

# TALES OF TINMOUTH

February 2025  
Vol. 39 Number 2

Tinmouth  
Vermont

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

The deadline for submissions (news, items of interest, get well wishes, ads, etc.) is the 20<sup>th</sup> of the preceding month. Please email your information to *Tales of Tinmouth* ([tinmouthtales@vermontel.net](mailto:tinmouthtales@vermontel.net)) or drop it off at the Town Office.

*Gail Fallar & Pat Psholka*

**Results of the Special Town Meeting** vote regarding the **pavilion/shade structure** was 85 yes and 28 no.

About 20 voters attended the Informational meeting held on the 25<sup>th</sup>, in person and via zoom. 113 voters cast ballots, 37 voted early/absentee, 76 stopped by to vote in person. There are 432 voters on the voter checklist.

**Town Meeting**  
**Tuesday, March 4, 2025**  
**Voting at the Community Center**  
**from 8:00 am – 7:00 pm.**

**The Informational Meeting** for this vote will be held on **Saturday, March 1<sup>st</sup> at 1:00** at the Community Center. Articles on the Warning will be discussed, but not votes taken.

~ **Early/Absentee Ballots** ~

To request an **Early/Absentee Ballot**, you must do so before **5:00 pm on Monday, March 3<sup>rd</sup>**. **Voted ballots must be returned by 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, March 4<sup>th</sup>**. You can call the town office to request the ballots, 802-446-2498 or send an email to [tinmouthtown@vermontel.net](mailto:tinmouthtown@vermontel.net).

You can also vote **early** at the town office, or stop in to pick up the ballots.

**Town Meeting** will find voters choosing the following officers, there are two contested races – School Director and Lister, all others are unopposed:

*Moderator* - Town - **Holly Ross**

*Select Board Member* - **Kevin Eaton**

*Mill River Unified Union School Board*

*Director/Member* - **Michael Fallar; Josh Squier**

*Lister* - **Rick Fallar; Carolyn Feury**

*Auditor* - **Sandy Goyette**

*Tax Collector (Delinquent)* - **Cat Yoder**

Town and School budgets and public questions will also be voted by Australian ballot.

~ **Town Reports** ~

The 2024 town reports will be mailed around the 20<sup>th</sup> of the month. Please read them and bring/use them for the Informational Town Meeting on **Saturday, March 1<sup>st</sup>**.

**Job Opening at the Transfer Station** ~ Part-time attendant position is available due to Charlie's passing.

Please inquire at the Town Office for a job description and more details – about 15 hours per month – alternating Saturday mornings and Wednesday evenings from 4-7.

802-446-2498 or email [tinmouthtown@vermontel.net](mailto:tinmouthtown@vermontel.net) before February 13<sup>th</sup> – the next Select Board meeting.

~ **Mill River Unified Union School District** ~

MRUUSD will hold its **Annual Meeting** on **Thursday, February 27<sup>th</sup>** at Mill River High School Library at 7:00.

Voting on the budget will occur on **March 4<sup>th</sup>**. Copies of their Annual Report are available online at [www.millriverschools.org/annual](http://www.millriverschools.org/annual). There will be a few paper copies available at the Town Office.

*From Melody Squier*

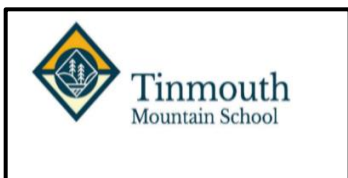
~ **Save the Date** ~

**Heritage Family Potluck and Stories**  
**March 22nd 5-7 PM** at the Community Center  
Come share food and stories, passed down family recipes, food culture inspired by travel or a regional or national dish.

**TVFD Potluck Supper**  
**Saturday, February 22<sup>nd</sup> 5:00-7:00** at the **Community Center. All are welcome.**

The Tinmouth Volunteer Fire Department invites everyone to its **FREE Annual Potluck Supper**. They will thaw out venison, moose, bear, and cider from the Game Supper and ask that you bring salads, desserts, etc.

