

OCTOBER 2024

middleTOWN NEWSletter

Exciting News from the Library

The Library Board of Trustees is thrilled to announce that we have been awarded a grant from the US Treasury Capital Projects Fund for Libraries through the Vermont Department of Libraries.

This \$1.2 million dollar zero-match grant will be used to renovate the former St. Anne church building on West St, just two doors down from our current location. The building itself is being purchased by anonymous donors.

A *huge* thanks to all who have worked to make this all possible. We look forward to providing updates as this project progresses.



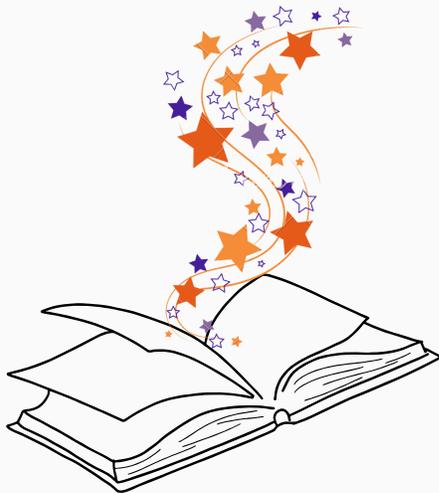
Bedtime Stories at the Library

Join us on **October 18, at 6:30pm** for bedtime stories at the library.

Claire Ericksen will read a few, specially selected, picture books that your little ones are sure to love!

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 0-5, but anyone who enjoys a good bedtime story is welcome.



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Got News?

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

05757news@gmail.com

Banner photo by Patty Kenyon

October and November Craft Night Changes

For the next two months, due to federal holidays, Craft Night will be held on the **first Monday of the month**. We will also be meeting a half hour later. **Mark your calendars for October 7 and 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, October 7, 6:30pm-8pm**. Hope to see you there!

Cookbook Swap

Refresh your cookbook shelf at the Library's Cookbook Swap!

Starting on November 1, the Library will have a shelf full of cookbooks looking for new homes!

Donate your gently used cookbooks during the swap! No need to bring them to us beforehand (though we will not turn them away).

The swap will be up from **November 1 to November 16** to give you plenty of time to shop and donate!

Book-and-Treat

On Halloween night, the library will be handing out books and treats for trick-or-treaters!

Stop by the library on your trip around town on between 5pm-7pm.

Enter from the back up the rear stairs and exit out the main door for a one-way traffic flow.

We can't wait to see all your ghosts and goblins!



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 Book Group

The October Book is *Rough Sleepers* by Tracy Kidder.

The discussion will be held **October 24 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

Large Dumpster Day

The FALL version of 'Large Dumpster Day' is here! The event will be held on **Saturday, October 5, 2024 from 7am-12pm at 577 West Street**, (opposite Parker Water Wells).

Please note the revised starting time of 7am which reflects the later sunrise at this time of year.

Middletown Springs residents may discard large unused or unwanted items such as furniture, mattresses, children's toys, and small amounts of construction/demolition debris that do not qualify as normal household trash (**no contractors please**).

The charge per vehicle OR trailer load is \$10.00; truck and trailer loads are \$10.00 each (or \$20.00). Metal-only loads may be disposed of for free.

Please note: in the interest of staff safety and efficiency, all small items must be in contractor bags or some form of disposable container as much as reasonably possible. This will aid the working staff in the efficiency of the unloading process and create a safer work environment as well. Non-conforming loads may be turned away at the Staff's discretion.

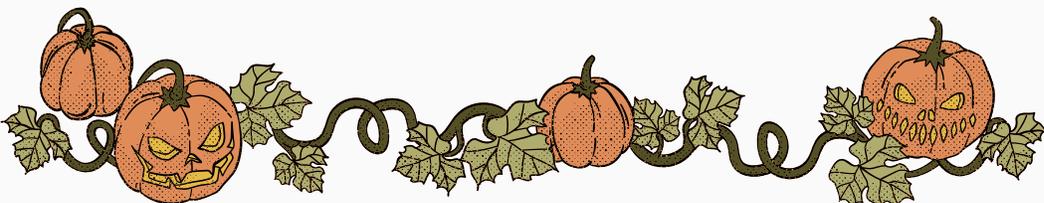
Regular household trash and recyclable items, including electronics, must be taken to the Fort Dumpster facility. Items containing refrigerant (freezers, refrigerators, air conditioners, dehumidifiers, and the like) are subject to a \$25.00 fee per item and will be accepted at the Fort Dumpster site during this event only.

Hazardous materials such as paints, oils, propane tanks, other solvents and the like are not accepted. Tires are not accepted. Metal items may be disposed of at no charge.

The work crew would greatly appreciate that mixed loads be separated as much as possible in order to simplify the unloading process.

Please bring exact change or a personal check in the correct amount (payable to the Town of Middletown Springs) and remain in your vehicle unless instructed otherwise.

The Town of Middletown Springs shall NOT be responsible for any damages that may occur during the loading or unloading process.



Save These Dates!

Large Dumpster Day

October 5

Historical Society Photography Event

October 6

Craft Night

October 7

Indigenous People's Day

(Library & Town Office Closed)

October 14

Bedtime Stories

October 18

Book Group

October 24

Halloween at the Library

October 31

Cook Book Swap

November 1 - November 16

Craft Night

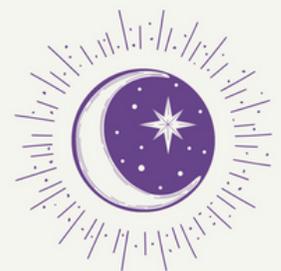
November 4

Election Day

November 5

Veteran's Day

November 11



BEDTIME STORIES

AT THE MIDDLETOWN SPRINGS LIBRARY

FRIDAY OCTOBER 18 | 6:30PM

INTENDED FOR AGES 0-5
BUT ALL AGES ARE WELCOME!

WEAR YOUR PJS
BRING YOUR FAVORITE STUFFED ANIMAL
GET COZY!

MIDDLETOWN SPRINGS PUBLIC LIBRARY | 39 WEST ST |
802.235.2435 | MIDDLETOWNSPRINGSLIBRARY@GMAIL.COM

General Election Ballot Information

Did you receive your General Election Ballot?

November 5 is right around the corner! The Secretary of State's Office of Vermont has mailed absentee ballots to all active registered voters who were in their system on September 9, 2024.

If you were registered to vote by 9/9, you should have received an absentee ballot in the mail. If you believe you should have received a ballot but have not, please reach out to the clerk's office as soon as possible.

Newly registered voters (9/9/24 to 9/27/24) have also been mailed ballots directly from the town clerk's office and any new registrants after 9/27/24 will receive a mailed ballot from the town clerk's office.

You may return your ballot by mail, postage paid, use the drop-box at the Town Office or walk it into the clerk's office. You can also vote in person on or before election day at the town office.

Please note: you are not required to use the mailed ballot, but if you plan to vote in person, we ask that you bring your ballot with you. If you do not bring your issued ballot to the polls, you will be required to sign an Affidavit of No Ballot Cast.

What is an Affidavit of No Ballot Cast? This form is for a voter to swear, under penalty of perjury, that they have not cast the previously issued ballot.

A note about voters transferring from one VT town to another, if you transfer after 9/9/2024, a ballot was mailed to you at your former address. To receive a ballot for Middletown Springs, the clerk must confirm your mailed ballot has not been voted, and you will need to sign an Affidavit of No Ballot Cast. Please reach out to the town clerk to confirm your status and request a Middletown Springs ballot as soon as possible.

Are you interested in registering to vote? 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 town 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 at <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.
802-235-2220 | middletown@vermontel.net |
The town office is closed all federal holidays

New at the Library

Picture Books

Bodies Are Cool - Tyler Feder

Adult Fiction

The Bright Sword - Lev Grossman

The Life Impossible - Matt Haig

Somewhere Beyond the Sea - TJ Klune

Here One Moment - Laine Moriarty

We Solve Murders - Richard Osman

By Any Other Name - Jodi Picoult

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



Museum Open House Features Emmett Francois on the Evolution of Photography

At the Middletown Springs Historical Society's Museum Open House, **Sunday, October 6, 2pm-4pm**, guest speaker Emmett Francois will give a slide presentation titled "How Photography Evolved in the Darkroom and Beyond".

This year's Museum Open House program focuses on early photography, one of the key subjects in the current exhibit, Dana S. Carpenter (1863-1940): A Man for All Seasons. Carpenter was the village photographer who documented people and places in Middletown Springs at the turn of the 20th century using a glass-plate-negative camera. The MSHS museum collections includes dozens of examples of Carpenter's glass negatives and printed images. Today's "village photographer", Emmett Francois, will elaborate on the glass plate negative process and explain how photography changed rapidly from 1890 to the present. His talk, "How Photography Evolved in the Darkroom and Beyond", will reflect on his own experiences as a photographer which began in his father's darkroom.

In the early part of his career, Francois worked in the International Art Department of the *Reader's Digest* and later as a press photographer for the *Bergen Evening Record*. For over 35 years he taught photography at Fairleigh Dickinson University, the Ridgewood Community School, and at Green Mountain College. He was a Senior Photographic Officer in the U.S. Navy Reserve where he was recognized for bringing the U.S. Navy into the world of digital imaging. In his photographic business of 19 years, he served Fortune 500 companies both nationally and internationally.

The open house is free. Refreshments will be provided before the presentation, and a short gallery talk about the Dana Carpenter exhibit will be held after.

In addition to this year's program and gallery talk, visitors can view the museum's other exhibits, including the exhibit on Dana Carpenter, the Middletown Springs History Timeline, and the history panels in the Mineral Springs Park.



Photo provided by Emmett Francois

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

**If you don't pay your
exorcist, do you get
repossessed?**



Town Gathering 2024

Photos by Thomas Slatin visit <https://www.TomSlatin.com/> for more



Vermont Online Library

Did you know that The Vermont Online Library provides free access to hundreds of online resources to Vermonters of all ages?

Some of the resources offered include:

- Legal Forms
- Culinary Arts
- Home Improvement
- Insurance & Liability Information
- Reference eBooks
- Vehicle Repair & Maintenance
- Gardening
- Test Prep & Career Planning
- Online Courses through UdeMy
- and so much more!

[Click here to access the online library](#), or ask a librarian about it the next time you visit. We will be happy to get you started.



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!

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

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.