

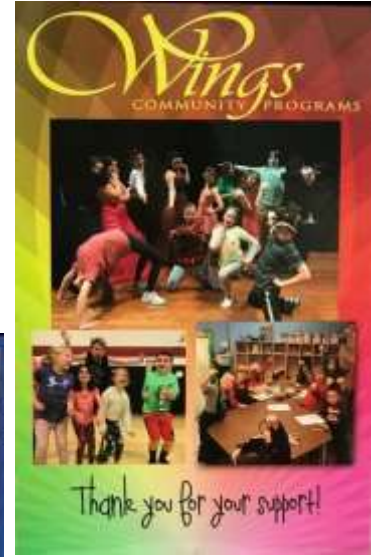
APRIL 2019

HALIFAX NEWS

TOWN NEWS

HALIFAX TOWN MEETING was held in the school gym at 246 Branch Road, Village of West Halifax, on Tuesday, March 5, from 10 am to about 11:45, followed by a convivial lunch to benefit the 8th Grade school trip. As there is no longer an independent school board in Halifax, the gathering dispersed after lunch. As usual, voting was open from 10 am to 7 pm in the same location.

One non-resident of Halifax spoke, Marshal T Case of Wildlife Land Trust, a 501c3 charitable organization. The trust acquired 115 acres including an old building from Pat Johnson in 2000. This land is now the site of an annual summer wildlife learning week every August. Open to schoolchildren age 5 to 15 years, the morning sessions cover the local wildlife including birds, turtles, frogs and bugs, with emphasis on the interconnections of an ecosystem and preservation of natural habitat. Some participants and their wildlife companions are pictured as well as educational leader, Merritt Youmell, who teaches Grades 1/2 in Halifax Elementary School during the school year.



Five of the longest-serving members of the Halifax Volunteer Fire Department were honored during the Town Meeting for their service. They were Jerry Fairbanks (48 years), Lewis Sumner (54 years), Wayne Courser (61 years, 48 as Chief), Frank Maltese (45 years of service), and Roy Richardson (47 years). All but Roy are pictured.



Incidentally, Ms Youmell and her students were called out for high praise by Halifax resident, Lynda Copeland (age 92), for exemplary behavior and cleverness at the February Senior Meal. Mrs. Copeland commented on the children's friendliness, generosity, and ability to amuse themselves with math games during the lunch.



One of the lovelier aspects of the meeting was the opportunity to enjoy the set of 6 lovely paintings depicting Halifax circa 1890.



~ Laurel Copeland, Halifax, Vermont



Ms. Youmell's 1st and 2nd graders are pictured reciting to the Seniors in the Halifax Community Hall on March 15th.

NEW MUSIC IN TOWN

Violinist Bekka Eowind, pictured with her violin, recently moved to Halifax. She teaches violin, facilitates string groups, and performs. Her instruments include fiddle and bass which she plays in a folk string band with her husband, a guitarist and banjo-player. She is getting a violin studio going for children and adults in Wilmington. You can contact Ms Eowind at 802-579-3739, or soversuzuki@gmail.com; webpage: <https://suzukiassociation.org/people/bekka-eowind>.



HALIFAX COMMUNITY HALL ACTIVITIES

The Halifax Community Club (HCC) will resume monthly meetings in the Hall in April as we are experiencing a bad "mud season" this year -- the worst in several years. We thank to road crew for their diligent work on the roads. But mud is mud and hard to deal with!

The HCC is trying to come up with some fundraiser ideas besides the ice cream trailer. After our extensive upgrades to the Community Hall, we are low on funds and need to 'beef up' our bank account. We don't like paying the bills with our reserve fund. The many upgrades to the building are a great success, making it easier to heat – and it stays warm longer, and looks beautiful inside and out. We are happy that we did the upgrades, just need to raise some funds so we can continue to keep the historic focal point in good repair. Send your ideas to me or Laurel (JWCinVt@gmail.com, PO Box 27 West Halifax 05358, LaurelACopeland@gmail.com).

