

TALES OF TINMOUTH

June 2018

Vol. 33 Number 6

Tinmouth

Vermont

Editors' Notes:

The deadline 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.

Many, many thanks for the donations to keep *Tales* in print. They are very much appreciated.

Pat Psholka & Helen Mango

~ 2018 Tinmouth Town Wide Tag Sales ~

By Sherry Johnson

Time to save that "stuff" from spring cleaning! We are planning to have the Tinmouth Town Wide Tag Sales again in 2018, and look forward to continued community participation.

Don't want to have a tag sale, but the stuff is too good to toss - items can be donated at the end of August to our charity tag sale. This year the Tinmouth Volunteer Fire Department will be the beneficiary.

So, please save the date - **September 1st**, which is the first Saturday of the Labor Day weekend. More details to follow and instructions on how to sign up.

The Parent's Club will sponsor a Bake/Pizza Oven Sale. Organizers: Sherry Johnson (446-3307) vtsjohnson@icloud.com or Tracy Byford tracyleab@gmail.com or Chuck Bronk charles.bronk@gmail.com

~ Art and Craft Show & Sale ~

By Sherry Johnson

Attention artists and crafters!

We are planning a one-day art and craft show for Tinmouth Artists on **Saturday, October 6th** in the Old Fire House from 10am-4pm. There are only 9 spaces left, so if you are a Tinmouth resident and would like to participate, please reserve a space at your earliest convenience. This is a great way to showcase your skills, and maybe sell a few of your designs.

Any organization that would like to raise money with either a bake sale or Pizza Oven Sale should contact Sherry Johnson (446-3307) vtsjohnson@icloud.com or Tracy Byford tracyleab@gmail.com or Chuck Bronk at charles.bronk@gmail.com

More information will be available in the coming months.

~ Swan Song ~ Saturday, June 30th

The **Spoon Mountain Singers** will give their annual Tinmouth Firehouse concert on **Saturday, June 30 at 7 p.m.** *After 21 years in Tinmouth, this will probably be their last concert of all.*

The program includes vocal music from many periods: 16th to 20th century, sacred and secular, love songs and spirituals. The centerpiece will be Claudio Monteverdi's *Lamento d'Arianna*, his arrangement of one of his early Italian operas, to which the original score has been lost. Ariadne laments her abandonment by Theseus after she helped him slay the Minotaur and escape from the palace of Minos. Much music has been written about relationships between men and women. This concert will reflect their variety.

This year's singers: Asha Carroll, Elizabeth Gibson, Tegan Kirk-Elkin, Bob Lloyd, Sue Lloyd, Helen Mango, Andy McCullough, Jay White, and Elizabeth Willbanks.

~ Call for Entries ~

Tinmouth Town Equipment Decal Image

By Frank Sears, Select Board Chair

The Tinmouth Select Board invites all in the Community of Tinmouth to participate in creating a Decal Image appropriate for placement onto the town's road equipment.

Your decal entry should include "Town of Tinmouth" lettering along with original artwork, not containing any copyright material.

All entries are to be received at the Town Office no later than the close of business on June 14, 2018.

Entries can be emailed to the Town Office at tinmouthtown@vermontel.net or can be personally delivered to the Town Office. (If emailing your entry, please follow up with a phone call to the office confirming your entry was received.) Judging of entries will be accomplished, by the Select Board, at the June 14th Select Board Meeting.

The chosen entry will be announced at the June 14th Select Board Meeting.

The designer of the chosen decal will receive a cash prize of \$25.00 as well as having the designer's photo published within the next Annual Town Report.

We look forward to receiving your entry!

June 2018 Calendar of Events

Library OPEN	Saturday	2 nd	9-12 AM	Library
Fire Dept.	Thursday	7 th	7:00	Fire House
6 th Grade Graduation	Friday	8 th	6:00	Community Center
Concert	Friday	8 th	7:30 p.m.	Old Fire House
Select Board	Thursday	14 th	7:00	Town Office
School Picnic	Friday	15 th	11:00-3:00	Elfin Lake
Grievance Hearing	Monday	18 th	6:00 by appointment	Town Office
<i>Tales of Tinmouth</i> Deadline	Wednesday	20 th		Don't Miss It!
Planning Commission	Thursday	21 st	7:00	Town Office
PC Public Hearing	Thursday	21 st	7:00	Town Office
Writer's Group	Sunday	24 th	1:30	Old Fire House
Spoon Mtn. Singers Concert	Saturday	30 th	7:00 p.m.	Old Fire House

July 2018 Calendar of Events

Fire Dept.	Thursday	5 th	7:00	Fire House
Special Library AM Hours	Saturday	7 th	9-Noon	Library
DuPont Bros. Concert	Saturday	7 th	7:30	Old Fire House
Select Board	Thursday	10 th	7:00	Town Office
Conservation Commission	Monday	16 th	7:30	Town Office
Planning Commission	Thursday	19 th	7:00	Town Office
<i>Tales of Tinmouth</i> Deadline	Sunday	20 th		Don't Miss It!

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. All abilities are welcome!

