

# TALES OF TINMOUTH

June 2023  
Vol. 37 Number 6

Tinmouth  
Vermont

**Editors' Notes:** *Summer is speeding right along ~ take time to enjoy sunny days, an evening walk, a dip in a cool stream, reading a book, getting an ice cream cone!*

The deadline for submissions (news, items of interest, get well wishes, poetry, etc.) is the 20<sup>th</sup> 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*

**The Town Office will be closed Saturday, June 10<sup>th</sup>.**

\* \* \* \* \*

~ **Save The Date** ~  
**Tinmouth Community Fun Day**  
**July 8th 3 pm**

*By Sherry Johnson*

Save the date for a fun-filled afternoon for the whole family! Festivities will start with a parade (all participants welcome), and will continue through the afternoon with games, prizes, activities, ice cream, potluck picnic dinner and more.

Details to follow in the July *Tales* and on Front Porch Forum. Hope to see you there!

### **Want to help?**

If you would like to volunteer in any capacity - pie baking, making potluck dishes, helping park cars, and/or truly anything else, reach out to us either by email: [tinmouth-community-events@googlegroups.com](mailto:tinmouth-community-events@googlegroups.com), or by calling me (Sherry): (802) 446-3307.

There will be a planning meeting Tuesday, June 20th at 7pm both at the town office and via zoom to iron out final details before the big day! Lots of people are putting in lots of great, hard work to make this day full of fun activities and delicious food.

Tinmouth Fun Day is just around the corner! Join us in person at the Town Office or via zoom at 7 pm to continue ironing out plans for Fun Day!

Zoom link:

<https://zoom.us/j/97744928600?pwd=Y1dYcmxNS0dPKzV5NnBzZ2JZMXh0UT09>

Sponsored by the Tinmouth Equity and Inclusion Committee.

~ **Tinmouth Plant Sale Appreciation** ~

Thank you to all who participated in making this year's Plant Sales a huge success. It is very much appreciated!

~ **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](mailto: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 year's photos have not been uploaded 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](mailto:r.squiert@gmail.com).

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

*Please Recycle or Pass Along Tales!!*



June 1, 2023

To the Tinmouth Community,

The final countdown has begun! The last day of school is June 16<sup>th</sup>. As in the past, students are released for the summer at 12:00 noon. Sixth Graders graduate on June 8<sup>th</sup> and will be out of school and on to their summer adventures after the 8<sup>th</sup>. Teachers will be leaving on or before June 20<sup>th</sup> for the summer. It's been a quiet and productive year (but never uneventful!).

Last week, kindergarteners through fifth graders visited the McAuliffe-Shepherd Discovery Center in Concord, New Hampshire on May 18<sup>th</sup>. The exhibits were interactive and engaging. There were 2 planetarium shows that were phenomenal! It was well worth the 3 hour bus ride to Concord. We are thankful to the Bill Jenkins Field Trip Fund for funding this adventure.



Pictured here are "astronauts" **Adelae Allen & Harper Wright**

The sixth grade didn't join us on this field trip because they were exploring the Freedom Trail in Boston, Massachusetts. The students also toured the TD Garden, took a Duck Boat tour of Boston, and explored the Museum of Science. For many of our students it was an adventure of a lifetime-hopefully, the first of many to come. This trip was primarily funded by the Bill Jenkins Field Trip Fund, although, the students did fundraisers to offset costs. Many thanks to our community for supporting these fundraisers and giving students the opportunity to develop independence and confidence needed to navigate a large city. It is a shared experience they will always remember and learn from.

Two more major school events are scheduled in the upcoming weeks. Field Day is on June 5<sup>th</sup> and our annual School Picnic is on June 13<sup>th</sup> at the Wallingford Lodge at Elfin Lake. Oh, and let's not forget our Celebration of Spring on June 1<sup>st</sup> in the Community Center. This year our art teacher, music teachers, and a local poet combined forces to create a celebration rather than strictly a concert. It should be an exciting celebration like no other!

The staff at Tinmouth Mountain School would like to thank our community once more for all their support! You make a difference in the lives of all Tinmouth students!

Have a safe and healthy summer! And keep students reading (preferably outside)!

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



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

**Todd Dennis** – 802-287- 6057

Clip this and insert it into your copy of the Directory. Please send updates and corrections to [tinmouthtales@vermontel.net](mailto:tinmouthtales@vermontel.net) or call the town office at 802-446-2498. *Thank you!*

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

10 Court Street, Rutland, VT 05701 802-773-1860  
Friday, June 9 (10 - 4) and Saturday, June 10 (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](http://www.rutlandfree.org)

**~ Tinmouth Green Up Thank You ~**

The Green Up Committee and the Conservation Commission extend a hearty thank you to all who participated in helping clean up Tinmouth roads!

And thank you to those who continue throughout the year. Green Up bags are available at the Town Office.

