

FAIRLEE COMMUNITY ARTS

Newsletter Number One
August 2018

Fairlee Town Hall Auditorium Re-Opens



Fairlee celebrated the re-opening of the newly refurbished and accessible second floor auditorium with a celebration on Saturday July 28th. Bruce Taylor read a proclamation which was followed by a few words from Don Weaver and a ceremonial ribbon cutting. Then there were remarks by Russ Smith, Jay Barrett and Jane Kitchel in the auditorium (the acoustics from the balcony were excellent by the way!).

The Fairlee-Orford Lions sold out of lobsters the Michael Zsoldos Trio played in the bandstand and the air conditioning kept

everyone cool even during dancing to The Flames after the lobster and steak dinner.

Altogether everyone agreed it was an excellent party and a fitting launch to what we hope will be a long succession of enjoyable events at the Town Hall.



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Jay Barrett addresses the crowd in the newly accessible, air-conditioned auditorium. The historic painted curtain, circa 1912, is seen behind.

Fairlee awarded Vermont Arts Council Matching Grant!

Fairlee Community Arts and the Town of Fairlee are pleased to announce receipt of a matching grant of \$13,500 from the Vermont Arts Council. The Cultural Facilities grant will fund installation of a sound system in the restored auditorium. A generous local donor has pledged the first gift of \$5,000 toward the matching requirement.

The sound system will include speakers, microphones, mixer, and cabling, as well as an assistive listening system for those who have difficulty hearing. This will make it possible to present high fidelity sound for a variety of programs in the auditorium, from concerts, plays and dances to lectures, speeches and meetings.

The Town will administer the grant while FCA seeks matching donations and also funds for film projection and lighting equipment. If you would like to contribute, please mail a check payable to Fairlee Community Arts with "sound system" in the memo line and mail it to PO Box 242, Fairlee, VT 05045 or you may donate using a credit card or Paypal account at our website, adding a memo at checkout. Gifts are tax-deductible and will be acknowledged on a second donor plaque in the auditorium

Thanks!

Coming up! DÀIMH (pronounced DIVE)

Fairlee Town Hall Auditorium

Monday 9/3 Master Session* & Ceilidh w/ Dàimh \$50 3-7pm

Monday 9/3 Ceilidh** w/ Dàimh \$15 5:30-7pm

***Registration required for the Master Session!**

Register at www.catamountarts.org

**Tickets available at the door for the Ceilidh 5:30-7pm.

Oct.27: Community Dance and Costume Ball

Rock that fancy dress! Who is that masked man? Come as you are or come as you can!

Bring your best self to the Town Hall for a dance party and Costume Ball. Boogie to a mix of Texas swing, R & B classics and early rock and roll. Coffee and punch provided. Potluck hors d' oeuvres.

FCA's 2018 Summer Music Series A Rollicking Success!



The 2018 series expanded from seven concerts in 2017 to nine, an ambitious undertaking for the all-volunteer FCA team. The music ranged from Dixieland to Funk, Motown, and Bluegrass, introducing the many generations in the audience to each other's favorite genres and, at the final concert on August 28th with the Party Crashers, getting a large portion of the audience on its feet dancing and grooving in a big community party.

With audiences ranging from 150 to 275 per concert and cars bearing license plates from distant states (clearly summer residents and visitors) as well as Vermont and New Hampshire, word is getting around. Fairlee is becoming a go-to place for concerts, and the top bands all want to play here.

What made all this possible—and free—was outstanding support from the local business community, foundations, and individual donors who covered performance costs and provided FCA with a little cushion to support the start of its first fall season of events in the Town Hall auditorium. Thanks to Catamount Arts for excellent sound system support, the Fairlee Community Church and Town Hall for use of concert space on two wet evenings, to Chapman's Store, Barbara Lantery, Daisy Deb's Creations, Samurai Soul Food, Whippi-Dip, the Lunch Box Deli & Café, the Wright Scoop, Frost Gardens, Red

Kite Candy, and Fairlee Public Library for raffle prizes, and to the following for sponsorships and major cash donations: The Jack & Dorothy Byrne Foundation, The Lake Morey Foundation, Dead River Company, the Orford Fairlee Lions Club, Northstar Fireworks, Farm Way, and Britton Lumber Company. For a complete donor list see the fairleearts.org supporters' page, and please thank them yourself by patronizing their businesses.

See the Calendar at fairleearts.org for all upcoming events

Photos : Matt Jung, Miranda Clemson, Derek Campbell Fauxtography

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To: