

middle TOWN NEWS letter

December 2022

Holiday Craft Fair Live! In-Person!

All are invited to browse the 2022 Middletown Springs Craft Fair on **Sunday, December 4, 10am-3pm**. Organizers are happy to announce a collaboration with Brigid's Crossing (formerly the Middletown Springs Inn) and the Middletown Springs Historical Society.

Come enjoy food and live music at the historical society and see what local crafters have to offer: honey and beeswax products, soaps, wreaths, jewelry, wooden ware, cards and ornaments, maple products, candy, books, and so much more at Brigid's Crossing. Outdoor vendors offer wreaths, bird feeders and furniture.

Brigid's Crossing has transformed into a lovely and thriving Airbnb. Owner Madeline Hayes will host vendors and invites all to come and experience the inn, while the historical society sells lunch and refreshments. The historical society exhibit rooms will also be open, featuring *Fancy Goods: Hats and Fashion Accessories 1850-1950* as well as the Middletown history timeline and displays about the Montvert Hotel, the mineral springs, A.W Gray's horsepower factory and Baptist Pastor Sylvanus Haynes.

For more information, please contact Beth Miller at 802-235-2734.

6th Grade Spaghetti Dinner!



Middletown Springs Elementary School will host a spaghetti dinner on **Friday, December 9, 5:30-8:30pm**. The price is \$10 per person (donations also welcome) with all proceeds going toward the 6th grade school trip in the spring.

We will also be holding a silent auction that night. If you would be willing to donate a certificate for a service or an item to the silent auction, please email linacloff@hotmai.com or ruckjodie@gmail.com. Donations can also be dropped directly at the school.

Please Join us! Thank you!

Cravings and Crafts

Delicious smells are in the air—
it's time for the Middletown Springs craft fair!

It's holiday shopping without the shipping,
with Sissy's chili and bread for dipping;

Mac and cheese and soups and stew,
pancakes and cookies and hot and cold brew.

And the result of this gastronomical variety?
Financial support of the historical society!

We open at ten and wrap up at three,
but if you rise early, come at nine-thirty!

Into a muffin you can sink your teeth
then buy a birdhouse or a wreath.

Hear live music as you shop
and then of course be sure to stop

at Brigid's Crossing (the big blue inn)
to browse for gifts for friends and kin!

We can't wait to see you on December 4
for crafts and snacks and sweets galore!

--- Beth Carmody

Tree Discovery Walk

Join us on **Saturday, December 10, 9-11am** for a family-friendly meander in the town's Sullivan Woods! Using all of our senses as we look up, down, and all around along the trail, we'll investigate ways to tell one tree from another and discover fascinating facts about trees and their natural neighbors.

We'll have a tree-sourced warm-up snack at the end of our walk. Dress for the weather and wear comfortable walking shoes/boots. We will meet you at the trailhead on Fitzgerald Road.

Contact: Conservation Commission Member, Elizabeth, at 802-235-1406.

First time to Sullivan Woods? You can find your way there using Google Maps!

Greater Rutland County



Ira Middletown Springs • Poultney • Proctor • Rutland Town • Wells • West Rutland

Notice to the Communities of Middletown Springs and Wells:

The Wells Springs UUSD board of directors is seeking community input for the FY24 budget. The board is focused on developing a comprehensive budget to best support the education of current and future students while maximizing cost savings.

The board is considering budgetary changes that would affect food service, transportation, and the after-school program.

We invite families and community members to attend the next Wells Springs meeting on **December 7 at 6pm**, either in person at Wells Village School, or virtually to provide input during public comment.

The meeting agenda and virtual link will become available on the [SU website](#). For more information, email Eric Montbriand, chair of the Wells Springs UUSD, eric.montbriand@grcsu.org

Knitting Circle

Join novice-to-experienced knitters at the library the first Monday of the month from **7-9 pm, October through May**, 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.

Citrus Fruit Fundraiser

If you're craving some sunshine, why not consider buying some fresh citrus to benefit our Friends for Education Fund? Your purchase supports student activities, needs and special events at Middletown Springs Elementary School and tastes great! Orders can be shipped directly to your recipient. To order, please go to the website listed below.

Deadline for orders is December 11.

Thank you for your support!

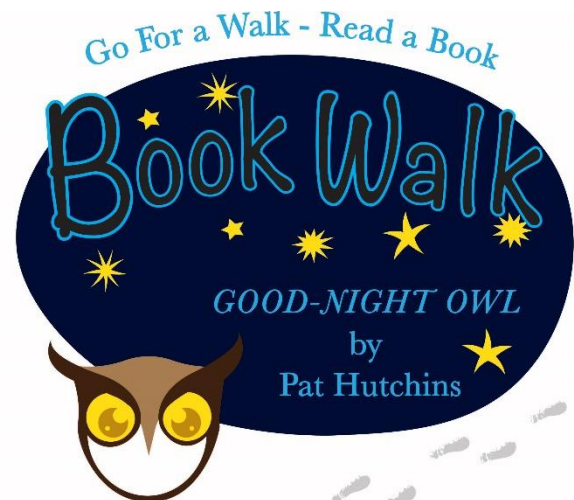
<https://www.floridaindianrivergroves.com/ecommerce/1025877>

Seeking Proposals for 2023 Town Report

The Selectboard of Middletown Springs is soliciting proposals for the layout and production of the 2023 town report. This work includes working with the town clerk and coordinating with numerous town officers and non-profit bodies to collect annual reports and financial statements; graphic design to create an attractive and readable document, including collection and formatting of appropriate photographs; and coordinating with a printing contractor to deliver finished files and prepare completed copies for mailing no later than February 13, 2023.

