# TALES OF TINMOUTH

December 2024 Tinmouth
Vol. 38 Number 11 Vermont

**Editors' Notes:** *Peace on Earth, Good Will to All . . .*

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) or drop it off at the Town Office.

*Gail Fallar & Pat Psholka*



**~ Christmas Baskets ~**

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

If you, or someone you know, need(s) a basket, please call Gail at 446-2498. If you have a bounty of potatoes, onions, or squash from your garden, or fresh eggs, they are most welcome. **If you have an extra turkey or ham, that you would like to donate, they are welcome too.**

**Fruit Baskets** are distributed to nearly 20 folks as well. If you have an extra basket, we still need a few. Please drop them off at the town office. Thanks!

There were **four Thanksgiving Baskets** delivered, thanks to the generosity of folks who donated money for turkeys and perishables and left food at the town office and at the Thanksgiving Celebration held at the Church. They were very much appreciated.



**~ Winter Plowing ~**

As winter is quickly approaching, here's a reminder about plowing your driveway. **It's actually against state law to plow across the town road.** However, if you really, really, **absolutely,** have to plow across the town road, **please** make sure that you **clean the road really well**. *Thank you for your cooperation!*



## *Food Drive For*

**Tinmouth Community Christmas Food Baskets**
**Saturday, December 14th**
**10:00 AM until 12:00 Noon**
**in the Old Fire House – next to the Town Office**

These items will be used to add to the 20 or so food baskets provided by the Mill River Union High School National Honor Society, for less fortunate families in town, who really appreciate your generosity. We add to those baskets with more food and other items.

Or you can drop items off at the Town Office anytime between now and then.

***Non-Perishable Food Items*** **such as peanut butter, jelly/jam, applesauce, pineapple, oatmeal, cereal, flour, sugar, oil, soup, pasta, spaghetti sauce, juice, boxed cake mixes, stuffing, tuna fish, crackers, rice, mac and cheese, beans, vegetables, fruit, cookies, etc.**

***Household Items*** **such as laundry detergent, dish soap, hand soap, shampoo, facial tissue, toothbrushes, toothpaste, toilet paper, sanitizer, wipes, Clorox.**

***Pet Food*** **such as canned cat food, canned dog food, small bag dry dog food, small bag dry cat food, dog or cat treats.**

***Monetary donations*** **to help cover the costs of perishable items such as meat, milk, juice, eggs, produce, fruit, and bread. Tax-deductible contributions can be made to the Roy and Anne Wilbur Fund (which is under the umbrella of the Tinmouth Community Church), and left at the town office or mailed to 515 North End Rd, Tinmouth, VT 05773.**

**Also needed are *monetary donations* to help provide clothes and gifts for kids (books, socks, mittens, toys).**

**Thank you to the Tinmouth Community Fund for two grants to help with this!!**

*Thank you for your kind generosity!*
*Joyous Holidays to All!*





Volunteers busy getting ready for the Game Supper

**Thank you one and all for contributing to another successful Game Supper!**

Without this community, we could not host this event. We thank everyone who cooked, provided food, prepped, served, cleaned up and came to eat. This year it warmed our hearts to see so many new faces, the next generation of Tinmouth volunteers, enjoying their service to the community. One of whom said "Game Supper is my favorite holiday!"

Although we heard these comments every year, they never cease to amaze us. "This is the best dinner in the area", "I look forward to coming every year", "Tinmouth is a really special place", and "Thank You". We were especially happy to hear people express their thanks that the supper was back.

This was, as always, an amazing community supported event and the Tinmouth Volunteer Fire Department's only fundraiser which helps to keep the taxes required to run the Tinmouth Volunteer Fire Department to a minimum.

We would also like to thank Corey Best who let us use her parking for the supper. (Tinmouth Road House).

So once again thank you to everyone who helped in any way, and we look forward to doing it again next year!

***The Members of the***
***Tinmouth Volunteer Fire Department***

**Winners of the TVFD Raffles**
**1st Prize – Gun – Dave Moreno**
**2nd Prize – $200 Denny Wood**
**3rd Prize – 2 Tickets for 2025 – Mike Keefe**
**50-50 Raffle - $144 - Brendan Cardi**

**~ Dishes from the Game Supper ~**

If you are missing a pie plate or other dishes that you provided food in for the Game Supper, they have been left in the vestibule of the Town Office. Or they may be at the Fire House – stop by the office and we'll look for them.

**~ Caroling ~**
**~ Come Sing or Listen ~**
*By Marshall Squier*

**When: Saturday, Dec. 21st 5:30 PM**
**Where: In Front of the Church**
**Who: Everyone**

Let's make this another community building event like Town Fun Day. This is non-denominational, yes, we will sing Christmas carols, Holiday songs, Jingle Bells (bring a bell) and maybe even Rudolph.

Hot cider and cocoa will be free for all to share. Bathrooms will be available at the Church and the Fire House.

