

# TALES OF TINMOUTH

November 2019  
Vol. 33 Number 11

Tinmouth  
Vermont

## Editors' Notes:

*Please pause to give Thanks . . .*

*For family, friends, community, state and country.*

*And to pray for those not as fortunate . . . .*

The deadline 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@vermontel.net) or drop it off at the Town Office. Thanks.

*Pat Psholka, Helen Mango & Gail Fallar*

## Tinmouth Volunteer Fire Department Game Supper Saturday November 23, 2019 – 4:00 P.M.

*By Melody Squier*

The 50<sup>th</sup> Annual Tinmouth Game Supper is a true Vermont Community event and the major fundraiser for this small Town's Volunteer Fire Department.

Gourmet "all you can eat" menu includes: Venison and Moose Sauerbraten, Game Cornbread Chili, Secret Marinated Roasts of Venison, Moose, and Bear, Smoked Venison and Bear, Wild Italian Meatballs. Also: Chicken and Biscuits, mashed potatoes and squash, salads, rolls, baked beans, and over 100 homemade pies!

4:00 P.M. Early birds welcome. No waiting outside. Over 500 served. Take-outs available.

Adults: \$20.00 Children 6-12: \$10:00  
Children under 6: Free.

**Fire Department Raffle Tickets are available at the Town Office or from any fire fighter!!**

## ~ 50<sup>th</sup> Annual Game Supper ~ Saturday, November 23<sup>rd</sup> Help Needed!!!

The Fire Department needs your help with preparation, (meat cutters – Thursday night (21<sup>st</sup>); potato and squash peelers, onion choppers – Friday night(22<sup>nd</sup>) at the fire house); as well as help with set-up, serving, clean-up – Saturday; and baking pies, making salads, washing dishes, etc.

If you are willing to help, please call the fire chief **Mo Squier at 235-2718 or David Birdsall at 235-2908.**

Your generosity and help in regards to the firefighters calling to request pies, salads, cider, etc, is very much appreciated. ***If you don't get a call, please let us know.***

This will be the 50<sup>th</sup> annual Game Supper!!

## Community Service of Thanksgiving Sunday, November 24, 2019, 4:30 p.m. Tinmouth Community Church

"The seasons swirl around us . . ." begins the poem written by Robert T. Whittingham, founder of the annual Community Service of Thanksgiving, where we gather to give thanks for our bounty. Bob passed away in December, 2002. He is remembered each year at this special service when his poem is read by his daughter.

You and your family are invited. The service begins at 4:30 p.m. on November 24 in the Tinmouth Community Church, followed by a delicious supper and gathering of friends.

". . . And so in winter's days we look and praise ourselves, for skillfully gathering in, this bounty of the land . . ."

Because Tinmouth cares about their friends and neighbors in need, a good will offering of non-perishable food (or money) for Thanksgiving baskets and Tinmouth's food shelf will be appreciated.

## ~ Thanksgiving Baskets ~

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

If you, or someone you know, needs a basket, please call Gail at 446-2498. If you have a bounty of potatoes or squash or onions from your garden, they are most welcome as well.

## ~ Holiday Greetings ~

It's time for the **Nineteenth Annual Community Holiday Card**. For the past 18 years folks have made a donation to the **Roy & Anne Wilbur Fund** and sent their friends and family **Holiday Greetings** (*Merry Christmas, Happy Hanukkah, Happy Kwanza, Happy Festivus, Happy New Year – you choose*) in *Tales*. Think of how much you can save and how much your neighbors in need can be helped by your donation!

Please send your wishes and/or names and a donation of any size in care of *ye olde Editor* by **November 20<sup>th</sup>**.

Thank you for your continued support for the **Roy & Anne Wilbur Fund!**

~ November 2019 Calendar of Events ~

Special Library AM Hours	Saturday	2 <sup>nd</sup>	9-Noon	Library
Fire Department	Thursday	7 <sup>th</sup>	7:00	Fire House
Select Board - Special	Thursday	7 <sup>th</sup>	7:00	Town Office
Writing Group	Sunday	10 <sup>th</sup>	1:30	Library
Select Board	Thursday	14 <sup>th</sup>	7:00	Town Office
2 <sup>nd</sup> Half Property Taxes Due	Friday	15 <sup>th</sup>	8-12 and 1-5	Town Office
Contra Dance	Friday	15 <sup>th</sup>	8:00	Community Center
Book Discussion	Sunday	17 <sup>th</sup>	3:00	Ruth Drachman's
<i>Tales of Tinmouth</i> Deadline	Wednesday	20 <sup>th</sup>		Don't Miss It!
Planning Commission	Thursday	21 <sup>st</sup>	7:00	Town Office
Game Supper	Saturday	23 <sup>rd</sup>	4:00	Community Center
Thanksgiving Service	Sunday	24 <sup>th</sup>	4:30	Community Church
Thanksgiving	Thursday	28 <sup>th</sup>		Give Thanks!!
Town Office and Library	Thursday	28 <sup>th</sup>		CLOSED for Thanksgiving

