

Fryeburg 2020

**A MAINE
BICENTENNIAL
YEARBOOK**



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Town Manager**

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Message from the Town Manager:

Dear Fryeburg Citizens,

2020. “Unprecedented”. That was the word used over and over again in 2020, for many different reasons including but not limited to the pandemic and related fall-out, the presidential elections and the Black Lives Matter movement, to just name a few. Locally, we experienced many unprecedented events as well.

In March, the decision was made to close the Town buildings to the public and many processes were implemented in an attempt to ensure continuity of operations while keeping the town employees healthy. I don’t believe that the Town Office has ever closed to the public. We were able to still help customers the best we could. The Public Works crew worked a rotating schedule with the hope that they would be able to stay healthy and respond to spring-time snow events. They worked very hard to still get their job done with the reduced daily staffing. The Police Department and Fire Departments gathered PPE and revised procedures to keep themselves safe while guaranteeing that calls for help would always be answered.

The Select Board and various Boards and Committees became adept at meeting virtually. This took patience and practice but by the end of 2020 it has become the new normal. The silver lining is that more people “attended” Select Board meetings throughout the year.

In May, we began partial openings and by June, we were fully open to the public and “normal” town operations were resumed. Wearing face masks became the accepted normal and a formal accessory.

During this time, we were trying to determine how to hold the Annual Town Meeting. With a limitation of 50 people allowed at public gatherings there was a postponement of the June Town Meeting as we looked into options. Creative ideas such as having Town Meeting outside using speakers and yes/no voting signs were debated. Ultimately it was decided to vote on all town meeting warrant articles by secret ballot at the July primary election. Again, this was a first to vote via this method. And again, there was a silver lining; we had record voter turnout with over 650 people voting. Counting and tabulating the results of 51 warrant articles was a monumental task and many people thankfully pitched in on the effort.

No one quite knew what to expect for the summer tourist season but it was a busy one, notably with a lot of people taking advantage of the Saco River. Businesses seemed to do well, despite all of the precautions they needed to take to safely operate. Along with visitors, many people decided to make Fryeburg their permanent home. Real estate listings sold quickly and there were 20 permits issued for new home construction. This was the most since 2006.

There were some exciting town developments that can be credited to various town committees. The Age Friendly Community Task Force partnered with the Town to develop a "Sand Buckets for Seniors" program to help people get sand for their walkways and driveways. The Conservation Committee worked hard to raise money and construct a trail system at the Town Forest. As a result of a Recreation Economies for Rural Communities workshop, we found a renewed sense of community involvement and identified many projects that will help Fryeburg highlight our recreational assets and possibly create more.

Personally, 2020 was my first full year as the Town Manager. I have learned so much over the year but a couple of the primary lessons is to not sweat the small stuff and to be patient in trying to resolve issues. Being reactive and rash does not help. I had many projects in the works for 2020; I came into the job seeing many areas that needed improvement and tried to initiate some changes. The goal moving forward is now to focus on selected projects.

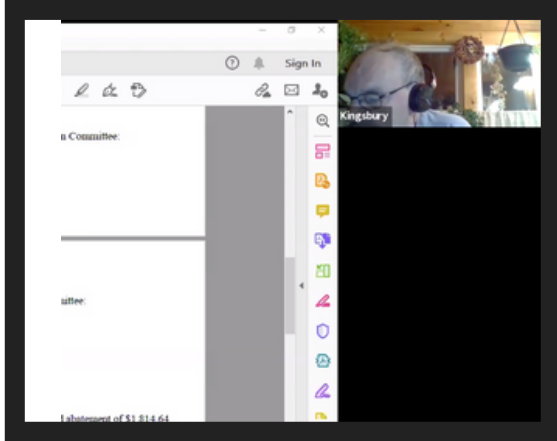
I will look forward to looking back at this yearbook in future years and reminiscing about 2020! Thank you Library Director Jennifer Spofford for putting this documentary effort together.

Stay well Fryeburg!

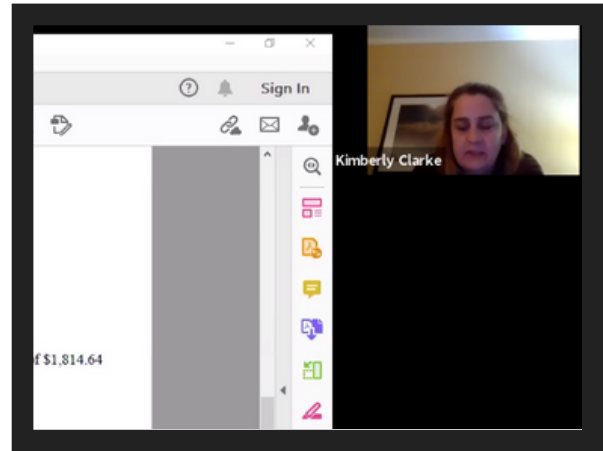
Respectfully Submitted,

Katie Haley

Town Meetings via Zoom

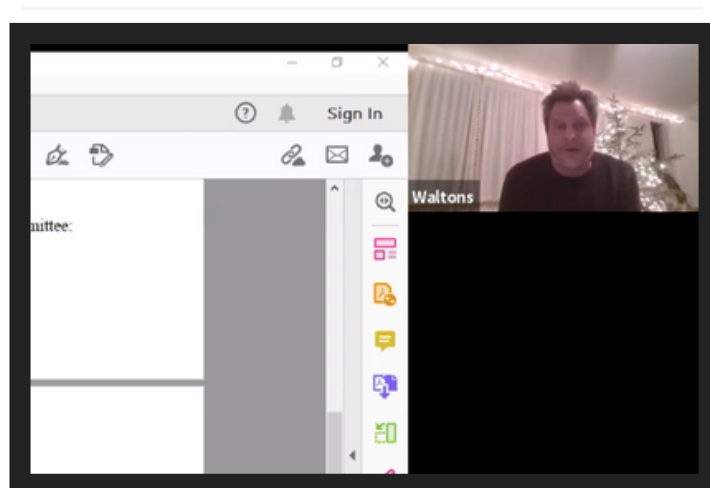


Above: Selectperson, Thomas Kingsbury



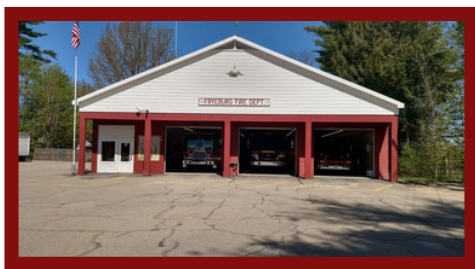
Above: Selectperson, Kimberly Clarke

Board and Committee meetings were held via Zoom during the pandemic. It took some getting use to! Above and below is the Town Manager's view during a Select Board Zoom meeting.

