

The TUNBRIDGE Quarterly  
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# The TUNBRIDGE Quarterly

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

May 15, 2013  
issue #32

## **The TUNBRIDGE Quarterly**

Janet Zug 889-9602 janet@zugglass.com

Entries for the TQ are printed as received, and only corrected for typos. If you want to read more detail from any of the elected or appointed town officials please encourage them directly.

Questions, comments and suggestions about the TQ can be directed to me at the contact info above.

## **Tunbridge Board of Auditors**

Maxine Young - 763-8274

Elizabeth Bicknell, Becky Hoyt

Town Meeting is past and the Board of Auditors has two new people elected for three year terms. They are Becky Hoyt and Betsy Race - welcome!! We have a busy year ahead of us. We are still working with the treasurer to submit the information required for the public audit. Also, hopefully this year, new software will be purchased which will be compliant with Governmental Accounting Standards, and this is what the Vermont League of Cities and Towns recommends. If anyone has questions of the auditors, please do not hesitate to contact any one of us. Our email is auditors@tunbridgevt.com.

## **Tunbridge Hazard Mitigation Plan**

Peg Elmer- 802-522-3844

“Are We Prepared”...update on the Hazard Mitigation Plan update: A solid number of people attended the planning commission’s public meeting on April 15th to hear about, and rate, possible strategies Tunbridge could take to avoid or lessen damages from future disasters.

The Planning Commission will meet on May 14 to winnow the number of ideas down further, and try to assign who will take responsibility for seeing the tasks happen and by when.

Incorporating this last, most important, piece on action strategies and implementation, Peg Elmer and Sharon Murray will finish the draft of the plan for public review and feedback in June. It will be made available for your review at the library, town office and online.

If you have questions or ideas you’d like to pass along, please let a planning commissioner know, or call Peg Elmer.

## **Calendar of Events** See individual entries for more events.

May 18 - Mayfest: children’s crafts and activities, maypole dancing and pagentry, May 18, 10-3, Wellspring Waldorf School, 889-3777 or www.wellspringwaldorfschool.org for more information

May 27 - Memorial Day: Library plant, book & bake sales, 9-2. Town Hall memorial service, 11am. Parade and cemetery program, following the service.

June 16 - Tunbridge Historical Society History Mystery Walk from the library, 3 p.m.

July 9 - “Tunbridge Speaks,” Historical Society oral history program, at The Tunbridge Church, 7:30 p.m.

July 12 - Ed Larkin Contra Dancers - with live music - 7:30pm Town Hall, All dances taught. \$5.00 Always on the 2nd Fridays.

Aug. 9 - Ed Larkin Contra Dancers - with live music - 7:30pm Town Hall, All dances taught. \$5.00 Always on the 2nd Fridays.

Aug. 19 - Tunbridge Historical Society slide program on Route 110 businesses and bridges, North Tunbridge Baptist Church, 7:30 p.m. Potluck at 6:30.

## **Tunbridge Grange #384**

Mert Vesper - 889-5595

We are going to be putting in the bathroom upstairs. We have a new quilt that we are selling tickets on. We will have a table at the Memorial Day festivities. We will be open the weekend of July 27&28 in conjunction with the church to display our curtain and show off things we have accomplished. We had to hold our fri. night bingo at the town hall, as our water froze at the grange hall, so we hope to get that fixed this summer. Our meetings are the first Wednesday of the month at 7 p.m Every one is welcome to come and visit .

## **Tunbridge School Board**

Lorinda Oliver – lorinda.oliver@gmail.com – 889-9462  
Kathy Galluzzo - galluzk@nationwide.com - 802-565-0695  
Amy Frost – asf802@gmail.com – 889-3739

## **Tunbridge Better Bones**

Shelia Mitchinson 889-5547  
Tues. & Thurs - 6:30am/ 8:30am/ 5:30pm  
Mon & Wed. - 8:30am

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

## **Tunbridge Historical Society**

Kay Jorgensen 889-5528 Euclid Farnham, 889-3458  
The society's 52nd year continues the tradition of History  
Mystery and Ghost Walks and oral history and slideshow programs.  
The June 16 History Mystery Walk will begin at 3 p.m.  
at the library where people will meet to carpool to the secret  
destination.

Tunbridge Speaks on July 9 will begin at 7:30 in The  
Tunbridge Church after the church's Ice Cream Social. Costumed  
presenters will share Tunbridge residents' writings and speeches.

