

# The TUNBRIDGE Quarterly



News and information  
from your town offices and  
local volunteer efforts.

November 15,  
2008  
Issue #14

The TUNBRIDGE Quarterly  
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## Tunbridge Town Clerk

Wendy McCullough- 889-5521

M/Tu/ Th- 8am-12pm & 1pm-4pm  
1st & 3rd Wed- 8am-4pm  
2nd & 4th Wed- 9am-6pm  
Friday - 9am-12pm

I am proud to report that Tunbridge saw an 80% turnout for voting on Nov. 4th. Of the 997 registered voters, 786 cast ballots. There were 57 additions to the checklist this year. Of the 204 absentee ballots sent out, 202 of them were returned to be counted.

All Ballots are counted at the close of the polls by the Board of Civil Authority and other volunteers from town that are registered voters. We planned for a long night but with 12 teams counting all went smoothly and lights were out at the Town Hall by 11:00pm. A special thank you to my election workers; they spent 8-10 hours checking in voters and watching the ballot boxes.

## Tunbridge Select Board

Tim Wolfe - 889-3730

As the Selectboard enters budget writing season, it has been wrestling with the question of where money can be saved, and what expenses are not negotiable. One option under serious consideration is closing the Town Hall for the coldest period of winter (January and February) to reduce the town's heating bill. Stockpiling an adequate amount of sand, salt, and gravel for the coming winter has been the most frequent topic of discussion with Road Foreman Rodney Hoyt. Prices for these essentials have been climbing steeply this year, especially for salt.

The Selectboard has worked on a number of other topics of special interest in the last few months. One is the restoration of the town pool, for which Recreation Director Thornton Hayslett has drafted a plan which appears very workable. It is our hope that this will be executed early next year. Another item is the continued progress of the ECFiberNet project, which after a legal review the town has now officially signed on to.

Finally, the Selectboard has discussed and encouraged the creation of a town emergency fuel assistance program for residents who are having difficulty meeting their heating expenses this winter. With the possible addition of a firewood "bank," this would be a program that would offer loans to be repaid monetarily or in community service. For more information on how this program would work, or if you are interested in making a donation to help get it started, contact Town Treasurer Anne Mallary.

Board members: Tim Wolfe- chair, Mike O'Donnell (763-8985) and Shane Young (889-2804)

## Happenings in Tunbridge

Look under the Library (page 11) and Historical Society (pages 13 & 14) for more events!

Nov 20- Dinner Concert at the Tunbridge Village Store to Benefit the Vermont Food Shelf. Two seatings are offered at 5pm and 6:30pm. For more information see the Grange entry on page 11.

Nov. 28- Fourth Friday Contradance at the Tunbridge Grange Hall . See Grange News for details. Call (802) 889-3246 to confirm that the dance is being held.

Dec. 6- 8-11pm, Shindig with The Snakes of Ireland at the town hall. A fun and energetic local band featuring TCS's Mr. Duffy! The cover charge pays for the hall and the band. \$6./adults and \$3./seniors and children 12 and under.

Dec. 12- Dinner Concert at the Tunbridge Village Store with Jeremiah McLane. Dinner tickets by reservation 5pm or 6:30pm.. See [www.TunbridgeVillageStore.com](http://www.TunbridgeVillageStore.com)

Dec. 13 - 7:30pm- The Strangelings, A Mountain Folk Concert

Dec. 26- Fourth Friday Contradance at the Tunbridge Grange Hall . See Grange News for details. Call (802) 889-3246 to confirm that the dance is being held.

Dec. 31- 9pm - after midnight, New Year's Eve Shindig with The Legendary Strafford Blues Band at the town hall. This was great fun last year and we're doing it again! The cover charge pays for the hall and the band. \$6./adults and \$3./seniors and children 12 and under.

The Shindigs will continue through April next year. They are held on the first or second Saturday of the month. We expect to hold the February dance on the 7th. Watch the Tunbridge page of The Herald for further announcements.

## **Tunbridge Grange #384**

Robin Russell- 889-3246

Tunbridge Grange #384 held its Annual Harvest Supper & 50/50 Raffle on October 18. Thank-you to everyone that helped to make this event a success!

