

MAY 2024

# middleTOWN NEWSletter



## Friends of the Library Plant Sale

Friends of the Library Plant Sale - Friday, May 24, 2024 from 1pm-6pm and Saturday, May 25, 2024 from 9am-12pm.

Join us on the library lawn to browse a wide variety of perennials, annuals, shrubs, and house plants, all grown locally by your friends and neighbors. We already know that we'll have an especially good selection of medicinal and culinary herbs. All sales benefit our library and its programs.

Speaking of wide variety - we depend on your plant donations to make the sale a success. When you are dividing your perennials and starting your annuals, please set some aside for the library! Donated plants can be dropped off at the library on Thursday, May 23. Questions? Contact Nita Burch-Clay at 235-2651.

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## Got News?

Please send all town events, milestones, photos, and happenings to:  
[05757news@gmail.com](mailto:05757news@gmail.com)

Banner photo by Patty Kenyon

## Oversized Trash & Metal Collection Day

Large waste and scrap metal will be collected on **Saturday, May 11 from 6am 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.

## Vermont Storyteller Tim Jennings

Tim Jennings is coming to Middletown Springs! The library is hosting two performances, Friday, June 7, 2024. The first is sponsored by FFE and will be during the school day for the students and staff and will be open to the community to attend. The second will be in the evening at the Reuben Waite Barn as a joint Friends & Trustee event.

Details of both events are still being worked out. Watch Front Porch Forum and Friday Notices for updates.

## Library Book Sale

**At the Historical Society**

**June 15 & 16**

**Wide Selection & Great Bargains**

**Saturday 8 am-3 pm**

**Sunday 10 am-2 pm**

**Book Donations accepted until June 1!**

The library is accepting donations for their annual Book Sale until June 1.

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 any mouse nests and the accumulated layers of dust and debris.

## Green-Up Day

Green-Up Day is this Saturday May 4th 8am-12pm. Check-in and bags available in front of the Town Office during that time. Get a friend or family member and hit the streets. A chance to do something positive together for the community and more hands makes less work for all of us!



## Save These Dates!

**Green- Up Day**

May 4

**Large Dumpster Day**

May 11

**Tinmouth Plant Sale**

May 11 - 19

**Friend's of the Library Plant Sale**

May 24&25

**Memorial Day Parade**

May 26

**Book Group**

May 30

**Library Book Sale**

June 15&16

**Taxes Due**

June 17

**Strawberry Jam**

June 22

**Strawberry Festival**

June 23

## A Note from the Town Treasurer

**Property Tax payments for the 4th and FINAL Quarter of Fiscal Year 23/24 are due on or before Monday, June 17, 2024.**

Payments can be made as follows:

**A.** MAIL to PO Box 1022, Middletown Springs, VT 05757 (with a 6/17/24 or earlier postmark.)

**B.** 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 6/17/24.

Tax payments postmarked after 6/17/24 or received in the Town Office Mail slot after 6/17/24 are considered LATE and DELINQUENT – **NO EXCEPTIONS**. A penalty AND a late fee will be assessed as follows:

**Penalty:** 8 % on all FY23/24 outstanding amounts, and

**Late fee:** 1% interest for the 1st 3 months of delinquency, and 1.5% interest per month thereafter on 4th quarter amount due.

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

**PLEASE, do not remit taxes to the Town Clerk, as she is not authorized to accept them.**

**LOOKING AHEAD** – new tax bills will be mailed directly to all property owners in mid-August for the new Fiscal Year 24/25. 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

## Open Position: Transfer Station Attendant

The Town of Middletown Springs is currently accepting applications for the position of part-time Transfer Station Attendant.

Duties and responsibilities include the ability to handle a variety of tasks, including operating the solid waste compactor and the zero-sort recycling compactor, as well as constantly monitoring the status of these systems. The attendant must also learn the acceptable types of materials that may be disposed of at the transfer station, including the proper electronics procedures, battery storage and shipping protocols, and related activities.

The attendant will handle cash transactions and maintain appropriate financial records in addition to assisting patrons at the transfer facility. Basic mechanical skills and equipment maintenance are required, along with a positive public service attitude and the ability to maintain a neat and organized work environment. Please contact select board members Terry Redfield or Herb Childress for more information.

## New Town Office Receives Efficiency Vermont Award



Geoff Metcalfe and Herb Childress (L to R) accept the Efficiency Vermont Best of the Best Award for Commercial Building Design & Construction at the 2024 Better Building by Design Conference in Burlington on April 3, 2024.

## Volunteers Needed to Pull Garlic Mustard

We are fortunate to have the Mineral Springs Park as a little treasure in our community. It has many lovely wildflowers and plants for all to enjoy. Unfortunately, garlic mustard has found its way to the park and every year it needs to be pulled to keep it from overwhelming the natural beauty of the park.

Springtime is the best time to pull garlic mustard before it goes to seed. We are looking for volunteers to help pull it. Generally, we schedule work for an hour at 4:00 as weather and schedules permit.

Please contact Pat Hemenway by phone or text at 802-353-1224 or David Wright at 802-235-2376 if you are interested in helping with this activity. Thanks so much!

## Seed Swap

Seed Swap has an ever changing selection. Come browse and shake out the number of seeds you think you'll use - we have envelopes galore. If you have seeds you want to offer to the swap, that's a really fun way to spread garden love, but it is not necessary to "swap" to "shop".

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## 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.

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## 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](mailto:05757news@gmail.com)



## Strawberry Jam 5k


It's time for the Friends for Education's (FFE) third annual Strawberry Jam 5k Run/Walk! We have a new course this year featuring the Buxton Avenue loop, and this is a sanctioned USA Track and Field event. Strawberry Jam also has a new date: **Saturday, June 22!**

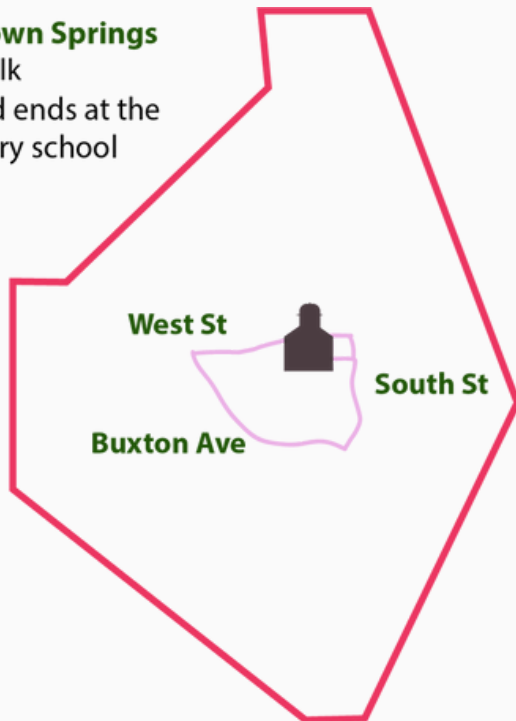
We are seeking volunteers to help and businesses to sponsor this event. If you are interested in doing either, please contact Matt Heering at [matt.heering@gmail.com](mailto:matt.heering@gmail.com).

If you are interested in jamming somewhere along the course to liven up the run and keep folks motivated, please contact Ashley Fioretti at [vtlittleflower13@gmail.com](mailto:vtlittleflower13@gmail.com).

To register for this event please visit <https://www.active.com/middletown-springs-vt/running/distance-running-races/strawberry-jam-fun-run-2024>.

Thank you for supporting the FFE and our endeavors to provide supplemental programming to the students at the Middletown Springs Elementary School!

 **Middletown Springs**  
5k run/walk  
Starts and ends at the elementary school



## 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, May 13, 6-8pm**. Hope to see you there!

## Library Book Group

The April book is the current VT Reads book: *Hello Beautiful* by Ann Napolitano and the discussion will be held on **Thursday, May 30 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](mailto:middletownspringslibrary@gmail.com)

## Library Hours

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

## Last Call for Girl Scout Cookies!

Did you know that Middletown Springs has a Girl Scout troop? That's right, the 6,7, and 8-year-olds of Troop 63133 meet biweekly at Middletown Springs Elementary. This year, our multilevel troop has earned badges in the Outdoors, STEM, Life Skills, and more! And this winter, they've been selling the famous Girl Scouts directly to friends and neighbors.

Two Girl Scouts are still working to reach their cookie season goals!

Please reach out to Mabel (802) 235-1022 or Evelyn (802) 291-3831 to get your fix before the cookies run out.

(And for a limited time, we even have a resupply of Thin Mints and all your other favorites!)

\$6/box, free in-town delivery.

Want to sign up your child or join us as a volunteer? Visit [girlscouts.org](http://girlscouts.org) or call Beth at 802-225-1022. Now accepting K-4th grade members for the 2024-2025 school year.

## 55th Annual Middletown Springs Memorial Day Parade

The 55th Annual Middletown Springs Memorial Day Parade will be on Sunday, May 26 at 3pm. Our Memorial Day Ceremony immediately follows the conclusion of the parade.

**This year's theme is: Say Their Name!** This has special meaning to me and I have asked to be the speaker. Please join me in honoring those who have given the ultimate sacrifice.

Please consider being in the parade, helping with the parade OR BOTH!!! Line up is at 2pm and we roll at 3pm.

