

The TUNBRIDGE Quarterly
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The TUNBRIDGE Quarterly

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

May 15, 2011
issue #24

Tunbridge Treasurer

Anne Mallary- 889-3571

Expect a significant increase in your municipal tax come August when the tax bills will be sent. At Town Meeting we approved a \$1,209,550 budget for the town. This is an almost 4% increase over the previous year. However the tax portion of this budget increased by 12%. Taxes to be raised are \$905,550. This is an increase of \$97,053. The primary reason for this is the transfer of \$50,000 to the paving fund.

The estimated tax rate will be \$0.551, which is an increase of \$0.096. This will increase your municipal tax by \$240 on a property valued at \$250,000.

As of this writing the budget looks to be on target. That could change when mud season FINALLY ends.

Tunbridge Planning Commission

Sue Clark 889-3733

We are making progress on our three major projects. First, Tunbridge received a Municipal Planning grant of \$10,000 with the assistance of Two Rivers-Ottauquechee Regional Commission. This grant will be used to assist in the update of the Tunbridge Town Plan, and especially with the "Patterns of Settlement" project. Part of this project is public outreach. The date and manner is yet to be determined, so stay tuned.

On May 3 The PC presented the Town Forest Management Plan to the Select Board and it was approved. Contact Wendy or Rudi Ruddell if you are interested in reviewing the plans.

Finally, the Planning Commission heard from Preston Bristow who acts as zoning administrator for several area towns on his role as the Flood Plain Hazard Administrative Officer. The PC is working on updating the Flood Plain Hazard Ordinance and an Administrative Officer will need to be selected.

The TUNBRIDGE Quarterly

Janet Zug 889-9602 janet@zugglass.com

It is my hope that people will find interesting and pertinent information in the TQ. I love this town. I greatly appreciate the time and effort that folks spend working with our community organizations and in elected positions, most of them paying mainly in satisfaction (sometimes frustration) not money. Your generosity helps make our town so special. **1**

Tunbridge Neighbors Helping Neighbors

Jim Wick- 889-889-3437

Tunbridge Neighbors Helping Neighbors continues to provide services to local residents through volunteer action. We mostly get requests for rides, but have done many other things, such as change a tire, stack wood, fix a door, help with a computer, etc. If you call us we will find a volunteer who can help you. We've been getting quite a few calls recently, and we are happy to help.

Help Line 889 - 3437

Our service is for anyone in the Tunbridge community; there is no membership and the service is free.

Our Board members now include Felicity Swayze, Brenda Field, David Wolfe, Pam Dietz, Adam Smith, Rick Scully, and Jim Wick. If you have any questions about TNHN please feel free to contact any one of us.

Tunbridge Better Bones

Shelia Mitchinson 889-5547

Tues. & Thurs - 6:30am/ 8:30am/ 5:30pm

Mon & Wed. - 8:30am

Classes are free with weights provided. Come join us or come back for renewed strength, energy and balance.

Heating Fuel Assistance Fund

Ben Wolfe - 889-9467

Donations to this fund can be sent to the Town of Tunbridge please write "Fuel Assistance Fund" in the memo line on the check. Call Ben Wolfe with further questions.

Friends of the Tunbridge World's Fair

Nancy Howe - 889-3750

On July 24th, The Friends of the Fair will hold it's annual meeting starting at 11:30am for potluck lunch and 12:30pm for the business meeting. Duck Launch is scheduled for 1:30pm on the fairgrounds. This is a fundraiser for Friends 2011 projects. Contact Deb Mullen (889-9406 or Nancy Howe 889-3750 for details or your lucky duck!

Tunbridge Town Website

Rick Scully- 763-7474 email: rick@tunbridgevt.com

The Tunbridge Website (<http://tunbridgevt.com>) is filled with useful information, and is updated on a regular basis with new events occurring in the community -- including information on all the events associated with the celebration of Tunbridge's 250th anniversary!

In the coming months look for more information from the Selectboard and Town Clerk's office as we look to add upcoming agenda items and minutes from Selectboard Meetings. As always, please send information to Rick Scully if you would like it on the official town website.

Tunbridge Historical Society

Euclid Farnham 889-3458 Kay Jorgensen 889-5528

The Tunbridge Historical Society will celebrate its 50th anniversary this year with four free public programs and summer exhibits in addition to 250th anniversary events it is coordinating (see Tunbridge 250 information).

