

JUNE 2025

middleTOWN NEWSletter

Banner photo by Haley Kenyon

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Got News?

Please send all town events, milestones, photos, and happenings to:
05757news@gmail.com

Middletown
Springs
Library

BOOK SALE

at Middletown Springs Historical Society

June 7 & 8

Sat 8-3

Sun 10-2

middletownspringslibrary@gmail.com
802-235-2435



Library Book Sale

Saturday June 7, 8am-3pm.

Sunday June 8, 10am-2pm.

Stock up on summer reading at The Middletown Springs Public Library annual Book Sale on **Saturday and Sunday, June 7 & 8**. The sale will be held at the Middletown Springs Historical Society.

There will be a wide selection of gently read books, movies, puzzles, and games in all genres and for all ages. Come Saturday for first pick of the best books and then again on Sunday for the best bargains when all sales will be by donation. On Sunday customers will be encouraged to fill a bag or a box and make a donation of any amount. All proceeds benefit the library.

For more information, contact the library at 802-235-2435 or middletownspringslibrary@gmail.com.



Strawberry Jam

Registration for the Friends for Education's 4th Annual Strawberry Jam is Open!

This event takes place Saturday, **June 14 at 9:30am** at the Middletown Springs Elementary School.

This 5k run/walk & 10k run and youth run benefits MSES Friends for Education! Anyone interested in running/walking can follow the link below to register for this event.

This is a USA Track and Field sanctioned event!

Register online at <https://www.runreg.com/strawberry-jam-run>

Everything starts and ends at Middletown Springs Elementary School, 15 Schoolhouse Road. There is onsite parking at the school and limited additional parking at the corner of South and East Streets.

Registration table opens at 8am. Stop in to pick up your bib and race shirt (and bring a friend; we accept race day registration!)

Both the 5k/10K race and youth run will start right next to the school/community playground. The kids' fun run will start around 9:15am (one lap around the soccer field). The 5k run/walk will follow the "Buxton Loop" The 10K run will do the "Coy Hill Loop"

Register now to grab your tee shirt!

Interested in volunteering, sponsoring, or jamming along the route to encourage runners? Send us an email at strawberryjamrun@gmail.com.



The poster for Strawberry Jam features a cartoon strawberry character running on a green hill. The text includes: "Strawberry Jam", "5K, 10K, and Youth Run", "MUSIC STRAWBERRY FESTIVAL FAMILY FUN!", "WHEN: Saturday, June 14, 2025", "START TIME: 9:30AM", "Early bird pricing: \$20 (5k, 10K) \$10 youth run", "WHERE: Middletown Springs Elementary", "15 School House Road | Middletown Springs, VT", a QR code, "REGISTER BY May 30th FOR FREE TECHNICAL RACE T-SHIRT", "INTERESTED IN... REGISTERING TO RUN/ WALK PLAYING MUSIC AT STRAWBERRY JAM SPONSORING THE EVENT DONATING TO FFE", and "Hosted by MSES Friends for Education" and "email: strawberryjamrun@gmail.com".

Save These Dates!

Old Cemetery Clean Up
May 31

Summer Program Starts
June 1

Old Cemetery Clean Up
June 7

Library Book Sale
June 7 & 8

Craft Night
June 9

Strawberry Jam
June 14

Strawberry Festival
June 15

Summer Storytime
June 18

Tie Dye at the Library
June 21 (Rain date June 28)

Old Cemetery Clean Up
June 21

Summer Storytime
June 25

Summer Storytime
July 2

Independence Day
July 4

Summer Storytime
July 9

Craft Night
July 14

Summer Storytime
July 16

Library Hours

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

Monday 2pm-6pm

Tuesday 2pm-8pm

Wednesday 2pm-6pm

Friday 10am-2pm

Saturday 9am-12pm

Library Summer Program

The Library Summer Program is here! Here is a quick look at the fun things we have planned!

Reading is Charming is returning for the third year. Set your own (repeatable) reading goal, and every time you meet it come to the library and get a charm to add to your necklace/bracelet/keychain!

