

TALES OF TINMOUTH

April 2026
Vol. 40 Number 3

Tinmouth
Vermont

Editors' Notes: *Has Spring Sprung!?!?*

The deadline for submissions (news, items of interest, get well wishes, ads, etc.) is the 20th of the preceding month. Please email your information to *Tales of Tinmouth* (tinmouthtales@vermontel.net).

~ TINMOUTH GREEN UP ~ ~ 2026 ~



Green Up Day is Saturday, May 2nd 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).

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 2. 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.**

~ Tinmouth Community Fund Annual Meeting and Awards Night ~ May 4th ~ ~ By Todd Dennis

Please join the Tinmouth Community Fund on **Monday May 4 from 6:30 -7:15** at the Old Firehouse to celebrate grant and scholarship recipients!

The Tinmouth Community Fund is excited to award grants and scholarships to Tinmouth citizens and groups. We will be awarding 39 grants/scholarships totaling more than \$32,200. *Please join us to celebrate these awards at the Old Firehouse on Monday May 4 at 6:30.*

There will also be delicious homemade refreshments and cookies. A short business meeting will be held as well. Learn more about what the Community Fund is and does and provide your feedback; you can even join the Board of Directors as we have two open seats.

Mark your calendars and we hope to see you there. Info at tinmouthcommunityfund@gmail.com or Todd at 715-533-2887.

~ Dog Licenses Due April 1st ~



Vermont law requires all dogs, aged 6 months and older, to be registered by April 1st each year. 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 \$11 for neutered/spayed dogs and \$15 for those that are not. 50% fee for being late!!

You can also license them by mail if you wish.

~ Homestead Declaration ~

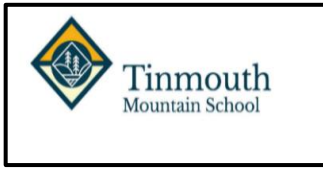
This is a reminder that you need to file an **annual Homestead Declaration** with the Vermont Department of Taxes, form HS-122. You must file this to qualify for the homestead education tax rate and to request a property tax adjustment if you are eligible.

You must also file form HI-144 (household income), **due April 15th**. This is required even if you do not have to file or pay state income taxes.

~ Tinmouth Historical & Genealogical Society ~

THGS will meet on **Sunday, April 19th** at 1:30 at the Town Office, to discuss possible programs for 2026 – an archeological dig at one of the old iron works sites, 250th Celebration, interview of a Tinmouth 'elder'?

All are welcome, refreshments will be provided.



April

March marked the end of our winter sports season and brought many enriching experiences for our students. We hosted a visit from the VINS Starlab (made possible through the Hochberg Science Fund), enjoyed a *Music in Our Schools* performance, took trips to the Paramount Theater, held a rummage sale to support future overnight trips, and welcomed families for parent-teacher conferences and a kindergarten parent lunch. To say the least, it was a packed month filled with meaningful learning and strong community connections.

Looking ahead to April, we are excited to welcome 7th-grade students from MRU, who will visit our 6th graders to answer their many questions. This is a wonderful opportunity for our students to connect with former TMS students and begin building relationships with peers at the next level. In May, our 6th graders and their families will have the opportunity to visit MRU and spend a full day there on a separate school visit. Throughout the year, students have also met regularly with 6th graders across the district for team-building activities, helping ease the transition into 7th grade at Mill River. These experiences have proven to be both enjoyable and reassuring for students.

Currently, I have begun purchasing materials through the Whole Foods Grant. I'm excited to enhance our gardens and Natural Playground by adding raised greenhouses for classrooms, a new hose reel, and several other improvements to support hands-on learning. All we need now is for Spring to really happen, the sun to shine, and the mud to cooperate!

**Jenn Galusha-Brothers
Principal
Tinmouth Mountain School**

"If a child can't learn the way we teach, maybe we should teach the way they learn." Ignacio Estrada

**~ Workday at the Old Creamery ~
Saturday, May 16th**

The Tinmouth Historical and Genealogical Society (THGS) and the Old Creamery Committee are going to hold a work day at the Old Creamery building (next to the Town Office) on **Saturday, May 16th beginning at 2:00** in the afternoon. Work will include replacing window panes, frames, some painting, some cleaning, etc. A couple of hours.

All are welcome, refreshments will be provided.

Please Recycle or Pass Along Tales!!



**~ Library Thanks and Tips ~
By Randall Smathers, Director**

First off, a big thank-you to Tinmouth voters for your continued support of the Rutland library!

Talking to folks this spring, one regular concern we heard is the *length of the holds queue* when you try to get a new book on **Libby**.

