

# TALES OF TINMOUTH

December 2016  
Vol. 30 Number 9

Tinmouth  
Vermont

**Editors' Notes:** The cutoff date for submissions is the 20<sup>th</sup> of the month, for publication on the 1<sup>st</sup> of the following month. Please email your information to *Tales of Tinmouth* (tinmouthtales@gmail.com) or drop it off at the Town Office. Any submissions missing the cutoff date will be included in the following month.

This is the time of the year to remind those who enjoy receiving *Tales of Tinmouth* that we depend on your financial generosity to fund the printing and mailing of the monthly newsletter. Please contact volunteers Pat Psholka, Sherry Johnson or Helen Mango or drop by the Town office for details. Thank you for your support. At this time we would also like to ask those who do not wish to continue receiving *Tales* to let us know. We will be revising the mailing list soon.

*Pat Psholka, Helen Mango, Sherry Johnson*

## **Tinmouth Community Christmas Food Baskets**

**Food Drive ~ Saturday, December 17<sup>th</sup>**

**8:00 AM until Noon**

**in the basement of the Tinmouth Community Church**

These items will be used to fill 22 food baskets for less fortunate families in town, who really appreciate your generosity. Or you can drop them off at the Town Office anytime between now and then. The Mill River Union High School National Honor Society is helping with this effort; they will be providing 15 turkeys and all the fixings (having organized food drives in all the schools in the district and done fund raising to purchase turkeys). We will then add to those baskets with more food and other items and fill another seven.

***Non-Perishable Food Items*** such as peanut butter, jelly/jam, applesauce, pineapple, oatmeal, cereal, flour, sugar, oil, soup, pasta, spaghetti sauce, juice, boxed cake mixes, stuffing, tuna fish, crackers, rice, mac and cheese, beans

***Household Items*** such as laundry detergent, dish soap, hand soap, shampoo, facial tissue, toothbrushes, toothpaste, toilet paper

***Pet Food*** such as canned cat food, canned dog food, small bag dry dog food, small bag dry cat food, dog or cat treats

Also needed are *monetary donations* to help cover the costs of perishable items such as meat, milk, juice, eggs, produce, fruit, bread. Tax-deductible contributions can be made to the Roy and Anne Wilbur Fund (which is under the umbrella of the Tinmouth Community Church), and left at the town office or mailed to 515 North End Rd, Tinmouth, VT 05773.

A note to the many gifted Tinmouth Bakers – baked goods can be dropped off at the Tinmouth Church on Wednesday morning the 21<sup>st</sup>.

*Thank you for your kind generosity . . .*

*Joyous Holidays to All!*



~Christmas Baskets~

The Roy & Anne Wilbur Fund, under the umbrella of the Tinmouth Community Church, helps folks with heat, lights, groceries, etc. It also helps provide **Christmas Baskets** to folks in town. Donations of non-perishable food and other items (soap, laundry detergent, shampoo, paper products-toilet paper, tissues, etc.) can be left at the town office. Your generosity and help is greatly appreciated.

If you, or someone you know, need(s) a basket, please call Gail at 446-2498. If you have a bounty of potatoes, onions, or squash from your garden, or fresh eggs, they are most welcome. **If you have an extra turkey or ham that you would like to donate that is welcome as well.**

**Fruit Baskets** are distributed to nearly 20 folks as well. **If you have a spare basket or two that will hold fruit enough for a couple of folks,** please leave them at the Town Office. *Thanks.*

There were **six Thanksgiving Baskets** delivered, thanks to the generosity of folks attending the Community Thanksgiving Service – they brought food for the collection, and others who donated money for turkeys and perishables and left food at the town office. They were very much appreciated.



**December 2016 Calendar of Events**

<b>Fire Dept</b>	<b>Thursday</b>	<b>1<sup>st</sup></b>	<b>7:00</b>	<b>Fire House</b>
<b>Library</b>	<b>Saturday</b>	<b>3<sup>rd</sup></b>	<b>9am - Noon</b>	<b>Library</b>
<b>School Advisory Committee</b>	<b>Monday</b>	<b>5<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>6:00</b>	<b>School/Comm. Ctr.</b>
<b>Planning Commission</b>	<b>Monday</b>	<b>5<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>7:30</b>	<b>Town Office</b>
<b>Select Board</b>	<b>Thursday</b>	<b>8<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>7:00</b>	<b>Town Office</b>
<b>Contra Dance</b>	<b>Friday</b>	<b>16<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>8:00</b>	<b>Community Center</b>
<b>Christmas Caroling</b>	<b>Sunday</b>	<b>18<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>6:00</b>	<b>Meet at the Church</b>
<b>Tales of Tinmouth Deadline</b>	<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>20<sup>th</sup></b>		
<b>Christmas Eve Service</b>	<b>Saturday</b>	<b>24<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>5:00</b>	<b>Church</b>
<b>Town Office</b>	<b>Saturday</b>	<b>24<sup>th</sup></b>		<b>CLOSED</b>
<b>Hanukkah</b>	<b>Sunday</b>	<b>25<sup>th</sup></b>		<b>Shalom</b>
<b>Christmas</b>	<b>Sunday</b>	<b>25<sup>th</sup></b>		<b>Peace</b>
<b>Kwanzaa</b>	<b>Monday</b>	<b>26<sup>th</sup></b>		<b>Peace</b>
<b>Town Office</b>	<b>Monday</b>	<b>26<sup>th</sup></b>		<b>CLOSED</b>