This will also be a **Celebration of Life for Charlie (Yup-Yup) Wrobel** who passed in late January when his mobile home caught fire. (*Charlie from the Transfer Station.*)



We welcomed January 2025 with open arms; the students have been to Pico and Spartan Arena twice through our winter sports program, we have moved through our winter assessment window, and we are embracing the winter. We hope to add new reading material to the Book Trail this February, including winter poetry, haikus, and riddles. New this month in place of classroom Valentine's Day parties, we thought we would try out a school-wide dance with parents invited for the last hour of school on Valentine's Day. The students seem excited about dancing away the afternoon and enjoying holiday treats with their friends.

Even though spring is not in the air, spring sports registration has opened up for many sports. We have MRUUSD wrestling for k-6, MRUUSD baseball and softball for 3-6, Rutland County Little League for t-ball to majors, and Girls on the Run. We always enjoy hearing about our students' accomplishments in their many sports and love watching them grow as an athlete. If your student is interested in sports or other extracurricular activities and you need assistance in registering them, please reach out, I would be happy to help.

This month, I would like to introduce our special education paraeducator, **Kim Wildman**. Ms. Kim, as the students call her, began her time at Tinmouth in Pre-K as an assistant and made her way to special education and she also assists in the afterschool program. Ms. Kim is an avid runner, for those who do not know her. She participates yearly in many road races, from 5ks to half-marathons to the occasional full marathon! If she is not running or biking, she is spending time with her family. Ms. Kim and her husband have four children, two of whom are in college, and her twins will follow suit soon.

Here is to hoping the groundhog does not see his shadow and it is an early spring!

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

~ **"Open Gym Sessions"** ~  
*By Robbie Leeds*

The last Open Gym Session is open to all adults and kids, but kids under the age of 12 need a parent or guardian present.

**Sunday, February 2<sup>nd</sup> from 2-4p – Activity: TBD**

If you have any questions, feel free to email Robbie at [Robbiebruceleeds@gmail.com](mailto:Robbiebruceleeds@gmail.com)

~ **Recreation Committee Events** ~  
*By David Levant*

The Tinmouth Recreation Committee is sponsoring a guided hike on the Tinmouth Channel on **Saturday, February 1, at 10 a.m.** This first in a new series of guided Town hikes will be led by Marshall Squier and will take advantage of the cold weather and ice to access parts of the Channel that normally are hard to reach. Expect to see beaver dams, animal tracks, and historical features along the Channel. (We'll also be helping the Conservation Commission identify black ash trees in the Channel for future seed collection.) All are welcome—tell your friends! We expect the hike to last about three or four hours. Parking is limited, so meet at the Community Center to carpool to the hike at 10 o'clock.

The second guided hike in the series will be to the **Town Cabin on Sunday, March 2.** This hike will be more strenuous: approximately 6 miles long with about 1,000 feet of elevation gain and loss. Plan to pack food and a beverage for lunch and a camp fire at the cabin.

Consider bringing a light sled or skis for the return if there's snow on the ridge! Carpool from the Community Center parking lot at 8:45 or meet at the parking area on Pent Road at 9.

Email or call Robbie Leeds ([robbiebruceleeds@gmail.com](mailto:robbiebruceleeds@gmail.com); 802/446- 7826) for more information. NOTE: The hikes may be rescheduled in case of bad weather. Watch the Front Porch Forum for updates, which will also be posted at the Town Office and Community Center. Watch the *Tales* and Front Porch Forum and the Town's website – [tinmouthvt.gov](http://tinmouthvt.gov) for announcements of the third Tinmouth Hike in late March or early April.

~ **Green Mountain Power provided the following** ~

Here are safety reminders for before, during, and after storms:

- Pay attention to the weather forecast and changing conditions
- Keep your phone charged
- Have flashlights with fresh batteries, water and non-perishable food handy
- Stay far away from any downed lines
- Always assume downed lines and trees are energized – you cannot tell by looking at them
- Call GMP to report downed lines
- Call 911 for medical emergencies
- Call Vermont 211 for help with emergency housing and more

More [storm preparation and safety tips](#) are available on the GMP website.

