

middle TOWN NEWS letter

May 2023

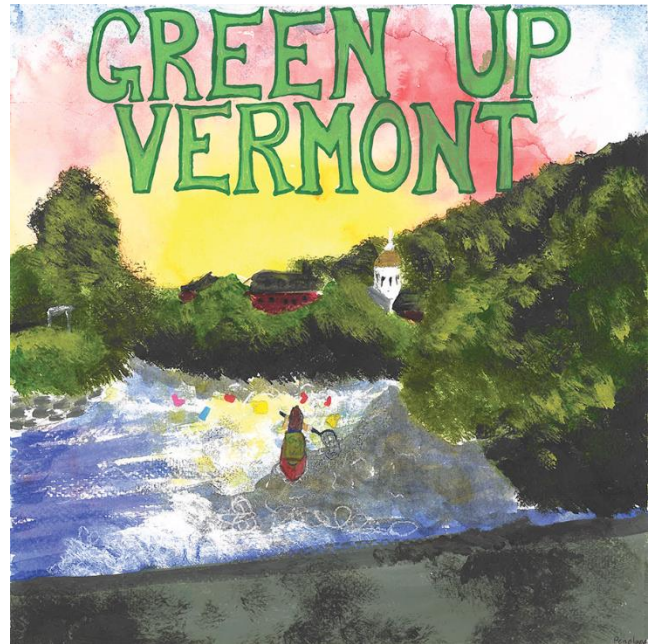
Oversize Trash & Metal Collection Day

Large waste and scrap metal will be collected on **Saturday, May 13** from 6 am to noon. Furniture, toys, and small amounts of construction and demolition items are accepted. NO CONTRACTORS, please.

Large waste will be charged a \$10 per vehicle and/or trailer fee; scrap metal may be disposed of free of charge. Large waste and scrap metal collection takes place at the Town property at 577 West Street.

NOTE: The Town of Middletown Springs is not responsible for any damage that may occur during the loading or unloading process.

<https://middletownsprings.vt.gov/town-departments/transfer-station/>



54th Annual Memorial Day Parade

The Middletown Springs Memorial Day Parade Ad Hoc Committee is in the planning stages of this year's parade. This year's theme is "For Those Who Never Came Home." The Memorial Day Parade will be on **Sunday, May 28, 2023, at 3 pm**. Line up is at 2 pm.

If you would like to be included in our planning/working on the parade/group emails, please email Bob Bruttomesso at mykidsandi@aol.com.

Library Book Sale

At the Historical Society

June 3 & 4

Wide Selection & Great Bargains

Saturday 8 am-3 pm

All books \$1 (or less)

Sunday 10 am-2 pm

All books by free will donation

Book Donations accepted until May 26!

Please read donation info on page 2

Green Up Day - Saturday, May 6

Join the fun and help make our little corner of Vermont clean and beautiful!

Come to the green on Saturday, May 6, 8 am-12 pm, to pick up a bag and choose your route! You may even get to try out one of the town's newly donated "Planet Pack" backpacks and giant garbage picking tongs. Plus, Girl Scout Troop 63133 will be on hand with a fun earth-friendly activity for kid participants while supplies last!

All are welcome, rain or shine! If it's raining, come say hi and pick up a bag for when the sun comes back. Bags can be brought to Fort Dumpster during open hours on May 6, May 8, or May 13.

Call 235-1043 for more info or to get your bag in advance.

Your friends on the Middletown Springs Conservation Commission (accepting new members!)

NOTE: The town office will be closed on Thursday, May 4, 2023, for town clerk training. Please plan accordingly.

Sunday Soccer Fun for the Whole Family

Sundays, 3-5 pm, April 23 - July 23

The Middletown Springs 40+ year tradition of Sunday soccer returned on Sunday April 23 at the Middletown Springs Elementary School field, and each Sunday at 3 pm throughout the summer.

Sunday soccer is fun, pickup soccer for ages 6-99. It is a chance for new or younger players to learn and for more experienced players to challenge each other. It is good competitive soccer, with room to learn, and always a focus on having a good time together.

With a new game every Sunday, we all play hard, get some good exercise, laugh a lot, and have fun. We hope to see you there! 🏀

Volunteers Wanted:

Every spring, the Historical Society needs help to **pull the garlic mustard** in the Mineral Springs Park. It is easy to identify and pull. There are lots of beautiful wildflowers in the park and we need help to keep the garlic mustard from invading the space and overpowering them.