The August meeting, on the 19th at the North Tunbridge  
Baptist Church, will feature Euclid Farnham and Mick Maguire  
with a 7:30 p.m. slideshow about the businesses and bridges along  
Route 110. A potluck supper will begin at 6:30.

Residents from the town's past will appear at the Ghost  
Walk on Oct. 6 at 1:30 p.m. in the Village Cemetery.  
Rain date is Oct. 20.

The society welcomes donations of Tunbridge photos,  
documents and artifacts.

## **Saturday Sewing Circle**

Nancy Howe - 889-3750

On Memorial Day, The Saturday Sewing Circle will be displaying  
patriotic items crafted for distribution to veterans in the Town Hall as  
part of the Tunbridge Church's outreach project.

We will meet on the following dates at the TCS library, 8 am to  
noon, June 1 and July 6, 2013 Our Annual Quilt and Needlework Show  
will be August 10 and 11, from 9 am to to 1 pm each day. Our theme is  
"What the Neighbors Bring In" and we welcome any handcrafted item  
you might want to show. Contact Elaine Howe at 889-5560 or Nancy  
Howe at the number above.

## **Tunbridge Select Board**

Bob Dunkle, Chair (889-3740) Gary Mullen (889-3242)  
Ingrid Van Steamburg (889-3459)

The selectboard would like to welcome Gary Mullen back to  
the board. We continue to revise policies and ordinances. As the last  
few muddy spots on the roads dry up we welcome spring and sum-  
mer and the board looks forward to seeing everyone on Memorial  
Day. As always if you have any questions or concerns please contact  
one of us or attend a board meeting on the first or third Tuesday of  
the month.

## **The Tunbridge Fuel Assistance Fund**

Ben Wolfe - 889-9467

The Fuel Assistance Committee appreciates the generosity  
of the those who have helped us meet the needs of the Tunbridge  
community. Though winters may not be as bitter as many of us  
can remember, but high fuel prices and a challenging economy  
have made it difficult for many people in town to keep warm  
through this past winter.

This fund-- made up entirely of individual donations--  
helps residents spread these large expenses over a number of  
months by making no-interest loans. We continue to be  
impressed by the responsible repayment and grateful responses  
we have gotten from recipients. As always, you may make dona-  
tions to the Fuel Assistance Fund by mailing them to the Town of  
Tunbridge; P.O. Box 6; Tunbridge, VT 05077, with "Fuel Assis-  
tance Fund" in the subject line. You may read more on the town  
website at [tunbridgevt.com/residents/groups/tfac/](http://tunbridgevt.com/residents/groups/tfac/) or call Ben  
Wolfe with questions.

## **Tunbridge Town Clerk**

Wendy McCullough- 889-5521

**Monday - Thursday 7:30am-3:00pm**

Dog Licenses per State Statue 20V.S.A. 3581 were due  
April 1, 2013. To date there are 65 known unlicensed dogs in  
Tunbridge, for your pets safety please get them licensed. If you no  
longer have your dog(s) please notify the Town Clerk and they will  
be removed from the dog files. You may stop by the office or send  
the fee to the Town of Tunbridge PO Box 6, Tunbridge VT 05077.  
Fees: altered \$10; non altered \$16 these fees include the late fee.

## **Tunbridge Planning Commission**

Ben Wolfe - 889-9467

Nancy Chapman (889-5542)

Ingrid Vansteamburg (889-3459)

The Commission's long-serving Chair, Sue Clark, is stepping down after many years of dedication. We would like to thank Sue for all her hard work, her encouraging leadership, and her sense of humor over the years. Her experience and insight as a professional planner have been invaluable. Thankfully, Sue will remain on the Commission as a member. Ingrid Van Steamburg and Nancy Chapman currently Co-Chair the Planning Commission. Another long-serving and fast-typing member, Dan (Rudi) Ruddell, is signing over his duties as the Secretary. Liz York and Ben Wolfe will do their best to take on these responsibilities cooperatively.

As noted at Town Meeting, the Planning Commission -- with the considerable help and support of Two Rivers-Ottawaquechee Regional Commission -- completed the statutorily required Town Plan rewrite.

This means we have another five years to mull over the future of Tunbridge and how it should respond to the changing times; your feedback, questions and insights are not only welcome—they are what makes our work meaningful as we seek to represent the community's vision for what we hope our town can become.