The Fourth Friday Contradance is held each month at the Grange Hall in No. Tunbridge. All are welcome. The music alone is well worth the price of admission – and it's FUN. Adults \$8, youth & seniors \$4, children 12 & under are free. Refreshments are provided by the Grange members. Beginner's are introduced to this traditional style of dance at 7pm with a free workshop given by the Caller. Every dance is taught through the evening. Music begins at 7:30pm, provided by some of Vermont's finest traditional musical artists and the great local talent of our own region. Call (802) 889-3246 to confirm that the dance is being held. The upcoming lineup can be found at [www.tunbridgevt.com](http://www.tunbridgevt.com). Organizational help is needed, so please let Robin Russell know if you are interested in helping out!

Our continued thanks to the Tunbridge Village Store and Mascoma Bank for sponsorship of the dance series, and to the callers and musicians who have traveled from afar to provide outstanding music & leadership for our community.

**VT FOOD SHELF BENEFIT - BUY YOUR TICKETS NOW –** for the first Dinner Concert at the Tunbridge Village Store on November 20th. Tickets are on sale at the Store for a full course meal by award-winning chef Jean-Pierre DeBeuff and musical entertainment provided by Robin Russell, Susan Reid, and Kerry Rosenthal with other Upper Valley friends. Two seatings are offered at 5pm and 6:30pm. Tickets are \$30 per person. Each seating is limited to 12 people, but standing room is available for all who make a donation (food or \$) to the Food Shelf. Entertainment proceeds and all donations will benefit the Vermont and Tunbridge Food Shelf programs. Plan a holiday night out on the town in downtown Tunbridge – and help your neighbors enjoy a good meal as well.

Please join us for a Grange Meeting, held the first Wed. of each month at 7pm.

## **Tunbridge Treasurer**

Anne Mallary- 889-5521

Office hours: Tues & Wed 9-12 1-4, Fri 9-11:30

The first week in November was a very busy in the office, with the election and taxes due. Wendy and I decided that in four years we might move the tax deadline forward or backward a bit. Surprisingly the percentage of delinquent taxes was down from last year. The amount to be raised in taxes went from \$2,090,320 in 2007 to \$2,453,432 in 2008. The amount delinquent stayed almost the same at \$124,698 in 2007 and \$125,284 in 2008. This is good news, but I was not expecting this with the current financial situation.

The budgeting process has begun for fiscal year 2009/2010. The selectmen have agreed to look into a Heating Fuel assistance program for Tunbridge residents. Money available in the Special projects fund will be used as seed money. A steering committee will be set up this week; anyone interested can contact me here at the office. Also donations will be accepted for this fund. Checks should be made out to the Town of Tunbridge, and the memo line should say heating fuel assistance. If you have any questions call or stop by the office.

## **The TUNBRIDGE Quarterly**

Janet Zug 889-9602

As a rule I stay away from promoting businesses through the TQ as it is for town offices and volunteer efforts, but I'm going to make an exception this time because I think these businesses effect our whole community.

The Tunbridge Village Store was closed recently because the owners were taking time to move into their new home and it got me to thinking about how sad it would be if either of our village stores were to go out of business. I am going to make an effort to stop there more often to purchase needed items and meals and I'd like to encourage others to do the same.

Our two stores are different in their offerings, stop in and see what they have available.

Tunbridge Village Store: 889-9888; Tue-Sat 7-7, Sun 8-1

North Tunbridge General Store: 889-3312; M-Sat 7-8, Sun 8-7

Please call, write or email me at [janet@zugglass.com](mailto:janet@zugglass.com) with questions, comments, or suggestions about the TQ.

## **Tunbridge Board of Listers**

Judie Lewis- 889-3571

We would just like to correct a common misconception: At this writing we can state with assurance that Tunbridge property values are not falling.

A number of people have commented that they expect the value of their property to drop for the new reappraisal. Not true, and, speaking for those of us whose net worth is mostly in our home, thank goodness it isn't. A drop in appraised value would not mean lower taxes, just lower equity. In all the reports about prices dropping around the country, we have not heard that they are falling to back 2002 levels. Our town values are based on 2002 housing prices.