We meet for an hour at 4pm once or twice a week for several weeks. The specific dates depend on the weather. Any help is appreciated, even if you have only a few minutes. Tick protection is encouraged.

For questions or scheduling, please call Pat Hemenway at 235-2421 or David Wright at 235-2376.

Library Book Sale Donations

The library is **accepting donations** for their annual Book Sale **until May 26**. Please drop off your donations during Library Open Hours.

- Books in good repair - (no textbooks, mildew, broken spines, or missing covers)
- Movies - DVD only (no VHS)
- Audiobooks - on CD (no cassette tapes)
- Jigsaw puzzles - taped closed (no missing pieces)

If the books you are donating have been stored for months, or even years, kindly go through the box before you drop it off! Please, remove mice nests and accumulated layers of dust and debris.

We Are Here to Hear from You

The Wells Springs Unified Union School District board of directors recognizes the importance of community input in relation to how the needs of our schools and students are met. Therefore, the board has formed a **Community Engagement Committee** tasked with reaching out and engaging our communities as a whole.

Please join us at **7pm on the second Monday of each month** at the link below, come talk to us.

<https://meet.google.com/syk-zxjs-mzz>

Or dial: (US) +1 402-629-0202 PIN: 710 646 521#

Links to board and committee meeting agendas can be found at grcsu.org. For more information feel free to contact eric.montbriand@grcsu.org

Library Plant Sale

Get ready for the annual Friends of the Library plant sale, with all proceeds supporting our town library.

Plant donations: Community donations are at the heart of our sale, including annuals, perennials, vegetable starts, shrubs, and even house plants. If you are donating plants, please start preparing them now, and bring them to the library on Thursday, May 25 (all day) or Friday, May 26 (in the morning).

Please, do not bring plants if your garden has invasive plants like goutweed, or invasive worms.

Plant Sale hours:

Friday	1-6 pm
Saturday	9-2 pm
Sunday	free will offering on all remaining plants

We always have a great selection, including many culinary and medicinal herbs, and our resident UVM Extension Master Gardener will be there to answer questions. We hope to see you there!

From ***A Daily Dose of Dad Jokes***

By Taylor Calmus and Peter L Harmon

“I crashed my bread truck and it started a fire.
Now it’s toast.”

Missing Middle Housing photo contest

Across the United States, small- to mid-sized housing that's affordable for middle-income households is in short supply. The Vermont Department of Housing and Community Development is teaming up with AARP Vermont and Vermont Natural Resources Council to launch a **photo contest to raise awareness of this "missing middle housing,"** which includes backyard cottages, attached and detached in-law apartments, duplexes, triplexes, quadplexes and more. For more information about how 'Missing Middle Housing' is a critical part of the housing crisis solution, and to enter the contest: <https://vnrc.org/housinghunt/>.

Ongoing Seed Swap at the Library

Please come and peruse the packets - take only what you will use so there is plenty for all. We have envelopes for dividing packets. Trade some of your own saved seeds, or just come and pick some up. It is not a requirement that you bring seeds to swap in order to take some away.

The Seed Swap is enhanced each year with generous donations from the Biondi family and High Mowing Organic Seeds in Wolcott, VT.

While you are there, check out the library's collection of books on gardening and backyard projects.

Library Hours

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday 2 pm - 6 pm
Friday 10 am - 2 pm
Saturday 10 am - noon

802-235-2435

middletownspringslibrary@gmail.com

Message from the Board of Listers

This is a reminder to contact the Board of Listers with any significant renovations or additions to your property. Of course, also notify the Board of any significant depreciation or removal of structures. Your support is appreciated.

Changes of assessment will be mailed in early June and a notice of the date to grieve will be included in the mailing and the notice will be posted in several places in town.

Contact: Sally Achey (235-2434) Pat Hemenway (235-2421) or Randy Kniffin (342-1306).

Lost and Found - A Literary Event

Come to Stone Valley Arts in Poultney at **5 pm on Saturday, May 6**, for a celebration of writing and writers.

For eight weeks in February and March, Middletown Springs author and writing coach Herb Childress led a group of thirteen local writers through the process of creating a short story. From creating a setting into learning a character and her or his troubles, and fully through questions of craft and voice, each of these writers has created a short story that offers its own window into lives unseen.

Actors from the Theater in the Woods company will perform excerpts from each story, interspersed with author conversations about their choices and their inspirations. The course anthology, containing all thirteen stories plus one from Herb as well, will be available for purchase at \$15.