This also means the Planning Commission will continue to focus its immediate efforts on working with Peg Elmer to develop a Hazard Mitigation Plan as required by FEMA. The input of Tunbridge residents has been extremely valuable in this process, and we hope for your continued help at public meetings. One of the most pressing questions at this time is just what type of mitigation steps Tunbridge is willing and able to take -- regulatory and non-regulatory. Please look for upcoming announcements of future potlucks.

Additionally, the Planning Commission is working on updating the Floodplain Ordinance. Current member Ingrid Van Steamburg and former member Sarah Ballou undertook a substantial overhaul of the current ordinance. We would like to take this opportunity to thank Sarah for her considerable work on this project, as well as for all her service to the Planning Commission. Sarah stepped down at the end of 2012, and we miss her contributions. This ordinance is still a work in progress before the Commission, as we have not presented a final draft to the Select Board as of this writing. We would welcome any thoughts or questions regarding the content of the Floodplain Ordinance, and how it can be implemented meaningfully and fairly.

We remind you that the Planning Commission meets the second Tuesday of every month, either at the Library or the Town Offices. Our next meeting is Tuesday, May 14th at 6:30 pm, in the Town Offices. Any and all are welcome!

## **Tunbridge Recreation Committee**

Kathy Galluzzo - 565-0695

Kevin Barnaby - 889-5671

Thorton Hayslett - 889-9479

The Recreation Committee has had a very busy start to the year. We are very excited about all the progress at the Recreation Area, including the May 2nd delivery of the new playground. The recreation area is really coming together. There are a couple more things coming up in the near future, including a shed to store equipment to maintain the field, and a changing room for people to use for the swimming area. We also plan on building picnic tables for the area; if you would like to be part of this effort, give Kevin Barnaby a call at the number above. The pool should be full and ready for use by Memorial Day so for you brave souls who want to take a dip in water that is cold even in the middle of summer, come check it out.

On Memorial Day we plan to provide our traditional free ice cream for all, and the bounce house for the kids. We are also planning on cow-pie bingo again this year. The cost is \$10 per square and we will sell 100 squares. If the cow plops in your square you win the half of the money collected. Please order your ticket in advance by calling any one of the recreation members listed above.

The monthly Sunday fundraising breakfast at the Town Hall has been a great success and we would love to see more of you there. Stop in for good food and good company. They are held the second Sunday of every month. Speaking of fundraising, please keep an eye out for a letter that we will be sending out soon, to give people an opportunity to contribute directly to the playground fund and for this year's investment in a new liner and material for the ice rink. Thank you to the people who have already made contributions this year, including the Tunbridge Civic Club for donating some of the proceeds from their lively Variety Show.

Finally, we are always looking for new members or people who just want to help out where they can so please call if you have any interest.

## Tunbridge School Club

Kathi Terami- 889-5575 schoolclub@tunbridge.k12.vt.us

**Appreciation Week:** Every spring, the first full week of May is National Teacher Appreciation Week. School Club organized a special luncheon on May 6 that gave teachers and staff a rare chance to enjoy a meal together. Thank you to all who contributed items to the luncheon, volunteered to cover lunch/recess duty and recognized our special teachers and staff in other ways.

**Last Day of School Picnic:** School ends with a half-day on June 14. School Club will host the annual last-day-of-school picnic from 11am - Noon for all students, staff, teachers, parents and volunteers. Community members are welcome to join us in celebrating the end of the school year. Please email schoolclub@tunbridge.k12.vt.us if you would like to volunteer your time or contribute food items to this event.

**Finances in Good Standing:** School Club currently has over \$7,000 its bank account. So far this year, School Club has provided support for the Back-to-School potluck, movie site license, Vermont Symphony Orchestra DrumShtick Performance. book certificates for the Scholastic Book Fair during both the chicken pie and spaghetti suppers, the Holiday Breakfast for teachers and staff, classroom supplies for teachers, sleigh rides for the school Winter Carnival day, contribution to Student Council and the 8th grade class trip and the Teacher Appreciation Week luncheon. Upcoming support will include new flooring for the kitchen, the Camp In at the Montshire Museum of Science for the 3rd grade class, 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 3. All are welcome to come to share ideas or get involved!