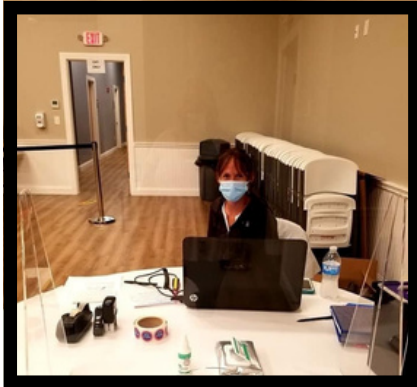


Pictured above: Code officer, Chris Walton

Town Departments

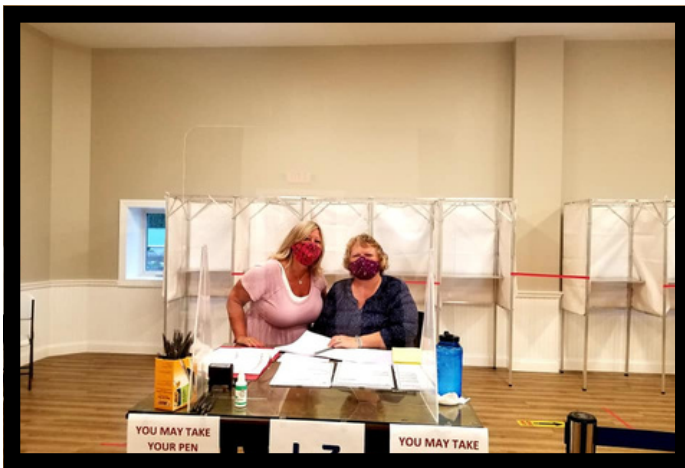


The Town of Fryeburg



Left: Deputy clerk, Kelly Woitko, pictured working at the newly built David and Doris Hastings Community Center on Election Day.

Below: Ruth Antonucci and Theresa Prouty ready themselves for a busy Election Day.



Above: The pandemic didn't stop the Easter Bunny from visiting local families. Rumor has it, it's a town employee whose name rhymes with Belly.



11/03/2020-GENERAL/REFERENDUM ELECTION
WARDEN'S RETURN OF VOTES CAST

MUNICIPALITY: FRYEBURG - 1 (1-1)

TOTAL BALLOTS Record the total number of State ballots cast (if no votes were cast, write "none" or "0").
Total Number of Ballots Cast: 1957

PRESIDENT AND VICE PRESIDENT	REPRESENTATIVE TO THE LEGISLATURE (District 78)
<u>1060</u> BIDEN, JOSEPH R	<u>556</u> BURNETT, NATHAN ROBERT LEECH
<u>6</u> DE LA FUENTE, ROQUE "ROCKY"	<u>1025</u> WADSWORTH, NATHAN J.
<u>25</u> HAWKINS, HOWARD	<u>76</u> BLANK
<u>33</u> JORGENSEN, JO	JUDGE OF PROBATE
<u>813</u> TRUMP, DONALD J.	<u>1392</u> CROCKETT, JARROD S.
BODDIE, PRESIDENT R. (Declared Write-In)	<u>565</u> BLANK
CHARLES, MARK R. (Declared Write-In)	REGISTER OF PROBATE
HOEFLING, TOM (Declared Write-In)	<u>1385</u> DULWORTH, JENNIFER MCPHREE
MITCHELL, M.D. (Declared Write-In)	<u>572</u> BLANK
WELLS, KASEY J. (Declared Write-In)	COUNTY COMMISSIONER (District 1)
<u>20</u> BLANK	<u>1378</u> MERRILL, STEVEN M.
UNITED STATES SENATOR	<u>579</u> BLANK
<u>956</u> COLLINS, SUSAN MARGARET	
<u>880</u> GIDEON, SARA L.	
<u>34</u> LINN, MAX PATRICK	
<u>68</u> SAVAGE, LISA	
BOND, TIFFANY L. (Declared Write-In)	
ENGELMAN, IAN KENTON (Declared Write-In)	
FOGG, DOUGLAS E. (Declared Write-In)	
<u>19</u> BLANK	
REPRESENTATIVE TO CONGRESS (District 2)	
<u>713</u> CRAFTS, DALE JOHN	
<u>1202</u> GOLDEN, JARED F.	
FOWLER, DANIEL J. (Declared Write-In)	
HERNANDEZ, TIMOTHY ADAM (Declared Write-In)	
<u>42</u> BLANK	
STATE SENATOR (District 19)	
<u>941</u> BENNETT, RICHARD A.	
<u>925</u> BRANCH, KATHERINE S.	
<u>91</u> BLANK	

1. [Signature] Warden's Signature

2. [Signature] Election Official's Signature

The Warden must immediately deliver the completed and signed RETURN to the MUNICIPAL CLERK.

Above: The totals tallied.

David and Doris Hastings Community Center



Despite the challenges presented by Covid-19, Fryeburg's Recreation Director, Rick Buzzell along with volunteers and Rec. staff, managed a great year of activities and town engagement. A few notable events included; opening the teen center, sand buckets for seniors, a Christmas decorating contest, as well as several exercise and social opportunities throughout 2020.

Left: Locals enjoy a free, and socially distanced fitness class.

Public Works

The Public Works and Transfer Station crew welcomed a new director, Lester France, in September 2020. The crew worked all summer to prep for a snowy winter. They continuously work hard to make improvements to Fryeburg.



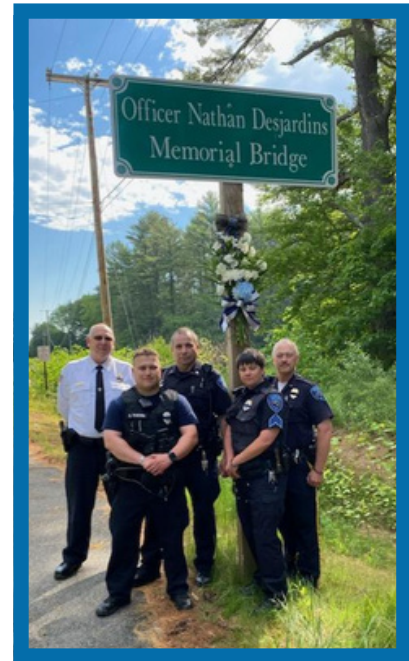
Above: Snowplows.



Above: Flyer created by Town Administrators in 2020.

