

Quarantine Cookbook

As the Bennington community social distances during the COVID-19 pandemic, virtual Wellbeing Assistant Soumya Shailendra '21 is compiling a community cookbook to foster healthy eating habits during quarantine. Students, staff, and faculty members are invited to contribute their favorite recipe, which can be emailed, along with cooking photos, to Soumya Shailendra.

PFAS Findings

Research conducted by a team of Bennington researchers—including David Bond, Janet Foley, Tim Schroeder, and students in their Understanding PFOA course—on soil and surface water samples from neighborhoods around the Norlite plant in Cohoes, NY, has found that Aqueous Fire Fighting Foam (AFFF) burned at the plant released PFAS into the surrounding areas. Their findings have been widely publicized in regional and national outlets, including Chemical & Engineering News, Politico, and Bloomberg Law. As a result of their preliminary findings, Senator Charles Schumer has contacted federal agencies, calling for a more substantial study of emissions at this hazardous waste facility.

Local Farmers Respond to COVID-19

Murphy Receives NEH Grant

Brian Michael Murphy has been awarded a \$6,000 summer stipend from the National Endowment for the Humanities for his project “Preserving Data in America, from the Depression to the Digital Age.” This grant will support Murphy as he finishes his book, *We the Dead: Preserving Data at the End of the World*, which is under contract with the University of North Carolina Press.

Critical Language Scholarship

Congratulations to Megan Swanson '21, who was selected as a finalist for the Critical Language Scholarship, an intensive overseas language and cultural immersion program for American students enrolled at US colleges and universities. Though the 2020 program was suspended for this summer, we wanted to recognize Megan's accomplishment as a finalist for this highly selective program, which only accepts approximately 10% of its 5,000+ applicants.

Tatiana Abatemarco and Erin McKenny [hosted a panel discussion](#) with Lisa MacDougall of Mighty Food Farm, Jesse Pyles of Smokey House, and Jesse McDougall of Studio Hill Farm regarding the specific actions being taken in the Bennington region to maintain a robust local food supply during the pandemic and beyond.

“Songbird”

Beard & Glasses, a duo composed of Matt Scott and Sam Clement '08, [have released](#) their latest track, “Songbird,” which will be included on their upcoming album, *Born at the Wrong Time*.

COVID-19 Mandatory Training

The updated Vermont State regulations require all employees to complete a mandatory training on health and safety requirements related to COVID-19. Employees will [complete the training](#) by reviewing a PDF document prepared by Vermont State. Training must be completed by **today, May 4**, and employees should confirm completion by filling out this brief [Google Form](#). Please [contact HR](#) with any questions.

Access to Campus

To protect the health and safety of our students and staff remaining on campus, faculty and staff who are working remotely are asked to not come to campus. If you do have a need to visit campus for any reason, please submit a request using the [access campus form](#).

End of Term Virtual 5k

The Wellness Committee is pleased to announce the 2nd Biannual “It’s the End of the Term As We Know It” 5K run/walk. We invite faculty, staff and students to participate from wherever home is this term—family members and pets are welcome too! The event can be done any time between **Thursday, May 21**, and **Sunday, May 24**. [Sign up online](#) by Wednesday, May 20 to be entered for raffle prizes. Participants are encouraged to support our on-campus students by [making an \(optional\) donation](#) to support the FLoW pantry. If you’d like some help training, Rise VT is offering a free virtual [5K training program](#). Meetings will take place weekly on Wednesdays at 5:30 pm and Saturdays at 9:00 am.

3R Conference

In this week’s sessions of the 3R conference, Claire Webb '20 [introduces](#) Restorative Justice and Story Circles, followed by an elaboration of how they can be used to address bias and exclusion, and Andreea Coscai '22 [showcases](#) the talents of international students across the literary and visual arts, technology, and performance.

Read, Bennington, Read!

As a Literature Rep for SEPC, Pie Exley '22 hosts a weekly no-stress study group dedicated to silently reading together over Zoom, which is held on **Mondays at 6:00 pm EST / 3:00 pm**

PST through the end of term. All students, faculty, and staff [are invited to join](#) and read for class, for pleasure, or for any reason at all!

Spring 2020

Event Series

[Check out the series happening this term.](#)

May 6
Virtual Event
12:00-1:00 PM

Vinyasa Flow Yoga (via Zoom)

FACULTY AND STAFF | All staff and faculty are invited to remotely attend a flow yoga class via Zoom with Tracey Forest. See Calendar Event for information. [More.](#)

May 6
Remote
12:30-1:45 PM

Remote Faculty Forum

FACULTY ONLY | This faculty meeting will be held remotely. [More.](#)

May 6
Tishman Lecture Hall
7:00-8:00 PM

POSTPONED | Reading: Paisley Rekdal

This previously scheduled event has been postponed. [More.](#)

May 7
CAPA Symposium
7:00-8:30 PM

CANCELED | The Global Interior: Prospecting and Protesting Mineral Frontiers

CANCELED | This previously scheduled event has been canceled. [More.](#)

May 8
Dickinson 232
1:00-2:00 PM

CANCELED | Senior Work Presentations

CANCELED | This previously scheduled event has been canceled. [More.](#)

[Submit Bulletin announcement](#) (deadline: by end of day Thursdays)

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