

OCTOBER 2025

# middleTOWN NEWSletter

Banner photo by Haley Kenyon



## Wonderfeet Pass Available at the Library

Explore with your kids!

Stop in at the library to borrow the family pass to the Wonderfeet Kids' Museum! The pass gives free admission for up to five people.

The Friends of the Library have purchased the pass, for the 3rd year in a row, to encourage families to check out Rutland's own children's museum. Wonderfeet's mission is to foster curiosity and exploration, inspire creativity and ignite the imagination of every child through the power of play.

More information - <https://www.wonderfeetkidsmuseum.org/>. The Library's pass is available to residents of Middletown Springs on a first come, first served basis, for a three-day check-out.

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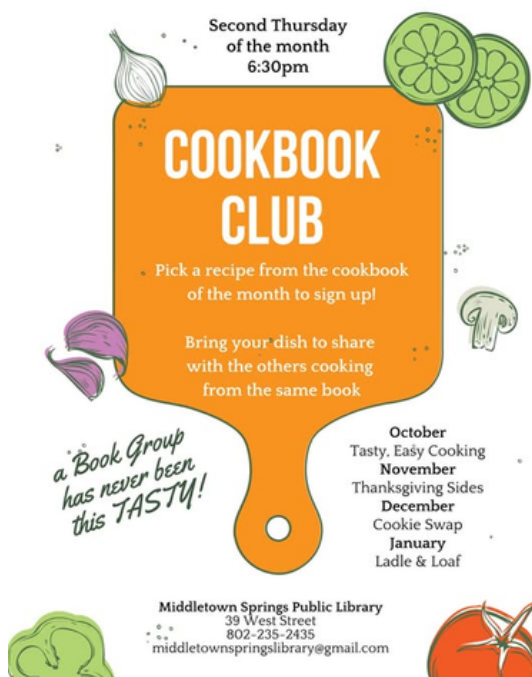
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## Got News?

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



## Cookbook Club

Join us for some or all, when each month we explore a different cookbook.

We will each make something from the same cookbook to share with the others. The cookbook will be available at the library. Stop in to select a recipe. We will photocopy it for you and add it to the menu.

On the second Thursday of the month, at 6:30pm, bring your dish to the library and share it with others who also cooked from the same certain cookbook. Delicious fun, good food, and culinary conversation.

October's Cookbook is: *What to Cook When You Don't Feel Like Cooking* (2024) by Caroline Chambers.

**The Instant New York Times, USA Today, And Indie Bestseller  
A Bon Appetit Best Cookbook of the Year  
A Food Network Best Cookbook of the Year  
National Post Best Cookbook of the Year**

Upcoming themes – books to be announced  
November – Thanksgiving Sides  
December – Cookie Swap  
January – Ladle & Loaf

## Save These Dates!

**Large Dumpster Day**  
October 4  
**GRCSU Community Forum**  
October 7  
**Cookbook Club**  
October 9  
**Sullivan Woods Walk**  
October 12  
**Indigenous Peoples' Day**  
(Library and Town Office Closed)  
October 13  
**Bedtime Stories**  
October 17  
**Cyanotype Class**  
October 18  
**Library Book Group**  
October 23  
**Family Read Aloud Club**  
October 25  
**Halloween**  
October 31  
**Book & Treat**  
October 31



## 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**

## Large Dumpster Day

The autumn version of 'Big Dumpster Day' is rapidly approaching, and we look forward to seeing many townsfolk on **Saturday, October 4, 2025**. The event will be held from **7:00am until 12pm** at 577 West Street location.

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.

**Special Notes:** Please note that 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, more streamlined 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 Fort Dumpster. Items containing refrigerant (freezers, refrigerators, air conditioners, dehumidifiers, etc.) are subject to a \$25.00 fee per item and will be accepted at either the West Street location or Fort Dumpster **during this event only**.

**Please note that hazardous materials such as paints, oils, propane tanks, other solvents and the like are not accepted. Tires are not accepted at this event.**

Metal items may be disposed of at no charge. The work crew would greatly appreciate mixed loads that are 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.**



## Sullivan Woods Walk

Join the Middletown Springs Conservation Commission and the Middletown Springs Public Library for a Halloween Walk in Sullivan Woods!

Get ready for an afternoon full of crafts, candies, spooky stories, and more!

Saturday, October 12, 2:00pm at 187 Fitzgerald Rd, Middletown Springs

Bring your family and friends for some Halloween fun — we can't wait to see you there!