So here's some tips:

-- **Libby** in Vermont is a statewide system, as is the holds queue. So when you reserve a book and are #153 on the list, that's for all the copies of the book in the state. Rutland Free Library uses what's called the "Advantage" program to buy extra copies of popular titles just for our users. So even if it doesn't show up, we're speeding up the line for our members.

-- There's a super-handy option in **Libby** to let you find a book to read today, while you're waiting for your turn at the best-seller. From the home screen (picture of a little library), you can set filters. Tap the "available now" button, and it will only show you titles you can borrow right away. So after you place your holds, you can quickly find another title to tide you over.

-- Using the same filters, you can choose to only see audiobooks or ebooks if that's your preference.

-- We also recently added *Kanopy movies* to **Libby**, and a huge selection of specialty magazines, so more choices!

-- Another little frustration about **Libby** is that it defaults to a one-week loan, and won't let you change the default. You can, however, choose a 14-day loan from the confirmation screen when you download, just before you hit the "borrow" button.

-- Try also downloading The Palace Project app, available from the major app stores. It leans more toward independent / smaller publishers, but it gives you a whole extra set of books to choose from. It's provided free of charge by the state Department of Libraries. The interface is a little clunky, but it also has the advantage of charging much less for libraries to provide books.

-- Happy reading!

www.rutlandfree.org * 10 Court St Rutland VT 05701
802-773-1860

Note: All Tinmouth residents can get a FREE Library card at the Rutland Free Library!

~ Community News ~

Get Well Wishes are sent to **Helen Young**.

Heartfelt Sympathies are sent to friends and family of **Jason Burden**.

RAFFLE TICKETS

\$5 EACH

BENEFITTING THE
**CHIPMAN LAKE / TINMOUTH POND
MILFOIL PROJECT**

Help combat invasive milfoil and keep our lake clean!

DRAWING ON JULY 3RD

Enter for a chance to win this quilt!
KEEP OUR LAKE CLEAN!

Tickets available at the Town Office!!

Tinmouth Mountain School Parents Club Presents:

CALENDAR RAFFLE

TICKETS
1 for \$5
6 for \$25

**Chances to win prizes every day
during the month of May!**

One ticket will win you one prize, if your ticket is pulled to win one of the daily drawings, that ticket will not be re-entered for subsequent drawings.

Prizes Include:

- gift certificates to area restaurants, wellness centers, grocery stores, hardware stores, etc.
- local food
- themed baskets
- Mystery gifts and more!

**TICKETS WILL BE
DRAWN DAILY
BY STUDENTS**

Support the Tinmouth Mountain School, and stand a chance to win exciting prizes! Proceeds will help the Parents Club to provide outdoor activities for the students at TMS.

Ticket purchase locations: Tinmouth Town Office
Tinmouth Mountain School

Tickets available at the Town Office!!

See page 7 for each day's prizes.

~ Tinmouth's Website ~

Tinmouthvt.gov - There is lots of information about the town on its website, take a few minutes and check it out!

~ 2026 Grand List Work ~

The Board of Listers, Rick, Pat and Gail, will soon be out and about taking photos and measuring new structures to add to the Grand List. They are also updating ownership for those who have bought or sold since last April 1st. Any questions, please call the Town Office at 802-446-2498 or email tinmouthtown@vermontel.net.

The Town Office will be **closed** April 25 through May 2nd.



~ Amphibian Crossing Alert ~

Hopefully you have noticed the 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,
Tinmouth Conservation Commission*



~ **Annual Tinmouth Plant Sale** ~
May 9th & 10th

By *Tracylea Byford*

It's garden time! Plants are bursting out of the ground daily which means - Tinmouth Plant sale prep is beginning and we are looking for volunteers!

Many of our "regulars" are getting older and we could definitely use more hands. And, it's a great way to get gentle exercise while having fun and picking up some new plants as they are divided and potted. Even if you don't know a lot about plants, the long time gardeners who spearhead this event are happy to teach you. Come on out and help support community grants and scholarships. Schedule is below; please email any questions and if you'd like to be involved in this over 30 year tradition. Plant offerings always welcome, but please do inquire first so we don't end up with too many of the same plants.

Saturday, April 11th, set up potting area at 148 Channel Road in Tinmouth (inclement weather date, Sunday the 12th.)

April 13th through May 6th. Plant digging and potting. Last year we had around 5,000 plants. Wow!

Thursday, May 7th: Haul plants to Squier Farmstead and put them in rows. (Many hands needed on the day.)

Friday, May 8th: Put up plant ID signs and sales canopy. (Many hands needed on the day)

Saturday May 9th - THE SALE BEGINS! Plants need to be hauled in the afternoon from the potting area to the Farmstead to restock and signage adjusted ready for Mother's Day.

Sunday May 10th. Final day of new plants, but the sale will go on until all plants are sold with the half price plants at a date to be determined that week.