How many books can Middletown read between June and September? Let's find out! Log your summer reading at the library and help us meet our goal of **2025 books in Summer 2025**. Every book counts, come and add your reads to our paper chain and see how many times we can wrap it around the library before the end of summer.

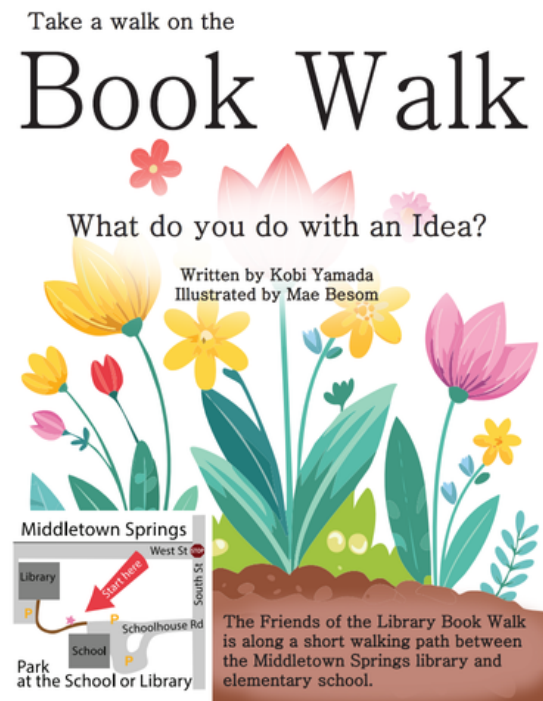
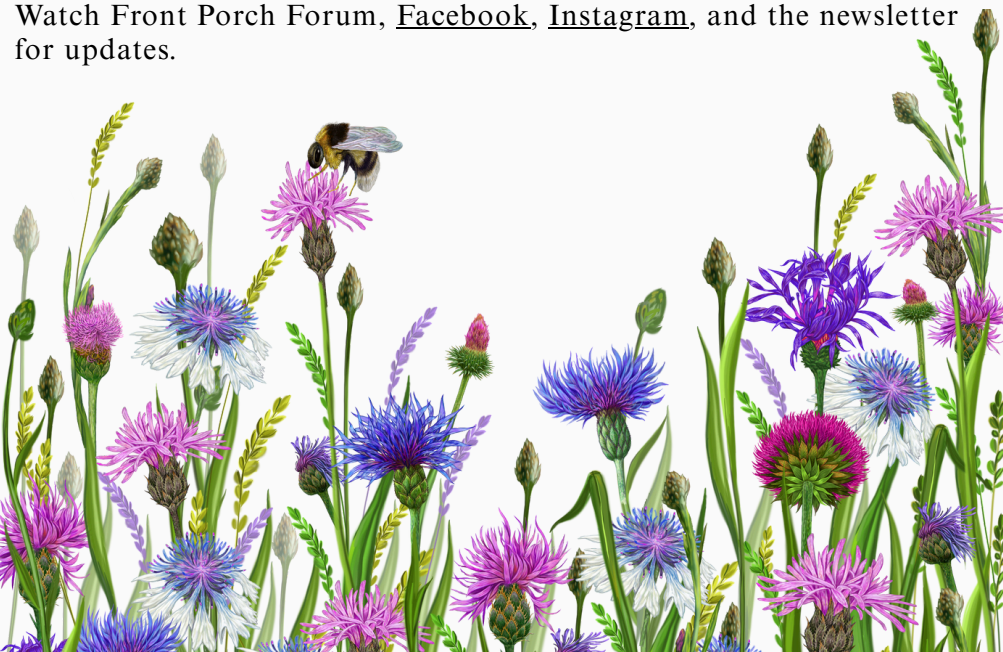
We are kicking off summer programing on **Saturday, June 21** with a tie dye at the library! Stop by the library between **10am and 1pm**. We'll provide the supplies, you bring the t-shirt (or whatever else you want to tie dye as long as it is 100% cotton). Rain date: June 28.