An exhibit, "Tunbridge — The Past," will be open for two hours on a Saturday morning and Sunday afternoon in June, July and August at the North Tunbridge Baptist Church (see the calendar).

The annual Mystery History Walk, co-hosted with the library, will be held on Sunday, June 5, leaving from the library at 3 p.m.

The "Tunbridge Speaks" oral history program will be held at the Tunbridge Church on Tuesday, July 12, at 7:45, following the church's annual Ice Cream Social. The society will celebrate its birthday with a cake at the social.

The Tuesday, Aug. 9, meeting at the Dodge-Gilman Building will begin with a 6:30 potluck supper. Euclid Farnham and Mick Maguire will give an illustrated program about the town's 21 district schools at 7:30 p.m.

The Ghost Walk will be held on Sunday, Oct. 9, at 1:30 at the Hunt Cemetery in North Tunbridge. Rain date is Oct. 16.

Tunbridge Town Clerk

Wendy McCullough- 889-5521

Mon, Tues & Wed: 8-12 & 1-4 ; Thurs: 8-12 & 1:15-4

Tunbridge Board of Listers

Judie Lewis- 889-3571

The Board of Listers has set the time of its official grievance hearings for 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tuesday, June 14, at the Town Office building. If the appraised value of your property has changed from the 2010 value, you will receive a Change of Appraisal Notice. These notices will be sent no later than May 31. If your property value has not changed, you will not receive a formal notice unless you have requested one. However, any property owner may grieve the value that the Listers have given a property.

Please remember, the hearing is not an opportunity to grieve the amount of taxes that you pay. You can complain about your taxes to the board, but no matter how sympathetic we may be to your predicament, we simply do not have the authority to do anything about it. If you are unhappy with the property taxes you are paying, talk to the Selectboard, the School Board, State legislators and go to Town Meeting and vote.

The mission of the Board of Listers is to fairly and equitably assess all town properties and to assess each parcel at its probable selling price. At a grievance hearing, the property owner must present evidence to show why the property is not listed at a probable selling price. You may shake your head and say, "Man, I could never sell my property for that!" However the board cannot make a change to your assessment based on your feelings; you must present facts. The Lister office has information on sales and assessments on all properties available for your review.

The grievance hearing will be the last opportunity to seek a change of appraisal for the 2011 Grand List. State Statutes prevent Listers from considering any new grievances after the close of the hearing.

Tunbridge Select Board

Tom Mullen, Chair (889-9499)

Ingrid Van Steamburg (889-3459) Bob Dunkle (889-3740)

This is our first report since Town Meeting. Our Town Meeting, once again, brought out many folks to meet and discuss the inner workings of our town government. We were happy to see that most people in attendance were in approval of the new format for the Town Report. We would like to thank the Auditors for accepting our invitation to make that change and for putting forth a grand effort to bring it about. We addressed many interesting topics during the meeting covering everything from street lights, highway issues, to budgeting concerns and more. We are happy to see folks bring their concerns and questions. As stated at the meeting, we welcome all town folk to call on us or come to our meetings with any issues or concerns that they might have. The select board is available throughout the year; not just town meeting.

The Winter season proved to be a real challenge for our road crew. With our Road Foreman absent, due to an injury suffered during one of the storms, we found ourselves looking for part-time help to fill in during his absence. We were able to obtain several “part-time” workers to keep things going. The crew did a fine job of keeping roads plowed and sanded.

Then came “SPRING” season, or should we say MUD season. The past few months have been interesting, to say the least. We have dealt with some of the worst dirt road conditions that our road crew has seen in over a dozen years. The long, cold winter drove the frost down deep into the roads, and the thawing process had begun. With this process came the mud. We hired on extra drivers, extra trucks, and worked extra hours to try to stay on top of things. We hauled over 5000 yards of gravel (almost the entire yearly budgeted amount) to the muddiest areas in an effort to keep the roads “passable”. But, as many of you (probably all of you) know, we still had several roads that were just “BAD”. We fielded several calls from concerned town folks with complaints of their road being in horrible shape. We agreed with them, explained the situation, and instructed our road crew to “do the best you can”. We feel the crew did an exemplary job, in the face of what seemed like a never ending battle. The roads have dried up some now, and the crew continues to work on them as the weather warms. Thank you to all for being understanding during this past season. **3**

Tunbridge School Club

Kathi Terami- Parent Volunteer 889-5575

Winter Carnival a Success: Despite frigid temperatures and strong winds, nearly 100 people came out to participate in a day long Winter Carnival held at Tunbridge Central School on Saturday, February 19. Many thanks to all the volunteers who put so much energy into making this year’s Winter Carnival a fun-filled day for all. Tunbridge One Planet, Tunbridge Recreation Committee and Tunbridge School Club sponsored the events.