Final Cleanup, May 16/17, possibly earlier.

Last year we had a wildly successful event and netted a mind-blowing 18 thousand dollars plus for our community fund. And, while that is likely our all time high, we can still achieve a successful event with many hands.

What is needed:

Setting up site at 148 Channel Road. Put down tarp, tractor bucket soil to location, set up potting and sign-making areas.

Donations of plants. If you have plants, but can't dig and we have volunteers we *may be* able to help. (Depends on how many diggers we have signing up.) All varieties must have a description. For example, "Red with yellow eye Daylily" is fine, but just Daylily unfortunately won't sell. Photos are excellent, but not necessary. We find the folks will often not buy common plants of unknown colors unless it's plants like Hellebore or Lupine where they all sell. Best to shoot me an email with what you have first. (Food plants sell well,

especially strawberries, raspberries and such as do plants that are flowering for the sale.)

Help digging and potting. (Lots of fun, done in a community spirit way.) Big push potting Days will be Saturday, April 25th and Saturday May 2nd, but weekdays are always available also and there is almost always someone around to show you what to do. Potting May 12 through May 6th.

Hauling plants to the sale - Thursday the 7th May

Watering plants at the farm stand and making sure the sale yard is updated as plants are sold. May 8 through potentially, May 16th

Clean up at potting site and farm stand May 16th.

~ **Vacancies – Positions Open** ~

There are two openings on the Conservation Commission, and a vacancy on the Website Committee.

And the Tinmouth Community Fund Board has two openings. It's a nine-member Board.

A new **Health Officer** is needed (these are nominated by the Select Board and officially appointed by the Vermont Department of Health). Currently Kevin Eaton is tasked with doing this as Chair of the Select Board.

If you are interested in serving or would like more information, please call or email the Town Office at 802-446-2498. tinmouthtown@vermontel.net. Please consider serving your community.

~ **Nature Notes** ~

Bear Alert – The Vermont Fish & Game Department advised removing all bird feeders as bears are coming out of their dens and they are hungry!!

Daffodils are swaying happily, crocuses are bright, peepers are peeping, forsythias are blossoming, pussy willows are nearly gone by, and colt's foot are shouting along every road way – Spring's Here!!

Turkeys are being sighted everywhere, ducks and geese are nesting, and the mud is nearly gone (not quite in some places!).



~ **Front Porch Forum** ~

Connect with your Tinmouth Neighbors

Have you checked out Front Porch Forum yet? To sign up, go to <http://FrontPorchForum.com>. Or stop by the town office to sign up!! 200+ households have signed to date! Good way to discuss community issues, sell a canoe, give away a kitten, etc. If you are a second home owner you can use your 911 address.

The Value of Nature: Understanding and Celebrating Vermont's Landscape

Wallingford- **April 22nd is Earth Day!** To mark this important day, the *Wallingford Conservation Commission* is pleased to bring you *The Value of Nature: Understanding and Celebrating Vermont's Landscape*, a presentation by retired VT Wetlands Ecologist and teacher, Mic Metz.

Please join us as Mic discusses **The Value of Nature**, an engaging exploration of how Vermont's landscape—and our relationship with it—has evolved since the last Ice Age. Through stories of natural and cultural change, Mic will provide a thoughtful discussion of environmental ethics and the essential benefits ecosystems provide. Along the way, he will offer us a better understanding of key ecological principles and how they influence the management of natural systems and wildlife—from national policies to decisions made right here in our own communities.

The workshop includes a one-hour presentation followed by a question-and-answer session designed to help us connect, reflect, and deepen our understanding of the Value of Nature.

The Value of Nature will be held in the Klock Room of the Gilbert Hart Library in Wallingford. **Wednesday, April 22nd from 6:30- 8:00pm.** This presentation is free and open to anyone from Wallingford **and** the surrounding towns.

Mic Metz has taught biology and environmental science courses, such as Wildlife Ecology, Freshwater Ecology, Forest Ecology, Natural History of Vermont, and Environmental Science for CCV since 2011. Mic holds a BS in Biology from Rutgers University, an MS in Environmental Science from the University of Montana, Missoula, and a CPB Postbaccalaureate in Science Education from the Vermont State Colleges. Mic has worked as a forestry technician for the U.S. Forest Service in Montana, Colorado, and Idaho, a GIS ground truther for the U.S. Parks Service in Utah, and a wetland ecologist for the state of Vermont. Mic recently retired from teaching science at Otter Valley Union Middle and High School.

Wanted: A painter(s) – the Town Office is in need of scraping, priming and painting on the exterior.

Please inquire for details at 802-446-2498 or email tinmouthtown@vermontel.net.

