

middleTOWN NEWSletter



You don't need to donate to "shop". Stop by the library to peruse our selection of great cookbooks looking for new homes.

A solid black silhouette of a crow or raven, shown in profile facing left. The bird is standing on its two feet, with its wings slightly tucked and its tail feathers visible. The entire image is set against a plain white background.

November Craft Night

This month, due to Veteran's Day, Craft Night will be held on the **first Monday of the month**. Mark your calendars for **November 4 at 6:30pm!**

Join us for Library Craft Night! Bring whatever you are working on, (knitting, crochet, needlework, rug hooking, really 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, November 4, 6:30pm-8pm**. Hope to see you there!

Bedtime Stories at the Library

Join us on **Friday, December 13 at 7pm** for another Bedtime Stories event at the library. 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.

Intended for ages 3-8, but anyone who enjoys a good bedtime story is welcome. Refreshments are a take home snack to be enjoyed later, or even in the morning :-)


Conversation * Kindness * Cookies

Death Cafe

Thursday, November 14
6:30-8pm
Middletown Springs Library

Join us for open conversation
about all aspects of
death, dying, and living.

Limited Seating
Contact library to sign up



Holiday Hours

The Library will be closed **November 27 and 28** in observance of the Thanksgiving Holiday

The Town Office will be closed on **November 28 & November 29** in observance of the Thanksgiving Holiday



Take a walk on the

BOOK WALK


Currently presenting:

*The Witch's Cat
and the
Cooking Catastrophe*

Written By Kirstie Watson
Illustrated By Magdalena Sawko



The Friends of the Library Book Walk is a short walk between the Middletown Springs library and elementary school. The Book Walk is not just for kids, the Book Walk is for everyone.



Library Book Group

The November Book is *Firekeeper's Daughter* by Angeline Boulley.

The discussion will be held **December 5 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

Property Tax Payment Reminder

Payment for the 2nd installment of property taxes is due **on or before Monday, December 16, 2024.**

Payments should be mailed to PO Box 1022 or deposited in the black drop box on the South Street side of the town office to the left of the entrance door.

Checks or exact cash is acceptable.

Please ensure your tax payments are postmarked and/or submitted on or before 12/16/2024. Payments deposited after 12/16 or postmarked from 12/17/24 on will be considered late and will generate monthly interest until paid.

Mark your calendars now and be mindful of weather challenges.

Thank you.
Jenny Talke Munyak
Town Treasurer

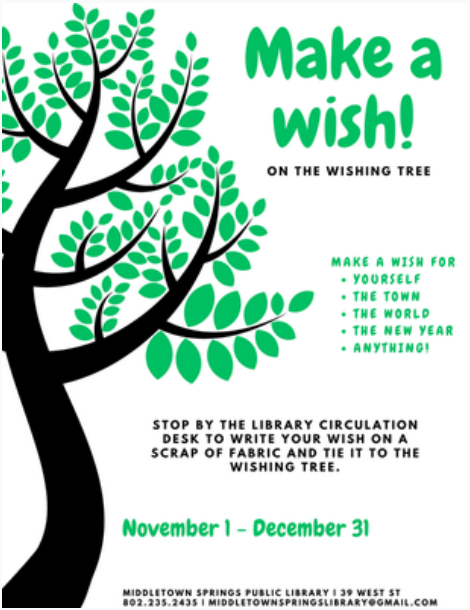
Wishes for the New Year

Stop by the library, between now and the end of the year, to make a wish!

We have fabric strips at the circulation desk to write on and they will be added to our Wishing Tree in front of the library.

What kind of wishes? Perhaps one for yourself, or our town, or the world.

They will flutter in the wind and fill our town with positive, good wishes.



Save These Dates!

Cook Book Swap

November 1 - November 16

Wishing Tree

November 1 - December 31

Daylight Savings Time Ends

November 3

Craft Night

November 4

Election Day

November 5

Veteran's Day

November 11

10 Minute Plays

November 8-9

November 15-16

Death Cafe

November 14

Spaghetti Dinner

November 15

Friends of the Library Annual Meeting

November 21

Thanksgiving

November 28

Book Group

December 5

December Craft Night

December 9

Bedtime Stories

December 13

Taxes Due

December 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

Have You Voted?

The General Election is Tuesday, November 5!

If you were registered to vote on 9/9/2024, you should have received an absentee ballot in the mail. **At this point it's too late to mail your ballot back.** Please return your ballots by using the Ballot Drop-box at the town office or walk it into the clerk's office.

Plan to vote in person? Please bring your ballot with you! If you don't want to vote the ballot mailed to you, you can turn it in for a replacement, but **if you do not bring your issued ballot to the polls, you will be required to sign an Affidavit of No Ballot Cast.**

Still need to register? In Vermont you can register to vote up to and including on election day.