**Tinmouth Community Fund  
June Awards Event and Board Vacancy**

*by Jan Krantz*

The Tinmouth Community Fund (TCF) will hold an Awards Event along with an Annual Meeting on **Wednesday June 21<sup>st</sup>, beginning at 7 pm, at the Old Firehouse.** The 2023 TCF Community and Small Business Grants, K-12 and Continuing Education scholarships, plus the Susan McIntosh Lloyd Memorial Scholarship and the Pam Garceau Memorial Scholarship, will all be announced at this time. We ask that anyone who applied for a 2023 grant or scholarship, please be present in-person or virtually for this event.

The TCF Board will hold a short annual meeting prior to announcing the awards.

As we look to our Annual Meeting, we will have **two vacancies on the TCF Board of Directors.** We typically meet four times a year and specific details about TCF can be found on the town website at <https://www.tinmouthvt.org/community-fund/>.

If you are a Tinmouth resident and interested in possibly becoming a board member, please contact Jan Krantz at [krantzkj@vermontel.net](mailto:krantzkj@vermontel.net) or 802-446-2919, prior to June 21<sup>st</sup>. Thank you!

**We hope you will join us on June 21<sup>st</sup> for this special event, whether you applied for a grant or scholarship or not. Refreshments will be served! Please save the date!**

**For remote access please use the following link.**

If you wish to participate via teleconferencing please join the meeting from your computer, tablet or smartphone at Join Zoom Meeting -

<https://zoom.us/j/97744928600?pwd=Y1dYcmxNS0dPKzV5NnBzZ2JZMXh0UT09>

Meeting ID: 977 4492 8600 Passcode: 218462

You can also dial in using your telephone. This is NOT a toll free number. +1 646 876 9923 US (New York) Meeting ID: 977 4492 8600 Passcode: 218462

**~ Job Opening/Vacancy ~**

The Tinmouth Community Center Board announces there will be a vacancy in the Building Use Manager position on July 1<sup>st</sup>.

The Community Center Building Use Manager is responsible for scheduling use of the community center during non-school use times, scheduling use of the old firehouse, and use of community bake oven; providing building walk-throughs for new users; and verifying the condition of the building after rental.

This is a salaried position, for more details please contact the Town Office at 802-446-2498 or [tinmouthtown@vermontel.net](mailto:tinmouthtown@vermontel.net) by June 14<sup>th</sup>.

**~ Library News ~**

*By Ruth Drachman, Librarian*



**Thank you** to all the kind people who helped to make the Book Sale and Pizza Bake the best ever! The Book Sale was a smashing success! So was the Pizza Bake.

Thank you to the people who carried boxes of books, the people who bought books, the people who made contributions of money, the people who ate pizza, and the people who cooked the pizza. Your support is greatly appreciated!

**~ New for Adults ~**

**Someone Else's Shoes** by Jojo Moyes, a story of mix-ups, mess-ups and making the most of second chances.

**Lessons in Chemistry** by Bonnie Garmus, her career takes a detour when she becomes the unlikely star of a beloved TV cooking show. Witty, sometimes hilarious.

The Librarian is at the Library on Thursdays from 2 until 5 PM.

**~ Community News ~**

*Get Well Wishes* are sent to **Pauline Munson, Larry Carabeau, Joe Faucher, and John Squier.**

*Heartfelt Sympathies* are sent to family and friends of **Shannon Squier;** and to family and friends of **Sandy Laskey** (belatedly, sorry)

**Kudos** to the **Tinmouth Garden Club** for all the beautiful flower beds around the town office, school, and welcome triangle. And to **Kim Gaylord** for keeping the Church looking lovely!! *Thank you all so much for your hard work and green thumbs!*

**Congratulations** to Tinmouth Mountain School 6<sup>th</sup> grade graduates ~ **Violet Alexander, Carter Allen, Dylan Buffum, Madison Davis, Ari Fallar, Autumn Lepley, Malachi Miner, Maleynda Morales, Zan Stone and Adrian Zielinski.** Good luck at Mill River!!

**Congratulations** to 12<sup>th</sup> grade graduates: **Jimmy Barrett, Sierra Bryant, and Taylor Patch** from MRUUHS, and **Torleif Majorelle** from Burr & Burton.

Also, to **Colton Cone** who graduates from Otter Valley.

**Congratulations** to **Amy Martone**, who recently graduated from the Yale School of Nursing with a Doctorate Degree!

**~ 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](mailto:tinmouthtown@vermontel.net) by June 13<sup>th</sup>.

~ 2023 Tinmouth Town Wide Tag Sales ~  
September 2<sup>nd</sup>

By Sherry Johnson



Time to save that “stuff” from spring cleaning! We are planning to have the 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Tinmouth Town Wide Tag Sales in 2023, and look forward to continued community participation. It has been our experience people travel Mountain View Road and East Road. If you are “off the beaten path” so to speak and are a Tinmouth resident, we will have limited space available at the Old Fire House and The Old Creamery if you’d like to have a sale in town. Sign up early if you would like one of those spaces. We will of course, have a map with your location listed if you prefer to keep it at home.

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

So, please save the date – **September 2<sup>nd</sup>** - which is the Saturday of Labor Day weekend. The first Saturday in September.