~ December 2019 Calendar of Events ~

Fire Department	Thursday	5 <sup>th</sup>	7:00	Fire House
Library OPEN	Saturday	7 <sup>th</sup>	9 - Noon	Library
Select Board	Thursday	12 <sup>th</sup>	7:00	Town Office
Holiday Food Drive	Saturday		To Be Determined	Church Basement
Conservation Commission	Monday	16 <sup>th</sup>	7:30	Town Office
Planning Commission				No Meeting in December
Contra Dance	Friday	20 <sup>th</sup>	8:00	Community Center
<i>Tales of Tinmouth</i> Deadline	Friday	20 <sup>th</sup>		Don't Miss It!
Caroling	Sunday	22 <sup>nd</sup>	6:00	Meet at the Church
Christmas Eve Service	Monday	24 <sup>th</sup>	4:30 (4:15)	Church

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

*Pickle Ball ~ Wednesdays and Thursdays - 6:00-8:00 ~ Community Center*

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

On November 3<sup>rd</sup>, daylight savings time ends, please remember to set your clocks back one (1) hour. And this is the perfect time to make sure your smoke and CO detectors are working by testing them!!

**You should also change the batteries in these safety detectors.**



**2<sup>nd</sup> half property taxes are due on Friday, November 15<sup>th</sup>. Town Office will be open 8-12 and 1-5 that day.**

~ 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.

The *Tales of Tinmouth* is on the Tinmouth website ([tinmouthvt.org](http://tinmouthvt.org)). Look under "About".

If you would like to read it online! Or if someone in the house recycles it before you get a chance to read it!

There is much more information about the town on the website, take a few minutes and check it out!!

~ 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 November or December. Or call a Board member – names and phone numbers available in the Tinmouth Operator’s Manual annual update.

~ Art Show and Bake Sale Wrap-Up ~

By Sherry Johnson

We had another successful event!!

Thank you to the bakers, Shirley Buccheri, Betti Jaquay, Gene Usher, and Gail Fallar. We raised over \$150 for the Food Pantry.

Thank you to the artists Judy Gilmore, Ingrid Lepley, Susan Dresner, Josh Allen, Laurie Bepler and "Cow Patti" Macaluso.

Also, thank you to the people who the moved all the chairs after the Old Fire House Concert on Friday night. That was a BIG help.

And most of all thank you to everyone who attended.

~ Community News ~

*Get Well Wishes* are sent to **Marion Hambly, Jo Reynolds, Bill Secoy, Becky Porteous, George & Sharon Ballard, Jamie Edmunds, Penny Bushee, Alan Held, John Squier, Rod Start, and Carol Bohlin.**

Kudos and thanks to the **gardeners** who took care of the town and school flower beds this summer, they looked great! A special thank you to **Kim Gaylord** for her landscaping talent with the Church and town flower beds.

And kudos to **F.A.S Trucking & Landscaping**, the folks who mow the town, school, and church lawns and the ball field! The center of town has looked great all year.

~ Nature Notes ~

Fall colors were absolutely GORGEOUS this year!! And even after the BIG rain and wind there still remained wondrous yellow beeches patch worked upon rustic oaks! And tamarack glowed a splendid gold amongst the pines.

Deer and turkey seem to have disappeared – last year there was a report of seeing 60 deer along North East and East Road, this year’s sightings are none!! There are reports of LOTS of nuts and apples in the woods. . . .

Wooley bear caterpillars seem to be predicting a long winter, the orange (some folks see brown) mid-section is really long, with just a short bit of black (spring) on the end. And hornet nests have been spotted really high in the trees!



~ Library News ~

By Ruth Drachman, Librarian

Writing group (The Motleys) will take place at 1:30 at the Library on **Sunday, November 10<sup>th</sup>**.

The Book Discussion Group will meet at the home of Ruth Drachman on **Sunday November 17<sup>th</sup>** at 3 PM to discuss the **Vermont Reads** book, *March, Book One* by John Lewis. Dessert will be served. All are welcome. **The Vermont Reads book is available in the library.**

**New Books for Adults**

**The Shape of Water** by Andrea Camilleri, the first in a series about Inspector Montalbano, is set in Sicily.

**The President is Missing** by Bill Clinton and James Patterson, a political thriller.

**Accidental Presidents, Eight men who changed America** by Jared Cohen, looks at the eight men who came to the office without being elected.