**January 2017 Calendar of Events**

<b>Fire Dept</b>	<b>Thursday</b>	<b>5<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>7:00</b>	<b>Fire House</b>
<b>Select Board</b>	<b>Thursday</b>	<b>12<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>7:00</b>	<b>Town Office</b>
<b>Tales of Tinmouth Deadline</b>	<b>Friday</b>	<b>20<sup>th</sup></b>		
<b>Contra Dance</b>	<b>Friday</b>	<b>20<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>8:00</b>	<b>Community Center</b>
<b>Article Petitions Due</b>	<b>Monday</b>	<b>23<sup>rd</sup></b>	<b>5:00</b>	<b>Town Office</b>
<b>THGS</b>	<b>Sunday</b>	<b>22<sup>nd</sup></b>	<b>2:00</b>	<b>Town Office</b>
<b>Planning Commission</b>	<b>Monday</b>	<b>23<sup>rd</sup></b>	<b>7:30</b>	<b>Town Office</b>
<b>Officer Petitions Due</b>	<b>Monday</b>	<b>30<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>5:00</b>	<b>Town Office</b>

**Sunday Church Service 9:00 AM ~ All are welcome!**

**Transfer Station hours are Wednesday 4:00 - 7:00 pm & Saturday 8:00 am - noon.**

**Library Hours ~ Monday 9:30-noon & 1-5 and Thursday 9:30-noon**

**Fun "non-competitive" Volleyball on Tuesday evenings at 7:00 pm.**

**Kripalu Yoga, Wednesday 5:30-7:00 pm \$10 per class Bess Lewis, Instructor, Community Center**

~ **Kudos and Condolences** ~

Get well wishes are sent to Steve Eaton, **Chris Schmelzenbach, Lisa Barrett, John Marro, Marianne Gagne, and Kathy Hepburn Halford.**

Heartfelt sympathies are sent to **Dan Allard Sr. and Dan Allard Jr. and family** for the recent loss of their granddaughter/daughter.

*Wanda the Good Witch*, has flown away from the porch of the old creamery. Many thanks to Alan Held for his exuberant creativity. A number of folks were spooked pulling into the town office parking lot as the wind blew her around.

Many thanks and kudos to everyone who worked on the Community Thanksgiving Service! It was wonderful ~ bell ringers, a violin player, choir singers, story reading, poetry, lots of music, lots of gratitude, and a wonderful meal followed. There were folks from Tinmouth, Danby, Middletown Springs, Castleton, and as far away as Connecticut! The Church was packed!



**Tinmouth Volunteer Fire Department Thank-You**

Our 47<sup>th</sup> Game Supper was a great success thanks to some very dedicated firefighters and lots of help from town folks.

We served nearly 500 customers, as feeding around 50 volunteers and sending some leftovers as well to the Open Door Mission in Rutland.

Thank you, thank you, thank you! It does take the whole Tinmouth Community to put on Vermont's largest game supper.

The Tinmouth Fire Department is all volunteer, folks willing to donate their time, working, training, being willing to give up a lot, to come help you. This includes personal and family time, work, just-drop-everything to come help.

The Fire Department over the years has made a huge difference to many of Tinmouth's people: Rescuing farmers from under machinery, loggers from under trees, prying injured people and children from car accidents, and of course fighting all the chimney fires at 3:00 in the morning that can easily transition into a house fire, and all the barn and house fires we have had down through the years.

As Chief, I would like to thank all the past and present firefighters who have been and are willing to donate their time. I invite you to consider joining us. There are many non-technical jobs, out of harm's way, that need to be done at an emergency.

We could use you to relieve a trained fire fighter, to be where he or she may be more needed. Give me a call 235-2718 or join our meeting held at the Fire House on the first Thursday of each month at 7:00. You are welcome.

Your support will keep it going for many more years.

Thank a fire fighter when you see them.

*Marshall Squier, Chief*

~ **Holiday Hours** ~

The Town Office will be CLOSED on Saturday, December 24<sup>th</sup> ~ Christmas Eve. The Town Office and Library will be CLOSED on Monday, December 26<sup>th</sup>, but will be OPEN on Monday, January 2<sup>nd</sup>.



~ **Winter Plowing** ~

As winter is quickly approaching, the Road Commissioner sends a reminder about plowing your driveway. It's actually against state law to plow across the town road. However, if you really, really, **absolutely** have

to plow across the town road, **please** make sure that you **clean the road really well.**

*Thank you for your cooperation!*



## **Permanent Hunting and Fishing Licensed Changes**

The Legislature and Vermont Department of Fish & Wildlife have changed the age eligibility for permanent licenses taking effect January 1, 2017.

