

OUR TOWN

Fairfield Community Newsletter and Calendar

Our Town evolved from the community meetings sponsored by the Vermont Council for Rural Development's Community Visit held in the winter of 2011. One of the needs raised by the community was a central publication of events happening in and around Fairfield. As we print no. 10 edition, we want to thank all the members of the committee who have made this happen: Laura Bellstrom, Barry Fauteaux, Laura Fulwiler, Miles Herbert, Kristen Hughes, Sue Magnan, Meg Marshall, and Sara Tourville.

September 2012

Monthly Meetings, Activities and Dates to Remember

Select Board: 2nd & 4th Mondays @ town offices 7:30pm

Grant Writer Committee: 1st Monday of each month @ town offices 6pm

Zoning & Planning Committee: 1st Monday of each month 8pm

School Board: 2nd Monday @ FCS school library 6pm

BNML Trustee meeting: 3rd Thursday @ BNML 3pm

KnitWits: 3rd Thursday @ BNML 6-8pm

Mahjong: Every Tuesday @ BNML @ 6:30pm

Parent Teacher Organization (PTO): back in September

Our Town Newsletter Committee: 1st Wednesday after the 20th deadline @ BNML 5:30p

Breastfeeding Support Group: 1st Saturday of the month, 9:30a @ BNML

Weekly Activities & Dates to Remember

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)

Thursday: *Fairfield Farmers Market Online* Pickup 3-6pm @ BNML

Sunday: *Soccer:* Sept 9-Oct 7 Pre K, K, 1st & 2nd @ 1pm; 3rd & 4th @ 2pm @ Fairfield School Field

September Calendar

Thursday, September 6: Art Opening Join us for Lori Niederer's art opening at BNML! 6p-8p, light refreshments.

Sunday, September 9: Fall Soccer begins (see above for dates & times)! Free program
A COACH is needed for Pre-K & K. Remember, you just need to know how to have fun and run around.
Call John Dasaro if you're interested. The more coaches the better! 802-933-6514

Monday, September 10: BNML will resume its school-year hours and will be open on Mondays, after school from 2:30-5. Questions about having your kids come after school? Find our Children's Policy on the BNML website at www.bentnorthrop.org

Wednesday, September 12: 6:00-8:30 pm @ BNML, Dinner and Conversation about the future of Franklin and Grand Isle Counties, Healthy and Strong VT. How can we keep our region healthy, safe and prosperous? Tell us what YOU think about:

- Job opportunities and job training
- Living a healthy lifestyle
- Bike and pedestrian safety
- The future of Fairfield and NW Vermont

Join us for a free community dinner and conversation about the future of Franklin and Grand Isle Counties
Your ideas will lead to action and investment in your community! For more info and updates, join us at www.facebook.com/healthyandstrongvt. RSVP to Katelin Brewer-Colio at Northwest Regional Planning: 802.524.5958 or KBrewerColie@nrpcvt.com

Thursday, September 13th: Join Lisa and David Howe as they share information about their new distillery in East Fairfield. 7pm, BNML.

Outdoor Classroom

Happy 10th Anniversary Chester Arthur Trails!

September 2012 will mark 10 years since a group of 5th graders (graduating class of 2006) along with their teacher, Bet Howrigan, worked with Rolph Anderson to create two looping trails behind the Chester Arthur Birth Place. Each year Bet Howrigan and Maureen Thompson work with their students to maintain the trails while learning about

Vermont history and local natural landscapes. This year the 4th and 5th grade students will continue their work and learning at the Chester Arthur Birth Place and on the trails. The 4th and 5th grade students would like to challenge the Fairfield community to visit this historic spot and enjoy the trails. Go for a hike or a jog, check out the trees, listen to the birds, examine the mushrooms and ferns or make a rustic shelter in the woods. After your visit, be sure to sign the visitor log. All visitor log entries (all Fairfield Residents) from September 1 to October 4 will be entered to win prizes! October 4 is Chester Arthur's Birthday--can you think of a better way to celebrate? Prizes will be awarded to three winners. The more you get out on the trails, the more visitor log entries you make, the more chances you have to win!

So Fairfielders, share this wonderful adventure with us!

-From the 4th and 5th graders of Fairfield



"Buster" (Silas) Morris Tiffany, Honored and Remembered...

Buster (Silas) Morris Tiffany passed away at the end of July. He was instrumental in providing the momentum for making the sugarhouse at Fairfield School a reality by offering to donate all the hemlock timbers that were needed to frame and side the building. With his passing he continues to give. Buster's Family asked that donations in his memory be given to the Outdoor Classroom. We are honored to be recognized and we are committed to his values of knowing one's place, having a reverence for history and believing in agriculture as a way of life. Thank you Tiffany Family.