Although the “official time” is 9 am to 3 pm, this year we will mark on the tag sale map if your sale starts before 9 am, is a two-day sale, or is an inside sale.

Questions? Call Sherry Johnson 802-446-3307. If you’d like to sign up to have your tag sale placed on the map; please email your location to [charles.bronk@gmail.com](mailto:charles.bronk@gmail.com) by August 25<sup>th</sup>.

Organizers:

Sherry Johnson (446-3307) [vtsjohnson@icloud.com](mailto:vtsjohnson@icloud.com)

Tracy Byford [tracyleab@gmail.com](mailto:tracyleab@gmail.com)

Chuck Bronk [charles.bronk@gmail.com](mailto:charles.bronk@gmail.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.

~ Nature Notes ~

May flowers were incredible – apple blossoms were spectacular!! Dandelions were everywhere, now they are just ghostly globes sending seeds floating on the wind.

Wild weather again - killing freeze toward the end of the month, a week later a near heat wave (3 days of 90 degrees or higher – only had two), and then back to cooler spring weather the beginning of June. We had a bit of May weather in March and so a bit of March weather in May.

~ Tinmouth Community Church ~



TINMOUTH  
CHURCH

Birthdays. They come around every year. I just had another one, my 68th, though it feels far fewer. What is 68 years to an eternal spirit, anyhow? But my body is keeping count.

In some circles of the church, birthdays are also remembered for the day a person was "reborn", meaning the day they made a confession of faith in Jesus Christ. Some Christians are able to mark a particular day and year when a new life in the Spirit of God began. Some non-Christians are able to as well, precipitated perhaps, by an encounter with the Numinous, an experience of the Holy Spirit that profoundly touched and changed their orientation to life. God is not constrained. There are many ways, unique to God's knowledge of us, that conversions happen. And for many of us, it is gradual, over the course of years, as in my case.

Jesus, when asked by a sincere and devout seeker, said that we must be reborn of the Spirit of God, so that love can become not only our way of life, but the new nature of our very being.

Much love is usually expressed on our birthdays. Even if not, there still is One who loves us with an everlasting love, on each and every day of our lives.

**Blessings,  
Pastor John**

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

The **Theater in the Woods Camp** will present showcases of each camp’s work on the following dates:

**Friday, June 30** Frank Asch and Vladimir Vagin’s *Here Comes the Cat*

**Friday, July 14** An original play by the campers

**Friday, July 28** An adaptation of T.H. White’s *The Sword in the Stone*

All performances begin at 2 pm, at 30 Orchard Road in Middletown Springs.

All are free and open to the public. Welcome!





## 8 x 8 Paper Album Workshop

Experience the magic of sharing the memories and story associated with event photos with someone you care about.

All you need to bring is 10 - 16 photos of an event or topic/person; an eight-page album and other materials will be supplied to you.

Think birthday, graduation, pet, vacation, or ?  
This is something EVERYONE can do.

When: Saturday, June 10, 10:00 am - 12:30 pm

Where: Tinmouth Community Center

Cost for workshop: \$12.00

Cost for album only: \$9.00

Leader: Susan Juckett,

Creative Memories Advisor

Contact at (802) 446-3285 OR

cell (361) 676-7477



### Knit in Public Day

by Sherry Johnson

Knit in Public Day is **June 10<sup>th</sup>**. In Tinmouth, being an inclusive community, we will celebrate all Fiber Arts. Bring a project and a chair to the Old Creamery any time between 10am and 2pm.

Meet some new crafters or catch up with some old friends.

In case of rain, we will move to the Old Fire House. I would be happy to answer any questions.

[vtsjohnson@icloud.com](mailto:vtsjohnson@icloud.com) or call 802-446-3307

### ~ Helpful Items for Loan ~

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

We even have a high chair.

Please call 446-2498 to make arrangements.



### When:

Monday, July 3, 2023 (4 pm-5:30 pm) Rain or Shine

### Where:

86 West Shore Drive, Tinmouth Pond

### Why:

Fundraiser to benefit the Tinmouth Pond Milfoil Project

\$20.00/ticket (pre-ordered) \$25.00/ticket (walkups)

The menu includes Slow Roasted Pork, Creamy Homemade Macaroni and Cheese made with Grafton Cheddar Cheese, Green Salad, Coleslaw, Homemade Chewy Brownies (Gluten Free available)

All you can eat!

If it rains or you prefer take out, please bring Tupperware to take your food home

Tickets are limited, to avoid disappointment, preorder by contacting Sherry Johnson @ [vtsjohnson@icloud.com](mailto:vtsjohnson@icloud.com) 802-446-3307, or 64 White Birch Drive; or Laurel Swenson @ [alam2@cox.net](mailto:alam2@cox.net), 802-446-2557 or 70 West Shore Drive.

This event was a great success last year, and a good time was had by all.