Teacher Appreciation Week: Every spring, the first full week of May is National Teacher Appreciation Week. School Club, together with the School Board and One Planet, organized special tokens of appreciation for all that TCS teachers and staff do for our students throughout the year. The week included a luncheon on May 4 that gave teachers and staff a rare chance to enjoy a meal together. Thank you to all who contributed items to success of the luncheon.

Last Day of School Picnic: As long as there are no more snow days, school ends with a half day on June 17. School Club will host the annual last-day-of-school picnic from 11am - Noon for all students, staff, teachers, parents, community members and volunteers. Please call Kathi Terami at 889-5575 or email schoolclub@tunbridge.k12.vt.us if you would like to contribute to this celebration in any way.

Finances in Good Standing: So far this year, School Club has provided support for the Back-to-School Potluck, the free dinner at the Open House, the 8th grade leadership retreat at the Hulbert Outdoor Center, snacks during NESAC testing, the movie site license, the Halloween Party, the Holiday Breakfast for teachers and staff, both the school and community Winter Carnival days and Teacher Appreciation Week. Upcoming support will include refreshments after the spring concert, the Camp-In at the Montshire Museum of Science for the 3rd grade class, a contribution towards the 8th grade class trip, flowers and cake for the graduation ceremony and the end-of-the-year picnic.

Upcoming Meeting: Parents, school personnel and community members typically meet in the TCS Library at 6:30pm on the first Monday every month (or the following Monday due to a school break, holiday or inclement weather) to plan events, hear new ideas, review funding requests and manage the organization. School Club will meet at 6:30pm in the school library on June 6. All are welcome to come to share ideas or get involved!

Tunbridge One Planet Afterschool Program

Cynthia Perry 889-3310

Session IV offers exciting activities for our students including Zumba, SafeArt (theatre and movement), gardening, cooking for the food shelf, brain games and puzzles, and studies about Brazil. This session has brought a nice balance of hands-on learning, brain stimulation, and body movement. Active Learners for K-2 has studied Cinderella tales from many cultures, played word Bingo, and watched short films about drinking milk, VT dairy farming, and Tomie DePaolo, a famous children's book author. We are now switching gears and exploring shapes and how they change using everyday materials, plaster of paris, and paper maché. Oh what a mess!

Healthier Snacks: We have been offering, whole wheat baked bagels and cream cheese made with yogurt, all-fruit jam, baked pretzels, yogurt, cheese sticks, fresh VT cheddar cheese and crackers, milk everyday, carrot sticks and fruit, and granola bars. The kids are eating healthier foods, and they have a wider selection and variety each day.

One Planet Stars: Choosing our Student of the Week is now based on 4 simple rules of behavior. TOP staff votes for the week's Star on Thursdays. Last week's Stars were Molly Kinnarney and Cameron Magoon. Parents of Stars are given the ballots reporting the good deeds their child has done to earn the award.

Résumé Writing Service: So far, Cindy, the TOP Site Coordinator, has written three free resumes for Tunbridge parents. If you'd like a resume to aid in your job search, please contact Cindy via email, phone, or drop in to the TOP program between 3:30 and 4:30 weekdays. (cindyperry16@gmail.com) (889-3310)

Fundraising: TOP continues to offer new Tunbridge Tiger products including youth size t-shirts (\$12), water bottles (\$10), and lanyards (\$6). All proceeds will go towards supporting One Planet and Tunbridge Recreation programs. Products are available in the TOP office at TCS.

Summer Program: One Planet Summer Program will run July 5th-July 29th. Summer enrollment packets went home with TCS students in March and they are also posted at www.owsu.org. Please send in your enrollment forms as soon as possible to Cindy Perry at TCS.