The writers include Middletown Springs residents Kimberly Bushnell, Herb Childress, Steve Harrington, Haley Kenyon, Beth Miller, David Munyak, Chip Stevens, along with Phoebe Damrosch, Ann Anderson Evans, Megan Gard, Burnham Holmes, Gael Motz, Krista Rupe, and Melissa Weiss.

Admission to the event, including light refreshments, is free. Come celebrate the season of story.

<https://stone-valley-arts.loxi.io/literary-event-2392>

Pleasant View Cemetery News

The entrance gate of the Pleasant View Cemetery is officially open to the public as of May 1, 2023. Thanks to the cooperative spring weather of late, the gate has actually been open for a couple of weeks now.

The trustees are pleased to report that we were once again able to connect with the Middletown Springs Elementary School and enlist their help with our annual spring cleanup efforts. Thanks to Mr. John Carlson and the sixth-grade students for their interest and participation in raking and building piles of tree limbs and other debris for subsequent pickup and disposal. We spent a recent afternoon working together and we appreciate the assistance and cooperative effort in getting the Cemetery back up to snuff.

Once mowing begins, the grounds are scheduled to be mowed every two weeks. Weed whacking is scheduled with every other mowing, and we try to build the mowing schedule to coincide with the major remembrances of Memorial Day and July 4th as best we can. It is a big job, and a challenging one, as there are obstacles galore! The end result is certainly worthy and deserving of the effort involved.

Lot holders are encouraged to clean up and remove any old, damaged, or unwanted decorations from their plots as soon as possible. We will be cleaning up the leftover Christmas wreaths, old plants, and broken decorations in preparation for the Big Dumpster Day (May 13).

We welcome and encourage public use and enjoyment of this beautiful and peaceful setting. It is a safe haven for pets to enjoy as well; we ask all pet owners to be vigilant and clean up any 'deposits' that may be left on this site. Artificial flowers are n-o-t allowed in Pleasant View and will be discarded when encountered. We prefer live plants which take up CO2 and produce oxygen in return.

Memorial contributions may be made at any time to Pleasant View Cemetery Association, 4 Colvin Road, Middletown Springs, VT, 05757.

Trustees:

Art Castle, Don Marcy, Chris Ray, Terry Redfield

A Note from the Town Treasurer

Property Tax payments for the 4th and FINAL Quarter of Fiscal Year 22/23 are due on or before Thursday, **June 15, 2023**. Remit tax payments **either via Mail OR by depositing them into the black drop box** on the OUTSIDE of the Town Office. PLEASE, do not remit taxes to the Town Clerk, as she is not authorized to accept them.

Mail payments to: PO Box 1022, Middletown Springs, VT 05757 with a 6/15/23, or prior, postmark, to be considered on time.

If you require a receipt, please include a self-addressed, stamped envelope with your remittance.

Tax payments postmarked after 6/15/23 or received in the Drop Box after 6/15/23 are considered LATE and DELINQUENT. A penalty AND late fees will be assessed.

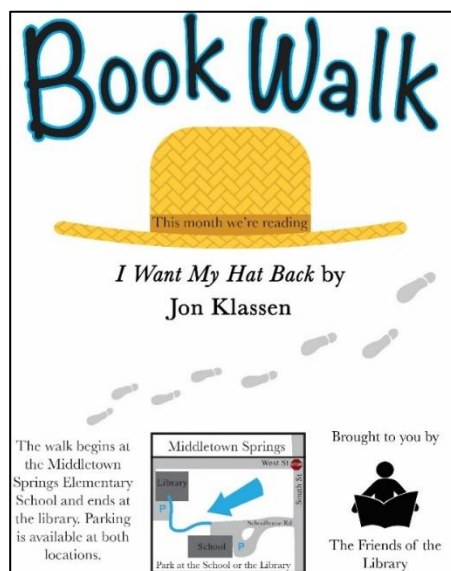
Penalty: 8 % on all FY22/23 outstanding amounts, and Late Fee: 1% interest for the 1st three months of delinquency, and 1.5% interest per month thereafter on 4th quarter amount due.

FYI – new tax bills will be mailed DIRECTLY to all property owners in mid-August for FY23/24. Please SAVE them as you will need them for tax payment, mortgage escrow, refinance, and annual homestead declaration. It's the only copy you will receive. If you have an update to your mailing address, please advise, asap.

Thank you.

