

**Congratulations to Shanna Ratner for winning the Kindle and signing up for Fairfield's enewsletter! You can sign up for the enewsletter too at:**  
[www.tinyurl.com/fairfieldenews](http://www.tinyurl.com/fairfieldenews)

## March 2012

### Monthly Meetings, Activities and Dates to Remember

- Select Board:** 2nd & 4th Mondays @ town offices 7:30pm  
**Grant Writer Committee:** 1st Monday @ town offices 6pm  
**Zoning & Planning Committee:** 1st Monday 8pm  
**School Board:** 2nd Monday each month, @ FCC school library 6pm  
**Art Hop Classes:** TBA  
**BNML Trustee meeting:** 3rd Thursday @ BNML 3pm  
**Book Club:** 2nd Tuesday @ BNML Loft 6:30  
**KnitWits:** 3rd Thursday @ BNML 6-8pm  
**Girls Club:** 2nd Saturday @ BNML 11:30 (Field Trip - contact Deanne Haag for info)  
**Breast Feeding Support Group:** 1st Saturday @ BNML 9:30am  
**Mahjong:** 1st, 3rd & 4th Tuesday @ BNML @ 6:30pm  
**Parent Teacher Organization (PTO):** March 13 @ FCS Library 3:30 pm

### Weekly Activities & Dates to Remember

- Sunday:** Ski & Board @ Smuggs  
**Monday:** Reserve tickets for Ski & Board @ Smuggs call 827-6564 by 6pm  
**Tuesday:** Senior/Community Lunches @ FCC 11:30-1pm call 827-3130 to reserve a place;  
Food Shelf hours 1-1:30 and 3-5pm @ FCC;  
BINGO 6pm @ FCC;  
Mahjong @ BNML 6:30pm (1st, 3rd & 4th Tuesday of each month)  
**Wednesday:** Playgroup/Story Hour @ BNML 10-11:30; Last day to order Online Farmers Market  
**Thursday:** Fairfield Farmers Market Online Pickup 3-6pm @ BNML  
**Friday:** Free Adult Cooking Classes @ FCC 5:30-7pm

### March

- Mar 5:** School Board Informational Meeting 7pm @ FCS  
**Mar 6:** Town Meeting Day @ Veteran's hall, FCS. Polls open 7am-7pm meeting starts 10am  
**Mar 10:** Sap Boogie Run Dinner Dance starts 5:30 @ Branon's Sugarhouse  
**Mar 11:** Photography Workshop @ BNML 2-3:30pm  
**Mar 20:** Newsletter submissions due for April edition  
**Mar 22:** Public Wasterwater Meeting 6:30pm FCCA  
**Mar 22:** Author Stephen Payne BNML 7pm  
**Mar 24:** Franklin County Democrats, Democratic Presidential Town Caucus, Noon BNML

### Town Meeting Day, Tuesday March 6<sup>th</sup>!

Town Reports are online at: [www.fairfieldvermont.us](http://www.fairfieldvermont.us) \* Polls open 7am-7pm for school budget and Presidential Primary \* 10am start with coffee & doughnuts by Fairfield PTO \* Luncheon: lasagna or chicken & biscuits, salad, milk or coffee with dessert (\$5 adult, \$3 kids)

### **Fairfield Recreation Committee**

**Want to learn how to take better pictures using your Digital Camera?** Professional photographer Melanie Webb will lead a hands-on workshop to show you how to get the most out of your camera using Photoshop Elements. Bring your digital camera with fully charged battery. Workshops 2:00-3:30 at BNML on March 11th, April 15th and May 6th.

### **Fairfield Community Center**

**The 3rd Annual Sap Run Boogie** at Branon's Sugarhouse is March 10th! Music by Carol Ann Jones and the Superchargers beginning at 7. Lasagna Dinner, 5:30-7 p.m. Advance tickets available at Stone's, Menards, BNML and at As The Crow Flies in St. Albans. Please buy tickets in advance to help us plan; if that's not possible, tickets will be on sale at door. We'll have plenty! Cash bar, raffle and some great door prizes! For more information, call 827-3130.

**April Vacation Camp** at FCC is ON! April 23-27 for kids 5-12. Flyers and registration forms will be out soon, but if you're wondering what to do with the kids while you're at work, keep us in mind! Cooking, gardening, nature hikes, art, and outdoor fun! Reasonable rates with sibling discounts.

**Food Shelf Hours** - Every Tuesday from 3-5, and every 2nd Friday of the month from 10-Noon. Thanks to everyone at school for your super SOUPERBOWL food drive! Much appreciated!

**Community Lunches** - every Tuesday at Noon. Open to all. Suggested donation for seniors is just \$3.00. The price for everyone else is \$5. Please call 827-3130 to reserve a place at our table.

**The Learning Kitchen**--Free Adult\* Cooking Classes at FCC, began February 24th! The FCC and HungerFreeVT.org will offer a series of 6 evening classes starting Feb. 24th at the Center in East Fairfield. (124 School Street, behind the white church.)