Parking is on-street and limited, please considering parking at the town office and carpooling.

Hosted by the Middletown Springs Conservation Commission.







Fall Sunset over Middletown Springs. Photo by Emmett Francois

## Bedtime Stories

Join us once a month this fall and winter for an after dark storytime.

Wear your PJs, bring your favorite stuffed animal or whatever you need to get cozy and enjoy specially selected stories read by Claire Ericksen.

Stories start promptly at 7 and last about 30-45 minutes, so we can get you home at a reasonable hour. A take home treat will be provided.

The fall storytime schedule is as follows:

**Friday, October 17 at 7pm**

**Friday November 14 at 7pm**

**Friday December 12 at 7pm (Holiday stories!)**

More dates to follow.



## Halloween at the Library

On Halloween night, the library will be handing out books and treats! Stop by the library as you trick-or-treat 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!



### BEDTIME STORIES

AT THE MIDDLETOWN SPRINGS LIBRARY

FRIDAY OCTOBER 17

7PM

INTENDED FOR AGES 3-8  
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

## 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)

# A Note from the Town Treasurer

Thank you to all property owners that submitted tax payments on time for 9/15/25.

Those of you who submitted payments on 9/16/25 or later or did not make the 9/15/25 payment will receive late notices reminding you of the amount due, including a 1% late fee.

Late payments for Q1 with 1% interest will be good until 10/31/25. If payment is not made by then, more late fees will be charged.

Thank you,  
Jenny Talke Munyak  
[mtstreasurer@vermontel.net](mailto:mtstreasurer@vermontel.net)  
802-235-3256



# Fall Cyanotype Class

Join Sara Rodich of De la Luz Botanicals to make your own unique plant prints using the power of the sun.

In this class you will learn the basics of Cyanotype, one of the oldest photographic printing processes in the history of photography.

Every participant will create their own beautiful art to take home. All supplies will be provided but feel free to bring a rock, shell, piece of wood or natural fiber fabric to do a print on as well.

Saturday October 18 at 10am-12pm at the library, weather permitting.

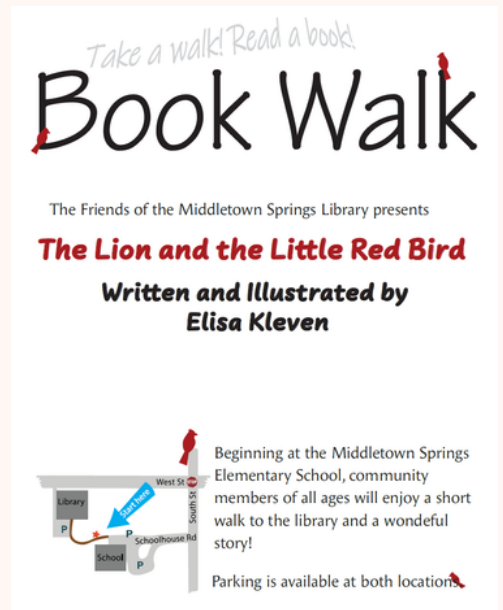
# Library Book Group

The October book is *Braiding Sweetgrass* by Robin Wall Kimmerer

The discussion will be held October 23 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.

