

TALES OF TINMOUTH

May 2023
Vol. 37 Number 5

Tinmouth
Vermont

Editors' Notes: April showers bring May flowers!

The deadline for submissions (news, items of interest, get well wishes, poetry, etc.) 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.

Gail Fallar & Pat Psholka

~ TINMOUTH GREEN UP ~ 2023 ~



Green Up Day is Saturday, May 6

By Doug Fontein

The Tinmouth Green Up Committee is teaming up with the Conservation Commission to create a fun and delicious Green Up. In hopes of bringing the community out on Green Up Day, we're doing some fun activities at the Transfer Station at the conclusion of the event.

Green Up volunteers will **meet at the Transfer Station between 8:30 and 9:00** to get bags and a section of road to clean up. We'll reunite at the transfer station at **11:00 for the GALA AWARDS CEREMONY (with prizes) and FREE ICE CREAM.** This is a family and kid-friendly event, so please bring your young ones so they can share the fun (and maybe learn a little about civic responsibility and protecting our environment).

There won't be a Green Up activity at the school this year, so this is your kiddos' opportunity to be part of the team! People are also welcome to do DIY Green UP by getting bags from the Town Office and cleaning a section of roadside as your schedule allows. But we urge you to come with your family on Saturday morning to help build community momentum for this important and fun activity.

Please dress appropriately for the weather, including boots, work gloves, long pants and long-sleeved shirts (to help avoid ticks). For more info. On avoiding ticks, go to the Vermont Dept. of Health website and search ticks or use this link: <https://www.healthvermont.gov/disease-control/tickborne-diseases/prevent-tick-bites-tickborne-diseases>

Any items too large (or too yucky) for your vehicle, we can pick up with a truck if you tell us where it is.

There is also the option of "adopting" a section of roadway in town and keeping it litter-free year round as you walk or drive on it. In addition to keeping your neighborhood beautiful, this will allow us to focus on other roads on Green Up Day to make sure we cover all the roads in town.

We hope to see you at Green Up on Saturday, May 6. Feel free to contact members of the Green Up Committee with any questions: **Doug Fontein 802-446-2928, Ed Hasenohr 802-446-2676, Nelson Jaquay 802-446-2367.**

The Green-Up Committee is going to set up operations in the new town garage. Good time to take a peek while you pick up your bags!

Basket Raffle

To support John and Shannon Squier

May 6th, 2023
Tinmouth Community Center
Doors open at 6:00 p.m.
Drawing at 7:30 p.m.

You do not need to be present at the time of the drawing.



Entry Fee: \$5 children
\$10 adults
Tickets: 10 for \$10
OR
25 for \$20

*Please make checks out to:
Beth Johnson

Dinner and drinks will be
provided!

If you would like to donate a basket, please contact Trish Warfle 802-236-3163. Baskets can be dropped off at the Community Center between 10 a.m. and 12 p.m. on May 6th. Please reach out if you need to arrange a different drop off time.

~ Annual Tinmouth Plant Sale ~

By Cathy Reynolds



**Tinmouth Plant Sale is back -
May 13-21 at Squier Family
Farmstand daily 10-7.** The stand is

located at 12 McNamara Road in Tinmouth.

We will start fully stocked on May 13 with about 800 plants and continue restocking throughout the next 8 days. Whatever is left on Sunday May 21 is half price. Do remember we are volunteers, and this is a fundraiser, not a garden center, so selection and availability will vary. You may want to come more than once!

The sale features Tinmouth grown perennials and shrubs. All plants are dug in Tinmouth so if they live here, they will live at your house - we are a cold spot. Prices are reasonable, so you can buy lots and fill all those empty spots, or plan a new garden.

Proceeds benefit the Tinmouth Continuing Education Scholarship Fund offering funds to support all types of learning beyond high school to Tinmouth residents. Cash or check please.

While you are at the sale, you can also visit the Squier Family Farmstand featuring organic beef, syrup, veggies and other products and pre-made meals and sweets from Sissy's Kitchen.

We welcome volunteer help potting, moving plants, and general overall help. Give us a call or email!

Email cathyreynolds802@gmail.com with questions or call/text 802-881-6775. Updates on our Facebook page at Tinmouth Plant Sale.

~ Tinmouth Blooms ~

By Cathy Reynolds

Thanks to a grant from the Tinmouth Community Fund, Tinmouth Blooms is back!

We have purchased 11 lovely flowering crab apple trees to raffle off to residents or landowners who would like to add a lovely spring blooming tree to their property, ideally in a location that anyone driving by could enjoy. If you would like to have your name "thrown into the hat" please email or call Cathy Reynolds cathyreynolds802@gmail.com or 802-881-6775.

We will draw the lucky winners out of a hat one week after *Tales* arrives in my mailbox. You will need to dig a hole and water your tree during dry spells for the first growing season. Trees are all in flower now and lovely. I will contact the 11 lucky winners and ideally you will come to my house to pick up your tree within one week. Give a call or email if you have questions.

Please Recycle or Pass Along Tales!!



**Tinmouth Telephone and
Business Directory Corrections
Updates:**

David and Martha Stanley – no land line, Martha can be reached at 802-353-7544

Bart & Paula Bonazinga, North East Road
802-446-3422

Clip this and insert it into your copy of the Directory.

Please send updates and corrections to tinmouthtales@vermontel.net or call the town office at 802-446-2498. *Thank you!*

~ Amphibian Crossing Alert ~

You may have noticed some brightly-colored amphibian crossing signs on the roadsides in Tinmouth. These are placed by the Tinmouth Conservation Commission in areas where there are known migration routes for salamanders, frogs and turtles. These animals move on a seasonal basis to their breeding and egg-laying sites and are at risk of being killed by car traffic where their paths cross roads.