**Bomber's Moon** by Archer Mayor, the 30<sup>th</sup> book by this Vermont mystery writer.

**The Dutch House** by Ann Patchett, explores the “bond between two siblings, the house of their childhood, and the past that will not let them go”.

**A Better Man** by Louise Penny, this series gets better and better.

**Good Riddance** by Elinor Lipman, “a delightful romantic comedy”.

**The Water Dancer** by Ta - Nehisi Coates, the author is a national book award winner for **Between the World and Me**. This is his “debut novel about a magical gift, a devastating loss, and an underground war for freedom”.

**The Giver of Stars** by Jo Jo Moyes, “set in depression America, a breathtaking story of five extraordinary women and their journey through the mountains of Kentucky and beyond.”

**Knit and Chat** is held in the library on Mondays from 3 until 5 PM. Come and do whatever handcrafts you prefer, and be prepared to chat as well.

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., as well as the morning of the first Saturday of the month, November 2nd from 9 until Noon.

**The Town Office and Library will be closed on Thursday, November 28<sup>th</sup> in observance of Thanksgiving.**

Thank you, thank you to the folks who sent a few shekels for *Tales*, your support is very much appreciated!



To the Tinmouth Community,

The students celebrated the splendor of autumn throughout the month of October. Younger children visited apple orchards, corn mazes, and pumpkin patches within the region. Older students continued their study of environmental decomposition at Merck Forest. The weather cooperated and each field trip afforded an opportunity to wonder at the magnificence of Autumn in Vermont as school busses traversed local mountains and valleys.

The 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup>, and 6<sup>th</sup> graders had a unique opportunity to listen to Congressman John Lewis speak in Burlington, Vermont at the Flynn Center on October 8th. Kathryn Patterson and Senator Leahy introduced Congressman Lewis, who is the author of the 2019 Vermont Reads Book, *March*. The students were excited to hear Congressman Lewis share his experiences as a leader in the Civil Rights Movement. They were also delighted to see two of their favorite authors. Kathryn Patterson wrote the novel, *Bread and Roses*, which the fifth and sixth graders read last spring. The class had just finished the book *March*, thanks to our town librarian, Ruth Drachman, who provided each student with a copy of the award winning graphic novel.

The month concluded with *Trunk or Treat* and our Halloween Parade. The parents club funded and organized *Trunk or Treat* which was a huge success!

**Maureen Fitzgerald-Riker**  
**Principal**  
**Tinmouth Mountain School**

Below are 3 book reviews of the Vermont Reads book, March. These were written by our 3 sixth graders.

### March

Have you ever heard of a graphic novel? You probably have but what about a graphic novel about civil rights? Well that's basically the definition of the award winning book, *March*. *March* was written by Congressman John Lewis and Andrew Aydin. It was illustrated by Nate Powell.

The main character is John Lewis, a young boy living in Troy, Alabama who grew up to become a civil rights activist. The biggest problem is segregation, which John Lewis struggled to bring to an end. To do this he sat in at lunch counters, marched, and protested. These all led up to a march to the mayor's office where he was convinced to end segregation at lunch counters across Montgomery.

John Lewis's message is that you can make a big difference non-violently. I highly recommend this book to grades 4 and up. I also recommend *March* to adults even though it's a graphic novel.

**Kellen Laferriere**

### **March**

By John Lewis

Illustrated by Nate Powell

John Lewis loved his chickens when he was growing up. John grew up in a rural county in Alabama and wanted to be a preacher. He preached to his chickens daily. His Uncle took him up North. John was amazed that there were white people living on both sides of his Uncle's house, this was unheard of in segregated Alabama. When John was going to school to become a minister, he met Martin Luther King Jr. who inspired him to change his world. He participated in sit-ins and marches to end segregation. At one sit-in, he was beaten and sent to jail along with 81 others. This is all written in the non-fiction graphic novel, *March*, which was written by Congressman John Lewis.

I highly suggest this book to anyone age 9 and above. The author's message is that you can make a difference and change the world with non-violence.

**Miles Fallar**

### **March**

Book One

Written by

John Lewis & Andrew Aydin

Illustrated by

Nate Powell

John Lewis was beaten trying to end segregation. This is why he and Andrew Aydin wrote the graphic novel, March. In 1965, segregation ended in schools. John Lewis tried to attend an all white college. John met Martin Luther King Jr. and he was inspired. John started protesting, marching, and joining sit-ins. People started noticing the protesters. It was working! The sit-in that made the biggest impact was the Woolworth Store where they were beaten and arrested. When they were released they marched on the Tennessee City Hall to ask the mayor to desegregate lunch counters. It worked! The mayor agreed.

