

TROY TOWN NEWS

Volume 30 Issue 11 ttntroytown@gmail.com December 2022

SELECTMAN'S CORNER

By Dick Thackston, Chairman Troy Board of Selectman

Selectman's Office Updates:

The Select Board will be moving its meetings to a different time slot. Most recently, we have been meeting and live broadcasting via Facebook Live on the first and third Thursdays of the month at 6:00pm. Starting with December 1, our meetings will start at 5:00pm. We expect to stick with the existing twice a month schedule but the change in start time is expected to last through the Spring when we set our clocks ahead again.

The Selectmen's Office will be open Monday through Thursday 8:30am to 5:00pm. The Office will not be open to the public between the hours of 11:00am and 3:00pm to allow Staff time to complete tasks uninterrupted, place outgoing calls, coordinate lunches and generally get stuff done. If you call or email the Selectman's Office during those hours, they will respond to you as quickly as possible after 3:00pm. Please make sure and leave your name and number.

Applications for Building Permits and related matters should start at the Selectmen's Office. Troy does not require permits for minor renovations, (generally under 200 square feet), as well as a number of other things that may require permits in other jurisdictions. We encourage you to visit the Town of Troy website, https://www.troy-nh.us/, we have found that the majority of calls are about forms and other information that is readily available on our website. The phone number for the Selectman's Office is (603) 242-7722.

Setting this Year's Tax Rate:

The Select Board set a 2022 Tax Rate for Troy of slightly under \$31 per thousand of valuation at our November 3, 2022 meeting. However, it was discovered that there was an error in the calculation of the total assessable property valuation within a day or two of that meeting and the rate was incorrectly set. The Town's Taxable Property had been over calculated by approximately 3 Million Dollars so, the rate needed to be recalculated and voted on again at the Select Board Meeting on November 17. The final rate including County, State, School and Town Taxes winds up being slightly over \$31 per thousand. This factors in the Select Board's decision to return \$100,000 to Taxpayers from surplus. For Perspective Troy's Tax Rates have been as follows for the last several years all based on our current assessments:

- 2018 Tax Rate \$34.18
- 2019 Tax Rate \$26.95
- 2020 Tax Rate \$28.26
- 2021 Tax Rate \$29.58

The Town of Troy is scheduled to be reassessed in the coming year which will bring a number of factors into play making it impossible to say exactly what will happen with taxes at the end of 2023.

Voting & You:

The general election was on November 8th and we saw a very strong voter turn-out in Troy for a mid-cycle election. 57 new voters registered to Vote in Troy on election day. The subject of recusals came up a couple of times during the voting this past month and it seems it might be a good to review the rules. NH Law requires that Select Board members attend all elections within their Town even though the voting and counting is supervised by the Town Moderator. In the specific case of this past election I recused myself from attending the election process as I was on the Ballot for another position. My son, who is the Moderator recused himself from his responsibilities and appointed an Assistant Moderator to cover his responsibilities for the same reason. In our discussions we felt it would be better if there was no question on the matter. However, it's important understand that this is not a legal requirement and future Moderators and/or Selectmen in the same situation may choose a different path. In Swanzey, the Town Moderator was on the ballot for the same position I was in Troy and he choose to handle the ballots and supervise the voting, perfectly legitimate, perfectly OK but different from what we did in Troy.

Southwest NH Tour of Lights:

The Troy Recreation Committee is partnering with other area towns in the third Annual Tour of Lights. The SNHTOL is a collaboration of local Recreation Departments working to highlight local, seasonally decorated home. This is a self-guided, multi-community tour. Participants can decorate with any seasonal decorations. All participating homes will be entered into a local prize drawing for their town, with prizes from local businesses. To enter contact Bob Norton at the Troy Recreation Department by Sunday December 4th and be prepared for drive by viewings between Saturday, December 10th and Monday, December 26, 2022. Bob's Cell is (603) 762-9029

As always, Thank-you for your support.



TROY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

It is hard to believe that the year 2022 is coming to a close. We had a productive year. Our year began in March with an annual meeting and the start of visiting hours at the Troy Historical Museum two Saturdays a month.