Please slow down and avoid hitting animals when you see these signs on the roads. There are especially high numbers of amphibians moving on rainy spring nights, so pay extra attention in those conditions. If you'd like to know more about amphibian migration, go to www.vtherpatlas.org. Please do not hit, move or disturb our signs, many of which are hand-made, and please contact me if you see a sign that's damaged or moved. The signs will be removed around July 1 and stored until next year.

Thank you,

Doug Fontein,

Tinmouth Conservation Commission

~ PreK Program Enrollment Reminder ~

Tinmouth residents are given *priority enrollment* for the Tinmouth Mountain School preK program up until **May 15th**.

After May 15th, enrollment is open to anyone not living in Tinmouth. There is currently a waitlist of non-residents waiting to enroll.

Any questions, please call the school at 802-446-2458.

The Town Office will be closed Monday, May 29th in observance of Memorial Day.

~ **Nature Photo Contest** ~
By *Rainbow Squier*

The Tinmouth Conservation Commission is back with its second annual photo contest! Last year we had a wide variety of stunning photos submitted by folks ranging from age 7 to 70. There was great feedback from community members who viewed the slideshow with ice cream in hand at the Tinmouth fun day last July. We look forward to doing it all again. So, we are inviting you to get back out into the wilds of Tinmouth to photograph one of your favorite places in Town.

Here are the details:

- Participants can submit **one** photo each.
- It must be taken within Tinmouth
- Category ideas include:
 - Scenic landscapes
 - Interesting shapes found in nature
 - Creatures of the wild

(these are just for inspiration, photos are all voted on together, not by category)

-**The submission deadline is June 12th** and can be emailed to r.squiert@gmail.com (if you don't have access to a computer and you still want to submit a photo call 446-9529 and we will figure something out)

-Photos will be displayed with a projector at Tinmouth Town Day where they will be voted on and winners will be announced.

-The top photo will be highlighted on the main page of the town website. All others will be added to an album on the website with credits given to the photographers. You can opt out of having your photo put on the website if you choose to. Other fun prizes will be awarded to our younger contestants! (While last years photos have not been updated yet, the process is underway, stay tuned)

-Please note that by submitting a photo you are agreeing to have it displayed publicly at Tinmouth fun day and to be uploaded to the town website (unless you otherwise ask for it not to be). So, please do include the name of the photographer and a title for your entry.

Please email photos, name and title to Rainbow at r.squiert@gmail.com.

Thank you to everyone who participated last year and please be sure to suit up for ticks before adventuring into the woods! Happy photo taking, we can't wait to see what you find!

~ **Back Up Batteries for VTel Customers** ~

VTel suggests you visit this link to help you with replacing the back-up batteries used in their fiber optic system.

<https://www.vermontel.com/battery-info/>



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

The Tinmouth Library is
having a

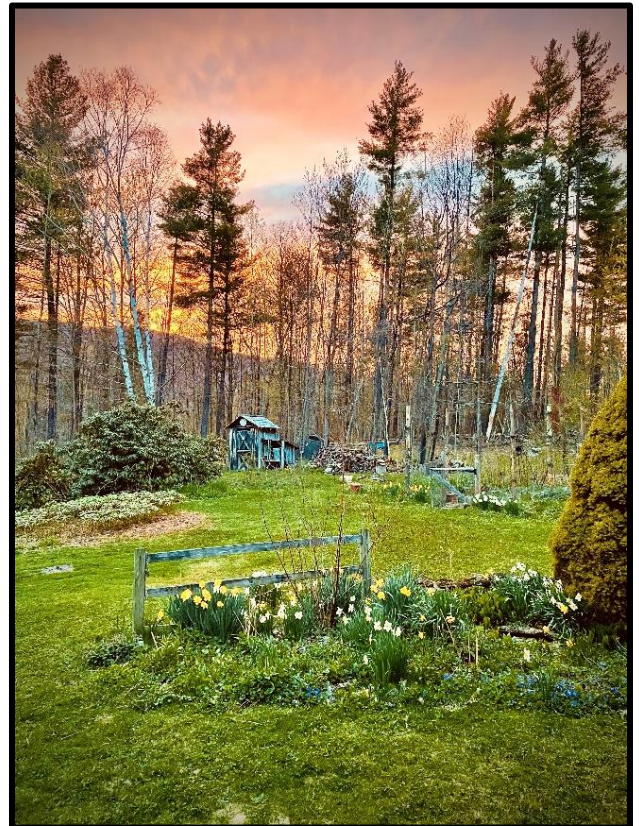
BOOK SALE on May 13th
from 8 AM until 2 PM .

It is at the Old Creamery next to the Town Office.
There will be all kinds of books for all ages.

Bake Oven Pizza will be available from
11 AM until 1 PM .

There will be no charge for the pizza.
Donations will be greatly appreciated.

The Library is open on Thursday afternoons from 2 until 5 and the first Saturday of the month from 10 until Noon.



2022 Conservation Commission Photo Contest winner,
Photographer - Sadie Martone, age 7

***“Practice Random Acts of Kindness and
Senseless Acts of Beauty”***



May 1, 2023

To the Tinmouth Community,

Ahhh! We're in the home stretch of the 2022-2023 school year. The final six weeks of school are devoted to state and district testing and field trips.

