

TALES OF TINMOUTH

February 2023
Vol. 37 Number 2

Tinmouth
Vermont

Editors' Notes: *The olde timers used to say, "On February 1st there should remain, half the hay and half the grain." (And hopefully half the wood pile!!)*

The deadline for submissions is the 20th of the preceding month. Please email your information to *Tales of Tinmouth* (tinmouthtales@vermontel.net) or drop it off at the Town Office.

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

Gail Fallar & Pat Psholka

~ Town Meeting 2023 ~

There will be an in-person and virtual (via Zoom) Informational Meeting on **Monday March 6th** at 7:00 at the Tinmouth Community Center.

Voting will be **Tuesday, March 7th** from 8:00 a.m. until 7:00 p.m. at the Tinmouth Community Center.

~ Officers to be Elected ~

The following filed petitions and consent forms to run for office. There are no contested races. You are welcome to run as a Write-In candidate if you wish.

Moderator - Town - Holly Ross

Select Board Member - Judy Gilmore

Town Clerk - Gail Fallar *Treasurer* - Gail Fallar

Lister - Gail Fallar *Auditor* - Ann Czar

Tax Collector (Delinquent) - Cat Yoder

Budgets and public questions will also be voted by Australian ballot.

Long time Select Board member Cathy Reynolds decided not to run for re-election. Her tireless efforts on Tinmouth's behalf are greatly appreciated.

~ Registering to Vote ~

You do not have to register to vote before the election. Vermont has **same-day voter registration**, meaning that if you have not previously registered to vote and want to do so on town meeting day, you can register then and there.

You do need to be a resident of the town in which you are registering to vote, and proof of that (like a utility bill).

~ Town Reports ~

The town reports will be mailed around the middle of the month. Please read them and bring/use them for the Informational Town Meeting on **Monday, March 6th**.

A HUGE thank you to **Nancy Birdsall** for doing such a great job putting it together once again!

The Mill River Unified Union School District Annual Meeting will be held in person at the Mill River Union High School Library on Thursday February 23, 2023 at 7:00 p.m.

Voting for the school budget and other school questions will be on Tuesday, March 7th 8:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m. at the Tinmouth Community Center.

Early balloting is encouraged due to the continued presence of the Corona Virus Pandemic.

~ Early/Absentee Ballots ~

To request an **Early/Absentee Ballot**, you must do so before **5:00 pm** on **Monday, March 6th**. **Voted ballots must be returned by 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, March 7th**. You can call the town office to request the ballots, 446-2498.

You can also vote **early** at the town office starting mid-February.

~ January 17th Special Town Meeting ~ Results

144 voters cast ballots, most of them early. About 30 voters voted in person. 76 voted yes, 67 voted no, and there was 1 spoiled ballot.

As the original vote on November 8th was passed by 178 votes, to rescind that decision, there needed to be 2/3 voting yes - 119 yes votes. As this threshold was not met, the November vote was not rescinded.

The Select Board will proceed with the proposal. The exact location of the right of way will have to be determined and agreed upon, and the seller's bank will have to release the mortgage. It's still a work in progress.

~ Dog Licenses Due April 1st ~

A current rabies certificate is required. You can call the Town Office if you don't know if your dog needs a shot or not. Fees are \$9 for neutered/spayed dogs and \$13 for those that are not. 50% penalty is assessed after April 1st. You can also license them by mail if you wish.



~ Library News ~

We are open and a librarian is on duty on Thursday afternoons from 2 until 5. Ruth



February 1, 2023

To the Tinmouth Community,

Winter is here to stay! Snow days and delayed openings, as well as our Winter Sports Program are the anticipated hallmarks of January at school that make the long winters tolerable.

The Winter Sports Program at Pico is a huge success this year. The instructors are excellent and the groups assigned to each instructor are small enough to maximize learning to ski and snowboard. We have seen students' athletic skill consistently develop over the past few years. As part of the program, students are given a pass to ski or board at Pico anytime throughout the season. Equipment rental is included with the pass. What a great opportunity to hone skills and develop a love for the sport! Additionally, the weather has been very cooperative.

The recent snowfall was welcomed not only by our skiers and boarders but our sled riders as well. The hill between the church and the school on the village green is the perfect slope for recess sledding. Several classes have been snowshoeing as well. These activities compliment the rigorous instruction in literacy and mathematics students are engrossed in.