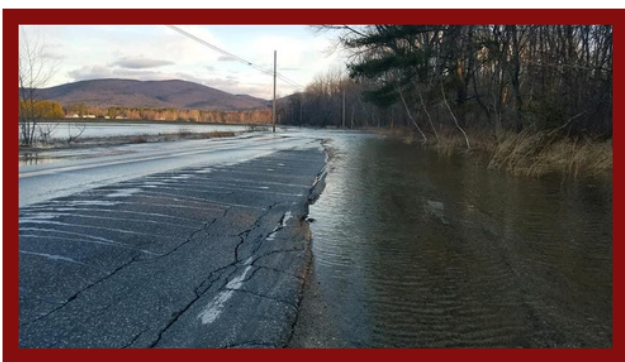
Fryeburg Police Department

The Fryeburg Police Department (FPD) faced significant challenges during 2020. Other than the pandemic, the FPD had personnel changes including hiring a new Chief of Police, Aaron Mick. Lieutenant Michael McAllister shared his experience despite personnel transitions and the pandemic, in the Town's Annual Report stating "With a staff of six full time officers and ten reserve officers, the Fryeburg Police Department continued to provide services to the town with little or no disruption". Everyone is thankful for their service.



Fryeburg Fire Department

During the pandemic of 2020, Fire Chief, Andrew Dufresne, became the Emergency Management Director. Emergency response training and planning helped Dufresne and his crew jump into action during the pandemic. The Fire Chief and his crew provided seamless service to Fryeburg and surrounding towns when needed.



Above: Fryeburg Fire responded to the River Street flooding, April 2020.



Fryeburg Public Library

Who would have thought that 2020 would bring so much to Maine's bicentennial year? As a small town library director, I had no idea what was in store for us. We started our year with optimism as we began to plan for our usual AARP tax prep, card games every other Tuesday, children's story times, book discussions, technology help, and author visits. In March, we closed our doors for one week, then two weeks. The town departments quickly learned the pandemic wasn't going away anytime soon. During our closure, we got creative! Instead of our typical face-to-face programs we began virtual programs. If we didn't know how to use the newest tech, we learned. Not only were our virtual story times super fun to create, we had hundreds of "views" on our videos. We reached more people than we thought possible. When we finally reopened June 1st, we continued our virtual programs and created take-and-make kits for our patrons.



Above: Fryeburg Public Library
515 Main Street, Fryeburg



Above: Jenny Huang-Dale prepares for our library's virtual story time. Jenny was our super story teller for five years until she moved in the late summer of 2020.



Left: Affectionately known as the "card ladies", enjoying their traditional card games every other week. Admittedly, this photo was taken in November 2019.

Fryeburg Library Goes Viral

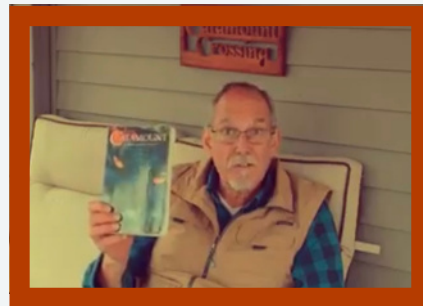
(In a good way)



Above: National Library Week was kicked off virtually! Since everyone was working from home, Jen Spofford created a stop motion intro to National Library Week.

Spring in the library is usually bustling with activity. As we began celebrating the warm weather, several special library events including National Library Week were presented virtually in April of 2020.

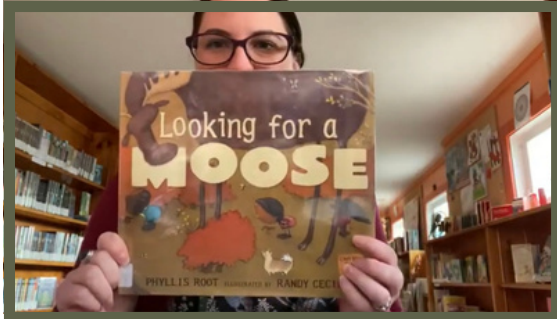
Message from Bruce Robert Coffin.



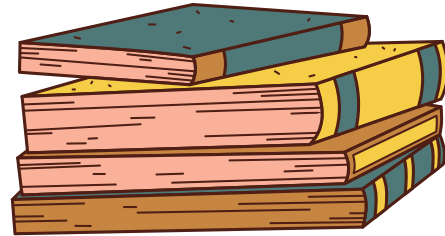
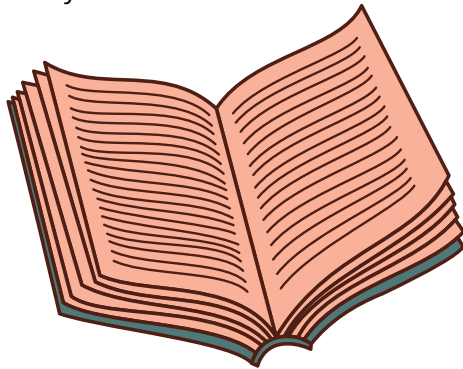
Several local authors including, above, Rick Davidson, top left, Bruce Coffin, and bottom left, MJ Pettengill, recorded messages of encouragement and positivity.

Virtually More Library

October 2020



Above: Library Director, Jennifer Spofford, prepares for weekly story time which is virtually our favorite time!

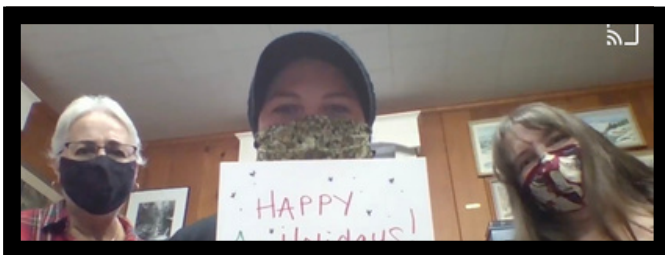


November 2020



Above: 2020 was an election year to remember! Our newest staff member and story teller, Jennifer Layne-Eastman, found the perfect book for such an occasion

December 2020



Above: Good thing pictures don't have sound! Library assistants, Jennifer Layne-Eastman, Donna Merritt-Jackson and library director, Jennifer Spofford sing a parody version of Deck the Halls for Valley Promotions Christmas video.

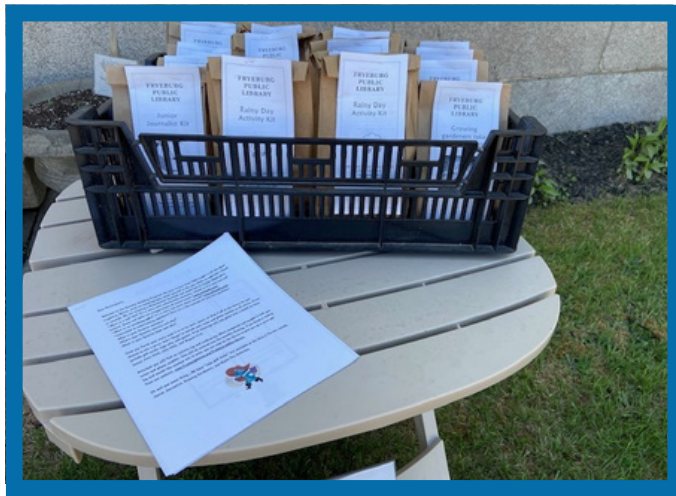
December 2020



Above: Our fabulous Friends of the Fryeburg Public Library provided delightful holiday take-and-make kits for our younger patrons.

