurs
- Classics: Chutes and Ladders, Scrabble, Clue, Othello, Trouble
- Munchkin Treasure Hunt
- Apples to Apples Jr, Pictionary Jr.

How about a Lawn Game?

- Bocci
- Corn Hole

Want to donate a game? We are looking for additional lawn games in excellent condition. If you have one and wish to pass it along, please call first to check with Kimberly.



Parks and Museum Passes at the Library

Available for **three-day** circ. to Middletown Springs residents.

- [American Precision Museum](#): Free Family Pass.
- [ECHO Leahy Center for Lake Champlain](#): \$7 admission per person for up to four people.
- [Shelburne Farms Pass](#): Free admission for two adults and their children, includes walking trails and Children’s Farmyard.
- [Vermont Historic Sites Pass](#): Free admission.
- [Vermont Historical Society Museum Pass](#): Free admission to the Museum in Montpelier.
- [Vermont State Park Pass](#): Free admission to Day Use Areas for up to eight people in one vehicle. Visit individual websites for current schedules and any Covid-19 requirements before your visit.

Libby New Password Needed!

Patrons must now supply a password when logging in, along with their library barcode number.



The **temporary password is your last name**. Call or email the library if you need help, (802)235-2435 or middletownspringslibrary@gmail.com.

Haven’t tried GMLC/Overdrive? As a patron of the Middletown Springs Public Library, you have **access to thousands of e-books and audiobooks** through the Green Mountain Library Consortium. Access the website: <https://gmlc.overdrive.com/> or download the Libby app.

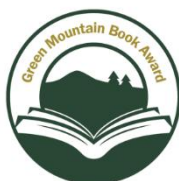
Calendar of Regular Meetings

<u>Regular Meetings</u>	<u>Schedule</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Contact Person</u>
Conservation Commission	2 nd Thurs /TBA	TBA	Elizabeth Cooper (235-1406)
Fire Dept. Association	2 nd Wed / 7pm	Firehouse	Art Castle (235-2351)
Fire Dept. Training	Every Tues /6:30pm	Firehouse	Joe Castle (235-2160)
Friends of the Library (FOL)	2 nd Tues / 7:15pm	Library	Ashley Fioretti (235-3000)
Historical Society	1 st Thurs / 7pm	MSHS	David Wright (235-2376)
Library Trustees	4 th Wed / 7pm	Library	Kristal Hier (235-1297)
Planning Commission	1 st Mon /TBA	Town Office	Hilary Solomon (235-1115)
Selectboard	2 nd & 4 th Thurs / 7pm	Town Office	Heather Grier (236-7643)
Wells Springs School Board	1 st Wed / 6pm	MSES/WES	Meredith Morgan (235-2059)

Award Book Lists



Thanks to a grant from the Department of Libraries (VTLIB) and Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS), and the



support of the Friends of the Library (FOL), the library was able to purchase complete sets of the books nominated for three Vermont book awards.

[Green Mountain Book Award](#) – grades 9-12

[Golden Dome Book Award](#) – grades 4-8

[Red Clover Book Award](#) – grades K-3

Readers in those grades who have read five (5) or more books will have a chance to vote for their favorites in the spring. Start now and challenge yourself to read all in your age group.



Library Book Donation

Once again, the library will gladly accept donations of gently read books, DVDs, games, and puzzles. Absolutely NO textbooks, torn covers, mildew, or VHS/ cassette tapes. A good rule of thumb: if you wouldn't buy it, don't donate it!

Please bring your donations during library open hours or make arrangements with Kimberly for an alternative time when someone can meet you here. Please do NOT leave boxes or bags of donations on the porch.

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 \$7 a year postage. Copies are posted at the Town Office, Crossman's Store, and the 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.

Submit News & Events to:

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

Deadline: 25th of the month