Jenny Talke Munyak, Town Treasurer

802-235-3256 mtstreasurer@vermontel.net



New Books at the Library

Adult Fiction

Maureen by Rachel Joyce
So Shall You Reap by Donna Leon
Someone Else's Shoes by Jojo Moyes
Hello Beautiful by Ann Napolitano
The White Lady by Jacqueline Winspear

Adult Non-Fiction

Bittersweet by Susan Cain
Finding Me by Viola Davis
Rough Sleepers by Tracy Kidder

Outdoor Story Time

Melissa leads singing and moving and reads stories with children of all ages on **Mondays at 10:30 am**. We meet outside the library for story time, in the spring sun. If it's nasty pouring rain, we'll move inside that week. Let's get together! Mondays **through May 15**.

This is the last regular series before we take a break until our summer library programs, and the final series Melissa will lead in her role as assistant librarian.

Summer Story Hour Series

Join Heather Heitkamp-Brown for stories, activities, and snacks. While designed for kids 4-8, all ages welcome. Children under 4 should be accompanied by a responsible adult.

Wednesdays at 10 am, dates to be announced.



Mother's Day is May 14!

Second Annual Strawberry Jam

5k Walk/Run

Save the date for our second annual Strawberry Jam 5k Walk/Run to be held on June 18!

Anyone interested in volunteering this year should reach out to Matt Heering or Heather Thomas at strawberryjamrun@gmail.com. Interested in being a musician along the course to keep the spirits of our participants up and moving? Contact Ashley Fioretti / vtlittleflower13@gmail.com.

Stay tuned for more information about sponsorship and registration.

All proceeds from the race will go to support **Friends for Education's** offerings of supplemental programming at Middletown Springs Elementary School, scholarship opportunities for students to participate in winter sports programs, and hopefully the construction of an outdoor classroom.

It's not too Late to Register Your Dogs!

Vermont state law requires all dogs or wolf-hybrids to be licensed with the Town Clerk each year on or before April 1 of each year or within 30 days of acquisition. All license fees include funds required to be sent to the state rabies and spay and neuter programs.

Licensure requires that all dogs or wolf-hybrids over the age of 3 months have a current rabies vaccination. Certification of vaccination must be on file with or presented to the Town Clerk at the time of registration.

As required by the state late fees now apply to all registrations except for animals you've acquired in the last 30 days (for those, regular rates apply).

Late Registration Information

Neutered or Spayed - \$11.00

Not Neutered or Spayed - \$17.00

The clerk's office is open Monday & Tuesday 9 am-4 pm and Thursday & Friday 1 pm-4 pm. Contact info: 802-235-2220, middletown@vermontel.net.

Patty Kenyon, Town Clerk

Calendar of EVENTS

Cemetery Reopens	May 1	Monday	Pleasant View Cemetery
Green Up Day	May 6	Sat, 8am-12pm	Town Green
Lost & Found: literary event	May 6	Sat, 5pm	Slate Valley Arts
Large Dumpster Day	May 13	Sat 6am-Noon	West Street Property
FOL Plant Sale	May 26	Fri, 1-6pm	Library
FOL Plant Sale	May 27	Sat, 9am-2pm	Library
FOL Plant Sale	May 28	Sun, all day	Library (remainders by donation)
Memorial Day Parade	May 28	Sun, 3pm	Town Green
Library Book Sale	Jun 3	Sat, 8am-3pm	Historical Society
Library Book Sale	Jun 4	Sun, 10am-2pm	Historical Society
Property TAX DUE	Jun 15	Thurs	Mail or Drop Box
Strawberry Jam 5k Walk/Run	Jun 18	Sun	Town Green
Strawberry Festival	Jun 18	Sun 2-4pm	Historical Society

Calendar of REGULAR MEETINGS

Regular Meetings	Schedule	Location	Contact Person
Conservation Commission	2nd Tues / 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	via Zoom	Hilary Solomon (235-1115)
Selectboard	2nd & 4th Thurs / 7pm	Town Office	Herb Childress (235-2093)
Wells Springs Community Engagement Committee	2 nd Mon / 6:30PM		eric.montbriand@grcsu.org
Wells Springs School Board	2nd Wed / 6pm	MSES/WES	eric.montbriand@grcsu.org

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.

Submit News & Events to:

Middletown Springs Public Library
middletownspringslibrary@gmail.com
 PO Box 1206,
 Middletown Springs, VT 05757
Deadline: 25th of the month

Front Porch Forum

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