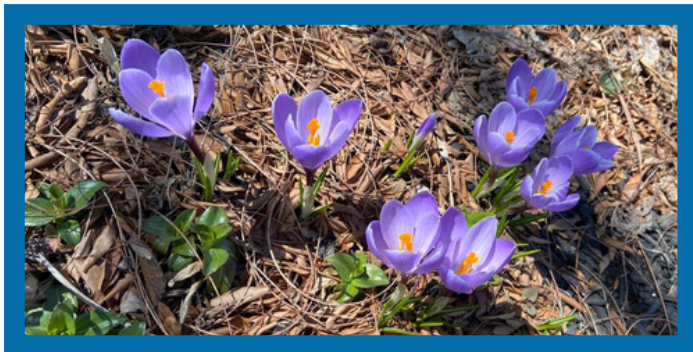
Slowly But Surely...

June 2020



Above: Summer Reading take-and-make kits for our younger readers. Kits included, a growing gardeners, junior journalist, and rainy day activity kits. Summer Reading theme: Imagine Your Story.

May 2020



Above: Spring into action! FPL's beautiful crocuses returned for another season.

OPEN LIBRARY

June 1st 2020 marked our official reopening to the public. We adopted Maine State Library safety protocols for the health of our library staff and patrons. Wearing masks and a 30 minute time limit per visit were a couple of measures taken to help "flatten the curve".

Below: Our make-shift study area in the enchanting Rachel's Garden. What better place to use our 24/7 WiFi?



August 2020



Left: Our favorite local artist, Carol Hanson, brings her teachings to our library community. Our first face-to-face library program since March 2020!

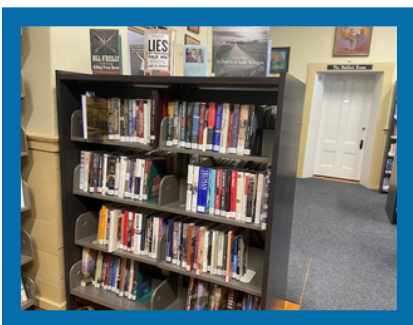
What's New?

2020 was a bit challenging but there were a lot of silver linings! Fryeburg Public Library received the following grants:

\$20,000 from the Stephen and Tabitha King Foundation for new shelving,

\$650 from the Life-Long Community grant for new outdoor motion lights, \$1,500 Maine Humanities CARES grant for PPE equipment and lost revenue during our closure, and \$10,000 from the Belvedere grant for our potential phased renovation of the deeds building adjacent to the library, and finally \$500 from the Maine Bicentennial grant to print this yearbook!

Our new moveable bookcases pictured below and right.



November 2020

Right: Selfie with our new boiler!



December 2020



December 2020

Above: Our Select Board members, Thomas Klinepeter, Kimberly Clarke, Thomas Kingsbury, Richard Murray, and Jim Dutton approved the purchase of a much needed library copier/printer/fax machine. Library assistant, Donna Merritt-Jackson couldn't be happier about the new copier!

Word Around Town



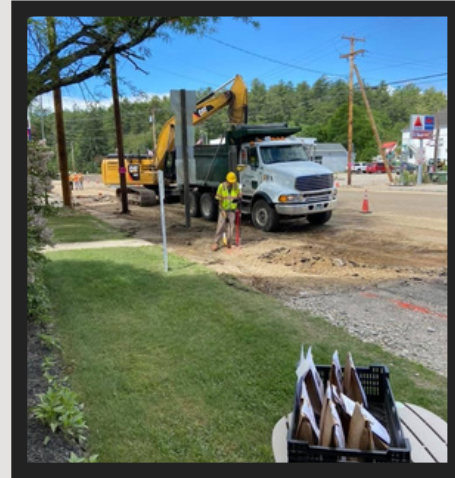
A Long Road Ahead: Downtown Under Road Construction

January 2020



Above: Road construction outside of the Fryeburg Library made visiting the library tricky.

June 2020



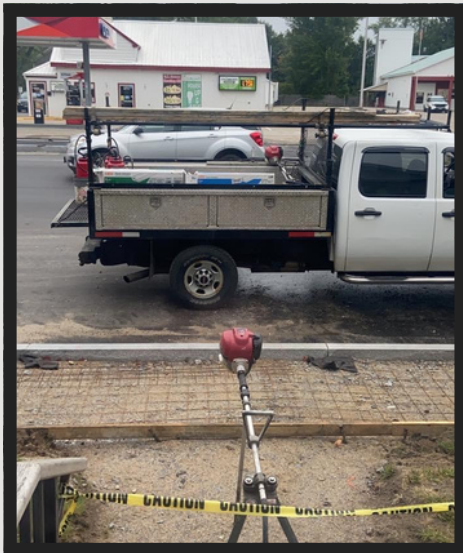
Above: As the improvements continued down the road, the sidewalk in front of the public library was finally in the works!

December 2020



Above: A winter scene of our finished parking spots and sidewalk

September 2020

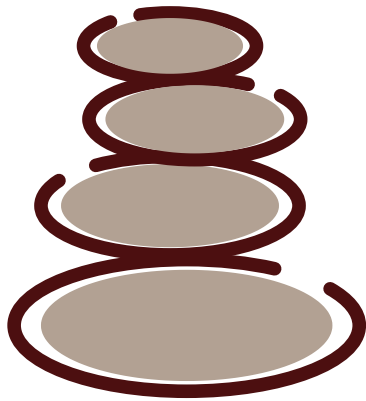


Left: Almost done! Our sidewalk and parking is almost complete.



Fryeburg Fairgrounds - Summer 2020

Giving Inspiration



The Story of the Stones and the Fryeburg Fair:
The Stones began with the simplicity of **Barbara Anderson** enjoying her morning walk in the Fairgrounds. One day she picked up a single rock and painted it with her first inspiring word "Shine." Carefully, she replaced it quietly where she had found it. More words kept coming to her mind so she repeated the picking, painting and replacing of stones around the Fairgrounds, believing her actions were anonymous. She felt these were words we all needed to hear. At the same time, locals Karen Pike and Lola Layne, regular walkers of the Fairgrounds, found the original stone and seeing Barbara shouted out - "Hey, did you see this?" Keeping a poker face at first, Barbara smiled at their find. Not long after, the secret couldn't be kept as Karen kept the treasure hunt going to find the additional stones through the summer and linked them to Barbara. The joy spread as Karen photographed the newly found stones with their locations and added short stories about the connection to the buildings. She sent these across the country to family longing for home. We hope you feel the lift of reading these colorful stones, one by one.