I'm Still Looking for Marbles!!

Any size, any color

Please contact Daniel Gervais at 236-1915 or 293-5746

Friends of the Rutland Free Library April Book Sale

10 Court St., Rutland, VT 802-773-1860

**Friday, May 8 (10 - 4) and
Saturday, May 9 (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.

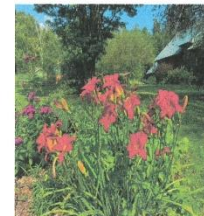
Proceeds to support library programs and collections and designated library projects. www.rutlandfree.org

2026 TINMOUTH PLANT SALE

May 15th
everything is
1/2 price!

**MAY 9-10
DAILY, 10AM-7PM**

**Squier Family Farm
12 McNamara Road**



**Perennials \$6-\$12
Shrubs/Peonies \$12+**

Go early for the best selection!

Like us at Tinmouth Plant Sale on Facebook & check for updates, or email tracyleab@gmail.com
ph: 215-990-9949

Over 320
varieties have been
sold in past years!

Remember to
bring your boxes!

****We are only set up to accept cash and checks****

We have not raised our prices in over 5 years!

PROCEEDS BENEFIT TINMOUTH COMMUNITY FUND



EXPLORE. DISCOVER. THRIVE.
Mill River
 Unified Union School District

Preschool and Pre-k Registration 2026 - 2027 School Year

Registration is open for families that reside in the Mill River School District towns of Clarendon, Shrewsbury, Tinmouth, and Wallingford with a child 3 - 4 years of age. Our Registration Day is a chance for you and your child to visit our program and begin the registration process. Enrollment is available on a limited basis.

- Preschool child must turn three years old on or before August 31, 2026
- Pre-K child must turn four years old on or before August 31, 2026

For More Information and To Schedule An Appointment



Sarah Bolster, Pre-K Coordinator
sbolster@millriverschools.org
 802.786.3998 ext 218

Registration Days

(By Appointment Only)

Clarendon Elementary
 May 8, 2026

Shrewsbury Mountain
 May 15, 2026

Tinmouth Mountain
 May 4, 2026

Wallingford Elementary
 May 11, 2026

★ FIRST FRIDAYS ★



AT: TINMOUTH COMMUNITY CENTER

573 VT-140
 LESSON AT 6:45
 DANCE 7-10



SLIDING SCALE
 \$15-25 SUGGESTED
 DATES: 3/6, 5/1, 6/5

Tinmouth Contra Dance is Back!

By *Cathy Reynolds*

When: **May 1, 2026, 7 to 10 PM**
 Where: **Tinmouth Community Center**

We have scheduled two dances and if we get enough dancers, we will schedule more.

Join us at the Tinmouth Community Center
on May 1 from 7-10.

We also have scheduled another dance on
June 5.

There will be a live band and caller and we will have a beginner lesson at 6:45 if you want some pointers. All dances are taught and you do not need a partner. We will have yummy refreshments and are hoping to have enough dancers to make this event a success! Sliding Scale \$15-\$25 suggested per person.

This dance is sponsored by the Tinmouth Recreation Committee and dedicated volunteers who love to dance.

















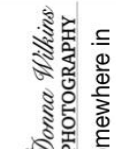












Info at 802-881-6775

May 2026

Tinmouth Parents Club for Tinmouth Elementary School
Calendar Fundraiser for various outdoor school activities

ONLY \$5

Each ticket = One Entry

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
3  Salt cave session for 2	4  Basket	5  Basket	6  Hannaford \$25	7  Cowlicks - Tanning/red light therapy gift card	8  Boarding spot \$50	9  Mulligan of Manchester \$50
10  Vermont Tap House \$20	11  Coffee Basket	12  Bowlarama \$ 25	13  Cara Mia's \$25	14  Remote Reiki Session	15  LaValley's \$50	16  Stonehedge indoor golf \$50
17  Rock climbing day pass	18  10 lbs Hamburger	19  "Somewhere in Tinmouth"	20  Nail'd it \$25	21  1 large Cheese Pizza	22  Wonderfeet \$50	23  Poultney Pub \$50
24  Eric Buffum Tinmouth Plaque	25  LaValley's \$50	26  1/2 gallon Maple syrup	27  Westminster Crackers	28  Hannaford \$25	29  Wonderland- 2 night stay worth \$80	30  MYSTERY PRIZE
31  MYSTERY PRIZE						

Some retailers or services may not be available for fundraiser-sponsors.com

Sorry, word processing program would not let me delete this box!! 😊

~ **Meeting Highlights** ~

Complete minutes are available at the town office.

All highlights are edited by Ye Olde Editor.