The author wants you to know, you can make a difference and change the world with non-violence. HE DID!

I enjoyed reading this graphic novel. I would recommend this novel to anyone 9 and older.

**Ethan Patch**



TINMOUTH CHURCH

~ Tinmouth Community Church ~

Thanksgiving...giving thanks...heartfelt gratitude....the Heart of gratitude. These are the snippets of thought that come to mind as I begin to reflect on this

Thanksgiving season, a season always in season.

Life abounds with reason for gratitude, stemming from the gift of life we have been given, a gift endowed with inherent gifts sourced in a Mystery beyond ourselves. The unfolding of these gifts within the gift of life manifests a cornucopia of blessings with which we are blessed and by which we can bless others. Taking time to reflect on these can be Thanksgiving Day's gift to us; thanking those who have blessed us, the fruit of such reflection. Such intentionality is itself a way of being more alive, alive to the wonder, goodness and preciousness of life.

Being thankful, giving thanks, cultivates a grateful heart with its accompanying joy. Not without tears, perhaps, as we look across the Thanksgiving table at an empty chair. Even then, gratitude helps ameliorate our losses..... And tears can be a most fitting prayer. Love, after all, is at the heart of gratitude. For Love is the Heart of the Mystery behind it all, within it all and redeeming it all. This Source is also our Destiny.....and our ultimate reason to give thanks.

**Pastor John**

"Evening Prayer", a brief time of worship to end the day in gratitude and trust, **Thursday evenings at 6:30.** All are welcome as the Spirit leads.

~ Community Church Office Hours ~

Pastor John Hardman-Zimmerman has office hours at the Tinmouth Community Church from 2-4 pm on Thursdays.

If this is inconvenient, please contact him at 802-282-7532 or hzfam@hotmail.com to make other arrangements.

~ Tinmouth Cemetery Association Notice ~

**Cemetery gates** are now closed for the winter. Anyone going in is asked to close the gates when leaving. If gates are constantly left open, they will lock the gates and only allow foot access.

They also remind people to refrain from using the cemetery for snow-mobiling, sliding, skiing, snowboarding, etc. This is for liability reasons and out of respect for those who reside there.

*Thank-you for your cooperation.*

*With thanks to the late Moe Burden ~*

**ON VETERANS DAY  
REMEMBER THIS**

...It is the veteran, not the preacher,  
who has given us freedom of religion.  
It is the veteran, not the reporter,  
who has given us freedom of the press.

It is the veteran not the poet,  
who has given us freedom of speech.  
It is the veteran, not the campus organizer  
who has given us freedom to assemble.

It is the veteran, not the lawyer,  
who has given us the right to a fair trial.  
It is the veteran, not the politician,  
who has given us the right to vote.

It is the veteran, who salutes the Flag,  
who serves under the Flag,  
whose coffin is draped by the Flag.

Author Unknown

**ALL GAVE SOME, SOME GAVE ALL**

~ Recipe Corner ~

**Creamy Squash Soup**

- ½ teaspoon salt
- 2 tablespoons butter
- 3 (13 ¾ oz.) cans chicken broth
- 2 carrots, peeled and diced
- 1 cup diced onions
- 2 lb. butternut squash, halved, peeled and seeded, cut into 1-inch pieces
- 1/3 to ½ cup light cream or you can use heavy cream



Place squash in saucepan along with carrots, onions and broth, then add in the salt. Simmer 40 minutes uncovered. Puree soup in a blender or food processor along with 2 tablespoons butter. Pour a little hot puree into the cream so not to curdle the cream; add to soup. Serve with a dollop of sour cream if desired.

*Got a favorite recipe you are willing to share? Please send it/them to Shirley Bucceri at [smhb@vermontel.net](mailto:smhb@vermontel.net) or 49 North End Road, Tinmouth, VT 05773. Thanks!*

*Practice Random Acts of Kindness &  
Senseless Acts of Beauty*



~ Vermont in Winter, as Lived by Vermonters ~

By Grant Reynolds

Archer Mayor of Newfane has written 30 interesting, well written “thrillers” (murder mysteries, detective stories, police procedurals) all laid in Vermont. But it’s the Vermont of ordinary people who live here – and some distinctly sub-ordinary ones - not the Vermont of tourist come-ons. The books all start out in Brattleboro, home base of Joe Gunther, the Vermont native detective who is their central character. From there they cover Vermont. One is about drugs in Rutland. One involves a race at Thunder Road in Barre. Nice farms, rundown farms, ordinary subdivision houses, shacks, ill-kept apartments – he covers Vermont as it is.

