

TALES OF TINMOUTH

December 2017
Vol. 31 Number 12

Tinmouth
Vermont

Editors' Notes: Peace, Shalom, Paz, Paix, Pax, Pacem, Friedan, Pokoj, Heddwch, Fred, Thaayu, Mnp (Mir) ~ Many languages, can you identify them?

The cutoff date for submissions is the 20th of the month, for publication on the 1st 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 may be included in the following month. Thanks.

Pat Psholka and Helen Mango

Tinmouth Community Christmas Food Baskets Food Drive

Saturday, December 16th

10:00 AM until Noon

in the basement of the Tinmouth Community Church

These items will be used to fill 25 or so 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 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.

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 in under the umbrella of the Tinmouth Community Church), and left at the town office or mailed to 515 North End Rd, Tinmouth, VT 05773.

Also needed are *monetary donations* to help provide gifts for kids (books, socks, mittens, toys, etc.)

A note to the many gifted Tinmouth Bakers – baked goods can be dropped off at the Tinmouth Church on Wednesday morning the 20th.

Thank you for your kind generosity . . .

Joyous Holidays to All!

The Tinmouth Elves



~ 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.

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.

The Town Office and Library will be closed on Monday, December 25th in observance of Christmas and Monday, January 1st in observance of New Year's Day.

December 2017 ~ Calendar of Events



Library ~ Open	Saturday	2 nd	9:00-Noon	Library
Fire Dept.	Thursday	7 th	7:00	Fire House
Writing Group			No meeting in December	
Select Board	Monday	4 th	7:00	Town Office
Contra Dance	Friday	15 th	8:00	Community Center
Conservation Comm.			No Meeting in December	
Book Discussion			No meeting in December	
Caroling	Sunday	17 th	6:00	Meet at the Church
Fire Dept. Training	Tuesday	19 th	7:00	Fire House
Planning Commission			No Meeting in December	
<i>Tales Deadline</i>	Wednesday	20 th		<i>Don't Miss It!</i>
Holiday Open House	Thursday	21 st	4:00-6:00	Old Fire House
Christmas Eve Service	Sunday	24 th	4:30 (4:15)	Church
Town Office & Library	Monday	25 th		CLOSED for Christmas

January 2018 ~ Calendar of Events

Town Office & Library	Monday	1 st		CLOSED for New Year's
Fire Dept.	Thursday	4 th	7:00	Fire House
Library Open	Saturday	6 th	9:00- Noon	Library
Book Discussion	Sunday	TBD	3:00	Library
Select Board	Thursday	11 th	7:00	Town Office
Writing Group	Sunday	TBD	1:30	Library
Conservation Comm.	Monday	15 th	7:30	Town Office
SWARC	Wednesday	17 th	5:00	Town Office
Planning Commission	Thursday	18 th	7:00	Town Office
Contra Dance	Friday	19 th	8:00	Community Center
<i>Tales Deadline</i>	Saturday	20 th		<i>Don't Miss It!</i>

PLEASE NOTE THAT THE SELECT BOARD HAS CHANGED ITS MEETING TO MONDAY, DECEMBER 4TH!

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 10:00-noon & 1-5 and Thursday 10:00-noon & 1-5

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

Knit, Craft or Chat ~ Mondays 3:00 – 5:00 pm ~ Library

Bone Builders ~ Tuesday 10:00-11:00 am & Friday 9:00 – 10:00 am Library

~ December reminder from your local Fire Department (TVFD) ~

Please remember to keep your walkways shoveled and clear – even to the doors you only use occasionally – you never know when you might need the Rescue Squad or which door they may need to use. Goes for the inside too, don't block doorways with 'stuff'. You may need to make a hasty exit (in case of fire) or the Fire Department may need to get in.

TVFD also reminds everyone to make sure your smoke detectors are working and that you have more than one way out of your house.