Time wise, maybe an hour singing and smiling with cider or cocoa, and maybe cookies if folks bring them, great fun for all.

After caroling there, those who would like to, can caravan around town to sing to those who can't come, and wish them Merry Christmas, Happy Holidays and Happy New Year.

With Covid and the flu around we will stay outside.

Going around town may take 1 ½ - 2 hours. You don't have to stay for it all. If you would like carolers to come and sing outside your home, or think of someone who would appreciate the visit, please call Gail at the Town Office – 802-446-2498 or Marshall at 802-235-2718.

And if enough folks wish, next year we could expand it to other winter fun, like sledding, snow sculptures and lighting the tree in front of the Church!

So please come and expect a good time. All are welcome, friends, family, visitors, etc.

**~ Town Meeting 2025 ~**

Thinking about serving your community? Town Meeting will find voters choosing the following officers:

Moderator - Town - 1 year term
Select Board Member - 3 year term
Lister - 3 year term
Auditor - 3 year term
Tax Collector (Delinquent) - 1 year term

Petitions will be available after January 1st, five signatures are needed, and returned by January 29th.

**~ Community News ~**

*Get Well Wishes* are sent to **Maleynda Morales**, **Penny Bushee**, **John Squier, Eileen Allen**, and **everyone dealing with respiratory illness** – there seems to be lots of cold, flu and covid going around.



Tinmouth Mountain School

December 2024

I proudly announce our newest student council representatives, Nolan Robbins, Sadie Martone, Reese Sumner, and Emma Robbins. They recently held their first meeting with Lisa Edge and decided their first item of business would be to host a Wacky Wednesday on November 20th. Wacky Wednesday entails students wearing clothes backward, inside out, wacky hairstyles, and so much more; the possibilities are endless. The students also decided to host a food drive to assist our community and will eventually plan for "spirit" days to build community.

This past month, we hosted our Thanksgiving Volunteer luncheon; this is one of those events that makes Tinmouth Elementary truly special. We are grateful for our volunteers who help in various ways: Round-Up, 4 Winds, Winter Sports, Parents Club, and much more. Tinmouth students and staff are lucky to have a community that supports their physical and academic growth.

The next adventure we will be bringing back from days past is the student holiday shop. I was browsing through the attic when I came across various holiday-themed items in a box titled Santa's Workshop. Upon further investigation, I discovered we used to host a "store" of gently used or new items that students could purchase for their families for the holidays. I brought this idea to the Parents Club, and they will partner with the school to host this event during the school day. I think our students will thoroughly enjoy shopping for their families.

Last month, I introduced Delaney Rohan, our 3/4 teacher; this month, I would like to introduce **Wade Davis**, our 5th and 6th grade teacher. Wade is an educator of over 25 years. He has taught in California, Michigan, and Vermont. He first came to Vermont to work at Farm & Wilderness Summer Camps in Plymouth during college in the early '90s. He earned his Masters in Education from the University of Michigan School of Education in 2003. He permanently moved back to Vermont with his family in 2013.

In addition to education, Wade is also passionate about music, writing, and Aikido, a Japanese martial art that he has studied for well over 30 years. You can find him most Thursday evenings at an Open Mic in Brandon, singing originals and playing either bass or guitar. He has two self-published books (available at The Bookstore in Brandon or on Amazon Kindle) and is working to get a third book published 'for real.' He teaches Aikido two days a week at Brandon's historic Town Hall, both Youth and Adult Classes. He is thrilled to have found Tinmouth Mountain School as it feels like home in a way that few other schools ever have.

We at Tinmouth Elementary wish you all a wonderful holiday season. We hope you find moments of peace, relaxation, and time to spend with those you love.

Be well,

***Jenn Galusha-Brothers***

Principal ~ Tinmouth Mountain School



**Library News ~**

*By Ruth Drachman, Librarian*

*"A Library is not a luxury, but one of the necessities of life."* - Henry Ward Beecher

**Merry Christmas to all.** May your Christmas Tree have a new book under it!

And may the world settle down to a boring pace.

**We will be open on Thursdays from 2 until 5. Come and check us out.**

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

10 Court St., Rutland, VT 802-773-1860
**Friday, December 13 (10 - 4) and**
**Saturday, December 14 (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

The *Tales of Tinmouth* is on the Tinmouth website (tinmouthvt.gov). Look under "Info".

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

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

***Donations to help pay for paper and postage are always greatly appreciated! Expenses for 2024 have exceeded donations to date.***






You are welcome to join the
Tinmouth Community Church
for a very special
Candlelight Christmas Eve Service
on Tuesday, December 24th
5:00 P.M.
All are Welcome!!

**~ Nature Notes ~**

In mid-October there were lilacs blossoming at the top of Walker Mountain – where Ralph Weindel used to live!!

