



AUGUST 2024

middleTOWN NEWSletter

Summer Reading Challenges End Soon!

The library's Summer Adventure Challenges end on September 1. Three-levels of readers have signed up to complete the challenges. All completed challenges are rewarded with a Stewart's Shop coupon for an ice cream cone and a raffle ticket to be used in our summer reading raffle! The raffle prizes are one of two gift certificates generously donated by the Phoenix Bookstore in Rutland or the Lego City Ice Cream Shop.

Pre-readers who complete the challenge receive an "Adventure Begins at Your Library" backpack with a stuffed animal and other surprises inside.

Haven't started? There is still time to complete the challenges [the three levels are pre-reader, kid, and 16+/adult]. Stop in and pick up your challenge card today!

The Reading is Charming challenge also ends Sept 1!

Tie-Dye at the Library (reprise)

Saturday, August 17, 10am-Noon

Join us in front of the library for another morning of tie-dying with Jen Dattoli. We still have white cotton bandanas for you to use. Or, bring your own white cotton T-shirt. Both JoAnn Fabrics and Michaels stock blank, white 100% cotton t-shirts in their Rutland stores for about \$3 each.

Contact the library if you have any questions:
middletownspringslibrary@gmail.com or 802-235-2435.

Hope to see you there!

This issue:

[Summer Reading Challenges](#)

[Tie Dye at the Library](#)

[Primary Election Basics](#)

[Readers' Wish List](#)

[Book Group](#)

[Note from the Town Treasurer](#)

[Lawn Games at the Library](#)

[Save These Dates](#)

[Tech Tuesday](#)

[Call for Photos](#)

[What's in a Name?](#)

[Craft Night](#)

[Park and Museum Passes](#)

[Community Yard Sale](#)

[Summer Program](#)

[Overdue Notices](#)

[New at the Library](#)

[Calendar of Regular Meetings](#)

Got News?

Please send all town events, milestones, photos, and happenings to:

05757news@gmail.com

Banner photo by Patty Kenyon

State Primary Election Basics from the Town Clerk's office

Here's what you need to know about the upcoming primary election.

- **Election Day – Tuesday, August 13, 2024**
- **Polls Open – 7am to 7pm at the Town Office**
- Sample ballots and official warning are available on the town's website - <https://middlesprings.vt.gov/town-government/town-meeting-elections/> (fyi – webpage links do not work correctly on mobile phones.)
- **Absentee Ballots MUST be requested for this election!**
- **Ballot requests can be made up until Monday, August 12 at 4pm.**
- **Requests can be completed:**
 - By mail using an absentee ballot request form <https://middlesprings.vt.gov/wp-content/uploads/2021/10/vtabsenteeerequestgeneric-fillable.pdf>
 - By phone 802-235-2220
 - By email – middletown@vermontel.net
 - Online using My Voter page <https://mvp.vermont.gov>

You can register to vote up to and including election day.

How to register to vote

- Complete a voter registration application <https://middlesprings.vt.gov/wp-content/uploads/2024/06/voterapplication-6.17.24.pdf>
- At the town office anytime including election day.
- Online using <https://olvr.vermont.gov>

Other things to remember for the primary election –

- If you requested absentee ballots before town meeting for all elections in 2024, and you haven't received it, Please reach out to the Town Clerk ASAP. Absentee ballots were mailed the first week of July.
- If you are returning a ballot from an out of state location, please be sure to allow enough time for us to receive your ballot by mail.
- Please read and follow the absentee ballot instructions on each envelope you receive in your absentee packet.
- Absentee ballots can be mailed or dropped off in the drop box outside the town office anytime up until 7pm on election day.
- **Primary election day is Tuesday, August 13, 2024**
- You can check the status of your ballot request, or your ballot return anytime via <https://mvp.vermont.gov>.

Please reach out with any questions.

Patty Kenyon
Town Clerk

The Town Clerk's regular office hours are Monday & Tuesday from 9am to 4pm and Thursday & Friday from 1pm to 4pm.
PH: 802-235-2220 | Email: middletown@vermontel.net
The town office is closed all federal holidays.

Building a Readers' Wish List

The Library wants to hear from you!