We have had fewer sales in the past two years, so our sample is small. Nevertheless our few arms-length sales indicate that town values are holding. According to an article in the October Vermont Property Owners Report, "Many brokers around the state confirmed that it was a slow summer. Even though buyers have gained the upper hand, however, prices in the state's biggest market—single-family primary homes—have stayed level." The article states that other markets showed more change: "Both primary and vacation condo prices are down... while single-family vacation homes registered a surprising 12.8% gain." According to the federal Housing Price Index, Vermont's primary and vacation home prices rose 1.6% from the second quarter of 2007 to the second quarter of 2008.

We shall see what happens to sales by April 1, 2010, which will be the basis for the reappraised values. My personal dream is that by then the state will have found some way other than property taxes to fund education and that some generous benefactor will provide money for all town expenses in perpetuity. Ah, then there will be no need for the Board of Listers, and I can work in my garden all summer and, in the winter, take long vacations in the Caribbean with the money I saved from not having to pay taxes.

## **Tunbridge Neighbors Helping Neighbors**

Jim Wick 889-3437

Tunbridge Neighbors Helping Neighbors has been started to help provide services to local residents through volunteer action. We have been getting a steady stream of calls, and have been able to help quite a few people with all kinds of things. If you need help with something, the number to call is:

**889-3437**

One of us will take your request and try to line up a volunteer. There is no charge for the service and you don't have to join anything. There are no dues or fees. We are being supported by generous donations from local residents and businesses.

This service is for anyone. Our emphasis will be to provide services for seniors, but anyone is eligible. If the request is reasonable and we can find a volunteer, we will do it. Everyone needs help with something sometime, so please call. Board Members: Bunchie Angell, Rick Scully, Bill Chester, Felicity Swayze, Frank LePore, Jim Wick, David Wolfe.

## **Elderly Housing**

Chris Wood 802-498-8438

Do you think there is a chance for Tunbridge to have attractive, affordable housing in the community? Is there a strong interest in accessible senior housing opportunities for long time residents? Might you be a resident (or have a parent) who would consider living in a smaller, more efficient home in or around the village(s)? Do you have - or know of - land that might be appropriate for such a project?

These, and any other housing questions, are welcome at a formative meeting of the Tunbridge Housing Committee on Wednesday, December 3 at 6:30 PM at the Town Hall. An outgrowth of Tunbridge Neighbors Helping Neighbors, the housing committee was formed particularly because a number of folks have expressed interest in looking into possible senior housing - and just what it takes to make something like that happen. However, other housing ideas specific to Tunbridge are welcome.

If you have an interest in participating on this housing committee, please contact Chris Wood at christunbridge@live.com or Jim Wick at jimwick@sover.net.

## **First Branch Sustainability Network**

Henry Swayze 889-5556

The First Branch Sustainability Project has renamed its self by changing the word Project to Network. This is in keeping with the Transition town model and emphasizes our goal to work with all groups to generate additional energy for all who wish to strengthen and make our community more resilient and enhance our quality of life. The First Branch Food Network has formally joined efforts with us. How about you and your organization? Contact me and can see what is best to help all of us.

What is up with fuel prices?

Don't get too relaxed. Petroleum products are very demand sensitive and the US consumer really cut back on gasoline purchase this summer. This scared off the speculators who had added to the cost. Now we have world wide reductions in demand due to the economic situation but all this will pass when the economy turns around. The bottom line is that drill as we might the world will not soon produce the amount of oil the market is calling for and prices will keep rising in the long term. Using our fuel thoughtfully will help a lot. In Europe people are driving four door good highway cars that get 60 miles per gallon and we should be demanding them as well. The plug in cars will become available in 2010. They will be more money to purchase and still use some fuel for our longer trips, but the electric portion of our driving will cost the equivalent of \$1 per gallon- so plan ahead. Propane is directly affected by oil prices as is fuel oil so plan to get an energy audit of your house and to move to some wood heat. Protecting our wallets will reduce our CO2 out put as well. Climate change is already hearting many third world populations and will cost us dearly in the future.

We can harvest all the energy we need for our use from the land , water and air in this valley. It would be good for our economy and environment. A green investing group is having its first meeting on November 5th 7PM @ the Town Hall. Contact us for further meeting dates. All are welcome and you chose what we will focus on.