~ Candidates' Forum ~

*Josh Squier and Michael Fallar are both running for the School Board seat. Carolyn Feury and Rick Fallar are both running for Lister. All were asked for their thoughts.*

**Mill River Unified Union School District Director**

Hello Everyone,

My name is Josh Squier and I am again running for the Tinmouth school board seat. I have served the past three years and have learned a lot about our school district and our school system as a whole. I would like to continue learning and helping our students learn.

I have done my best on the school board's finance committee to improve student outcomes while restraining growth in the few areas we have control. Last year Tinmouth was the outlier in the district with a significantly higher tax increase due to some very high property sales. The rest of the district was well under the state average of 13.8%. This year the state is predicting an average of a 5.9% increase. Tinmouth will see somewhere near a -10.3% decrease with the other towns this year seeing 1% or lower rate increase. This is in a budget where cuts were made but also increases in services, such as two new math interventionist positions and a high school special education social worker. I would point folks to the Front Porch Forum post on Jan 28<sup>th</sup> for more details on the budget.

We are facing uncertain times with changes coming from both the state and federal level. We need someone in this seat who is able to support our student's needs. Someone who has a positive outlook on our town and school. Someone who can sit across the table with folks they disagree with and have productive and positive outcomes. There will be many tough decisions ahead of us and I will be there, trying my hardest to get the best possible outcome for our students. Please feel free to reach out with any questions

[jsquier@millriverschools.org](mailto:jsquier@millriverschools.org).

**Josh Squier**



~ Candidates' Forum ~

*Josh Squier and Michael Fallar are both running for the School Board seat. Carolyn Feury and Rick Fallar are both running for Lister. All were asked for their thoughts.*

**Mill River Unified Union School District Director**

**Why am I Running?**

1. I am not impressed with the education my children are receiving.
2. 27% increase in the Tinmouth school taxes last year alone.
3. I'm displeased with the attempts to indoctrinate our children with harmful ideologies.
4. I'm appalled by the policies adopted to micromanage our children's time and behavior.

**What I plan to do . . .**

1. Fight like hell for our children.
2. I want to investigate cost saving initiatives and decrease the size of our bureaucratic bloat.
3. Push school board members to remove school policies that are detrimental to critical thinking.
4. Eliminate harmful policies and practices that are counterproductive to children developing a strong civic ethic for their town, state and nation.

If you have followed the *Tales of Tinmouth* over the years, you know I absolutely push moral and fiscal accountability. As we move forward, we need to have strong men and women asking questions (making sound decisions for our children's education) and to look at the very real cost to all of us year in and year out.

I'm looking forward to your support in voting to move our school into a better environment for all our children. As residents in this state, we all share a responsibility to help and protect the coming generations to grow into the future residents we need them to be.

If you have any questions, feel free to reach out. Thank you for your support,

**Michael Fallar**  
[mpfallar36@gmail.com](mailto:mpfallar36@gmail.com)

\* \* \* \* \*

**Lister**

I am running for re-election to serve as one of the Town's Listers. I worked with Douglas McArthur during last year's re-appraisal, receiving valuable training with that project.

I would appreciate your support to continue keeping our Grand List information current and up to date.

**Rick Fallar**

~ Letter to the Editor ~

**Community Shade Structure**

On January 28 the following proposal passed by 85 to 28 at a Special Town Meeting. "Shall the Town of Tinmouth accept the gift of a timber framed community shade structure, to be constructed on the Town Green next to the playground, to be paid for with grants, donations and volunteer labor?"

Melody Squier and friends engineered, petitioned and passed this proposal. For folks that are not aware, the "community shade structure" is a pavilion. The deliberately vague proposal does not tell the size, the exact location (where there is often standing water) and the possible impact of flood water and water diversion on neighboring properties. It also describes the community shade structure as a gift, when in reality it will be paid for with grant money (only after built) plus donations.

Our concerns are:

- \* What assurance do we have that the taxpayers will not pay one cent? What about maintenance?
- \* Possible impact on neighbors leading to litigation against the Town!
- \* When large groups gather at said structure, there are no sanitation facilities. Note: The Community Center would be a separate rental.
- \* Our biggest concern is that if the Select Board accepts this proposal as written, it sets a precedent for years to come. Say we want a "community shooting range" or a "community tennis court", all we would have to do is get a petition for the proposal stating that it will be paid with grants, donations and volunteers. How could the Select Board turn us down if the proposal passed at a Special Town Meeting?