Our Summer Storytime series returns on **Wednesday, June 18**. Miss Heather invites children aged 2-7 to come read stories, sing songs, and do crafts with her. A healthy snack will be provided. Storytime will be every **Wednesday** at **10am** for 5 weeks this summer. The final storytime will be on Wednesday, July 16.

Keep an eye out for more arts and crafts themed programing as the summer progresses, including: **how to events, art displays, origami, black out poetry and more!**

If you have an art technique or a craft that you would like to teach to community members this summer please reach out to us!

Watch Front Porch Forum, [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), and the newsletter for updates.



2025 Reading Goal Update

Kimberly

36/52 books

Favorite May Read:

How to Solve Your Own Murder
by Kristen Perrin

Haley

45/60 books

Favorite May Read:

The Witchstone
by Henry H. Neff

Follow along on [Facebook](#) to see how the librarians do with their reading goals, and chime in about your own goals and favorite reads of the year!

Sunday Soccer

The Middletown Springs 40+ year tradition of Sunday soccer returns on Sunday June 1 at the Middletown Springs Elementary School field at 3pm, and each Sunday at that time throughout the summer.

Sunday soccer is fun, pickup soccer for ages 6-99(ish). It is a chance for new or younger players to learn and also 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!

Rising Meadow Pottery- Summer 2025 Adult Class Schedule

Morning Mixed Level (Beginners Welcomed) Pottery Wheel for Adults
Tuesdays 10am - 12pm: **July 1 - August 19** (7 classes- no class 8/12)
Tuition: \$350 class size is limited.

Evening Mixed Level (Beginners Welcomed) Wheel Class for Adults
Tuesdays 5:30-7:30pm: **July 1- August 19** (7 classes- no class 8/12)
Tuition: \$350 class size is limited.

The mixed level class is offered to both beginners and those who have had some prior experience working on the wheel. Tuition includes 25# of clay plus six hours of open studio practice time each week. On class days the studio will remain open two hours after class ends. Students are invited to use the space on Thursdays from 10am - 2pm and 5pm - 9pm for practice time without instruction. Additional clay can be purchased.

\$45 for a 25# bag includes clay and glaze materials and firing costs. Basic tools are provided free of charge.

Instructor: Nick Seidner

*A second six week session will begin September 2 and run through October 14.

Contact Nick at (802)287-1657 or email nseidner@vermontel.net to sign up or to ask for more information. 50% deposit required to reserve space.

Call For Photos

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

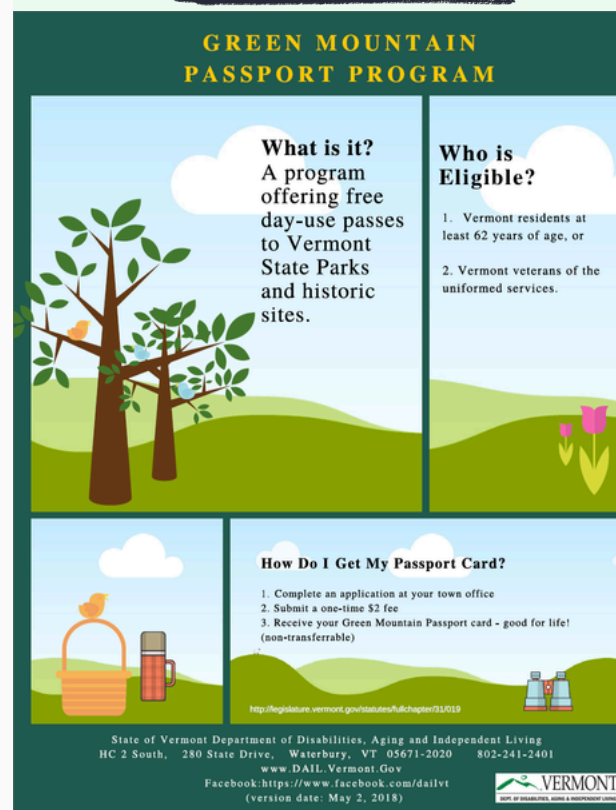
Send us your photos of places and things (no people!) in Middletown and we may use them in a future issue of the newsletter (with credit).

