

MARCH 2025

middleTOWN NEWSletter



Banner photo by Haley Kenyon



March 5-15

Class descriptions, scheduling and registration at:

<https://middletownspringsu.weebly.com/>

	
MIDDLETOWN SPRINGS UNIVERSITY	
Dosa Making	Sing Together Again
Learn to Twine	Book making
Knitting	Cook with Your Kids!
Growing Micro greens	Automotive brake repair
There Oughta Be a Law - Vermont Cakes	Stair building: basic construction
Beer: Styles, Science, and Process - Plus Tastings	Homemade Pizza Making
	RECONNECT! Are phones Weapons of Mass Disconnection?
	Crocheting: intro/refresher
	Concepts and Practices of Green Woodworking
	Qigong - calm energy workout
	Beginning hand drumming
	Winter Pruning
	Beginner Guitar
	EVs 101: Is an Electric Vehicle Right for You?

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Got News?

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

05757news@gmail.com

Middletown Springs University

MSU is back for the third year! Starting on Wednesday, March 5 community members will offer their expertise on a wide variety of skills to their friends and neighbors, for *free*.

This year there are over 20 classes to choose from. There is something for everyone, from knitting to brake repair you are bound to find something perfect for you. What new skills will you learn this year? [Click here to check out the schedule and register for a few classes!](#)

MSU is a free, pop-up university, run by volunteers in Middletown Springs each March. The town becomes a campus; residents are the professors; and we are all the students. MSU is a fun opportunity for neighbors to share their know-how, and a way for each of us to learn something new. MSU brings people together in a way that a Main Street would, and enables deeper connections between neighbors.

Pie for Breakfast

The Middletown Springs Public Library is hosting our 16th annual Pie for Breakfast. **On Saturday, April 12, 2024, from 8am-11am**, library volunteers and trustees will be serving up **all-you-can-eat pie for breakfast** with tea, coffee, or juice. The slices are cut thin so it is easy to try many different varieties. There will be both sweet (such as pumpkin, apple, berry, chocolate) and savory (such as quiche, pot pies, pizza) pies to choose from, as well as gluten free options.

This delicious annual event is held at the Middletown Springs Elementary School. Come enjoy scrumptious pies, hot coffee, and good cheer, **\$10 for adults; \$5 for children 5-12; under 5 are FREE**. All proceeds benefit the Middletown Springs Public Library.

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

Bedtime Stories at the Library

Come to the library on **Friday, March 7 at 7pm** for our **last** Bedtime Stories of the season. Claire Ericksen will read a few, specially selected picture books that listeners are sure to love!

So, wear your comfiest PJs, bring your favorite stuffed animal and whatever else you need to get cozy and settle in for some stories one last time.

Intended for ages 3-8, but anyone who enjoys a good bedtime story is welcome. Refreshments are a take home treat.

Bedtime Stories will take a break for the Spring and Summer, but will return in the Fall.

Note from the Treasurer

Property Tax payments for the 3rd quarter of 24/25 are due on or before Monday, March 17.

Tax payments remitted or postmarked on March 18 or later will incur a 1% late fee on the amount due. Late fees will continue to be charged monthly until the amount is paid.

Payments can be made as follows:

- Mail to PO Box 1022, Middletown Springs, VT 05757 (with a 3/17/25 or earlier postmark.)
- Deposit in the black mail slot on the **outside** wall of the Town Office (to the left of the South Street entrance door) by 7pm on 3/17/25.
- The Town Treasurer will be available in the town office on 3/17 from 11 am – 2 pm.

Please do not remit tax payments to the Town Clerk, as she is not authorized to accept them. Include a self-addressed stamped envelope if you would like a receipt.

Thank You!



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, March 10, 6:30pm-8pm.**

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

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.

The 2024 Maple Festival and Maple Raffle on tap for Sunday March 16

Maple lore and demonstrations, hearty lunch items, sugar-on-snow, maple “spun gold”, sweet treats from local kitchens are highlights of the 2025 Maple Festival of the Middletown Springs Historical Society on **Sunday, March 16 from 1-4pm. Admission is free and all are welcome!**

The event will feature an outdoor demonstration of early maple sugarmaking in a cast iron kettle over an open fire. Indoors, local sugarmaker Ryan Mahar and historians David Wright and Jon Mathewson will give a presentation at 2pm on maple sugaring history and current practice illustrated by artifacts from the Historical Society collection.

In the dining room, homemade soup, chili, mac n' cheese and delicious maple desserts created by Historical Society cooks will be on sale for lunch. Old-fashioned sugar-on-snow, blueberry pancakes with maple syrup, and maple “spun gold” cotton candy are always favorites. Acoustic music enlivens the free afternoon event. Videos about Vermont maple sugaring will be shown continuously. New 2025 syrup as well as Vermont maple products will be available for sale.

The Maple Raffle features 35 items each valued at \$100 or more. The Grand Prize item in the Maple Raffle is the winner’s choice of a gift certificate for 100 gallons of heating oil or the cash equivalent, around \$400. Other great raffle items include: gift cards from local and regional stores and restaurants, artwork and collectibles, an Air Bn'B rental, and even use of the historic Reuben Waite Event Barn at Green Mountain Timber Frame in Middletown Springs for your family or business celebration. Additionally, Middletown Springs residents offer their expertise in holistic arts, natural history and computer consulting, and connecting with horses. Maple Raffle participants target their tickets for individual item raffles with 35 separate drawings, increasing their chances of getting what they want. Raffle tickets are \$25 each or five tickets for \$100.