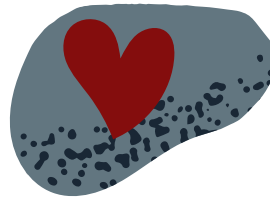
Right: Barbara Anderson, A Fryeburg Treasure. Barbara and her husband Jim arrived in Fryeburg in 1985 when they became district teachers. Barbara taught elementary and middle school art as an itinerant, serving the enormous territory of Snow School, Lovell, Denmark, Brownfield, and Molly Ockett for 30 years. Her favorite art medium is pottery. Using terra cotta clay, she is able to combine her love of painting with the hands-on feel of soft clay. She has sold her works at crafts fairs and from her home studio.



No Stone Left Unturned



Left: Her (Barbara Anderson) favorite stone is Shalom because of the warm friendships she made with the Hasidic Jewish “campers” in the summer of 2020.

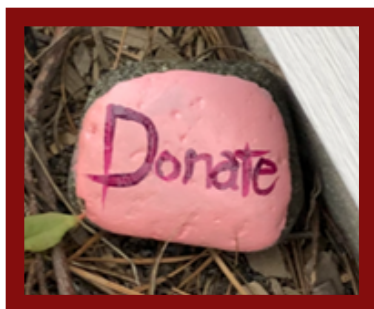


We hope you enjoy this tour through the grounds with expert commentary offered by the Historian of the Fryeburg Fair. A full history including a detailed timeline of events can be found by visiting <https://www.fryeburgfair.org/p/about/the-history-of-fryeburg-fair>

Fryeburg Fire Department



In 2005 the Fryeburg Fire Dept headquarters on the fairgrounds was replaced by a permanent facility. The Fire Dept maintains a working team here at the Fair – prepared and ready to “help” in any needed situation.



Lion's Building

Fryeburg Fair provides a platform for a number of local not-for-profit organizations. The Lion’s Building has been a permanent structure on the grounds for many years and provides the Lion’s Club with a fund-raising opportunity



FRYEBURG RACE TRACK



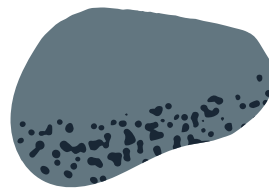
Each racing day at the Fair, people write their name on their losing tickets and deposit them into the Lucky Losers bin with a drawing for a cash prize at the end of the day.



History Hall



History Hall records the history of Fryeburg Fair from its beginnings in 1851 to the present. It contains photos, timelines, posters, original paintings and a permanent display of the Maine Assoc. of Agricultural Fairs and the Woodsmen's Field Day Hall of Champions.



GOAT PEN

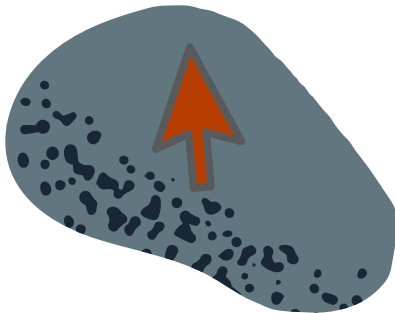


Fryeburg Fair built the customized goat playground. It was created by and constructed by the maintenance crew at the Fair in 2013. It remains a huge draw for the fairgoers (and the goats)!

Pulling Ring



Fryeburg Fair had the first covered pulling ring in the state when the Fair installed a temporary canvas cover over the ring. Its first season of use was 1960 – and it was an attempt to help make it an all-weather Fair attraction! The current pulling ring was constructed in 1984.



Little Red School House



This little, red, one-room schoolhouse had been located on a knoll at Toll Bridge and was in use from 1835-1938. Through the generosity of Mrs. Marion Hobbs, it was given to the WOAS and moved to the Museum complex in the fall of 1990. The Fair renovated and dedicated it in 1991.



Oldest Building



JUDGES STAND is the oldest building on the fairgrounds and is located right on the finish line of the track. In 1885 the 1st Fair was held on its present location and perhaps the Judges' Stand was built at the same time, but we do not know for sure. Harness racing details were announced from the Judges' Stand when racing started in 1935.



4-H Livestock Center



The Fair's 4-H Dept. serves as the youth division of the Fair's Livestock Dept. 4-H has its own building for its livestock and an additional area for 4-H clubs to display non-livestock projects.



Hay Seed Theater



This covered stage was built and added to the MacDonald's Farm area in 1998. This stage has entertainment with magic shows and types of shows geared especially for children's entertainment as well as offering religious services once during the week.

Mt. View Pavilion



This structure was built to replace 2 buildings that were lost at the Fair during the July, 2018 fire at the fairgrounds. It was dedicated during the 2019 Fair.

Craft Center



The Expo 4 building was enlarged and became the Craft Center. It is the main building that juried crafters – who reside in the state of Maine or a WOAS town - participate in and show their wares.



Sugar House

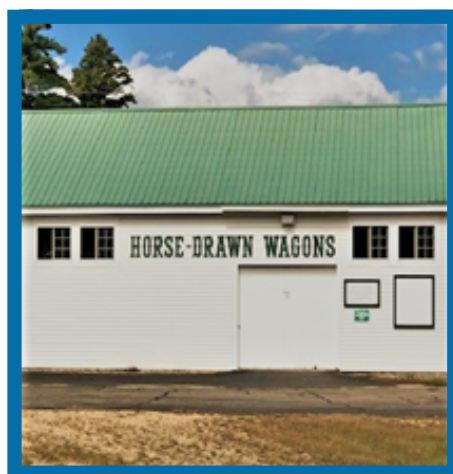


The modern Sugar House was built in 2002 and is in operation with an education center as well as a sales area.

Have you ever had maple cotton candy? You can get that in the Sugar House, as well as many other maple syrup products!

Fair Office

The Fair Office Building started out housing the ticket department by the main gate entrance to the Fair. Presently, it houses the main office staff and administration, security, and the first aid departments during each annual Fair. If problems come up, this is the place they get solved.



Antiques Wagon

A carriage barn was built in 2004 on the fairgrounds to house part of Sut Marshall's fine collection of wagons. The wagon collection shown is changed each year and has been a popular addition to the Fair.

Water Wheel



The old water wheel at Water Wheel park was replaced in 2010 with a new stonework design wheel. It has been a popular meeting place for fair goers as well as a great backdrop for photos of our "shared" experiences.

Old McDonald's Farm

Old McDonald's Farm is a very popular attraction for the younger generation. It has been around for a long time and has grown from a petting zoo where kids intermingle with the barnyard animals into a park and stage area as well.



Main Gate

There has been a main gate since the beginning of the Fair at this location in 1885. The main gate used to be the only one welcoming fairgoers into the fair, but over the years, several others have been added to provide additional access to the fairgrounds for Mainers and out-of-staters.



The Pandemic: memories, truths, and silver linings by Ingrid and Robert Kellas, owners of Small Fry Farm

Our home became our sanctuary. We grew more on the farm. In fact, I grew so many carrots that we still have carrots in 3 freezers. We made so many desserts, our children started asking "what's for dessert tonight?" After dinner one evening, we realized that we had gone "feel good" food crazy. It was not just Robert and I that gained weight this year, but our donkey also put on the lbs. We overfed her as well and all had to start a new meal plan.