Catered by CherryRail Farm  
[cherryrailfarm@gmail.com](mailto:cherryrailfarm@gmail.com)

### ~ Green Mountain Passport ~

This is a Vermont State Park Visitor's Pass Discount Program for Seniors and Veterans. To be eligible for a life-long State Parks Passport, a person must be a legal resident of Vermont the town where the application is made and either 62 years of age or older, or a veteran of the uniformed services.

Use your Green Mountain Passport for: admission to Vermont State Parks (overnight camping and other park fees are excluded); Vermont State Historic Sites: Events which are fully State sponsored.

To receive a Green Mountain Passport card, fill out an application at your local city or town clerk's office; submit a \$2 fee to the clerk, and viola`.

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

~ Meeting Highlights ~

(Complete minutes are available at the town office.)

**Select Board ~ 5/11/2023**

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

Others present:

In-person: Jack Butterfoss, Michael Fallar, Eric Buffum-Road Commissioner, and Gail Fallar-Select Board Assistant (SBA)

Via Zoom: Sherry Johnson, Kim Harbaugh, Rick Fallar, David Birdsall, Nancy Gucker Birdsall, Pat Psholka, and via telephone Tim Rice from Wilk Paving.

**Citizen's Input** – Michael announced the Tinmouth School Parents Club raffle to support class activities.

Nancy spoke in support of equity and inclusion, had recently attended a celebration and noted that Tinmouth had been commended for its early participation in the statewide effort.

**Highway –**

**Paving Bids** - Board opened bids from Wilk Paving, Fuller Sand and Gravel, and Pike Industries.

Wilk Paving bid \$78.34 per ton plus \$1800 per day for shouldering – total \$86,724.24 RAP 15%

Pike Ind. bid \$86.52 per ton and \$6,025 for shouldering – total \$93,967.72 RAP 15%

Fuller Sand & Gravel bid \$80.00 per ton and \$1 per day for shouldering – total \$86,871 RAP 0%

RAP is recycled asphalt product contained in the mix. Eric recommended Fuller, better mix, zero recycled product.

Tim from Wilk advised the RAP 15% meets AOT/VTRANS standards, is tested, and approved by the state.

After brief discussion, Board voted to approve the Fuller bid as being in the best interest of the town.

**Jack Butterfoss** – *Driveway Permit amendment request.*

Jack asked the Board to reconsider its condition to remove the Balm of Gilead tree at the entry of his driveway on Route 140. He provided photographs showing the line of site after removing other trees and brush. Kevin noted he had done a site visit. After brief discussion, Board voted to amend the permit to allow the tree to remain.

**Road Commissioner** - Eric reported the road crew has been busy grading, graveling, and applying chloride to gravel roads. They are getting ready to ditch on Route 140 before paving begins. They will stone line the ditches and use the mechanical stop lights as flaggers. He is still working on the stairs and hand rails at the town garage as well as the air lines for the compressor. He noted that there was an open house on Green Up day. The Green-Up crew used the garage for its base of operations that day.

**Gulf Road Trash** – Eric reported a load of trash had been deposited in the ditch on Gulf Road. The Deputy Sheriff was able to find a name in it and issued a ticket for \$1,000 or so. After brief discussion, the Board decided by consensus to send a \$150 bill for road crew time and disposal as well.

**Used Grader** – Eric reported the State's Equipment Auction would be held soon, but noted that the only grader was a 2002, not much younger than the current one. He asked for authorization to purchase a used grader, not to exceed \$75,000. Board discussed process, need to follow the Used Equipment Procurement guidelines (Board did amend it to include Internet data). Board asked Eric to provide specifications at their June meeting, age, hours, size, brand, etc. Board noted that the Equipment Fund is not scheduled to replace the grader until FY24 and that there is not enough money at the present time. Judy and Michael questioned whether the grader needed to be replaced or was being replaced simply because it was on the schedule.

**Roadside Mowing** – Board discussed how this is awarded – does it need to go out to bid? Dan Allard's proposal is less than the \$10,000 trigger, but there might be others who would like to bid. Board agreed by consensus that Allard would get the contract for this year, will bid it next year – starting earlier.

**Financial Reports** – Board reviewed reports and warrants. Anticipated revenue includes \$200,000 paving grant and \$36,000 culvert project grant.

Board voted to approve the financial reports and the payroll and accounts payable warrants.

**Debit Card Guidelines** – Board voted to approve final version.

**Old Business-**

**ARPA List Review** – Board briefly discussed – SBA will send Judy original report from the ARPA Committee. Michael spoke to the need for the Old Creamery building to be connected electrically via the town office – it's on the ARPA list, Board will review again in June.

**To-Do Follow-Up List** - Board reviewed, added some, removed some that had been completed.

**RFP for Generator Grant** – Not ready

**Hill Clean-Up** – SBA reported the Hills had cleaned their property, still have tires to dispose of, looking for assistance with that.

**New Business -**

**Request for Extension to Complete Grand List** – Gail, as Chair of the Listers, asked the Board to request an extension of the deadline for completing the 2023 Grand List. Board agreed by consensus, Meadow signed the request to the State.