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

**Bone Builders ~ Wednesday 11:00-12:00 am & Friday 9:00 – 10:00 am Library
All are welcome!**

~ Resilient Right of Ways Project and iNaturalist ~

The Select Board has entered into a study with the VT Department of Forests, Parks and Recreation (FPR) called the Resilient Right of Ways Project. At no cost to the town, a FPR employee, Joanne Garton is doing a survey of trees, invasive species and other features along the roads in town. We can help her out by noting where invasive species such as poison parsnip, buckthorn, honey-suckle, multi-floral rose are encroaching on our roadsides. There's a smartphone app (iNaturalist) that makes this easy to do. Here's how:

1. Download the iNaturalist app on your smartphone or register on-line using your computer. You'll create a username and password.
2. To get started, visit <https://www.inaturalist.org/pages/getting+started> for easy-to-follow tips. Or tap the "Observe" button on your phone and take a picture – the app will walk you through a few simple steps to identify your observation. The app can also help you guess at identification.
3. While you can use iNaturalist to map anything in the natural world, the Resilient Right-of-Ways initiative is collecting information regarding the frequency and location of invasive species along roadways. Familiarize yourself with some common invasive species at vtinvasives.org. Or ask your friends and neighbors for help identifying common buckthorn, glossy buckthorn, honeysuckle, phragmites, Japanese barberry, Japanese knotweed and poison parsnip (to name a few).
4. In iNaturalist, register for the Mapping for Healthy Forests: Vermont project and make sure that you enter invasive species observations into that project.

There will be a couple of folks working along town roads in the coming couple of months gathering information for this project. Your help with the above 'app' would be greatly appreciated!



~ **Tinmouth Plant and Bake Sale Thanks** ~

A BIG thank you to everyone who dug, potted, donated, bought, baked, made pizza, and helped with the annual Plant and Bake Sale. It was a great success!

And a HUGE thank you to Cathy Reynolds for once again coordinating the Plant Sale and giving over her barn and driveway and TIME to the community!

~ **Tinmouth Blooms ~ Winners**
By Tracy Byford

We received a small grant from the Tinmouth Community Fund to buy eight medium-sized disease-resistant, pink-flowering crab apple trees. Winners were drawn at the Select Board meeting. 14 folks submitted their names for the drawing. The names were drawn by those present in the room (except anyone with a relative in the drawing). The winners were Sarah Aines, Robbie Leeds, Nelson Jaquay, Frank and Shelly Sears, Heather Rabin, Holly Noble, Helen Mango, and Ruth Drachman. There was such a positive response, we plan to do it again next year.

~ **Community News** ~

*Congratulations to **Frank Sears and Shelly Farnam** who were married on May 5th. And to **Jim Wetherby and Suzanne Dafni** who were also married on May 5th. May you all have many years of happiness!!*

*Welcome to **Erin Kellie Martone** born on May 22nd to **Chris and Amy Martone**, joining big sister **Sadie**. Proud grandmother is **Wendy Andrews**. Proud Great-grandmother is **Enid Whittingham**.*

*Get well wishes are sent to **Denise Tess McGinley, Jan Krantz, Caleb Scott and Rod Start**.*

Proud **Great-Grandmother Cathy Ricketts** (of Rutland and formerly of Tinmouth) wrote to announce the arrival of **Adelynn AnnMarie**, born May 8th to **Mike and Kayla Boone**, grandparents are **Jeff and Tina Butler** of Apache Junction, Arizona.

*Heartfelt sympathies are sent to **Sherry Kelly and family** for the recent loss of her Mom. And to family and friends of **Tony Zilli**.*

~ **Grievance Hearing** ~

The Board of Listers has announced that **Grievance Hearings will begin on Monday, June 18th at 6:00 PM.**

If you wish to have the Listers reconsider the assessed value of your property, please call the town office for an appointment. 802-446-2498.

~ **Library News** ~
By Nelson Jaquay

As advertised earlier, The Tinmouth Motley Writers Group will kick off its yearlong "Writers In Our Midst" project on **Sunday, June 24th at 1:30 P.M.** by presenting Nora Rubinstein and Herb Childress. Nora and husband Herb, both published writers from Middletown Springs, will be presenting a writing workshop at 1:30 P.M. at The Tinmouth Library related to **Nora's 2:30 P.M.** presentation of her research and book project about Danby's Samuel Morison and his Spinning Wheels.

The Mt. Tabor-Danby Historical Society has one of Morison's great wheels on display, and Nora is heading up a project for the Society inventorying and researching these wheels. She owns several Morison wheels and will bring one to demonstrate.

Come and meet this fascinating writing duo. Write with us under their guidance at 1:30 P.M. and/or come at 2:30 P.M. to hear Nora's presentation.

Several things of particular interest will be their sharing about two writers under one roof and Nora's research web which she calls "The Nancy Draws" extending all over the eastern U.S.

Historical Society members will find this all of special interest because of Nora's research techniques chasing down a historical artifact.

The library is **open** on Monday and Thursday, from 10:00 A.M. until Noon, and from 1:30 P.M. until 5:00 P.M., as well as the morning of the first Saturday of the month – June 2nd this month.

TINMOUTH GREEN UP ~ Thank you!!

I want to sincerely thank the Green Up Committee, members of the Conservation Commission and all the wonderful volunteers who came out on Green Up Day to keep Tinmouth's roadsides beautiful. I was especially heartened to see so many kids involved this year!

Please let me know what worked well for you and what steps we could take to improve Green Up for next year.

Have a wonderful spring,

Doug Fontein, member Green Up Committee and Conservation Commission Chair

~ **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.

Meetings and agendas are announced here as well.

~ **Tinmouth School News** ~

By *Maureen Fitzgerald-Riker, Principal*



To the Tinmouth Community,

It's hard to believe May has arrived and even harder to believe that winter has passed. The gardens surrounding the school building are brimming with color. Thank you to the garden club for planting and maintaining the gardens and the flowering crab apple trees.

The students will be working in the vegetable garden in the upcoming weeks. Each class is assigned a planter box. Stop by after Memorial Day, when you can and see the 4th, 5th, and 6th grade Three Sister Garden as well as the kindergarten's pumpkin patch. These planter boxes are located in the back of the school building.