HOLIDAY BAZAAR: FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF WALLINGFORD
DATE: Saturday, December 2, 2017. TIME: 9:00-2:00 FEATURING LOCAL CRAFTERS,
FOOD, RAFFLE AND MORE. A LIGHT LUNCH FARE WILL ALSO BE AVAILABLE

Tinmouth Volunteer Fire Department Thank-You

Our 49th 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 well as feeding around 50 volunteers and sending some leftovers 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

TVFD Raffle Winners:

1st prize – Wyatt Cone

2nd prize – Dax Rydeski

50/50 – Cathy Baker

TVFD is celebrating its 50th Anniversary this year! It was created in 1967 as an independent corporation. Current long time chief Marshall Squier, was one of the charter members!



~ **Library News** ~
By Ruth Drachman, Librarian

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year from the librarian and the Library trustees. We all hope that you have joyous holidays!

Writing Group will not meet in December. They will resume meetings in January.

Book Discussion Group will not meet in December. They will meet in January and the book will be **The Murder of Mary Russell** by Laurie King.

Come to the library to **KNIT and CHAT**, or just chat, or crochet, or whatever handwork you enjoy.....on Monday afternoons at 3 PM until about 5 PM.

New this month for Adults:

* **Patty Yoder and Esther Knipe, Rug Hooking Traditions**, by Kathy Wright and Judy Knipe. This book explores the lives of Patty and Esther, two rug hooking artists. It is full of pictures, and is a beautiful book!

* **Trace** by Archer Mayor. The Vermont Bureau of Investigation (VBI) has been pulled into three cases at the same time.

* **Hillbilly Elegy: A Memoir of a family and Culture in Crisis** by J. D. Vance, N. Y. Times, Best Seller.

* **The Curiosity**, Stephen P. Kiernan's first novel is "a gripping, poignant, and thoroughly original thriller." He wrote two other novels, **The Hummingbird**, and **The Baker's Secret**, both of which are in the Tinmouth Library. Stephen lives in Vermont.

* **To the Bright Edge of the World**, by Eowyn Ivey, a well-written "man against nature" story.

The library will be open on Saturday morning, December 2nd from 9 until noon.

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., and the morning of the first Saturday of the month.

Come to the library to **KNIT and CHAT**, or just chat, or crochet, or whatever handwork you enjoy.....on Monday afternoons at 3 p.m. until about 5 p.m.



Caroling ~

Christmas Caroling, **Sunday, December 17th**. 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.



~ **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!

~ **Winter Driving Tips** ~

Vermont Emergency Management urges residents to travel with caution and appropriately for road conditions and offers some winter safety tips:

- Check road and weather conditions before leaving; visit www.511vt.com or call 511 for this information.
- Always allow yourself extra time to get to your destination.
- Make sure your vehicle is in good mechanical condition with snow tires and winter windshield wiper blades.
- Watch for and expect changing road conditions, black ice, blowing snow, high winds or whiteout conditions can appear when you least expect them to.
- The single most important rule is to drive at a speed that matches the prevailing visibility, traffic and road conditions. The posted speed limits are for dry, clear conditions only.
- Be sure to leave yourself plenty of extra room, extend the following distance from other vehicles ahead.

For road conditions call 511 or visit 511vt.com. For personal assistance, like heating help or other information, call 211. 211 is a service of the United Way.

Hunting and Fishing Licensees are available at the Town Office.

The town receives \$1.50 for each license sold!!

Licenses expire on December 31st!!

~ **Front Porch Forum** ~
Connect with your Tinmouth Neighbors

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.

~ **Budget Work** ~

The Select Board and the MRUUSD School Board are working on budgets for the coming year. If you would like to have input, please attend one of their meetings in December. Or call a Board member – names and phone numbers available in the Tinmouth Operator's Manual annual update.

Vacancies ~ There are vacancies on the Planning Commission and the Conservation Commission. If you are interested, please contact the town office for more information. And consult your Tinmouth Operator's Manual for details on what these groups do!!