## **Tunbridge Volunteer Fire Department**

Jena Young- 889-2804

The Fire Department has spent some time this year reviewing and revising some of our corporate documents including our Mutual Aid Agreements with surrounding departments and our Standard Operating Guidelines for our members. Both documents had not been reviewed or updated in several years, so this gave us a chance to rethink processes and clarify departmental procedures.

The month of October gave us a chance to participate in a couple of community related activities including a fundraiser Ham & Bean Supper followed by a serenade of "Cowboy Poetry". Later in the month some members joined Smokey the Bear on a trip to the Tunbridge Central School to provide some fire safety education to the students in recognition to Fire Prevention month.

Following the signing of the contract for the new fire truck last July, the chassis has been ordered by our contractor. Several members of the department traveled down to the plant in the early fall to review the final specifications with the contractors. After reviewing the final specs with the contractor at the plant, some slight design enhancements were made to the apparatus. We expect to learn of the arrival of the chassis any day now so that the building of the truck can begin.

As a reminder, daylight savings time has just past us by again. Remember that this is the time when you should change the batteries in your smoke detectors and it is also a good idea to have your chimney cleaned.

### **Community Thanksgiving Dinner**

The Annual Community Thanksgiving Dinner will be held at on Thursday, Nov. 27, at the Chase Center at VLS.

Volunteers are needed for the following tasks:

- (1) to peel and cook squash and potatoes from 1:00-7:00 p.m., on Mon. and Tue., Nov. 24 and 25 at the United Church in SoRo.
- (2) To help prepare, cook and deliver the meals Thursday, Nov. 27 at the Chase Center.

Food donations needed: Pies, desserts, potatoes, squash, rolls, and cranberry sauce.

Please pass along the invitation to have dinner at the Chase Center. For more information please contact Marilyn Labadie by calling 831-1251 or by sending an e-mail with the Thanksgiving Dinner in the subject line to [mlabadie@vermontlaw.edu](mailto:mlabadie@vermontlaw.edu)

## **Tunbridge Planning Commission**

Susan Clark 889-3733

The Planning Commission was the local host for a "Button-up Vermont" workshop held at the Town Hall on October 3rd. About 30 people attended from Tunbridge, Chelsea, Royalton, Randolph and Randolph Center. More than 80 communities are hosting the statewide workshops in an intensive public education program to mobilize Vermonters to save energy in their homes. Statewide Sponsorship is from the Central Vermont Community Action Council (CVCAC), with funding from the State of Vermont Agency of Human Services, and in partnership with the Vermont Energy and Climate Action Network (VECAN) and Efficiency Vermont. Bob Walker from Sustainable Energy Resource Group in Thetford presented a detailed and very informative program. For more information contact Diana Peduzzi, Assistant Coordinator, Button Up Vermont at [Button-up@cvcac.org](mailto:Button-up@cvcac.org) (802 279 1708),

Townpeople are reminded that copies of the town plan are available from the Public Library or on line at the Two Rivers Ottaquechee Regional Commission

Website: [http://trorc.org/docs\\_tu.html](http://trorc.org/docs_tu.html) Seven town maps can also be found at the Two Rivers website.

The Planning Commission meets at 7:00 P.M. on the second Tuesday of each month at the Town Offices. All are welcome. Members of the commission are: Sue Clark, Interim Chair, Liz York, Gary Mullen, Jesse Mundel, Ted Hoyt, Ben Wolfe and Dan Rudell. Michael Sacca resigned from the Planning Commission in mid-October leaving a position open on the Commission.

## **Tunbridge/Royalton Phone Book**

Janet Zug 889-9602

The Tunbridge/Royalton Phonebook is a fund-raising effort for the Tunbridge Church Children's Choir.

Work on the TR Phonebook will be in full swing starting in December. We are waiting for the CD of Fairpoint's WRJ book to use for the basic information.

If you have a cell phone or home-based business phone number you would like to have included in the book, please call or email your name, number and address to [trphonebook@aol.com](mailto:trphonebook@aol.com). (email is best)

The book will include a yellow pages section and I'll be asking local businesses to advertize to help to pay for printing. Once complete the book will be available for sale locally.