Adjacent to the garden is the Wee Folk Playground, which is currently under construction. A 16' by 16' pavilion will be completed this week with a green metal roof. Community volunteers have generously donated money, time, and materials to provide our smallest students with a safe and environmentally inviting space to learn and play. Truly, Tinmouth community members are fundamental to making Tinmouth School, a small school with a big heart!

Our sixth graders will be graduating at 6:00 p.m. on June 8th. Three of our graduates will be attending Mill River and one will attend Long Trail. Please join us in celebrating our students' transition into middle school on Friday, the 8th.

As school year comes to a close I want to update you on what to expect in September. Class configurations for 2018-19 will be Pre-K, K/1st grade, 2nd/3rd grade, and 4th, 5th, and 6th grade.

Two of our teachers are leaving Tinmouth, and we'll certainly miss them both. Amanda Pagano has accepted a special education position at the high school. Melinda Coupe is moving to a position outside of the district. We are currently in the process of accepting applications and interviewing for these openings. We appreciate the services both Ms. Coupe and Ms. Pagano have provided Tinmouth students.

Photo is a picture of our children contra dancing last Friday. Mary Barron taught students quite a few contra steps and several complete dances. Students were exhilarated to dance to live music! We are grateful for the Tinmouth Community Fund grant, which made this event possible!

Our school-wide picnic is at Elfin Lake on June 15th. All are welcome to join us! 11:00 – 3:00.
Please bring a dish to share.

Please Recycle or Pass Along Tales!!



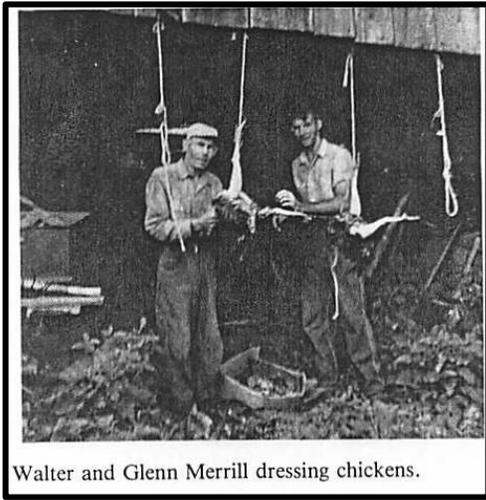
TES Students learning to Contra Dance, thanks to a Tinmouth Community Fund grant!

Mark your calendars for Saturday, July 7th!
The DuPont Brothers will be playing
a Concert at the Old Fire House.

Two brothers living on the indie circuit, driving around sharing their stories through songwriting. That's life for Sam & Zack DuPont. Based out of Burlington, VT the sibling indie-folk-rock duo has kept busy on the road since 2013. Their two studio releases, *Heavy as Lead* (2015) & *A Riddle For You* (2016) & two live albums, *Live at Beehive* (2016) & *Live at Deepwells* (2017), have taken them all over the Northeast, Mid-Atlantic, South and Midwest.

The DuPont Brothers have made festival appearances at Grand Point North & SXSW & have supported a wide array of national acts of all shapes, sizes & genres including Kishi Bashi, Johnnyswim, The Lone Bellow, Gin Wigmore, Langhorne Slim, Joseph, Livingston Taylor, Bahamas, Ben Sollee & Patrick Watson along with Grammy award winning artists, Sturgill Simpson, Jerry Douglas, Blake Mills, Suzanne Vega & Pat Benatar.





Walter and Glenn Merrill dressing chickens.

Grandpa Merrill

The person I admire is my grandfather, **Glenn W. Merrill**. He is many different things. One of the many things he does is auctioneering. He also does farming. He's always there when you need him. You can tell him anything or ask him anything he'll always try to answer it. In the summer, sometimes I would help him on the farm. He tries to support everything as much as he can. Even though sometimes he may forget things he still gives you presents or cares for you.

He's not only a grandfather, he is also a father to three lovely children. He also had one dog named Molly. He has always lived in the town of Tinmouth. His home was bought by his parents in 1928. They also bought the house that he lives in now in 1954. Then he bought it from his parents in 1972. Since then he has added on a porch to his house.

He stayed home to work on the farm during high school. The reason he stayed home to work on the farm was to help his dad out. One of the things he did with his father was dressing chickens. He also did haying, milking the cows, collecting the eggs from the chickens and sometimes even took pig slop out to the pigs. He also fed

Back then they used work horses then they had tractors. He has an old Ford tractor that is his favorite tractor. Even today he sometimes still uses it for odd jobs, but not as much as he used to. The Oliver is green and is the one he uses most frequently, and when my brother and mother and I go up to see him he always lets us ride on the Oliver.

Grandpa always wears straw hats when he's haying. He hays from early in the morning until late at night. One time, my uncle Glennie said, "Stop haying" but he didn't stop until eight o' clock at night because he was too stubborn. He likes to get as much work done as he can in one day. I hope to be like my grandpa by always doing my best at what I do and helping others if I can.

Written By his Granddaughter Erin K. Stoneberg May 16, 1996. Read by daughter Mary Jane May 19th.

**March 22, 2018
Grandpa Merrill**

You were larger than life...after Grandma passed you held me and filled the next 31 years after her passing with everlasting love and laughter...While, watching westerns we reminisced about the stock market, the past everything from your childhood adventures to what happened yesterday... My fondest times were riding on the side fender of the Oliver Tractor...from age 12 till 34 he still had me climb up and sit on the same spot...He won almost every argument usually with a smile...Once I showed up he was driving The White, (a tractor), which didn't have much room...so he pulls up next to my uncle who was riding with Ellis on the Oliver he said that he wanted to drive it with both of us my Uncle argued the exhaust fumes weren't good for him, and in his own way he said they aren't good for Ellis who was 2 or 3 at the time...my Uncle couldn't argue that so on he got smiling ear to ear riding with his Grand Kids made him happy...