We have been watching the budget carefully as the fiscal year end approaches. The fiscal year ends on June 30th . The purchase of gravel and the extra trucking needed this past season has taken its toll on the budget. We also had a large amount of overtime for the crew. Truck breakdowns were common and fuel costs continue to rise. At this point, we are expecting that we may be able to finish the year out in the black, but it will be close. We are in hopes that we will not have to go into deficit spending as the town did several years ago. If this were to happen, we would again find ourselves facing a separate tax line item to make up for this deficit, which is mandated by the State of Vermont.

Equipment: We have had a few issues with some of the trucks, as well as the grader. Repairs have been made as needed and at this point all equipment is working well. The road crew reports that the new loader is working great. We will be taking a look at all of our equipment and its' current condition over the next few months to access possible replacements or upgrades.

Other news: The Recreation Department has final approval for the purchase of the adjoining land by the recreation field. We are moving forward with the purchase. The environmental testing has been completed and seems to be in order. We would, once again, like to thank the Recreation Department for all of their hard work, and we look forward to seeing what plans they may have for the newly purchased property.

We have finished the "energy efficient" measures that were budgeted for the Town Garage. That work included installing "spray-on foam" on the entire ceiling of the building as well as new energy efficient lights, fans, and a programmable thermostat. It appears at this point that these measures have saved a considerable amount of energy usage this past season. We hope to have a more solid calculation of the amount saved at a later date. There still remains a sum of money allocated for energy improvements to the town buildings and we will be addressing that soon. We hope to add some insulation to the Town Hall, as well as some broken window replacements. We have already performed some energy measures, such as adding insulation to the Town Office building ceiling (now R 60) and installing programmable thermostats. There has been interest from the Library to have a programmable thermostat installed as well.

Tunbridge Select Board, Con't

Website: We have met with Rick Scully, the keeper of our town's website. It was discussed at length that we would all like to see more use of this communication tool. Rick will be working with our town employees and officials to get more consistent, "up to date" information on the site. It is our hope that with a systematic approach to inputting information onto the site that it will become more used by the general public. Please visit the site and check it out. <www.tunbridgevt.com>

We are looking forward to a nice, warm summer. The town will be celebrating its' 250 Anniversary this year and we will undoubtedly have many events to attend. The historical society is hard at work bringing about many of these functions. There are also many annual events at the Town Hall, Library, and Church, as well as the Fairgrounds. We look forward to these annual events and hope you can attend. If you have any concerns or questions, please feel free to call any board member. -Tom Mullen

Tunbridge School Board

Lois Gross 889-5679; Lorinda Oliver 889-9462;
Kathy Galluzzo 603-252-0352

ECFiber.Net

Janet Zug 889-9602

ECFiber's first run of fiber-optic cable is about to be installed! Pole connection applications are complete and the fiber has been ordered. This first 25 mile loop runs from the ECF home office in Royalton, thru Bethel to Barnard and back. I'm sorry to say it's not starting in Tunbridge but it's not far away and it's a big step in achieving our goal to bring real high-speed Internet to our town. The ECFiber governing board meets at 7pm on the second Tuesdays of the month at VLS's Oakes Hall room 110, all are welcome to attend.

Tunbridge Grange #384

Mert Vesper - 889-5595

Meetings of the Tunbridge Grange, located in North Tunbridge, are held on the first Wednesday of each month at 7pm and last approximately an hour and a half.

See the calendar for events at the Grange.

Farm to School

Mary Zentara - 889-5637

Farm to School programs are taking root throughout the school district. Farm to School, often referred to as F2S, aims to build connections among the community, classroom, and cafeteria by creating opportunities for kids to learn about, grow, prepare, and eat local food while connecting with local farmers and the landscape. The Tunbridge Central School has begun to plan their own unique program with the help of a "Rozo McLaughlin Farm to School Planning Grant" awarded from the VT Agency of Agriculture this year. A diverse Farm to School Planning Committee comprised of faculty, local farmers, parents, administration, the food service director, community members, and members of Sharon Sprouts and Royalton Roots has been meeting once a month since late January. The goal of this planning committee is to create an action plan for the first year of F2S and with that, apply for the \$15,000 "Rozo" F2S Implementation Grant.

Early in the planning process, an exciting, broad ranging list of possible F2S ideas was produced. Now, with those ideas in mind, a mission statement and priority list for the program's 1st year is being cultivated. Some ideas include building a bread oven, student participation in a state-wide cooking competition called Iron Chef, Taste of Tunbridge (similar to Taste of the Valley,) Farmer Panel to talk about farming with students, taste testing local foods and recipes, and incorporating into the school menu carrots, peas, and potatoes that will be grown in the school garden through the One Planet Program this summer.