There is still time to nix this "community shade structure." A petition to Re-Vote can be drawn up and submitted within 30 days of January 28. I am willing to begin this process, but only if I have the support of at least 50 registered voters! I'll need to hear from you by February 10. You know where to reach me.

In Earnest,

**Paula & (Bart) Bonazinga**

~ 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 15<sup>th</sup>**. This is required even if you do not have to file or pay state income taxes.

~ 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.

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

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

**Friday, February 14 (10 - 4) and**

**Saturday, February 15 (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)

~ Community News ~

*Get Well Wishes* are sent to **Penny Bushee, Doug Hewitt, Jan Krantz, Tracy Byford, Mary French**, and **all those** dealing with Covid, RSV, colds, and the flu.

*Heartfelt sympathies* are sent to **Evelyn Ritchie** for the recent loss of her sister **Elaine**, who taught school in Tinmouth in the 1960's. To family and friends of **Paul Morin**, and to family and friends of **Charlie (Yup-Yup) Wrobel**.



**Town Garage Phone Number**

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

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

**802-446-9163**

~ Dog Licenses Due April 1<sup>st</sup> ~



Vermont law requires all dogs, aged 6 months and older, to be registered by April 1<sup>st</sup> 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 increased \$2 this year due to a new state fee to help create a new division in the Department of Public Safety for Animal Welfare. Fees are \$11 for neutered/spayed dogs and \$15 for those that are not.

You can also license them by mail if you wish.

~ Tinmouth Historical & Genealogical Society ~

*By Vito Macaluso*

At our meeting Sunday January 26th, Nelson Jaquay, who lives on property where this "Tinmouth Furnace" might have been made, discussed with those attending the meeting the information he had acquired over the years about the blast furnace operation that was at one time on the property he lives on. Nelson has been trying to contact industrial archaeologists and old stove experts to try and give us more of a background on this stove the THGS has recently acquired. Below is a picture taken at the town office of this box stove, over 200 years old!



THGS will meet again on **Sunday, February 23rd at 1:30** at the Town Office, to work on sorting, cataloging, and indexing photos and papers donated.

All are welcome, refreshments will be provided.

The *Tales of Tinmouth* is on the Tinmouth website ([tinmouthvt.gov](http://tinmouthvt.gov)), the Town's new website address! Look under "Info". It is in color there, printed is only black and white.

Donations are greatly appreciated, thank you for all your support!!

~ Legislative Contact Info ~

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

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

*Rutland-Bennington District –*

Rep. Chris Pritchard: [cpritchard@leg.state.vt.us](mailto:cpritchard@leg.state.vt.us)

*Rutland County Senators-*

Sen. Brian Collamore: [bcollamore@leg.state.vt.us](mailto:bcollamore@leg.state.vt.us)

Sen. David Weeks: [dweeks@leg.state.vt.us](mailto:dweeks@leg.state.vt.us)

Sen. Terry Williams: [tkwilliams@leg.state.vt.us](mailto:tkwilliams@leg.state.vt.us)

You can also access the Legislature's website at [www.leg.state.vt.us](http://www.leg.state.vt.us). There you can find who is on which committee, what bills have been introduced, track each bill's progress, review committee agendas, etc. There is a wealth of information available. You may also be able to watch debate live via video links.

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

~ Nature Notes ~

Wild swings in temperatures, 40 degrees one day and 0 the next!

Ken Krantz reported watching "snow rollers" being formed in one of Ali Jenkins' meadows. Doesn't happen often and the conditions have to be just right - a change in temperature, wind, and snow, will create the phenomenon of snow rolling along in a field!

**The Wallingford Post Office has a new phone number – 1-802-245-6281.** A number of folks have been trying to call, but the old 446 number no longer works – it just rings and rings, in la-la land. Please post this number in a safe place.

~ Scam Alert ~

Folks have reported receiving an offer to purchase their property – sight unseen. This company is from Texas, but others do it too. They are able to access property records – it is public information – and will send out letters to see if anyone is willing to sell. The price offered is WAY below what it is listed for, so please don't fall prey to their actions.