## **Tunbridge Historical Society Con't**

**March 13** Teresa Lust

"Pass the Polenta"

Cook, gardener and writer Teresa Lust will read from "Pass the Polenta: And Other Writings from the Kitchen" and demonstrate how to cook a proper risotto.

Committee members Michael Sacca (chairman), Anita Abbot, Kay Jorgensen, John O'Brien, Nicola Smith and Jean Wolfe/Marsha Higgins (library) welcome input and suggestions for future programs.

## **Tunbridge Civic Club**

Linda Lazaroff- 889-9421

The Civic Club is pleased to report that the "Tunbridge Civic Club Presents" has made \$3,846.75 from the sale of the book. There are a few more books remaining and you can purchase them at the Tunbridge Village Store or by contacting Linda Lazaroff at 889-9421.

Proceeds from the show performed this past year went to the following organizations:

Neighbors Helping Neighbors \$25.00

North Tunbridge Church \$200.00

Public Library in honor of Kitty Martin \$100.00

School Library \$100.00      Food Shelf \$200.00

North Tunbridge Grange \$75.00      Town Hall \$100.00

Linda Lazaroff has been in contact with the Vermont Folklife Center in Middlebury regarding preservation of the Civic Club shows. Linda is now in the process of gathering the information required and submitting it to the Folklife Center. It will be several months before this project can be completed, but at some point, the Folklife Center hopes to make this all available on the internet.

## **Tunbridge Town Website**

Rick Scully- 763-7474

The town website is now visible online at <http://tunbridgevt.com> The site still needs people to provide content. If you are involved with an organization in town and want to post events, or other information, please consider becoming a content provider on behalf of your group. For more info contact Rick Scully at [rick@tunbridgevt.com](mailto:rick@tunbridgevt.com).

## **Tunbridge Historical Society**

Kay Jorgensen- 889-5528

The winners of this year's Historical Society raffle are:  
Ralph Herrick, who won the Depression-era "Posey Quilt."  
Susan Peters, who won the JP dinner for four.  
Barbara Simpson, of Enfield, who won the gallon of maple syrup.

Tunbridge Public Library's free Winter Evenings series will host six speakers from January through March. The Friday night programs will begin at 7 p.m. at the library.

The schedule is:

**Jan. 9** Bryan Pfeiffer  
"Chasing Woodpeckers"

Author, nature photographer and conservationist Bryan Pfeiffer will give a slide talk about his search for the Ivory-billed Woodpecker in Arkansas. He co-hosts "For the Birds" Saturday mornings on WDEV AM and FM and co-authored "Birdwatching in Vermont."

**Jan. 23** Natalie Kinsey-Warnock  
"Patchworks: A Night of Quilts and Stories"

Natalie Kinsey-Warnock, who writes picture books and novels for young readers, is also an artist and quilter. Through slides and drawings she will share stories and pictures of her family and life in the Northeast Kingdom

**Feb. 13** Deborah L. Markowitz  
"Town Meeting: Making a Difference at the Local Level"

Deborah Markowitz has served as Secretary of State since 1998. She was the first director of the Vermont League of Cities and Towns Municipal Law Center and founded the Vermont Women's Leadership Initiative.

**Feb. 27** Henry Homeyer  
"The Nuts and Bolts of Organic Gardening"

Master gardener and author Henry Homeyer will talk about how to have great veggies and flowers without using chemicals and will encourage people to start small vegetable gardens.

**March 6** Castle Freeman  
"The Writing Life"

Castle Freeman will read from his novel "Go With Me," and his forthcoming novel, "All That I Have," as well as talk about the writing life.