~ **Rutland County Sheriff's Department News** ~

Recently, the Towns of Ira, Danby, Middletown Springs and Tinmouth agreed to enter into a regional policing pilot program with the Rutland County Sheriff's Department. Each town currently has a contract for services with the department. By pooling the hours already being used in each town one deputy is to be assigned to the four-town area. This means that instead of getting one or two patrols per week, towns will see a presence at usually at least once a day, and often several times a day. This also means that the Sheriff's Department will be available for call response to the four towns, covering many more hours a week than the individual towns are currently receiving. The Sheriff has also created an oversight board, that will meet on a set schedule to see that the needs of each town are being discussed on a regular basis and that the areas of concern in each town are being tended to. Citizens in all towns are reminded that in the event of an emergency to call 911. The 911 call taker will dispatch the Sheriff's Department, or VSP if the department is not on duty at the time of the call. For calls that are not of emergency nature, citizens can call the Sheriff's Office at 802-775-8002 and learn when the deputy will be on duty and able to respond. It is always up to the citizen if they wish to wait, or we will transfer the call to VSP.



Tinmouth School News

To the Tinmouth Community,

The holiday season is quickly approaching and the days are growing shorter. Our first trimester ended on November 27th and the first round of report cards were sent home the first week of December.

Student council members are collecting can goods for the Food Bank and MRU holiday baskets. Children are asking parents to pick up an extra item each week to share with others in the community. The student council is coordinating the collection and bringing the non-perishable items to the food bank.

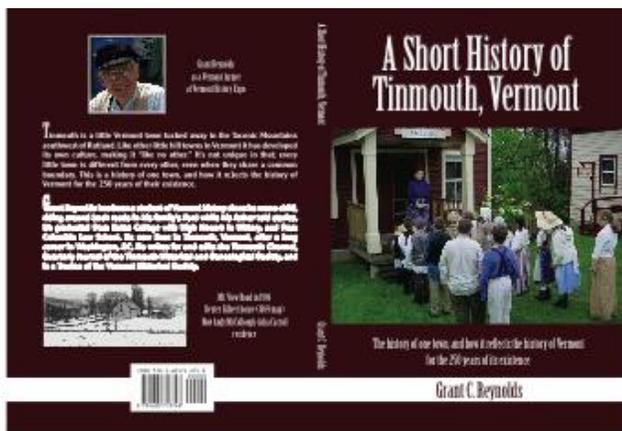
We will be caroling on **Wednesday, December 20th**. The bus will be available in the morning and kindergarteners through sixth graders will join together in song to bring joy to friends and relatives.

School is closed from December 21st through January 1st. The school will reopen on January 2nd.

Our Thanksgiving feast created a great opportunity to pause and reflect on gratitude and our multiple blessings! A special thanks to community members who led us in song and to Jessica Casey for preparing the feast!

Happy Holidays!

Maureen Fitzgerald-Riker
Principal, Tinmouth School



Just Published! Written for Tinmouth School but of interest to anyone in town. \$13 (cost of printing). Available from Town Office or Grant Reynolds, 45 Mountain View Road, Tinmouth, VT 05773. 802-446-3457 or grant62@vermontel.net Great Xmas Gift Idea!!

Everyone Is Welcome in This
Community of Worship and Faith

TINMOUTH COMMUNITY CHURCH

Sunday Service – 9:00 a.m.

Special Christmas Eve Service
Sunday the 24th ~ 4:30 pm
Congregational Carol Singing begins at 4:15

Rev. Shirley Oskamp, Pastor

Open Minds, Open Hearts, Open Doors

~ Town Meeting 2018 ~

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

- Moderator - Town - 1 year term
- Select Board Member - 3 year term
- Road Commissioner – 3 year term
- Lister - 3 year term
- Auditor - 3 year term
- 2nd Constable - 2 year term
- Town Agent - 1 year term
- Grand Juror - 1 year term
- Tax Collector (Delinquent) - 1 year term

Matt Patry has announced that he will not seek re-election to the Select Board – thank you Matt for serving on the Board for 9 years!

Town Meeting is **Saturday, March 3rd** this year. Public questions and budgets will be voted from the floor at the Community Center. Officers will be chosen on **Tuesday, March 6th** 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 29th**. 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 22nd**. 5% of voters (20) must sign the petition. Voters must be registered to vote in Tinmouth.

~ Nature Notes ~

Abundant pine cones this year also brought many Western Conifer Seed bugs which feed on the pine cones. Known as one stinky bug!!!

Days are getting shorter, a few snowflakes have been seen floating in the air, a taste of what’s to come. Are you ready!?!?