Also in mid-October, a blue jay was observed tucking away peanuts in a hedge in Rutland – a treat for later – he also checked on his other stashes. Very watchful to see if anyone was watching him.

And then there were the twinkling lights bobbing around in the sky above the Town Office one fine sunny day. Small objects shining brightly. It was suggested that they might be milkweed seeds riding the wind – there one was that came close to the ground and then zoomed back up into the air. . . .

Hoping you got to see the comet that cruised by several days, just at dusk and very near the western horizon.

**~ Community Thanksgiving Service Poem ~**

*by Marshall Squier*

An old farmer was slowly walking up the lane from the barn, she stopped and smelled the lilacs that grow along the stone wall just above the pond.

The sun was just setting with the beautiful pastels peeking through the puffy white clouds.

The birds started singing their peaceful evening song, a doe stepped into the meadow, a bouncy little fawn tagging along.

A rich man's car came speeding and stopped, rolled down his window and asked who owns this farm.

She slowly turned from the sunset and after a long look said, "God does. I just care take it while I am here".

Not seeing what she saw or hearing what she said, he started telling her this place is worth millions, golf course over in the meadows, a few McMansions up on the hill. You would be rich and could buy whatever you want.

She again looked at the man for a moment, then looked away at all that was around her. The warm breeze coming from the lilac perfume amplified her answer.

"As I sat near the bed as my Dad was passing beyond, he smiled and said love is the strongest and most enduring thing that there is. The so-called love of money and power, wealth and control, are not love at all. Be careful what you accumulate, don't waste your life seeking things that can't last. Be remembered for what you gave, not what you had. Think of love as a light and we as mirrors. When we turn to the light, only love is reflected."

Greed wants to turn the mirror and show all its false treasure and strength, is depending on the mirror turned its way.

If a mirror is broken into a 1000 pieces, all are different shapes and sizes, like us individuals each its own, but when turned to the light, we all reflect the same love.

So maybe spend your time here helping all who may need a nudge to turn their mirrors to the light that comes from above.

Greed will try to dirty your mirror, and cover it with a sheen, so just keep a tissue in your pocket and keep it clean.

The window went up, but the car didn't go away. The man got out and said, "Thank you my friend, for showing me a different way."

Thanksgiving shouldn't be just one day in November for few, but everyone, everywhere feeling love, including you.



**~ Meeting Highlights ~**

*Complete minutes are available at the town office.*
*All highlights are edited by Ye Olde Editor.*

**Select Board (SB) ~ 11/14/2024**

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

Others present: In-person: Eric Buffum-Road Commissioner, Randy Clark – Allegiance Trucks, Michael Fallar, Marshall Squier, David Levant, and Gail Fallar-Select Board Assistant (SBA) and via Zoom and phone: Sherry Johnson, Kim Harbaugh, Rick Fallar, Tom & Deb Bromley, Theresa Dana, and Cathy Reynolds

Kevin called the meeting to order at 7:00, welcomed everyone, and asked for a moment of silence for Bob Lloyd, to honor his many years of dedication and service to Tinmouth

**Theresa Dana** requested two dump tickets for the School Parents Club's raffles, Melody moved, Kevin 2nded all voted in favor.

**Citizen's Input ~** Sherry thanked Eric for the blinking light on the stop sign at the intersection of Mtn View and Route 140, it is slowing down some drivers. She also thanked Kevin and Alex Eaton, and Butch Towsley for taking care of a tree in the road on East Road, and an unknown person who put out traffic cones.

**Highway ~**

Randy Clark, from Allegiance Trucks, reviewed the **warranty** on the 2022 truck, the repair that was required to the rear end and why it was not covered by the warranty. Long story short, it boiled down to the warranty only covers failure of a part from the manufacturer.

**Eric** reported the road crew is getting ready for winter, requested approval to repair the grizzley – the screen used for sifting the sand - will cost about $1,500, using waste blocks it will be movable in the future if need be, SB agreed by consensus.

**West Tinmouth winter road maintenance** was discussed, Eric advised he had spoken to a couple of guys about it, had informal bids. After discussion, the Board decided it needed to formally go out to bid (last year the cost was over $15,000). Then discussed if it should be bid by the season, or by each plowing & sanding on McCoy and the western end of Gulf Road; considered hiring Glenn Merrill to work part time and having the Town take care of them. Discussed how to notify those interested – emails, posting in local stores, Front Porch Forum. In the end, the SB agreed to bid the two roads for the winter season, sand to be provided by the plow guy, using the Town's Plowing policy. Board decided to have a special meeting on December 4th to open the bids. Board then moved several other agenda items to the special meeting on the 4th.

**McNamara Road** – Melody requested permission to bore a water line under McNamara Road to provide water for her animals. After discussion, Board authorized the Road Commissioner to oversee the project, needs to be at least 4' deep, and Dig Safe will need to be called regarding fiber optic cable.

**Financial ~**

**Bills and Orders ~** Board reviewed warrants and voted to approve all. Payroll warrants #15, 16,17,18, and19 ; and Accounts Payable warrants #14, 15, 16, and 17 .

**ARPA ~** Board discussed whether the speed cart – which will be voted on at town meeting- should be funded with ARPA money, Capital Bldg or Equipment Fund - $15K or so. No decision.

**REMC** – Board voted to re-appoint Ray Pratt, EMD and Matt Patry, EMC, to the Rutland Emergency Management Committee (REMC).

**Pavilion Next Steps ~** Board discussed the water issue, Otter Creek Engineering would like to dig test pits in the Spring, but advised the building could be built without the ditch work, but that doing the ditching work might present a problem. Still waiting for paperwork from BGS – (granting agency) to determine whether the state will require going out to bid. Marshfield and VT Timber Frames need to be updated with the status, as the MOU has expired.

Michael requested the Select Board put the question to voters at town meeting. After discussion, the Board advised they would look into it.

**Planning Commission and RRPC Vacancies** ~ Michael as PC Chair, advised that the PC would like to interview the 3 people interested in serving on the PC in order to make a recommendation to the SB. He advised that the PC voted unanimously to recommend Judy Gilmore be appointed as Tinmouth's representative to the Rutland Regional Planning Commission.

Marshall recommended David Levant, he's not a member of the Tinmouth PC. David spoke to his interest in being involved but upon hearing the PC made a unanimous decision, he withdrew his name, advising he was willing to serve in the future, happy to help. Board appointed Judy to the RRP.

**Select Board (SB) ~ 12/4/24 ~ Special**

Select Board members present: Kevin Eaton, Judy Gilmore, and Melody Squier

Others present: Eric Buffum – Road Commissioner, Michael Fallar, Stan Martell, Judy Holcomb, Caleb Scott, David Birdsall, Nate Marcell, Doug Fontein, Hollis Squier, Marshall Squier and Gail Fallar – Select Board Assistant. Via Zoom- Sherry Johnson, Rick Fallar, and Tom & Deb Bromley

Before the **West Tinmouth winter road maintenance bids** were opened, Kevin advised that the Town was considering hiring the part-time road guy and using town equipment at a cost of about $5,000. Bids were opened JMH Services bid $8,500; Nate Marcell bid $10,000; Jordan Martelle bid $9,000 and Stan Martelle, Jr. bid $15,000. Board rejected all bids. Board voted to proceed with Glenn Merrill and town equipment

**FY24 End of Year Reports** were presented, Board will review before next week's meeting.

Board will take a look at the **retaining wall** for the **trash dumpster** before the 12th – it needs to be replaced.

**Pavilion Project** – Melody requested a letter be written to VTTimberFrame and the Town of Marshfield explaining that the Town is waiting to hear from BGS regarding the grant and its requirements. Gail advised that a petition had been submitted by supporters to hold a special town meeting in January to consider the pavilion. Board will receive it for consideration at its meeting on the 12th.

**Citizen Input** –

Sherry reminded the Board that ARPA money was supposed to be set aside for air handling equipment for the Town Office and that a possible 2nd Owl system might help with virtual meetings.

Marshall suggested that ARPA funds be used to help with firewood, fuel oil, food bank, etc. for lower income folks in town – those struggling financially. Some discussion regarding how to administer that and keep confidentiality.

Michael suggested dump truck repair.

Doug suggested the Recreation Committee was looking to grade and level the ball field at the Community Center.

David requested that the SB retain recorded meeting videos for historical value. Current policy adopted by the Select Board in July, says they can be removed from the website once official minutes have been approved – per the recommendation of the Secretary of State's Office. SB took under advisement.

Board voted to enter Executive Session at 7:30 to discuss a personnel issue, exited a 7:46, no action taken.

As the SBA was not feeling well, a number of items on the agenda that could wait were moved to the Board's regular meeting on the 12th.

**Planning Commission ~ 11/21/24**

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

Others: present in-person: Joe Buffum, Robbie Leeds, and Gail Fallar, Secretary, and via Zoom: Sherry Johnson

Members reviewed the agenda – added report from Judy regarding RRPC, Tinmouth's new representative, and an executive session to discuss a personnel issue.

Minutes of 10/24/24 – Secretary advised there was a dangling partial sentence inadvertently left in from previous minutes that needed to be removed. Members vote to approve with that correction.

Judy advised the RRPC is working on a new regional plan, would like the PC to take the survey regarding progress they have made. She also noted that Tinmouth can have wood and gas in their energy plan. She will report monthly.

Members then discussed what a planning commission does and asked Joe and Robbie about their interest in filling the vacancy left by Bob's passing. Joe advised he has lived in town his entire life, would like to participate. Robbie moved to town 7 years ago, has 2 kids in school, would like to address housing issues. He noted he is currently a member of the Conservation Commission and Chair of the Recreation Committee.

