

DECEMBER, 2023

# middleTOWN NEWSletter

## Library Cookbook Exchange

Refresh your cookbook shelf at the Library Cookbook Exchange. Participate in either or both ends of the exchange.

Donation Days:

**Dec 4-6 (Mon, Tues, Wed, 2-6pm)**

Cookbook Exchange Open:

**Friday, Dec 8 (10am-4pm)**

**Saturday, Dec 9 (9am-12pm)**

## 29th Annual Holiday Craft Fair



Middletown Springs shelters its share of renowned artists and crafters; their wares as well as many others' will be for sale on **Sunday, December 3** at the Middletown Springs Elementary School, from **10am-3pm**, during the 29th annual Holiday Craft Fair.

Organizers have brought together vendors of fine arts, crafts and culinary delights ranging from Peter Huntoon prints, Filthy Farmgirl soaps, David Munyak fine woodwork, Mahar Maple products, M&M Labate honey and beeswax products, Morgan Mountain Organics and Lifeline Botanicals as well as fabric artists, jewelers, woodland wreaths, cards and collages, knitted goods, and clothing accessories. This one-stop shop will enable you to cross lots off of your gift list.

Schedule in a little extra time to sit down with neighbors, friends, and strangers to enjoy warming soups and stews, drinks and sweets as well. All proceeds from the kitchen will benefit Middletown Springs Historical Society.

Mark your calendars for Sunday December 3 at the Middletown Springs Elementary School, from 10am-3pm.

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## NEW News Email

We now have email address dedicated to town news!

**Going forward please send all middleTOWN NEWSletter emails to:**

**[05757news@gmail.com](mailto:05757news@gmail.com)**

## Christmas in the Park

Hosted by the Community Church



### Christmas in the Park Sunday, December 10, at 6 PM

O come, all ye faithful  
Come gather around.  
Down to the Green  
Where the manger is found.

Warm your hands by the fire.  
Yummy treats will delight!  
Sing Carols of joy  
'Round the tree full of lights.

Hear the story of Jesus  
His wonderful birth.  
How he came as a baby  
To save us here on earth.

With family and friends  
We'll all be of good cheer.  
Sharing peace and goodwill  
Because Christmas is here!

## Holiday Hours

The **town office** will be **closed**  
Christmas Day - Monday  
December 25. And New Year's  
Day - Monday January 1.

The **library** will be **closed**  
December 25 & 26 for the  
Christmas holiday.  
As well as New Year's Day-  
Monday, January 1.

## FREE Covid Tests

Available for pick up at  
the library and  
the town office.

## Community Calendar

Community Calendars are here!  
If you ordered one, you can pick  
it up at the library during open  
hours.

Monday-Wednesday 2pm-6pm  
Friday - 10am-2pm  
Saturday 10am-12pm

## Tell Us What You Think

Thank you for all of your  
feedback so far!

Please send your ideas &  
feedback on our new format  
to: [05757news@gmail.com](mailto:05757news@gmail.com)

## Town Highway Positions Open

The Town of Middletown Springs is seeking to build out our crew for years to come, and is looking for candidates to fill two positions.

The first position is someone who will serve as the **Highway Foreman's Apprentice** during the final year of our current foreman's excellent service before his retirement. If the apprenticeship period is successful, our hope is that this person will be prepared to take on the role of highway foreman in October 2024.

This is a supervisory position, reporting to the foreman but overseeing the work of other highway crewmembers. It also entails collaboration with other regional, state, and federal agencies; negotiating and contracting with vendors; writing funding proposals for grants; careful recordkeeping; and excellent communication with the public and with the selectboard. A valid Vermont-issued CDL Class B license or above is required. Required skills include proficient operation and maintenance of a road grader, excavator, front-end loader, backhoe, and tandem plow truck. The pay is competitive and dependent on qualifications. Benefits include: health insurance, paid time off, pension plan, and 12 paid holidays.

The second position is a **Highway Equipment Operator / Maintenance Worker**. This is a full-time, year-round position. Principle duties will include plowing snow, sanding, and salting roads, road construction and maintenance, and other related duties. A valid Vermont-issued CDL Class B license or above is required. Candidates for this position will have experience operating a dump truck with plow, sander, loader and excavator, backhoe, and/or grader. Good communication with the public and with the selectboard are expected. General knowledge of vehicle maintenance, fundamental roadway construction and maintenance procedures, equipment operation, and project recordkeeping are a plus. The pay is competitive and dependent on qualifications. Benefits include: health insurance, paid time off, pension plan, and 12 paid holidays.

Complete descriptions of both of these positions are posted on the town's website at <https://middletownsprings.vt.gov>, under the tab for Town Departments / Highway Department.

To learn more about this opportunity, please contact the Selectboard Chair [herb.childress@gmail.com](mailto:herb.childress@gmail.com) or call 802-884-5560.

## A Note from the Town Treasurer

Payment for 2nd quarter 23/24 property tax is due on or before Friday, December 15.