## Tunbridge Town Website

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

Just a reminder that if you have something you want to promote [www.tunbridgevt.com](http://www.tunbridgevt.com) is a great place to post the event. Send your event via email to [rick@tunbridgevt.com](mailto:rick@tunbridgevt.com) with all the pertinent information. Often items are cross-posted to Facebook where there is a growing number of people visiting the Unofficial group: [www.facebook.com/groups/149524471756558](http://www.facebook.com/groups/149524471756558).

## Friends of the Tunbridge World's Fair

Deb Mullen - 889-9406

The Friends of the Tunbridge Worlds Fair Inc. is a private non-profit 501 (c) 3 corporation. The FTWF supports: Raising awareness of the fair and grounds - continued improvement and preservation of the UAS infrastructure, supporting education programs and associated events. In the past few years we have raised funds to pay 50% of the cost for the new footbridge, purchased new bleachers, rebuilt an antique ice cream maker and more. This year we will be working with the UAS on more projects.

Each year we also provide the handicap shuttle that runs for the 4 days of the fair. This provides rides on golf carts from the main gate (Tuckers Field) to various stops on the fairgrounds. The service runs from morning until evening each day, with extended hours on Friday (senior citizen day).

We will be hosting our annual meeting on Sunday, July 21st. It will start with a pot luck lunch at 11:30; meeting at 12:30 and our annual duck race at 1:30 on the fair grounds. Duck race tickets are \$5.00 each and can be purchased on Memorial Day at several locations around town and on the fair grounds. Cash and other prizes will be awarded.

The annual dues to become a member of the Friends is \$25.00. We also offer other levels of membership that can be seen on our website at: [www.friendsofthetunbridgefair.org](http://www.friendsofthetunbridgefair.org). Or call Deb.

## ECFiber

East-Central Vermont Community Fiber-Optic Network

Janet Zug 889-9602 <[janet.zug@ecfiber.net](mailto:janet.zug@ecfiber.net)>

Henry Swayze 889-5556 <[henryswayze@gmail.com](mailto:henryswayze@gmail.com)>

ECFiber is working to build a fiber-optic network in their 23 member towns through private investments. Investments secured in earlier closings are being used to build the first line thru Tunbridge.

ECFiber's has started building the first fiber route coming to Tunbridge! This route starts at the office on Waterman Road in Royalton. From there it travels Rt107 to Rt14, then runs up Rt110 to Button Hill and into Strafford over Kibling Rd.

Go to [www.myecfiber.net/index.php/map/](http://www.myecfiber.net/index.php/map/) to see a map of the current and proposed service area. All routes can be extended depending on additional funds invested.

The next closing on ECFiber investments is planned for July. If you would like more information about investing please contact ECFiber's treasurer, John Roy at 685-3151 or <[john@roy-vt.net](mailto:john@roy-vt.net)>

## **Tunbridge Volunteer Fire Department**

Jena Young- 889-2804

Thank you for your support and vote of confidence on Town Meeting Day as you approved an additional \$20,000 for the Fire Department to purchase our own air supply system and to support us in beginning to build an inventory of rescue tools and equipment for the Town of Tunbridge. As of the date of this submission, we have spent just under \$5,000 of that amount to purchase a used cascade air supply system that will be used to fill our air bottles. We are researching the best rescue tools to purchase with the remaining \$15,000, including having a demonstration of both battery powered and hydraulic tools on April 28th that many of our members attended & participated in. We expect to be making tool purchases soon after we've completed some additional research and compared quotes. We are pleased to let you know that the Fire Department recently voted to spend \$11,000 of our own fundraising money to purchase a used rescue truck that is in excellent condition with less than 8000 miles. This truck will be used to store and transport both rescue tools and the cascade system to calls that require those resources. As we gear up to take on the added responsibility of serving as a rescue squad, we are actively recruiting new membership to participate on that new squad. If you would like to get involved with your fire & rescue 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.

At our annual meeting in March, Vern Maxham Sr. was recognized for 10 years of service while Gary Farlow, Mike Boguzewski & Bob Dunkle were all recognized for 5 years of service to the Fire Department. Congratulations to all of our anniversary pin recipients! As for trustees, Pete Button and Jena Young were re-elected while Erin Gooch was elected for her first term of service to the board. Thank you to Bob Sponable who stepped down as Trustee this year. John Durkee was re-elected as Chief, Ariel Harrington was re-elected as Clerk for the third year and Becky Hoyt was voted in as our auditor.