This year the State of Vermont is implementing a new state assessment. This involves re-training of teachers and navigating the nuances of a new software platform. Students completed the English Language Arts (ELA) online exam during the last week of April. It was a seamless transition due to teacher expertise and experience as well as student resiliency. Math and Science assessments will be completed before the year ends.

District testing measures student growth in ELA and Mathematics throughout the year and helps to establish a baseline for the 2023-2024 school year. Students will also be taking these assessments before year end.

May and June are also when field trips are prevalent. Our major school-wide field trip this year will be to the McAuliffe-Shepherd Discovery Center in Concord, New Hampshire. Our PreK students can't travel by school bus to New Hampshire for various reasons. They will be visiting *Hildene* to study chickens! When they return to school, they will be incubating fertile chicken eggs. Many thanks to Josh and Meadow Squire for donating the eggs!

The sixth graders are traveling to Boston this year. They are scheduled to visit the Freedom Trail, the Science Museum, and Faneuil Hall. They will also be taking a Duck Boat Tour around Boston.

Many other school activities are scheduled including our Spring Celebration, Field Day, Pizza Oven Lunch, and a school-wide Picnic at the Wallingford Boys Camp.

Graduation is on the evening of June 8th. We have 10 sixth graders advancing to Mill River Middle School in the fall of 2023. We're very proud of each of our graduates and will truly miss them!

Many thanks to the Tinmouth Community for their ongoing support! Without your partnership, it would be challenging to run programs and activities such as 4 Winds, Winter Sports Program, and the school-wide picnic. The teachers and staff appreciate your patronage!

Sincerely,

Maureen Fitzgerald-Riker
Principal
Tinmouth Mountain School

~ **A Day in the Life** ~
By *Maureen Fitzgerald-Riker*

Fifth and sixth grade students read 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. This is the last of the six essays. Together these essays provided insight into a day in the life of a family during the Dust Bowl Era.

We hope you enjoyed reading them.

'A Day in the Life'
by *Malachi Miner*

I woke up this morning with cold dust filled lungs and the sound of Grandma Ellie coughing.

Grandma Ellie has had dust pneumonia ever since she was 42 and now she's 55. After I got out of bed and got dressed, I went down stairs and asked Ma if Aunt Sally had left yet. Ma replied "yes".

Ma asked "why are you asking?"

I said "because I wanted to go to work with her today".

Ma asks if I "Can milk the cows this morning"?

I say "Yes."

Before I go out Katie asks me if "Can you play with me"?

"I say maybe later, I have to milk the cows right now".

The barn sways back and forth while I'm milking the cows. That means there's a dust storm coming. After I'm done milking the cows I run in and yell to ma, "There's a dust storm coming".

But she doesn't respond. I ask Katie, my little sister, where Ma is. She says she's "Giving Aunt Sally her lunch".

When Ma comes home, I rush out to meet her. I tell her "A dust storm is coming".

Soon after Aunt Sally came running home. They let her leave the post office early because a dust storm was coming.

We rush inside and tell Grandma Ellie a dust storm is coming. Ma gets some oily rags and we put them on the window, so the dust would not invade our house. After we were done with putting the rags on the windows, we all huddled up in the living room. Ma could not find Katie so Aunt Sally went outside. Shortly after a gust of wind blew the front door and wind blew all through our house.

Ma started to get worried about Aunt Sally. Then we hear a sharp sound of glass breaking and a picture of

the family flies bye. Grandma Ellie runs out and tries to grab it but she falls and a piece of glass cuts her neck. Then the dust storm starts to let up and Aunt Sally and Katie come in. Katie has a cut leg and Aunt Sally cut arm then we hear Grandma Ellie say something but we could not make out what she said. Grandma Ellie was fine after a few minutes and put some rags with honey on Grandma and Katie.

The dust storm stopped and Ma's friend came after the storm and left us an apple pie. We had the pie with some dust covered biscuit. At the bottom of the pie containers there was a note that read "Thank you for all you have helped me with but I have to get out of the dust. Sincerely, Charlotte."

It turned out everyone was okay.

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

10 Court Street, Rutland, VT 05701 802-773-1860
Friday, May 12 (10 - 4) and Saturday, May 13 (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.

Limit of two grocery bags per family.

No book dealers.

Proceeds to support library programs and collections
and designated library projects.

www.rutlandfree.org

To Tinmouth Residents,

*You are invited to celebrate my Mother, (Cathy Ricketts)'s 80th birthday! All of her friends are invited also. Her party will be held **Saturday, May 20th** at the Tinmouth Community Center, from 10 AM until 6 PM.*

*Please bring a dish of food to share. Please let us know (RSVP) by **May 15th** if you plan to attend.*

Call Cathy at 802-775-294? Extension 203 or you can send her a note c/o Rutland Rehab at 46 Nichols St, Rutland, VT 05701.

She will have her 2 great grandchildren there also.

Tina Butler

P.S. We plan to eat at 12 noon. No alcoholic beverages and no smoking allowed.



TINMOUTH
CHURCH

~ Tinmouth Community Church ~

He jogged down the wrong road. She went up the wrong driveway. He rang the wrong doorbell. They went to the wrong nightclub. Actually, there is nothing wrong about doing any of these - except the shootings that left them dead.

Leaving church, a parishioner said to me, "It can happen anywhere, anytime, to anyone." But being shot is most likely to occur here in the States, where the incidence of gun violence far exceeds any other country. It is hard to believe that tens-of-thousands of our people die every year from gunshots (CDC). If any nation or terrorist group did that, we'd be sending the troops after them. Yet, little is done to curb this violence and the suffering it causes. Why?