Currently, there are several grades working on current events and civics. Our focus is on teaching students to differentiate fact from opinion, to consider various perspectives, to understand the importance of voting, to recognize the impact of advertisements and stereotypes, and to collaborate and work respectfully even when viewpoints vary. It is our goal to encourage students to think critically and have an understanding of constitutional values that are foundational to American government in preparation for the continued study of civics in middle school. This includes the concept of common good versus individual rights. The materials used such as lessons, texts, and webinars are provided primarily by the U.S. Department of Education Center for Civics Education, and the National Archives.

We completed our mid-year reading and math assessments during January. Everyone has progressed. Some more than others but that can be expected as children develop at various rates and often in spurts.

Overall, January has been a month of growth. We anticipate the same for February, right up until winter break from February 20th to the 24th.

Maureen Fitzgerald-Riker
Principal
Tinmouth Mountain School

~ A Day in the Life ~

By Maureen Fitzgerald-Riker

Fifth and sixth grade students are reading historical fiction novels that focus on the Dust Bowl era. Upon completion of the book, *Out of the Dust*, six students chose a culminating group project in which they created a fictitious family consisting of mom, a 15 year-old son, a 4-year old daughter, mom's sister, a grandmother, and a close family friend and neighbor. Each student wrote a brief essay or letter from the perspective of one of these characters and envisioned what their lives would be like as a catastrophic dust storm approached.

Each month, for the next six months, we will publish one essay. Together, these six essays provide insight into a day in the life of a family during the Dust Bowl Era.

Below is the third one.

"Grandma Ellie" (by Fiona Ricketts)

This morning I was coughing non-stop, waiting for someone to feed me water. Finally,...I heard someone coming down the stairs, then I realized it was Mary. I watched her grab my water. When she gave me the water, she went to go change. I started my horrible cough again and Mary rushed over to me to make sure I was ok. A little after that, she asked me to take care of Katie. Soon after she left Katie came over to me and asked when Mary would come home. I replied, "She went to go give Aunt Sally her lunch she'll be back."

After she went away, I got up from the couch to tend the chickens but I was too weak to. So I sat back down and thought about what I should do, then I decided to make myself some lunch. I didn't get to finish making my lunch when all of a sudden Mary and Joey rushed inside. Mary weakly said, *A dust storm is coming!* I hobbled around the room covering the windows. I tried to tell Mary that Katie isn't here but all that came was a dust filled coughs. I heard a shatter, and saw the family picture on the ground, the glass frame is shattered. The wind from the cracks blows the picture around. I rush after it, then I trip over something and smash my head against the ground. One of the glass pieces I fell on went into my neck. I put my hand next to my neck. It was bloody. I looked over and saw Mary just standing there staring at me. All of a sudden Sally and Katie burst through the door. I look over and Sally is woozy, then she passes out.



~ Letter to the Editor ~

Dear Voters,

I was constable in town for 4 years. I would like the town voters to vote to have me back in for the town constable again. The town needs a constable again. The Vermont State Police and the Sheriff's Dept. are short-handed and can't always be on time when needed now.

This will help all people in town just to have me on 24/7.

Thank You,
Paul Morris

Editor's Note: The above letter is in reference to Article 4 on the warning for town meeting. *Shall the voters vote to eliminate the office of Constable?*

Currently, the Select Board appoints a constable, per voters' decision a few years ago to appoint rather than elect the constable. The Select Board has not appointed anyone. Change in state statute last year now allows voters to eliminate the position of constable. It was the Select Board's intention if this passes to request the Rutland County Sheriff's Department (RCSD) perform any duties required for a constable. The town has engaged the RCSD for any law enforcement needed – including speed enforcement – for many years.

**February Friends of the Rutland Free Library
Book Sale**

10 Court Street, Rutland, VT 802-773-1860

Friday, 10th (10 - 4) and Saturday, 11th (10 - 2)

Public Always Welcome

Thousands of organized, gently used books, CDs, DVDs and puzzles for all ages.

Always a broad selection of rare and antique books.