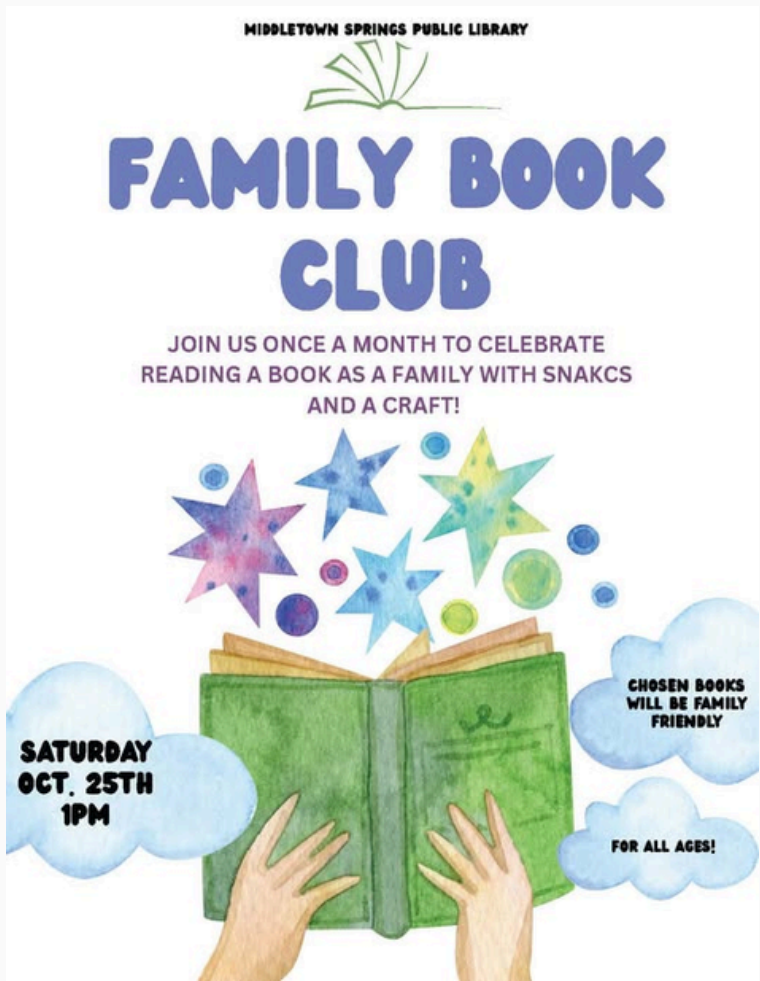
If you are interested or have questions, call or email the library, 802-235-2435 or [middletownspringslibrary@gmail.com](mailto:middletownspringslibrary@gmail.com)



# Family Book Club

Join us at the library once a month to celebrate reading a chapter book as a family! We will have themed snacks, a craft or two, and easy discussion about the book. Reading aloud as a family has many benefits, even once your children become independent readers! Connection, increased empathy, expanded vocabularies-the list goes on. And its fun!

All books chosen will be family friendly for all ages. The first book we will be reading is a winner of the Newbery Honor and Vermont Golden Dome Book Award- *Little Dog, Lost* by Marion Dane Bauer. Copies are available the library. We will meet Saturday October 25 at 1pm to celebrate!



# SWAC Household Hazardous Waste Disposal Event

October 4, 8:30am - 12:30pm  
**Held at the Fair Haven Transfer Station, Fair Haven Avenue, Fair Haven, VT.**

This event is FREE to residents of Middletown Springs. Proof of residency may be required. [For all the details click here.](#)



View from Spruce Knob Road.  
Photo by Clara Eden

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## Pun of the Month

I don't trust stairs.  
They're always up to something.



## Legislative Update from Chris Pritchard

For this update in the off session, I wanted to let you know some of the things I have been involved in throughout the summer.

I have attended many meetings from invitations I have received through my legislative e-mail. I have several more that I have committed to through October and November.

I have touched base with constituents. I have attended 22 meetings, some with local Selectboards, School Board Chairs, Town Clerks and 911 coordinators. I have also met with several folks in the district to help them with concerns they have brought to my attention and to try to find resolutions for them. Some of these folks I have not been able to help through a legislative pathway but I try to stay in contact with them. I have a list of all of these constituents that I can review in the event that a legislative path will open and create an opportunity that may help them.

There have been several folks that I have been able to help and resolve the problems and concerns they reached out to me for help with.

One in particular I was grateful to be a part of. I had only been in the legislature for a few weeks when I received a call from a constituent who had fallen prey to a scam and was facing a \$60,000 loss. This constituent had reached out to other sources trying to get help with this and was unable to obtain it; that's when she decided to reach out to me. Quite frankly, I had no idea what to do, how to go about it or if I could even help her, but I assured her I would try. I sought advice from several fellow legislators and ended up taking a trip to see Attorney General Charity Clark. It was Friday afternoon and AG Clark had left for the day but I was fortunate enough to catch Christopher Curtis the Assistant Attorney General and Director of the Consumer Assistance program. He immediately engaged with my constituent who I had on the phone and through his hard work over the next several weeks was able to make her and her husband and their small business whole again.

I am currently working on issues in the towns of Wells, Rupert, and Pawlet. One of these concerns was brought to my attention by the Pawlet Town Clerk, Deb Hawkins, regarding a fraudulent property sale scam that has surfaced in our district and across the state. I have been working with Deb on this and have reached out to Representative Sandy Pinsonault from Dorset, who is also a Town Clerk and sits on the Government Operations Committee. We are in the process of setting up a meeting so we can get a framework that Sandy and I can take to legislative counsel to have a bill drafted and submitted so there is an opportunity for this concern to be addressed by the legislature in the second half of the biennium.