**Re-appraisal Proposal** – Board reviewed Douglas McArthur's contract, then voted to approve and sign.

**Speed Enforcement** – SBA reported the County Sheriff had inquired about whether more hours were wanted/needed. After brief discussion, Board decided to invite Sheriff David Fox to their June meeting to discuss the contract and concerns.

**Recreation Committee** – Board discussed, wants input from the volunteers regarding what its task would be.

**Correspondence** – Sherry suggested using the small scale AOT grant to upgrade the intersection of Mountain View Road and Route 140 – Board asked her to check with the road commissioner and report back – at the May 23<sup>rd</sup> meeting. Grant application is due June 15<sup>th</sup>.

**Next Meeting Schedule** ~ Board agreed to meet with the Consultant Selection Committee on May 17<sup>th</sup> to review salt/sand shed engineering proposals. Will hold a second Board meeting on May 23<sup>rd</sup> if needed. June's meeting was moved to Tuesday, June 13<sup>th</sup> due to the school's graduation being on the 8<sup>th</sup>.

### **Select Board ~ 5/17/2023 ~ Special Meeting With Consultant Selection Committee**

Present were: CSC members Cathy Reynolds, Gail Fallar and Steffanie Bourque (Project Manager)

SB members Kevin Eaton, Judy Gilmore, and Meadow Squier

Via Zoom was Scott Gurley, VTRANS Advisor

There was brief discussion regarding reimbursement of expenses if the town decided that it could not go forward due to the cost. Scott was vague with an answer, as it depends, some towns applied for additional grant funding, some revised the size of the project, only one has cancelled.

Steffanie announced that she was a former employee of one of the firms who submitted proposals, so she would not participate in the ranking of the proposals.

Proposals for design engineering for the proposed salt/and shed were received from DuBois & King and Marble Valley Engineering.

All present then entered into Executive Session as premature general public knowledge would place the town at a substantial disadvantage regarding contracts.

Members exited executive session at 8:15. The CSC decided by consensus to recommend to the Select Board that they award the contract to Dubois & King.

The Select Board received the recommendation from the CSC and voted to accept the CSC's recommendation regarding DuBois and King and to authorize the CSC and the Project Manager to negotiate a formal contract.

The Select Board then appointed itself to the CSC. Members having decided at an earlier meeting that they wanted to be part of the process.

It was noted, that once the award is contracted, the CSC will morph into a steering committee for the remainder of the project.

### **Equity & Inclusion Committee ~ 5/16/23**

*With thanks to Rainbow Squier, Sec.*

Members present in person: Meadow Squier, Todd Dennis, Lothar Schmelzenbach, Michael Fallar and Rainbow Squier

Others present in person: Gail Fallar and Kevin Eaton

Members online: Melody Squier and Kim Harbaugh

Others online: Nancy Birdsall, Sherry Johnson, Judy Gilmore, and Patricia Psholka

Postponed approving minutes for March 21, 2023 meeting as they are not yet available.

*New Business:*

Meadow asked members their thoughts on the Vermont Humanities Council Book Series program and grants. After some discussion it was suggested that members look through the different books and pick a few that they are interested in. Potentially for a fall or winter program. Michael suggested to talk with Ruth Drachman, town librarian.

*Old Business:*

Meadow reported that she had talked with Maureen Fitzgerald-Riker, school principal, and that each class will be coming up with town slogan ideas. It was suggested that we potentially vote on a slogan at Town day. Melody reported that she wrote a Tinmouth Community Fund (TCF) grant for \$750 for the town welcome signs after she and Sherry had looked at costs.

*Mutual Aid Group:*

Todd reported that the group had gone through all the sections of the Town Operator's Manual and designated groups for different sections that are best to help make edits. Todd also reported that he wrote a TCF grant for the publishing costs of the manual.

*Tinmouth Community Fun Day:*

Will be July 8<sup>th</sup>. Sherry reported that she had written a grant for TCF. There was discussion around potentially paying someone to be an oversight coordinator of TCF as it is a big responsibility. It was decided to have a special meeting with all the volunteers on June 20<sup>th</sup> to discuss this idea as well as plan for the event. Nancy volunteered to help reach out to volunteers about the meeting. Sherry volunteered to post to FPF.

*Discussion:*

There was group discussion on the topic "What does equity mean to you?" Stemming from the "Alis Headlam: What does equity mean?" article from Vermont Digger. Members shared their thoughts and opinions.

Next meeting date: Tuesday July 18<sup>th</sup>.

### **Words of Wisdom . . .**

*"Martha,*

*Swearing is the easy thing to do, NOT swearing is the hard thing to do . . . ."*

*~ Aunt Tukie*

## **Conservation Commission ~ 5/15/23**

*With thanks to Chuck Bronk, Sec.*

Members Present: Ed Hasenohr, Rainbow Squier, Doug Fontein, Robbie Leeds, Colleen Balch (Zoom), Jeff Ams, and Chuck Bronk

Public Present: Gail Fallar

The Commission reorganized for the new year. All three officers will continue in their posts, Rainbow Squier as Chair, Doug Fontein as Vice Chair, and Chuck Bronk as Secretary.