The kids were homeschooled, remote schooled, and in and out of school. The schedules for our four children never jived making mom's life. It was the stuff that NY Times could only write about in their special section called "parenting during the pandemic". I did school projects with the kids, made lunches, and collected laptops.

When the urge to "surf" was overwhelming for them, we started a farm to table cookbook featuring kids' recipes. My youngest, Savanna, became a regular at the Fryeburg Library checking out and ordering books every week. She even read one of my books when she ran out of things to read.



Below: Selfie with Ingrid and the kids. Oops!
Only a halfie of Marina!

Below: The Kellas Family Farm



The Pandemic: memories, truths, and silver linings

by Ingrid and Robert Kellas, owners of Small Fry Farm

We gave at home haircuts, cooked out a lot and made our back yard a fun spot for kids to release their energy. Victor and Sebastian and Jonah (next door) had lawn mower races while we bonfired outside. We only have a push mower that works right now. 😊 Marina and Savanna made fairy houses and painted their faces. Victor learned to ride a unicycle. We hiked new trails and found secret spots to jump in a creek or river. We became activists during this past election and taught our kids about the importance of telling the truth and helping others. We attended church online and Sebastian was confirmed via zoom during Covid. Victor came up positive with Covid as a close contact from school and we had family distant Easter at our home as he was in quarantine. Being the survivalist that my husband is, we had masks and all the necessary gear to protect our family from Covid. We ordered toilet paper from Uline and Lysoled our groceries from the store like everyone else until we found out that was a bit overboard. I grew even more vegetables for canning as we were afraid of food shortages. Did I mention the carrot situation in my freezers? My North Georgia candy roasters grew beautifully in my greenhouses and were a hit with everyone who tasted them. Although we lost our beloved milk cow Thelma Lou, we gained two calves and another milk cow during the summer. Our silver lining was the adoption of Victor and Savanna online with zoom. We realized how much we have to be thankful for including our wonderful neighbors and the Town of Fryeburg that we live in. How fortunate to be here.

Peace and Cheers to a healthier time ahead,
Robert, Ingrid, Sebastian, Marina, Victor, & Savanna Kellas



Above: The famous home haircut.



Above: Sebastian caught Covid-19, so the Kellas kids practiced social distancing. Update: Sebastian is healthy and well! No more Covid-19 for him.

school's out



Fryeburg Academy

It is not surprising that Fryeburg Academy, one of the first school built in Maine, honored the 2020 graduates in a creative fashion. Via car parade, the class of 2020 waved with pride to observers on Main Street.



Class of 2020

Lake Region
and
Fryeburg
Area Adult
Education

Weston's Farm



Weston's Farm boasts one thousand acres of diversified vegetable crops, maple sugar orchard, Christmas trees, forage hay, timber and offers Nordic skiing & two farm markets. After more than 200 years the farm continues to evolve and change.

Left: The Weston family and staff wishing everyone well during the pandemic.

The Hazel & Owen Currier Doll Museum



Left: The Currier Doll Museum has something for everyone! The dolls patiently wait for the next group tour to visit.

The Currier Doll Museum is located at 103 Lovell Road, Fryeburg.



Fryeburg Historical Society

FHS and 2020

In January of 2020 at our annual meeting with the membership, the Fryeburg Historical Society began making plans to celebrate Maine's Bicentennial. In our February Board of Directors Meeting, we discussed open houses, educational programs, craft fairs as well as our popular fundraising community suppers. At our March Board Meeting we reluctantly cancelled our April community supper as the country "flattened the curve" and discussed our Mother's Day Tea in May. In May we cancelled the tea and all activities and elected to not reopen the Osgood House for tours. The Currier Doll Museum opened a few times during the summer by appointment only.

The Board continued to meet monthly outside with our masks and folding chairs determined to continue our responsibilities and to inform and educate our members. Member Jo Harmon wrote a timely and fascinating article on Fryeburg and the 1918 Influenza pandemic for our Summer Newsletter. Thanks to generous grants, we completed some major renovations on Osgood House such as repairing leaky roofs, and drafty windows. We updated our security system. Although our museums were not open to the public, volunteers continued to accept donations of artifacts including portraits, photographs and glass negatives. Our research library assisted people via phone and computer in research. Three new exhibits for the doll museum, Madame Alexander Dolls, Naber Kids and antique doll clothes were planned.



Above: The Museum and Research Library 83 Portland Street, in Fryeburg.

Fryeburg Historical Society

In October we participated in the Fryeburg Pumpkin People displaying our creation in front of the Osgood House on Portland Street. Fryeburg artist, Ann Carey Bradley (1884 - 1956) wearing her black pantaloons, with her trusty bicycle nearby was posed with her easel painting a "masterpiece".

Our major focus was assisting Brad Fuller of Brownfield in the researching and financing of the upcoming book, Fryeburg Maine: An Illustrated History.

Since 1777 Fryeburg has met the challenges of wars, economic recessions and depressions, flu and polio epidemics and devastating fires. Not only will we survive this pandemic the Fryeburg Historical Society will document it for future generations



Left: FHS created an Ann Carey Bradley pumpkin display for Fryeburg Business Association's first annual Pumpkin People contest.

Fryeburg Community Aid project:



Fryeburg Community Aide project was a collaborative effort initiated by Fryeburg's Age-Friendly Community Taskforce, the Upper Saco Cultural Alliance and the Fryeburg Area Rotary Club. The purpose of the project was to connect volunteers with the most vulnerable people in our community especially seniors and those with compromised immune systems. Through a web-based sign up forms, the group began connect volunteers to those who needed food deliveries, medication pickups, and check-ins.

About USCA

Upper Saco Cultural Alliance (USCA) is a network group working to knit our community together. Our vision is to provide spaces and support for practical, creative and educational programs and activities in the communities of the Upper Saco River valley

A group of Fryeburg area residents formed the Upper Saco Cultural Alliance, a Maine

501 c-3 not-for-profit corporation

The focus of USCA is volunteerism, communication, arts education, healthy cooking and eating, enrichment programs and places to gather and celebrate our community. Beyond our core vision, our mission includes partnering with other like minded individuals, agencies and organizations



Our Pandemic Year 2020

Fryeburg Fair, founded in 1851, was all set to begin its 170th annual fair, when everyone received the news that a pandemic called the Corona Virus Disease (COVID) was beginning a rampant assault throughout the world. On March 11, 2020 most people in the Fryeburg area began wearing masks and staying home with only immediate family. It was all hard to believe and the death toll kept rising. Everyone was glued to the news. 582 people in the U.S. died during the week ending March 21, 2020,



Above: Tim Mayberry, Superintendent of Fryeburg Fair's Farm Museum, gave a tour in a Virtual Fair 2020 video.



