

EAST MIDDLEBURY COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

SPRING 2019

COMMUNITY PICNIC: SUNDAY, JUNE 2ND

Gather at noon, eat about 12:30. Burgers, hot dogs, rolls, drinks, cake, ice cream and table settings are provided. You are asked to bring a dish to share.

This year we will be honoring **Mike Mayone**, firefighter for over twenty-five years.

How You Can Help: Set up Saturday at 5pm. This takes about an hour.

Donate a door prize. There are also specific positions to be filled during the time of the picnic. To volunteer, please call Marilyn Barbato at 989-7667.

TOWNWIDE YARD SALE: Saturday, July 13th.

E.M. United Methodist Church: Once again the community is thanked for supporting the Women's Spring Soup and Bake Sale. Over \$900 was raised, much of which is passed back to the community. As a church, monthly food collections are sent to either HOPE or CVOEO; the Midd Summer Lunch program is supported; Fire District taxes were paid for two residents; a Mother's Day donation is made to Women's Safe; and funds are sent monthly to pay educational expenses for students in Uganda. A Ugandan sewing project is currently underway to turn tee shirts into cute dresses by adding skirts. On Easter Sunday the congregation was pleased to welcome the extended Kamfumbe family for a baptism and confirmation ceremony. Our tiny church hosted 17 African Americans which might set a record for a Vermont Church. We are pleased to support this cultural diversity.

THANKS IS EXTENDED TO: **Eric Murray** for providing the tent for the community picnic for the past few years. **Catherine Nichols** has wonderful daffodils blooming in the Community House front garden. **Valley Bible Church** continues to maintain the space around the welcome sign. **Ernest Laframboise** repaired the window sash cords in the Community House- a job which takes special skills.

E. M. Historical Society: Meetings have started again and we are immersed in a big project. Bruce and Deb Yelton read enough Colonial Humor that they qualified for a performance by Sam Wall, Colonial Comedian. This free event will take place on **Saturday, June 8th** at the Waybury Inn at 7:00 PM. Light Colonial era refreshments will be available for purchase. This is a premiere performance and it is anticipated that the whole evening's events will last about 90 minutes.

The Society's plan for the season is to have a one hour business meeting/program on the second Tuesday of the month in the Community House Parlor at 7:00 PM. An additional monthly "outing" will be held- the first being to Mud Pond off of Lower Plains Rd. This area provided various recreational opportunities for East Middlebury residents in years gone by. Do join in when you can.

SCHOLARSHIP: The Fire Dept. Scholarship application deadline is June 16th. This \$500 scholarship is awarded to a 2019 graduate who lives within the Fire District Boundaries. Apply to David Shaw, 92 Otter Creek Lane, Weybridge, VT 05753.

RIVER PROJECT: No visible progress has been made in cleaning up the worsening mess of downed trees in the river bed. Before work can begin, there will probably have to be a bond issue vote by the Town of Middlebury. Please stay alert to information and be prepared to vote. Another Irene flood is probably inevitable sooner rather than later and the current status of the river puts our whole village in danger.

This season has been difficult concerning groundwater in basements. Many residents have had sump pumps working long hours to send the water on its way. The path of the groundwater remains a mystery. Sometimes you have problems with it and sometimes you don't. Best to stay tuned to what is happening in the lower levels of your home.

GONE BUT NOT FORGOTTEN: The old apple tree on the corner of the Methodist Church property has been removed. This tree had been planted in memory of Mildred Goodro.

GREAT NEWS: Chet Bodette, our neighbor who got lost for 9.5 hours last fall, is doing very well. He celebrated his 92nd birthday in March.

A BIT OF HISTORY: Circa 1950's Cone's Self-Serve Market was opened on Ossee (spelling at the time) Rd. by the man known to us newcomers as Grandpa Cone. The running of the market passed to his son, Earl. In the early 1960's Guy Betourney purchased the store and did a thriving meat processing business as well as providing local groceries for those of us who did not have second cars for trips to town. Ownership passed to Rose Gale and then to Mary Frazier who introduced more prepared food. Most recently the store has gone thru another transition. Paul Dow, an E. Middlebury native, has revamped the inside away from groceries and to a restaurant/take out named **Paul's Deli & BarBQ**. We hope you will give this new venture a try.

SARAH PARTRIDGE LIBRARY: At the April BLT's book club meeting, Sue Halpern was the guest. She related real life experiences she and her husband, Ron McKibben, had starting a new library in upstate NY. This effort served as the impetus for writing her new novel titled *Summer Hours at the Robbers Library*. The book selected for the May meeting is *The Rosie Project*. The children's summer reading program will take place on Thursday afternoons in June and July. **NEW:** A Toddlers' program has started for young preschoolers . Activities, stories, and songs are offered on Thursday afternoons from 4-4:30. Soon it will be possible to check out outdoor play equipment that can be used on the Community House Property.

A BIT OF EAST MIDDLEBURY HISTORY FROM 1957

ZONING May 21 and June 11

The Zoning Committee gave the matter careful study of zoning as it has worked out in other places, and also the laws on the subject now in force in Vermont.

With the aid of legal counsel a sample ordinance for the Fire District was drawn up and the ordinance was published in the county newspaper and printed copies of the ordinance were posted in public places and sent to the residents of the District, and after the required time of publication a public meeting was held at the Fire Station on the evening of May 21, 1957. This meeting was well attended and with the moderator Mr. Ernest Dahlin as presiding officer a full and free discussion was held in which many took part to give the matter full consideration.

A meeting of the voters of the District was called for Tuesday evening June 11, 1957. Under the supervision of Leslie E. Day and Richard L. Perry the polls were open from 7.00 o'clock to 8.30 PM. There were 79 votes cast of which 24 were in favor of the Zoning Ordinance and 55 were opposed, so the Zoning Ordinance was declared lost. (By R.M. Black, clerk of Fire District No. 1 of Middlebury)

THE WEEK March 2, 2018 The Global Water Crisis

Day Zero was the designation given to July 9, 2018 when Cape Town, South Africa was expected to run out of water. Before this date the residents were restricted to 50 liters of water/day (Americans use about 370 liters/day). If Day Zero arrived, citizens would receive 25 liters of water/day, which could be collected from just one of 20 stations around the city. Each station would be serving 20,000 people and would be guarded by armed soldiers and police too prevent unrest and violence. It was felt the situation could lead to anarchy. (Fortunately Day Zero did not arrive.)

Where rivers and aquifers cross national boundaries there is no clear owner of the water. Ethiopia is completing a \$4.2 billion dam project which will reduce the water flowing through Egypt (2,000 miles downstream) by 25%. These situations become flash points for conflict. "Many believe water will become the oil of the 21st century, driving major geopolitical decisions and creating a dividing line between those who have it and those who don't."

Alleviation strategies for water shortages: fix leaky pipes which account for 40% of lost water in cities; cover reservoirs with plastic balls and covers which prevents evaporation and saves 1 billion gallons/year in Los Angeles alone; have agriculture use treated wastewater instead of groundwater; desalination plants are effective but very costly.

PRUDENTIAL COMMITTEE: Jason Larocque, chair; Todd Desabrais and Jen Murray, members; Alan Shashok, clerk; Sally Laframboise, Treasurer; Eli Erwin and Justin Allen, water system operators; Henry Haskell, custodian; Peggy Peabody, newsletter editor; Alice Chaffee, scheduler for Community House; Mona Rogers, librarian; Email-water05740@gmail.com; Phone 388-7588. The regular monthly meeting is held on the second Thursday of the month at 7:00 PM at the Community House.