### ***Ongoing Business:***

Amphibian crossing signs were erected since the last meeting, mostly by Doug Fontein. Colleen Balch commented that she felt that the southern most sign on Mountain View Road needed to be moved further South. All agreed that the zone system of signage seemed to be working well and that two additional signs should be purchased along with four more posts before next year's crossings.

On the topic of Green Up day planning, there are Green Up bags at the town office. Doug will handle the posters on town bulletin boards and the notices in the *Tales* and Front Porch Forum. Ed Hasenohr has contacted Eric Buffum and the Town Garage will be open for set up in case of rain, and to allow for participants to tour the new facility. Chuck Bronk has the banner for the fence in Town and will erect it on the Sunday before Green Up. Colleen volunteered to contact Kelly's Snack Shop and ask if they would provide certificates for a free small maple creamy as an addition to the prizes which were purchased with funds from the Tinmouth Community Fund grant. Nelson Jaquay has agreed to publicize the event at Tinmouth Mountain School. Ed suggested that he could use a couple of extra ice cream scoops, and Chuck agreed to text pictures of last year's prize poster to Rainbow so that she could create this year's. Chuck will confirm the Adopt-a Road Coverage by phone and update the Map, and deliver it to Gail for any additional participants to sign up.

A discussion of the 2023 Photo Contest followed. It was noted that the Commission will have one more meeting prior to Tinmouth Town Day which has been tentatively scheduled for July 8<sup>th</sup>. As it takes a certain amount of time to set up the slide show once the photos are received, it was decided that the deadline for photo submissions would be 6/12/2023 and that would allow for review at our next meeting 6/19/2023.

It was noted that there have been no further developments regarding the town lot south of the Transfer Station. Gail advised that the Select Board has no volunteers to serve on the Recreation Committee. Doug, Robbie, and Colleen all volunteered. Doug agreed to brush hog the site but there is a considerable amount of road crew storage on the site, which would make that difficult. Doug agreed to have a conversation with Eric

on Green Up day and possibly walk the site later that day and identify a course of action.

Next regular meeting be set for June 19, 2023.

## **Planning Commission ~ 5/18/23**

Members present in-person: Michael Fallar, Rainbow Squier, Judy Gilmore, Andy Gilmore

Members present via Zoom/phone: Kim Harbaugh, Bob Lloyd, Pat Psholka, and Vito Macaluso

Others: present in-person: Ed Bove - Rutland Regional Planning Commission and Gail Fallar Secretary

And via Zoom: Sherry Johnson

Ed updated members on the progress of work on the town plan, hopes to have a draft for members to review at its July meeting. The Enhanced Energy (EE) section was discussed, if taken out and replaced with the 2017 plan energy section, the town plan could be re-adopted in 2023 or early 2024. The EE could be updated in a year or so once the state provides new data. The EE added 30 pages to the plan, Ed feels the old section could provide needed protection. Discussion about whether the old section was enough to get due consideration from the Public Utility Commission (state entity that decides major energy project permitting), and how long to wait to re-adopt. Ed advised there were a few new standards that have to be included in the new EE section. Members discussed likelihood of a major project in Tinmouth – there is currently no Phase 3 transmission line available, developers might go where it is easier and cheaper to construct projects.

Ed advised there are only 7 towns with EE plans, out of the 27 towns in the County. He noted that the PC needs to specify what areas are protected from energy development for a variety of constraints and what is available for energy projects. Current maps show about 80 acres are without constraints.

Town Plan update homework for next meeting – review photos in current plan, decide what to keep, what to replace, add captions, etc.; read Act 174; and review sections PC to work on.

Next meeting is June 15<sup>th</sup>, includes a subdivision hearing for Mandel/Morgan on Morgan Road/Route 133.

## **Tinmouth Community Fund Board ~ 5/18/23**

*With thanks to Helen Mango, Sec.*

Present: Board members Jan Krantz (Chair), Cathy Reynolds (Treasurer), Todd Dennis (Vice Chair), Lisa Patry, Martha Stanley, Helen Mango (Secretary), and via Zoom: Melody Squier and Asha Carroll.

### **Treasurer's report:**

Cathy handed out the Treasurer's report summary and noted that over the past year TCF funds at the Vermont Community Fund have mirrored the stock market, going down and then starting to come back up again. There was



some discussion as to the allocation of revenue from the Plant Sale. Cathy recommended that we consider allocating Plant Sale revenue “as needed” to balance the use of the TCF funds.

There are currently 7 applications for Continuing Education scholarships. Jan and Cathy both commented how interesting it is to read the scholarship applications.

Melody reported on the K-12 scholarships, noting that camp costs have gone up.

After discussion about allocations for K-12 scholarships, Small Business grants, and Community Fund grants, Board voted that the TCF withdraw \$2,900 from the “checkbook” (where donations reside when they are received), \$5,000 from the Plant Sale, and \$4,250 from the TCF’s holdings at the Vermont Community Fund, for a total of \$12,150.