Mayor publishes one book a year, always in October. The latest book, *Bomber’s Moon*, just came out. The title refers to a WW II bomber crew saying: ‘A bright moon in a clear sky is a bomber’s moon, because we can see what we are attacking, but the enemy can see us just as well.’ How that connects to this particular book I will leave up to its readers.

*Bomber’s Moon* must have been written last winter, a raw, changeable, unpleasant one. It began with a snowstorm in October and was still cold and wet in May, though at least the snow was gone. Here are some quotations from *Bomber’s Moon* about our unpredictable, challenging weather.

“Idle chat in Vermont was always punctuated by mud season, mosquito plagues, heat waves, dry spells, snow, ice, and countless other attributes of a muscular, quirky State of weather-related iconography. Every time Willy thought this was the one he hated the most, like struggling right now to the sidewalk on leaving his car, another came up that made him curse more.”

“Why he lived here, worked here, and wouldn’t do so anyplace else, proved to him how much brain damage he’d suffered from PTSD.”

- *Bomber’s Moon*, page 202

“It was an ingrained, poorly reported fact about living in northern New England: Winter amounted to an endless list of obstacles and obstructions, ranging from heating and clothing needs, power outages, and snow removal to falling on ice or having pipes freeze, and uncountable problems in between. New Englanders began and ended every day contending with a staggering number of weather-related stumbling blocks, most of them taken in stride, virtually without notice.”

- *Bomber’s Moon*, page 235

“The penalty at the end of a bright, sunny cloudless winter day in Vermont is called radiational cooling – a well known phenomenon actually, the same overhead clarity that delivers a day to brightness then allows the residual warmth to be displaced by arctic cold, falling unimpeded from the glacial atmosphere like a bone-crushing iceball.

The compensation, however – so often true in a state plagued with lethal weather – is an inspiring beauty: a star-packed black sky sprinkled with shining crystals.

- *Bomber’s Moon*, page 276

And here is a community you may be familiar with . . .

“Bellows Falls had suffered the fate of so many long ago New England industrial towns. But it was smaller, more compact, with no backup employment options like a hospital or a prison – or immediate proximity to an interstate exit to draw in drive-by spenders. It bravely fought the odds, and with increasing success lately. Still the struggle seemed never-ending, with the scourge of easy drug money lurking like a cancer.”

“It was not a source of comfort to town leaders that their hardship was shared by dozens of other afflicted communities statewide. Vermont, for all its activism, beauty and romantic appeal, remained more hardscrabble, tourist-dependent, thinly populated, and small time. Which helped explain its frugality and historically fierce pride.”

- *Bomber’s Moon*, page 21

~ Contra Dance ~

Richard Hopkins calling to the  
amazing tunes of  
Roger Kahle and Friends

Friday, November 15 at 8:00 pm

Tinmouth Community Center, 573 Route 140

Dance to the splendid tunes of Roger Kahle and Friends with Richard Hopkins calling on Friday November 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 willing to ask someone to dance. 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. Bring your friends and family.

The dance takes place in the Tinmouth Community Center on the third Friday of 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](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! Our email is [tinmouthdance@gmail.org](mailto:tinmouthdance@gmail.org). Phone 802-881-6775. Find us on Facebook at Tinmouth Contra Dance. See you in Tinmouth!

Our next dance will be **December 20** with Hannah Otten calling and music by Brendan Taaffe and George Wilson. And then **January 17**-Luke Donforth calling with Honey and the Hive. Mark your calendars!

~ **Phone and Power Outages** ~

The recent power outage created a phone outage for some residents as well. If you did not have phone service, this outage may not have been caused by the little 8-hour batteries that provide backup power during an outage but by the use of electronic phones.

If you have a base station for a cordless phone, it will go out when the power goes out. To receive calls, you need a corded phone (one that plugs into the phone jack in your house).

If you get cell phone service through Wi-Fi and do not have a generator, you will be unable to use your cell phone over Wi-Fi during a power outage.

If you have a generator, make sure your Cyber Power UPS, (the cream colored box) is plugged into the generator circuit. For more information on batteries <https://www.vermontel.com/battery-info/>

~ **Summary of the VTEL Workshop** ~  
*By Sherry Johnson and Kim Harbaugh*

We attended the VTEL Workshop that was held in Wallingford on September 26<sup>th</sup>. There were two presenters from VTEL. This presentation contained most of the same information that was disseminated at the Tinmouth Town Meeting in 2018.

There was a demonstration of how to change the backup batteries. They had both one 8-hour battery and a bank of 3 20-hour batteries.. It is important to know where the battery is and how to disconnect it.

During a power outage, disconnecting the battery and connecting it for short calls can extend its life considerably. Batteries begin to recharge shortly after the power comes back on and can take several hours. The phone is usable within seconds.