A permanent license allows the holder to hunt and fish without purchasing additional licenses for the rest of their lifetime. Vermont's permanent license includes all regular season tags, including archery, muzzleloader, and turkey tags. An additional tag for second archery, moose and antlerless lotteries, and waterfowl stamps must be purchased separately. Permanent licenses must be renewed every year, free of charge.

Permanent licenses are different from lifetime licenses, which can be purchased at any age and are generally purchased for young children.

Until December 31, 2016, a permanent hunting and fishing license is available to Vermont residents aged 65 and older for a one-time fee of \$50. Starting January 1, the eligible age will be raised to 70 and the license will be free.

If you already have a permanent license this change will not affect you. You will retain your permanent license privileges. You will still need to renew your permanent license every year, which can be done free of charge online ([https://www.vtfwdsales.com/online/cid\\_entry.php](https://www.vtfwdsales.com/online/cid_entry.php)) or at a Fish & Wildlife Department district office ([http://vtfishandwildlife.hosted.civiclive.com/about\\_us/contact\\_fish\\_wildlife](http://vtfishandwildlife.hosted.civiclive.com/about_us/contact_fish_wildlife)). You can also renew your permanent license at any license agent (<https://anrweb.vt.gov/FWD/FW/LicenseAgents.aspx>) statewide for a nominal fee.

Hunters and anglers aged 65 to 68 who have purchased a regular hunting or combination or fishing license in 2016, and are eligible to purchase a 2016 Permanent License on or before midnight on December 31, 2016, should do so. Eligible current 2016 license holders can ONLY purchase a permanent license in person at a license agent or Fish & Wildlife Department district office. If you are eligible for a permanent license and have not purchased any 2016 licenses, you can purchase a permanent license in person at a license agent (<https://anrweb.vt.gov/FWD/FW/LicenseAgents.aspx>) or at a Fish & Wildlife Department district office

([http://vtfishandwildlife.hosted.civiclive.com/about\\_us/contact\\_fish\\_wildlife](http://vtfishandwildlife.hosted.civiclive.com/about_us/contact_fish_wildlife)) or go online.

Those without a permanent license who will turn 70 before the next hunting or fishing season should wait until their 70th birthday to pick up a 2017 permanent license, at which time it will be available to them for free.

**Hunting and Fishing Licenses are available at the Town Office.  
The town receives \$1.50 for each license sold!**

### **New Telephone and Business directory for 2017**

Please notify us at [tinmouthtales@gmail.com](mailto:tinmouthtales@gmail.com) of any corrections/additions/deletions for future publication.

### **~ Town Meeting 2017 ~**

Thinking about serving your community? Town Meeting will find voters choosing the following officers:

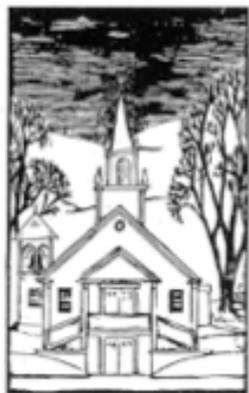
#### *2017 Officers to be elected:*

Moderator - Town - 1 year term  
Select Board Member - 3 year term  
Town Clerk - 3 year term  
Town Treasurer - 3 year term  
Lister - 3 year term  
Auditor - 3 year term  
1st Constable - 2 year term  
Town Agent - 1 yr term  
Grand Juror - 1 yr term  
Tax Collector (Delinquent) - 1 year term

Town Meeting is **Saturday, March 4<sup>th</sup>** this year. Public questions and budgets will be voted from the floor at the Community Center. Officers will be chosen on **Tuesday, March 7<sup>th</sup>** via Australian balloting, or you may cast an early/absentee ballot for that election.

If you wish to run for office, you must file a petition with the town clerk with **five** voter's signatures by 5:00 PM Monday, **January 30<sup>th</sup>**. Petitions are available at the town office. Candidates must also sign a consent form.

Petitions for Articles to be placed on the warning are due by 5:00 pm **Monday, January 23<sup>rd</sup>**. 5% of voters (21) must sign the petition. Voters must be registered to vote in Tinmouth.



TINMOUTH  
CHURCH

## Tinmouth Community Church

Dear Friends,

Many of you were at the Tinmouth Community Church when we celebrated Thanksgiving as a community. That night I spoke of the fact that the Biblical roots of Thanksgiving challenge us to give thanks at the beginning of the harvest season, before we know what the outcome will be. They encourage us to give thanks for *what is*, right here in this moment, having only a small portion in our hands, but trusting somehow that there is more to come. A big part of being able to do this has to do with trust, essentially trusting God for the presence of good in our lives. It also has to do with taking the initiative to *bring* good outcomes into our lives and into the lives of those around us.

It isn't always easy to be thankful before we know for certain what is coming, and it is even more difficult to do so when we are faced with challenging times, but time after time people have discovered that beginning with gratitude is a helpful way to approach anything. Many life coaches recommend keeping a "gratitude journal" in which you write down what you are grateful for each day. It seems that simply taking time to notice and appreciate the good things that come into our lives (even the smallest things!) can increase our sense of wellbeing and overall happiness.