And there are reported instances of someone falsifying documents and selling a property without even owning it.

~ **Meeting Highlights** ~

*Complete minutes are available at the town office.*

*All highlights are edited by Ye Olde Editor.*

**Select Board (SB) ~ 1/9/2025**

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

Others present:

In-person: Michael Fallar, Marshall Squier, Caleb Scott, David Birdsall, and Gail Fallar-SB Assistant (SBA)

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

**Minutes** of 12/18/24 were approved as written. Minutes of 12/12/24 - were discussed, Kim was asked to clarify his comments regarding the tandem truck's deferential, Melody had proposed changes, in the end the SBA will review and present another draft at February SB meeting.

**Citizen's Input ~ Sherry** expressed concern with snow blowing across the East Road near the Carabeau farm, inquired about a snow fence. (The usual procedure is to make a fence of the snow that has fallen – but as not much has, the road commissioner has not yet been able to make a row of snow in the field, which acts as a snow fence.)

**Highway ~**

**Eric** was unable to attend.

**David**, as Tree Warden, reported the tree work on Route 140 was completed from the Wallingford town line to the intersection with the North East Road. Landowners have indicated that they want the wood. He commended the flaggers (Ron and Glenn) for working some really cold days. The Town had volunteered to flag for the Tree Company to increase the amount of work they could do.

**Transfer Station Retaining Wall Rebuild** – Eric had provided an estimate for replacing the retaining wall and roof over the roll-off container - \$7,800 for materials, plus 2 weeks with 3 men. Board discussed, have questions for Eric at next meeting.

**PACIF Safety Grant** – Board voted to re-submit grant application for a security system for the new town garage.

**Draft FY26 Highway Budget** – Discussed proposed increases – paving by \$25,000 – has been \$100,000 for many years, cost of paving increased so the distance covered each year is shrinking; repairs increased drastically; storm water projects are costing more; tree work needs to continue – rent a lift and have the road crew cut trees; more questions for Eric for the next meeting.

**Annual Highway Mileage Certification** – Board signed, no changes to be reported.

**Tree Safety Grant** – Board voted to authorize Kevin to sign the request for payment.

**North East Road Culvert Project** – Board approved and signed request for final payment for the state grant.

**Financial ~**

**Reviewed Draft FY26 General Budget** – Discussed service agencies and whether to vote them individually –

most have responded with explanation of services with their request. After brief discussion, Board decided to include most in the budget, as all were approved by voters last year, and only have those that didn't respond listed separately on the town meeting warning. Board will consider how Middletown Springs does it for next year.

**Bills and Orders ~** Board reviewed and approved warrants, payroll warrants #24, 25, 26, and 27; and accounts payable warrant #20.

**Board Report for the 2024 Town Report** – Board edited draft and approved by consensus.

**Special Meeting** – Board set special meeting to finalize budgets and approve the warning for town meeting – Thursday, January 23<sup>rd</sup>.

**Ali** inquired about the **Speed Ordinance** on the agenda – Gail advised she still needs to proof one last time.

Board decided to hold the **Informational Meeting** for Town Meeting on Saturday, March 1<sup>st</sup> at 1:00.

**Website Committee** – Judy reported that the Website Committee (WC) had met to discuss Nancy Birdsall's offer to volunteer with the website. The Committee recommended that the SB increase the WC to 6 members and appoint Nancy as the 6<sup>th</sup> member. After brief discussion, Board voted to increase the Website Committee to 6 members, and appoint Nancy to the Website Committee.

**Meeting Video Retention** – Much discussion again, Vermont's Secretary of State recommends deleting from the website 30 days after written minutes are approved. Concerns were raised regarding keeping the information for historical purposes and public access, and concerns for security (YouTube can be edited). It was suggested keeping them on the website for a year, and then moving them to a private place that would need a link from the town office to access, keeping them on the computer at the town office for access, etc. No decision was reached, will continue discussion at February meeting.

**Select Board ~ 1/23/25 ~ Special**

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

Others present: David Birdsall, Marshall Squier and Gail Fallar – Select Board Assistant.