Enhanced Energy Plan (EEP) – Jeremy from RRPC sent an email encouraging members to continue its review of his draft. Members explained some of the proposed changes to Joe and Robbie, as well as Vito's proposed disclaimer and his research on his actual energy use. Members continued review, agreed to delete some sections, noted that some of the sections would be easier to understand if there were graphics – need to ask Jeremy if he has them prepared.

Ann reported attending a meeting regarding climate action and that there were many towns questioning the data provided by the state – it's not just a Tinmouth concern – wondering where the numbers are coming from. Vito advised the plan needs to deal with reality, not be a pipe dream.

Ann suggested adding a section that would encourage old fashioned steps, 'cultural wisdom' – like planting shade trees, using curtains to keep heat in or out, clothes lines (outside) and racks (inside), etc.

Members also expressed concern if everything is electric and the power goes out . . . Members reviewed pages 3 through 7. Need to make a list of what is happening now – what we are already doing.

Members voted to enter executive session to discuss a personnel issue at 8:27, exited at 8:41. Andy moved and Vito seconded to recommend Joe Buffum to the Select Board to fill the current vacancy, and Robbie for a future vacancy. 7 voted in favor, Kim abstained. Kim wanted the minutes to reflect that he supported Marshall Squier.

Members decided to meet on December 19th, bring cookies and holiday thoughts. Members were encouraged to complete the RRPC survey. Larry encouraged them take a look at the Climate Action link at RRPC, it is interesting.



**Recreation Committee ~ 11/14/24**

*With thanks to Martha Stanley, Sec.*

Members present: Robbie Leeds, Doug Fontein, Martha Stanley, and via Zoom: Colleen Balch and David Levant. Other present: Gail Fallar.

**Ice Rink Update**

Tinmouth Recreation Committee press release written by Colleen was reviewed. Ready to be posted on Front Porch and in the *Tales. (Ed. Note: See November Tales.)*

**Outdoor Basketball Court**

Members voted to spend up to $400.00 to install the hoop including the padding for the new and old poles.

**Donation**

Gail reported Chris Martone, Transfer Station Manager donated $245 - proceeds from the TS bottle returns to the Recreation Committee. Martha will write a thank you on behalf of the committee.

**Open Gym at the Community Center**

Robbie will organize an open gym. Open to all ages. Families welcome. Children 12 and under to be accompanied by parent or guardian.

Hours 2 to 4 - Sundays : Dec. 8, Jan 5 and 9 and Feb 2nd. Possible activities: basketball, pickleball and volleyball.

**Old Business**

Halloween hay ride, tabled as Parents Club has it covered.

**New Business**

UVM Town Forest survey - Our Town Forest is the Purchase Recreation Area. Agenda item for December.

**Budget**

Doug proposed that Committee consider applying for a Tinmouth Community Fund Grant. Also available another year to consider is a land and water grant through Vermont Forest and Parks. It's a Federal grant (SCORP). Colleen will look into this. Agenda item for December.

**Tinmouth Fun Day**

Discussed the role of the Recreation Committee. Take the lead? Part of a group? No decision.

**Conservation Commission ~ 11/18/24**

*With thanks to Chuck Bronk, Sec.*

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

Public Present: Gail Fallar, and Rhonda Phillips (A former Tinmouth resident, now residing in Middletown Springs)

The meeting was called to order 7:04 PM, by Doug Fontein as Vice Chair in Rainbow's initial absence.

The agenda was accepted as warned with the addition of a discussion of the UVM's Town Forest Census Program, and the renewal of blazing on the single track Purchase Loop Trail as suggested by Cathy Reynolds as reported by Doug Fontein.

***Ongoing Business:***

The first order of business was to review a resignation letter received from Rainbow Squier asking that she relinquish her position as Chair but remain on the Commission. CC accepted her request and thanked her for her service.

Ed Hasenohr was elected Chair.

Ed introduced the discussion of Dale Aines' request for signage at the upper kiosk on the Purchase Loop Trail. Doug reviewed the history of the request and presented a draft sign for discussion:

TINMOUTH PURCHASE LOOP TRAIL

Permitted Uses:

Hiking
XC Skiing
Snowshoeing
Snowmobiles
Hunting allowed on Town Property

NO MOTORIZED WHEELED VEHICLES

NO BICYCLES EXCEPT WITH PERMISSION FROM TINMOUTH CONSERVATION COMMISSION (WHEN TRAILS ARE DRY) CALL 802-446 2928

PLEASE STAY ON TRAIL

Robbie suggested that the sign have two columns, Recommended and Not Recommended. Doug felt that the bicycle section was too wordy and that it could be solved by a two-sided hang tag, *Dry enough for Bikes, Too Wet for Bikes*. Doug agreed to modify his draft and present it to Dale Aines and David Birdsall for approval prior to fabrication. Ed commented that the sign should be weather tolerant. Chuck agreed to enlarge Doug's approved design to 11"x17" and laminate it so that it could be mounted on plywood. All agreed that it should be mounted at the upper Kiosk and the lower Kiosk.