Tickets and payments may be returned by mail, postmarked by March 14, or purchased and turned in at the Festival. For a list of raffle items, downloadable tickets, and instructions, visit the [Historical Society’s website](#). Raffle items will be on view at the festival and tickets can be purchased until the raffle drawings begin at 3pm. You do not need to be present to win. Winners will be notified to arrange for pick-up.

Maple history artifacts, and other Middletown Springs history exhibits are on view during the festival.

For more information call David Wright at 802 235-2376 or Pat Hemenway at 802 235-2421.



Ryan Mahar demonstrates the old-fashioned method of making maple syrup, a highlight of the annual Maple Festival in Middletown Springs.
Photo provided.

2025 Reading Goal Update

Kimberly

17/52 books

Favorite February Read:

The Bookbinder - Pip Williams

Haley

15/60 books

Favorite February Read:

Bunny - Mona Awad

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!

Town Meeting 2025

Town Meeting is Tuesday, March 4, 2025; polls will be open at the town office from 7am to 7pm.

The Town Informational meeting will be held on Monday, March 3, 2025 in the MSES multipurpose room and by Zoom starting at 6:30pm.

Complete information is included in the official warning, which can be found by [clicking this link](#).

Town Reports are available at the Library, Post Office and Town office as well as [online here](#).

If you need an absentee ballot, stop by the Town Office on Monday, March 3 to fill out the form and pick one up. For those needing a ballot hand delivered, call the clerk's office asap to arrange for a ballot delivery team.

Sample ballots are available for viewing on the town's website under Town Government, Town Meeting & Elections tabs. Or by clicking on the following links.

- [Town Ballot](#)
- [School District Ballot](#)
-

Do you still need to register to vote? Vermont has same day voter registration, so you can register to vote on election day. If you want to register in advance there are a handful of options.

- To register online, go to <https://olvr.vermont.gov> (**Online voter registration is not recommended after Friday, February 28.**)
- [Download a Voter Registration form from the town's website.](#) Complete this form and return it to the clerk's office.
- Stop by the clerk's office to complete the registration in person.

If you have any questions, please reach out.

Patty Kenyon, Town Clerk

The Town Clerk's regular office hours are:
Monday & Tuesday from 9am to 4pm
Thursday & Friday from 1pm to 4pm.

802-235-2220 | middletown@vermontel.net

The town clerk's office is closed every Wednesday and on all federal holidays



Save These Dates!

Town Informational Meeting

March 3

Voting Day

March 4

MSU

March 5-15

Bedtime Stories

March 7

Craft Night

March 10

Maple Festival

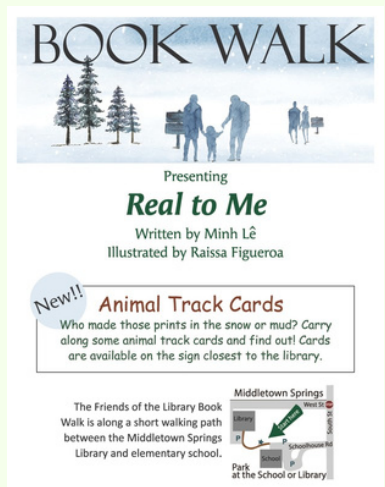
March 16

Dog License Deadline

April 1

Pie for Breakfast

April 12



Library Book Group

The February book is *Kindred* by Octavia Butler

The discussion will be held **March 27 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 middletownspringslibrary@gmail.com

Dog Licenses Available Now!

Dog Registration for 2025 is open. **Fees have increased by \$2 across the board.** Additional fees all go to the State of Vermont for animal welfare programs.

Vermont state law requires all dogs or wolf-hybrids 6 months or older be licensed with the town clerk 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.

Registration Fees January 1, 2024 thru April 1, 2024
Neutered or Spayed - \$11.00
Not Neutered or Spayed - \$15.00

Why should I register my dog? Beyond the state law, when someone finds a loose or injured dog, the first place they call is the Town Office. If the town clerk has your information, she can help to reunite you. Please help her help you by making time to get your dog registered.

Note: If your schedule just doesn't fit the clerk's office hours, you can still get your pet registered. You can mail your payment, rabies certificate, and other pertinent information to PO Box 1232, Middletown Springs 05757 or drop your information into the "Clerk's Dropbox" outside the South Street entrance of the town office. The Town Clerk will process and mail you the license(s) and tag(s).

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 clerk's office is closed every Wednesday and on all federal holidays



Early Morning Eastern Surnise over Middletown Springs by Emmett Francois

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

Pun of the Month

I decided to sell my vacuum cleaner...it was just collecting dust.

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.

New at the Library

February's *NEW BOOKS* are still in transit. They'll be added to the *NEW SHELF* as they arrive. Stop in and be surprised!

CALENDAR OF REGULAR MEETINGS*

Regular Meetings	Time	Location	Contact
Conservation Commission	3rd Mon/ 6pm	Library	
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 Tues / 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.