The reasons have a lot to do with our fears, our faith, our loves and our lack of inner freedom, to broadly name some of them. One more I would mention here - the now undervalued divine imperatives that for millennium have been the civilizing safeguards in societies, like the Sixth Commandment of Moses, "Do not kill/murder." In stark contrast, our culture unremittingly reinforces the efficacy of violent force and the legitimacy of weapons to carry it out. We are feeding our minds death and reaping it in real life.

Religious faith can bring us back to our moral senses, if it doesn't also justify and bless recourse to violence. Remember the "**Golden Rule**?" "Do to others as you would have them do to you." It certainly rules out shooting anyone. It is still a good foundation to right what's wrong.

**Blessings,
Pastor John**

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

Bell ringers needed, please contact Pastor John at the above number or email. No experience necessary!

~ Community News ~

Get Well Wishes are sent to **Shannon Squier, John Squier, and Joe Faucher.**

Heartfelt Sympathies are sent to family and friends of **Bob Noble.** He will be missed.

New Feature ~ The Tinnmouth Historical & Genealogical Society is going to start providing articles about Tinnmouth's history in *Tales*. Here is the first, dealing with the two Honor Rolls in town, written by Stan Wilbur, photos provided by Vito Macaluso.

~ **Tinnmouth Honor Rolls** ~
By Stanley Wilbur

The first: *The Old Honor Roll*

(Excerpts from Old Town Reports)

Tinnmouth Town Meeting 80 Years Ago

Tinnmouth Local and School Meeting March 2, 1943

- 32. Voted a resolution which will be annexed to the Minutes of this Meeting.
- 33. On a motion made by E. C. Taylor it was voted by voice vote to have an Honor Roll erected for the Boys from this Town who are in the armed services of our country in the present conflict.
- 34. The Moderator was empowered to appoint a Committee to erect a suitable marker. Edward C. Taylor and Clarence J. Wilbur were appointed.
- 38. Resolution referred to as in number 32.
Whereas the Citizens of the Town of Tinnmouth have been called upon to do their utmost to furnish foods and supplies for the men and women who are fighting in the Armed Services with our Allies to regain and maintain a World of Freedom and Democracy and to the Citizens in the countries that have been deprived of their foods and supplies by the Brutes of Germany, Italy and Japan, We the Citizens of the Town of Tinnmouth pledge ourselves to the following resolution:

Resolved that the Citizens of Tinnmouth pledge their unstinting effort to further the production of Farm Foods and supplies obtained from this source, with the willingness of each and every person doing his or her part to plant, care for, harvest and produce food for this great cause."

Resolved that the Citizens of Tinnmouth petition the Federal Government to leave these Farmers and their families sufficient farm products for home consumption and furnish as much as possible with machinery, seeds, fertilizer, petroleums and other production factors together with a fair and just return for work, investment and risks involved.

Resolved that this resolution be spread upon the record in the Town Clerks office in Tinnmouth Vt., and that a copy be sent to the Honorable Claude R. Wickards, United States Secretary of Agriculture and copies to the members of the Vermont delegations in Congress of the United States.

Signed by and for the people at the Local Election at Tinnmouth, Vt., on Tuesday March 2, 1943. Attested, Edward E. Weeks, Town Clerk"

ANNUAL REPORT of Board of Officers of the Town of Tinnmouth January 31st 1944 SELECTMAN'S REPORT

June 21 No. 16 C. J. Wilbur, honor roll and money paid out \$32.18

ANNUAL REPORT of the Town of Tinnmouth, Vermont for the Year Ending January 31, 1945

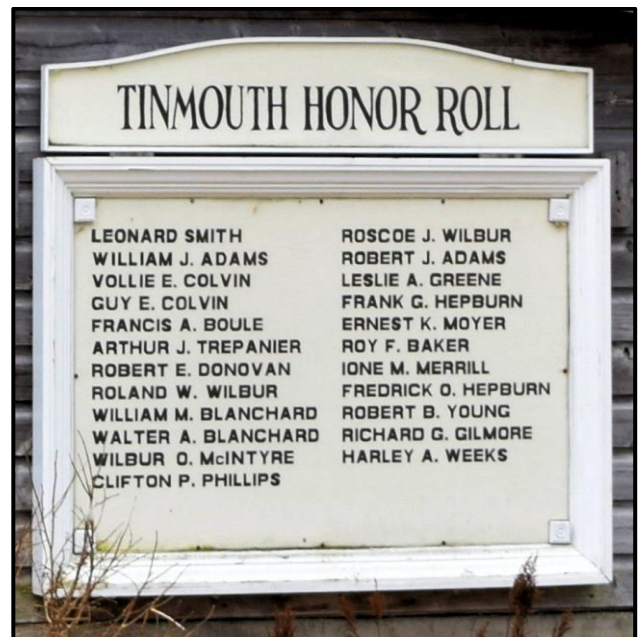
TINMOUTH HONOR ROLL

Leonard Smith	Roscoe Wilbur
William J. Adams	Robert J. Adams
Vollie E. Colvin	Leslie A. Green
Guy E. Colvin	Frank G. Hepburn
Francis A. Boule	Ernest K. Moyer
Arthur J. Trepanier	Roy F. Baker
Robert E. Donovan	Robert B. Young
Roland W. Wilbur	Ione M. Merrill
Walter A. Blanchard	William M. Blanchard

Town of Tinnmouth, Vermont ANNUAL REPORT Of the Town Officers For the Years Ending January 31, 1952

Jan. 10, 1952 Order No. 57 Ernest Lidstone, rebuild, paint and letters on Tinnmouth on Tinnmouth Honor Roll.