All purchases by donation only. Proceeds to support library programs, collections and designated library projects. www.rutlandfree.org

~ Community News ~

Get Well Wishes are sent to **Joan Brooks, Maleynda Morales, Dawn Tremmel, and all those with the flu, colds, covid or other respiratory troubles.**

Heartfelt Sympathies are sent to **Doug Fontein** and family for the loss of his mother; to family and friends of **Charles Buffum**; to John Simmonds for the loss of his father; and to family and friends of **Steven Davis** – here's a link to his obituary:

<https://obituaries.neptunesociety.com/obituaries/plantati-on-fl/steven-davis-11110694>

A big **Thank You** to all who sent donations to keep *Tales of Tinmouth* in print. Your support is very much appreciated. We are now in our 37th year!



TINMOUTH
CHURCH

~ Tinmouth Community Church ~

It was the 1960's. The Viet Nam War was escalating. Domestic violence was spilling into the streets. The nuclear arms race had almost ended life for all of us and to this day hangs over our heads like a cosmic sickle. In the midst of it all Rock n' Roll voices belted out some sanity: "War, huh yeah, what is it good for? Absolutely nothing!" (Edwin Starr). Not leaving us high and dry with no answer and no hope, we also heard the message of every genuine prophet throughout the ages: "What the world needs now is love, sweet love" (Jackie DeShannon). The goodness of life, its well-being, happiness and peace, come no other way.

"Sweet love" can be a misnomer, especially when it looks like a civil rights march across the Selma Bridge. Love melts into superficiality when it is relegated to Cupid and candy. Still, love remains the indomitable soul force in humanity, the power of God which humanizes and civilizes us and blesses us.

"What the world needs now is love not just for some, but for everyone," Jackie's song continues. The barriers to a love which is inherently universal and inclusive are coming down in our day, though not without resistance, vitriol and violence from those whose hearts are hardened with fear and falsehood. Wars of words and warring ways will not benefit any of us. Speaking truth in love and acting in compassionate ways remains the remedy for our strife, divisions and faith in violence. In doing so, how "sweet" love and life become.

**Blessings,
Pastor John**

Rev. John Hardman-Zimmerman
(802) 282-7532 (cell, preferred)
(802) 884-8249 (parsonage)
hzfam@hotmail.com

~ 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 Tinmouth 911 address.

Please Recycle or Pass Along Tales!!

~ Meeting Highlights ~

(Complete minutes are available at the town office.)

Select Board ~ 1/3/2023

Members present(in-person): Kevin Eaton, Meadow Squier, and Cathy Reynolds

Others present:

In-person: Eric Buffum-road commissioner, Michael Fallar and Gail Fallar-SB Assistant

Via Zoom: Sherry Johnson, Kim Harbaugh, Pat Psholka, Judy Gilmore, Kyle Parker, Rick Fallar, David and Nancy Birdsall, Rick Smyrski from Morton Buildings

Citizen's Input: Michael noted that the SB 6:00 meeting time is too early, meeting at 7:00 allows time for dinner and a bit of family time.

Public Works: Rick Smyrski reported the fire marshal inspection resulted in approval, pending fulfilling requirements for handicap signs, fire extinguishers, shimming near doors, etc. He noted that the punch list was mostly done – hoped to be done by Friday, slab for porch will be done in the spring, bollards for the front doors have a work around for now – will re-do in the spring. Board discussed invoice #6, authorized payment, but will withhold final payment until project is all done. Rick advised the road crew will be able to move in and occupy soon. Vermont Fire & Safety Permit will need to have additional costs reported, and pay an extra fee. Cathy will sign, having signed the first permit.

Cathy noted Efficiency Vermont was providing \$1,000 incentive for energy measures, Board agreed by consensus to ratify Cathy's signing paperwork and to accept payment.

Board thanked Rick.

Highway: Eric reported lots of downed limbs and trees. He shimmed the doors, repaired muddy driveway. Has looked at one wood chipper – too small. Board reviewed highway work plan; discussed procurement guidelines for used equipment – SB will set number not to exceed, RC will make decision – still needs work. After discussion of where money would come from, ARPA, Equipment Fund, or carry forward, Board voted to authorize Eric to spend up to \$25,000 for a used wood chipper from FY22 carry forward. Eric noted there were two places in New Hampshire with chippers, could he take a blank check? Board discussed, Treasurer was reluctant, Board voted to authorize Kevin and Eric to take a check (not to exceed \$25,000), to purchase a wood chipper.

Board reviewed draft FY24 highway budget, discussed Highway Paving/Construction Reserve Fund (what is it for and could it be moved to the Capital Building Fund?) Eric noted that there are a couple of major projects coming in the next couple of years that will need access to this funding - current balance is \$35,000. Board decided to leave it alone.