In April we requested bids for the finish work to be done on Kimball. We didn't get any response but we didn't give up. In May and June, work was done around the building in preparation for flower gardens. Ed and Gary from the highway department put the granite curbing along the east and north sides, and an oblong garden was made in the front. Lynn and MaryLee rototilled the east garden. We all had a hand in planting but we "thank Lynn" for not only planting, but mulching and watering throughout the summer months.

The many colorful flowers in the "Cherish the Memories Gardens" dressed up the outside of Kimball Hall. Also, thank you to all our friends who donated plants.

In July, we had our annual Craft Fair/Flea Market which was a great success. We have already set the date for an Arts and Craft Fair on Saturday, July 16, 2023. More information will follow in future issues of TTN.

In September, we accepted a bid for replacing the roof on the front of Kimball Hall and painting the front porch and posts. The work has been completed giving a nice clean look to Kimball Hall.

In October, we celebrated Train Day an the Depot. There has been quite a bit of excitement about the Buddy Rail Diesel Car finding a home at the Troy Depot. We can do it if we all work together!

Although the historical society doesn't meet in December, January, and February, we will be participating in the Currier & Ives Cookie Tour on Saturday, December 10th, from 10am to 3pm. The Troy Historical Museum will be decorated for Christmas and serving mulled cider, coffee, and cookies for participants. Stop by and share in our Christmas cheer!

The Historical Society meets at Kimball Hall during the months of March thru November on the third Thursday of those months at 4:30 pm. Join us today and help in Preserving the Past for Tomorrow!



17th Annual

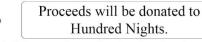
Currier & Ives Cookie Tour

December 10, 11:00-4:00 \$20.00 per person

Visit each site at your own pace and in any order to enjoy a homemade treat and refreshment.

The Cozy Cottage Troy Historical Society New England Everyday Goods* Frogg Brewing Sleeping Monk Farm Alpacas Monadnock Country Cafe The Inn at East Hill Farm* Terrapin Glassblowing Studio The Park Theatre

Granite Roots Brewing The Woodbound Inn* Optimist Cafe Wildflowers Country Gift Shop Feather Herb Farm Fitzwilliam Historical Society 21B Bar & Grill (Jaffrey)



* Tickets may be purchased at these locations only. www.currierandivescookietour.com cookietour@yahoo.com 603-242-6495

FITZWILLIAM RECREATION

Adult Pick-up basketball continues on Tuesday nights from 7-9 pm at Dr. George S. Emerson Elementary School.

It is starting to get chilly; however, swing by the Fitzwilliam tennis courts, and you will see our new Tennis Rebounder installed by Dunham Construction.

Yoga classes with Michelle Davis Wellness will continue at the Fitzwilliam Town Hall on Wednesdays at 10 am and 630pm. The cost for drop-ins is 12.00. Drop-ins can register with Eventbrite. You can also bring a check or pay with the exact change at the start of the class.

Keep an eye out on our Facebook page for updates on Fitzwilliam Light the night! In addition, all participating homes for the South West New Hampshire Tour of Lights will be posted and available on our Facebook page.

We are Hiring! We are currently hiring for the Fitzwilliam -Troy Youth Basketball Coordinator position for our upcoming program. The season kicks off on January 12th.

Contact Kate at the Fitzwilliam Recreation Department for more details. fitzrec@fitzwilliam-nh.gov (603) 585-7270





GAY-KIMBALL LIBRARY GAP MOUNTAIN LIONS

Where Awesome Happens By Jennifer Momaney

Despite the cold, there is so much to celebrate this month! National Cookie Day, Author Mo Willem's Birthday, Dewey Decimal System Day. . . Are there any other holidays in December?

Just kidding, No matter if you celebrate Christmas, Hanukkah, Yule, Kwanzaa, St. Lucia Day, or even Festivus, the Gay-Kimball Library has what you need to celebrate with the people you love.

The Library will be closed on Christmas Eve (Dec 24th) So be sure to stock up!

Join us for the Fun!

Mo Willem's Birthday Party: Saturday Dec 17th 11:00am-12:00pm Celebrate friendship, silliness, and all the things we hold dear with books, games and crafts inspired by Mo Willems' beloved Pigeon, Knuffle Bunny, and Elephant & Piggie books!