Select Board (SB) ~ 03/12/26 (Regular)

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

Others present:

In-person: Eric Buffum–Road Commissioner, Doug Fontein for the Conservation Commission, and Gail Fallar-Select Board Assistant (SBA)

Via Zoom: Sherry Johnson, Kim Harbaugh, John Carrick, Doug Inkley, Benson Inkley, and Rick Fallar

Board elected Kevin Chair, and then postponed the balance of the annual re-organization until later in the meeting in order to address issues of those attending.

Doug advised that the Conservation Commission has been discussing town trails and their uses and would like to request that the Select Board not allow motorized vehicles on the town trail that goes from the end of Merrill Spring Road through to Ricketts Road. There was much discussion about 4-wheelers using the town trail to enter upon lands of others to go up and over the mountain – on private property without permission. The Inkley family owns much of this land, have only given permission for their maple sugar maker and his crew to use it. They proposed posting signs that say no motorized vehicles. Others suggested snow mobiles don't cause trail damage, 4 wheelers (ATV's) sometimes do. Discussion ensued about who is using it, how it could be enforced, whether that particular town trail should be on an Internet trail site, whether 4 wheelers are allowed on town roads/trails (currently they are not), should they not be allowed, past request to allow ATV's on some town roads, etc.

In the end, Kevin advised that the SB needed to do some research regarding rules for trails and SB authority. The Board also asked for more information for them to consider.

Board went back to the agenda – Board continued its 2026 reorganization: Agreed to by consensus.

Set Regular Monthly Meeting - 2nd Thursday @ 7:00

Designated Signer for Bills and Orders – Chair – Kevin Eaton

Newspaper of Record – The Rutland Herald

Adopted Robert's Rules for Small Boards

Appointed Overweight Truck Permit Signer – Chair – Kevin Eaton

Appointed Member to Community Center Board – Judy Gilmore

Appointed Member to Tinmouth Pond Milfoil Project Board – Melody Squier

Appointed Liaison to Rutland County Sheriff's Department – Kevin Eaton

Appointed Member to the Website Committee – Melody Squier

Adopted Select Board Meeting Rules and Procedures Policy

Members reviewed the **agenda** – added request to apply for a TCF grant

Citizen's Input ~ Sherry spoke to concerns with the proposed guidance for committees, commissions and boards. Needs to be clearer, questioned if family members would include folks living together, wanted to know what problem was being solved.

Highway ~

Eric advised that the road crew has been busy with trees falling and mud – they are trying to keep roads as smooth as they can, some places that were never muddy are and vice versa – doing what they can, when they can.

Board signed annual financial plan for VTRANS. Board decided to pursue a state paving grant with road reconstruction up through Crampton Woods on Route 140.

He advised he had called Clear Span regarding a salt/sand shed – they advised the right size is 65' x 80' – would hold 3000 yards of materials. Board discussed storm water run-off – will use those proposed for the first salt/sand shed design. Eric would like to erect this summer – needs 3 workers, not sure if Glenn Merrill will be working this summer as the part-time regular crew member. Rough estimate is \$188,000 – Board authorized Eric to shop around for estimates. Discussed whether there should be one end wall or two, pro and con of both, no decision.

Financial ~

FY26 **Financial Report** 2/28/26 was reviewed and approved.

Bills and Orders ~ Board reviewed warrants. Board voted to approve and accept. Payroll warrants #34, 35, 36, and 37 and Accounts Payable warrants #25, 26, 27, and 28.

Resolution for Special Account ~ Board voted to authorize the Town Treasurer to move the Re-appraisal Special Fund to a separate account (currently lives in the General Fund).

Old Business ~

605 Mtn. View clean up. SBA advised an attorney was working on the lien for repayment of cost and an agreement to keep it clean.

New Business ~

Cathy Reynolds requested permission to apply for a Tinmouth Community Fund grant to replace the chairs in the old fire house. Board granted request by consensus.

Annual Appointments ~ Board re-appointed Judy Gilmore as Tinmouth's representative to the Rutland Regional Planning Commission and to the Regional Transportation Council. They also appointed Gail Fallar as Tinmouth's representative to SWAC (Solid Waste Alliance Communities) with Chris Martone as the alternate.

SBA was asked to check with other annual appointment folks to see if they wished to continue – will consider at April meeting.

Members Concerns ~ Melody advised that Middletown Springs had revamped their website, it is user friendly and suggested that Tinmouth consider changes to its website. Judy noted it needed to be handicap accessible by 2027. Benson suggested creating a list of what works and what doesn't.

Executive Session - At 8:35. Board entered executive session to discuss personnel issues. Board members and the SBA attended, those on zoom signed off. At 9:19 Board exited executive session, recording was resumed. Board voted to hold a special meeting on March 26th for the purpose of personnel discussion which would be in executive session.