Via Zoom- Sherry Johnson, Kim Harbaugh, Pat Psholka, Rick Fallar, and Nancy Gucker Birdsall

As Eric was not present, and not reachable, the Board proceeded with final review of the proposed draft FY26 highway budget. After discussion, Board left it as presented at their 1/9/25 meeting. Board approved both draft highway (\$686,200) and general (\$275,935) budgets by consensus.

Board discussed draft article for the town meeting warning regarding authorizing the SB to purchase a speed cart, approved as written.

Board reviewed the warning for Special Town Meeting on March 4<sup>th</sup>. Board agreed by consensus to approve the warning and signed it.

Board reviewed SB report for the town report, added information about the switch in winter road maintenance in West Tinmouth (hoping to save \$10K) and the article regarding purchase of a speed cart not to exceed \$15K.

### **Planning Commission ~ 1/16/2025**

Members present in-person: Michael Fallar, Joe Buffum, Vito Macaluso, Judy Gilmore, and Andy Gilmore

Members present via Zoom: Ann Lundquist and Kim Harbaugh

Others: present in-person: Gail Fallar Secretary

And via Zoom: Sherry Johnson and Melody Squier (at 7:50)

Members reviewed the agenda – Judy asked to add a brief discussion regarding meeting recording retention.

Members continued review of the draft Enhanced Energy Plan (EEP) – marked up working copy, from the Electric section to the end. Concern was raised about relying only on one form of energy – electricity - noting that it has been subject to outages for years, with more demand that would have to be improved. That heat pumps although are improving, still do not work in cold temperatures.

Members wondered if the existing map showing preferred areas for solar projects could be used? Jeremy's help is needed with these last few pages.

Members also worked on the Universal Policy – page 4 – discussed difficulty in defining equity, suggested including actions already being taken in Tinmouth to assist the underserved, those in need, etc.

Judy advised that the Select Board was discussing a request to keep all meeting videos posted on the Town's website – the SB had decided last summer to follow the Vermont Secretary of State's advice to delete them from the Town's website after 30 days once written minutes are approved. Concern was raised regarding security, personal information being available for AI searches, the need to manage information – AI protocols, other way to record that is not YouTube, etc. In the end, members agreed by consensus that the information should be kept on the Town's computer, but not on the Internet.

### **Website Committee ~ 1/8/25**

Present were members Zach Bronzo, Judy Gilmore, and Gail Fallar in person and Jennifer Trepal and Trish Warfle via zoom. Also present was Nancy Birdsall.

Zach provided an update since the last meeting of about a year ago – software for the calendar had been purchased and was up and running and Crowd Flare is providing firewall security from 'bad actors' trying to access the site.

Gail advised that there are new federal rules regarding providing website access that will need to be addressed by 2027.

Nancy noted that she had advised the Select Board that she was interested in helping keep the website up to date. After discussion, members again decided that posting should be done by committee members and decided to advise the Select Board to increase the size of the committee to six and to appoint Nancy as the 6<sup>th</sup> member.

Members discussed retention of meeting videos on the website. Written minutes are the official record, the Vermont Secretary of State recommends deleting 30 days after minutes are approved. They can be stored as unlisted and accessed with a provided link. After discussion, members agreed they should be kept at least one year on the website.

### **Equity and Inclusion Committee ~ 1/30/25**

Members present were Melody Squier and Todd Dennis, via zoom was Sherry Johnson, Kim Harbaugh, Meadow Squier and Rainbow Squier. Gail Fallar was present as public.

Much discussion and planning for the Family Heritage Dinner and Story Telling on March 22<sup>nd</sup> to make it welcoming and interesting.

Update on the Tinmouth Operator's Manual – need to get it back on track – Melody and Todd will meet to discuss.

Rainbow provided the update on welcome signs, has a design to present at town meeting, would like to reach out to other artists in town to see if they also have ideas. Cole Elmendorf and Lothar Schmelzenbach will install them – once the Select Board has approved. First sign will be at Wallingford town line. Other locations were discussed.

Other activities discussed were a lecture series from the Vermont Humanities Council and story telling.