Noon Years Eve: Dec 31st 11:30-12:00pm Staying up until midnight is not an option for your little ones? Bring them to the library to celebrate with fun and games as we count down to noon!

Book Club: **Tuesday Dec 27**th **5:30pm** join us for a conversation about *The Midnight Library by Matt Haig. Feel free to bring your own copy or borrow one from the library!*

Remember we have FREE e-books & audio books
AND MAGAZINES! from our NH Downloadable
Collection (in co-operation with the State Library & other
NH Libraries). Will work with your Kindle, iPad, iPhone,
etc. Find the link on our website.

Contact the library for more information, or just to chat: (603) 242-7743

Our Hours:

Tuesday – 10:00am - 7pm Wednesday & Thursday - 2pm - 7pm Saturday - 10am - 2pm

Do those hours not work for you? You can make use of our **24/7 Library Lockers!**

The **Library Board of Trustees** will meet on Wednesday Dec 7th at 5:30pm to discuss library business.



- WE SERVE

By Nancy Nye

December is rapidly moving forward with some holidays behind us and others coming this month. A time to give thanks and a time to help your fellow neighbor. Do you know someone who could use our help with glasses or hearing aids? We're a phone call away.

After being unable to do eye-screening because of COVID for a few years, The Gap Mountain Lions were able to get the students in Fitzwilliam and Troy elementary schools and Little Learners Day Care children through the Eye-Screening program. In two days we screened 277 children. It was recommended that 26 of the students should receive a professional exam. This is such an important time to follow through as many problems might be corrected if given the proper treatment early on. The Lions are here to help with finances if needed. We were so glad to see that children who were referred in the past are now wearing glasses.

Ever thought of giving out "Blessing Bags"? Gloves, thermal socks, beef sticks, crackers, candy bars, toothpaste & brush, wipes, deodorant, \$5. A few ideas that can make someone's day. Happy Holidays!

Remember WE SERVE and are here to give assistance where we are needed.

Check us out on Facebook. Gap Mountain Lions
Call Nancy @ 603-242-6293 or Marion @ 603-585-9465
if interested in joining the world's largest service
organization or if an application for our help is needed.



HISTORY OF EAST HILL FARM: 2010s AND 2020s

During the 2010s, the Inn continued to expand its barn programs. East Hill Farm School was launched, hosting the Atrium School as its first curriculum-based program. Farm School is filled with farm related activities designed to promote mindfulness, responsibility, cooperation, and problem solving. Students work along with the farmers, mucking the stalls and paddocks, and cleaning the barns. They work with animals, learning anatomy, grooming, and feeding requirements. There are several workshops offered that round out the program, including pond ecology, mycology, and cheese making.

NH Chronicle returned to East Hill Farm in 2017 sharing the Farm School message with their viewers.

The equestrian program added the Horse Trials, in which riders participated in selected tasks on horseback. For example; retrieving items from a mail box, racing around cones, and completing an obstacle course with a teammate.



NH Chronicle Anchors; Sean McDonald and Erin Fehlau

The recreation schedule grew to include several new latenight activities for teens and adults, including trivia and a murder mystery game. A triathlon was added for active guests, followed by a different summer challenge each year. Farmer Dave took summer guests on a stroll around the grounds to share some of the Inn and Farm history and answer guest questions. Toddler time was introduced to engage the youngest of Farm guests and BINGO, dodgeball, ice fishing, sledding, and contra dancing remained popular activities.



Cooking with Kids Weekend

During the off-season, line dance, ballroom dance, knitting and spinning retreats, and quilting retreats were added to the long-standing square dance weekends. A few themed family weekends were developed as well, such as the Sled Dog

Weekend, Harvest Fest Weekend, featuring the Annual Pumpkin Roll, and Cooking with Kids Weekend. The Inn also hosted conferences, bar and bat mitzvahs, and weddings, establishing itself as a destination location for a variety of events.

Our "Adult Mid-Week Getaways" were rebranded with a new name, "Grown Up Farm Camp". Leave the kids at home, these midweek stays are just for the grown-ups! Guests can enjoy a five-night stay in April and October filled with fun and interesting classes, demonstrations, off-site trips, and more! Classic EHF activities are also on the

schedule like BINGO, cornhole, and arts-n-crafts.

