

Summer 2011
June/July/August

Fairfield News

This is your Fairfield newsletter for Summer 2011. We're tired of the rain and looking forward to a wonderful summer. Take note of all of the cool and fun happenings planned for the next few months. Read on and plan on joining us this summer!

We are offering the opportunity to receive the town newsletter 'electronically', via email or a link to the newsletter online. This will help minimize the cost of the newsletter (saving a print and a stamp!) which will allow us to publish a larger newsletter, or print an extra edition. To start saving us money, Email bentnorthrop@gmail.com

Or call the library at
827-3945

We would like to thank
The Recreation
Committee for creating
our Town Newsletter,
and getting it up and
running. You all did a
wonderful job!

Bent Northrop Memorial Library Is Open!



**HOLD the date: Saturday, June 18, 2011 from 11 a.m.
to 3 p.m.**

GRAND OPENING of Fairfield's new Bent Northrop Memorial Library!

We have watched the progress of the new home of the Bent Northrop Memorial Library as it was constructed over the past several months. It all began years ago with the generosity of Consuelo Northrop Bailey and her sisters, Frederika (Northrop) & Winston Sargent and Mary Northrop Wallis. We now are fortunate to have a beautiful, state of the art library which features the work & talent of local artisans. If you haven't stopped in for a peek, please do so!

All of the townspeople are encouraged to come & participate in this historical event for Fairfield. The Grand Opening will feature tours of the library, activities for kids, a short program, burgers & dogs by Robbie Provosi, music by local talent ... and much more. If you are interested in volunteering to help or in being a sponsor, contact Bridget at 827-3942 or bridget_rivet@msn.com. In the meantime, mark your calendarsand order up a beautiful (dry) sunny June day ;-)

See you on June 18th! Watch for signs with more details!

The Bent Northrop Memorial Library trustees appreciate all the time and work given by the following folks to help move the Library:

*Tammy Johnson
Jaime Tibbits
Emily Steffans
Rick Haag
Colleen Veino
Anna Pierce
John Dority
Craig Getty
Miles Hebert
Craig Lyndes
Deyette Family
Barry Fauteux
Wendy Maquera
Sonia and Michael Dodge
Ruth and Mackenzie from the Bookmobile
Sue Smolinski
Beth Curtis
Christopher Connell
Beth Peloquin
Debbie Landaue
Feiner Family
Melissa Dion
Calvin Carter
Rowan Gorman
Lisa Coon
Deb Hastings*

*All Students and Staff
at the Fairfield Center
School!*

Town Select Board

Fairfield Recreation Committee

Despite the cold, rain and 30 mph winds, the Easter Egg hunt was a success! As usual the kids scurried the hillside and had all the eggs that the Easter bunny had left picked up in less than 10 minutes. Thank you to Brenda Goodhue for helping the Easter bunny organize all those eggs!

The Recreation Committee meets the third Tuesday of every month at 7pm in the Chester Arthur room. If you have any ideas or suggestions, please stop by the meeting. Right now we are focused on two projects. The first is the Fairfield baseball field; we are working on proper drainage and fixing the infield. The biggest hurdle we have with this project is, as soon as little league ends there will be no grass until the following year, meaning no one else could use that area until the following spring. We are also putting together an exploratory committee to focus on the school gym, making it bigger and resurfacing the floor. If this is a project that you would like to be involved in please come to one of our meetings.

Thanks!

The Recreation Committee

Spring has finally sprung! No one is happier to see an end to this year's snow than the Town of Fairfield Road Crew. We congratulate them on their impressive handling of the piles of snow this winter. We had two new people on the crew this winter and they both did a great job, jumping right in mid-season.

We did have a rougher than usual mud season, with super-sized frost heaves and ruts. It's tough to keep the roads smooth when you're competing with a good old Vermont winter! The frost is pretty well out now and the road crew is busy hauling stone and resurfacing and grading. Thanks to all the townspeople for their patience during this rough season.

Some spring and summer projects include Wanzer Road ditching and Ryan Road flood mitigation work. Resurfacing on West Street has begun in preparation for the anticipated extra traffic when the bridge over the swamp is replaced, although we have heard that might not happen this year.