The Tinnmouth Honor Roll listing Tinnmouth residents who served in World War II hung on the front of the old church for many years. The sign had been repainted and reconstructed several times over the years and at some point, Korean War veterans were added to the Honor Roll. The Honor Roll was saved when the Church burned in 1969 and moved to the Fire Station.



The second: *The New Honor Roll*

THE TOWN OF TINMOUTH VERMONT ANNUAL REPORT of the Town Officer, YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 1992 featured this photo on its cover.



IN MEMORY OF
ALL MEMBERS OF
THE ARMED FORCES
WHO SERVED THEIR
COUNTRY FROM
THIS TOWN
TINMOUTH VERMONT
ERECTED 1991

This monument was erected as part of Tinmouth's celebration of Vermont's Bicentennial of admittance as the 14th state to the United States (1791-1991). It was carved by Michal Fannin, Tinmouth stone wright, and is a piece of marble from the old quarry on the Wright's (now Inkley's) property on the town trail part of town highway #20. The quarry has been long out of operation.

* * * * *

After the new marble monument honoring all war veterans was placed next to the town office, the Old Honor Roll was stored in the Town Shed and fell into a state of disrepair. After comments by several persons listed on the Honor Roll, the Historical Society, with the support of the Selectboard undertook the task of having the sign restored. In 2008 Kevin Merrill, who repainted the sign several years ago, did a great job in rebuilding and painting the sign and it was hung on the Old Town Shed.

The following is a listing of the names currently included on the Old Honor Roll.

- | | |
|----------------------|----------------------|
| LEONARD SMITH | ROSCOE J. WILBUR |
| WILLIAM J. ADAMS | ROBERT J. ADAMS |
| VOLLIE E. COLVIN | LESLIE A. GREENE |
| GUY E. COLVIN | FRANK G. HEPBURN |
| FRANCIS A. BOULE | ERNEST K. MOYER |
| ARTHUR J. TREPANIER | ROY F. BAKER |
| ROBERT E. DONOVAN | IONE M. MERRILL |
| ROLAND W. WILBUR | FREDERICK O. HEPBURN |
| WILLIAM M. BLANCHARD | ROBERT B. YOUNG |
| WALTER A. BLANCHARD | RICHARD G. GILMORE |
| WILBUR O. MCINTYRE | HARLEY A. WEEKS |
| CLIFTON P. PHILLIPS | |

At least two World War II Veterans, Elizabeth Young and Hugh Young need to be added to the Honor Roll. Elizabeth Young was a member of the Cadet Nurse Corps during the war and retired from the Air Force as a Lieutenant Colonel in 1971. Hugh Young enlisted in the Army at age 18 upon his graduation from Wallingford High School and worked in Eisenhower's Headquarters in Bushey Park, London and Versailles Palace in France.

On Sunday September 28, 2008, the Tinmouth Historical & Genealogical Society hosted a rededication of the Tinmouth Honor Roll listing Tinmouth residents who served in World War II and Korea. The ceremony took place at the Town Sheds on Mountain View Road in Tinmouth Center and included an American Legion color guard, oration by Chuck Clarino, Rutland Herald reporter who had interviewed and written stories about many World War II veterans, music, refreshments, and a time for reflections by surviving "boys and girls" of Tinmouth and family members of those who have passed away. Honorees present at the event were Roland Wilbur. Frederick "Hod" Hepburn, Harley Weeks and Wilbur McIntyre.

If you know someone listed on the Honor Roll or have information regarding the Honor Roll, the Society would like to hear from you. If anyone has suggestions of other people that should be added, please contact Gail Fallar, Society Archivist, at the Town Office or Stan Wilbur, Society President. Thank you.

~ Meeting Highlights ~

(Complete minutes are available at the town office.)

Select Board ~ 4/3/2023 ~ Special Meeting

Members present (in-person): Meadow Squier, Kevin Eaton, and Judy Gilmore

Others present: In-person: Eric Buffum-Road Commissioner, Cathy Reynolds, and Gail Fallar-SBA

Via Zoom: Steffanie Bourque – Municipal Project Manager (RRPC), Sherry Johnson, Kim Harbaugh, and Rick Fallar

The purpose of the meeting was to discuss the Request for Proposals (RFP) for Design Engineering Services for the TAP grant for the salt/sand shed.

Steffanie provided an update to bring Judy up to speed on the project, reviewing the process from the beginning. She noted she thought the Consultant Selection Committee (Cathy, Eric and Gail) appointed by the Select Board in December, had the authority to decide about the RFP. The Select Board decided they wanted to be part of that decision and at their meeting in February decided to proceed with an RFP.

Steffanie then explained the choices:

- 1) spend out of pocket (not eligible for grant reimbursement) with the prior engineer (Otter Creek Engineering);
- 2) go out to bid for the RFP; or
- 3) choose from the State's **At the Ready** engineering list and proceed with one of those companies.

Board discussed options, time line, need for the state to grant a categorical exclusion once the conceptual plans have been completed, next grant deadline (September), whether or not any local firms would bother to bid (Rutland had no luck), huge increase in costs, etc. In the end, the Board decided by consensus to proceed with the RFP, if no one bids, then move to the **At the Ready** list.

Board and CSC reviewed the draft RFP. It was noted that the scope of work could be changed (for instance reduce the size of the structure or building just a salt shed); topo work may have to re-done as the site now has a massive amount of fill on it. After more discussion, Board voted to approve the RFP as edited.