He loved haying and was adamant about getting it done in 3 days if possible...before the fancy steel wagons with wooden ones he just kept going until a wagon was full and hooked up another...One day he filled 8 or 9 wagons and my Uncle came home from Young's Farm running out in the field stop dad...I'm tired already did a lot at Young's...my grandpa said sorry son I forgot that you're not retired...Boy did their backs hurt after stacking all that hay in the barn...Oh what such wonderful memories I have...

~ **Erin Stoneberg,**~
Poultney, Vermont

Glenn W. Merrill passed on March 18, 2018, age 84.

He was laid to rest May 19, 2018.

He will be greatly missed.

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LISA WILLIAMS, L.AC.**

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~ Marion's Musings for June ~

By Marion Hamby

This month I want to write about the event I attended yesterday (May 19th). The Celebration of Life for Glenn W. Merrill. There was a large crowd of relatives and friends he had made over the years. He was a special person to a great many people. When my husband, J.J. Squier and I moved here with our family, we lived right next to the Merrill family (up the road a mile). The whole family was very friendly towards us flatlanders (we had lived in Rutland). We knew how to milk cows, but not much else about farming. Glenn and his brother, Ralph took us under their wings. We learned all about tractors, mowing hay, cutting wood etc.

We had no telephone when we first came. We relied on Glenn's family for our calls. Now years ago Glenn was rather quiet. One day I went down to make a call and in the door came Glenn all smiles. Guess what he said, "I'm getting married!" He was so excited and of course we were happy for him.

He and his wife Dot lived just down the road and I can't count the times he has pulled us out of the ditch (me mostly) and done other favors for us. His wife was a darling. Their three children were really good kids.

Glenn served in many places in town. He was awfully quick to help anyone. And I was pleased when he took up auctioneering. He was very good at it. Some of you remember Bus Mars? He helped Glenn in that job. I would venture to say that Glenn was nearly as good as Bus. Auctions were fun.

When we moved over here to the north end, Glenn used to come over to deer hunt with us.

He would stop anywhere to talk about anything. I can relate to that. Talking is my hobby.

As I looked over the crowd on Saturday I saw many people I hadn't seen in years. My, how the families have branched out. Old people have passed on, new ones have been born, and new people have moved in - still the spirit stays the same. This is a real Vermont town. I love it here. If I were talented, I could write a book on the town and the people in it from the time we moved here until now. 63 years. There were a lot more Merrill's here then. I am getting too old to write a book, but I can put in a few memories now and then.

I would like to close by saying there should be a lot more people like Glenn.

~ Helpful Items for Loan ~

Someone getting a new hip or knee? Or just needs some help getting around? The Town Office has walkers, crutches, a potty seat, a potty chair (commode), and a wheel chair to loan.

Please call 446-2498 to make arrangements.



TINMOUTH
CHURCH

~ Tinmouth Community Church ~

Dear Friends,

This past Sunday was Pentecost, which is often referred to as the birthday of the Christian church. The key element of this day is that the Holy Spirit comes to inspire everyone who is gathered to hear the apostles speak. What is astonishing about this is that the Spirit did not discern between those who were faithful Jews and those who were not, between those who lived in Israel and those who were foreigners.

I appreciate the sense of unity fostered by the Spirit on that day, and believe it is a unity that can permeate more of life, if we invite it to. Sometimes unity is this simple. It is a decision we make to be more accepting of one another, to let our resistance go and to welcome another person into the neighborhood, family or country. This is the first step even in situations where unity is not that easy as well, it has to do with opening your heart.

Sometimes unity takes a lot of work, and if this is the case, then we need to commit ourselves to doing the work even when that is difficult and time-consuming. We may open our hearts, but our minds remain stuck on old ideas and ways of seeing the world. We attempt to be accepting and welcoming to others, but find ourselves bogged down by prejudices that we barely know are there.

Over time and history, various elements were used to describe how the Spirit of God interacts with the world. These included wind, fire and water. Each of these is instrumental in dealing with different challenges to our essential unity. Wind runs the gamut from gentle cooling breezes in the heat of summer to violent storms that are capable of wreaking havoc wherever they touch down.

Fire can show up in the cozy woodstove that keeps us warm throughout winter as well as in the raging forest fire that threatens to destroy everything in its path. And water can be a gentle rain or it can manifest as a lashing nor'easter.

Metaphorically speaking, sometimes all it takes is a persistent breeze that keeps blowing through our minds for us to come around to a new way of thinking, or a steady, quiet fire to infuse us with warmth and acceptance, or a gentle rain to refresh us. At other times it takes a powerful wind, a raging fire of emotion or a torrential downpour to hit us and transform our thinking in a bigger way.

Whatever it takes, I hope we can all come around to appreciate all that draws us together, so that we can respect our differences as individuals while also valuing everything we share in common, everything that unites us.

***In Peace,
Shirley***



Recipe Corner

Easy Greek Orzo Summer Salad

Amounts are relative and are added until they "look right"

1 pound of orzo, cooked, drained and cooled. Add olive oil and stir while cooling

halved Greek olives

halved cherry tomatoes or cubed regular

crumbled feta

chopped scallions

seeded cucumbers, cubed, 1/2" approximately

Add salt, pepper, dried oregano, olive oil and lemon juice to taste

Recipe compliments of Tracylea Byford

And from the Internet:

Best Ever Broccoli Salad



Prep time
5 mins
Total time
5 mins

Don't believe me? Just try it! This Best Ever Broccoli Salad recipe is bursting with flavor! Packed full of broccoli, bacon, grapes, almonds and more - every bite is delicious!