## **State Representative**

David Ainsworth- 763-8017

No one in Tunbridge needs to go hungry or be cold this winter. The Agency of Human Services recently held a local meeting to see what services were out there to help folks through this winter and to see where they needed to offer help to fill in the voids. Most of the neighboring towns were represented and they briefly explained their own programs. You may contact the Tunbridge Community Food Shelf or the SERVE Food org.-Sue Barnaby 889-3437 or for fuel the Neighbor helping Neighbor, 889-3437. They can possibly help or connect you to those who can; or contact me and I will connect you to the Human Services personnel who can help. You also can call 211 and this service will give you the numbers to folks who can help. NOFA is offering "Winter Feed and Feeding Clinics for Organic Dairy Producers. This is to help producers review their winter feeding programs and identify possible alternatives and improvements. To find out more and pre-register call 802-434-4122 or info@nofavt.org

## **Orange County Domestic & Sexual Violence Taskforce**

Connie Button 728-3336

Do something to end bullying in your local school, help prevent violence in your neighbor's home, and learn more about the causes of relationship and family violence. Please join the Tunbridge Cluster of the Orange County Domestic and Sexual Violence Task Force.

Meetings are held bi-monthly on third Tuesday of the month at the Tunbridge Parish House from 6:00-7:30 pm. Our next regularly scheduled meeting will be December 16th.

In the coming year, we will need volunteers to march in the Randolph Parade and hand out information, booth-sit at the Tunbridge Fair and help us plan our community wide dinner and meeting. The greater number of community members who lend their voice to this issue, the easier the message will be spread that we don't condone violence in Tunbridge. Show your support for victims of violence and join us at one of our upcoming meetings. Help spread peace in your community!

## **Tunbridge School Club**

Kathi Terami, Parent Volunteer-889-5575

What is School Club? School Club is an organization dedicated to providing enrichment activities and services to students, families, staff and teachers at Tunbridge Central School (TCS).

Anyone can participate and there are no membership dues.

**TCS Open House:** On September 3, over 120 adults and children celebrated the start of the school year at the open house hosted by TCS, the School Board and School Club. Guests visited classrooms, met Principal Kathie Ball, enjoyed a potluck dinner and had a chance to win prizes donated by area merchants.

Thanks to all who contributed to making this event a success!

**Elementary Halloween Party:** Eighty children and their families spent the evening of October 25 in a completely transformed TCS gymnasium. Thanks to the efforts of parent Robyn Rogers and many other volunteers, students played games, made crafts, received goody bags and dined on spooky treats. Courtesy area donors, each child who attended in costume received a \$5 certificate to spend at the Scholastic Book Fair.

**Fair Association Supper:** Planning for the biggest School Club fundraiser of the year is well underway. Each year at the beginning of December, School Club prepares a four-course meal for the Tunbridge Fair Association's annual meeting. To minimize expenses and maximize profit, School Club will seek monetary and food donations from area businesses and donations of time and ingredients from parents. Parent Sharon Welch volunteered to chair the event and will coordinate all volunteers including those who will solicit donations, set up and decorate tables, prepare and serve the meal and clean up the dining room and dishes. If you are interested in helping with any of these tasks, please call Sharon at 889-9834.

**Movie Site License:** School Club purchased a movie site license for TCS. Now, teachers, athletic teams, clubs, the after school program and community organizations can show movies from most major studios to groups at the school. Please contact us for more information on how to access the license to hold a movie night. Groups also need to contact TCS to reserve the gym where the big screen is located.

How can you participate? School Club seeks many types of volunteers to help organize events, cook for community suppers, make phone calls, set up and clean up at events and raise funds for activities.

## **Tunbridge One Planet Afterschool Program**

Tunbridge One Planet Afterschool Program has had a fun and successful fall so far. We have 36 students enrolled and are averaging 26 students per day. In October we had an "Artist in Residence" with us for 3 days. Robin Russell introduced students to contra dancing, as well some basic music theory. On October 16th, we invited TOP families and community members to the school for a family potluck and contra dance. Over 50 people attended. Rumpeldethumpf provided the music and many danced up a storm!

Session II begins on November 10th. Some activities include Lego League, Art Club, Jump Roping, Wreath Making, I Spy with Computers, Fairy House Design, and Geo Bowl.