Select Board ~ 03/26/ (Special)

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

Others present:

In-person: David Birdsall – Tree Warden, Eric Buffum– Road Commissioner, Michael Fannin, Wendy Hybil-Fannin, Justin Franklin, and Gail Fallar-Select Board Assistant (SBA)

Via Zoom: Sherry Johnson, Kim Harbaugh, Todd Dennis, and Rick Fallar

Emerald Ash Borer ~ David as Tree Warden, advised the Board that EABs have been found on the Gulf Road in the Town's right of way – previously it was found in the Channel. He noted there are about 4000 ash trees in town. He described how these critters kill the ash tree, how dangerous the dead ash trees become – getting brittle and punky. They are safer to cut when alive, but all do not need to cut right away.

He has contacted Green Mountain Power, they advised they will take care of trees in their right of way for electric lines. He is waiting for a response to meet with them to discuss the situation.

There are many ash trees that have died of 'ash yellow; in the past few years as well.

There was much discussion regarding how the town would pay to remove the trees in the right of way, who would do it, should the trees be pushed over (there are farm fields that would have to be cleaned up), should there be a special town meeting to allocate some of the general fund balance, what to do with the wood (belongs to the landowner, but do they want it), etc.

After much discussion, the Select Board resolved ~ The Town of Tinmouth, recognizing that the Emerald Ash Borer is definitely now within its borders, will develop a Plan to mitigate the hazardous White Ash trees that are threatening Town Roads Right of Ways. The timeline for tree removal is as finances permit. \$5,000 has been

budgeted for FY26 and another \$5,000 for FY27 for this work.

Members also discussed the need to educate the public about the dangers and steps to take – some trees can be inoculated with a pesticide. Don't move the wood, it spreads the bugs.

Other ideas ~ hire tree sawyers to cut, start in one area – don't jump around, hire a tree company, etc.

For the April 9th Board meeting, David was asked to get a firm answer from GMP about whether they were going to cut trees on both sides of the road – or only the side with the power lines; Eric was asked to get estimates for hiring a big excavator. Board also asked that a 'plan' be worked on for their next meeting.

Executive Session - At 8:30 Board entered executive session to discuss personnel issues. Board members and the SBA attended. At 9:27, Board exited executive session. Kevin noted the Board had discussed personnel issues, no action will be taken at this time.

Planning Commission ~ 3/19/26

Members present in-person: Michael Fallar, Vito Macaluso, Ann Lundquist, Larry Carabeau, and Judy Gilmore - Members present via Zoom: Kim Harbaugh, Pat Psholka, and Andy Gilmore

Others: present in-person: Sean Beatty –RRPC Planner, and Gail Fallar Secretary and via Zoom: Sherry Johnson *Annual Re-Organization – Chair* - Larry nominated Michael Fallar, Pat 2nded, all voted in favor.

Vice Chair – Michael nominated Vito Macaluso, seconded, Vito advised he would do it for one year, all voted in favor.

Secretary – Gail was nominated and 2nded, all voted in favor.

Regular Monthly Meeting – 3rd Thursday at 7:00, all agreed by consensus

Sean reviewed changes he made to the EEP last reviewed by the PC in June of 2025. Members made comments, acknowledged changes, discussed updates.

Sean re-organized policies and actions, updated maps, the EEP is nearly done. He will try to work on a map that will combine preferred sites – sites that are preferable/workable. He will get a clean version to members.

Members decided to adopt the EEP first and then work on the other amendments (aging in place, river corridors, natural resources, and telecommunications).

Sean offered to provide a map for the Open House for special places, the intention is to also add this information to the EEP to protect natural resources.

Act 181 discussion ensued. Concern was expressed for town input regarding development rules being written to facilitate this new legislation. Many questions are being raised. Sean explained that towns in Tier 3 get to work on their land use maps, Tier 1 and Tier 2 are more apt to have

exemptions for increased housing construction. The Legislature is considering a 3 year delay to allow for more input from stakeholders. He encouraged members to attend one of the additional hearings RRPC is holding concerning the proposed county wide land use map.

Meeting adjourned at 7:55 PM, members devoured cookies provided by Cris Carabeau.

Tinmouth Recreation Committee ~ 03/9/26

With thanks to Martha Stanley, Sec.

Members present: Robbie Leeds, Doug Fontein, Martha Stanley, Chris Martone and via zoom Colleen Balch

Community members present: Gail Fallar, and Sherry Johnson via zoom.

Board Reorganization: Robbie was elected Chair and Martha was elected secretary.

New Business:

Tinmouth Fun Day July 11, 2026.

Sherry asked if the Recreation Committee is willing to be in charge of games. Robbie will not be available but the rest of the committee members will be available to help.