Ed asked if we needed a work day to accomplish the blazing of the Loop Trail. All agreed that weekends would be better that mid-week. It was suggested that Saturday December 7, 2024 be the day, with Sunday the 8th being a rain date. The plan would be to meet at the Community Center parking lot and carpool to the site. Doug agreed to provide paint, cans, and brushes.

Gail reported that the University of Vermont had sent a survey/census regarding Town Forests. She agreed to forward the information to the Commission and also to the Recreation Committee. They note that Town Forests must be greater than 5 acres and forested.

Robbie asked what became of the request from the Select Board to understand the functions of the various Committees and Commissions. Gail advised that the Select Board has postponed that until late February. All agreed that we should table this till our January meeting

**Equity and Inclusion Committee ~ No Nov. Meeting**

**~ Tinmouth Parents Club Raffles ~**

*By Theresa Dana*

The Tinmouth Parents Club - a group formed by parents of children that attend Tinmouth Mountain School, are raffling a Christmas-themed basket (filled with all the fixin's and several donations from local area businesses). The basket contents total over $715 in goods, gift certificates, and services! A heck of a deal for the winner!!

Tickets will be sold for $1.00 each and MUST include a name and working phone number to be valid!

**The Drawing will be on December 16th.**

Tickets can be purchased at the

-Tinmouth Mountain School
-Tinmouth Town Office
-Tinmouth Parents Club Members
-MMA Guns (Mike Colton)
-Wallingford Market

The Christmas Basket is currently located at the Tinmouth Mountain School.

A winner will be picked DECEMBER 16th, 2024!!

Anyone can win!! But only ONE winner will be picked!! Will it be you? Buy a ticket for your chance to win!!

*Thank you* for supporting our efforts to help out at the school!

Basket Items Include:

- Tinmouth Parents Club; all the fixins'
- Wallingford Locker; 7lb half-ham gift certificate
- Gilmore Farm; One Round Bale of Hay P/U only
- Squier Family Farm; gift certificate
- Chimera Meats; 2 bags Beef Jerky
- The Boarding Spot; one-night stay for friendly dog
- Green Mountain Tumblers; Tumbler
- Cioffi Brothers Dist.; Box of 42ct Variety Chips
- The Casey Family; A Holiday Wreath
- Thee Enchanted Bee; $100+ organic cosmetics
- MMA Guns; $50 Gift certificate
- $50 Gift Certificate to Avanti: Cassie LaFaso
- Will Gormly; Spiced Cider
- Fortress of Fun $15 Gift Certificate
- (2) $25 Play Cards to Otter Creek Fun Center
- OC Titans Free PC Tune-up ($99 Value)
- 4 Passes to Hathaway Farm and Corn Maze for 2025
- Local Honey from R&D Merrill
- Gift Card from The Cracker Factory
- Alignment from Adirondack Tires
- Donna Wilkins Photography; copy of best seller!
- Smokey House Maple syrup & Shirt
- Price Chopper gift card
- (2) Family Passes to Wonderfeet Kids Museum
- Punch Ticket to Tinmouth Transfer Station




The winner of the **Thanksgiving Basket** was Ingrid Lepley- who chose a couple things and elected to allow another name to be drawn. The other winner was Amanda B, the TES guidance counselor-she was SO excited!

**~ 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.

***~ WiFi Hot Spot ~***

There is a WiFi Hot Spot next to the town office – FREE – look for 'Project Connect' on your device. It is unsecure, but available to anyone who wishes to use it. It beams toward the church and school, will also work in front of the town office.

You can also log onto 'Town Office Guest' as another option for free WiFi, also at the Town Office.

***Please Recycle or Pass Along Tales!!~***

***To the Residents of Tinmouth, Vermont:***

*I would like to take this moment to say Thank You to the voters of Tinmouth for your support. I am honored to have this opportunity to serve and work for you during the next two year legislative session.*

*I recently attended a three day orientation for new legislators in Montpelier. I met many of the newly elected Representatives, Senators, and many other folks that I will be working with during this upcoming session.*

*I will be receiving my committee assignment when the session begins on January 8th.*

*I have left my contact information with Gail Fallar at the Town Clerk's office (and below). When the new session begins on January 8th, you will have all the information necessary to contact me with any questions or concerns you may have.*

*Again, thank you for giving me the opportunity to represent the people of Tinmouth at the State House.*

*Sincerely,*

***Chris Pritchard***


Chris Pritchard
Representative
Rutland - Bennington

115 State Street - State House
Montpelier, VT 05633-5201
Tel: (802) 828-2228
Tel: (802) 322-5216
Fax: (802) 828-2424

1121 North Pawlet Rd
Wells, VT 05774
Tel: (802) 558-8918
cpritchard@leg.state.vt.us

https://legislature.vermont.gov


**~ Community Center Rental ~**

*Anyone* who wishes to use the Community Center, the Old Fire House, or the Bake Oven, needs to check with **Trish Warfle,** Building Use Coordinator, for availability and to fill out a use form.