In order to ensure program success and sustainability, implementation of this program will move at a slow, manageable pace. In addition, Tunbridge Central School F2S will need community support. Please stay tuned to learn about opportunities for getting involved with this exciting program! Feel free to contact me with questions or ideas at 889-5637 or mzen@sover.net.

The F2S Planning Committee will hold its next meeting on Wednesday, May 25h at 6:30pm in the school library. The meeting will focus on continued action planning for the program's first year.

Tunbridge Library

Librarian_ Jean Wolfe 889-5577

Publicity, ArtSpace Coordinator: Marsha Higgins 889-5576

Hours: Sun 11:30-1:30 (May through October),

Mon and Wed 3-8, Fri 3-6, Sat 10-4

Children's Story Hours are usually held on the first and third Thursdays of each month, 6:15pm at the library. Watch the Herald and Tiger Tales for information about the summer reading program.

ArtSpace at the library is featuring the photography of Katrina Mojzesz through July 8. A special exhibit is being planned to celebrate Tunbridge's 250th anniversary. Artists who are interested in submitting a piece for this event should contact Marsha Higgins now. The theme of the show is Artists Envisioning Tunbridge: Celebrating 250 Years of History. The theme leaves possibilities wide open to create a piece celebrating our rural community. The exhibit will open with a public reception Friday evening, July 29, 7-9pm.

The Tunbridge Library's annual Plant, Book, and Bake Sale will be held from 9pm to 2pm on Monday, May 3/10. This event is sponsored by the Friends of the Tunbridge Public Library. Several thousand books will be on sale in the lower level of the library. Book donations are still being accepted; however, books should be in good readable condition. There is a need for brown, grocery-size paper bags for book buyers to fill. Baked treats always sell out quickly from the lower level of the Town Hall. Contact Sue Barnaby (889-3736) if you can donate pies, cakes, cookies, or breads. Also popular is a wide range of reasonably priced, hardy perennials for sale on the parsonage lawn across from the Town Hall. If you can volunteer, Liz Guth (889-3746) needs help digging, potting, and transporting plants from local gardens. Donated plant pots should be 7 inches or greater in diameter.

For the past two winters the library has remained closed on Sundays (11:30-1:30). To make up for this, the library added Thursdays, 3-6, to its year round hours. Since there has been no objection to closing on Sundays, it may become permanent throughout the year. To encourage public feedback about this change, a form is available at the library.

The next scheduled meeting of the library trustees is Sunday, June 12, 6:30pm. An agenda item is "community concerns." The community is always welcome to attend trustee meetings.

On sale at the library are reduced price books, calendars, stationery, seasonal greeting cards, gift wrap bags, and specialty gift items for children and adults. Free, highspeed, wireless internet access is available at the library. Audio books may also be downloaded to an MP3 player. (Ask librarian Jean Wolfe for details or visit the tutorial on the library's website: www.tunbridgelibrary.org)

First Branch Ambulance & Rescue

Pam Caron- 889- 9595

The Board continues to look at the finances and is working on some potential changes that will help offset the decrease in reimbursement. The Captains of the four district ambulance services have begun to meet monthly and are working together on cost sharing ideas. This is a great move forward and will benefit not only our towns but the entire district.

We meet the third Tuesday of each month at 7:00pm and welcome any suggestions or ideas anyone may have. January through June we are at Tunbridge Fire Station and July through December we are at the Chelsea Fire Station.

Tunbridge Civic Club

Merle Howe 889-5574

This year's 59th annual show highlighted the impressive talent from our small town. The proceeds, after expenses, from the show are given back to the community for local causes. This year, funds were distributed to the Town Library and School Library to purchase books in honor of Tim Mullen. Funds also went to the S. Tunbridge Church toward the replacement/repairs of the roof, the food shelf and the recreation committee.

The town hall is handicapped accessible and is used on a regular basis for community events and private functions. The cast and crew work hard to bring this show to the community, with practices twice a week for six weeks. The basic criteria for participating is that you must be of high school age or older and be a current resident of Tunbridge or have been in the show as a past resident of Tunbridge. Anyone with questions or suggestions regarding the Civic Club may call any of the officers, Merle Howe, President at 889-5574; Butch Howe, Vice President at 889-3716; Maxine Young, Secretary at 763-8274; or Jim Wick, Treasurer at 889-3524. Thank you to everyone who participated and we will see you next year for our 60th annual show! We're already discussing plans for a great show so you won't want to miss it!