We have a major project involving signage over the next few years. The Municipal Uniform Traffic Control Device (MUTCD) regulations are changing, with implementation mandated beginning in 2012. We will need to replace all of our road signs and posts over the next few years. This will be at great expense to the Town as each sign/post combination runs over \$100. Our major problem is with theft. We have replaced the Ryan Road sign 6 times in the last 12 months - that's \$1200 on one road alone! We need your help! Do you know of someone who has a penchant for signage? Did a sign mysteriously appear in your barn or yard? They can be returned to the Town Garage, day or night, no questions asked. We have the same issue with traffic cones - at \$20 each, they add up fast and are stolen every time they are placed to warn townspeople of hazards. These are your tax dollars that are being stolen... please help us solve this problem by educating the thieves, returning the stolen property or by reporting the theft to police.

Select Board meetings are held on the second and fourth Monday's of every month beginning at 7:30pm in the town office. Minutes are posted at the town office, in Menard's Market and at Stone's Shell.

From The Town Clerk's Office

Hello Everyone! Spring is slowly deciding to make its way here and it's time to start thinking about what activity summer, or construction season, is going to bring about here in Town. From the looks of it we are going to be quite busy with a list of exciting projects! First, we have a few road projects planned, thanks to funding from various roads grants. We will be working on Ryan Road and the Wanzer Road stone lining ditches and improving watershed.

We have also just received notice that we were recommended for a \$19,500 grant from the State to re-build the trail around the school! This was part of their "no child left inside" initiative. We have been so lucky to receive these grants and we cannot wait to begin!

Lastly, we are in the midst of planning a Sewer Feasibility Study for the two Village Centers and the Pond as well as a Sidewalk Feasibility Study for both Village Centers. The Grant Committee has been very busy working on behalf of the Town. If you would like to be involved in any of our committees please give me a call or email! Your input and participation, as always, is welcome and appreciated.

For such a small town we've certainly got a lot going on! Have a great Summer!

Amanda Forbes, Town Clerk 827-3261

amanda@fairfieldvermont.us

FAIRFIELD CENTER SCHOOL

Dear Fairfield Community,

Happy spring! Thank you for your support of Fairfield Center School on Town Meeting Day. We are truly fortunate to have such a caring community in Fairfield.

We have had a busy winter at FCS. Our sugaring season was very successful, as our middle school students tapped trees at neighbors' houses around town, gathered sap, and boiled in our sugarhouse. Our Four Winds volunteers and Outdoor Classroom board collaborated to coordinate field trips for K-5 students to local sugaring homesteads, which allowed our entire student body to have exposure to maple sugaring this winter. Next winter you will see photographs and an article on Fairfield Center School and our sugaring unit in Vermont Life magazine!

In other exciting news, Fairfield Center School benefited from the town's receipt of the eVermont grant which partnered us with Digital Wish. Digital Wish is an organization devoted to increasing technology access and integration in schools. As a result of this grant, our 4th and 5th grade team has received over 50 netbooks and printers, which will allow us to commence a 1:1 initiative at these grade levels at FCS. An instructor from the Digital Wish organization has started working with our current 4th/5th grade students and will continue instruction in digital citizenship and technology integration throughout the 2011-2012 school year as well. The Vermont Council on Rural Development (VCRD) is helping to facilitate eVermont. As we continue to grow our school-community partnerships with the support of these organizations, I invite you to share your feedback, suggestions, and ideas with us about how we can continue to develop these connections.

We are proud of our "Fuel Up to Play 60" team of students, coached by Angie Carpenter-Henderson and Bet Howrigan, who have organized school-wide events such as healthy food taste tests and morning exercise programs to encourage our students to consume nutrient-rich foods and to exercise 60 minutes a day. Our team competed with schools throughout New England in a challenge, and our Fairfield students won the grand prize! The prize is an all expenses paid trip for the 14 students on the team to Gillette Stadium, home of the New England Patriots in May. We know our students will greatly enjoy this prize!

Fairfield Center School is now on Facebook. You can "like" our page, and get updates on school events and news.

Have a wonderful spring!

Sincerely,

Jennifer Wood, Principal

OUTDOOR CLASSROOM NEWS

As we begin to wrap up the 2010/2011 school year, we have some exciting developments to share. We have been awarded a reimbursement grant from the USDA for a Seasonal High Tunnel for Food and Other Specialty Crop Production. A Seasonal High Tunnel is a polyethylene-covered structure with no electrical, ventilation, or heating system, and is at least 6 feet in height. The purpose of this structure is to extend the growing season and is part of a pilot project under the "Know Your Farmer, Know Your Food" initiative for farmers to enhance the production of local food while reducing the energy footprint of our food system.