Board then voted to authorize an increase of the 2022 Tinmouth Blooms Community Fund grant to cover the unexpected increase in the cost of flowering crabapple trees.

Continuing Education scholarship funding: Board voted to withdraw \$6,000 from the checkbook, use at least \$5,000 from the Plant Sale, and up to \$9,000 from the VCF to cover Continuing Education scholarships.

Board voted that the committee award \$1,500 for the Susan McIntosh Lloyd scholarship. (This requires \$40 from the TCF Continuing Education fund to round up the amount from the endowed scholarship fund).

Cathy reported the return of small amounts of money when a grant recipient did not spend all that they had been awarded. Board voted that any unspent allocated grant funds up to \$75 be used for any additional efforts to improve the Tinmouth Community (e.g. donation to the food shelf, donation to the Plant Sale). (Larger amounts would be returned to the TCF.)

Cathy reported in 2022, the Scholarship Fund received \$7,430 in donations and \$9,393 from the Plant Sale. The Community Fund received \$3,755 in donations.

Board voted to increase the K-12 scholarship to \$300 per applicant (up from the current \$250) to reflect the increase in costs.

Board member terms: Jan noted that Asha’s and Lisa’s terms are almost up. Lisa volunteered to serve for another term. Asha said that she would need to step down at the end of her term, but hopes to be able to return to the TCF board at a future time. Jan will write a piece for *Tales* soliciting a volunteer for this opening. Todd said he would be willing to step into the role of Chair.

Board set the date for the annual meeting and awards presentation: **Wednesday, June 21, 7:00 p.m.**, in the Old Firehouse. Helen will print certificates for the Community Fund grants. Melody will present the K-12 scholarships. Cathy will present the Continuing Education scholarships.

**Speed Limit Committee ~ 5/25/23**

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

Members reviewed draft ordinance, added list of roads for each speed limit, 25 mph (school zone), 35 mph – most gravel roads, 40 mph, 45 mph and 50 mph. Ray had measured Mountain View and East Road sections that had 40 and 45 mph limits. There are still a few sections that need measuring – Ray and Kevin will gather that information before the next meeting. Town Office staff will prepare a new draft.

Members discussed small scale safety grant program from VTRANS – speed feed-back signs are not included with this round. It was reported that the road commissioner was going to take down some trees on Route 140 that were traffic hazards before paving was done. Members decided to recommend to the Select Board to apply for a grant for their removal for safety reasons. Next meeting was set for June 22.

### **Strawberry Festival Offers a Classic Summer Treat at Middletown Springs Historical Society**

*MIDDLETOWN SPRINGS, VT -*

The 49th Annual Strawberry Festival takes place **Sunday, June 18, from 2-4 pm.**

Strawberry lovers are invited to the Historical Society on the Green, 10 Park Ave., Middletown Springs, for delicious strawberry shortcake made with fresh Vermont berries, homemade biscuits, vanilla ice cream, and whipped cream, with a choice of iced tea, lemonade, or hot coffee. Berries will be available for sale by the quart as well.

Local artists and craftspeople will display and sell their work, including maple products, jewelry, photography, knitted items, honey and beeswax products. There will be live music during the event as well as children’s activities. A Vermont Country Store gift basket of Vermont products will be raffled off at the event.

The Historical Society Museum will be open all afternoon, as well as on Sunday afternoons through October, and year-round by appointment. Admission to the Festival and the Museum are free.

On view in the Museum is the new exhibit “Childhood in Middletown Springs, 1850-1920”, featuring items from the Museum collection. In addition, exhibits on Baptist pastor Sylvanus Haynes, the Montvert Hotel & Mineral Springs, and the Middletown History Timeline, will continue. The famous Middletown Springs still flow every day year round in the Mineral Springs Park, located nearby.

For more information, contact Pat Hemenway at 802-235-2421 or David Wright at 802-235-2376. Visit our new website [www.mshsvt.org](http://www.mshsvt.org).

## Vermont's Summer Free Fishing Day is Saturday, Saturday, June 10

MONTPELIER, Vt. – Vermont's annual, statewide Summer Free Fishing Day is Saturday, June 10 this year, and it will be highlighted by a free family fishing festival in Grand Isle as well as opening day of the state's regular bass fishing season.

"Vermont's Free Fishing Day gives resident and nonresident anglers the opportunity to go fishing without a license for the day in Vermont lakes and streams," said Fish and Wildlife Commissioner Christopher Herrick. "Free Fishing Day is a great opportunity for an experienced angler to be a mentor to friends who have not gone fishing before. A day on the water could lead to a lifetime of great experiences and healthy local food."

To learn more about fishing in Vermont or to purchase a fishing license, visit [www.vtfishandwildlife.com](http://www.vtfishandwildlife.com).

## Bear Conflicts are Expected to Increase in June, Officials Increase Bear Coexistence Outreach

MONTPELIER, Vt. – The Vermont Fish and Wildlife Department is increasing outreach efforts to encourage Vermont residents and visitors to get ahead of an anticipated jump in bear conflicts this June.