The Civic Club is hosting a Variety Show on Saturday, October 8, 2011 at 7:00 PM at the Town Hall in celebration of the town's 250th. Be sure to mark your calendars!

State Representative

Sarah Buxton - 802-828-2228 sbuxton@leg.state.vt.us

The House has worked hard to pass a balanced budget and several meaningful pieces of legislation. I will send out an “end of session” report by the end of May. PLEASE send me your email address (sbuxton@leg.state.vt.us) for a copy of this report. (I’ll mail out hard copies as funds allow.) I’ll also post it on my website: www.votesarahbuxton.com.

Budget: We passed a balanced budget bill that closes the \$176 million budget gap and trims state spending by 3.6 percent.

Taxes: The “cigarette tax” is still in play. I am inclined to support a higher cigarette tax, if I get to vote on it again. Please let me know your opinions!

Jobs: The “Jobs Bill” provides support for business expansion and job creation, including: enhancing workforce training programs, incentivizing Vermont businesses to recruit suppliers to relocate to the state, helping employers hire long-term unemployed applicants, enhancing the VEGI program to bring new capital into the market for business expansion, and supporting value-added agriculture through the Farm-to-Plate program.

Health Care: The House and Senate passed different versions of Health Care reform - details will be ironed out before we adjourn. This is just the start of a multi-year process – I want to hear from you about your concerns.

Agriculture: This week, we expanded farmers’ ability to sell raw milk –benefiting farmers in our district. We also created a “Mutual Benefit Enterprises,” a new business form that allows patron members to join with value-adding businesses and capital investors. It will be useful to our agricultural sector going forward.

DUI penalties: Passed a major DUI bill that cracks down on repeat offenders by strengthening sentencing guidelines and making it a crime to allow an intoxicated person to drive your vehicle. In the most serious DUI offences that result in death or serious injury, at least 5 years must be served by imprisonment.

Propane: Complaints about propane usage fees and delayed refunds have skyrocketed. We passed a bill that eliminates fees for minimum consumption and purchase requirements, requires timely refunds to customers when switching, and prevents the disconnection of services for failure to pay non-fuel related charges.

... continued on the next page.

Tunbridge Volunteer Fire Department

Jena Young- 889-2804

At our annual meeting in March, Tripp Edwards, John Welch and Vernon Maxham Sr. were recognized for and received their 5-year service award. In a surprise tribute, the membership recognized Fire Chief John Durkee for his 30 years of dedication to the Fire Department. Chief Durkee was presented with a 30 year pin and a signed photograph of the department. He also received a mahogany fire truck from his sister Barb Benson. The truck had a patch attached on the side that was from one of their father’s old Tunbridge Fire Department uniforms. Congratulations and thank you to all of these members for their years of service to the Fire Department. Their dedication to fighting fires in Tunbridge demonstrates a remarkable commitment to their community. In addition to the years of service awards, Pete Button, Bob Sponable and Jena Young were re-elected to the Board of Trustees and Ariel Harrington was elected as Clerk.

If you would like to get involved with your fire department, we are always looking for volunteers. Our business meeting is every 2nd Thursday at 7:00 pm at the fire house. Stop by if you would like to join our squad or serve the department in any way.

On a cold, wet and blustery day in late April we held our 3rd annual Easter Egg hunt at the School. Despite the foul weather, a hearty group of spirited kids and dedicated adults turned out to search for over 1000 hidden eggs. It was a fast search with many kids filling their baskets in record time. The truly brave boarded Engine 1 for a quick sound of the horn before the event wrapped up and everyone headed for dryer ground!

Once again, it’s BBQ time! New this year, you can e-mail your chicken barbeque reservations to TVFDBBQ@gmail.com or text message your order to 889-5518. Prefer the old fashioned way? No problem, just call Jen Loftus at 889-3274 or Jamie Bradford at 889- 5518 to place your reservation. If you want to eat our chicken on Memorial Day, you must call ahead & reserve your meal. Remember, you can purchase just a half chicken, or you can make it a meal for a few bucks more which includes macaroni and potato salad, a roll, butter and a choice of beverage. Thank you for your continued support as this fund raiser proves to be a great success every year.