Back to School in Fairfield

School resumed on August 29th for all students in grades K-8 at Fairfield Center School! We welcomed the following new staff to our learning community this year:

- Corrie Sweet, Math Specialist
- Tessa Warren, Second Grade Teacher
- Amanda Vella, Art Teacher
- Ashley Koldys, Paraprofessional

Summer building projects included asbestos abatement in the gym and kitchen, the installation of a new gym floor, and technology upgrades in classrooms. Teachers were involved in a variety of professional development courses and workshops during the summer break including math content classes, technology integration, and project-based learning.

We are looking forward to a wonderful school year!

Fairfield Community Center

We send out a HUGE thank you to everyone who came to the 20th Annual *Jig in the Valley* and supported the Community Center! Also thanks to so many of you who helped put this event on, and made it such a big success.

We're just ending 8 wonderful weeks of *Black Creek Adventure Camp*. It's been a great experience for campers and counselors alike, and we're already looking forward to next year's adventures! Check out our blog: www.fairfieldcommunitycenter.blogspot.com.

We need a couple of volunteers at the *Food Shelf* on Tuesdays from 3-5. If you'd like to help out, and have the time once a month to donate three hours of your time, PLEASE call to join our team. It's not a huge commitment of time, but it's a very important one. Call Jenn today, 827-3130 or 933-3033. Also, if you have excess produce in your gardens, we can always use fresh veggies every week. Winter squash, potatoes, onions, beans, etc. are most welcome. (Hold that zucchini! - we've got tons!)

Don't forget that Tuesdays are also *Community Lunch* days - Jenn and company dish up an absolutely fabulous meal every week at noon and it's not only open to seniors - anyone can come! Just give us a call if you'd like to reserve a place at the table - 827-3130. Suggested price for seniors is \$4; and all other guests are \$5. It's really the best deal going.

Upcoming events: Now that our wood-fired pizza oven is up and functioning beautifully, we're hoping to schedule a couple of *Community Pizza & Music Nights* between now and when the snow flies. Keep your eyes peeled for posters or FPF postings. If you'd like to help out with these events, give Nance a call. Come learn how to use the oven, and make the best pizza crust around!

Coming in September: *HOOP DANCING!* Great for the tummy and those things that hang off the sides...stay tuned!

Need a space for your next family reunion, birthday or anniversary party, meeting or baby shower? Think about renting the Community Center with the use of the kitchen, chairs, tables, restrooms, etc. Call for more information: 827-3130

School Board

There is a continuing conversation among parents and families about the size of our gymnasium. It serves a variety of functions: school cafeteria, gymnasium, assembly hall, concert hall, town meeting hall, and it's even part of a Red Cross shelter designation. In all these functions, the need to enlarge the gym is quite evident. We have made efforts to seek grants towards this endeavor. But, to effectively pursue grant money, we need to decide on the specifics of the project. We are therefore looking for input as to how this effort should proceed. Contact any one of us with your thoughts, concerns, and questions. Our information is on the school web site: www.ffcsvt.org. Also, feel free to attend our regular School Board meeting on Monday, **September 10th, at 6pm**, in the school library. Mike Malone, Chair, School Board, 524-9035, mmalone!@fcsvt.org

BNML

Join the Scrapbooking Crew on Tuesday evenings at BNML! The group meets at 6:30 for inspiration, laughs and sharing of tools! Bring your current project and join the fun!

Mahjong in the loft! Everyone is welcome - beginners to experts all meet in the loft beginning at 6:30 every Tuesday!

The Fairfield Farmers Market Online supports our local economy, brings tasty and healthy food to our neighbors, and now accepts EBT cards! Join over 200 of your friends and neighbors who have signed up for the year round market. Enjoy super fresh gazpacho and super tart cranberry juice (made right in Fletcher)! Supplement your garden produce or pick from over 25 offerings of veggies grown within 15 miles of Fairfield. Taste local beef, chicken, and pork and baked goods including pies, artisan breads, scones, and cookies! Enjoy eggs



from Fairfield and cheese from Boston Post and Plymouth Cheese! Don't forget granola for quick school breakfasts and pizza dough for quick evening meals! You can even find soaps, dish towels and insect repellent!

Sign up is free and payment is made with credit card or check. You can order from over 20 vendors, pay one time, and pick up your complete order at the library on Thursdays right after school (from 2:30-6 - let us know if you need to pick up a bit later!) Stop in the library and we can get you signed up or try the short process from home. See all the offerings in the Fairfield Market at www.yourfarmstand.com!

A BIG THANKS to summer volunteers Becca Fauteux and Claire Cummings - we are so lucky to have you!

Anyone can submit a notice or pictures to ***Our Town***; we announce but don't advocate or advertise. Submissions to Meg at megm520@gmail.com by the 20th of each month. Sign up for the electronic version of Our Town @ www.tinyurl.com/fairfieldenews.