We want our library collection to be a reflection of our community needs, and that means **we need your input!**

What books do you want to read that you wish the library had?

Which authors are your favorites??

Poll the other readers in your family, too.
All ages and reading levels!

Send your lists (up to five books per reader, please) to middlespringslibrary@gmail.com.

We will look for overlaps to help us make decisions about what to add to the collection. No promises, but we are looking forward to collaborating with you to make our collection the best it can be!

Library Book Group

The August book is *The Collected Regrets of Clover* by Mikki Brammer

The discussion will be held **August 22 at 7pm** at the library.

The book group is open and you are welcome to join us. Stop in the library to borrow a copy of the book. If you are interested or have questions, call or email the library, 802-235-2435 or middlespringslibrary@gmail.com

Note from the Town Treasurer

New Property Tax Bills for fiscal year 24/25 will be mailed to you by mid-August.

Your first payment will be due on or before Monday, September 16, 2024.

Please save your bill for future reference. You will need this document to: give to your mortgage company, file your Vermont income taxes in April, refinance, or sell your property, and remind yourself how much you owe quarterly.

Included on your tax bill will be a homestead rebate if you applied and qualified for it. The State of Vermont determines if you are eligible for a rebate.

If you have any questions regarding the status of your homestead rebate, contact the Vermont Department of Taxes directly at: <https://tax.vermont.gov> or (802) 828-2865.

IMPORTANT: If your mailing address has changed, please advise.

Also, if you have not received your new bill by mid-August, please email mtstreasurer@vermontel.net (or call 802-235-3256) and confirm your name, parcel address and mailing address.

Check Out Our Lawn Games

The library has a growing collection of lawn games available for check out. They go out on three-day loan. We have:

- Corn Hole
- Bocce
- Croquet
- Badminton
- Stomp Rockets

The library is looking to add a few more games to the collection. If you have a particular game you'd like to recommend, please let us know! These games were purchased with a generous grant from the Stewart's Shops.

Save These Dates!

Tour de Slate

August 3

Primary Election

August 13

Tie Dye

August 17

Book Group

August 22

Summer Reading Challenges End

September 1

Community Yard Sale

September 7

Craft Night

September 9

Sullivan Woods Adventure

September 14

Taxes Due

September 16

Tech Tuesdays

Having trouble with your new phone?

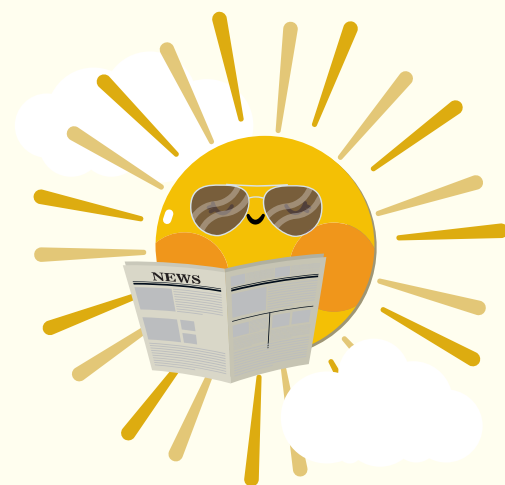
Have a computer question?

Want to stream on your tablet,
but aren't sure how?

Stop by the library on any Tuesday
during open hours and the librarians
will be happy to help!

Tech Tuesday!

Every Tuesday at the library.



What's In a Name?

When east meets west, meets north, meets south, what do you get? Middletown! Add healing waters and, of course, you get Middletown Springs.