Marion's Musings for December

By Marion Hamby

I thought I would be writing about snowflakes by now, but just rain comes down. I'm in no hurry for the white stuff.

I have been thinking about how Tinmouth has changed in the past 60 years I have been here. When we first moved here from Rutland, we were at the end of the road, no telephone, computers were unheard of and no TV. We owned but one vehicle, a truck of course, seeing it was a farm.

Over the years, the phone line was extended from the neighbors but it was a party line. If you picked up the receiver to make a call, you could hear other ones being picked up too. I believe we were on a 4 party line. To make a call, one used a rotary device. It looked like a round wheel with holes for each number. The kids of today have no idea of what it was. Now one either hits a button, or with the case of a cell phone, you swipe you finger over a window on it. Our land line phones have buttons to push.

As for the computers, that is another story. They have screens you use to see what you are typing on a separate keyboard and all kinds of things you can do on the Internet. I won't begin to list any of them. Kids are now using them to learn stuff that I had to learn from a book. I can write a letter or my column (Tales) and print it or send to the editor via email for publication. There are millions of things you can do. Send e-mails directly to each other, look up material for a book etc.

I never had a computer until my second husband, Dick said why not? That was in 2002. I am still learning how to cope with the darn thing. Of course not the same machine but a newer computer. Something new every day. Today, I tried to set up a video call and was told I had the wrong browser. Sometimes when you are looking up something important, it takes forever to get the darn thing working. Sometimes I think The Pony Express would be faster.

Now as for TV. That too has been a challenge. In the country one had to have an antenna/aerial on the roof. Then the cable company started to creep around but mostly in cities. Of course in rural areas where there were mountains that was another thing. So, now we have satellites, such a business.

People have either a phone or some kind of a device they are looking at most of the time. Conversation has disappeared. Most people don't know how to write with a pen or pencil. I shudder to think what the world is going to be like in another hundred years or so. Anyway I won't be around to see it.

I'm not complaining, just observing but how nice it used to be to call your neighbor for a chat, or to go out on the porch to watch a sunset. Didn't need cyberspace for that. See you next month. Have Happy Holidays and a MERRY CHRISTMAS TOO.

This poem was read at the Tinmouth Community Thanksgiving Service.

Where are We Going?

By Marshall Squier

Our sun, our light that drifts through space, all the planets in our solar system including our home we call earth, follow. *Where are we going?*

We are blessed with a beautiful, plentiful, wonderful place to exist. Humans, like other species multiply as conditions allow, but humans have the ability to change our environment to either make it better or destroy it. *Where are we going?*

Corruption in government, in business, in information, in religion, in what we are told we need, in what we are led to believe is life. *Where are we going?*

500 people at a small town benefit supper, happy, thankful, someone said we look up to Tinmouth as a model, a community working, caring, volunteering together. Volunteer Fire Department, people giving of their time for all to feel safer, food shelves, baskets of food and fruit, looking in and caring for neighbors, welcoming. *Where are we going?*

If we replace greed with charity, suspicion with understanding, hate with love, war with peace, be not the sayers but the doers. If we pray in secret but demonstrate openly, support not criticize, replace covetousness with gratitude, show kindness, receive kindness, feel included, live life - not just get through it. Then we would know. *Where are we going?*

Let's try to accept we are all important, every one, then there would be more light, with the same sun, and we could truly see, *Where we are going.*



Wilds of Tinmouth Wreaths For Sale!!

Our wreaths are made on our farm with balsam we harvest ourselves.

We use rose hips, pine cones and dog wood from Tinmouth to decorate them naturally.

Prices range from \$25 to \$35

We have bows in colors of red and white, we will not put on a bow unless you request one.

We can make extra large wreaths upon request.

We will box and ship wreaths and also deliver them to addresses in Tinmouth and Middletown Springs.

**Contact us at 235-2025 or email
meadowjoy@vermontel.net to place your order.**



~ **Tinmouth Community Church** ~

Dear Friends,

As I write this, it is the day before Thanksgiving and I am the first one up at the home of Gary's brother and his wife. Gary and I are travelling to Virginia to spend the holiday with my family. At this moment, it is quiet, except for Dave and Joyce's cats who seem to think I should feed them. But each of them has his or her own special diet and needs to be sequestered for the meal – this much I know. I don't know who eats where or which foods and how much, so they meow at me fruitlessly as I make my tea, stepping carefully over switching tails and trying to appease plaintive faces with calming words.