Above: Annette Bennett Metcalf, Superintendent of Fryeburg Fair's Skillet Toss, demonstrates throwing techniques in her video.

rising to 16,000 during the week ending April 11, 2020. The worst weekly death toll was reported 11 months later with 26,000 people dying during the week ending January 9, 2021. As of June 1st, 2021 a total of over 588,000 people in the U.S. had died from COVID and 3.8 million people world-wide.* By June 1st, 2020, President Roy Andrews, with a vote by the 40+ members of the Board of Trustees, announced that Fryeburg Fair would not take place as planned in October. After the news of this necessary decision settled in, it was determined that we would try something new to keep Fair memories going with loyal fairgoers and to help those quarantined at home with some entertainment. A few fairs and festivals around the country were trying online events. Our traditional fair would be replaced with a virtual fair!

** Source - U.S. statistics from the Center for Disease Control & Prevention, www.cdc.gov; world-wide statistics from The NYTimes, www.nytimes.com*



Above: An interview with Vinnie Lanovara of Sunflower Farms Pizza was a very popular video.



Above: Erlon Jones from the Agricultural Exhibition Center was a cooking show pro with his video on making peach jam & English muffins.

A virtual fair meant creating photo shows, videos, mini-movies and interviews for online delivery only. Were we prepared? And did we have enough graphics and stories to tell? Yes, yes we did!

A committee was assembled. The committee was kept small to limit exposure. By then, social distancing and mask-wearing were part of regular life and required by state guidelines to limit the spread of COVID. Committee members were Ann-Michele Ames, David Andrews, Jean Andrews, Roy Andrews, Rachel Damon, Barbara Hill & Steve Graustein. All departments were asked to submit videos and/or be featured in videos highlighting their area and departments of the Fair. Online contests were designed for public participation. Prizes for winners were donated by regular vendors of the fair. Most contests maintained similarities to our traditional competitions held during the Fair.



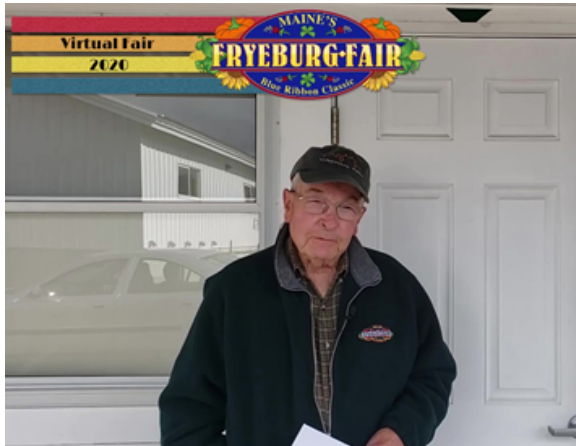
Thanks to many professional Fryeburg Fair photographers we had plenty of great photos to use for the Virtual Fair. Here Brian Merrill & Veronica Kugelman photographing the Fair parade.



Above: Hitched at the Fair was a video that featured weddings held at Fryeburg Fairgrounds. A fun one!



Below: George Weston, Head of the Livestock Department at Fryeburg Fair, appeared in a virtual fair video.



Above: An educational video on garlic growing and gardening by John Burton & Cory Wolfgram showed the progress of their efforts.

The preparation effort lasted four months. The final videos and contests were scheduled for online release following closely to the regular Fair program. Over 100 videos were created from footage and photos on hand, along with filming new interviews, demonstrations and stories. Contests allowed people to submit photos of their artwork, designs and creations from home. A Vendor Marketplace was designed to allow our exhibitors to showcase their products via links to their websites and social pages. A control center was established upstairs at the Fair office for posting and monitoring for the 8-day virtual fair. We went live on Sunday, October 4th at 8 a.m. with a welcoming video by Roy Andrews accompanied by Jewel Clark singing an original song she wrote specifically for the Fair. Other employees and department heads were videotaped presenting daily openings and closings. There were 360 posts made on Facebook, Instagram & YouTube. Thanks to Facebook feed- back, Fryeburg Fair stories were delivered to 1.7 million screens. Our videos were viewed 250,000 times. Our posts created direct engagements 30,000 times (shares, comments, etc.). It was a very fun undertaking during a difficult time.



Loretta Greene from Fryeburg Fair's Loretta's Kitchen at the Farm Museum demonstrated biscuit making in her wood cook stove. Her video appeared on 207-WCSH6-Maine.

Marie Bishop, Superintendent of the Rabbit Barn, created three videos on raising rabbits.



Mike Sullivan, woods sports champion, appeared in a video during the chainsaw competition of Woodsmen's Field Day.

Fred Decker with his horses, Chip & Dan, filmed four demonstration videos on draft horses and pulling with Stacy McConkey, Superintendent of the Pulling Ring





Virtual Fair Contests included:

Antique Wood Cook Stove Photo Contest
 Art Contests
 Backyard Carnival Games Contest
 Best Decorated Camper
 Best Decorated Facemask
 Cake Decorating Display & Contest
 Game Camera Photo Contest
 Chicken Coop Showcase
 Dapper Ducks Photo Contest
 Fairy House Contest
 Favorite Fair Photo Contest
 Flower Box and Container Challenge
 Fryeburg Fair Kids Trivia
 Garden Market Basket Contest
 Gorgeous Goat Contest
 Handsome Rooster Photo Contest
 Haunted Gingerbread House Contest
 Honey of a Hen Contest
 Moo La' Palooza Cow Calling Contest
 Name That Alpaca Contest
 Lego Contest
 Rabbit Photo Contest
 Roadside Farm Stand Photo Contest
 Rocky Coast of Maine Photo Contest
 Scarecrow Contest
 Terrific Tom Turkey Contest
 Trash to Treasure Competition
 Under Cover - Quilt Photo Show
 Where in the World is Fryeburg Fair (show your Fair merchandise worn around the world)!

Winner of the Terrific Tom Turkey Contest: Franklin - owned by Joyce Bastien, Exeter, RI. Franklin poses with his new ribbon from the 2020 Fryeburg Virtual Fair.



Winner of the Handsome Rooster Contest - this beauty - a Barred Rock Rooster owned by Brynn Hink of Porter, ME.





Left: Winner of the Garden Market Basket Photo Contest - Priscilla Osgood, East Waterboro, ME with her collection of tomatoes, sun-gold cherry tomatoes, three kinds of sweet peppers, green beans, celery, onions, leeks, garlic, carrots, cucumbers, potatoes, rosemary, parsley, lemon thyme, and sunflowers.