Cathy updated Board on the TAP grant (sand/salt shed) - price is increasing, still waiting for the state to answer questions, building size may have to change. Grant is \$300,000, town match is \$75,000.

Board discussed culvert replacement at Patry's on North East Road, need a hydraulic study, and the huge culvert on North End Road over the Channel (installed in the 1960's) needs an inspection.

Financials: Board reviewed monthly financial report and reviewed warrants, approved all by consensus.

Warrants: Accounts Payable #22 dated 12/12/22 for \$431,938.07; and #23 dated 12/22/22 for \$14,294.20. Payroll #23, dated 12/12/22 for \$2,395.14; #24, dated 12/24/22 for \$3,802.78; and #25, dated 12/27/22 for \$1,992.42.

Board reviewed draft FY24 budget – approved by consensus. Discussed highway end of year fund balance - \$38,462 – becomes carry forward for highway expense, and general \$67,707 – to be used for cash flow. Board asked for link to Rutland County Sheriff Department for reports.

Minutes: 12/8/22 – corrected amount of match for TAP grant to \$75,000; 12/14/22 – corrected 'have' to 'half', Board voted to approve both as corrected.

Prep for Informational Meeting: Board agreed to help with set-up, meeting needs to be recorded, asked Meadow and Gail to speak for the Board – apologize for mistakes made, answer questions, provide map showing the new proposed location of the right of way.

Board reviewed and updated **Follow-Up To-Do List** – decided that action items needed to specifically be listed on the agenda. Added Website administrator to the February meeting as well as the Shade Tree Policy.

Board reviewed draft policies regarding Accounting Auditing & Financial Reporting and Cash Receipts – edited, and asked to see them again at its February meeting.

Energy webinar – Todd Dennis provided detailed report.

CLA – Common Level of Appraisal – The Vermont Tax Dept. sent notice that for 2023 CLA would drop to 77.43, which could mean a 15% increase in school taxes. The COD (Co-efficient of Dispersion) increased to 22.08. A CLA less than 85 and/or a COD more than 20 results in the state ordering a town-wide re-appraisal. After brief discussion, Board voted to request a re-determination of the EEPV/EEGL, and authorized Cathy to sign.

Warning for Town Meeting – added to agenda for special meeting on the 17th.

Member's Concerns – Credit or debit card is needed for the town, SBA to research, added to February agenda. Cathy advised that she was hoping to not run again for the Select Board, would like to make sure someone is running.

Meeting Highlights continue on the next two pages.

Select Board ~ 1/17/2023 - Special Meeting

Members present(in-person): Cathy Reynolds, Kevin Eaton, and Meadow Squier

Others present:

Via Zoom: Sherry Johnson, Kim Harbaugh, Logan Birdsall, and Nancy Birdsall

In-person: Michael Fallar, Paul Morris, and Gail Fallar-SB Assistant

The Board reviewed draft FY24 budgets, after discussion, Board voted to accept as presented, highway \$613,300 and general \$259,925.

The Board clarified that the new (used) wood chipper was to be paid for with the FY22 carry forward. Also asked that the carry forward be shown on the FY23 financial reports.

The Board reviewed warning for March 7th town meeting, and voted to approve warning with five articles as written. Article 4 deals asks if voters want to eliminate the office of constable. Board signed the warning.

Board reviewed Cathy's SB report for the town report, agreed by consensus.

Member concern: Cathy advised that the TAP grant (sand/salt shed) will be a long term endeavor and that she is willing to continue as a liaison for the SB. Meadow noted that would be for the next SB to decide. Cathy updated the Board with the current status – still trying to prove to VTRANS that part of the engineering has been done – had thought when the grant was written that it had already been paid for. Price for structure has increased since grant was written, may not be able to proceed without another grant, process for RFP, etc.

Cathy also advised that the EOC grant for the electrical upgrade and generators had received a “conditional” approval, but needed another page (compensation report-volunteer labor etc.) to be complete. TVFD is also included in the grant – 50/50 match is required, and it has to go out to bid.

Select Board ~ 1/23/2023 - Special Meeting

Members present(in-person): Kevin Eaton, Cathy Reynolds, and Meadow Squier

Others present:

Via Zoom: Sherry Johnson, Kim Harbaugh, Rick Fallar, David and Nancy Birdsall

In-person: Michael Fallar and Gail Fallar-SB Assistant

The purpose of the meeting was to plan for next steps regarding the right of way from Mountain View Road to the town garage parcel. The vote to rescind on January 17th was defeated, so the vote on November 8th was upheld.