Author: Trish - Mom On Timeout

Recipe type: Salad

Serves: 10 servings

Ingredients

- 1 cup light mayonnaise
- 1/3 cup sugar
- 2 tbsp red wine vinegar
- 1 tsp celery seed
- 2 heads of broccoli broken down into small florets
- 3/4 lb bacon, cooked and chopped into small pieces

- 1/2 cup toasted slivered almonds
- 2 green onions, thinly sliced
- 1 cup chopped celery
- 1 1/2 cups red seedless grapes, halved

Instructions

1. Whisk together mayonnaise, sugar, red wine vinegar, and celery seed in a small bowl. Place in refrigerator for at least 30 minutes.
2. Combine broccoli, bacon, toasted almonds, green onions, celery and grapes in a large serving dish.
3. (To toast almonds, place on a large baking sheet and bake at 350F for 3-5 minutes stirring in between. Do not walk away! They will burn easily. The almonds are toasted when they turn light brown.)
4. Toss the dressing with the rest of the salad ingredients and stir.
5. Dressing can be added at the last minute if desired.

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

~ Nature Notes ~



Photo by Vito Macaluso

Vito Macaluso reports: Patti and I were walking the dog and had just decided to sit by our barn when a black bear came walking out of the wooded area about 250 feet from where we were sitting. The bear was in no hurry and headed North towards the channel.

Rod Start reported a bear swiped the bird feeder stuck to his window (just north of the Community Center). Others reported sugar makers taking down taps chased from the woods. Be on the look-out for BEARS!!



The Tinnmouth Old Firehouse Spring Concert Series 2018

The Old Firehouse Crew wraps up its Spring Series with
Cindy Kallet and Grey Larsen!

Concerts are on Friday nights at 7:30 PM in
Tinnmouth village. Doors open at 7 PM. The Old Firehouse
is on Mountain View Road just a couple of hundred feet
south of the intersection with Vermont 140. Suggested
donation of \$10 to \$15; 90% to the musicians; 10% to the
Town. Local groups provide refreshments. Your
donations support their activities.



Cindy Kallet and Grey Larsen Bring the Finest American Folk Music to the Firehouse on June 8.

Cindy Kallet and Grey Larsen, each well-known and
loved for their decades of music making, have spent
nearly a decade in a joyful musical collaboration. Cindy
is a superb singer, guitarist, songwriter, and multi-
instrumentalist. Grey is one of America's finest players of
the Irish flute and tin whistle, as well as an accomplished
singer and concertina, fiddle, piano and harmonium
player. As composers each contributes to the unique
tapestry of contemporary folk and world music as it
flourishes in the US today. Together, they weave songs
and tunes of vibrant color and rich texture, rewarding the
listener with a level of nuance and craftsmanship often
compared to that of fine chamber music.



Middletown Springs ~ Local artists, craftsmakers and
musicians will join Historical Society volunteers to
present the **43rd Annual Middletown Springs
Strawberry Festival**. *Admission is free.*

Strawberry lovers are invited on **Sunday, June 24
from 2 to 4 pm** to the Historical Society on the
Green. The festival features delicious strawberry
shortcake made with fresh local strawberries, homemade
biscuits, vanilla ice cream and whipped cream, along with
iced tea, lemonade or coffee.

Local artists and craftspeople will display and sell their
work.

Paul Morgan and friends enliven the afternoon with
acoustic music, and there will be children's activities.

The Historical Society Museum will be open all
afternoon, as well as on Sunday afternoons through
October. Admission is free.

On view in the Museum is the exhibit, "Saving
Sylvanus", about Sylvanus Haynes (1768- 1826), the first
pastor of the Baptist church in Middletown. In addition
are exhibits on the Montvert Hotel and Mineral Springs,
and the Middletown History Timeline..

The Mineral Springs Park, located nearby, is open
every day, year round.

For more information, contact Pat Hemenway at 235-
2421 or David Wright at 235-2376.

Rutland – On **Wednesday, June 27th from 10AM to
noon**, BROC Community Action is offering a **FREE**
financial capability workshop at their office located at 45
Union Street in Rutland. The group, led by instructor
Shelley Faris, will talk about the home buying process,
shopping for a mortgage and how to pay down debt.

Register by contacting Shelley at 802-665-1742 or
sfaris@broc.org. To learn more about BROC Community
Action visit broc.org.

*BROC Community Action offers hope, opportunity
and a path forward out of crisis or poverty, so our
neighbors and communities thrive.*

~Meeting Highlights~

(Complete minutes are available at the town office.)

Select Board ~ 5/10/18

Present were members Michael Fallar, Frank Sears and Cathy Reynolds, as well as Chuck Bronk, Eric Buffum – Road Commissioner, Kim Harbaugh, Sherry Johnson, Grant Reynolds, Hollis Squier, and Gail Fallar.

Eric reported grading of gravel roads is about half done. He requested permission to purchase a large blower to help with dispersal of leaves in ditches and culverts. There was a demonstration at the town garage that Michael and Hollis observed. Eric noted it will save lots of time and aggravation (now they use a backpack blower) and help with grading. After reviewing the budget and the Equipment Fund, Board voted to purchase the blower with attachment up to \$6,000. Will come out of the FY19 (current) budget.

Eric noted the first round of Grants in Aid from the state for water quality improvement road work needs to be done by June 30th – this year’s project is an area on Upper Gulf Road near its intersection with Journey’s End Road. There is also an area on Gulf Road that has been approved by RRPC which will come under the next round of funding. Board voted to apply for the next round of Grant-in-Aid funding.

Gail advised that FEMA had approved four of the five projects from last July’s storm – only McCoy Road is still under review and now the Army Corps of Engineers approval is needed.