Below: Winner of the Rocky Coast of Maine Photo Contest - Rebeckah Cox, Jonesboro, ME

**Virtual Fryeburg Fair Videos:
Please note - these videos & more are on
YouTube & Facebook!**

4-H Horse Show
4-H Success Story with Ollie Chainee
4WD Drive Pulls
A Few Turns with Poncho & Lefty Working Steer
A Video by the Knack Factory on Fryeburg Fair
Anvil Throw - The Bengay Challenge
Barbara Robinson-Making Rye Rolls
Barbara Robinson-Making Sticky Buns
Bedtime Story with Maine Author Mary Train
Bedtime Story with Maine Focus Photography
Beer Tasting with Rustic Taps
Blast from the Past
Chick Chatter with Jerry Phillips & Roy Andrews
Chicken Coop Tour with Charlie Adams
Christmas Trees & Wreaths with Jim Corliss
Collection of Show Steers
Colors of Fall



Dairy Cows in the Milking Parlor with David Richardson
Denmark Historical Society-Film by Eugenia Parker
Dick Pollock Videos-Dairy Cows
Dick Pollock Videos-Heifers & Bulls
Dick Pollock Videos-Parade Highlights
Dick Pollock Videos-Sheep
Dick Pollock Videos-Sundays at the Fair
Dick Pollock Videos-Woodsmen's Field Day
Erlon Jones-Bean Hole Beans
Erlon Jones-Making Peach Jam & English Muffins
Fair Photographer Bill Haynes
Fair Scholarships Fair Trivia
Fair-ly Great Art Show



Virtual Fryeburg Fair Videos:

Please note - these videos & more are on YouTube & Facebook!

Kennett Drum Line
 Life of a Potato with Green Thumb Farms
 Llamas with Hilary Ware
 Loretta's Kitchen-Biscuit Baking
 Loretta's Kitchen-Butter Making with Tara
 Loretta's Kitchen-Fudge Making
 Maine Maple Syrup Producers Music-Angel Song
 Music-Bill Grogan's Goat by the Paul Hopkins Quartet
 Music-Bradley Jazz Collective
 Music-Every Year at the Fryeburg Fair by Heather Pierson
 Music-Flooded Cellar
 Music-Fryeburg Fair Song by Jewel Clark
 Music-Heather Pierson
 Music-Jewel Clark - Yodeling Runs in the Family
 Music-Maine Idea
 Music-Sheehan Holden Trio - Mary Jane's Last Dance
 Music-Sheehan Holden Trio - Wild Night
 Music-The Peterson Brothers Nailed It!
 Show us your Dough
 Native American Traditions and History
 Natural Resource Building - A Look Inside
 Night Shows of the Past
 Out of the Ashes - The Fryeburg Fair Fire
 Oxen Families- The Nest & Mullin Family
 Oxen on Parade
 Oxen Pulling - Steve Allen with Mike & Lion
 Phoenix Elite Dance Company
 Pie Competitor Norma King
 Pig Scramble
 Videos Preparing you Horse for Show
 Pretzel Tutorial with Mr. Twister Professor
 Paddy Whack

Rabbits
 Saco Valley Gems & Mineral Club
 Scenes and Sounds from the Farm Museum
 Scrambles-Calf MSAD 72 Highlights
 Sculpting Woodland Creatures with a Chainsaw
 Secrets of the Skillet Throw
 Secrets to Poultry Showing and Judging Sheep
 Dog Whistles & Cue's
 Encore Sheep Show with Rob Cameron
 Show Horse and Pony Show Steers - Yokes
 Sows and Their Piglets
 Star Spangled Banner- Fryeburg Academy Chorus
 That's a lot of Ox!
 The People Who Put It All Together-Fair Employees
 Tour of Wagons with Sut Marshall and Roy Andrews
 Tractor Pulls
 Trippcrest Farm - Jane Gray Trustees of the Fair
 Vendor Awards of the Past Vintage Dairy Department Virtual Fair Trivia
 Welch Family Show Steers Welcome to Heart & Hand
 Welcome with President Roy Andrews
 What I will miss about the Fair
 What I will miss w/ local radio personalities
 What Makes a Winning Dairy Goat?
 Where in the World is Fryeburg Fair Who's Manning the Fire Tower Woodsman's Field Day-Hall of Fame
 Woodsman's Field Day-31 Seconds of Chainsaws
 Working out with Chelsea Bean's Steers Hand & Silver



FBA CELEBRATES 10 YEARS!!

In celebration of their 10th Anniversary, FRYEBURG BUSINESS ASSOCIATION (FBA) welcomed the infamous "Pumpkin People" to Fryeburg in 2020. FBA encouraged all Fryeburg organizations, business, and homes to get creative and make eye-catching pumpkin displays. While many entered, only three top winners were chosen.

AND THE WINNER IS...



October 2020

Above: Fair Grounds Coffee competed and won 1st place for their Alice in Wonderland tea party. Happy Unbirthday to them!

Below: Fryeburg Dental's display begged the question, "What's scarier than a pumpkin dentist?" and won 2nd place for their spooky scene.



October 2020



October 2020

Left: Put your lifejacket on! Those canoeing pumpkins won 3rd place for Saco River Canoe and Kayak.



HONORABLE MENTIONS

First annual Pumpkin People contest in Fryeburg
October 2020

Right: CBW Labs cooked up an awesome display.



Below: The Loft Salon kindly offered free hair cuts for pumpkin people.



Above: Hastings Malia Law Office in Fryeburg, paid tribute to the late, great Ruth Bader Ginsburg who passed away in September of 2020.



Above: White Gables Inn tucked their pumpkin person in for the night.



In Closing

This yearbook was initially created to document and commemorate all the extraordinary events happening in Fryeburg, Maine in the year of 2020. While it is known that Fryeburg, the town, is older than the state of Maine, Fryeburg remains a very special part of Maine as it is a border town, home of the Fryeburg Fair, resting place of author Clarence Mulford, and so much more. As I write this closing in the year 2021, looking back, I hope we learned the importance of being selfless and caring for our neighbors. To “flatten the curve” of Covid-19 many events and gatherings were postponed or canceled. Even though many of our expected Fryeburg events were canceled, many locals came together to make this yearbook happen. It is a short and sweet look into “a day in the life” of Fryeburg families, friends, schools, and organizations. I hope this yearbook brings fond memories to those in Fryeburg and beyond.

Sincerely,
Jennifer Spofford
Fryeburg Public Library
Library Director

Thank you to everyone who contributed to this
yearbook!

Marianne Jackson, Karen Pike, Barbara Anderson

Rachel Andrews Damon

Donna Woodward and the FBA Board

The USCA crew

Donnette Barnes

The Town of Fryeburg and the department managers

Katie Haley

John Weston

Jenny Huang-Dale

Jennifer Layne-Eastman

Donna Merritt-Jackson

Jennifer Spofford

The Kellas Family

The Conway Daily Sun

The Fryeburg Select Board

June O'Donal and the Fryeburg Historical Society Board

Nat Beal at Write Stuff Printing

Maine Arts Commission: Bicentennial Project Grant

(funding the yearbook prints)