The Internet is disconnected when the power is out to conserve the backup battery.

It was stressed repeatedly that it was the consumers' responsibility to maintain the backup battery.

This workshop will be held again in Middletown Springs. If you would like to see the demonstration of how to change the battery, or have questions about phone service during a power outage, we suggest you attend.

Wednesday, November 20<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. at the Middletown Springs Elementary School.

**Rutland Regional Transportation Council Vacancy**

The Select Board is looking for a volunteer to serve as Tinmouth's representative to the Rutland Regional Transportation Council. Monthly meetings dealing with transportation issues in the county. Please call the town office if you are interested.

**Meeting Highlights** ~

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

**Select Board ~ 10/10/19**

Present were members Michael Fallar, Cathy Reynolds, and Frank Sears, as well as Sherry Johnson, Kim Harbaugh, Grant Reynolds, Jo Reynolds, Eric Buffum-Road Commissioner, Paul Morris @8:05, and Gail Fallar – Select Board Assistant.

**Financial Reports ~ Bills and Orders** ~ Board reviewed financial reports and road crew time sheets. Board discussed process, requested a monthly packet of financial reports, warrants, and road crew time sheets. Board voted to accept September and October budget reports.

**Highway**

**One Ton Truck** ~ Eric reported he had reviewed the bids for the one ton trucks, Board discussed options and specs, Eric recommended the 2019 Ford 550 from Ford of Claremont, \$45,306 for the cab and chassis without a trade-in. He mentioned that they had another truck with body already on it for only \$2,000 more than the separate bids for chassis and body/frame. Board noted it was not one of the bids. Lucky's was low bid for the plow and body, there is a 6 to 8 week wait time. Board reviewed comments from other towns road crews regarding one ton trucks – many had 550's which are used primarily for plowing. Frank moved to purchase the in stock 2019 F550 from Ford of Claremont, Cathy 2nded. Frank and Cathy voted yes, Michael voted no. Motion passed. It is anticipated that the old one will sell for more than the \$15,500 offered as a trade-in.

Board discussed options for the dump body and plow, Eric noted that he did not have to have a wing or central hydraulics. Viking and Luckys bid. Frank moved and Cathy 2nded to purchase the dump body and plow from Luckys for \$17,105. Frank and Cathy voted yes, Michael abstained. Motion passed.

**Winter Salt** ~ Cargill's quote was \$76 and \$86 per ton for de-icer, American bid was \$75 per ton, and Appalachee bid \$76 per ton (was awarded the state bid as well). Board voted to approve Appalachee, same vendor as last year, all voted in favor.

**Road Commissioner** ~ Eric advised that Navistar had offered to settle a class action lawsuit regarding mechanical troubles with the engine in the newest tandem truck. Board voted to file claim to ask for a \$15,000 rebate on next truck to be purchased (scheduled for next fiscal year). All voted in favor.

**Grant-In-Aide Project** ~ Eric advised that the next segment of road to be worked on for this state program would be on Harrington Cross Road, starting at Route 140 and proceeding east with stone lining ditches, a new culvert, and a new cut-out(has already been granted permission from the new landowner). He also suggested

that the Y at that intersection should be converted to a T, and that he was in conversation with state AOT folks about engineering required. He will report back at the November meeting.

**Process to sell the one ton** ~ Board discussed best way to get the most money with a private sale – have a minimum (who determines that?) – and a bid process. Need to advertise, have time to consider as the new truck will not be ready for a month or two.

Michael inquired about a catch basin in the woods at the town garage, Eric advised that he has a plan for it on the Gulf Road, keep it for now.

**Roadside Mowing** ~ Eric asked for more roadside mowing on gravel roads to enable leaves to be blown out of the way. Board approved \$500.

**Town Garage** ~ Jay White, architect, prepared a new plan for the town garage, which includes a 20' high ceiling. Eric requested that height to be able to raise the dump body to work on it, put on chains, etc. Michael noted most town garages are 16', asked to have it quoted both ways. Frank moved and Cathy 2nded to authorize Jay to get cost estimates on plan as presented. Frank and Cathy voted yes, Michael voted no. Board discussed special meeting on November 7<sup>th</sup> to discuss public facilities issues.

**Salt/Sand Shed** ~ Board discussed whether an engineer needs to sign off on design of a salt/sand shed. Quotes need to be updated – vendor needs to know for purpose of bond vote, won't go out to bid until bond is approved.

**Old Town Garage** ~ Michael noted he is still reviewing structural report to determine what will be required to stabilize and keep it operational.