Email all photos to: 05757news@gmail.com

Free COVID Tests!

The Town Office and the Town Library have a full supply of **free COVID tests**. Please save yourself some money and pick up some tests to have on hand. You never know when you might need a test, and we have them here for the taking.

Stop by soon to stock up.



GREEN MOUNTAIN PASSPORT PROGRAM

What is it?
A program offering free day-use passes to Vermont State Parks and historic sites.

Who is Eligible?

1. Vermont residents at least 62 years of age, or
2. Vermont veterans of the uniformed services.

How Do I Get My Passport Card?

1. Complete an application at your town office
2. Submit a one-time \$3 fee
3. Receive your Green Mountain Passport card - good for life! (non-transferrable)

<http://legislature.vermont.gov/statutes/fullchapter/33/019>

State of Vermont Department of Disabilities, Aging and Independent Living
HC 2 South, 280 State Drive, Waterbury, VT 05671-2020 802-241-2401
www.DAIL.Vermont.Gov
Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/dailvt>
(version date: May 2, 2018)

VERMONT
STATE OF VERMONT

Middletown Springs Historical Society's 50th Annual Strawberry Festival



Volunteers from the Middletown Springs Historical Society serve fresh Vermont strawberry shortcake at a recent Strawberry Festival.

Photo by Emmett Francois

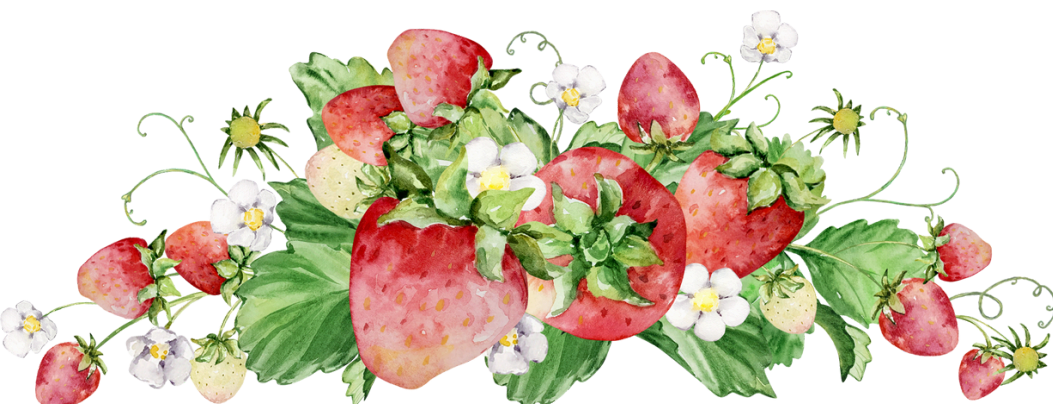
The 50th Annual Strawberry Festival continues a long summer tradition at the Middletown Springs Historical Society on **Sunday, June 15, from 2-4pm.**

The festival includes a small craft fair, live music, a new quilt exhibit, and a children's paper quilt activity. Admission to the museum and children's activities are free.

Strawberry lovers are invited to the Historical Society building on the Green in Middletown Springs for delicious strawberry shortcake made with fresh Vermont berries, homemade biscuits, vanilla ice cream and whipped cream, with a choice of iced tea, lemonade, or hot coffee for \$10. Fresh berries will also be available for sale by the quart.

Local artists and craftspeople will display and sell their work, including maple products, jewelry, photography, knitted items, and honey and beeswax products. There will be live music during the event, and a variety of items will be raffled off.

The quilt exhibit in the first-floor museum space features 20 quilts from the MSHS collection, all passed down through Middletown Springs families. The exhibit, "Patterns and Provenance: Quilts of Middletown Springs, 1840-1920" can also be viewed on Sundays from 2-4pm. through October 12, and by appointment through December 21.