We are empowered when we dare to embrace the idea that life is essentially good, despite any difficulties that we face. It can give us courage to remember that we are blessed and to notice the small, simple things that bring us joy – drinking a hot cup of tea, receiving or giving a smile, having a cat curl up on your lap, reading a good book, enjoying an engaging conversation, helping someone, eating a filling meal, going into a warm house at the end of the day, taking a walk in the woods, visiting a friend, holding a child. We are surrounded and supported by so many good things. When we remember this, it lays the groundwork for not only a good holiday season, but a good life. We are in a better place to deal with the frustrations and disappointments that come our way, and we have the strength and resilience to meet the truly difficult challenges that are a part of most any life.

The holiday season is a perfect time to practice gratitude, and it can keep us from getting tangled up in things that don't really matter. Notice that often all you have to do is think about the holidays and you feel a little happier. Simply anticipating the happy things you associate with the holidays is often enough to bring you joy whether that is looking forward to seeing far-flung relatives, giving a gift to a friend, making special cookies, singing Christmas Carols, lighting the candles for Hanukkah or celebrating Kwanzaa. Ask yourself what you are looking forward to in the season, and then let yourself feel gratitude when you see or experience even the smallest glimpse of that good gift. We have so much to be thankful for!

With Gratitude,  
Shirley

### Upcoming Community Events at Tinmouth Community Church:

#### **Blue Christmas Service – December 18<sup>th</sup>**

For those who have experienced loss, or are dealing with difficulties or challenges in their lives, Christmas can be painful. During the worship service at Church of the Wildwood in Chittenden at 11 a.m. on Sunday, December 18th, we will take time to acknowledge these challenges and look at ways of preparing for the coming of the Christ in the midst of pain and grief.

#### **Christmas Eve Celebration – Saturday, December 24<sup>th</sup> at 5 p.m.**

Come and share in the magic and mystery of Christmas Eve with family, friends and neighbors with candlelight and carols, sharing the age-old story. We will begin by singing carols at 4:45 p.m.

Everyone Is Welcome in This  
Community of Worship and Faith

**TINMOUTH COMMUNITY  
CHURCH**

**Sunday Service – 9:00 a.m.**

**Special Christmas Eve Service  
Saturday the 24<sup>th</sup> ~ 5:00 pm  
Congregational Carol Singing begins at 4:45**

Rev. Shirley Oskamp, Pastor  
*Open Minds, Open Hearts, Open Doors*

## ~Nature Notes~

There was a SUPER moon on the 14<sup>th</sup>, the closest the moon has been to the earth in 68 years, and it will take it another 68 or 70 to come around like that again. It seemed HUGE in the sky and was bright enough for outdoor activities.

Dandelions were still blossoming on the lawn on the 19<sup>th</sup> – a bit snow-covered now.

One neighbor reports that she is still tidying up the garden – this extra-long fall has turned her into a first-rate garden procrastinator!

There were more than 3 dozen turkeys in Stan and Rene Wilbur's field on December 1st. They were spotted from the Town Office by a number of folks - busily eating the manure recently spread by the Gilmore Farm. They were there for several hours.

The weather was crazy in November - on the 19th (think Game Supper) the temperatures were in the 60's, a great day, and then BAM, overnight the snow started to fall and winter was upon us - more than 9 inches fell - and then WHAM, by December 1st - it had all melted and rained for a couple of days. We certainly needed the moisture though!!

Annie Robbins observed (and verified) a bald eagle flying over Tinmouth pond on December 1.



## ~ Caroling ~

Christmas Caroling, **Sunday, December 18<sup>th</sup>**. We meet at 6:00 at the Church, then carpool around town to a dozen or so elderly and shut-in folks, bringing them a bit of holiday spirit. All voices welcome.

## FRONT PORCH FORUM

Have you checked out Front Porch Forum yet? To sign up, go to <http://FrontPorchForum.com>. Or stop by the town office to sign up!! 200+ households have signed to date! Good way to discuss community issues, sell a canoe, give away a kitten, etc.. If you are a second home owner you can use your 911 address.



TINMOUTH  
CHURCH

*Open Minds, Open Hearts, Open Doors*

Everyone Is Welcome in This

Community of Worship and Faith

**TINMOUTH COMMUNITY  
CHURCH**

**Sunday Service – 9:00 a.m.**

Rev. Shirley Oskamp, Pastor

## ~Library News~

**Ruth Drachman**



Happy Holidays to everyone! Stop by and see the new December books!

**Writing group** will not meet in December. The next meeting will be January 8<sup>th</sup> at **1:30 p.m.** at the home of Grant Reynolds.

Our **book discussion group** will not meet in December. January's book will be one of Bill Bryson's books, *Road to Little Dribbling* OR *Notes from a Small Island*. Following that, we will read *Logbook for Grace* by Robert Cushman Murphy. All are welcome.

The library will be open on Saturday once a month. Look for the librarian to be there on the **FIRST** Saturday of every month from 9:00 a.m. until noon. **December's date is Saturday, December 3<sup>rd</sup>.**

The library is open on Monday and Thursday, from 10:00 a.m. until Noon, and from 1:00 p.m. until 5:00 p.m.