To rent our beautiful, newly insulated Halifax Community Hall, contact Joan Courser at (802) 368-7733 or JWCinVT@gmail.com. - Joan Courser

HALIFAX COMMUNITY CLUB will meet Monday, April 8, 2019 at Halifax Community Hall, 20 Brook Road, at 6:45 pm. The Halifax Community Club is a 501(c)3 charitable organization. Gifts are tax-deductible. Contact: LaurelACopeland@gmail.com or 368-7097. HCC documents: <https://czresearch.com/halifax/>

HOW'S THE WEATHER?

The temperature was -3F in the Village when I rolled through about 6 am on March 7th. And the huge pile of snow outside my living room window seemed to mock the thermometer pointing to 40 degrees on the 27th. One of my nasturtiums bloomed (indoors). Still, this is great weather for maple sugaring and for logging. Yay, Spring!!



SENIOR MEAL (CELEBRATING 20 YEARS IN HALIFAX)

Senior Meal will be offered on Friday, April 19, 2019 (\$3/senior requested; \$4/other). We serve at 12 o'clock Noon in the Halifax Community Hall at 20 Brook Road, West Halifax. Menu: Pear and Cottage Cheese, Baked Ham, Mac and Cheese, a vegetable, rolls and dessert. All are welcome. The food is great, and the people are the best. Let Joan know you're coming: 802-368-7733.

FIRE DEPARTMENT NEWS

- On March 2 at 9:15 AM three trucks and 17 men responded to a chimney fire on Larrabee Road. It was a very hot chimney fire and the department upgraded to a 'first alarm' which brought mutual aid from Whitingham to the scene and from Colrain MA to cover the Halifax station.

- On March 24 at 11:00 AM five men responded to a residence on Rte. 112 on a rescue call. Whitingham Rescue responded and also Deerfield Valley ambulance. A man was transported to Bennington hospital. The fire department has monthly 50-50 raffle tickets available. Ten dollars a month. Call Wayne at 802-368-7733 if you are interested. A great way to support your fire department. Every little bit helps. They are an all-volunteer department that raises their own money for trucks and all other equipment.

JOAN'S SIGHTINGS

I have heard from a few folks with sightings....Elizabeth Smith saw an Ermine, a large Fox and wild Turkey. Liz Hull reported a Flying Squirrel and some Red Polls. Cathy Toby had Grosbeaks and lots of Red-Winged Blackbirds. Good to hear from you!

Joan still has 40+ wild turkeys coming daily, actually 4 or 5 times a day!! I am looking forward to bare ground and them not coming each day though I have enjoyed them all winter. I was so surprised to look out one morning and see a "Tom" fanning his tail and strutting around: it must be Spring!! He has done it a few times lately. I am enjoying some spring birds, many Red-Winged Blackbirds -- they come and go. Grackles, Brown-Headed Cowbirds, House Sparrow (?), Song Sparrow, White-Crowned Sparrow, Chickadees, one House Finch, Juncos, Titmice, Cardinals, Blue Jays, Red-bellied Woodpecker and a Coopers Hawk that caught one of my birds. Another sighting I did not enjoy was seeing a Fox checking out my chickens very near the coop one morning at 7 AM!!!!



Frank Maltese sent a picture of a Barred Owl that came to visit them down on the VT-MA line (see photo). Were Susan's chickens nervous?

Laurel writes... Up on Hanson Road we've seen crows, red-wing blackbirds, juncos, a tufted titmouse, blue jays, chickadees, sparrows, phoebes, red squirrels, grey squirrels, and a porcupine (but no bluebirds: see 1951 2nd South Halifax clipping). This morning I smelled one of our foxes. A few confused wasps have emerged in the house. Up on Jolly Hill, Sue Kelly pointed out the tracks of a



snowshoe hare. We have put out acoustic monitors to listen for the wood frogs. Up in Salisbury, the Blue-Spotted Salamanders are already on the move! But our pools are still covered in deep snow. As the 20-inch snowpack in the woods recedes, we expect our critters will emerge.