Let me know if you plan on being in the parade. Thank you for considering this!

Bob Bruttomesso, 802-282-8428 or [mykidsandi@aol.com](mailto:mykidsandi@aol.com)

## New at the Library

### Picture Books

*Attack of the Underwear Dragon*  
- Scott Rothman

### Children

*Catwad: It's Me* - Jim Benton  
*Catwad: It's Me, Two* - Jim Benton  
*Zoey and Sassafras (6 titles)*  
- Asia Citro

*Lightfall: The Dark Times* - Tim Probert  
*Cardboard Kingdom: Roar of the Beast*  
- Chad Sell

### Young Adult

*Gather* - Kenneth M. Cadow  
*Flamer* - Mike Curato  
*Tricks* - Ellen Hopkins  
*Sold* - Patricia McCormack  
*All My Rage* - Sabaa Tahir

### Fiction

*The Cemetery of Untold Stories*  
- Julia Alvarez  
*The Familiar* - Leigh Bardugo  
*The Princess of Las Vegas*  
- Chris Bohjalian  
*I Cheerfully Refuse* - Leif Enger  
*James* - Percival Everett  
*A Newlywed's Guide to Fortune and Murder* - Dianne Freeman  
*All Your Perfect* - Colleen Hoover  
*Maybe Someday* - Colleen Hoover  
*Maybe Not* - Colleen Hoover  
*Maybe Now* - Colleen Hoover  
*Heart Bones* - Colleen Hoover  
*Close To Death* - Anthony Horowitz  
*How to Solve Your Own Murder*  
- Kristen Perrin  
*The Morningside* - Tea Obreht  
*Murder in an Irish Village*  
- Carlene O'Connor  
*Early Warning* - Jane Smiley  
*Iron Flame* - Rebecca Yarros

### Non-Fiction

*Demon of Unrest* - Erik Larson  
*Mending Life*  
- Nina and Sonya Montenegro  
*Knife* - Salman Rushdie

## Tinmouth Plant Sale

It's spring and warmer weather is coming. And, so is the Tinmouth Plant Sale! This non-profit sale benefits the community.

Volunteers are needed to help dig, pot, move plants and set up. If you have plants to donate, please let us know what they are. Knowing the color and variety is important; people won't buy a daylily that they think might be the common roadside orange, for example. If you don't know the name of the variety, a description is good; a photograph is superb.

This is a wonderful way to divide your plants to keep them looking their best and help fund the Tinmouth Continuing Education Scholarship Fund. You can drop plants after April 12 at 148 Channel Road, Tinmouth.

We can always use flowerpots that are 6" or larger, clay or plastic. No small ones, please; the plants we sell are too robust to fit into those.

Volunteering is a great chance to "blossom blab" with fellow gardeners, and maybe learn a few things about different perennials. There are always some orphan plants looking for good homes, too.

We dig and pot up plants from mid-April to early May **with the sale beginning this year May 11 and running through May 19. Please note that due to late snow and much rain the sale dates have changed.** Plants will be 50% off on the last day of the sale, now May 19. The Squier Family Farm at 12 McNamara Road will be hosting the event again.

We'd love to see you. Please email Tracy (tracyleab@gmail.com) if you might be interested in helping/donating plants and let us know if you'd like to be added to the email list of volunteers for updates.

## 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!**

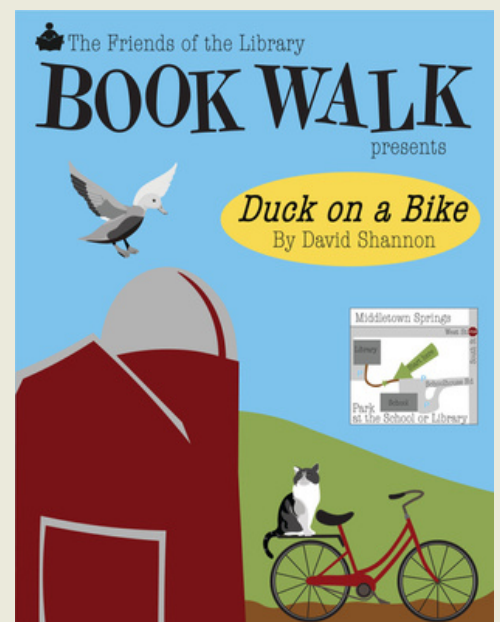
What books do you want to read that you wish the library had?

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 [middletownspringslibrary@gmail.com](mailto:middletownspringslibrary@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!



## CALENDAR OF REGULAR MEETINGS

Regular Meetings	Time	Location	Contact
Conservation Comission	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	2nd 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 Comission	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](mailto: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](mailto: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.