## Transfer Station Attendant Needed

Leonard "Gunner" Morris has decided to retire from the Transfer Station. We thank him for his many years of work there. In his service to Tinmouth he was also a member of the Select Board, 1st Constable, a member of the Tinmouth Volunteer Fire Department, and a member of the Planning Commission.

So the Transfer Station is in need of an attendant - someone willing to work a couple of Wednesdays (4:00-7:00 p.m.) and a couple of Saturday mornings (8:00 am until noon), each month. Please contact Transfer Station Manager Rick LaCroix at 446-3890, if you would like more information and are willing to help out.



## Tinmouth Elementary School News

December 1, 2016

Dear Tinmouth Community,

It is the end of November and our first snow has arrived! Although it is currently only fragmented patches on the lawn, the initial snowfall gave students the opportunity to go sledding at recess. We're looking forward to a snow-filled winter for our downhill and cross-country ski programs.

This year, we attempted to join another district school at Okemo for our downhill skiing program but was unsuccessful. Okemo has a moratorium on taking on any new schools and the program directors were not willing to change that policy. Students in kindergarten through sixth grade will be skiing at Pico with Middletown Springs on Friday afternoons after the start of the New Year.

Health education is now included in the physical education (PE) curriculum. The students are learning how to care for their whole being including their bodies as well as their mental health. Currently they are learning how to recognize and alleviate stress.

The time allocated in the past for cross-country skiing during PE is no longer available. However, we're working with the Tinmouth Afterschool Program (TAP), to provide afterschool cross-country skiing. We will need community volunteers to make this a success. If you are available and have a passion for cross-country skiing, please let me know.

I would like to extend my appreciation to the Tinmouth Community for supporting our students during the *Best Foot Forward Night* at Mill River on November 19<sup>th</sup>. Your presence lets children know that school matters. Thank you!

Our annual Harvest Dinner was a huge success. The third and fourth graders made the pumpkin pies and cranberry sauce. Teachers peeled the potatoes and Ms. Ana (Lewis) donated the gourds that decorated the tables. Nelson Jaquay initiated our Thanksgiving celebration by leading us in song, *'Tis a Gift to be Simple*.

The marking period is over and report cards are on their way home. The grades are tied to proficiency in the standards. Grades will reflect how well a student understands the content taught. A separate grade (Habits of Work) is listed for how responsible students are in submitting work and for putting forth their best effort. The report card format is computer generated and may take families a bit of getting use to.

This year, the holiday break begins December 22<sup>nd</sup>. Students will be caroling in the Tinmouth Community on December 21<sup>st</sup>. Look for the bright yellow bus!

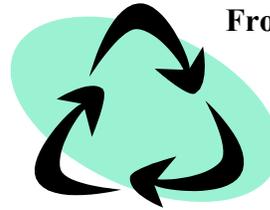
Finally, the staff and I wish everyone in the Tinmouth community a holiday season filled with gratitude and joy!

Warm regards,

Maureen Fitzgerald-Riker

*The holiday season is a perfect time to reflect on our blessings and seek out ways to make life better for those around us.*

-Terri Marshall



### From the Solid Waste and Recycling Committee

- Helen Mango, Secretary

**1.** The Goodwill store, located on Route 7 North in Rutland, is willing to accept almost any donation except bed pillows. **Please save your book treasures for Tinmouth Library Book Sale** but Goodwill will accept any books, including textbooks, encyclopedias, and medical books. The only stipulation is that the books may not be moldy. You need to transport the books to them. This is great news for recycling, because these books are not accepted by any transfer facility. Goodwill also accepts any clothing that is clean. It can have holes and be worn.

**2. Compost!!** A reminder that there is a compost container at the Transfer Station for any food scraps. Reduce your throwaway garbage volume (and save money) by keeping your food waste separate from your garbage, and using the compost option.

**3.** When you drive to the Transfer Station, PLEASE SECURE your garbage and recyclables in your vehicle. The day after the Transfer Station is open one can see items along the roadside that have obviously popped out of vehicles along the way. Please help keep our roadsides clean!



## November General Election Results:

All five Justices of the Peace were re-elected ~ Bob Emerick, Nelson Jaquay, Cathy Reynolds, Marshall Squier and Stanley Wilbur. Eleven other folks received one or two write-in votes.

Tinmouth voters cast their ballots as follows (overall winners are in **bold**):

President – Clinton 139, **Trump** 123, Sanders write-ins 15

U.S. Senate – **Leahy** 160, Milne 118

U.S. House – **Welch** 242, Clawson 36

Governor – Minter 125, **Scott** 161, Lee 11

Lt. Governor – Brock 141, **Zuckerman** 147

Treasurer – **Pearce** 223, Schramm 43

Sec. of State – **Condos** 239, Herbert 41

Auditor – Feliciano 121, **Hoffer** 147

Attorney General – Bucknam 115, **Donovan** 161

Rutland County Senate- – **Collamore** 118, **Flory** 112,

Garren 86, Hooker 125, Lenchus 22, **Mullin** 129,

Rodrigue 112

House Representatives:

Rutland-Bennington – **Chesnut-Tangerman** 126,

Rosenthal 90

Rutland-2 – Boucher 32, **Burditt** 25, **Potter** 47, Schaft 2,

Stimpfel 25



## Free Introduction to Starting a Micro Business Workshop

Rutland – Have you ever considered self-employment? Do you want to make more money? Do you want to turn a hobby into a

business? Are you unemployed with a trade skill? If you answered yes to any of these questions, BROCCommunity Action in Southwestern Vermont invites you to join us for a FREE Introduction to Starting a Micro Business workshop on Thursday, December 8 from 9:00 a.m. until noon. The workshop will be held at BROCCommunity Action located at 45 Union Street in Rutland. Register by contacting Annette Hoyle at 802-665-1744 or [ahoyle@broc.org](mailto:ahoyle@broc.org).

## THE CHRISTMAS GIFT THAT KEEPS ON GIVING

Fretting over what to get for Christmas for Auntie who already has “everything”? Or for your best friend? Or even for your kids? Tinmouth Community Church may have just the answer for you with its “Alternative Christmas” program.

Here is how it works: You choose to honor your friend or loved one by making a monetary gift in their name to one of five charities. The gift may be in any amount (although a minimum of \$10 is recommended), and a card with the name of the charity is provided for the giver to send to the recipient; the amount is not shown on the card.

The five charities which are being supported under this program are:

- Roy and Anne Wilbur Fund in Tinmouth
- Open Door Mission in Rutland
- Hurricane Matthew recovery efforts in the Southeastern United States
- Hurricane Matthew recovery efforts in Haiti
- Heifer International (For those not familiar with this organization, the giver chooses from a catalog listing specific amounts for various animals which can provide economic support for families or communities in some of the poorest places on the planet.)

The true joy in participating in this mode of giving comes in knowing that you are not only honoring the recipients with gifts from your heart, but also that you are helping people in need by supporting the efforts of the charities which are receiving the gifts of your generosity. It is truly a gift that keeps on giving.

If you already have a specific charity or charities in mind and wish to order by mail, send a check payable to “Tinmouth Community Church” at 6 Bliss Road, Tinmouth, VT 05773, along with your name and address and listing the amount for each gift. The appropriate card(s) will be sent to you for delivery to your recipient(s). In order for you to ensure receiving the gift cards before Christmas, mailed requests must be received by December 15<sup>th</sup>. All gifts are tax-deductible.

For more information on any of the charities or how to participate, you may contact Rene Wilbur at 802-446-3953 or [lwilbur@vermontel.net](mailto:lwilbur@vermontel.net).



## Marion's Musings for December 2016

Well, the seasons are changing. After a beautiful summer and fall, here comes winter! Snow out West and plunging temperatures! You know something funny? It happens every year, like it or not. I remember as a child that we always had snow for Thanksgiving. I lived over at Carver Falls, not too far from Fair Haven. Over the years I have seen the changes that have occurred in the weather.

Some years my tribe has gone hunting in two feet of snow, other years they could wear their sneakers and had to go very carefully through the woods as the dry leaves made a lot of noise. Enough of weather.

I came across an e-mail my sister in St. Louis sent me awhile back. I would like to repeat a few excerpts from it:

A young boy asked an old man what his favorite food was when growing up. The answer was that fast food wasn't around at that time. All the food was slow. The boy said, "Seriously, where did you eat?" "A place called home where Mom cooked supper and the whole family sat down together to eat and if I didn't like what she put on the plate, I was allowed to sit until I did like it. By this time the kid was laughing so hard that I didn't tell him I had to ask permission to leave the table, I was afraid he would have internal damage from laughing so hard."

But there are other things about childhood back then (mine too) that could have been told but the boy probably couldn't handle it. For example, some parents NEVER owned their own house, never wore Levis, never set foot on a golf course, never traveled out of the country, or had a CREDIT CARD. Some people had something called a revolving charge card. The card was only good at Sears Roebuck. There is no Roebuck anymore. Maybe he died.

My parents never drove me to soccer practice. This was mostly because we had never heard of soccer.

I had a bicycle that weighed 50 lbs. It only had one speed. (Slow)

We had no TV and I didn't have a telephone in my room. The only phone was in the kitchen and it was on a party line. One had to listen a moment to see if anyone was on it, before asking the operator to call your party. My Mother had an old soda bottle with a stopper in the top full of holes. No one nowadays knows what that was for. It was used to sprinkle clothes before ironing as steam irons were unheard of.

This e-mail fit me to a T. Here are some more things that some of you might remember if you are old like me: Headlight dimmers on the floor of the car, pant leg clips for bikes without chain guards, real ice boxes, and here's one for you: Using hand signals for cars instead of turn signals!!

Do you remember? Candy cigarettes, diners with tableside juke boxes, metal ice trays with levers, roller skate keys to keep your skates tight.

Here are a few more: Wash tub wringers, the old washboard. I could go on and on, but I had better stop. I

like to look back now and then to the days of my childhood and have decided I didn't have a bad time at all. Never missed all the electronics and for the record I never had to sit at the table long. Mom was a pretty good cook. See you next time. I'm heading south soon.