Her contact number is **802-236-3163.** Thank you for your cooperation.


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**~ Paramount Theatre ~**

**The Rutland Youth Theatre Presents ✯ ELF Jr.**




Based on the beloved holiday film, this hilarious fish-out-of-water comedy follows Buddy the Elf in his quest to find his true identity.

A title known the world over, **Elf The Musical JR**. is a must-produce holiday musical that can easily become an annual tradition for any theatre. Based on the cherished New Line Cinema hit, **Elf JR**. features songs by Tony Award-nominees, Matthew Sklar and Chad Beguelin, with a book by Tony Award-winners, Thomas Meehan and Bob Martin.

Buddy, a young orphan, mistakenly crawls into Santa's bag of gifts and is transported to the North Pole. The would-be elf is raised, unaware that he is actually a human, until his enormous size and poor toy-making abilities cause him to face the truth.

With Santa's permission, Buddy embarks on a journey to New York City to find his birth father and discover his true identity. Faced with the harsh reality that his father is on the naughty list and that his half-brother doesn't even believe in Santa, Buddy is determined to win over his new family and help New York remember the true meaning of Christmas.

Join us for this holiday treasure of a tale, with standout regional youth talent; and opportunities to further support this endeavor!

Dec 13 2024 - Dec 14 2024
Three shows:
Friday 12/13 @ 7PM
Saturday 12/14 @ 2PM & 7PM
Tickets:
Adults: $15 + tax/fees
Children under 18/Seniors over 65: $10 + tax/fees
Purchase Online:
https://www.paramountvt.org/event/rutland-youth-theatre-presents-elf-the-musical-jr/
https://www.paramountvt.org/

# Stories Told in Tinmouth:

## Tinmouth Old Firehouse



**Please join us for an ongoing series of storytelling evenings at the Tinmouth Old Firehouse in beautiful downtown Tinmouth**
**Weather permitting - the 2nd Friday of each month – 7:00 PM.**

**December 13 - Heroes, teachers, bosses**
**January 10 - Close calls**
**February 14 - A gift**
**March 14 - Secrets**
**April 11 – The decision that changed everything**

Come share your true 5-minute story with a live audience of kind and supportive listeners, or come to listen and enjoy!

Use the prompt to inspire you, or share a story based on your own inspiration.
Stories about Tinmouth are always welcome.

**~ Please join us for the fun and refreshments ~**

This event is based on our desire to connect with each other through shared experiences in stories and to keep the tradition of storytelling alive. It is based on the STORY SLAM model. **Audience members put their name in a basket and storytellers are chosen randomly to tell their true story.**

**This is a free event sponsored by the Tinmouth Community Fund.**
**All are welcome!**

**Please follow us on Facebook:**
**Tinmouth Old Firehouse Concerts & Town Events**
**Questions: 802-881-6775 (call or text)**

**Transfer Station Reminder/Request** ~ If you are able, please squish, squash, stomp, or crumple all plastic. It takes up a lot of space when it's not flat – and the cost of hauling the container is way more than the cost of processing the material. If we can stuff more recyclables in it, we can haul it less and that will save the town money! And please remember you can put metal cans into the metal roll-off along with other metal items. There is no charge for that disposal.

And please make sure that you do not put magazines into the newspaper boxes – especially if you don't remove the label – we know who you are!!

**REMINDER from Charlie: Vacuum cleaners DO NOT go into the electronics bin – if they are metal, they go into the metal roll off – if they are plastic, they go into the trash dumpster!**

**The Electronic bins are ONLY for TV's, computers and computer peripherals – printers, keyboards, etc.**

**Your cooperation is appreciated.**


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**Fire Wood For Sale**
**Please call Roscoe Jones**
**802-235-2630**

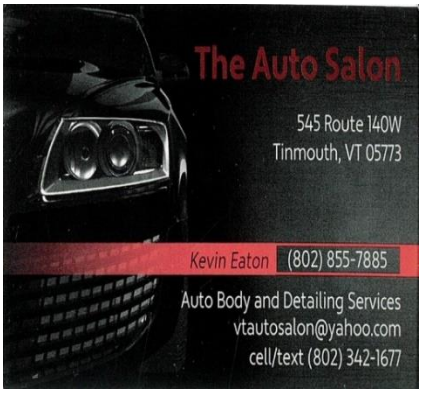
## Tinmouth Pond Milfoil Project Receives State Grant

The Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation Watershed Management Division Lakes & Ponds Program awarded a grant of $7,592 to the Town of Tinmouth/Tinmouth Pond Milfoil Project (TPMP) for 2024. The grant money was used to pay for AE Commercial Diving Services to suction harvest and hand pull Eurasian watermilfoil from the lake/pond. The harvesting occurred during the July and August of 2024. This year's grant also included assistance with the bi-annual plant survey conducted by Larry Eichler. This survey looks at specific sites and evaluates the plants in each location, whether native or invasive and helps with the assessment of the management of milfoil control efforts.