Gail also advised the two recent grant applications for work on McCoy Road had been approved by AOT District personnel and were being submitted to Montpelier for final approval. One has been received, Board authorized Frank to sign.

Hollis inquired about mowing of roadsides, did the Board wish that he do it again? Michael recused himself as Hollis is his uncle. After much discussion as to whether he is a subcontractor or a town employee (the town’s insurance company considers him not to be a subcontractor) Cathy moved and Frank 2nded to hire Hollis to mow the road sides as in the past, both voted in favor. He was advised he could decide whether to be a subcontractor (provide his own insurance, etc.) or a town employee. He will research and advise the Board.

Chuck advised that the Tinmouth Community Fund had awarded a grant to Tinmouth Blooms to purchase eight flowering crabapple trees to be given away. 14 folks submitted their names for the drawing. The names were placed in a box and eight names were drawn by those present in the room (except anyone with a relative in the drawing). The winners were Sarah Aines, Robbie Leeds, Nelson Jaquay, Frank and Shelly Sears, Heather Rabin, Holly Noble, Helen Mango, and Ruth Drachman. There was such a positive response, they plan to do it again next

year. Winners were advised not to plant the trees in the town’s right of way.

Cathy presented an RFP for civil engineering for the Master Plan re: transfer station, salt/sand shed, and town garage. Chuck has been in contact with four engineering firms. Board set a site visit for all concerned on May 16th, Frank and Michael plan to attend so a special Board meeting will need to be warned. Cathy noted that Chuck had met with Green Mountain Power regarding running electricity to the proposed location of the new transfer station. There may be a need for consultation with an electrician or electrical engineer as well. The compactors need 3-phase power so there needs to be a phase changer in the mix.

Board discussed estimated costs; the need to spend money to gather enough information for voters to decide about a bond vote; that things can’t remain as they are – something needs to be done.

Board decided that a 3 yard compactor feeding into a 40 yard roll off container would be the right size (2 yard was too small, 4 too big). Need to try to determine what the yearly cost to run the compactors will be – number of hauls, number to tons of solid waste and recycling, what to do with bulky items – like couches (other towns have a bulky disposal day once a year), etc.

Board authorized Cathy and Chuck to write the RFP and go out to bid civil engineering. There is also an RFP for the new shed for the transfer station. Bids will be due on May 24th.

Board authorized Eric, Bob Noble and Gail to gather fuel bids (diesel and #2 fuel oil) for the June Board meeting.

Board authorized going out to bid for paving – the middle section of East Road is this year’s work zone, due on the special meeting on May 24th.

Board discussed the 32 dangerous/dead/dying trees on a list from Tree Warden David Birdsall and Road Commissioner Eric Buffum. Eric will try to get to them as time allows, most likely toward the end of summer. Frank advised that the Tree Policy Committee was working on a draft policy, will meet again on May 23rd.

Board considered a driveway permit application from Travis Hepburn on North End Road, approved with conditions – 15” culvert, 30 feet long and ditching will be required. Land owner is Kathy Hepburn Halford.

Gail advised the application for an Encroachment Permit for placing the Solar Bees back in Tinmouth Pond was still under review by the state. The previous permit (10 years) expired in 2017 – was a permit for dealing with aquatic nuisances (milfoil), but now the state has determined that an encroachment permit for placing something in the lake is needed instead. Solar Bees are solar powered units that circulate water from the middle or bottom of the pond to the top. A major advantage is improving water quality.

Frank volunteered to continue at the Select Board liaison to the Tinmouth Pond Milfoil Project.

Board formally appointed an Advisory Committee for the Resilient Road project – Cathy Reynolds (Board), Eric Buffum (road), Doug Fontein (Conservation Commission), David Birdsall (tree warden), and Gail Fallar (town clerk).

Board asked for resumes for transfer station manager applicants for May 24th.

Board reviewed financial report – Gail advised that budgets are under spent, but revenues are under budget as well. Delinquent taxes have been over budgeted for a number of years (some of the money collected as delinquent is double counted as it is for the current year not just past years.) This was changed a number of years ago as \$25,000 was budgeted and \$50,000 was collected. It's taken a while to become apparent, but there is now a short fall in revenues.

Cathy expressed concern about the need for more Board work to be done, their assistant is not completing all the tasks assigned. Should Board members do more? Budget more time? Get an assistant for the assistant? It is becoming a bigger job, something needs to be done. Board will ponder situation.

Frank expressed concern with three hour meetings, asked members to think about scheduling two regular meetings each month instead.

Select Board ~ Special Meeting ~ 5/24/18

Present were members Michael Fallar, Cathy Reynolds, and Frank Sears, as well as Chuck Bronk, Tom Fuller (Fuller Sand and Gravel), Mike Mullen (Pike Industries), Kim Harbaugh, Sherry Johnson, Grant Reynolds, Jo Reynolds, Eric Buffum – Road Commissioner, and Gail Fallar – Select Board Assistant.

Board reviewed the agenda and added: pig complaint on Baker property; McCoy Road – Army Corps of Engineers; request from Eric regarding grader tires and truck decals; and an executive session regarding personnel.

Board opened paving bids: Fuller Sand and Gravel bid \$59.00 per ton for hot mix and \$1 for the gravel shouldering operation; Pike Industries bid \$62.90 per ton and \$30 per cubic yard for the shouldering; Wilk Paving bid \$63.65 per ton and \$22 per cubic yard for the shouldering. After brief discussion and clarification (Fuller really bid only \$1 for the shouldering). Board voted to award contract to Fuller Sand and Gravel. Tom noted that when Eric has the road ready, they will be ready to pave – late June or early July.