Introduction to Pickleball: Went well. 4 or 5 adults attended. At least one of those who attended has signed up to play routinely. The Kids focused event went well. Around 10 kids attended. Robbie was authorized to provide again during the school April vacation.

Pickleball Net: Robbie be reimbursed for the purchasing of an additional net.

Contra Dance:

Very well attended. 80 people from far away. Mixed age group with many beginners. Rose's friend did a great job of promoting the dance. Marshall and Melody helped with set up and clean up. Chris and Colleen agree to help Doug during the May Contra dance to learn the routine of set up and clean up as this is the responsibility of the Recreation Committee.

Guided Hike Planning: Postponed until May meeting.

Purchase Loop Trail Info Draft: Suggestions for some additional information will be added. Final draft at our next meeting.

New Business:

Community Fund Grant: Colleen will prepare 2025 grant final report to submit to the TFC .

Members authorized Colleen to research the cost of adult paddles to go along with the kayaks as well as tubs to store the life jackets and to write and submit a Community Fund Grant.

Tinmouth Community Fund Exec. Board ~ 03/16/26

Members present: Todd Dennis (Chair), Cathy Reynolds (Treasurer), Jan Krantz, Melody Squier, Bess Lewis, Martha Stanley, and Chris Martone

Others: Gail Fallar

Treasurer's report:

Cathy provided written reports regarding balances at the Vermont Community Foundation as well local check book balances.

She explained the transactions regarding financing the pavilion project and replacement of 'borrowed' funds.

She also noted website has incorrect information regarding possible grant amounts - \$1200 for last year which the Board reduced to \$750 at the time of those grant awards.

She reviewed her recommendations regarding total awards for 2026 – included allowed drawdown from VCF and local balances; and amounts from VCF for Sue Lloyd (\$1509), and Pam Garceau's donor (\$2,000).

As the cost of camps is going up, Board voted to increase the scholarship to up to \$350.

The plant sale last year raised nearly \$20K, this year will be along the lines of \$10K due to a number of factors.

Board voted to allocate up to \$16,970 from VCF to fund K-12 and continuing education scholarships.

Board voted to allocate \$11,113 (with \$7,905 from TCF Endowed Fund, \$1958 from the Reserve Fund and \$1,250 from the check book) to fund TCF community and business grants for 2026.

TCF grants were \$900 last year, not sustainable. The Board reduced the amount to \$750 at its April 30, 2025 meeting (noted in those minutes).

Cathy explained a grant application from the school to replace tables in the Community Center. This will only replace some of them, so it was suggested that the Community Center Board might provide some funding, and that the TCF Board could consider a "special project" to fund the balance in order to replace all of the folding tables at the same time.

Bylaw update mentioned in last April's minutes – no progress made to date.

Members discussed a request from a non-resident property owner regarding eligibility for receiving a grant/scholarship, after much discussion, it was agreed to continue Tinmouth residency requirement. A private donor offered to provide assistance to this family.

Members discussed helping with the cost of a flag pole as part of the 250th celebration – the Historical Society is applying for a grant to help as well.

Board members term expiring in 2026 – willing to continue? Bess (no); Chris (yes); Lisa (?)

Set meeting to review grant application for April 13th and the annual/awards meeting for May 4th.

Cathy noted volunteers to review the continuing education scholarship applications included herself, Martha, Robbie Leeds, Amy Martone, and Amanda Williams. Melody reviews the K-12 applications.

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

Web Site Committee ~ 03/31/26

With thanks to Jennifer Trepal, Secretary

Members present: Gail Fallar, Melody Squier, Cathy Renolds, Trish Warfle, Nancy Gucker Birdsall, and via zoom: Jennifer Trepal.

Guest: Glenn Mayer, Wallingford Select Board member who has experience with websites.

Gail called the meeting to order and advised that annual re-organization needed to take place.

Nancy nominated Melody Squier for chair and Jennifer Trepal for Secretary. Seconded by Cathy. All were in favor.

Discussed agenda and minutes – Gail moved to approve minutes of April 2, 2025, Nancy seconded, all in favor except Cathy, who abstained as she was not on the committee at the time.

Cathy reviewed the history of the website for Glenn. The current site is about 11 years old, is run on a shoestring budget, and as edits and WordPress have made changes, the site has degraded. Speed is of particular concern.

Glenn reviewed the site prior to the meeting. He said it is an old PHP version of WordPress and hard to update. Cloudflare (the host server) seems to be contributing to slowness, although it seems to speed up some once you've been on the site for a little bit. Glenn also noticed a missing style sheet that was causing errors. He suggested the best, and probably easiest, solution may be to start over rather than try to fix the current site. Glenn agreed to be an emergency on-call person on the current site but does not have the time to help with updates, migration, design, etc.