As we have in the past, we will offer a special Holiday Session from December 15th-23rd. This is a very exciting time for our kids. We'll make ornaments, crafty gifts, gingerbread houses, iced cookies; we'll make goodie baskets for shut-ins, have snowmen building contests and make greeting cards. It tends to be an expensive program, so we would love donations from the community. There will be a drop-off box at the Tunbridge Library and the school. Contact Elaine Howe (889-3310) or Ashley Smith (889-3310) with any questions. Please see list of items below:

30 Styrofoam Balls

Ribbon

Wrapping Paper

Candy for 30 Gingerbread houses:

-Necessos, Gum Drops, Candy Canes, Peppermints, M & M's

Ingredients for 30 Gingerbread houses:

-5 Bags of Flour

-3 Packages of Butter (12 sticks)

-1 Bag of Brown Sugar

-1 Container each of ground Cinnamon, Cloves, Ginger

-1 Jar of Molasses

-2 Bags Powdered Sugar

Food Coloring

Thin Wire

Card Stock

Holiday Stamps

Stamp Pads

Glitter

Construction Paper

## **Tunbridge Public Library**

Librarian: Jean Wolfe- 889-9404

Publicity, ArtSpace Coordinator: Marsha Higgins 889-5576

Hours: Sun 11:30-1:30 (May - Oct.), Mon and Wed 3-8, Fri 3-6, S 10-4

Please note that M,W,F hours listed above represent a change that will take place Dec. 1.

The Children's Story Hour themes for November and December are "Sharing and Giving" (11/20) and "Families" (12/4). Santa will make his annual appearance on Saturday, December 13, 10:30 AM. Story Hour is usually held on the first and third Thursdays of each month, 6:15, at the library. Changes in scheduling are announced in the Tunbridge Library News section of the Herald.

When planning family field trips, remember that reduced entrance fees are available by borrowing the library's pass to the ECHO Lake Aquarium and Science Center at the Leahy Center for Lake Champlain. Up to two adults and three youths will be admitted for just two dollars each. The library also loans a VINS membership pass which enables any family to visit VINS and many other educational sights in Vermont and New York at discounted rates. A list of these sights is available at the library.

ArtSpace at the library will feature watercolor, acrylic, and oil paintings by George Lawrence December 7 (opening reception 2-4 PM) through January 31.

The library will be closed November 26 and 28. Holiday Gift shopping? On sale at the library are reduced price books, 2009 calendars, lovely stationery, greeting cards, and specialty items for children and adults. During the Christmas holiday season the library will be closed December 24, 26, and 31.

Tunbridge Public Library will host the fifth season of Winter Evenings. Books by Winter Evening speakers are on loan at the library.

The library offers audio tapes of college level courses from The Learning Company. A wide range of subjects covers math, history, philosophy, religion, science, and music.

If you are interested in downloading audio books please contact the librarian to receive a login number. This service is now available through the Green Mountain Library Consortium's program Listen Up! Vermont website. Free, high speed, wireless internet service is available at the Tunbridge Public Library.

## **Tunbridge School Club Con't**

School Club spends money raised during the year on the movie site license, an overnight Camp In at the Montshire Museum of Science for the 3rd grade class, food and other supplies for events such as the first day of school, open house, staff holiday baskets, parents' day, winter carnival, teacher appreciation week and the end-of-the-year picnic.

School Club Email List: Interested individuals can write to schoolclub@tunbridge.k12.vt.us to sign up for the School Club email list and receive event details, meeting agendas and more.

Upcoming Meetings: Parents, school personnel and community members meet at 6:30pm on the first Monday every month (or the following Monday due to a holiday or inclement weather) to plan events, hear new ideas, review funding requests and manage the organization. The next meetings are at TCS on Dec. 1, Jan. 5 and Feb. 2.

## **ECFiber.Net**

Janet Zug 889-9602

ECFiber is a grassroots initiative to build a high-speed state-of-the-art fiber-optic network in 22 towns, bringing cable television, reliable telephone, and high-speed Internet service directly to homes, schools, and businesses.

Work is underway to secure financing for the ECFiber project. Considering the current market it may take a little longer than originally thought but we are still optimistic and feel sure we will get the financing we need. If all goes as planned we will have good news for you in the next TQ. The first customers will be hooked up about a year after financing is secured.