Board interviewed Chris Martone for the position of Transfer Station Manager, Board voted to hire him. Position is part time and oversees the operation of the transfer station.

Only one bid was received for civil engineering for the transfer station/salt-sand shed/town garage. Board did not feel one bid was adequate. Board voted to re-bid the project. Cathy and Chuck will send to more firms for the June 14th Select Board meeting.

Gail, as Zoning Administrator, asked Board for permission for the School to build a pavilion on the town green adjacent to the school for the Wee Folk Playground. The Town owns the town green and thus needs to give permission before she can issue a zoning/building permit. Frank moved to grant permission, Michael 2nded, both voted in favor. Cathy recused herself as her husband Doug is the builder. Concern was raised that construction was started prior to obtaining the permit. Gail advised that the school principal had spoken to a prior Board about the project when it was going to be on the eastern side of the driveway.

Under other business – Eric requested permission to purchase four new tires for the grader – it has six tires, one recently blew out, others are nearly bald. The four rear tires are chain driven and need to have the same tread, he will put the best two of the current five on the front and the four new ones on the back. After brief discussion, Cathy moved and Frank 2nded to approve Eric's request, Cathy and Frank voted in favor, Michael voted no.

Gail advised that the town now needs the approval of the Army Corps of Engineers for two of the culverts on McCoy Road in order to proceed with the FEMA funding request regarding last July's storm damage. Board voted to authorize Frank to sign whatever documentation is necessary.

Eric inquired about decals for town trucks and equipment, Green Screen Graphics provided a quote. The big trucks are required to have them. After discussion, Board voted to invite the Tinmouth community to participate in a contest to design a logo. Board approved. Frank will work on press release – 24" x 30" original art work, no copy right material is allowed, the winner will have the design published in the town report and win a \$25 cash prize anonymously donated. Designs are due at the town office by 5:00 June 14th.

Board viewed a video from members of the Fire Department regarding a situation on the Baker farm where there was a recent wild fire. Concerns were raised about the pigs' living conditions, mountains of trash bags that contained date expired baked goods for the pigs but that ravens have torn apart, a stream running through or very near the pig pens, etc. After discussion of what the Select Board could do, Frank as Health Officer will contact the County Sheriff's Department who has been to the site and report back to the Board. The Agency of Agriculture and Department of Environmental Conservation have also been contacted.

Board voted to go into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing personnel issues at 8:00. Board retreated to

the Library. Board exited executive session at 8:50. Board voted to hold going to bid for civil engineering at this time. It will be placed on the agenda for June 14th.

Planning Commission ~ 5/17/18

Present were members Michael Fallar, Kim Harbaugh, Bob Lloyd, Vito Macaluso, Grant Reynolds, and Andy Gilmore, as well as Barbara Noyes-Pulling – Rutland Regional Planning Commission, and Gail Fallar, Sec.

Barbara gave a brief overview of the work on the Flower Brook watershed, year 2 of a grant from the High Meadows Foundation. Tinmouth was involved with year 1. It was noted that only a small section of Flower Brook is in Tinmouth (maybe 200 feet). There are two projects underway on Little Village Road and Greene Hill Road in Danby. There are no Tinmouth town roads in the Flower Brook watershed. PC members advised that McCoy Road near the Wells Brook indeed needed work, but noted that this is not part of current effort.

Barbara also spoke about forest fragmentation and Act 171's requirement that the town plan address it when it is updated/re-adopted in seven years. Forest blocks and wildlife habitat need to be identified and mapped. She suggested goggling Vermont bio-finder or using the Vermont Agency of Natural Resources' Atlas to take a look at the information already available.

She also presented a map of Rutland Town showing that kind of information. PC members advised that the current Tinmouth town plan already has that, was done several years ago in fact, and that there are wildlife corridors protected through zoning and subdivision regulations. When the time comes, PC members will review and update. Grant noted that this kind of information would be helpful to towns that haven't done much planning and are under development pressure.

Members did a final review of draft amendments for zoning and subdivision regulations. Members voted to approve as written and present the amendments for review and set a public hearing for June 21, 2018 at 7:00.

Members discussed applying for a Town/Village Center Designation. There are a number of state grants that give extra points to those communities who have the special designation. Bob volunteered to get information on the process for the June 21st meeting.

Conservation Commission ~ 5/21/18

With thanks to Rainbow Squier and Robbie Leeds

Present were members Doug Fontein, Nelson Jaquay, Robbie Leeds, Rainbow Squier, Jeff Ams, and Jo Reynolds, as well as Gail Fallar.

New Business:

Green Up Day was a success; there is still the possibility of pursuing adopt-a-roadway for folks. Next year, encourage a two bag method, one for trash and one for

recycling. Make a sign-up sheet next year so names and emails can be used for the next year.

A \$300 Tiny Grant from the Association of Vermont Conservation Districts was received to be used as follows:

- * Doug will purchase lumber, plexy glass, and PT and store in his barn for future work days.

- * Potential for more amphibian signs for next year as well as other informational signs on trails.

- * Press release needed; Robbie will get trail information up on websites.

- * Thank you note needed, this will be written by Rainbow.

When time allows, commission members were encouraged to check out Wallingford's trails for inspiration and ideas.

Bog bridge work day went very well. A lot was accomplished with help from folks in the community. Further work will need to be done, but most likely happen later after the current dry season. A date will be set by Doug after supplies are purchased.

Other work days will be set by Doug for the Purchase Loop privy work and batten installation at the Mountain Cabin.

Jeff is to contact Jim Andrews to discuss when amphibian crossing signs should be removed and to document them at their particular locations.