"Last year, we saw reported bear incidents spike from 206 in May to 473 in June," said the department's Black Bear Project Lead Biologist Jaclyn Comeau. "We want to head off that spike this year, and we need the public's help to do it."

The department has seen increasing bear conflicts between May and June over the past several years. However, 2022 showed a more pronounced spike than the three-year average of 182 reports in May and 370 reports in June. This year the department had already received 136 reports as of May 27. That number does not include incidents reported directly to game wardens and will likely grow as warden reports are processed over the next two weeks.

In Vermont, the leading cause of bear conflicts is unsecured garbage, including household trash collection bins and dumpsters at businesses and campgrounds. Keeping garbage bins inside until a few hours before trash collection can significantly reduce the risk of bear conflicts in residential neighborhoods. Insisting that garbage collectors provide businesses and public facilities with bear-proof dumpsters can reduce the risk of conflicts in other locations.

When preventative steps are not in place and bears learn that unsecured garbage is an easy food source, they can quickly become bold, and sometimes aggressive.

"If a bear develops aggressive behaviors like breaking into buildings in search of food, the department may have to kill that bear to protect human safety—nobody wants

that outcome," said Comeau. "Our goal is for everyone to know the steps to prevent bear conflicts from happening in the first place. Proactive coexistence is the best thing for bears and for people, and it will only work if everyone who lives in or visits Vermont treats it as a shared responsibility."

A full list of steps for coexisting with bears is available on the department's website at:

<https://vtfishandwildlife.com/learn-more/living-with-wildlife/living-with-black-bears>

Vermonters who notice bears seeking food in their yards or in public places like campgrounds should report the incident at:

<https://anrweb.vt.gov/FWD/FW/WildlifeBearReport.asp>  
[x](#)



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### Kayaks

Tinmouth Mountain School in collaboration with the Town of Tinmouth is seeking Kayaks for field work(school) and recreation (town).

If you have a kayak you no longer use, please consider donating it by dropping it off at the town office. Paddles and life jackets are needed as well! Thank you!

**Maureen Riker**

Principal, Tinmouth Elementary School

### Lawn Care Service

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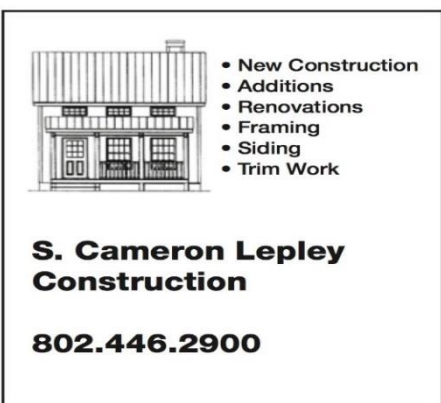
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Photo Top Left © Dan Lovell, Vermont Fish & Wildlife Department



~ June 2023 Calendar of Events ~

<i>TMS Spring Concert</i>	Thursday	1 <sup>st</sup>	6:00	Community Center
Fire Department	Thursday	1 <sup>st</sup>	7:00	Fire House
<i>TMS Graduation</i>	Thursday	8 <sup>th</sup>	6:00	Community Center
Town Office – CLOSED	Saturday	10 <sup>th</sup>		Personal Day
Select Board	Tuesday	13 <sup>th</sup>	7:00	Town Office/Virtual
Planning Commission	Thursday	15 <sup>th</sup>	7:00	Town Office/Virtual
Conservation Commission	Monday	19 <sup>th</sup>	7:00	Town Office/Virtual
Community Fun Day Comm.	Tuesday	20 <sup>th</sup>	7:00	Town Office/Virtual
<i>Tales of Tinmouth</i> Deadline	Tuesday	20 <sup>th</sup>		Don't Miss It!
Community Fund Annual Mtg.	Wednesday	21 <sup>st</sup>	7:00	Old Fire House/Virtual
Community Fund Award Night	Wednesday	21 <sup>st</sup>	7:00	Old Fire House/Virtual
Speed Limit Committee	Thursday	22 <sup>nd</sup>	7:00	Town Office/Virtual

~ July 2023 Calendar of Events ~

Fire Department	Thursday	6 <sup>th</sup>	7:00	Fire House
Community Fund Day	Saturday	8 <sup>th</sup>	3:00 - ??	Town Center
Select Board	Thursday	13 <sup>th</sup>	7:00	Town Office & Zoom
Equity and Inclusion Comm.	Tuesday	18 <sup>th</sup>	7:00 -8:30	Town Office & Zoom
Planning Commission	Thursday	20 <sup>th</sup>	7:00	Town Office & Zoom
<i>Tales of Tinmouth</i> Deadline	Thursday	20 <sup>th</sup>		Don't Miss It!
Speed Limit Committee	Thursday	27 <sup>th</sup>	7:00	Town Office & Zoom

*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!! ~

**The Select Board moved its June meeting to Tuesday the 13<sup>th</sup>.**

**Free Fishing Day, June 10<sup>th</sup>!!**



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