Our 5th annual Easter egg hunt was held on March 30th at the School. This was probably the biggest turnout yet for this event and despite the early date this year, the weather was beautiful. Nearly 100 kids & adults searched for 700 hidden eggs on the playground and the surrounding area. This is always a fast event as kids race to fill their baskets in a matter of minutes. One of our fire trucks and our new rescue truck was on display for all to explore.

## **Tunbridge Energy Committee**

Henry Swayze 889-5556

Things have been happening:

The Earth Day BBQ and showing of "Do The Math" video from 350.org at the library went well as many very well-informed individuals from both Tunbridge and Strafford came together and renewed their commitment to turning the corner on climate change.

Over 100 Tunbridgites have pledged to make their homes more energy efficient, which saves big money and helps Tunbridge win the 2013 VT Home Energy Challenge. You can join in and start saving money too, by contacting your neighbors on the Tunbridge Energy Committee (see below)! Henry Swayze had a big surprise when Philip Mulligan of Chelsea (one of several local certified energy audit contractors) did an audit on Henry's "energy efficient" house only to find ways to reduce energy use by another 45%. You too can save money and help do your part in fighting climate change. Fill in the pledge. Then get an audit and decide what part of the improvements you want to do this summer. With enough of us participating we can win the \$10,000 prize from Efficiency Vermont to reduce energy usage for the town buildings (saving our tax dollars!).

The pledges and names of contractors can be found at [http://www.encyvermont.com/for\\_our\\_partners/community\\_partners/residential/home-energy-challenge-pledge.aspx](http://www.encyvermont.com/for_our_partners/community_partners/residential/home-energy-challenge-pledge.aspx)

Also, take the home carbon footprint

quiz: <http://coolclimate.berkeley.edu/uscalc>

We are also actively pursuing methods of generating more of our own electricity in the Tunbridge area. We'll have more on this in the coming months. Contact us now if you want to help in the investigation.

Tune in to "Green Zine" and many more interesting programs on the web at <http://www.royaltonradio.org> Todd Tyson and Henry Swayze co-produce the weekly program which you can catch on Thursday mornings at 11:00am, and rebroadcast Sundays at 2 PM. On the radio website, go to the schedule and click on "Green Zine" to get a link to the show website with lots of follow-up information.

Henry Swayze, [henryswayze@gmail.com](mailto:henryswayze@gmail.com) , 603.667.8932

Todd Tyson, [folkbloke@hotmail.com](mailto:folkbloke@hotmail.com) , 802.431.3433

Theo Fetter, [tbfetter@gmail.com](mailto:tbfetter@gmail.com) , 802.889.3462

## **Tunbridge Library**

Contact: Jean Wolfe, Librarian 889-9404

Publicity, ArtSpace Co-ordinator: Betsy Gaiser 763-2288

Hours: Mon & Wed 3-8, Thur & Fri 3-6, S 10-4

Children's Story Hours are usually held on the first and third Thursdays of each month, 6:15 at the library.

ArtSpace at the library is currently featuring photos for sale by Tunbridge photographer Fred Carty.

The Tunbridge Library's annual Plant, Book, and Bake Sale will be held from 9 AM to 2PM on Monday, May 27. 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 until May 24; 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. A few early spring bloomers are on sale at the library now. (Donated plant pots should be 7 inches or greater in diameter.)

A group of young writers (fourth grade and up) meets two Fridays a month, from 3 to 4:30 pm. The upcoming dates will be May 17, May 31, June 14, June 28, July 5, July 19, and August 9. Come enjoy listen, write, and share with us, whether you are working seriously on one particular story or just enjoy playing with words. If you are interested in becoming part of another writing group that meets at another time, please feel free to contact Ben Wolfe at the library email address.

Come in and check out our newest books. We have added a number of favorite fiction authors, audio books, and movies. We also have a collection of titles on homesteading, gardening, and ecological issues. What we don't have can be ordered for you through Inter Library Loan.

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](http://www.tunbridgelibrary.org)

## **Tunbridge Volunteer Fire Department, Con't.**

It's BBQ time! If you would like to eat our barbecued chicken on Memorial Day, you must call ahead & reserve your chicken / 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.

You can e-mail your chicken barbeque reservations to [TVFDBBQ@gmail.com](mailto:TVFDBBQ@gmail.com) or call Jen Loftus at 889-3274 or Jamie Bradford at 889- 5518 to place your reservation. Thank you for your continued support as this fund raiser proves to be a great success every year.

Finally, please remember to contact our Fire Warden, Brenda Field at 889 5548 for a fire permit if you plan to burn brush. A permit is required to burn brush at your home.