Once bids are received, they will be ranked, by the SB and CSC members, independently. Then all will meet to make the final decision. Once the Design Engineer is chosen there will need to be a steering committee to work with them to get to the final plans to go to bid for construction. SB will think about this committee.

In other business, Cathy inquired about the FEMA/OEC grant for the generators for the fire house and the town office. What does the SB want for a process? After brief discussion, the SB decided that Cathy, Kevin and Gail will review bids/create an RFP to send out, bids due by May SB meeting. Need to spend grant by September.

Select Board ~ 4/13/2023

Members present (in-person): Kevin Eaton, Meadow Squier, and Judy Gilmore

Others present:

In-person: Kyle Medash – Vermont Rivers Program/Flood Plain Manager, Eric Buffum-Road Commissioner, Melody Squier, Marshall Squier, David Birdsall, Todd Dennis, Michael Fallar, and Gail Fallar

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

Mr. Medash was present to provide information about the NFIP – National Flood Insurance Program. He briefly described the program, noted that anyone in town could buy flood insurance, not just those in the Flood Plain. He noted that if a disaster strikes – such as Tropical Storm Irene, having the flood plain regulations provides for more reimbursement from the state. Another way to increase the state's payment is to also adopt River Corridor regulations. He will send an information packet for the Planning Commission to review. One of his jobs is to provide guidance to the zoning administrator if someone wants a permit to build in the Flood Hazard Zone. Those present recalled the events of Irene, how the Channel area became a huge sponge that absorbed water from the storm until it looked like a lake, how it slowly released the water over a couple of weeks, how volunteers worked to keep culverts free from clogging and worked to keep people safe.

Members reviewed the **agenda**, added Lance Somers' driveway permit, RFP for paving bids and clarification of ARPA funds for the right of way legal costs.

Citizen's Input – Sherry expressed support for posting meeting recordings on the town's website (on the agenda).

David spoke to Emerald Ash Borer (not on the agenda). He spoke with Eric about flagging trees on Route 140 to get started and asked the SB about notifying landowners – create a pamphlet, notify on Front Porch Forum, etc, SB agreed, but no decision was made on who was to do it.

Marshall raised concerns with Ron Hill and his son RJ, burning trash and brush on a Red Flag Warning Day – a very dangerous endeavor. The fire warden and the fire department were called. It was also noted that RJ continues to drive, but has no driver's license. The SB was asked to address the problem immediately. They added it to the May SB agenda.

Public Works Update – Request for Proposals for Design Engineering have been publicly posted and emailed to engineering firms.

Highway – Eric reported the road crew has been busy grading, fighting beavers, and building stairs in the new town garage. Plows have been painted and put away, and the wing is off the grader. The grader had another broken rim, welding is not holding. There are 6 tires on the grader, he asked to order more rims – wait for them to be

built – there are no new or used available. Board approved. Eric noted the gravel budget is over spent, but winter salt is under budget, asked to move that amount to the gravel line, Board approved.

Lance and Jenny Somers Driveway Permit - 325 Mountain View Road, Eric advised it did not need a culvert, no tree trimming, good to go. Board voted to approve.

Chloride Contract – Board reviewed briefly, then voted to approve.

McCoy Road – Board discussed concerns raised about snow plowing, sanding, and deep mud. Kevin will speak to all involved.

Paving RFP – Board reviewed draft for paving on Route 140 starting at the Wallingford town line and going .8 miles east. If the town gets a state paving grant, will be able to nearly reach the Tinmouth Cemetery. Approved with minor edits, will be due for May 11th meeting.

Guidelines for Purchasing Used Equipment – Meadow had tweaked a bit, Board voted to approve.

VTRANS Grant Applications – Board reviewed both; paving on Route 140 as well as another for a structure - to replace the culvert near the Patrys on North East Road, all approved submitting.

Grant In Aide – Board voted to send Letter of Intent to participate in the program in FY24.

RRPC Mutual Aide Agreement – Board voted to approve the Agreement. This Mutual Aide is for highway equipment and/or assistance with other towns in Rutland County.

Financial Reports – Board reviewed reports and warrants and voted to approve all.

ARPA Expenditure – Board agreed by consensus to allocate the legal fees paid for the attempt to obtain a right of way from Mountain View Road from the ARPA funds. Total is \$1,650.

Debit Card Guidelines – Board reviewed, made suggestions, will review again at their May meeting.

Health Officer – Meadow submitted her resignation as Health Officer. Board accepted with thanks for her service. Board voted to submit/recommend Jeffrey Warfle to the Vermont Department of Health to become Tinmouth's new Health Officer.

Annual Appointments – Meadow moved to appoint all annual appointees with the exception of Michael Fallar to the Equity and Inclusion Committee. There was no second. The SBA suggested an executive session was needed to discuss personnel. Meadow asked Michael if he wanted to do that, Michael replied no, he preferred the discussion to be in open meeting. There was much discussion, Meadow read a statement regarding breaking the tradition of appointing those willing to serve, that also spoke to Michael's creation of a hostile environment for the E & I Committee. She is also the Chair of that Committee. There was much back and forth between

Meadow and Michael. Melody also read a statement of support to not re-appoint Michael, noting his negativity. Judy and Kevin wanted more information, and decided to attend the next E & I Committee meeting – May 16th. In the end, the Board voted to appoint and re-appoint everyone except the E & I Committee.

