



FAIRLEE NEWSLETTER

September/October 2017

BON VOYAGE AND WELCOME!

Town Administrator Brian Hanson resigned in August in order to move to South Carolina, so that he and his wife can be closer to their grandchildren. Brian assumed the Town Administrator position in April 2015. He was the Town's second Town Administrator since the creation of the position in 2012, broadening the position with his strong public service background and effective leadership and administrative skills. We bid him a fond farewell.



To ably fill Brian's shoes, Laura Zubryd has joined the Town Hall team. Both in business and in non-profit institutions, Laura has a long and deep history as an administrator. She earned degrees in Business Management and Psychology from Keene State College and Vermont College of

Norwich University, and has taken graduate courses at Dartmouth and Harvard. In the last 12 years, Laura has held positions with Sodexo, Dartmouth-Hitchcock Medical Center, Kimball Union Academy, West Central Behavioral Health, and the Tuck School of Business. Please stop by Town Hall and introduce yourself!

CROSSWALK

In order to improve safety, in time for the beginning of the school year, and after many years of requests from Fairlee, the Vermont Agency of Transportation (AOT) painted two crosswalks – one, crossing Main Street at the corner of School Street, and the second, crossing Bridge Street. In particular, the new crosswalk across Main Street helps address the heavy pedestrian traffic around the Town Library, the Post Office, Whippi-Dip, the Lunch Box, and Samurai Soul.

GYPSY GARDEN

The Fairlee Gardeners have created a Gypsy Garden (in memory of William "Frosty" Frost) on the lawn to the north of the Railroad Station. The soil for the garden was purchased with a gift from the Lions Club. The plants in the garden were donated by a former

town resident who described them as "gypsies" because many had been planted in one town, then replanted in another before landing on Fairlee's Main Street. Our sincere thanks to the many who made gifts in memory of Frosty, to the Lions Club for its generous contribution, to Tim Danen for building a rack on which to hang the 200 foot hose, and to the Gardeners, led by Miranda Clemson, for replanting and watering the perennials.

COMMUNITY MUSIC SERIES

Residents and visitors enjoyed seven Tuesday evening concerts on the Common this summer. The Community Music Series, conceived and produced by Denis Lambert and Elizabeth Wilson, included pop/rock, blues, jazz, honky-tonk, band, Celtic rock, and Latin music, with each ensemble presenting their music in innovative and engaging ways.

Our heartfelt gratitude to Denis and Liz, the businesses that contributed gift certificates for raffles, the children who danced gleefully at every concert, and to the many residents who contributed to the funds that helped pay for the series' infrastructure and musicians. When the Town Hall renovations are completed in late fall, many hope that we can continue the music series and its community building through the winter.

NEW HEALTH OFFICER

Tiffany North Reid has been appointed Fairlee's Health Officer upon the resignation of Tom Hough. Tom was very effective in this position and we thank him for his thoughtful work on behalf of the Town.

In her fulltime work, Tiffany is an independent contractor, facilitating physician-led recommendations to improve the prevention, screening, and treatment of chronic diseases. Tiffany is a resident of Bradford. She has a Master's in Public Health from Yale and a Bachelor's degree from the University of California Berkeley.

A Special Health Note: This week, the warm and still weather has introduced small batches of naturally occurring cyanobacteria on Lake Morey. Warnings have been posted at the Town Beach and at the boat launch. *While the warnings are posted, please don't swim or drink the water, and in particular, keep children and dogs out of the lake.*

TOWN HALL CONSTRUCTION

Town Hall construction is moving forward according to schedule. The front foundation has been completed and at the time of writing, framing of the elevator tower has reached the second floor.



Listers, the Treasurer, the Town Administrator and the Zoning Administrator share the Grange Room for their office work, so that construction can continue in other parts of the building.



The Building Committee, including Don Weaver, Peter Lange, Georgette Wolf-Ludwig, and Noël Walker, has selected indoor lighting fixtures and has provided practical advice regarding the design of the building's new heating and ventilating systems. Digging for the new septic system begins in October.

Fairlee Selectboard
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WATER SYSTEM

Voters rejected a \$4.1 million bond to address water infrastructure issues on June 14, 89 to 77. The bond amount was based upon recommendations from Tata & Howard (a civil engineering firm with which the Town contracted in the Fall of 2016) and promoted through conversations with the Vermont offices of the USDA Rural Development program.

In the middle of the summer, the Water System Advisory Committee (Jay Clark, Mark Avery, and Dennis Farmer) recommended that the Town continue concrete testing before deciding to repair or replace the defective water tank and that it postpone work on water mains. Our thanks to the Committee for their focus, their hard work, and their final report about the Town's water system.

Engineer Tim Schaal is in the process of determining the best structure to protect the defective water tank during the winter months. In partnership with Lance Colby and Barry Larson, the Selectboard remains committed to finding a long-term, cost-effective solution to the Town's water issues. The Selectboard has initiated new conversations with the USDA to understand application deadlines and the level of funding that may be available in 2018 for water system improvements.

PARK AND RIDE

A grant from the Agency of Transportation funded the paving of the southern end of the Railroad Station parking lot, home to Fairlee's Park and Ride. After lining the pavement, the next step is the installation of period lighting, and with luck and the awarding of additional grants, the construction of a small bus shelter and additional paving.

Comments or questions?

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