The cost of the actual High Tunnel structure is the only thing that will be reimbursed through this grant. The Outdoor Classroom has also been awarded a School Community Garden Mini-grant Award that awards \$1000 for garden expansion and soil improvement. We will use this money towards preparation of the High Tunnel site. The Outdoor Classroom has a team that is working on a site and water availability. Our proposed area of 35' x 40' is behind the Fairfield Volunteer Fire Dep. building. We are calling out for services of persons to dig the water line, remove sod, grade the site and help with the construction of the High Tunnel. We hope to have the High Tunnel erected by the end of August. Please let either Julie Wolcott (gwfarm@vtlink.net) or Lorelei Westbrook (lolelewestbrook@gmail.com) know if you would like to offer your services or support.

The annual 7th grade Plant Sale will be held on Tuesday May 31. Come check out the students' hard work and take home some vegetable and flower starts for your garden!

The Outdoor Classroom is seeking adult and student volunteers this summer to maintain and harvest from the gardens at Fay Raymo's, the school, the Common School and the Community Center. The 7th grade has started seeds that will be planted in these gardens so let's help make this year's harvest bountiful by keeping the gardens maintained. Julie Wolcott will be setting up a schedule by neighborhood so adults can easily transport kids who are willing to help. Give Julie a call (933-4592) or email (gwfarm@vtlink.net) to volunteer or for more information. Please help make our gardens a success so we can have fresh local food for school lunches!

Greetings from the new Bent Northrop Memorial Library!!!

As you all know, it has been a busy past few months packing, moving, unpacking! We could have never done it without the many hands of Fairfielders! The library doors have been nonstop with new and old friends exploring the building and its resources and local groups using the community room for a variety of meetings! We encourage you to stop in and see what the new BNML can offer you!

Knitting Circle

Calling all knitters (and other needle crafters & fiber artists)! A monthly knitting circle is forming at Fairfield's new BNML. Drop by to enjoy the company, advice, and inspiration of other knitters in your community. All skill levels are welcome--beginners and experienced knitters alike. Snacks and hot beverages will be provided. Bring your own projects and materials.

The 3rd Thursday of every month, 6-8 pm in the BNML Community Room

No need to register, just drop on by! Questions? Call or email Mary Alice 802-393-5270 or melbaum@gmail.com

Lectures

-Thursday, June 9th @ 7pm: Sugarbush Health with Nancy Patch, Franklin-GI County Forester

-Friday, July 8th @ 7pm: West African Music, Drum & Dance with Jeh Kulu

-Thursday, August 11th: CSI Animal Forensics with Laurel Nemes

Community Art Show

For the Grand Opening of the new BNML, we are soliciting art from our community of artists! The art will hang in the building for a bit of time for the opening and beyond! If interested in contributing art by local artists or relevant to the community, please contact Bobbi Flack (bflack@together.net) or Lori Neiderer (loriniederer@hotmail.com).

Summer

Summer programming begins the Week of July 4th and continues for the next five weeks through August 5th. A summer schedule of events will go home through school and be available at the library, town clerk, community center, and online at the library website (www.bentnorthrop.org). Look for school age programs every Wednesday afternoon, family programs each Saturday morning, and storytime each Friday morning for the youngest Fairfielders and their caregivers! This summer we are also introducing the BNML Coffeehouse!

The BNML Coffeehouse is an acoustic monthly event for area teens to share music or the written word. The event will take place once a month on the fourth Friday from 7-9 pm at BNML outside on the patio. Two local teen musicians are hosting the first night in June. Attend to enjoy the music or bring something to share! ?s ask Kristen @ bentnorthrop@gmail.com or find us on Facebook!

Playgroup/Storytime

Playgroup will continue in our new building on Friday mornings, from 10:00-11:30am! Join your friends and neighbors for great stories, fun games, and socializing for parents and kids! Playgroup follows the school calendar and continues until June 10th! All ages are welcome! Summer Storytime will continue for five sessions on Fridays, beginning July 8th and ending August 5th.

Hours and Contact

The new BNML is currently maintaining the old hours until we add our extra day! Currently the library is open

Wednesday and Friday: 9-5

Thursday: 3-8:30pm

Saturday: 9-1

You can reach us by phone (827-3945), email (bentnorthrop@gmail.com), check the web (bentnorthrop.org) or "like" us on Facebook! Stop in and see your community's new space!

Fairfielders! What does summer in Fairfield look like to you? Send us a picture and a short description, we'll pick the best one to share in the next issue, and that lucky person will win a Chester's Gift Certificate! Send all submissions to Barry Fauteux at bfoto@surfglobal.net

e-Vermont Update

Perhaps you heard that Fairfield was recently selected as one of 24 pilot towns to participate in the e-Vermont Community Broadband Project. As a result, we will benefit from the expertise and resources of e-Vermont's statewide partners to help residents design ways to take full advantage of the Internet to create jobs, support school innovations, provide social services, and increase community involvement.