As no one volunteered to be on the Recreation Committee, the SB decided one was not needed at the moment and dissolved it. There are also now **vacancies** on the Safety and Wellness Committee and the Energy Committee as Ray Pratt stepped down from those to serve as the new Emergency Management Director. Matt Patry was appointed by Ray to be the new Emergency Management Coordinator. *(See separate listing at the end of Meeting Highlights for other annual appointments.)*

Website Policy - Board reviewed the updated policy submitted by the Website Committee, Board voted to approve as presented.

.GOV domain – Todd explained this would move the town website to a more secure domain, and that it is now free. SB had approved in 2021, but had not completed the procedure. He provided the letter needed, and the steps to be taken. Once approved, website will be at .gov instead of .org. Board voted to approve.

Todd also spoke about a proposal to provide **email addresses for town officers** – so they don't have to use their own, which can be subject to Public Record requests. He will send a summary for the SB to consider.

CLA Redetermination Agreement – Board voted to ratify Meadow's action of signing the Agreement (due to deadline). The Redetermination request resulted in it changing from 77% to 79%.

Re-appraisal Proposal – Gail, as Chair of the Board of Listers, requested permission to negotiate with Douglas MacArthur for reappraisal consultation. Mr. MacArthur has done Tinmouth's reappraisals the last three times it was done. By consensus, Board approved.

LEMP/NIMS – After brief discussion Board voted to approve the annual Local Emergency Management Plan (LEMP) and NIMS.

Opioid Settlement – After brief discussion, Board voted to authorize Gail to respond on behalf of the Town to the proposed settlement.

Meeting Recordings on Website – Nancy spoke in support of uploading all meetings' recordings to the town's website – which is really a link to YouTube. Board voted to approve request.

Members Concerns – None

Correspondence – Gail reported the Stan and Rene Wilbur recently donated artwork by Annemie Curlin, which was commissioned for the new courthouse in Rutland in 2005. It depicts the center of town as perceived by the artist. It will hang in the Old Fire House.

Next Meeting Schedule ~ Thursday, May 11 – 7:00 and a special 2nd meeting on May 23rd – 7:00

Planning Commission ~ 4/27/23

Present were members Michael Fallar, Larry Carabeau, Andy Gilmore and Judy Gilmore in person and Bob Lloyd, Kim Harbaugh, Vito Macaluso and Pat Psholka via Zoom. Also present were Gail Fallar, Sec. and Sherry Johnson via Zoom.

Members discussed advice from Ed Bove and Barbara Noyes-Pulling from the Rutland Regional Planning Commission regarding updating the energy section of the town plan. The state is currently revising standards and maps and other requirements and updating data, so at this time it makes more sense to not undertake a review until that work is completed.

Members discussed various types of renewable energy, including nuclear, hydro, and wind.

Gail reported that the Select Board had had a presentation on the new Flood Hazard Insurance Program that included a brief discussion of river corridors. The PC will be receiving information about possible steps to take to protect these. In Tinmouth these include the Channel with turns into the Clarendon River, on its way to Lake Champlain via Otter Creek; the Poultney River which starts up in the Purchase on the northwest part of town and flows through Middletown Springs into Poultney also on its way to Lake Champlain, and Flower Brook and Wells Brook which flow southwest to the Mettowee River.

Speed Limit Committee ~ 4/20/23

Present were members Jeff Warfle, Kevin Eaton, Hollis Squier, Sherry Johnson(via zoom), and Ray Pratt, as well as Kim Harbaugh (via zoom), Alice Hoisington and Gail Fallar.

Members reviewed draft ordinances, including one from VLCT. Committee needs to remember to add to it – that all certified officers can enforce it, list of stop signs, list of roads and their speeds, speed feed-back signs.

Members worked on a map of all roads and their current speed limits and the location of stop and yield signs.

Members will review other sample ordinances sent by VLCT for their next meeting on May 25th.

~ **Select Board 2023 Annual Appointments** ~
1 year term unless specified (term ends)

Board of Adjustment

Todd Dennis (2026)
Sherry Johnson (2026)
Michael Fallar, Alternate

Planning Commission

Michael Fallar, Chair (2026)
Larry Carabeau (2026)
Vito Macaluso (2026)

Zoning Administrator

Gail Fallar (2026)

911 Coordinator

Gail Fallar

Rutland Regional Planning Commission Rep.

Robert Lloyd, Commissioner
Michael Fallar, *Alternate*

RRPC Regional Transportation Council Rep.

Sherry Johnson
Michael Fannin, *Alternate*

Solid Waste Alliance Communities

Chris Martone Wheaton Squier, *Alternate*

Tinmouth Library Trustee

Gene Usher (2025)

Rutland Free Library Trustee

Barry Cohen (2024)

Health Officer

Jeff Warfle
Theresa Schmelzenbach, Deputy

Safety & Wellness Committee

Ronnie Crossman Kevin Eaton
Gail Fallar Chris Martone
Vacant

Regional Emergency Management Committee

Ray Pratt, EMD Matt Patry, EMC

Tree Warden

David Birdsall Wheaton Squier, Deputy

Green-Up Day Committee

Doug Fontein Ed Hasenohr Nelson Jaquay

Housing Rehab Loan Review Committee

Select Board

Animal Control Officers

David Birdsall Paul Morris, Deputy

Town Huggers

Hollis Squier Patti (Cow Patti) Macaluso

Community Center Board

Judy Gilmore (Appointed by Select Board)
Josh Squier (MRUUSD Member)
Martha Stanley (2024) (elected at Town Mtg.)