## **Tunbridge Neighbors Helping Neighbors**

Maxine Young - 889-3437 [myoung7202@aol.com](mailto:myoung7202@aol.com)

Tunbridge Neighbors Helping Neighbors will greatly miss Jim Wick, one of the key persons in the establishment of this organization. Jim is now living in Shelburne, but states he will stay in touch with Tunbridge. After Jim's resignation from the Board, it was voted that Lee and Bill will become Treasurer and Maxine will be Secretary.

We could use more volunteers who are willing to drive during the week. We are also in the process of updating our list of volunteers. If you are interested in adding your name to the list, please contact any of the Board Members.

Our emphasis is to provide services for seniors, but ANY-ONE is eligible. If your request is reasonable and we can find a volunteer, we will do it. Everyone needs help with something sometime, so please call. 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.

We are not able to provide emergency or daily services. As a practical limit, we are able and willing to do a couple of calls per month for the same person.

Board Members: Brenda Field, Bill Gefell, Lee Banas, Felicity Swayze, Pam Dietz, Maxine Young, David Wolfe.

## State Representative

Sarah Buxton - (802) 233-0274 (cell) sbuxton@gmail.com

The issues before the legislature this session were wrought with pleas to rebalance our economic, social, and environmental systems to favor working Vermonters. Through testimony, public hearings, and conversations with constituents, legislators repeatedly heard that Vermonters want the state to remain productive, fair, and healthy – challenging us to be bold in our decisions.

Over the last few weeks, the House passed bills on a myriad of issues: end-of-life choices, education spending, transportation funding, home health workers, marijuana decriminalization, prekindergarten education, renewable energy, environmental protection, and state infrastructure support.

Record-setting amounts of money were spent by outside groups to influence policy decisions this session. Millions were spent on fliers and newspaper, television and radio ads about the soda tax, cost of gasoline, mortgage interest deduction, end-of-life choices, taxing satellite dish service, worker's rights, wind towers and more.

My reaction to commercializing policy debates is mixed. On one hand, it's good for citizens to know what's going on in Montpelier "in real time." I found it very helpful to hear from constituents on a number of issues, whatever your position was, and thought the nature of the high-profile issues deserved a robust conversation. On the other hand, a fifteen-second ad that is tailored to persuade you (and me) to a particular position insults our ability to inquire, assess, and make conclusions about what is in our best interest. I doubt that this tactic is going away anytime soon, so I hope you use these "issue-campaigns" as an opportunity to have substantive conversations with me and other policymakers. I am 100% confident that our collective scrutiny will result in the best decisions for Vermonters.

I'll email a detailed end-of-session report to my constituent-list in the next few weeks - leaving copies at the library and town office. Send me your email if I don't already have it.

## Making Change

Lisa Kippen- 889-9822

A substance abuse support group for young people fourteen to mid twenties who are considering or committed to getting clean and staying clean. Meetings are held on Wednesday nights from 5:30-6:30pm at the Parish House. [www.secondgrowth.org](http://www.secondgrowth.org)

## DivorceCare 2013 Winter Seminar

2013 SPRING/SUMMER SEMINAR 5/14/2013 - 8/6/2013.

Facilitators: Robert Brinkley, Connie Coviello

Sponsored by Tunbridge and Journey churches.

The Spring/Summer DivorceCare seminar has thirteen weekly sessions. Each meeting of the seminar has a 30 - 40 minute video with top experts on divorce and recovery subjects. Personal workbook. Confidential, focused group discussions. Meets Tuesdays from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m., Tunbridge Church Parish House (also known as the Parsonage) 3 Potash Hill Road, off Route 110 across from the Tunbridge Church.

A unique opportunity for people no matter how long they have been divorced or separated. Fee \$15 total. Participants are welcome to begin participating at any of the weekly seminars. No need to wait until the next seminar begins in September, 2013. Most benefit is committing time to three or more sessions. You don't need to go through separation or divorce alone.

More information: <http://www.divorcecare.org>

## Tunbridge One Planet Afterschool Program

Phil Diamond - 889-3310

Hello Tunbridge! This TQ entry is always the most enjoyable to write. We all seem to be in better moods as the sky blues and the sunshine brings us some much needed vitamin D.