Though e-Vermont is not stringing cable or fiber, Fairfield will receive technical assistance from a team of specialists to help implement projects that the community identifies. e-Vermont communities also receive e-business consulting, teacher training and have received free computers for the fourth and fifth grade classes at Fairfield Center School. e-Vermont has also brought us a new way to connect with neighbors through Front Porch Forum, and will provide a range of digital tools and training.

Fairfielders can learn more, and help shape e-Vermont projects, by coming to an Open House on Wednesday, May 25th, at 6pm in the new Bent Northrop Memorial Library. Fairfield's e-Vermont crew will host this session with light refreshments and lots of time for discussion.

"e-Vermont offers Fairfield a way to jumpstart our entry into the 21st century," explains Kristen Hughes, Community Librarian. "This meeting is to share our committee's goals for this project and hear our neighbors' ideas about how e-Vermont can help them both personally and professionally."

Towns around the state are already implementing projects to increase online access to government meetings, offering computer classes for seniors, building online "buy local" maps, and creating community calendars.

Fairfield's initial application included ideas such as providing free WiFi in the Village Center, creating an online Fairfield Cooperative (E-Co-op) for farmers, and establishing two mobile labs for use at the Community Center, with Migrant Education, or at the Library. Input from the May 25th forum, and the future involvement of Fairfield residents, will help define and prioritize any projects we ask our e-Vermont partners to help us with over the next 12 months.

To find out more about this meeting, contact Meg Marshall at 827-3680.

e-Vermont is produced by the Vermont Council on Rural Development. Updates are posted at www.e4vt.org or contact Project Director Helen Labun Jordan at 802-225-6091 or Helen@vtrural.org. Follow e-Vermont on Facebook and Twitter.

The Northwest Solid Waste District collection event is at the Town Garage on June 11th from 8 am to 1 pm.

Celebrate Terry Hale's Retirement!

Join your friends and neighbors on Sunday, May 22 from 1-3 for an Open House at the NEW BNML to celebrate 40 years of educating Fairfield kids! Bring your stories (and pictures if you have them) & stop in to thank Terry for impacting over 800 kids and families!

Many folks have been asking when we'll have our next brunch. The answer is: FATHER'S DAY BRUNCH ~ June 19th! Bring your dad for pancakes and bacon, sausage, homefries, fruit salad, coffee cake, breakfast strata and plenty of juice, coffee and tea, and we PROMISE not to run out of food this year! Look for signs.

Plans are in the works for Black Creek Adventure Camp 2011. I'll be sending flyers and registration forms home from school soon, but wanted to mention it here. July 11 to Aug. 12, this year's themes include Art-a-Palooza, Those Lazy, Hazy, Crazy Days of Summer, Local Farms/Local Food, Go for the Gold (Olympic Extravaganza) and The Great Outdoors. Note: we will NOT be offering swim lessons through The Community Center as transportation costs are prohibitive this year. Hopefully, your kids will be having so much fun with our new theme weeks (August weeks 1 & 2), they won't even miss them.

The 19th Annual Jig-in-the-Valley (July 31) is shaping up! I can't divulge all our surprises for this upcoming community event, but I will say that the line up of musicians looks fabulous so far. Rumor has it that Willie Nelson might show up (just kidding). We're hoping to expand our Flea Market, Silent Auction and have the pizza oven up and running again for some of that very special homemade pizza! Would anyone be interested in organizing a JOG in the valley for the morning of that day? Also, mark your calendars for the Eve-of-the-Jig (Saturday, July 30th) as we'll be hosting a pre-Jig musical event at Chow! Bella in St. Albans the night before. We just can't get enough.

In the works, and coming soon: The Black Creek Cooperative ~ Learning, Lifeskills and Lost Arts. Series of adult and kid's classes at the Center including Gardening Tips and Techniques with UVM extension service Master Gardeners Program, Cooking Classes, Computer Skills, Fine Art and Craft Classes, Domestic Arts, Photography, Massage Therapy classes, Health and Wellness, Financial Literacy, and lots more! Stay tuned!

Our Food Shelf is in need of a few more volunteers. If you'd like to help out two hours a month, please call Jessica Kittell at 933-5137 or Nance at the Center 827-3130.