### **Recreation Committee ~ 1/20/25**

Present were members Robbie Leeds and David Levant with Colleen Balch on zoom. Also present were Marshall Squier and Gail Fallar.

Discussion centered on hiking opportunities and the need to publicize them better. First hike will be up the Channel – not necessarily on the Channel – may not be completely frozen, but alongside to check out locations of Black Ash trees – which need to be identified and seeds gathered for preservation. Target date of February 1<sup>st</sup>.

2<sup>nd</sup> hike will be up to the cabin in the Town Forest/Recreation area, following the Pent Road and trail. It will be longer, will need to bring lunch. **Sunday, March 2<sup>nd</sup>.**

David will write a press release; Robbie will be the contact for anyone with questions.

## Special Town Meeting Informational Meeting

~ 1/25/25 ~

Before the meeting was called to order, Moderator Holly Ross asked for a moment of silence to remember Alan Held, Paul Morin and Charlie Wrobel. All have passed since the last town meeting.

This meeting was attended by 25 voters, mostly in person, to discuss the vote on 1/28/25 regarding accepting the gift of a community shade structure/pavilion.

It was again explained that there would be no tax dollars spent for this building, all costs are being covered by fund raising.

People spoke in favor of it, the benefit for the school being able to use it, the shade for the picnic tables, Fun Day use for musicians and others, compared it to the Community Center being built and used.

People again raised concerns with the process, though it was suggested that the process be separated from the project. Questions and concerns remain, might have been more community building if there had been a chance to provide input at the beginning not the end. Concern was again raised regarding the water problems in the spring.

Melody read the Engineer's report – no state permit is required regarding the water, and as long as no steps are taken to correct the water issue by adding water to the existing swale, there should not be a problem.



**CROSSMAN'S GENERAL STORE**  
8 EAST STREET  
MIDDLETOWN SPRINGS, VT 05757  
802-235-2251

COME CHECK OUT OUR NEW DELI !!  
THE DELI IS OPEN  
MONDAY - WEDNESDAY - FRIDAY  
FROM 10:00 A.M. - 2:00 P.M.

WE CAN CUSTOM MAKE SANDWICHES DURING THOSE HOURS OR THERE ARE PLENTY OF PREMADES TO GRAB AND GO!

WE WILL ALSO HAVE PIZZA - HOT DOGS AND SOUP OF THE DAY DURING DELI HOURS ALONG WITH SOME SANDWICH SPECIALS.

DON'T FORGET YOUR SLICED DELI MEATS & CHEESE

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## Lendy Krantz announces that the Old Fire House Spring 2025 Concerts are beginning on February 21

The Old Firehouse has a great spring planned with 5 concerts in store! Join us for Friday evening fun with upbeat, soulful music. Doors open at 7:00, concerts start at 7:30. Refreshments will be served.

The suggested donation is \$20 per person. 90% of donations go to the musicians, 10% to building upkeep. We hope you'll join us!

### Trae Sheehan | February 21

Trae Sheehan is a Folk troubadour whose music blends the spirit of the open road with heart-worn storytelling. Raised on an alpaca farm in the Appalachian mountains, his music reflects the landscapes and emotions of a life well-traveled. A passionate performer, Trae's music captures the hearts of audiences wherever he goes. His upcoming 15-song LP Whispers of the Townfolk will be released in August 2025, with the single "Show Me Happy" debuting in February 2025.

### Marsh Lights | March 28

Marsh Lights' new songs explore bravery, darkness, spirituality, and grace with lyrics that often employ metaphoric places, female heroes, and perspectives. In addition to Colby's lyrical pieces, the band also plays instrumentals written by banjoist Ryan Crehan and mandolinist Stephen Waud.

### Friction Farm | April 25

Modern-folk duo Friction Farm is a husband and wife team of internationally traveling troubadours. Aidan Quinn and Christine Stay combine storytelling, social commentary and humor to create songs of everyday life, local heroes, and quirky observations. From ballads to anthems, each song is filled with harmony and hope.