Registrations can be completed online at <https://olvr.vermont.gov/>, at the town office or the library.

Please note, election day registrations can only take place at your local polling place.

Not sure if you are registered? You can check the status of your ballot or voter registration status at any time by visiting My Voter Page <https://mvp.vermont.gov/>. There you will also find the 2024 General Election online voter guide which includes general information as well as information specific to your ballot.

Please reach out with any questions. We're here to help ensure you can have your voice heard.

Thank you for Voting!
Patty Kenyon
Town Clerk

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

New at the Library

Picture Books

What is Poop? - Marta Alvarez Miguens

Adult Graphic Novels

Kindred - Damian Duffy & John Jennings
(Adapted from Octavia Butler)

Adult Fiction

Everyone in my Family has Killed Someone
- Benjamin Stevenson

If I Were You - Cesca Major

The Night We Lost Him - Laura Dave

A Grim Reaper's Guide to Catching a Killer
-Maxie Dara

Counting Miracles - Nicholas Sparks

Tell Me Everything - Elizabeth Strout

Intermezzo - Sally Rooney

The God of the Woods - Liz Moore

A Grave in the Woods - Martin Walker

The Midnight Feast - Lucy Foley

The Last Murder at the End of the World
-Stuart Turton

Kindred - Octavia Butler

Stars of Fortune - Nora Roberts

The Gray Wolf - Louise Penny

Adult Non-Fiction

Book and Dagger - Elyse Graham

Tit's Up - Sarah Thornton

Nexus - Yuval Noah Harari

You Could Make This Place Beautiful
-Maggie Smith

Organizing Solutions for People with Attention Deficit Disorder

-Susan C. Pinsky

Knitting Beyond the Edge - Nicky Epstein

How to Catch a Mole - Marc Hammer

Happy
Thanksgiving

Friends of the Library Annual Meeting

You are invited by the Friends of the Middletown Springs Public Library to attend our **Annual Meeting on Thursday, November 21, 2024 at the Green Mountain Timber Frames Reuben Wait Barn**. The evening will commence with a potluck dinner at 6:00 PM, followed by the business meeting at 7:00 PM. Friends of the Library (FOL) members and the Middletown Springs community are encouraged to attend and share your thoughts! During the meeting, we will review our achievements in 2024 and outline our plans to support the library in 2025. FOL Members will also be voting on this year's board members. The list of board candidates is listed below.

Please bring a dish to share for the potluck and BYO drinks. Tea, coffee and water will be provided. RSVP's are appreciated to sara@greenmountaintimberframes.com. We look forward to seeing you there!

What is the Friends of the Middletown Springs Public Library?

The purpose of the FOL is to maintain a membership of persons interested in supporting the Middletown Springs Public Library. We strive to stimulate the use of the library's resources and services and to aid the Library Board of Trustees and the Librarian in their efforts to make Middletown Springs Public Library a vital community resource. The organization is exclusively for charitable and educational purposes under section 501 (c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Service code, or corresponding section of any future federal tax code. FOL receives and encourages gifts, endowments and bequests to the library and raises funds for projects, facilities and equipment that are beyond the scope of the town budget for the library.

2025 FOL Board Candidates


President: Ashley Fioretti
Vice President: Wendy Herrick
Treasurer: Juanita Burch-Clay
Recording Secretary: Shirley Oskamp
Membership Secretary: Sara Young
At- Large Members: Jeanne Arsenault, Holly Cronin, Claudia Gonda, and Leslie Silver

FFE's Fall Citrus Fundraiser

The Friends For Education (FFE) is once again sponsoring a Fall Citrus Fundraiser to benefit student activities.

Materials will come home with students soon or you can order online at: <https://shop.floridaindianrivergroves.com/ecommerce/1025877>.

Orders are shipped directly to you from Florida, providing a fresh, healthy, and sweet gift for the holiday season for anyone on your list. **Orders close on 12/6/24.**



ARE YOU REGISTERED TO VOTE?

- VERMONT IS ONE OF 22 STATES TO OFFER ELECTION DAY REGISTRATION.
- **WHY WAIT?** ASK THE LIBRARIAN FOR HELP & THE TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE IS RIGHT ACROSS THE HALL!
- LIVE IN CHELSEA BUT NOT REGISTERED TO VOTE IN CHELSEA? **UPDATE YOUR REGISTRATION TODAY!**
- IN VERMONT INCARCERATED OR FORMERLY INCARCERATED PEOPLE RETAIN THEIR RIGHT TO VOTE. EXERCISE YOUR RIGHT!

ELECTION DAY IS TUESDAY NOV. 5TH.

AND AS A REGISTERED VOTER YOU CAN VOTE AT TOWN MEETING DAY!
PRIMARIES! MIDTERMS!
THERE IS NO END TO THE FUN OF VOTING!