The Center has space to rent! Almost 2000 sq. ft. of it. If you're looking for a space for your new little business ~ a private day care, a massage therapy or art studio, a little satellite clinic, or a toothbrush factory, give a call! Reasonable rents, great landlords.

Love to cook? Looking for part-time work? The Senior Meals Program will be in need of a cook by the end of the summer. 10-12 hours per week. Tuesday lunches at the Center. Duties include shopping, reporting, and overseeing 2 volunteer helpers.

We're looking for volunteer special instructors for Black Creek Adventure Camp to come in and lead activities for a morning or afternoon during the program. Got a special skill or hobby? Want to read aloud after lunch? Teach yoga? Lead a bird walk? Teach the kids how to make gee haw whammy diddles? Please give me a call if you have a spare day to come make a huge difference in the lives of our campers! 827-3130

And, finally, a formal farewell to Beth and the Preschool. We're going to miss you like crazy. Good luck in your new space, and don't be strangers. The road goes both ways, don't y'know.

Thanks and happy spring! Nance and all of us here at the Center.

yourfarmstand.com comes to Fairfield

A new location and a new way to buy local food online!

Yourfarmstand.com is opening up a new location at the Bent Northrop Memorial Library for locally grown food. Food grown in and around Fairfield at Stony Pond Farm, Black Creek Vermont, Boston Post Dairy and other neighboring farms will be sold directly online and delivered fresh to order on Thursdays to the library. Shopping online will make farm produce more accessible to Fairfield localvores.

People can sign up now on <http://yourfarmstand.com>. Sign up is free, and the “What’s for sale” page is updated in real time whenever a farmer makes a new offer. Orders can be made 24/7 with pickups on Thursdays from 3 pm to 6 pm. The first delivery and pick-up of produce is on Thursday, May 26th. Yourfarmstand.com is flexible and easy to use for both farmers and residents. The website was set up in Charlotte in the summer 2010 by farmers and localvores. “The on-line market has been open every week in Charlotte since last July and even the weather hasn’t stopped deliveries once”, says Suzy Hodgson of yourfarmstand.com.

Yourfarmstand.com is a great way to support our local farmers and producers and directly connect them with their neighbors. Interested in selling? Contact Kristen Hughes at bentnorthrop@gmail.com or 827-3945

SCHOOL BOARD

The School Board would like to thank Terry Hale for her tremendous contribution to the Fairfield Center School, its’ staff, and its’ students. Terry has had current parents in our town as students, and then their children after them...we are talking **generations** of families! We wish her well and will miss her much!

We would also like to congratulate the Library Trustees and the Town on the new Bent Northrop Memorial Library. It was great to see the children and staff so involved in the move, they all had a great time!

Just a reminder that we meet on the 2nd Monday of each month at the Fairfield Center School, at 6pm. We conduct business in a responsible manner, and welcome visitors to our meetings. If you have a concern, feedback, or input, don’t hesitate to contact one of us.

Michael Malone	Chair	524-9035	mmalone@fcsuvt.org
Mike L'Esperance	Vice Chair	527-2917	mlesperance@fcsuvt.org
Kenderlyn Phelps		827-3699	kphelps@fcsuvt.org
Bennett Dawson		827-3101	bdawson@fcsuvt.org
Barry Fauteux	Clerk	827-6543	bfauteux@fcsuvt.org

We hope you enjoyed this summer’s newsletter! If you have any comments, suggestions, or if you would like to contribute to the “fall” newsletter contact Barry Fauteux at bfoto@surglobal.net . Thanks to all who submitted content! Until next time....Charon True, Laura Fulwiler, Miles Herbert, Sara Tourville, Lori Niederer, Linda Merchant, Kristen Hughes, and Barry Fauteux.

FAIRFIELD CALENDAR OF EVENTS

May 22	Terry Hale's retirement 1-3pm	827-3945
May 25	e-Vermont open house 6pm	827-3945
May 26	yourfarmstand 1 st market day 3-6pm	
May 31	7 th grade plant sale @FCS	
June 3	Rec Committee 7pm Chester Arthur Room	
June 11	NWSWD trash collection	827-3261
June 13	School Board 6pm at FCS library	
June 13	Select Board 730p, at Chester Arthur Room	
June 14	8 th grade Graduation at FCS	827-6639
June 18	BNML Grand Opening 11am-3pm	827-3945
June 24	Coffeehouse @BNML 7-9pm	827-3945
June 27	Selectboard 730p, at Chester Arthur Room	
July 11-Aug 12	Black Creek Adventure Camp	827-3130
July 31	Jig In The Valley	