Members discussed how to include neighbors and the public as the process goes forward. First step is to determine if the Stratton's are willing to move the

proposed right of way to a safer location – a major concern. Then a site visit to review possibilities with neighbors and the Stratton's.

If the answer is no, then discuss a walking right of way on the north side of their property. Board agreed by consensus to proceed, authorized Meadow and Gail to start negotiations and report back on the 9th.

Cathy reminded the Board to keep thinking about holding an open house at the new town garage – perhaps have a big truck day?

Planning Commission ~ 1/19/23

Members present in-person: Michael Fallar, Larry Carabeau, and Andy Gilmore

Members present via Zoom: Vito Macaluso, Kim Harbaugh, Bob Lloyd, Pat Psholka, and Judy Gilmore

Others present in-person: Gail Fallar, Secretary

And via Zoom: Sherry Johnson, and Ed Bove-RRPC

Ed advised he is working on edits from prior chapters and there is a new GIS planner at RRPC who will be working on charts, maps, and photos.

Members and Ed reviewed Chapter 4 – Ed will provide housing and census data. The town listers will be asked to review sales data for the past 3 years to update that data. The school has been asked to update the school section. Members discussed the town center; it was made as compact as possible to meet the Village Center Designation requirements; discussed affordable housing – made note that Tinmouth had tried it three times and the results were not promising for a rural area. TVFD needs a new photo; discussed preparedness goal - fiber optic back up batteries are approaching their end of life and everyone needs to be encouraged to replace them.

Members discussed average hKW usage, need more information to check if the data used in the Plan is correct, some used 1,750, others used 6,000 per year.

Members briefly discussed equity and inclusion statement, will continue to think about it.

Next meeting is February 16th, Scribner subdivision may be ready for its hearing. Ed will return in March, hopefully with a draft of work done so far. He was thanked for his input and assistance.

Equity & Inclusion Committee ~ 1/24/23

With thanks to Logan Birdsall, Secretary

Present in-person: Logan Birdsall, Michael Fallar, Lothar Schmelzenbach, Meadow Squier, Rainbow Squier

Present via Zoom: Todd Denis, Kim Harbaugh, Sherry Johnson, Melody Squier

Guest in-person: Gail Fallar

Open Meeting Law Discussion and Working Group Reorganization

When this Committee was first formed, the working groups were created with the misunderstood intention that

they could operate outside open meeting law, in order to get more done between E&I meetings and encourage more community involvement. However, after reviewing Vermont's open meeting law (which can be found online at:

<https://outside.vermont.gov/dept/sos/Municipal%20Division/a-guide-to-open-meetings-january-2019.pdf>) the committee agreed by consensus to operate working groups according to open meeting law, which will include warning meetings and posting minutes.

The Mutual Aid Working Group is discussing moving elements of their mission under the umbrella of another town entity, such as the Fire Department should they approve it. The group will continue to discuss how to restructure the group and come to the next E&I meeting with a more concrete proposal.

The Research and Development Working Group will become inactive for the time being, and the mission of the group will be taken on by the entire Committee. Should a breakout group be needed for specific projects they will operate within that Working Group.

IDEAL VT December Newsletter Discussion –

The group agreed by consensus to share their thoughts on the newsletter for 2 minutes at a time.

Work Plan/Goals for the Committee for 2023

Meadow proposed members consider goals for the Committee in 2023 and bring them to the next meeting. A few ideas brought up at this meeting included more discussions around topics related to equity and inclusion, efforts to engage more community members, and efforts to increase safe and effective communication.

Visual Representation of Town's Commitment to Welcoming and Inclusion

The Committee began discussing the possibility of welcome signs on the borders of town, and Meadow proposed a project to work with the community to come up with a town slogan. Meadow will check with the elementary school to see if there is a way of involving the kids. A suggestion box for the community was discussed.

Working Group Reports

The Mutual Aid Working Group continues to edit the Tinmouth Operator's Manual.

Next Mutual Aid Working Group meeting will be held February 6th at 7:30 pm.

Members Concerns

Todd asked that at our next meeting we set aside time to discuss topics, not just provide individual reports. It was agreed by consensus that next time we will try a period or 10-15 minutes of open discussion after individual reports.