## Tinmouth Contra Dance

Contra Dance with The Tartan Raiders and Mary Wesley calling

**Friday, December 16, 2016 at 8:00 pm**

**Tinmouth Community Center, 573 Route 140**

TINMOUTH. Dance to the splendid tunes of the Tartan Raiders at the Tinmouth contra dance with Mary Wesley calling on December 16 from 8-11 pm at the Tinmouth Community Center. All dances are taught, and you do not need a partner. If you are a beginner, come right at 8:00 for a beginner's lesson to learn the moves. There will be live music, enthusiastic swinging and dancing and a fun night for all.

The dance takes place in the Tinmouth Community Center on the third Friday of the month. The Community Center is on Route 140 in the center of Tinmouth, Vermont, 5 miles west of Wallingford. Please bring clean, non-marring shoes. Admission is \$10, \$8 for teens, and free for children 12 and under. Refreshments will be available to benefit the dance fund. More information at [tinmouthcontradance.org](http://tinmouthcontradance.org). Like us on Facebook at Tinmouth Contra Dance. Shine up those dancing shoes and bring a couple of friends to dance with!

## Meeting Highlights ~

*(Complete minutes are available at the town office.)*

## Select Board ~ 11/10/16

Present were members Matt Patry, Laurie Phillips, and Frank Sears, as well as Eric Buffum – Road Commissioner, Grant Reynolds, Sherry Johnson, Kim Harbaugh, Gail Fallar – Board Asst.

Eric reported the new excavator and skid steer had arrived and are working well. The new-to-us trailer needs a VIN verification before it can be registered, and needs a

few boards for the floor as well. Frank donated those planks. Tires have been replaced on the one ton and orange tandem, grading is done, ready for snow.

He noted that DeLurey's had only worked on the front brakes of the orange tandem, that they don't do back brakes as it is not needed. He will seek someone local.

Board discussed draft FY18 budget in general terms – Eric advised that the calcium chloride budget needed to be greatly increased. Most towns are now treating gravel roads with calcium chloride after grading to help hold the road and keep dust down. There are pros and cons of using liquid or flakes, need equipment for either method. Board expressed concern about the environmental impact – Eric advised the state sponsored grading class he attended recommended it. Board asked Eric to research further – to include what the new water quality standards would allow.

In keeping with past practice the Board waived the penalty for late filers of the Vermont Homestead Declaration.

Board reviewed financial reports, Matt signed Bills and Orders.

Matt advised that the folks organizing the annual Community Thanksgiving Celebration once again had requested someone from the Board to provide welcome commentary. Frank volunteered.

Matt reported that Ken Krantz had moved the pier under the post of the new porch on the old creamery, and had not moved or replace the post as requested by the Board.

Meeting adjourned at 8:05, and then the Board quickly un-adjourned at 8:10 to discuss what to do with the town garage – was a lean-to needed on the west side to house some of the equipment (to get it out of the weather)? Also discussed the need for water and septic, room in the garage for a truck and its plow, salted sand shed requirements, etc. Board asked Eric to work on a proposal for the next meeting. Re-adjourned at 8:30 pm.

### **Planning Commission 10/24/16**

Members present: Bob Lloyd, Michael Fallar, Vito Macaluso, Kim Harbaugh, Grant Reynolds,  
Others present: Frank Sears and Gail Fallar, Sec.

Members reviewed Bob's draft application for a state planning grant, including the budget and work plan which had input from staff at Rutland Regional Planning Commission and various attachments. Total is \$8,180, with request for \$5,180 with the Town providing \$3,000. Members voted to approve the application as presented.

Bob read excerpts from a letter from the Vermont Planners Association to the Vermont Public Service Board (PSB) regarding the PSB's proposed new energy guidelines. He will email to all members.

Members briefly discussed a suggestion to pursue a community solar project on the town's land behind the town garage.

Members changed the next regular meeting to December 5, 2016. (Combined November and December meetings)

### **Old Creamery Committee ~ 11/12/16**

Members present: Vito Macaluso, Stan Wilbur, Grant Reynolds, Alan Held, Gail Fallar, and Doug Fontein

Grant called the meeting to order, Alan asked to have roof covering added to the agenda and Stan asked that finishing the lower east side be added, all approved.

Gail advised that the latest issue of the Historical Society's quarterly, *The Channel*, which features the work done over the course of the year on the old creamery, was still at the printers. Members reviewed and edited a cover letter asking THGS members to donate for continued work on the roof. Members voted to endorse the letter as edited. Stan will sign as THGS President. There will be a second letter, similar to the THGS one, from this Committee to be signed by Grant as OCC Chair, asking others (not THGS members) to contribute as well. They will also receive a copy of the current issue of *The Channel*.

Alan suggested using a plain metal (screw down tin) roof to replace the slate on the old creamery. After discussion, all agreed it was a good idea, is cheaper, and easier to install. There was no formal decision as a couple of folks wanted to look at buildings that have it.

Alan reported that he had talked with Cris Carabeau about finding folks willing to work on the south foundation in the spring.