Tunbridge Church

Deadra Ashton - 685-3029

Worship Services:

Regular Sunday morning services are held at 10:00 a.m. in the Congregational Church building next to the Town Office.

During the month July Sunday morning services are held in the South Tunbridge Church. During August Sunday morning services are held in the North Tunbridge Church.

The Church's Memorial Day Remeberance of those who have passed away in the last year will be held on Sunday, May 29 during morning worship.

Children's Sunday will be observed June 5 during the Sunday morning service.

The outdoor Sunday morning service and picnic will be held at 10:00 a.m. on July 31. Place to be determined.

Education and Social Events:

Bible study, led by Rev. David Wolfe, is held every Sunday morning in the Parish House through the month of June. A mid week Bible study, led by Ben Wolfe, is held on Wednesdays at 6:00 p.m.

Sunday School for Children is held every Sunday morning during the Service.

The Environmental Stewardship Group meets every third Sunday after the service. All are welcome to attend.

The Ice Cream Social will be held Tuesday evening, July 12, on the Parish House lawn. All are welcome. Bring a favorite topping to share, if you wish.

Food Shelf:

The Food Shelf is open every Friday afternoon from 4:00 - 6:00.

Tunbridge Church Community Playground:

Winter has receded and the playground is ready for children again. Two new benches have been installed thanks to a generous donation from Elder and Sister Mitchell, caretakers of the Joesph Smith Memorial, who wanted to give to the local children in honor of their historical connection to Tunbridge.

If you use the playground, or just like seeing the kids having fun, please consider making a donation to help with the upkeep and future additions. Checks made to Tunbridge Church Playground may be mailed to TSwayze 56 Swayze Rd, 05077.

State Rep. Con't...

Deceptive Practices: Our ground breaking consumer protection bill provides greater security of consumer data and outlaws deceptive practices including: misleading consumers into authorizing on-going credit card charges, adding unwanted charges to residential or business phone bills, and out-of-state companies masquerading online as a Vermont florists.

Broadband: The Telecom Bill, up for debate this week, has major implications for economic development. It's goal is to extend broadband and cell coverage throughout the state by the end of 2013. This is one of the most impacting bills to our district this session.

Tunbridge Recreation Committee

Carrie McDonnell 889-3463

Community Forum: Tunbridge Recreation Committee is actively looking for ways to enhance and create safe, affordable recreational opportunities for all ages in our town. Recently we have turned our attention towards the Recreation/Ball Field Area as it is regularly used in the warmer months for ball games and enjoyed by many community members. However, beyond the ball field itself, the former "summer hot spot" for children and families has fallen on hard times. As many of you know, some of the once vibrant recreational options, including the town swimming pool, playground and adjacent property, have lost their vitality. A Community Forum to learn about current town projects and discuss ideas to rejuvenate the Recreation Area will have been held Tuesday, May 10th. We hope the information gathered at this forum will help guide our committee as we work toward revitalizing this area.

Breakfast Fundraisers: We have been running a series of Sunday morning breakfast fundraisers at the Tunbridge Town Hall. These have been very successful and well-attended and we plan to use the proceeds to help fund the Tunbridge Recreation Area Project. We want to thank all of you who have attended and supported our breakfasts. We hope to do more in the future, so stay tuned!

Memorial Day: We will be organizing a number of fun events and activities for Memorial Day. We will have FREE ice cream, a bounce house and dunk tank for all to enjoy. We will also have our 2nd annual Cow Pie Bingo event. Please contact Amy Bogardus or Kevin Barnaby to buy your Cow Pie Bingo tickets ahead of time. All the activities/events will occur at the fairgrounds immediately after the parade.

Tunbridge 250th Anniversary Committee

Kay Jorgensen - 889-5528 Euclid Farnham 889-3458

See the Calendar for times and places

Tunbridge 250th anniversary special events will begin on May 8th with the first of seven 250th Hike-of-the-Month treks on Tunbridge's highest hills. Consider sturdy footwear, long sleeves, pants & bug spray. Call Fred Pond- 889-3251 or Rob Howe- 889-3704 for details or if you'd like to provide historical content or point out landscape features such as flora & fauna.

A 250th table will be set up at events starting on Memorial Day with notecards, postcards and magnets reproducing old photos and other items for sale. A new free map and guide to historic sites and the "The Early Years" booklet will be available.