New at the Library

Children's Books

The Cafe at the Edge of the Woods

- Mikey Please

Ursula Upside Down - Corey R. Tabor

When you Find the Right Rock

- Mary Lyn Ray

Crumble

- Meredith McLaren & Andrea Bell

Adult Fiction

Spent - Alison Bechdel

My Friends - Fredrik Backman

Marble Hall Murders

- Anthony Horowitz

Craft Night

Come to Library Craft Night!

Bring whatever you are working on, (knitting, crochet, needlework, rug hooking... anything 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, June 9 , 6:30 -8pm.**

Middletown Springs, VT We need your help!

The Vermont Herp Atlas is looking for reports of reptiles and amphibians throughout Vermont.

There are **4 species** reports missing from Middletown Springs!

For more information or to report a sighting, please visit: <http://vtherpatlas.org>



or send an email to:
JAndrews@vtherpatlas.org

DErsineVT@gmail.com



Scan the QR code for a listing of missing reports



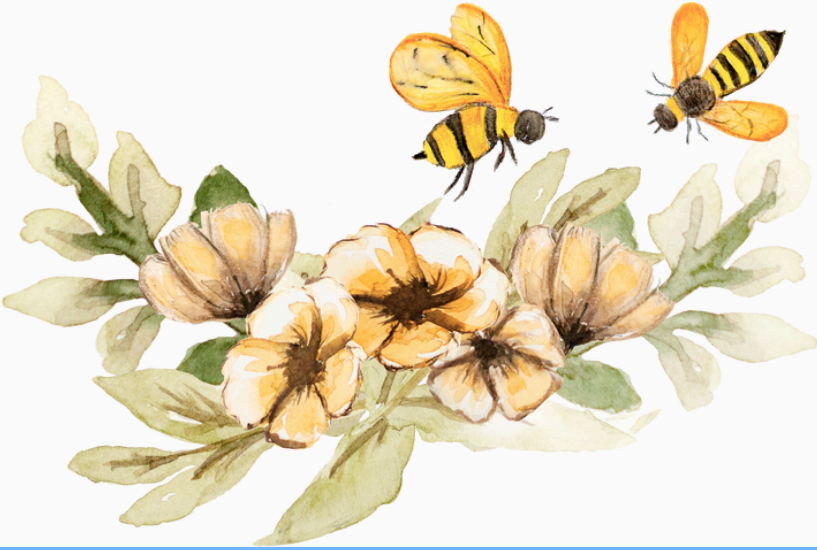
Patterns and Provenance: Quilts of Middletown Springs, 1840-1920

The Middletown Springs Historical Society kicks off the Summer 2025 season with an exhibit of its quilt collection, “*Patterns and Provenance: Quilts of Middletown Springs, 1840-1920.*” The exhibit features 20 quilts, representing 15 different historic patterns, that have been passed down through six Middletown Springs families. **Beginning on June 15, the exhibit is open in the ground level exhibit room on Sundays, 2-4pm., through October 12, and by appointment through December 21, 2025.**

Most of the quilts on display were pieced by hand, and several were quilted by hand. While some of the quilters apparently used scraps of fabric leftover from dressmaking and other sewing projects, others planned their patterns with store-bought fabric which was fairly cheap and easy to mail order in the East by the mid-1800s, even in rural areas like Middletown Springs. The publication of quilt patterns in *Godey’s Lady’s Book* and other periodicals throughout the 19th century contributed to the variety of patterns represented in the exhibit.

Among the quilts of special interest is Juliet Barret Gray’s rendition of the Sunshine and Shadows Log Cabin pattern in silk fabric. In it, she incorporated pieces from her blue and red plaid silk wedding dress from 1860, which was remade for her daughter Katie’s wedding in 1887. The wedding dress, which is in the MSHS collection, will also be on display. Another showstopper is a red, white and blue hand pieced quilt top made by Katherine B. Goff in 1883 that was assembled from 10,200 small squares of cotton fabric.