This is the in-between time, the preparation time for everything that will happen later. Here in this house, the cats will be fed; the four humans will share a pot of oatmeal with nuts and fruit. Conversations from last night will continue or new ones begin as we catch up on one another's lives before Gary and I get back on the road to travel a few more hours south to the mountain cabin where my sister and her family, my dad and daughters and son will meet us.

Anticipation is a wonderful thing. Today, for instance, I imagine everyone smiling and happy as we greet each other, and the good nature enduring through the entire holiday. Everyone getting along, making allowances for each other, talking honestly and compassionately with a strong desire to truly understand one another even when we disagree, which, let's face it, is inevitable for a family or any gathering of people if you give them enough time.

I am troubled by the difficulty that we all (in this country, in this world) seem to be having in the "getting-along-with-each-other" department. The root cause is not that anything has changed in terms of how we all think, really. People have always held varying opinions about every topic worth considering. The trouble is, that we have lost sight of the need to extend kindness to one another, or thoughtful consideration. We seem to have forgotten how to "agree to disagree" and still remain in a meaningful relationship with one another. People who disagree tend to avoid each other. We don't even read or hear one another's viewpoints in our news anymore, and so there is little opportunity to talk with someone whose opinions and values do not align with your own... until you get together with your family, that is.

Family, whether by blood or by choice, is all about the heart; who your heart connects you with and draws you toward. Sometimes, maybe often, the heart and head do not agree with one another, and so you find yourself sitting at the table with someone who disagrees

with everything you think is important. But you love that person, and so you want to figure out a way to be there with them in honest relationship. You want to understand them, why they think the way they do, and you hope they will choose to do the same with you. This means each of us needs to learn how to listen better than we do.

The old adage about us having two ears, but only one mouth (because we are meant to listen twice as much as we talk) is good to remember. Psychologists tell us that people simply want to be heard, and that most do not feel that they have opportunities to share their ideas, their thoughts, and their dreams. Sometimes, simply asking a question that focuses on the person and the personal can defuse a charged situation. It helps both parties focus more on the relationship than the topics of disagreement. If you genuinely care for one another, then chances are you will be better able to hear one another's thoughts in a way that allows you both to find some small point of agreement where you can start a deeper conversation. Who knows? It may even lead to world peace.

Blessings in this season of holidays and Holy Days,
Shirley

Blue Christmas Service – December 17th at 9am at the Tinmouth Community Church. For many of us Christmas is a time of loss, a difficult and dark time. This service honors that reality and gives us a chance to open our hearts to the challenges that are a part of the season. Open to all.

Christmas Eve Candlelight Service at Tinmouth Community Church will be held at **4:30 pm Sunday, December 24th**. We will share the beloved story of Jesus' birth, special music and a candlelit circle of friends. Carol singing will begin at **4:15 pm** so come early and enjoy getting in the spirit together!

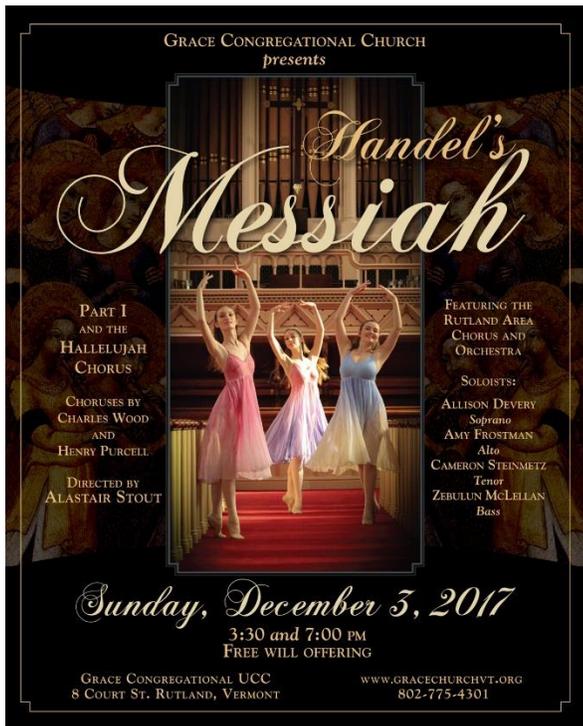
Please note that there will not be a Sunday morning service that day.