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.

Pun of the Month

My housemate thinks our house is haunted but I've lived here for 500 years and haven't noticed anything.

Stressed Out? Enjoy Peace and Tranquility in Sullivan Woods

A friendly reminder to all neighbors that our 14-acre town forest, Sullivan Woods, is a place that everyone is welcome to come explore and enjoy!

Bring your thermos of tea and simply sit in quiet reflection on one of the handmade benches. Or hike the trail at your own pace. Either way, nature's many benefits are yours for the taking.

What benefits, you ask? According to the Mayo Clinic, in addition to alleviating stress, nature may help you manage emotions like loneliness, irritability and possibly even road rage! Nature exposure is also associated with better cognitive function — like memory, attention, creativity, and sleep quality.

To get there: turn off East Street onto Fitzgerald, continue for approximately one mile until you see a large white sign on your left, "Sullivan Educational Woods".

Enjoy!

Award Winning Turnip Grown Locally



A judge at the Gilfeather Turnip Festival in Wardsboro, Vt., on Oct. 27 hoists a 33 lb. award-winning Gilfeather turnip grown by David Wright of Middletown Springs named “Gilfeather’s Champ” after its resemblance to the elusive Lake Champlain Monster.

The annual festival and celebration honors farmer John Gilfeather (1865-1944) the developer of the tasty root delicacy in the 1880s. The Gilfeather turnip was declared the Vermont State Vegetable by the Legislature in 2016 after a two-year lobbying effort by Wardsboro Elementary School 5th & 6th graders.

<https://happyvermont.com/2021/10/18/the-roots-of-the-gilfeather-turnip/>

FFE B-I-N-G-O Night

Join us for Bingo Night at the Elementary School, on Friday, November 1.

Doors open at 5pm! Games begin at 6pm!
Booklets of 10 for \$10, additional booklets for \$7

7 regular games \$25 prize
2 special games \$50 prize
Coverall \$200 prize

Refreshments and a 50/50 raffle available!

All proceeds benefit the Friends For Education (FFE) and their support of students activities.

Spaghetti Dinner

Come on out to Middletown Springs Elementary School on **Friday November 15**, 5pm-7pm to support our annual spaghetti dinner fundraiser!

You will be served a hot, homemade serving of spaghetti, meatballs, salad, garlic bread and a beverage by our own fifth and sixth grade students!

Take out option is also available. Cost is \$10.00 per plate, and all proceeds go to the sixth grade class to help fund their end of school year trip.

Thank you all for your continued support. Call for takeout or questions at: 802-855-5155



Theater in the Woods Vermont's 10-Minute Plays

Eight plays written by area writers - and one from Chicago - and dynamically read by our community's actors form the centerpiece of four nights of delicious food and entertainment at **Stone Valley Arts in Poultney, 145 East Main Street, Friday November 8, Saturday November 9 and Friday November 15 and Saturday November 16.**

The included dinner is served from 5:30-6:45; plays begin at 7:00 pm.

Four plays geared toward adults are presented each night after a delectable harvest dinner — one set of four November 8-9, with the other set November 15-16. The plays are skillfully directed by Meg Bouchard, one by Melissa Chesnut-Tangerman. If you want to see all eight over the two weekends, a discount is offered for two night's tickets.

“This event is committed to supporting the writers’ work,” says director Meg Bouchard. “They witness what happens with their words in the directorial process as the actors find the truth, the humor, the pathos and the humanity of their characters. It’s truly a community experience — audiences love being part of the process as well, in the opportunity to give feedback after the readings.”

For a \$25 ticket enjoy a scrumptious fall dinner of soups, salads and sides served from 5:30- 6:45, and an evening of four plays presented in workshop; a talk-back with writers and actors follows. \$40 for two nights.

Reservations at www.theaterinthewoodsvt.org/ten-minute-plays/; please plan to pay at the door.

Theater in the Woods’ fundraiser benefits the scholarship fund and operations of its summer camps in Middletown Springs for children ages 7-16. Theater in the Woods Camp was founded in 2016; its five directors are Megan Bouchard, Melissa Chesnut-Tangerman, Live Lane, Rainbow Squier, and Wheaton Squier. The camps serve 78 kids from Rutland and Bennington counties with an individualized approach to creating and strengthening community through theater.

Celebrate community theater and support Theater in the Woods camp at the same time!

10-Minute Plays Schedule

November 8 & 9 authors and plays

Karina Jutzi
The Love Language of Lions

Jon Mathewson
Pizza Love

Chip Stevens
Huh.

Martin VanBuren III
Seven Minutes

November 15&16 authors and plays

Herb Childress
Nine Lives

Allison Fradkin
Heard Mentality

Scott Holliman
Real Practice

Ruth Liberman
Dinner

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

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

*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 \$7 a year to cover postage.