**Sherry Johnson** ~ Sherry noted that she was happy to have advance notice about road work on Mountain View Road, but unhappy that no notice had been posted about the recent paving project on the East Road that caused a number of folks trouble – had it been posted she and others would have had the opportunity to detour around the south end of town. She asked that Eric post something to Front Porch Forum when a project is going to happen, and offered to do it for him if would notify her. Discussion ensued – Gail had posted information about the culvert work on Mountain View Road. Board advised they would not ask the road commissioner to do it. Sherry again asked for communication and offered again to help. Sherry also requested that meetings start no earlier than posted – the meeting on the 5<sup>th</sup> began a few minutes early.

#### **General Business**

**VTel workshop** ~ Kim and Sherry reported on the VTel workshop they attended in Wallingford – much the same information as presented at last year's town meeting in Tinmouth. Discussion of whether Tinmouth should also host a workshop – how to get people to attend. There will be one in Middletown Springs in November.

**Letter to the Public Utilities Commission** ~ In regards to utilities' responsibility during power outages. Board thanked Kim for his work on it, then approved and signed it.

**Letter of Resignation** ~ Board accepted, with regret and appreciation, Rene Wilbur's letter of resignation from the Rutland Regional Transportation Council.

**Right of Way to Town Property in the Purchase** ~ Concern was expressed about whether a new landowner was aware of the town's right of way over his property to reach the town cabin and the town forest beyond the end of Pent Road. SBA will contact and send copy of the r.o.w.

**Old Creamery** ~ Michael reported the south end had been graded, rocks removed or buried, and the Old Creamery Committee was still working on getting electricity to it.

#### **Old Business**

**Right of Way on East Road** ~ Gail advised that Attorney Gary Kupferer will respond next week.

**Trash on Mountain View Road** – Frank reported he is still working with the Hills. Concern was raised about the fen located to the east and protecting it from pollution.

**Wallingford Town Line** ~ Gail reported that attorney Jim Carroll had advised he is in contact with Charlie Merriman (Wallingford's attorney) and Bill Meub (Taylor's attorney) in regards to payment of taxes on the disputed property and trying to keep the Taylors out of the squabble.

#### **Planning Commission ~ 10/24/19**

Present were members Michael Fallar, Larry Carabeau, Bob Lloyd, Vito Macaluso, Pat Psholka, Grant Reynolds, Kim Harbaugh, Andy Gilmore, and Rainbow Squier, as well as Alan Gilmore and Gail Fallar, Secretary.

Hearing for the proposed Enhanced Energy Plan was opened. Gail advised that she had forgotten to publicize the hearing in the Rutland Herald (notification to all adjoining towns, the state and regional planning commission was done). After brief discussion, the PC voted to postpone the hearing and to re-warn it for November 21<sup>st</sup>.

Alan advised that the Vermont Land Trust is unable to adjust the boundary of the four acre excluded parcel in any fashion due to IRS rules instituted five years ago regarding conserved land. Town regulations will not allow a four acre parcel as the minimum lot size is five acres. A house could be built on the entire parcel. It was suggested that a 99 year lease for the four acres be considered. Or to talk to neighbors about a one acre boundary adjustment. Long term solutions would be consideration of changing the zoning regulations' minimum lot size or adding planned unit developments back in to the regulations.



Members decided to hold the hearing for the Somers Trust subdivision application on the 21<sup>st</sup> as well.

Members further discussed maps in the Enhanced Energy Plan, they are required by the state and the state provides much of the information – “the best data available at this time”.

Bob noted the Rutland Regional Planning Commission recently had a presentation regarding a water quality and a state program called “Lake-Wise” designed to help those close to water – lakes, ponds, and streams landowners learn best practices to improve water quality. He noted that Tinmouth Pond/Chipman Lake was one of the state’s priorities as it appeared on state reports to have low water quality.

### **Conservation Commission ~ 10/21/19**

*With thanks to Chuck Bronk, Sec.*

Present were members Doug Fontein, Jeff Ams, Jo Reynolds, Robbie Leeds, and Chuck Bronk, as well as Gail Fallar and Kim Harbaugh.

#### ***New Business:***

Doug reported that after the last meeting, Jeff Ams recommended against seeking a bond for the use of the landing, the intended parking and kiosk area for the Drachman trail, by a logger on an adjacent property. The contract with the logger was signed by the Drachmans but the logger already came up with an alternate log landing. After some discussion of setting a date for blazing and brush hogging the trail, and the need for a spotter for the brush hog, Doug arranged to call Robbie on 10/26 to confirm a tentative work date of November 10<sup>th</sup>.