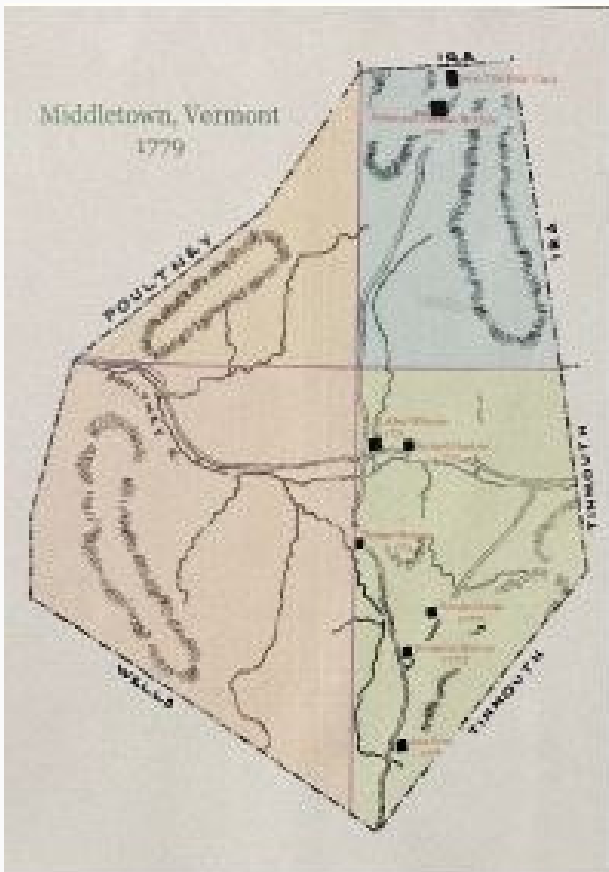
Recently the Vermont Historical Society, in collaboration with My Champlain Valley Local 22 & Local 44, interviewed David Wright, president of the Middletown Springs Historical Society for their ongoing video series This Place in History. Filmed at the Historical Society on the Green, and at the Springs Park, this two part series reviews how Middletown Springs first became Middletown. You can view both parts in the series by going to the links below:

Part One:

<https://www.mychamplainvalley.com/at-this-place-in-history/this-place-in-history-middletown-springs/>

Part Two:

<https://www.mychamplainvalley.com/at-this-place-in-history/this-place-in-history-mineral-springs-park/>



Craft Night at the Library

Join us on the second Monday of the month (6-8pm) for Craft Night. Bring whatever you are working on (that fits in your lap) and spend a couple creative hours with friends and neighbors. Come for tea, conversation, and inspiration. The next craft night is **Monday, September 9, 6-8pm**. Hope to see you there!

Library Hours

Reminder: The library has extended hours every Tuesday and Saturday.

Monday 2-6pm
Tuesday 2-8pm
Wednesday 2-6pm
Friday 10am-2pm
Saturday 9am-12pm

Call For Photos

Do you have pictures of Middletown Springs that you want to share? The middleTOWN NEWSletter wants to see them!

Send us your photos of places and things (no people!) in Middletown and we may use them in a future issue of the newsletter (with credit).

Email all photos to:
05757news@gmail.com

Park and Museum Passes at the Library

Available for three-day check-out 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.
- **Wonderfeet Library Pass** Free admission for up to 5 people.

Visit individual websites for current schedules and information.

Community Yard Sale

Please join the Friends of the Middletown Springs Library for the 2024 Community Yard Sale on Saturday, September 7 on the Middletown Springs Community Church Green. This is a fun community event with food and music and lots of neighbors coming by to shop.

We are looking for people who would like to have a table on the green to sell your goodies. The sale hours are 9-2 with set-up opening at 7:30am and clean-up needing to be completed by 4pm. Spaces are 15 x 15 feet and cost \$25. All proceeds support Friends of the Library.

If you are interested, please email wendyherrick84@gmail.com for a registration form or stop by the library to pick up a hard copy.

ADVENTURE BEGINS AT YOUR LIBRARY.

Library Summer Program

Tie Dye - Come to the library at 10am on Saturday August 17, for more Tie Dye!

Lawn Games - Stop in on Tuesday nights between 6-8pm to play games on the library lawn! Or check one of our lawn games out to play at home!

Summer Adventure Challenges for All Ages Three levels to choose from! Stop in to pick up one of our summer reading challenges, complete one by September 1 for a chance to win a prize!

Reading is Charming Summer Reading Challenge - Set your own reading goal, keep track, and earn a charm each time you meet your goal. Collect as many as you can and make your own necklace, bracelet, or keychain.

Sullivan Woods Adventure - September 14.