Send your animal sightings to me at: jwcinvt@gmail.com

- Joan Courser

EGG REPORT FROM 1951



**AGRICULTURE
HOME ECONOMICS**

BRUCE R. BUCHANAN
County Club Agent

ETHEL R. MAY
Home Demonstration Agent

March Egg Records

During March Alfred Ballou of Bel-lows Falls crowded Louis Thompson from first place, with egg production of 24.2 eggs per bird. Louis had a record of 23.9 eggs. Each one received a blue award. Red awards go to Carl Butterfield of Jacksonville, Norman Boyd of Guilford, Harold Dompier of Brattleboro, and a new entry, Roger Grant of Halifax, who ranks fourth in the contest.

Louis Thompson reports that he sent a dozen eggs to a Future Farmers show at Durham, N. H., winning an award of 50 baby chicks.

WEST HALIFAX

The pupils in town had physical examinations Wednesday and Friday mornings at the Grange Hall. Dr. Milton Wolfe of Wilmington was the examining physician, assisted by Mrs. Delia Lahar, Mrs. Roger Mason, Mrs. Hinea and Mrs. Clifton Avery assisted in getting children ready. Miss Joyce Wheeler acted as recording clerk.

The West School is sponsoring a paper drive. Anyone having old books, magazines and papers may leave them at the school.

Mr. and Mrs. Delmar Tracey, who recently came from Caribou, Me., have moved to the Herman Dowst place. They have two children who entered school Tuesday.

The girls' 4-H club led by Mrs. Christine Lynch held a meeting Wednesday evening with Miss Bernice Burnett. Five members were present.

WEST HALIFAX

Properties Change Hands.

Transfers of property recently recorded are:

Ernest L. Miller and wife of Colrain, Mass., to James O'Brien of Shelburne Falls and William F. Tetreault of Colrain.

Walter and Charlotte Harrington to William Nelson Bump of Cambridge, Mass., and Halifax, so-called Darrow orchard.

Clifford Stanley to Wesley and Mabel Stanley of Griswoldville, Mass., farm.

Floyd Canedy to Albino and Paulina Campagnari of Northampton, Mass., piece of land on Green River Road.

Neal Faulkner of Jacksonville is in town last week with his steam shovel and dug cellars for Albino Campagnari, who plans to build a house, and William Eddy, who is enlarging his camp.

Mr. and Mrs. Leon LaRock and son, Victor, spent the week end with their daughter and family in Saratoga Springs, N. Y.

Francis Wrisley of Okinawa is spending two weeks with relatives in Greenfield, Mass., and with his sister, Mrs. Kenneth Sumner.

Howard Sumner and Mr. and Mrs. Arnold Sumner were here recently to see their mother, Mrs. Lewis Sumner.

A meeting of Guiding Star Grange was held Wednesday evening, with 11 members and one visitor present. Games were played after the meeting.

News from Bygone Days

~ C. Lancaster, Halifax Historical Society

The Vermont Phoenix

SOUTH HALIFAX

Fred May is ill and confined at his home.

There will be a meeting of the Home Demonstration Group Tuesday, May 1, at the home of Mrs. Carl Peterson. It is expected that Mrs. Ethel May, agent, will make her first visit to the club. Lunch will be served at noon.

Claire Hebard of Springfield, Mass., has returned to her nursing duties after spending a few days with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Emory Hebard.

William Hebard of Brookfield, Mass., with his son, Lt. Emory A Hebard, and family, recently visited his brother, Emory B. Hebard, and family.

Mrs. Henry Miner Tuesday suffered a painful burn on her left hand when hot syrup spattered on it.

SOUTH HALIFAX

Edmund Litchfield has returned to the hospital for further treatment. Mrs. Litchfield is staying near him.