### Cosy Sheridan with Charlie Koch | May 9

Cosy Sheridan has been called one of the era's finest and most thoughtful songwriters. She plays a percussive bluesy guitar style, often in open tunings and occasionally with two or more capos on the guitar. Backed by the strong rhythms and harmonies of her bass player Charlie Koch, her concerts are wide-ranging, entertaining and always tuneful. She is also a consummate entertainer.

### Patty K | May 23

Patty Keough tripped onto the stage & never looked back. She writes original songs that will have you crying - tears of laughter or shared sorrow. She now lives off-grid in Vermont with farmer friends, plenty of wine & a whole lot of cats.

For any questions or further details, email [old.firehouse.concerts@gmail.com](mailto:old.firehouse.concerts@gmail.com)

# 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 2<sup>nd</sup> 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)**



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*“Do unto others as you would have them do unto you.”*



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The Town gets \$1.50 for each  
license sold.**



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Looking for Marbles!!  
Any size, any color  
Please contact Daniel Gervais at  
236-1915 or 293-5746**

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### **Tinmouth Road House and Best Moon Catering**

Happy New Year from the team  
at Tinmouth Roadhouse and Best  
Moon Catering!!

**Tinmouth Roadhouse is open  
every Saturday for brunch from  
8 am until 1 pm.**

We have fully cooked and ready  
to heat and eat frozen meals in our  
dining room freezer as well.

Please watch Front Porch Forum  
for details or call Corrie Best at  
**802-446-9473.**

Located at 580 Route 140 –  
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### **Spoon Mountain Botanicals Natural Soap and Candles**

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~ February 2025 Calendar of Events ~



|                                                    |          |                  |      |                       |
|----------------------------------------------------|----------|------------------|------|-----------------------|
| Fire Department                                    | Thursday | 6 <sup>th</sup>  | 7:00 | Fire House            |
| Recreation Committee                               | Monday   | 10 <sup>th</sup> | 7:00 | Town Office           |
| Select Board                                       | Thursday | 13 <sup>th</sup> | 7:00 | Town Office & Virtual |
| Story Telling                                      | Friday   | 14 <sup>th</sup> | 7:00 | Old Fire House        |
| Conservation Commission                            | Monday   | 17 <sup>th</sup> | 7:00 | Town Office & Virtual |
| Special Select Board (?)                           | Tuesday  | 18 <sup>th</sup> | 7:00 | Town Office & Virtual |
| Planning Commission                                | Thursday | 20 <sup>th</sup> | 7:00 | Town Office & Virtual |
| <i>Tales of Tinmouth</i> Deadline                  | Thursday | 20 <sup>th</sup> |      | Don't Miss It!        |
| Old Fire House Concert                             | Friday   | 21 <sup>st</sup> | 7:00 | Old Fire House        |
| TVFD Potluck Supper (FREE)                         | Saturday | 22 <sup>nd</sup> | 5:00 | Community Center      |
| & Celebration of Life for Charlie Wrobel (Yup-Yup) |          |                  |      |                       |
| Historical Society Meeting                         | Sunday   | 23 <sup>rd</sup> | 1:30 | Town Office           |
| Equity & Inclusion Committee                       | Thursday | 27 <sup>th</sup> | 7:00 | Town Office & Virtual |

~ March 2025 Calendar of Events ~

|                                   |          |                  |                   |                      |
|-----------------------------------|----------|------------------|-------------------|----------------------|
| Informational Meeting             | Saturday | 1 <sup>st</sup>  | 1:00              | Community Center     |
| Winter Hike                       | Sunday   | 2 <sup>nd</sup>  | 9 am to 2 or 3 pm | To Town Cabin & back |
| TOWN MEETING VOTING               | Tuesday  | 4 <sup>th</sup>  | 8:00 am – 7:00 pm | Community Center     |
| Heritage Family Potluck & Stories | Saturday | 22 <sup>nd</sup> | 5:00-7:00 pm      | Community Center     |

**Open Gym at the Community Center - Feb. 2<sup>nd</sup> 2:00 – 4:00**

*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.*

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

**Town Meeting**  
**Informational Meeting**  
**Sat. March 1st 1:00**  
**Voting**  
**Tuesday, March 4<sup>th</sup>**  
**8:00 AM – 7:00**  
**Community Center**

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