~ **Get Wells, Appreciations & Kudos** ~

Get Well Wishes are sent to **Glenn W. Merrill, Howard Buffum, Bob Hill, and John Crossman.**

Please keep them in your prayers.





**Annual Messiah Performances at Grace Church,
Rutland**

On Sunday, December 3, Grace Congregational Church will present the annual performances of Handel's *Messiah*. The Rutland Area Chorus, soloists and orchestra will perform the concerts at 3:30 p.m. and 7:00 p.m. under the direction of Alastair Stout, Minister of Music at Grace Church. The *Messiah* soloists are Allison Devery, soprano; Amy Frostman, alto; Cameron Steinmetz, tenor; and Zebulun McLellan, bass. Handel's *Messiah*, one of the great Baroque choral masterpieces, depicts the prophecy and birth of Jesus Christ as told by Isaiah, the prophet and the writers of the Gospels. This year, Handel's vivid and dramatic score depicting purifying fire, earthquakes, mysterious darkness and brilliant angels will be brought to life through music and dance! A free will offering will be received and a reception will follow the 7 p.m. performance. For more information, please call the Church Office at 775-4301.

Alastair Stout hails from the Shetland Islands, Scotland. He studied composition and organ at the Royal College of Music, the Guildhall School of Music and Drama and the University of London, where he graduated with a PhD in Composition in 2002. His award-winning music has been commissioned, performed and recorded throughout the world. In 2002 he moved to the USA to work in Pittsburgh, PA, and in 2017 he was appointed Minister of Music at Grace Congregational Church in Rutland VT. For more information on Alastair please visit his website: www.stoutworks.net.



Christmas Contra Dance
Dance to

The Cabin Hunters with Mary Wesley Calling
Friday, December 15 at 8:00 pm
Tinmouth Community Center, 573 Route 140

TINMOUTH. Bring your friends and family to the Christmas Contra Dance in beautiful downtown Tinmouth, Vermont. Dance to the splendid tunes of The Cabin Hunters - Nate Paine, Brendan Taaffe and Mike Roberts with Mary Wesley calling on Friday December 15 from 8 pm – 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, refreshments and a fun night for all.

The dance takes place in the Tinmouth Community Center on the third Friday of the month when it is on the month at the Community Center is on Rte. 140 in the center of Tinmouth, Vermont 5 miles west of Wallingford. Please bring clean, non-marring shoes. Admission is \$10-\$12, \$8 for teens and free for children 12 and under.

More info at tinmouthcontradance.org. Like us on Facebook at Tinmouth Contra Dance. Shine up those dancing shoes and bring a couple of friends to dance with! Our email is tinmouthdance@gmail.org.

We dance every third Friday January through May and September-December. Don't miss it. See you in Tinmouth!

R&D HOME SERVICES
Roxanne & David Aubrey
802-446-2117 or 802-779-7053
43 Ezra Stone Rd. Danby, Vt. 05739
Faucets to Furnaces, Boilers to Baths
Housekeeping to Hauling
OVER 28 YRS EXPERIENCE
Let us help you with your many needs of home ownership

Meeting Highlights ~

(Complete minutes are available at the town office.)

Select Board ~ 11/9/17

Present were members Matt Patry, Frank Sears, and Cathy Reynolds, as well as Eric Buffum-Road Commissioner, Kim Harbaugh, Sherry Johnson, David Eaton, Heather McMahon, Grant Reynolds, Jo Reynolds, Doug Fontein, Larry & Cris Carabeau, Jan Krantz, Sunny Hance and daughter Samantha, and Gail Fallar-Board Assistant.

Eric reported the road crew is ready for winter; shouldering newly paved road with gravel started, but Fuller's machine broke, they'll be back next week. He requested approval to purchase a used sander (all stainless with a gas engine) for the one ton truck noting it would be very useful for smaller roads, for salting areas like bridges in certain storms and in case one of the big trucks has a breakdown. After discussion of pros and cons, Board voted to authorize Eric to buy it upon a close inspection.