Next Committee meeting was set for March 21st, at 7pm.



~ Vermont Housing Finance Agency ~

BURLINGTON, VT – The Vermont Homeowner Assistance Program (VHAP) has paid over \$22.5 million in grants to assist homeowners impacted by the pandemic. This represents nearly 55% of total program funding available to homeowners.

Administered by the Vermont Housing Finance Agency, VHAP launched in January, 2022 to assist homeowners who have faced economic hardship brought on by the COVID-19 pandemic. The program, funded by the federal American Rescue Plan Act, provides grants of up to \$30,000 per household towards overdue mortgage payments, utility bills, property taxes, and property association charges. Application assistance and counseling is available through local nonprofit partners.

To date VHAP has assisted 4,202 households from across Vermont. Most households receiving grants have low or moderate incomes, with the median household earning \$34,393 per year.

Currently, about 78% of total VHAP funding has been requested or paid out, although funds that have been applied for may become available again as applications are processed, assistance amounts are reviewed and adjusted, and some applications are denied or withdrawn. VHAP is expected to continue to accept applications on behalf of eligible homeowners through the Spring of 2023, assuming demand remains consistent.

VHFA will closely monitor application volume and will work with the state to ensure that the public has sufficient notice as VHAP winds down. Currently, VHFA intends to release public notice 60 days in advance of the anticipated closure of the program to new applicants. After 60 days, VHFA will offer new applicants the option to sign up for a funding prioritization waitlist. VHFA will contact these applicants individually to let them know if they can submit an application based on funding availability at that point. VHFA makes weekly updates to a dashboard on its website that displays program activity.

If you or someone you know owns their home and is having difficulty paying housing bills due to the pandemic, please visit the VHAP website at vermonthap.vhfa.org or call (833) 221-4208.

The Vermont Homeowner Assistance Program is being supported, in whole or in part, by federal award number HAFP-0040 awarded to the State of Vermont by the US Department of the Treasury.

VHFA is a non-profit agency created in 1974 by the Vermont Legislature to finance and promote affordable housing opportunities for low- and moderate-income Vermonters. Since its inception, the Agency has helped approximately 30,000 Vermont households with affordable mortgages and financed the development of approximately 8,800 affordable rental apartments.

~ Legislative Contact Info ~

The Vermont General Assembly is back in session, meeting in person but also sometimes virtually. If you wish to contact your State Senators or Representatives, here is the info:

You can call the Sergeant-at-Arms at 1-800-322-5616 and leave a message, or use email addresses below.

Rutland-Bennington District –

Rep. Robin Chesnut-Tangerman:

rchesnut-tangerman@leg.state.vt.us

Rutland County Senators-

Sen. Brian Collamore: bcollamore@leg.state.vt.us

Sen. David Weeks: dweeks@leg.state.vt.us

Sen. Terry Williams: tkwilliams@leg.state.vt.us

You can also access the Legislature's website at www.leg.state.vt.us. There you can find who is on which committee, what bills have been introduced, track each bill's progress, review committee agendas, etc. There is a wealth of information available.

Your input can be important in their decision-making. Let them know your concerns!

~ Homestead Declaration ~

This a reminder that you need to file an **annual** Homestead Declaration with the Vermont Department of Taxes, form HS-122. You must file this to qualify for the homestead education tax rate and to request a property tax adjustment if you are eligible. You must also file form HI-144 (household income), **due April 18th**. This is required even if you do not have to file or pay state income taxes.

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~ Winter Driving Tips ~

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

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

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

~ Nature Notes ~

Daylight hours are getting longer – yeah!! Spring is just around the corner!

There was a comet that flew by at the end of the month, hasn't passed this way for over 50,000 years – couldn't really see it without binoculars or a telescope though.

January was crazy weatherwise, so warm at the beginning that sugar-makers were tapping out and making maple syrup! No snow and way above temperatures for a couple of weeks. No ice fishing possible.

February is starting with a *real* cold-snap – below zero and wind chills of -50 degrees possible. And then the next day the temperature is going to climb to almost 40 degrees!

Mourning doves have returned, the usual cardinals, chickadees, blue jays, junks, woodpeckers, and sparrows are visiting the bird feeders every day. Squirrels too, only this year they are chewing through the plastic barrel that holds the sunflower seeds!