Any questions over the details of the work requested should be directed to the town clerk – middletown@vermontel.net or 802-235-2220.

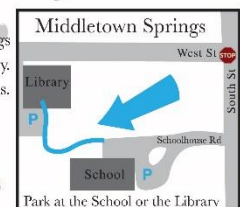
Proposals should be sent to town clerk, Patty Kenyon at middletown@vermontel.net by noon on **December 8, 2022**. Proposals will be reviewed, and a decision made at the regular meeting of the selectboard on December 8, 2022.



The walk begins at the Middletown Springs Elementary School and ends at the library. Parking is available at both locations.



Brought to you by The Friends of the Library



Town Library Makes the Grade

The Vermont Department of Libraries collects statistics from all public libraries annually; the report for FY2021 was recently published. In our category (libraries serving towns with a population below 1,000), Middletown Springs Public Library came in 2nd or 3rd in four out of nine categories: 2nd in number of non-library programs hosted, and interlibrary loan items shared with other libraries; 3rd in number of non-traditional items available for circulation, and reference questions answered.

Considering that our size (800 sq. ft.) is significantly less than the top three in our population category (Sherburne at 7540, Greensboro at 5996, Peacham at 4224), we are proud of our placement.

If you are the kind of person who likes stats, the report can be found [here](#).

MSU to Counter Winter Blues

Announcing the very first Middletown Springs University!

March 8 through March 15, everyone in town is invited to attend a free class. Or a few.

Calling all interested instructors: here's an opportunity for you to share your knowledge and skill. Please send your name and what you'd like to teach to others in a class to the MSU committee at middletownspringsU@gmail.com.

In this first year, the idea is that you would teach one class. But if you're bursting with love of your topic, feel free to offer more than one class: say it's bird calls one time and bird identification another.

The committee is Mary Lamson, Laura Derrendinger, Leslie Silver, Melissa Chesnut-Tangerman. Committee has only had one meeting; it's not too late to join.



Let It Snow!

SNOWSHOES at the Library? Check them out! The library has 4 pairs of adult shoes (2 men's & 2 women's, 4 pairs of poles) and 6 pairs of children's snowshoes to circulate. They go out for three days at a time (like the park passes). The person checking them out must be 18+ and is responsible for any pairs checked out. They are available on a first-come, first-served basis

NEW to the Library Shelves

Adult Fiction

The Boys From Biloxi by John Grisham
It Starts With Us by Colleen Hoover
The Last Chairlift by John Irving
Demon Copperhead by Barbara Kingsolver
The Passenger by Cormac McCarthy
The Bullet that Missed by Richard Osman
The Man Who Died Twice by Richard Osman

Children's Chapter Books

The Red Pyramid by Rick Riordan
The Serpent's Shadow by Rick Riordan
Binny's Diwali by Thrity Umrigar

Notice from the Town Treasurer

Your 2nd quarter property tax payment for fiscal year 2022/2023 is **due on or before Thursday, December 15**.

Payments can be made as follows:

1. MAIL to PO Box 1022, Middletown Springs, VT 05757 (with a 12/15/22 or earlier postmark.)
2. Deposit in the black DROP BOX on the OUTSIDE of the town office by the end of the day of 12/15/22.

Please do not remit tax payments to the town clerk, as she is not authorized to accept them.

Tax payments received or postmarked after December 15, 2022 will incur a late fee of 1% for 3 months and 1.5% thereafter until paid.

Happy Holidays! Jenny Talke Munyak, Treasurer

Poultney Food Shelf

The Poultney Food Shelf will be open for our Christmas Open Shelf on **Saturday, December 17** from 9am-noon. All the fixings for Christmas dinner will be available to those who may not otherwise have a holiday meal. Residents of Poultney, Middletown Springs, and Hampton are welcome. The food shelf's regular hours are: **Tuesday from 3-5pm**. The food shelf is in The Stonebridge, near the intersection of Route 30/Beaman Street and Main Street, across from the former gas station.

We are always looking for reliable individuals who would like to volunteer one Tuesday a month. If interested, please contact the Poultney Food Shelf, (802) 287-9558 or poultneyfoodshelf@gmail.com.

Calendar of EVENTS

Holiday Craft Fair	Dec 4	Sun 10am-3pm	see page 1
Knitting Circle	Dec 5	Mon 7-9pm	Library
School Board Budget	Dec 7	Wed 6pm	Wells Village School
Spaghetti Dinner	Dec 9	Fri 5:30-8:30pm	School
Tree Discovery Walk	Dec 10	Sat 9-11am	Sullivan Woods
Property Tax DUE	Dec 15	Thurs	see page 3

Calendar of REGULAR MEETINGS

Regular Meetings	Schedule	Location	Contact Person
Conservation Commission	2nd Thurs /5:30pm	Library	Elizabeth Cooper (235-1406)
Fire Dept. Association	2nd Wed / 7pm	Firehouse	Art Castle (235-2351)
Fire Dept. Training	Every Tues /6:30pm	Firehouse	Joe Castle (235-2160)
Friends of the Library (FOL)	2nd Tues / 7:15pm	Library	Ashley Fioretti (235-3000)
Historical Society	1st Thurs / 7pm	MSHS	David Wright (235-2376)
Library Trustees	4th Wed / 7pm	Library	Kristal Hier (235-1297)
Planning Commission	1st Mon /TBA	Town Office	Hilary Solomon (235-1115)
Selectboard	2nd & 4th Thurs / 7pm	Town Office	Heather Grier (236-7643)
Wells Springs School Board	1st Wed / 6pm	MSES/WES	
Wells Springs Community	2nd Wed / 7pm	virtual only	

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