Board discussed progress on the Town Garage/Transfer Station Master Plan. Following the special meeting on October 26 where it was suggested to look for an alternate site, Board noted that zoning would require 5 acres even though the operation would only need about half of that, and that the Carabeaus owned a couple of places that might fit, but there was concern for loss of farm land. Larry had questions, was not ready to make a commitment - except that the Ballou farm was not to be considered.

Eric raised concerns with separating equipment (old garage would still be used for cold storage, etc.) It was also noted that the size of the building might trigger a sprinkler system.

Grant expressed concern noting the town plan was opposed to industrial type development in the area of the intersection of East Road and Route 140, and that more engineering expenses would be incurred if the site were to be changed. Concern was expressed to keep the new facility in the town center, on land the town already owns. As well as keeping a future access for the back side of the property.

Jan expressed concern for the run-off from the current sand pile, which does contain some salt to keep it from freezing. It has been finding its way to their property for a number of years. Board advised there is a storm water retention pond in the plan and once the shed has been constructed for the salted sand, the problem should be solved.

Cathy noted there is a time line challenge to get all information needed prior to a vote at town meeting.

David advised he is opposed to moving the transfer station to the front of the parcel - near Route 140. It would be clearly in his line of site and he expressed concern for flies, rats and smell. It was advised that

moving the operation to the front would involve using (renting or buying) compactors which should cut down on flies and smell.

After much discussion on Option B versus Option C, and how to proceed, Cathy moved to move forward with Option C (and working with the Eaton family to mitigate their concerns) to locate elements (highway and transfer station) in the most efficient manner at the town site. Frank 2nded. Frank and Cathy voted in favor, Matt voted against noting he wanted further consideration of relocation of either the town garage or transfer station.

A question was asked inquiring whether the town had to provide a transfer station, research needs to be done in that regards.

Board requested a draft budget with an update to the Equipment Fund schedule for its December meeting.

Board approved applying for a Better Road grant for replacing two culverts on McCoy Road

Gail advised that the attorney for the affordable housing question was not available until next week.

Gail also advised that there was no contact from Howard and Marie Regimbald regarding curtailing their use of the town's right of way on East Road. Board voted to draft a letter for the Board Chair to review and sign. Gail noted she had recently attended a Zoning and Planning Forum where a representative from the Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation presented information regarding state enforcement of salvage/junk yards. The Regimbald's cannot meet the state's requirements to obtain a state permit for a salvage yard. The letter will include information to that effect as well as the town's concern for safety, etc.

VLCT has not yet responded to the latest town inquiry regarding the Board's proposed Personnel Policy. Cathy volunteered to be the Board's liaison with them to work out concerns.

Risk Assessment - Eric reported almost being done with the concerns he could correct (water and septic being the exception).

Cathy reported on the Rutland County Sheriff's Department proposal to create a four town group with a 4 month trial period. Tinmouth, Middletown Springs, Danby and Ira Select Board members meet recently to hear details. This will enable RCSD to appoint one deputy to these four towns for 40 hours per week combined. There were several benefits cited, currently these four towns have 26 hours budgeted, the RCSD will pay for the others with grant funds for the trial period. Board will need to think about adding more coverage hours during budget time. Tinmouth budgets 7 hours per week now. Frank volunteered be the Board member of the Advisory Committee to be created. Board voted to participate in the trial project.

Lt. David Fox is the coordinating contact at RCSD, he will attend the December Board meeting to discuss traffic

speed on the East Road. The speed cart recently parked there has recorded speed and time of day of all vehicles passing by it.

Board changed its December meeting to Monday the 4th due to conflicts with member schedules.

Front Porch Forum donation was placed on agenda for discussion at budget time regarding annual allotments.

Frank volunteered to represent the Select Board at the Community Thanksgiving Service to welcome folks to the event.

Recent power outage was discussed, there were many folks who did not have access to emergency services as the back-up batteries provided by VTEL's fiber optic system only lasted five hours. Many folks were out of power for several days.