Quilt guilds and fiber artists are encouraged to make an appointment with exhibit curator Mary Lou Willits for a group tour by calling 802-235-2376.



Juliet Barret Gray,
Sunshine and Shadows Log Cabin quilt,
1860-1890, silk, 59.5” x 70”.
Gift of Alice Blakely Marsh.
Middletown Springs Historical Society

Pun of the Month

The librarian didn’t know what to do with the book about Tesla’s love of electricity so they filed it under “current affairs”.

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.

Old Cemetery Work Days – May/June 2025

All work days are weather permitting

Saturday, May 31, 2025 - 10am to 1pm

Saturday, June 7, 2025 - 10am to 1pm

Saturday, June 21, 2025 – 10am to 1pm

If you are interested in helping with cleaning gravestones, we are organizing a few days this spring & summer to do just that.

After an abundance of rainy weekends and a few false starts, I'm hoping late spring weather will be more accommodating. I've mapped out dates in late May and June as a starting point. Once we get started timing can be more flexible for those who can't do Saturdays or may want to do more.

The town will provide buckets, soft bristle brushes and the cleaning solution. **You should bring garden/work gloves, hydration, bug repellent and, if you have them, small garden tools.** In addition to cleaning, we will also be identifying stones that need repair and crosschecking names and stones with a newly compiled inventory. So, there are jobs for those who may not be interested in cleaning stones.

If you'd like to help, show up at the town office just before 10am on Saturday. If you have questions, contact the town clerk during open office hours.

If you'd like to be added to the email list for notification of these opportunities, please reach out and I'll gladly add you to the list.

Thank you!
Patty Kenyon
Town Clerk

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

2025 Golden Dome Coming Soon

The Vermont Golden Dome Book Award was created to honor excellence in children's literature. Since 1957, Vermont students in grades four through eight have selected their favorite book from a list of nominees. It is recommended that students read at least five of the year's nominated titles before voting in the spring each year.

This years nominees will be available at library to borrow soon. They are:

All the Ways to Go - Jessie Janowitz.

Averil Offline - Amy Noelle Parks.

The Bletchley Riddle

- Ruta Sepetys and Steve Sheinken.

Coyote Lost and Found - Dan Gemeinhart.

The Creepening of Dogwood House

- Eden Royce.

The Flicker - H.E. Edgmon.

Force of Nature: A Novel of Rachel Carson

- Ann E. Burg.

A Game of Noctis - Deva Fagan.

How it All Ends - Emma Hunsinger.

Impossible Creatures

-Katherine Rundell.

Kareem Between - Shifa Saltagi Safadi.

The Liars Society - Alyson Gerber.

Mountain of Fire: The Eruption and Survivors of Mount St. Helens - Rebecca E.F. Barone.

Murray Out of Water - Taylor Tracy.

The Mystery of Locked Rooms

- Lindsay Currie.

The Night Librarian - Christopher Lincoln.

Olivetti - by Allie Millington.

Paper Dragons: The Fight for the Hidden Realm - Siobhan McDermott.

Plain Jane and the Mermaid - Vera Brosgol.

The Secret Library - Kekla Magoon.

The Sherlock Society - James Ponti.

A Strange Thing Happened in Cherry Hall
- Jasmine Warga.

Summer at Squee - Andrea Wang.

The Tenth Mistake of Hank Hooperman

- Gennifer Choldenko.

The Wrong Way Home - Kate O'Shaughnessy.

CALENDAR OF REGULAR MEETINGS*

Regular Meetings	Time	Location	Contact
Conservation Commission	3rd Mon/ 6pm	Town Office	
Fire Dept. Association	2nd Wed / 7pm	Firehouse	Art Castle (235-2351)
Fire Dept. Training	Every Tues / 6:30pm	Firehouse	Joe Castle (235-2160)
Friends for Education	3rd Tues / 7pm	MSES	Ashley Fioretti (235-3000)
Friends of the Library	3rd Thurs / 7pm	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

*Dates and times subject to change. When in doubt reach out to the contact person for confirmation.

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 \$9 a year to cover postage.