Melody suggested looking at the Vernon and Middletown Springs websites. Middletown Springs costs \$2400 for startup and about \$1200/year and was done by Town Web in Madison WI, which specializes in web sites for small towns. Members used Town Web's online calendar to schedule an online meeting to hear what they can provide. Questions to ask include cost, how to migrate the site, who updates it, who hosts it (do we want an independent host so we aren't stuck in one place?), how would the calendar work (theirs or integrate a Google calendar?), and what timeframe is required to get it up and running? Another possibility is to visit Patty Kenyon (MS Town Clerk) to see first-hand how the site is managed. Members set up a conference zoom meeting with Town Web on Thursday, April 2, 2026 at 10:00 a.m. which will be followed by a committee meeting on the Town's zoom link to discuss the demonstration.

A discussion followed about updates and corrections to the Tinmouth site. Members agreed to make the changes.
Next meetings:

Special meeting: 10 a.m. on Thursday, April 2, 2026 – online meeting with Town Web company.

7 p.m. on Thursday, April 30, 2026 at Old Firehouse

Equity and Inclusion ~ 03/26/2026

With thanks to Alyssa Adler, Sec.

Members present via Zoom: Kim Harbaugh, Sherry Johnson, Cynthia Pollock and in person Melody Squier and Alyssa Adler. Public: Gail Fallar

Family Heritage Potluck - Members express their gratitude to those who attended, and remarked that all seemed to enjoy themselves. There was a great sense of community throughout the evening. Sherry recommends we post information to public forums about the event, to begin sparking interest, earlier than this last time.

Vermont League of Cities & Towns (VLCT) resources for Equity & Inclusivity Committees - Melody has begun following along with a training on the site, reports it seems to have good value, and sent along a list of relevant trainings to members to look through.

Tinmouth Fun Day - Sherry applied for the same amount of TCF grant funding for Fun Day this coming year as last year, and shared her grant application with members. Cindy discussed the idea of folks bringing a completed art piece to be on display in the community center on Fun Day for all to see what their neighbors have been up to - solely for enjoyment (not for sale/contest, etc). Sherry and Cindy discussed posting the information about this new opportunity sooner than later for interested persons to begin considerations. Sherry attended a recent Recreation Committee meeting and received confirmation that they will be responsible for games again. Melody noted the Fire Department is back on water activities, and gathered opinion from the group on the Fire Department doing a safety training of some sort. Members were interested in this. Melody to follow up.

Welcome Signs - Melody will request the 2025 Community Fund Grant for this project be rolled over into the new year as the project is ongoing.



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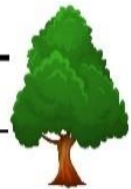


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~ April 2026 Calendar of Events ~

Fire Department	Thursday	2 nd	7:00	Fire House
Easter Service	Sunday	5 th	9:00	Church
Select Board	Thursday	9 th	7:00	Town Office
Story Telling	Friday	10 th	7:00	Old Fire House
Select Board - Special	Thursday	16 th	6:30	Town Office/Virtual
Planning Commission	Thursday	16 th	7:00	Town Office/Virtual
THGS Meeting	Sunday	19 th	1:30	Town Office
Conservation Commission	Monday	20 th	7:00	Town Office/Virtual
<i>Tales of Tinmouth</i> Deadline	Monday	20 th		Don't Miss It!
Select Board - Special	Thursday	23 rd	5:00	Town Office/Virtual

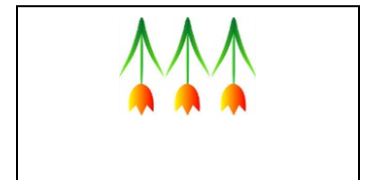
~ May 2026 Calendar of Events ~

Contra Dance	Friday	1 st	7:00	Community Center
Green-Up Clean-Up	Saturday	2 nd	8:30 -9:00	Meet at the Transfer Station
Community Fund Awards	Monday	4 th	6:30	Old Fire House
Fire Department	Thursday	7 th	7:00	Fire House
Recreation Committee	Monday	11 th	7:00	Town Office/Virtual
Select Board	Thursday	14 th	7:00	Town Office/Virtual
<i>Tales of Tinmouth</i> Deadline	Wednesday	20 th		Don't Miss It!
Planning Commission	Thursday	21 st	7:00	Town Office/Virtual
Memorial Day	Monday	25 th		Town Office Closed!
E & I Committee	Thursday	28 th	7:00	Town Office/Virtual
THGS Meeting	Sunday	31 st	1:30	Meet at Town Office Proceed to Old Blast Furnace Site

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 2:30-4:30 PM ~ And the first Saturday of the month, 10 - noon.



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