Middletown Springs Annual Community
YARD SALE

Saturday September 7
9am-2pm
on the green in Middletown Springs

Interested in your own booth at the sale?
contact: wendyherrick84@gmail.com

This event is brought to you by The Friends of the Middletown Springs Public Library

Overdue Notices

In order for the library to be as useful as possible to the community, we would like to remind everyone of our lending procedures. As well as give an update on our policy regarding overdue items.

Most library materials circulate for a two-week lending period. They are often able to be renewed for another two weeks. We do not charge fines for overdue items, and are always understanding when patrons return late books. This said, we have a number of books from our collection that are long overdue.

To help keep track of our circulating materials and to prompt patrons to renew or return items they have checked out, we have instituted some new procedures. At the beginning of the week, we will send an automated email to patrons with a list of items they have checked out from the library. It will include all items that are out and note when they are due.

Once a month we will send letters to patrons who have items that are more than 4 weeks overdue. And later in the month we will send bills requesting compensating donations for any items that have still not been returned or renewed.

To renew items, simple email, call, or stop in the library. Most items can be renewed unless someone else has requested them.

We appreciate your help in getting these items back into circulation so that other community members can enjoy them.

When returning items to the library, please stop by during open hours OR use the drop box next to the door. If you are unable to find the items checked out to you, please let us know.

Please contact us with any questions, or concerns.

Thank you,
Kimberly & Haley

middletownspringslibrary@gmail.com | 802-235-2435.

New at the Library

Children's

- Under the Weather* (Sophie Mouse)
- Poppy Green
Lightning Bug Show (Sophie Mouse)
- Poppy Green
Mattie in the Spotlight (Sophie Mouse)
- Poppy Green
The Great Bake Off (Sophie Mouse)
- Poppy Green
The Prince and the Witch and the Thief and the Bears
- Alastair Chevalier
Pecan Pie Baby - Jacqueline Woodson
Hike - Pete Oswald
The Noise Inside Boys - Pete Oswald

Adult Fiction

- Murder in an Irish Churchyard*
- Carlene O'Connor
Murder in an Irish Pub
- Carlene O'Connor
Murder on an Irish Farm
- Carlene O'Connor
Murder in an Irish Bookshop
- Carlene O'Connor
Murder at an Irish Bakery
- Carlene O'Connor
Murder in an Irish Cottage
- Carlene O'Connor
Murder at an Irish Chipper
- Carlene O'Connor
Hula - Jasmin 'Iolani Hakes
The Glass Maker - Tracy Chevalier
The Comfort Ghosts
- Jacqueline Winspear
Long Island - Colm Toibin
Swan Song - Elin Hilderbrand
An Art Lover's Guide to Paris and Murder
- Dianne Freeman
What Have You Done? - Shari Lapena
The Unmaking of June Farrow
- Adrienne Young
Slow Dance - Rainbow Rowell
The Briar Club - Kate Quinn

Adult Non-fiction

- Remember* - Lisa Genova
Field Guide to Edible Wild Plants - Sam Thayer
An Unfinished Love Story
- Doris Kearns Goodwin
Birding to Change the World - Trish O' Kane
The Light Eaters - Zoe Schlanger

CALENDAR OF REGULAR MEETINGS

Regular Meetings	Time	Location	Contact
Conservation Commission	3rd Mon/6pm	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	3rd Thurs / 6:30pm	Library	Ashley Fioretti (235-3000)
Historical Society	1st Thurs / 7pm	MHSH	David Wright (235-2376)
Library Trustees	4th Wed / 6:30pm	Library	Kristal Hier (235-1297)
Planning Commission	1st Mon / 5:30pm	Via Zoom	Steve Harrington (235-1043)
Selectboard	2nd/4th Thurs / 7pm	Town Office	Herb Childress (235-2093)
WellsSprings Community Engagement	2nd Mon / 6:30pm	MSES/WES	Eric.montbriand@grcsu.org
WellsSprings School Board	2nd Wed / 6pm	MSES/WES	Eric.montbriand@grcsu.org

Submit News & Events to:

Middletown Springs Public Library
05757news@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.

This digital newsletter is posted on FPF and the town website. It is sent via email to subscribers (to subscribe email 05757news@gmail.com). It is also available in hard copy at the town office and the library, or delivered by USPS to those who subscribe for \$7 a year to cover postage.