Pre-registrations are still very important as we want to be able to hit the ground running when the services become available in our town. This is a non-binding commitment, we will call you when the service is available to see if you are still interested in signing up. You may pre-register at [www.ecfiber.net](http://www.ecfiber.net)

## **Tunbridge Bone Builders**

Shelia Mitchinson 889-5547

**M/W-8:30am, Tu/Th 6:30am/8:30am/ 5:30pm**

Classes are free with weights provided. Come join us or come back for renewed strength, energy and balance. Classes are designed for adults of all ages male or female. Exercises are designed by a study done at Tuff's University in Boston. A person can start with no weights adding up to as much as ten pounds depending on your level of fitness and lifestyle. Make YOUR health YOUR number one priority.

## **Tunbridge Church**

David Wolfe: 889-5577

The Tunbridge Church has planned a full schedule of events for the upcoming holiday season including a Thanksgiving eve service, two Christmas Eve services, shut-in caroling, and a community carol sing.

The church choirs have just begun rehearsing music for the season and we invite any interested singers to participate. This is a perfect time for those of you that love to sing but feel you can't commit to being a regular choir member. Rehearsals are Wednesday evenings. The children's choirs meet at 6 p.m. and the adult choir at 7 p.m. More information may be obtained from church music director Judie Lewis (899-9490) or children's choir director Janet Zug (889-9602).

The church will offer two special candlelight Christmas Eve services: A family service at 6 p.m. with music by the younger children's choir, and a more formal service at 8 p.m. with music by the youth and adult choirs. The church began holding two services last year to make sure there was space for all those that wish to attend.

Other events of the seasons include:

*Nov. 22:* Packing of baked goodies and fruit baskets for shut-ins at 1 p.m. at the Parish house. We need baked goodies and money for fruit. We also need help at 2:30 to deliver packages.

*Nov. 26:* A Thanksgiving eve communion service at 7:30;

*Dec. 5:* A church decorating party at 6 p.m. and carol sing at 7 p.m. Refreshments served afterwards at the parish House.

*Dec 13:* Caroling of shut-ins. Participants will gather at the church at 6:30 at the church to car-pool to shut-ins homes. Afterward there will a time of fellowship and refreshments at Parish house.

*Dec. 20:* Distribution of food boxes for families-in-need at 1 p.m. at the town hall. The families will receive a turkey and all fixings for a Christmas dinner. Requested contributions include baked deserts or bread and festive add-ons, such as hats, mittens, candy, specialty-canned goods, etc. We would appreciate Money gifts to help defray the cost of the packages, \$30 each. Call Sue Barnaby, 889-3736, for more information and/or if you know a family that is struggling and should receive this Christmas dinner.

## **Tunbridge Church Con't**

Regular events:

Our regular worship service is at 10 a.m. each Sunday. There is Sunday School for pre-school and grade-school children during the service. If you know children that would benefit from the attention of concerned teachers, please call the pastor. Teachers are Bitsy Biron, Sue Barnaby, Kathi Terami, Sharon Welch, Lisa Amodeo, and Ben Wolfe.

An adult class taught by the pastor meets at 8:45 a.m.

Sundays. A discussion group meets at 6:15 p.m. each Tuesday at Parish House for information sharing of ideas and concerns around a passage from the Bible. Adults of all ages are cordially invited either or both of these groups.

The church-sponsored food shelf is open from 4-6 p.m. Fridays. The church also sponsors SERVE, a program for anyone in the community, which offers a reduced-cost food package in exchange for two hours of community service. More information may be obtained from Sue Barnaby.

### **Transfer Station & Recycling**

Mary-Alice Leonard-Heath- 685-3035

**Saturdays from 9:00 - 3:00.**

The transfer station is no longer accepting cash, You need to have a pre-paid ticket to take your trash to the transfer station. Tickets are available at the town office and the Village Store. Information on recycling can always be found at [www.CVSMWD.org](http://www.CVSMWD.org).

### **State Rep. Democratic Candidate**

Louise Barreda- 889-3721

I would like to express my gratitude to those of you who voted for me in this election. A win in Tunbridge is a special honor for me. Tunbridge is my home and it has been a privilege to travel the roads of our community meeting and talking with so many of you on both sides of the issues. I have learned a great deal from you and you have given me much to think about.

There is much work to be done and I hope to stay involved and to continue to learn more about the issues that face us in our world and in these difficult times. It is important that our elected officials hear our voices and take our concerns to Montpelier to serve as a link that keeps us informed and included.