I have also been active in my responsibilities with the Rutland County Delegation being active and attending various meetings. I attended a function that Peg TV sponsored in Rutland where Attorney General Charity Clark and Christopher Curtis attended and spoke about the scams that occur in the state and how to best deal with them. I was invited by Representatives Burditt and Bosch to attend a Town Hall meeting in West Rutland with Speaker of the House Jill Krowinski to share concerns with her and visit a housing project in West Rutland.

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## 2025 Reading Goal Update

**Kimberly**

91/52 books

**Favorite September Read:**

*The Cafe with No Name*

by Robert Seethaler

**Haley**

73/60 books

**Favorite September Read:**

*Hungerstone*

by Kat Dunn

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!



## Old Cemetery Stone Cleaning – October

There is no set schedule for October Cemetery cleaning days but, weather permitting we do plan to have a couple more workdays. Look for notices on Front Porch Forum, or sign up to get on the email list by sending your interest to the Town Clerk at [middletown@vermontel.net](mailto:middletown@vermontel.net)

Many thanks to all of you who helped cleaning stones and managing the records. We have made great progress, and we've learned a lot. Next summer we'll be back at it, hopefully with some repair projects.

I joined Senators Collamore, Weeks, and Williams in Randolph to meet with ANR Secretary Julie Moore and had the opportunity to share my concerns with Act 64 of 2015,(the 3 acre impervious rule), that I have been adamantly opposed to as it is presently written. I feel that this law has done great harm to Vermonters, small Vermont businesses and will continue to do so until it is repealed and repaired. Sadly, our committee chose not to do that with still the second half of the biennium left for us to work on and fix. Some small tweaks were made to ease some of the pain but I felt it only delayed the inevitable financial harm it will cause. H481 which became Act 37 was accepted and passed by the House and Senate and signed into law by the Governor. In the near future, this will affect Vermonters in the Connecticut River water shed and those Vermonters that find themselves on that list will experience the same harm that folks in the Lake Champlain watershed have had inflicted on them. I believe Vermonters want clean water and a healthy environment but there must be an equitable balance between achieving that outcome without forcing Vermont families and businesses to live beyond their means. Both Act 67 and Act 37 I feel they have clearly failed to achieve this.

I received an invitation from from Wells constituent Mary Nichols, who is the Executive Director at the Child First Advocacy Center and will be attending their Open House at the Howe Center in Rutland October 3rd .

I will be attending a health care meeting at the Rutland Hospital on October 13th. On October 17th I will attend an economic development meeting on act 250 and the 3 acre rule at the Hub in Rutland and later that morning, a forestry field trip ending at the Wood Pellet factory in Clarendon.


I will be at the Manchester Library on October 22nd for a meeting hosted by Representative Monique Priestley regarding data privacy and Artificial Intelligence (AI) concerns.


Lastly I wanted to let you know about the resource that is available to you for Act 73 (The Education Reform transformation) a task force is working through the summer on this and working on redistricting maps which will need to be completed by January if this is to continue to move forward. I am providing a link that will take you to the Homepage so that you can see scheduled meetings, view past meetings and there is a link on that page that will allow you to register to offer public input during meetings if you would like. <https://aoa.vermont.gov/school-district-redistricting-task-force>.

If there is anything you think I may be able to help you with please reach out to me. Thank you for the opportunity you have given me to serve you.

Chris  
[cpritchard@leg.state.vt.us](mailto:cpritchard@leg.state.vt.us)  
802-558-8918

**GRCSU - Community Forum / School Redistricting and Act 73**






Tuesday, October 7th from 6:00 – 7:30 PM

West Rutland School Library  
713 Main Street, West Rutland VT

Parents, caregivers, staff, and community members are invited to participate in a forum on school redistricting and Act 73. This event provides an opportunity to stay informed, engage in discussion, and contribute to shaping the future of education in Vermont.



Scan the code above to join the meeting remotely.

## GRCSU Community Forum

Parents, caregivers, staff, and community members are invited to participate in a forum on school redistricting and Act 73. This event provides an opportunity to stay informed, engage in discussion, and contribute to shaping the future of education in Vermont.

Tuesday, October 7. 6pm-7pm.  
West Rutland School Library  
713 Main St, West Rutland.

Remote options available.

## 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.



## 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     | Adams House | 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](mailto:05757news@gmail.com)  
 PO Box 1206  
 Middletown Springs, VT 05757

### Front Porch Forum

Join Front Porch Forum to know  
 what is happening between issues of  
 the middleTOWN NEWSletter.  
 It's free. It's local.

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