Payments can be made as follows:

1. MAIL to PO Box 1022,  
Middletown Springs, VT 05757  
(with a 12/15/23 or earlier postmark.)

2. Deposit in the NEW black mail slot on the OUTSIDE wall of the town office (to the left of the South Street entrance door) by the end of the day of 12/15/23.

**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, 2023 will incur a late fee of 1% for 3 months and 1.5% thereafter until paid.  
Happy Holidays!

Jenny Talke Munyak  
Town Treasurer

## Submit News & Events:

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

Deadline: 25th of the month

## Pleasant View Cemetery Gate Closed for the Season

The entrance gate to the Pleasant View Cemetery will be CLOSED on or shortly after December 1, 2023, for the winter months. We try and leave the gate open as long as reasonably possible in order to allow for the placement of Christmas wreaths and remembrances on loved ones memorials around the Thanksgiving holiday. With the onset of the winter season and the increasing likelihood of snow and ice, visitor access to the site must be limited to foot traffic for public safety concerns.

We encourage patrons to remove old and faded decorations, artificial flowers (which are not allowed), and dead or dying plants around their loved ones grave sites. It is a big task to keep the grounds mowed and manicured in a presentable manner during the summer months, and we are grateful for the fine job that Green Mountain Boys landscaping from Wells, VT, does for us in managing this property.

We expect to work with the 6th grade class from Middletown Springs Elementary School again next April for assistance with the spring cleanup effort. Until then, enjoy a safe and healthy winter season, and the entrance gate will be open again on or around the first of May, 2024.

## Free Indeed

Christmas is coming and so is the 2023 Christmas Free Indeed! Everyone is invited to join us at the Middletown Springs Community Church on **Saturday, December 2, 9am -noon.**

What is “Free Indeed”? Is it a party? Well, sort of – you walk into the warmth of Christmas music and decorations. Is it a store? Well, sort of - you walk through rooms filled with displays of decorations, gifts, toys, games, clothing, household items and more. What makes “Free Indeed” special? We have collected donated items all year long and now we give everything away. That’s right – EVERYTHING is indeed FREE! We hope to see you there.

If you have any questions, please call Sally Achey at 802-235-2434.

## New at the Library

### Fiction - Adult

*Fourth Wing* - Rebecca Yarros  
*Inheritance* - Nora Roberts  
*Glory Be* - Danielle Arceneaux

### Non-fiction - Adult

*Bruno’s Cookbook* - Martin Walker

### Fiction - Children

*The Swallowtail Legacy: Betrayal by the Book* - Michael D. Beil

### Picture Books

*The Legend of Iron Purl* - Tao Nyeu  
*Knitting for Dogs* - Laurel Molk

## Front Porch Forum

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

## Town Newsletter

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.

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

<b>Event</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>Location</b>
<b>Game Exchange</b>	Fri/Dec 1	10am-4pm	Library / 39 West Street
<b>Game Exchange</b>	Sat/Dec 2	9am-12pm	Library / 39 West Street
<b>Free Indeed</b>	Sat/Dec 2	9am-2pm	Community Church
<b>Holiday Craft Fair</b>	Sun/Dec 3	10am-3pm	School
<b>Cookbook Exchange</b>	Fri/Dec 8	10am-4pm	Library / 39 West Street
<b>Cookbook Exchange</b>	Sat/Dec 9	9am-12pm	Library / 39 West Street
<b>Christmas in the Park</b>	Sun/Dec 10	6pm	Town Green

## CALENDAR OF REGULAR MEETINGS

<b>Regular Meetings</b>	<b>Schedule</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Contact Person</b>
<b>Conservation Commission</b>	2nd Tues / 6pm	Library	Elizabeth Cooper (235-1406)
<b>Fire Dept. Association</b>	2nd Wed / 7pm	Firehouse	Art Castle (235-2351)
<b>Fire Dept. Training</b>	Every Tues / 6:30pm	Firehouse	Joe Castle (235-2160)
<b>Friends of the Library (FOL)</b>	2nd Tues / 7pm	Library	Ashley Fioretti (235-3000)
<b>Historical Society</b>	1st Thurs / 7pm	MSHS	David Wright (235-2376)
<b>Library Trustees</b>	4th Wed / 7pm	Library	Kristal Hier (235-1297)
<b>Planning Commission</b>	1st Mon / 5:30	via Zoom	Steve Harrington (235 -1043)
<b>Selectboard</b>	2nd&4th Thurs / 7pm	Town Office	Herb Childress (235-2093)
<b>WellsSprings Community Engagement</b>	2nd Mon / 6:30pm		<a href="mailto:eric.montbriand@gresu.org">eric.montbriand@gresu.org</a>
<b>Wells Springs School Board</b>	2nd Wed / 6pm	MSES/WES	<a href="mailto:eric.montbriand@gresu.org">eric.montbriand@gresu.org</a>