On May 6 the the General Assembly will have issued a Tunbridge anniversary proclamation, thanks to Rep. Sarah Buxton. A 250th banner will soon be displayed on the Town Offices and two "Welcome to Tunbridge" signs will be installed on Route 110.

The "Tunbridge Cooks" cookbook of traditional recipes, along with local history, will be published this summer. Orders will be taken on Memorial Day. A DVD with historical photos, old movies, then-and-now photos and documents is being made. Euclid Farnham's Behind the Times historical articles are being edited and compiled for publication.

The May 30 Memorial Day Parade theme is "Tunbridge Through the Years." Historical floats and marchers are encouraged.

Starting on June 18 the Historical Society and Tunbridge Grange will be open for exhibits at the North Tunbridge Baptist Church and Grange six times during the summer.

The Starline Rhythm Boys will play at the July 9 "Celebrate Tunbridge" 250th Anniversary Dance at the fairgrounds from 8-11pm. Potluck munchables are appreciated. The next day the Tunbridge Appreciation Picnic begins at 11:30. Hotdogs and drinks will be provided. Salads and desserts are requested. The picnic will include the fire department with fire trucks, a smoke house and Smokey the Bear. Michael Sacca will take a town photo and the Larkin Contra Dancers will demonstrate and teach their dances.

Tunbridge Trilogy fans will be able to enjoy two of John O'Brien's movies outdoors each night on July 22 and 29. On July 24 the Northeast Fiddlers Assn. will host a concert and fiddle jam.

The July 25-29 One Planet K-6 Summer Camp's theme is "250th: A Birthday Celebration." Kids will explore local and American history.

A nine-week art exhibit opens at the library on July 29 and a quilt and needlework show is scheduled Aug. 13 and 14. Several 250th commemorative quilts are also being made.

The bells at each of the three churches will ring 250 times on Sept. 1, celebrating the Sept. 3, 1761, granting of the Tunbridge charter by Gov. Benning Wentworth of New Hampshire. The Tunbridge Church will host a potluck after the bell ringing.

The final 250th special events will be a variety show on Oct. 8, and the last hike-of-the-month on Nov. 6. **9**

Summer Calendar of Events

- May 30:** Memorial Day: Library plant, book & bake sales, 9-2. Town Hall memorial service, 11. Parade, theme "Tunbridge Through the Years," and cemetery program, 11:40. Followed by Fire Department chicken barbeque & Recreation Committee free ice cream at the fairgrounds.
- June 5:** Mystery History Walk from the library, 3 p.m. Hosted by library and historical society.
- June 12:** 250th Hike-of-the-Month to Sawyer's Hill from Tunbridge Central School, 1 p.m.
- June 18:** 250th Exhibits: "Tunbridge — The Past" exhibit at the N. Tunbridge Church and Tunbridge Grange, open 10-12
- June 26:** 250th Exhibits: "Tunbridge — The Past" exhibit at the N. Tunbridge Church and Tunbridge Grange, open 10-12
- July 3:** 250th Hike-of-the-Month to Goodwin Hill from Tunbridge Central School, 1 p.m.
- July 9:** 250th Exhibits: "Tunbridge — The Past" exhibit at the N. Tunbridge Church and Tunbridge Grange, open 10-12
- July 9:** "Celebrate Tunbridge" 250th Anniversary Dance with The Starline Rhythm Boys, fairgrounds pulling arena, 8-11.
- July 10:** 250th Tunbridge Appreciation Picnic at the fairgrounds, 11:30. All invited. Bring salads and desserts. Fire department kids' activities, town photo, Larkin Contra Dancers dance lessons.
- July 12:** Ice Cream Social with historical society 50th birthday cake at 6:30 on the Parsonage lawn. Tunbridge Speaks" historical society oral history program at the Tunbridge Church, 7:45 p.m.
- July 24:** Friends' of the Tunbridge Worlds' Fair annual meeting 11:30 potluck lunch, 12:30 meeting 1:30 Duck Launch
- July 29:** "Artists Envisioning Tunbridge, celebrating 250 Years of History" art show opening at the Library. 7-9pm
- August 7:** 250th Hike-of-the-Month to Indian Hill Raid Hill from Tunbridge School, 1 p.m. The following Hikes will be; 9/4: Old Hurricane Hill, 10/2: Brocklebank Hill, 11/6: Curtis Hill