Tree Policy Committee ~ 5/9/18

Present were members Frank Sears, Eric Buffum, David Birdsall, and Sherry Johnson, as well as Gail Fallar, Scribe.

Members discussed a tree on Route 133, does the town tree warden have jurisdiction or does the state have the responsibility?

David and Eric discussed the dangerous tree list they compiled. There are at least 32, only a couple need a tree company to remove them. Much discussion about how to proceed.

Tree policies from Thetford and Peacham were reviewed, both have elements of interest to members. One being notification of a tree removal - how is a landowner advised that the town will be taking down a tree in the town's right of way, but on their property? Another being who determines that a tree needs to come down or not? (The Tree Warden had that power/authority.) Sherry volunteered to try to splice them together for the next meeting.

Issues needing addressing include: when a dangerous tree is in the town right of way – tree warden and road commissioner can confer, advise landowner; a regular tree that a landowner wants the town to remove – no need as it's not dangerous, but landowner does need to consult with the tree warden before they do it or have it done;

when a land owner or the town wants to clear the right of way of all vegetation.

Notification - verbal, letter, certified letter if contentious - Front Porch Forum and *Tales of Tinnmouth* for large projects –

When does a hearing need to be held? If landowner objects to the removal, or tree warden decides tree should remain. Tree warden decision is appealable to the Select Board.

Members discussed need for a plan for the 32 plus trees on the list now, how soon should they be taken down, when will the road crew have time. Eric advised several of them will need a rental lift to enable them to be taken down safely. David will try to prepare a list for the Select Board for its May 10th meeting. Eric will work on time frame for the work.

Committee is looking forward to working with the Resiliency for Roadways Project – they will help with policy development, best practices for vegetation in the town’s right of way, best practices for invasive plants (such as buck thorn), etc.

Tree Policy Committee ~ 5/23/18

Present were members Sherry Johnson, Eric Buffum, Frank Sears, David Birdsall via telephone, as well as Grant Reynolds, Wheaton Squier-Deputy Tree Warden and Gail Fallar, Scribe.

Members discussed *“The Public Right of Way and You”* and *“The Law of Trees”*, both from the Vermont Institute of Government, noting they were helpful, but confusing in a couple of places.

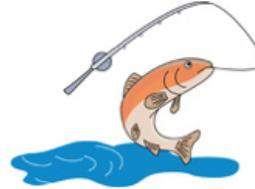
Members reviewed draft policy crafted by Sherry combining parts of Thetford and Peacham’s tree policies. Members struggled with defining a tree (one of the above documents strongly advised not doing that). Size, specie, shrub, brush, invasive stuff, ornamental, fruit, all created difficulty trying to define a public tree. It is not defined in state statute – that refers to shade trees. Grant finally proposed “Public Trees: Trees and shrubs on any town property or within the public right of way. A shrub is an intentionally planted woody plant. “Shrubs” do not include woody plants that have propagated voluntarily.” Other edits were suggested, Sherry will work them into the draft and send out for comment.

More discussion on who decides what is cut and when, who is responsible for the actual removal of a tree, etc. Should the policy address equipment used to cut brush? Concern was raised about the public outcry a few years ago when a brush head attached to an excavator was used to trim brush on Cobb Hill. Members did not feel it was appropriate to include in the policy.

The Tree Warden has great authority, however in Tinnmouth that has not been the case. Pretty much the road commissioner would discuss tree removal with the land owner on a case by case basis. Occasionally the Select

Board would decide to have brush or trees removed on a large scale. Should everyone (including the road commissioner) wishing to cut a tree in the town’s right of way have to get permission now from the tree warden? Does the tree warden want that responsibility? Should it be left to the road commissioner and the tree warden? Does state statute which addresses shade trees in residential areas really apply to Tinnmouth?

Vermont’s Summer Free Fishing Day is Saturday, June 9



MONTPELIER, Vt. – Vermont’s annual, statewide Summer Free Fishing Day is Saturday, June 9 this year, and it will be highlighted by a free

family fishing festival in Grand Isle as well as opening day of the state’s regular bass fishing season.

“Vermont’s Free Fishing Day gives resident and nonresident anglers the opportunity to go fishing without a license for the day in Vermont lakes and streams,” said Fish & Wildlife Commissioner Louis Porter. “Fishing is an activity that can be shared with friends and family or easily taught to newcomers while enjoying quality time together.”

Free Fishing Day in Vermont also will be celebrated at the “**Grand Isle Family Fishing Festival**,” to be held at the Ed Weed Fish Culture Station at 14 Bell Hill Road in Grand Isle. The festival will run from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Designed for young anglers and families, this exciting event offers basic fishing instruction and the chance for kids to catch big trout in a hatchery pond. No prior fishing experience is needed, and Vermont Fish & Wildlife will be supplying fishing rods, reels and bait for use by participants.

The festival will also highlight the newly updated Ed Weed Fish Culture Station visitor center, so fishing festival participants will be able to see the new educational exhibits and learn how to identify Lake Champlain fish species in the exhibit aquariums.

Vermont’s regular bass season also opens on June 9, marking the start of some of the hottest bass fishing action in the northeast. The season opens each year on the second Saturday in June and extends through the last day of November.

Fish & Wildlife also has teamed up with Vermont State Parks to offer the ‘**Reel Fun Fishing**’ program to be scheduled by park interpreters on Free Fishing Day and during the summer at some state parks. The program provides loaner tackle kits and fishing clinics free of charge to anyone interested in fishing at a Vermont State Park. Fishing licenses are required for anyone 15 or older except on Free Fishing Day.

Information on Reel Fun Fishing can be found at <https://vtstateparks.com/fishing.html>.

To learn more about fishing in Vermont or to purchase a fishing license, visit www.vtfishandwildlife.com.

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