VTEL also had trouble with Tinmouth and Wallingford phones on a recent night - no service for anyone (telephone, Internet or TV).

Planning Commission ~ No Meeting in November



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~ Beware Romance Scams ~

Online imposters break hearts and bank accounts. The FBI has issued a warning regarding a growing scam problem. It involves someone “friending” you, possibly on your Facebook page. The standard operating procedure for romance scammers is to assume other people’s identities, making themselves out to be average looking people. The scammer’s intention is to establish a relationship as quickly as possible, endear himself to the victim, gain trust, and propose marriage. He will make plans to meet in person, but that will never happen. Eventually, he will ask for money. This is also called confidence fraud, and results in the highest amount of financial losses to victims when compared to other online crimes.

To stay safe online, be careful what you post, because scammers can use that information against you. Always use reputable websites, but assume that con artists are trolling even the most reputable dating and social media sites. If you develop a romantic relationship with someone you meet online, consider the following:

Research the person’s photo and profile using online searches to see if the material has been used elsewhere.

Go slow and ask lots of questions.

Beware if the individual seems too perfect or quickly asks you to leave a dating service or Facebook to go “offline”.

Beware if the individual attempts to isolate you from friends and family or requests inappropriate photos or financial information that could later be used to extort you.

Beware if the individual promises to meet in person but then always comes up with an excuse why she or she can’t. If you haven’t met the person after a few months, for whatever reason, you have good reason to be suspicious.

Never send money to anyone you don’t know personally. If you don’t know them, don’t send money. You will see what their true intentions are after that.

If you suspect an online relationship is a scam, stop all contact immediately. And if you are the victim of a romance scam, file a complaint with the FBI’s Internet Crime Complaint Center.

(<https://www.ic3.gov/default.aspx>)

Recipe Corner



Pumpkin Pie Squares

- ½ cup butter softened
- ½ cup brown sugar
- 1 cup all-purpose flour
- ½ cup rolled oats
- 2 eggs
- ¾ cup white sugar
- 1 (15 ounce) can pumpkin
- 1 (12 fluid ounce) can evaporated milk
- ½ teaspoon salt
- 1 teaspoon grounds cinnamon
- ½ teaspoon ground ginger
- 1/4 teaspoon ground cloves

Preheat oven to 350 degrees

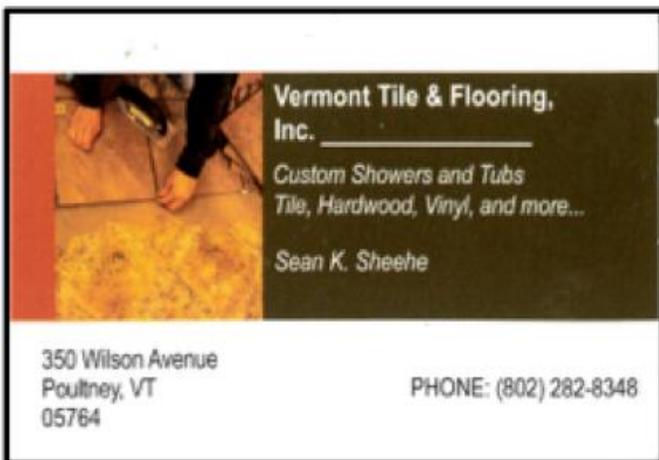
In a medium bowl, cream together butter and brown sugar. Mix in flour. Fold in oats. Press into a 9x13 baking pan.

Bake in preheated oven 15 minutes until set.

In a large bowl, beat eggs with white sugar. Beat in pumpkin and evaporated milk. Mix in salt, cinnamon, ginger and cloves. Pour over baked crust.

Bake in preheated oven 20 minutes, until set. Let cool before cutting into squares.

Got a favorite recipe you are willing to share? Please send it/them to Shirley Bucceri at smhb@vermontel.net or 49 North End Road, Tinnmouth, VT 05773. Thanks!



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 Christmas Carol singing starting
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Please come to the
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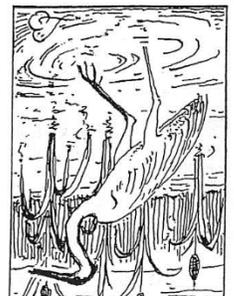
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