Mrs. Julia May, formerly of this town, mother of Fred May, has returned to Otter River, Mass., with her grandson, George May. Mrs. May suffered a broken hip earlier in the winter. Although nearly 90 years of age she is able to walk and resume her household duties.

Miss Betty Mitchel and classmate returned to Howard Seminary Monday after a short vacation here.

Miss Carrie Burnett is out again after having been confined to her home with pneumonia.

Valley School has re-opened after a two-week vacation.

Brooks and streams have been filled to their brink by the recent rains. Hill roads are badly washed. The snow is rapidly vanishing. Ducks have been seen going north on two occasions the past week. Bluebird, robins and phoebes have arrived.

Mr. and Mrs. Edwin Fisher of Palmer, Mass., and Mr. and Mrs. Edward Lively and children, of Greenfield, Mass., visited at the Hebard home recently.

High school pupils are having a vacation this week.

Carl Stone has recovered from his recent illness.

Jimmie and Shirley Pease of Turners Falls, Mass., came Monday night to spend a week with their grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Oliver Dean.

Mrs. Helen Croll entertained her father from New Jersey a few days recently.

The condition of Edmund Litchfield remains about the same at St. Luke's Hospital, Pittsfield, Mass. Mrs. Litchfield is staying in Pittsfield to be near him.

Spring beauties and early yellow violets are in blossom in spite of the cold wet weather. Snow flurries occurred several times Tuesday. The ground was white on Panel Hill.

April 1949

- 70 years ago -

The Vermont Phoenix

FRIDAY, APRIL 8, 1949.

WILMINGTON HOPES FOR MORE SUGARING

State's Output up to 60 Per Cent of Normal Crop

With local maple production a thing of the past for 1949, hopes still ran high today that there would be more sap runs in the higher-lying sections in the western part of the county, particularly in late lots with northerly exposures.

Wilmington had snow Tuesday night and early Wednesday instead of rain which fell here. Haynes Bros. of Wilmington, one of the largest producers in Windham County, reported that boiling was finished Monday and that the sap run Tuesday was poor despite a chilly night preceding.

The Vermont Department of Agriculture reported from Montpelier Tuesday that the state had produced nearly 80 per cent of the normal crop of sirup through the week ending last Sunday, with production in the northern counties showing a marked increase last week.

Five northern counties reported more production for the week than for all the previous weeks of the season. Production in the southern counties is on the wane, but this is being made up by the increase in the northern half of the state.

The average production for the state to date is .96 pounds of sugar per bucket while a season's normal production is 1.65 pounds per bucket.

Bennington has already exceeded the season's normal by reporting production of 1.764 pounds per bucket. Rutland, Windham and Windsor counties have averaged 1.25 pounds per bucket so far.

production during last week with an average of .61 pounds while Caledonia, Chittenden, Franklin, Lamoille and Orange all reported a good week.

A total of 177 reporting producers with 257,321 buckets hung produced a total of 13,183.5 gallons of sirup last week for an average of .469 pounds per bucket.

The quality of the crop continues to be reported as excellent with over 80 per cent of the week's production reported as Grade A or better. About eight per cent was Grade B or below.

Retail store prices for sirup held steady during the week with gallons quoted from \$4.95 to \$6.50 with most of it going between \$5 and \$6.50.

Retail sales by producers included 3,564 gallons with prices for Grade A or better in gallons ranging from \$5 to \$6.50 with most of it selling for \$5 to \$5.50.

Newsletter

P O Box 27

West Halifax VT 05358



**Always wanted a firetruck?
Halifax firetruck for sale!**



Halifax Volunteer Firemen roll out and
check a hose in West Halifax

Halifax News

APRIL 2019

**NEWSLETTER - Got a great
Halifax story? Write it up and
send it over!** Send your story to
Joan at JWCinVt@gmail.com
(802.368.7733) and / or Laurel at
LaurelACopeland@gmail.com.

Editor LaurelACopeland@gmail.com. Color e-mail version available.