Here at One Planet we're running activities to help us enjoy the more temperate weather to its fullest. Bonna Weiler is leading us in Outdoor Adventures, taking short hikes, helping us build fires, and teaching how to use a compass and map. And Abby is walking us through some sports including whiffle ball and volleyball. We also have some really creative projects in the works. Jason Mallery has brought his puppetry and singing talents to TCS on Thursdays and has let us dig through his copious collection of puppet materials to create some really fantastically imaginative characters. A performance with our finished products is on the horizon. And Martha Hafner is teaching us all about other cultures around the world. Some highlights include making our own sushi and practicing using chopsticks. Most of the food didn't quite make it to our mouths, but it wouldn't be as much fun if it did, now would it?

Of course, summer is just around the corner and Camp One Planet is raring to go. We have an absolutely marvelous summer planned, with trips to the Polar Caves Park in Rumney, NH, Mt. Kearsarge Indian Museum, Storr's Pond, Hampton Beach, swimming lessons at the Upper Valley Aquatic Center, and, of course, our end of the summer Camp Out. A successful summer at camp is all about the enthusiasm you bring to it, and by the looks of it, we going to have plenty to go around. Enjoy the weather folks and be well!



## **Tunbridge Treasurer**

Ann Fragnella - 889-3571 treasurer@tunbridge.biz

I have been busy trying to get everything up to date for the fiscal year end on June 30. Since town meeting, I have attended two treasurer's workshops put on by Vermont League of Cities and Towns. These are meant to provide new treasurers with some insight into their job. I gained helpful information from these presentations.

I am trying to meet with any of the committee's/commissions who work to keep town programs running; and of course the Select Board wants to 'visit' with me occasionally. It is very pleasant sitting here and being able to look out at this pastoral little village that we all call home. I certainly have gained much insight into the workings of small town government. I work in close association with the listers and town clerk/administrative assistant and I must say that I am duly impressed with the care with which they serve the town. I hope you all appreciate them and all that they do to treat everyone with thoughtful care. See ya next time, Ann!!

## **Tunbridge Church**

Deadra Ashton - 889-9828

The Tunbridge Church will begin its season of summer activities June 9 with a Children's Day service and picnic. The church is decorated with balloons, the choir sings old favorite children's songs, and there are hot dogs and potluck goodies on the lawn after the service.

On June 12 the children will meet at 9:45 to purchase food-shelf items with money from the Sunday School collection.

A contemplative Bible study will be held at 4 p.m. May 18 at the Parish House. The study includes directed meditation on a Bible passage after which participants create an art piece.

Tunbridge fiddler Butch Howe will offer special music at the June 2 worship service.

Worship services move in July to the Brick Church in South Tunbridge. The outdoor service is August 4 at the home of Pam Dietz. Other August services are held at the North Tunbridge Church.

Vocal coach Lindsey Warren and art instructor Anne Leeds will conduct a Hildegard of Bingen workshop on July 27 (time TBA). Participants will learn some of Hildegard's chants and create original art inspired by her illuminations.

Choir rehearsals for this year's fair service will begin Aug. 7.

## **Tunbridge Listers**

Helen O'donnell, Rudy Ruddell, Adam Smith 889-3571  
<listers@tunbridgevt.com>

We want to first welcome Adam Smith aboard as the new lister, appointed by the Selectboard in April. Thank you to all of those who interviewed for the position, it was great to see such an interest in the lister job.

Spring is underway and we, as listers, are entering our busiest time of the year. We will be lodging the 2013 Grand List in early June, which means looking at any new properties, subdivisions and/or additions or outbuildings. With no zoning or permit system in place, transfers and observation are the primary ways to note changes; we always greatly appreciate being notified of changes.

The Listers have set grievance day for Friday, June 21, 2013 from 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM. If your property value has changed from the previous 2012 Grand List you will be sent a Change of Appraisal Notice. If your property value has not changed, you will not receive a formal notice, unless you requested one. However, any property owner may grieve the value that the Listers have given a property.

Following the notices we send, we encourage you to come in before the official grievance day to discuss your value. On the actual grievance day we are a listening body only. You will need to present evidence to show why the property is not listed at a probable selling price. We would be happy to show you the information we have available to help you in preparing a case. The first step in grieving is coming to us, the Listers. If you are not satisfied with the results you may then go before the Board of Civil Authority, which consists of the three selectboard members, the town clerk and the seven Justices of the Peace. If you are still not satisfied following their decision you may continue to the State Board of Appraisers, or to Superior Court.