Discussion of an Invasives workshop was tabled to a future meeting, as Rainbow Squier was unable to attend this meeting

#### ***Old Business:***

The tentative work date September 21<sup>st</sup>, for the Tinmouth Mountain Cabin had to be rescheduled. Doug reported that he went up the following day to repair the stovepipe and empty the compost bucket. A discussion followed regarding the use of the trail and cabin by those on mountain bikes. Bike packing as a sport is reported to have increased interest. While use of mountain bikes is within the management plan of accepted uses for our trails, Doug raised the question of whether or not signage should be posted to restrict such usage when trails are muddy? Doug agreed to draft wording for signage to be added to both trail kiosks and Robbie agreed to add the same information to the web. It was agreed to postpone additional work on the battens and flue damper so that work could commence on the flagging and blazing of the trail north from the cabin, destined to eventually meet up with the Ridge Trail. That work was tentatively set for 12/1/19. Doug asked if the town still had a GPS with the

tax map included. Gail found it and Doug borrowed it to use for the process of flagging and blazing.

Chuck replenished the tri-fold map and information sheets in at the Ridge Trail kiosk and agreed to amend the note on the map box to suggest that taking a photo of the map with a smart phone would also help to conserve the paper maps.

Doug reported that he would be meeting with Adam Guettel regarding the Ridge Trail, the following day to review both the need for some switchbacks and the possible bypass around a ¼ mile section of the trail beyond the overlook.

It was agreed upon that the Commission purchase two replacement Amphibian Crossing signs. Robbie will place the order with Green Screen Graphics, the previous supplier of the signs.

Robbie reported on the continued success of Wheaton Squier’s “Presstival” (an apple cider pressing event) and wondered if the Conservation Commission would be interested in becoming an official sponsor. Discussion was favorable and the matter was tabled till a future meeting.

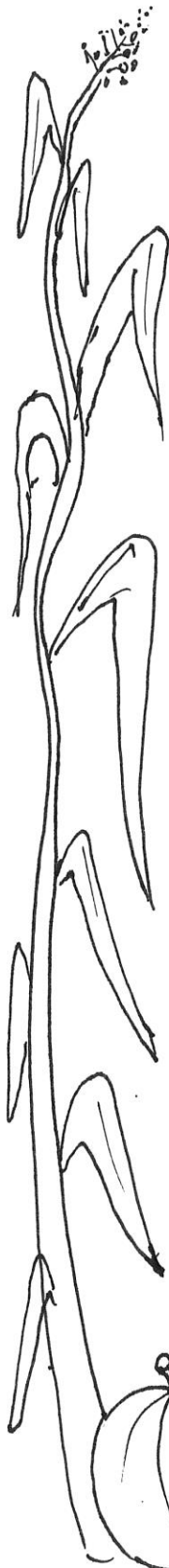
Next meeting set for December 16th at 7:30 PM

### **~ The Town of Tinmouth and the Tinmouth Pond Milfoil Project Receives State Grant ~**

The Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation Watershed Management Division Lakes & Ponds Program has awarded a \$3,264 grant to the Town of Tinmouth and the Tinmouth Pond Milfoil Project (TPMP) for 2019. The grant money was used to help pay for two divers to suction harvest Eurasian watermilfoil. The harvesting occurred during the summer months of 2019.

The main purpose of the TPMP is to control the spread of the Eurasian watermilfoil (this is an “aquatic invasive” plant that has invaded the pond first discovered 20 years ago) and to encourage the growth of native plants. Eurasian watermilfoil is a non-native aquatic plant that has shown itself as highly invasive in Vermont water bodies and in other regions of North America. Once it gains a foothold, you cannot eradicate it, only try to control it. TPMP has been doing a good job in that regards, thanks to divers Cat and Shane Yoder.

TPMP raises funds through grants, dues from lake owners, donations and fund raisers. These funds are used to hire divers to harvest the watermilfoil, and to teach people about Eurasian watermilfoil - and the way that it is transported in to and from Tinmouth Pond and other bodies of waters. TPMP publishes a newsletter several times a year called *The Pond Frog* to help educate folks on how to identify and how to prevent the spread of invasive plants and invasive species.



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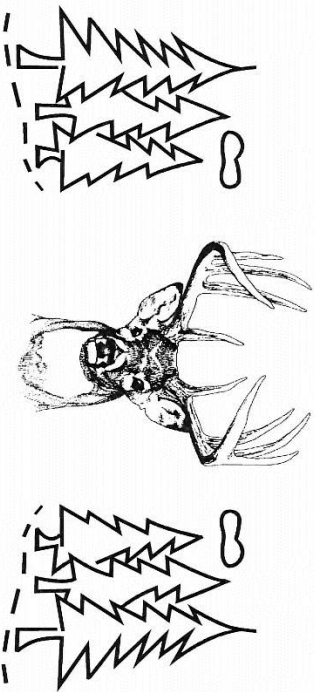
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