The main purpose of the Tinmouth Pond Milfoil Project is to control the spread of the Eurasian watermilfoil (that is an "aquatic invasive" plant that invaded the pond more than 22 years ago) and to encourage the growth of native plants. Eurasian watermilfoil is a non-native introduced aquatic plant that has shown it is highly invasive in Vermont water bodies and in other regions of North America. Once in a waterbody, it cannot be eradicated, but does need to be controlled. An on-going endeavor for TPMP and the Town.

TPMP generates funds to hire divers to harvest the watermilfoil, and teach people about Eurasian watermilfoil - and the way that it is transported into and from Tinmouth Pond and other bodies of water. TPMP publishes a newsletter several times a year called *The Pond Frog* to help educate folks on how to identify and how to prevent the spread of invasive plants and invasive species. The funds from the Vermont DEC Aquatic Nuisance Control Grant-in-Aide are a much appreciated help with these efforts.


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**Tinmouth Roadhouse and Best Moon Catering**

***Now Open every Saturday 8am to 1pm, except for Saturday December 28 so we can celebrate the holidays with our families.***

***We will resume our regular Saturday operations January 4, 2025.***

***We will have holiday dinners, pies, baked goods and cookie trays available starting Saturday December 21st but please call ahead to reserve.***

***Check out our Facebook page "Tinmouth Roadhouse" and front porch forum for more details.***

***Dinner reservations will be available starting in January!***

Remember the "***Golden Rule!"*** *"Do unto others as you would have them do unto you."*

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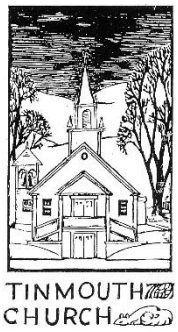
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**Sunday Service 9:00 a.m.**

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191 Davids Ln Danby, VT 05739
Office@northernoutdoorfurnaces.com

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## Wreaths for Sale

**Kristy Usher** • East Rd, Tinmouth

**Seasons Greetings**

**It's that time of year again, we are busy in the workshop making wreaths for everyone.**

**We have 12" and 14" available.**
**12" plain $20**
**12" with ribbon$25**
**12" fully decorated $35**

**14"plain $25**
**14" with ribbon $30**
**14" fully decorated $45**

**We also have a limited number of kissing balls.**

**Order early**
**Call or text 802-342-2722**





## ~ December 2024 Calendar of Events ~



| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Equity & Inclusion Comm.** | **Monday** | **2nd** | **7:00** | **Town Office/Virtual** |
| **Select Board – Special** | **Wednesday** | **4th** | **7:00** | **Town Office/Virtual** |
| **Fire Department** | **Thursday** | **5th** | **7:00** | **Fire House** |
| **Select Board** | **Thursday** | **12th** | **7:00** | **Town Office/Virtual** |
| **Xmas Food Drive** | **Saturday** | **14th** | **10:00-12:00** | **Old Fire House** |
| **Recreation Committee** | **Monday** | **16th** | **7:00** | **Town Office/Virtual** |
| **Planning Commission** | **Thursday** | **19th** | **7:00** | **Town Office/Virtual** |
| ***Tales of Tinmouth* Deadline** | **Friday** | **20th** | | **Don't Miss It!** |
| **Caroling** | **Saturday** | **21st** | **5:30** | **Church Parking Lot** |
| **Christmas Eve Service** | **Tuesday** | **24th** | **5:00** | **Community Church** |
| **Christmas** | **Wednesday** | **25th** | | **Town Office ~ Closed** |
| **Hannukah** | **Wednesday** | **25th** | | **Sundown** |



## ~ January 2025 Calendar of Events ~

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| **New Year's Day** | **Wednesday** | **1st** | | **Town Office ~ Closed** |
| **Fire Department** | **Thursday** | **2nd** | **7:00** | **Fire House** |
| **Select Board** | **Thursday** | **9th** | **7:00** | **Town Office & Virtual** |
| **Planning Commission** | **Thursday** | **17th** | **7:00** | **Town Office & Virtual** |
| ***Tales of Tinmouth* Deadline** | **Saturday** | **20th** | | **Don't Miss It!** |

**The Transfer Station will be OPEN both Christmas Day and New's Year's Day – regular Wednesday hours 4:00 – 7:00 – per Gunner and Charlie's Wishes!!**

*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 the first Saturday of the month, 10-noon.*

**Knit/Craft Club ~ Mondays at the Old Fire House ~ 1:00-3:00 All Welcome!**

Season's Greetings



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Tinmouth, VT 05773

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