~ Tinmouth's Community Closet ~

On the front porch of the town office, there is a put and take for winter outerwear available. Many folks have donated items, and many more have needed them. It will be there for another couple of weeks!

Thank you to all who have shared your extras!



The Auto Salon
545 Route 140W
Tinnmouth, VT 05773

Kevin Eaton (802) 855-7885

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vtautosalon@yahoo.com
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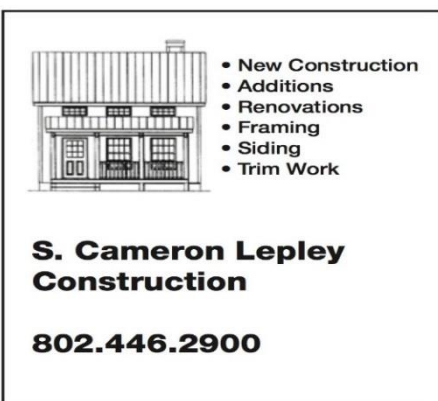
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Cell (802)779-4039
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teenager.
Dog walking, etc.
Jimmy Barrett 446-3986
References available.

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kensitcomputerservices@gmail.com
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kenscomputerservices.wordpress.com



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Hen**

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Looking for Marbles
Any size, any color
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Stop by our self-serve stand for any of your maple needs. We have Maple syrup sizes range from 100ml to one gallon with prices ranging from \$3 to \$40.

We also have Maple Cream and Maple Sugar in limited supply. Please contact us with any special orders, we can also accommodate your party/weddings with maple favors!

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Blew Skies Holistic Massage

Located at the Honeycomb in Manchester, 4351 Route 7A
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~ Bess Lewis ~
Tinmouth, VT 802-282-6240
 or blewriver@gmail.com

Needing a friend to talk with during these stressful times?
 Pastor John (Tinmouth Community Church) is only a phone call away.
Any reason is a good reason to call: 802-417-1491.

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- Computer generated landscape design
- Low voltage landscape lighting
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ViewMontPS@gmail.com



TINMOUTH CHURCH

Everyone Is Welcome in This
 Community of Worship and Faith
TINMOUTH COMMUNITY CHURCH

Sunday Service
9:00 a.m.

Rev. John Hardman-Zimmerman,
 Pastor

*Open Minds, Open Hearts,
 Open Doors*

For road conditions call 511 or visit 511vt.com. For personal assistance, like heating help or other information, call 211.

211 is a service of the United Way.

Town Garage Phone Number
802-446-9163

If you need to alert the road crew about a tree across the road, or have some other road issue, please be advised the Town Garage has a telephone and answering machine.

Please leave a message, as the road crew most likely will be out working on the roads.

The Town's Snow Plowing Practice is on the town's website, tinmouthvt.org. If you would like a printed copy, please contact the town office.



Spoon Mountain Botanicals

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Special orders and custom fragrance blends available.
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 1-802-282-6240



~ February 2023 Calendar of Events ~



Groundhog Day	Thursday	2nd	Winter is half over, hooray!
Fire Department	Thursday	2nd	7:00 Fire House
Mutual Aide Working	Monday	6th	7:30-8:30 Town Office & Virtual
Select Board	Thursday	9th	6:00 Town Office & Virtual
Planning Commission	Thursday	16th	7:00 Town Office & Virtual
Tales of Tinnmouth Deadline	Monday	20th	Don't Miss It!
Conservation Commission	Monday	27th	7:00 Town Office and Virtual

~ March 2023 Calendar of Events ~

Fire Department	Thursday	5th	7:00	Fire House
Informational Meeting	Monday	6th	7:00	Community Ctr & Virtual
Town Meeting Voting	Tuesday	7th	8:00am – 7:00pm	Community Center
Select Board	Thursday	9th	6:00	Town Office & Virtual
Planning Commission	Thursday	16th	7:00	Town Office & Virtual
Tales of Tinnmouth Deadline	Monday	20th		Don't Miss It!
Equity and Inclusion Comm.	Tuesday	21st	7:00 -8:30	Town Office & Virtual

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

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

~ The Library is open Thursdays 2:00-5:00 PM ~

~ Town Meeting ~
 Informational Meeting
 Monday, March 6th at 7:00
 Voting
 Tuesday, March 7th 8 am – 7 pm
 both at the Community Center.

Presorted Standard
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 PERMIT # 12

Tales of Tinnmouth
 515 North End Road
 Tinnmouth, VT 05773