Stan inquired about using the siding removed from the old porch that had been saved and de-nailed, for siding to cover the rough sawn sheathing on the lower east side wall. Members approved, Stan will try to determine if there is enough. It could be a volunteer day – a warm day this fall/winter or may have to wait until spring.

Doug is still working on creating a vision/mission statement with goals and objectives.

Next meeting at the call of the Chair.

### **Conservation Commission ~ 11/21/16**

(with thanks to Carmen Fallar, Sec.)

Present were members Doug Fontein, David Birdsall, Carmen Fallar, Anne Czar, and Jo Reynolds as well as Gail Fallar.

*Old Business:* The Tinmouth Mountain Cabin work day was a no go, no one called or showed up. Members discussed how to get more people/volunteers involved.

*Ongoing Business:*

Members approved a use policy for the Tinmouth Mountain Cabin, will be forwarded to the Select Board for their review. Members hope to discuss trail policy at the next meeting.

Ridge Trail still has blowdowns but with easy ways around them so it's not unpassable. Jo will post the Temporary Trail End sign on a cherry tree before the marking stops. Anne will set up a work day on the trail in the Spring.

Doug advised that a Climate Change talk with Alan Betts is going to be scheduled for January 23<sup>rd</sup> at 7-9 p.m. in Wallingford. Doug is confirming date and location (either library or town hall). Doug has contacted conservation commissions in Shrewsbury and Middletown too as well as Wallingford. The TCC will provide refreshments.

*New Business:*

David reported that Doug Blodgett (Vermont Department of Fish & Wildlife) thinks the Turtle and Salamander crossing signs are a great idea. Carmen will coordinate a sign-building day by Spring. Signs will be put up on Route 140 by Windswept Farm and also on Channel Road and North East Road. Carmen will contact Otter Creek Audubon Society for advice and suggestions as well. When the signs go up, a posting on FPF will explain the signs and bring awareness to this issue.

Jeff Alexander resigned from Conservation Commission due to workload and responsibilities. Members accepted it with regret, thanked Jeff for his time on the Commission. Members discussed who might be interested; the term of the position is until 2019.

David also advised that the Vermont Woodlands Association wants to get Sue Morse and her "Keeping Track" program to the Tinmouth Channel. She is a well-known expert tracker. The hope is to have her at the Community Center for a talk on February 18<sup>th</sup> from 8 to 10 a.m. and then in the field in the Channel from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. David will write a grant to the Community Fund to help pay her fee of \$850.

Next regular TCC meeting will be in March.

**Solid Waste and Recycling Committee (SWARC)  
11/17/16**

Present: Gail Fallar, Wheaton Squier (chairman), Rick LaCroix, Helen Mango (secretary)

Gail reported that Gunner has had to resign from the SWARC. She will post a notice on Front Porch Forum asking for a volunteer. The Select Board will eventually need to nominate someone else to the committee.

The committee reviewed the July 19 letter from the Agency of Natural Resources (this was discussed at the August 18 meeting). Gail reported that the cover to the roll-off got damaged and is being repaired. Gail will write a letter to the ANR responding to their recommendations and concerns (all have been addressed).

Helen will write a blurb for Tales announcing that Goodwill will take almost anything, including clothes and all books (except ones that are moldy). This could reduce the solid waste that Tinmouth has to pay to have hauled away.

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**Recipe Corner**  
By Shirley Bucceri

Alba Fish always brought four custard pies to church dinners or the Game Supper. They were simply marvelous! She shared her recipe with anyone who asked. Some folks in town knew her as "Aunt Tukie".

**Alba Fish's Custard Pie**

Crust for 10 inch pie (unbaked)

5 large eggs

1 cup sugar

1 tablespoon vanilla

Dash salt

3 1/2 cups milk

Line pie plate with pastry. Beat eggs, sugar, salt and vanilla well. Add milk, mix and pour into the unbaked pie shell. Bake for 15 minutes at 425 degrees. Reduce heat to 350 degrees and bake 20 minutes more or until pie seems firm. Overbaking will cause it to "water."

**Pico Mountain Raising Food for BROCC Community Action on Opening Weekend**

How would you like to pay only \$29 for a 1-day lift ticket at Pico Mountain? You can if you bring three (3) non-perishable food items to donate to BROCC-Community Action in Southwestern Vermont's Community Food Shelf. Opening weekend at Pico is Saturday, December 10<sup>th</sup> and Sunday, December 11<sup>th</sup>. Donations of non-perishable food items will be accepted at the Pico Ticketing Sales Center throughout each day.

"We are proud to continue our Pico Opening Day tradition of rallying our ski and snowboard family with a food-raiser to collect donations and grow awareness of food insecurity in southern Vermont ahead of the winter holidays," says Rich McCoy, director of operations at Pico Mountain. "BROCC Community Action works relentlessly to improve the

quality of life for Vermonters in our community and we believe in incentives like discounted lift tickets in exchange for food donations, because every single donation helps feed a neighbor in need."



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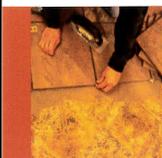
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