Participants will receive hands-on instruction in meal planning, budgeting, shopping and cooking from the Center's own cook, Jenn McAllister, and registered dietician Candace Dasaro. At the end of each class, participants will take home free ingredients to make the recipes at home for their families. Graduates of the class will learn to stretch food dollars and plan healthier meals, prepare more food from scratch, and consume more fruits, vegetables, whole grains and calcium-rich foods.

Classes will be held on Friday evenings, 5:30-7:00 with free childcare available. Open to anyone, but preference will be given to those receiving 3SquaresVT or free or reduced meals at school. The series is limited to 16 participants, so call today! 827-3130

\*Are you an older teen out on your own? You are more than welcome to sign up too!

### **Happenings At Bent Northrop Memorial Library**

**Hours:** A few months ago, BNML added hours! The building is open Mondays, 2:30-5, Tuesdays and Thursdays 2:30-8, Wednesdays and Fridays 9-5, and Saturdays 9-1. You can download audio and ebooks, as well as take classes on Universal Class, 24 hours a day/ 7 days a week! Please note that we are closed Town Meeting Day and state holidays!

**Kindles!** Did you know that you can borrow ebooks from your library for your Kindle? Call BNML for your five digit access code to log in from home! Want to see just how easy it is to use a Kindle - try one of ours!

**25 Years of Town Meeting:** Bill Kittell has been documenting Town Meeting Day in Fairfield for 25 years. Thanks to the work of Bobbie Flack, Lori Neiderer, and Rowen Gorman, this photo history is currently on display at BNML.

**SELF:** Girls in grade K-5 have a unique chance to participate in SELF, a new program that meets after school for three more sessions. During each session, girls will learn a new skill to assist them in becoming a well-rounded individual. Each session will feature a speaker to focus on one specific topic: Service, Environment, Leadership and Fitness. The conversation will follow with related activities. Girls will have a chance to ask questions at any point and snacks will be provided. Free, but limited to 12 girls each class. Friday, March 16, 3-4p, Friday, March 30, 3-4p, Friday, April 13, 3-4p

**BNML Lecture:** Dr. Stephen Russell Payne has published fiction, nonfiction and poetry. His recent novel, *Cliff Walking*, is a story of love and loss weaving together the lives of three desperate people who struggle to find a way to save each other. Dr. Payne will be here to talk about his new book and share stories of writing! Thursday, March 22nd at 8pm.

**Afterschool Programs:**

*Square of Life with Mr K!* Mr K returns for our newest afterschool offering for K-4 students! With help from the Department of Education Summer and Afterschool Initiative, participants will plot square meters in the nearby area and record the living and non-living things that are found therein. They will submit this information to the project database for all to view. Participants will then compare and contrast their information with that submitted by other groups and prepare a brief report or presentation that will be posted to the project web site. This program is complimented by Mr K's dry humor and extensive knowledge! Tuesdays, 3-5pm, March 13th - April 17th. Limited to 16 participants! \$50, scholarships & sibling discounts available. Sign up at <http://tinyurl.com/fairfieldsquare> or call the library!

*Lessons Learned!* Can you imagine learning in the same classroom with your brothers and sisters, cousins and neighbors? One teacher for all grades with older students tending to the fire, bringing in water, while younger ones are responsible for cleaning the blackboard? At one time, Fairfield boasted 24 one room schoolhouses. Today, these simple frame buildings are no longer used as schools and many have burned or are in rough shape. Join your peers in locating these schoolhouses and recording what they look like today - before it is too late! We will find the schoolhouses on historical maps and photograph them today! We will scan the historic photos and then share them online using Flickr. If the current photo allows, we will post that one too! Finally, we will invite the community to share tales of one room schoolhouse antics for all to see! Grades 4-8, Thursdays 3-5pm, March 22nd - May 3 (no program April 26th). Limited to 16 participants! \$50, scholarships & sibling discounts available. Sign up at <http://tinyurl.com/fairfieldlessons> or call the library

**Pysanky Eggs!** Come celebrate early spring by traditional Ukrainian decorated eggs. Intricate patterns are created by dipping the egg in many layers of dye, with each color preserved by a design drawn with melted beeswax. The eggs are covered with progressively more colors and wax until finally all the wax is melted off to reveal a beautiful and colorful pattern. No technical skill is necessary. Ages 8 and up. \$10/ person. Materials are provided, but blown and lightly-rinsed eggs are welcome contributions. RSVP 827.3945; Space limited to 8 people.

**Summer:** Is it too early to think summer? Last year, Fairfield kids read over 1000 books and turned the hair of the FCS principal and the librarian blue! What will inspire our kids to read this year? Send in your suggestions to <http://tinyurl.com/fairfieldsummer2012>

**The Outdoor Classroom**

The OC is getting ready for another sugaring season...we hope! If you haven't already seen the newest publication of *Vermont Life*- make sure you get a copy to see John Baxter and the 8th graders from class 2010 in action! The pictures are beautiful and the article does a great job describing the amazing work accomplished at Fairfield Center School. You can't help but be proud of our community when you read this piece.