If you have spent time in the horse barn, or have ridden with Perri, you might be familiar with her horse, Sophie. She was bred with Checkmark, a borrowed stud, and gave birth to Izzie in November of 2017.

Another notable birth at the Farm in this decade was Piper. She was born in April of 2019. She is the daughter of Penelope (and a borrowed stud named Tarzan). You might remember that Penelope was born here on the Farm in 2005.

Piper and Penelope live together on the farm and will greet you with a rowdy, "hee'haw".

As we flipped the calendar to 2020, there was so much excitement for the new decade!



Happy New Year!

other plans for the world and the Inn closed to guests from mid-March through mid-June. It is the first time since the Adams family has owned and operated the Inn that we had to close our doors. With a skeleton crew we kept the office open, took care of our animals, maintained the grounds and buildings, and offered take away meals and baked goods for local folks. While we couldn't gather with our guests, we missed them, so we launched "East Hill Farm at Home". We put together East Hill Farm fun for families to enjoy remotely. On our website families could find links for Farm crafts, recipes, activities, and pictures and information about our farm animals. It was a way to give our guests a taste of the Farm while being isolated at home.

We carefully and slowly opened mid-June 2020, to about 30 guests. We spent hours researching Covid guidelines, buying PPE and disinfecting products and worrying. The summer ended with about 1/2 -3/4 occupancy. We were fortunate to have loyal long-time guests that were willing and able to visit us.

In the fall of 2020, we introduced "The Farm Box". The Farm Box was a little taste of East Hill Farm delivered right to your door (or the door of someone you wanted to gift it to). It was full of classic EHF treats and treasures from the giftshop, crafts, recipes, and more! The Fall Farm Box was a huge success, and it was followed by Winter and Spring Boxes.

Summer 2021 saw an increase in guests, and a continuation of the safety protocols that made East Hill Farm a safe home away from home our guests were looking for.

As we have celebrated our 75th year of the Inn's operation, we would be remiss not to acknowledge that our success and our drive to keep going stems from our guests. We have been able to continue the Whitcomb family's vision of providing a year-round vacation resort for families because of them. Our family is incredibly grateful and humbled by the unwavering support and love all these years. We look forward to the future and all that it has to offer and hope to continue our mission to serve families from all over the country for generations to come.

TRINITARIAN CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

"O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant! O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem! Come and behold him, born the King of angels. O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord!"

We invite all to the Trinitarian Congregational Church for this most holy of nights - the annual Christmas Eve service on Saturday, December 24th at 7:00 p.m.

It is essential that we remember the most sacred and lifechanging reason for which Jesus came to earth as an infant child - to be our Savior. Come and hear Pastor Clark share the timeless saving message of the Christmas story. We will learn of the prophecy long before Jesus' birth found in Isaiah 9:6, "For to us a child is born, to us a son is given; and the government shall be upon his shoulder, and his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace." During this service, we will also learn the answers to these questions: Why Bethlehem? Why a stable? Why a Jewish family and why a virgin? We will learn if all of these known truths are irrelevant to the Christmas story or if there is a deeper meaning and purpose for every detail both physically and spiritually. The answers to these questions will illuminate how the hand of God is directly involved in the details of history and how the Creator of all things came into His own creation to redeem us. It is this truth that Pastor Clark will unfold in this year's Christmas Eve sermon.

This sacred Christmas Eve service will include the congregational singing of carols, the children's pageant, advent candle lighting, and the timeless reading and teaching of the Christmas story from Pastor Clark. To conclude the evening, we'll light our candles and sing Silent Night as we reflect on the birth of our Savior, Jesus Christ.

We look forward to seeing you on Christmas Eve! Have a blessed Christmas season!

*Sunday Morning Service ~ 9:30 a.m.

*Church Website:

www.trinitariancongregationalchurch.org

*Church Email: troycongregational@gmail.com

*Church Phone: (603) 242-7800

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Church Office: 603-242-7283 Church Email: office@clctroy.org

The Season of Advent

The word advent comes from the Latin for "arrival, appearance." The church has taken on this word to describe this season leading up to Christmas, which makes perfect sense. Christmas marks the arrival, the advent of the Savior of the World. It is the celebration of the appearance of the God of Creation in human form.