Sometime in July, we hope to begin the next quarterly rotation. Notices would be sent out prior to our coming. As always, thanks for being kind to us as we try to do our job of being fair and equitable with all the properties in town.

## **First Branch Ambulance & Rescue**

Deb Mullen - 889-9406

Much has happened since the last issue of the Quarterly. At town meeting it was voted that 1st Branch Ambulance cover approximately 2/3 of Tunbridge and So Ro Rescue cover the other 1/3. The proposal was that So Ro would cover Russell Road, Clarksville and to the top of Potash Road. 1st Branch would cover the rest of the town. Now it has been suggested that the line change to Spring Road; so, heading north on 110 all residences on the right hand side of the road to Strafford Road would be covered by So Ro and all residences on Spring Road and north of Spring Road and the Strafford Road would be covered by 1st Branch.

This is not what the voters were told at town meeting, so we would like to solicit feedback from residents. An Emergency Services Committee has been formed and it is our hope that they will welcome our input (and yours) as to which addresses are covered by both 1st Branch and So Ro.

The change in coverage area for Tunbridge is slated to begin on July 1st; however, if there is an ambulance call and the specified service for that address is already on another call the other service will cover that call. This procedure is already in effect and has been for some time. We work with all other providers in this area to assure that all calls are covered.

First Branch Ambulance would like to provide coverage for all of Tunbridge as we have for over 25 years; however, if a division of coverage will truly result in a faster response time for Tunbridge residents, we will fully commit to the new plan. We do our utmost to make it to the scene of each call as quickly and as safely as we can, but we do live in a rural community and no matter who responds to the call it takes time to get from one part of town to another.

We would like to take this opportunity to correct some information that was given at Town Meeting. Approximately 1 week before Town Meeting there was an ambulance call on Russell Road. It was stated that it took 1st Branch over 30 minutes to respond to the call; however, it was actually 14 minutes, in the middle of the night with snow on the roads.

As planned, we proceeded with the sale of the rescue truck, as it was used for rescue purposes only 2 times in 2012. South Royalton and Chelsea Fire Departments both have rescue tools and vehicles and they are available and willing to provide mutual aid any time they are needed. We have 2 ambulances that are fully stocked and available for emergency calls 24/7. We have paid staff on during daytime hours and volunteers who are on call 24 hours a day.

## **First Branch Ambulance & Rescue, Con't.**

We are always looking for new members. There are EMT and First Responder courses in progress and more will be available in the future. If anyone is interested in learning more about how to become a member of 1st Branch please contact us at 802-685-3112.

We are still seeking a suitable space in the town of Tunbridge along Route 110 to house one of our ambulances; please call if you can help! If you have any input/ suggestions as to the planned change in coverage for the town please feel free to contact me at 802-889-9406.

## **Tunbridge Emergency Services Committee**

Bob Sponable - 889-3534

Mission Statement: To review contracts, policies, procedures, communications and emergency response plans of the Emergency Services, as defined by the Select Board, which respond within the Town of Tunbridge and make necessary recommendations of change to the Town Select Board.

The Committee shall consist of 5 (five) Tunbridge residents, appointed by the Select Board with preference given to the Fire Chief and a member of the Planning Committee as members of the committee.

The current committee, as appointed by the Select Board consists of; David Kimball, John Durkee, Brenda Field, Michael Sacca and Robert Sponable.

The Committee shall meet and present to the Select Board, for approval, a statement of structure and scope of responsibility. The organizational meeting was held on Wednesday, May 1, 2013 in the new library meeting room and the committee will subsequently meet every first Wednesday of each month, The June 5th meeting will also be held in the Library conference room. The site of future meetings is to be determined.

The goals of the committee are to act as:

- 1.) Representatives of the Tunbridge residents.
- 2.) A resource for the Select Board.
- 3.) A reviewer of contracts, procedures and policies of those emergency service organizations serving the Town.
- 4.) A reviewer of Emergency Response Plans that affect the Town.
- 5.) A provider of recommendations for changes or improvements to the Select Board as to the execution and/or cooperation (coordination?) of those plans and participating agencies.
- 6.) To establish a quality assurance program to offer the general public an avenue to voice concerns and complaints and to periodically review and assure that the responding agencies are providing an adequate service level as defined by their respective contract with the Town.

Any and all comments or statements of concerns are welcome, and can be made at any of meetings or by contacting any member of the Select Board or any member of the Emergency Services Committee.