Energy Committee

Todd Dennis, Energy Coordinator & Chair
Cathy Reynolds
Vacant

Weighers of Coal

Michael Fannin Cathy Reynolds

Inspector of Lumber & Shingles

Doug Fontein Michael Fallar

Pound Keeper

Glenn D. Merrill

Fence ViewersMichael Fallar Ralph Lewis
Glenn D. Merrill Caleb Scott**Tinmouth Website Committee**Todd Dennis
Cathy Reynolds
Zach Bronzo
Jennifer Trepal
C. Ctr. Bldg. Mgr - Rainbow Squier
Select Board - Judy Gilmore
Town Clerk – Gail Fallar**Conservation Commission**

Robbie Leeds (2027)

Solid Waste & Recycling CommitteeJonathan Czar Gail Fallar
Helen Mango Chris Martone
Wheaton Squier, Chair**Old Creamery Committee**Michael Fallar, Chair Doug Fontein
Stan Wilbur Vito Macaluso**Speed Study Committee (2023)**Kevin Eaton, Chair Tracy Byford
Sherry Johnson Ray Pratt
Hollis Squier Jeff Warfle**Equity & Inclusion Committee***(Appointment on hold until June Select Board Meeting)*Todd Dennis
Michael Fallar
Kim Harbaugh
Lothar Schmelzenbach
Meadow Squier, Chair
Melody Squier
Rainbow Squier
Emma Weatherhogg
Vacant
Vacant

The Select Board dissolved the Tree Policy Committee and the ARPA Committee. As there were no volunteers for the new Recreation Committee, they also dissolved it.

~ Vacancies in Need of Volunteers ~

There are vacancies on the Energy Committee, the Safety & Wellness Committee and the Equity and Inclusion Committee. Please contact the Town Office to volunteer or for information – 802-446-2498 or tinmouthtown@vermontel.net.

**~ 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.

~ Nature Notes ~

Lots of Spring things are happening! Daffodils, dandelions, tulips, and all manner of flowers are blooming. Lawns are being mowed, gardens are getting planted, peepers are peeping, frogs are trilling, birds are singing and making nests. April showers will bring May flowers, calves are being born, and trees have blossomed all over. We made it through another winter!!

There was a wonderful warm spell – temperatures in the 80's – in April! Shorts and sandals came out for a brief time (soon followed by turtlenecks and sweaters). Turkeys everywhere, trout are being caught, a tapestry of leaves is slowing unfurling on its way up the mountain.

There are LOTS OF TICKS – beware, be careful.

~ 1971 Marble Valley Baseball League Trophy ~

Andy Moyer recently donated the trophy along with a scrap book kept by his mother Kate, with newspaper clippings, rosters and photos from the early 1970's when his father, Harold was the manager and coach of the Middletown Springs semi-pro town team. Several players were from Tinmouth. League teams also included Wallingford, Danby, Poultney, Granville, West Rupert, Pawlet, and West Rutland. In reading the rosters it seemed many of the teams had players from other towns. There are still many of those still living in the area.

Stop by the Town Office and take a look!

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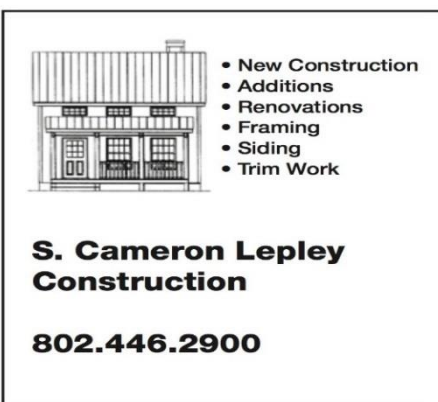
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Needing a friend to talk with during these stressful times?
 Pastor John (Tinmouth Community Church) is only a phone call away.
Any reason is a good reason to call: 802-417-1491.

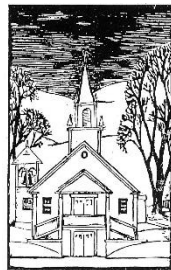
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~ May 2023 Calendar of Events ~

Fire Department	Thursday	4th	7:00	Fire House
Green-Up	Saturday	6th	8:30-11	All Town Roads
John & Shannon Squier Benefit	Saturday	6th	6:00	Community Center
Select Board	Thursday	11th	7:00	Town Office & Zoom
Book Sale	Saturday	13th	TBD	Old Creamery Porch
Plant Sale	Week of the 13th – 21st			Squier Family Farm, McNamara Road
Equity and Inclusion Comm.	Tuesday	16th	7:00 -8:30	Town Office & Zoom
Planning Commission	Thursday	18th	7:00	Town Office & Zoom
Tales of Tinnmouth Deadline	Saturday	20th		Don't Miss It!
Select Board – Special	Tuesday	23rd	7:00	Town Office & Zoom
Speed Limit Committee	Thursday	25th	7:00	Town Office/Virtual
Town Office – CLOSED	Monday	29th		In Observance of Memorial Day

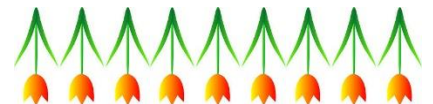
~ June 2023 Calendar of Events ~

Fire Department	Thursday	1st	7:00	Town Office/Virtual
Select Board	Thursday	8th	7:00	Town Office/Virtual
TES Graduation	Thursday	8th	TBA	Community Center
Town Office – CLOSED	Saturday	10th		Personal Day
Planning Commission	Thursday	15th	7:00	Town Office/Virtual
Conservation Commission	Monday	19th	7:00	Town Office/Virtual
Tales of Tinnmouth Deadline	Tuesday	20th		Don't Miss It!
Speed Limit Committee	Thursday	22nd	7:00	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 AND on the first Saturday of the month from 10-12!! ~*



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