God who in His glory and majesty, is unapproachable, came to us helpless, utterly dependent on ordinary parents. The King of kings, the Lord of lords played in the dirt, climbed trees, learned to work with his hands. It wasn't a dramatic entrance. The Son of God was approachable. Not at all what the Children of Israel expected from the promised Messiah. But then what did they expect? a prophet? a priest? a king? The prophecies talk about the Messiah in all three roles. That would require such an extraordinary, such a godlike man that people would tremble before him.

Remember when Moses came down from the mountain with the tablets of the Law, his face shone because he had been in the presence of God. The people were afraid. They knew that God in His full majesty and glory is too terrible to behold. But God wants us to be with Him, so Jesus set aside His glory for a while. He did it to be with us in a way that calms our fears. He also lived the perfect life before the Father for which we were intended, and also to die the death we deserve for our sins so that we can stand in His presence with joy.

The life, death, and resurrection of Jesus—His birth, His suffering, His death, His resurrection from the dead—all that is for you. All that is to rescue you from the curse of sin and death. So rejoice, look for Him in this season.





DO YOU HAVE BREAKFAST. **LUNCH OR DINNER PLANS?** TRY THESE EATERIES!







Christmas on the Farm

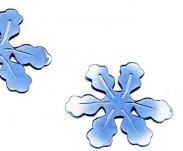
Sunday, December 18; 9 am-3 pm



Cow Milking Holiday Crafts Photo with Santa S'mores at the Campfire Pony Grooming Pet the Bunnies Lunch and more!

> \$35/adult; \$25/child Reservations required as space is limited.







TROY PIZZA BARN

The Inn at East Hill Farm

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7 Marlborough Road, Suite 2 **Troy NH** 603-242-3700603-242-3701 Sunday 12—8 PM

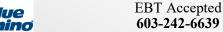
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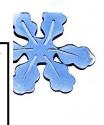


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FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

Christmas is coming! As the song says, "it's the most wonderful time of the year!" Why is this you may ask?

At First Baptist Church of Troy, we believe the only place we can turn to for the real meaning of Christmas is God's Word, the Bible. Before Jesus was born His coming was prophesied. Isaiah chapter 9 is a great read concerning the coming of Jesus and why He came to be sin for us as he had no sin of His own to pay for! Such love He has for us! Isaiah 9:6 says, "For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government shall be upon his shoulder, and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace." In the New Testament we learn of the fulfilment of this prophecy in Matthew and in Luke. Jesus truly is Wonderful! He is our Mighty God, everlasting Father, and the Prince of Peace. It is our desire to be teaching the truth from God's Word so more will understand and trust Him as Savior. Please join us on Christmas Day, Sunday Dec. 25, for our Christmas service at 10:30 am. What a great way to truly celebrate His birth!

We invite those who do not already have a "home church" to visit First Baptist Church of Troy. We are located on Route 12 north of the common. Our Sunday morning service is at 10:30 am. During that time, we focus on four things: singing hymns and songs in praise to the Lord, praying for one another, the teaching of God's Word, and fellowship with one another, all of which encourage us to have a closer relationship with the Lord and live for Him.

We have prayer meeting at the church on Tuesday evenings at 7 pm. All are welcome to this informal time when we share praises and prayer requests and discuss any questions concerning the previous Sunday's message. It is a great time to share together and encourage one another.

The Sunday morning messages are available to everyone. The messages are on Pastor Donn's ministry website www.biblelabs.com. From the homepage, click on the link titled "Bible Book Commentary" under the heading "Audio Message Library" and that will take you to the message series. The current message is uploaded usually before 10:30 AM every Sunday.

If you have a prayer request, or want to be added to the list of those who receive the link to the messages via text or email you are encouraged to email Pastor Donn at pastor@troybaptist.com or Sue at suewill@me.com. The podcasts are also linked from the homepage at http://www.biblelabs.com. We would love to hear from you.

There is always a warm and friendly welcome at First Baptist Church of Troy where we believe that

Jesus Still Saves.

Merry Christmas to all from all of us at First Baptist Church of Troy!







TROY TOWN NEWS

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Submissions are encouraged. For more information about writing for TTN, advertising, or to volunteer please email ttntroytown@gmail.com.

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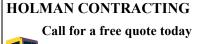
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