The school sugarhouse is willing to accept any gifts of sap to add to our mix, as well as sugarwood and time from anyone interested in supporting the efforts of the school sugaring operation. Please contact John Baxter or Joanna Jerosé if you have sap, wood or time to donate (827.6639).

The High Tunnel will be undergoing a few changes (a "utility door," more channel and wirelock around the perimeter) to make it as tight as possible and protect it from damage. With the support of Dick Pigeon and the 7th grade science class, we will direct seed salad greens, spinach, beet greens, scallions and radishes during the first two weeks of March and hope to be eating them by May! The greenhouse will have three planning/planting stages to extend our growing seasons earlier in the

spring and later into the fall/winter months. We have hired Kate Stockman, our Farmer-Mentor, to assist us in the greenhouse and plan to offer instruction to community members about greenhouse and field gardening. Please contact Joanna Jerose, 933.8789, if you are interested in volunteering for any of the Outdoor Classroom projects. We thank you!

**Other Announcements**

**Casting Votes and Casting-off unwanted medications.** Every year in March we gather as a community to cast our votes and discuss our community needs. This year at Town Meeting there will be a drug drop off station where you can cast your vote and cast off your unwanted medications. You may bring old/unused/unwanted medications for disposal during the polling hours. Please bring your medications in a sandwich bag to be emptied. Do not bring original packaging or identifying labels. Do not bring needles or sharps for disposal, only medications. Please keep your medication in your pocket and not in a purse or other bag. Place your medications only in the container provided. Polling places are public places and medications that are not secured are a risk to children.

**Johnson State College Softball Clinic:** Want to improve your softball skills? Learn skills to improve bat speed, base running, defense, and throwing. Something for everyone at any level! Grades 2-8: all abilities: March 31<sup>st</sup>; Grades 6-12: all abilities: March 3rd & 17th (choose to do 1 or both; discounted rate for both) Hours: 9:00-11:00 clinic; 11:30-12:30 (pitchers) @ Johnson State College SHAPE Facility. Cost \$35/day, plus \$10 for Pitcher Clinic. Price includes JSC Softball T-shirt! Register online : <http://tinyurl.com/jscsoftball> Contact Coach Gervais 782-6476 or [robert.gervais@jsc.edu](mailto:robert.gervais@jsc.edu)

**Curious about the Fairfield WASTEWATER FEASIBILITY STUDY and how it might affect you?** Join us at The Community Center Thursday, March 22nd at 6:30 p.m. to hear the results and recommendations of the engineers & the steering committee. Ask questions, consider options, and learn the next steps in the process. Dessert and coffee will be served!

**Join Fairfield Democrats for the Democratic Presidential Town Caucus** Saturday, March 24, 2012 at 12:00 noon at BNML. Elect delegates to the Democratic State Convention! Questions? Call Vanessa Kittell 827-6550

**School Board**

**The School Board approved a budget for FY 12-13.** We will be holding one informational meeting on Monday, March 5, 2012 at 7pm sharp. The meeting will take place at Fairfield Center School, and the voting for the budget itself will again be Australian Ballot on Tuesday, March 6th from 7am to 7pm. We are looking forward to your support!

**Fairfield Parent Teacher Organization (PTO)**

**Our next fundraiser is Town Meeting Day Lunch.** We are looking for donations of Chicken & Biscuits or Lasagna we could also use bags of salad, dressing or a dessert. If you are planning to donate please let your home room parent know or Erica Connell @ 777-5600, [eac0227@gmail.com](mailto:eac0227@gmail.com). Your donations can be dropped off anytime between 7-11am or the day before (2:30 -5pm) at the BNML. Thanks in advance for making this a successful fundraiser. We are hoping to donate some of the proceeds towards the Circus Smirkus event in the spring. Don't forget to "Like" us on Facebook - PTO at Fairfield Center School. Our next meeting is March 13th at 3:30.

**Fairfield Online**

**Fairfield is connected? Are you?**

<b>Fairfield Town:</b> <a href="http://www.fairfieldvermont.us">www.fairfieldvermont.us</a>	<b>Fairfield Farmers Market:</b> <a href="http://www.yourfarmstand.com">www.yourfarmstand.com</a>
<b>Fairfield Center School:</b> <a href="http://www.ffcsvt.org">www.ffcsvt.org</a>	<b>Front Porch Forum:</b> <a href="http://www.frontporchforum.com">www.frontporchforum.com</a>
<b>Fairfield Community Center:</b> <a href="http://www.fairfieldcommunitycenter.blogspot.com">www.fairfieldcommunitycenter.blogspot.com</a>	<b>Bent Northrop Memorial Library:</b> <a href="http://www.bentnorthrop.org">www.bentnorthrop.org</a>

