

The TUNBRIDGE Quarterly  
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# The TUNBRIDGE Quarterly

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

May 15, 2014  
issue #36

## **Tunbridge Board of Auditors**

Maxine Young - 763-8274 [auditors@tunbridgevt.com](mailto:auditors@tunbridgevt.com)

Betsy Race, Becky Hoyt

Town Meeting is past and Maxine Young was re-elected for a three year term to the Board. The auditors have already been busy planning work meetings, compiling data and re-organizing. At the public meeting held on April 16, Maxine was re-elected as chair, Betsy as clerk, and Becky as reconciler.

We have a busy year ahead of us. Thank you to all those who submitted budgets and reports timely. However, there were late reports and budgets, and several corrected reports and budgets. This creates a burden on getting the town report to the printer in a timely manner. We encourage proofreading your report and budgets, and submitting them only once if at all possible. We appreciate the comments at town meeting regarding the reformatted town report and ease of reading and understanding it. If anyone has questions of the auditors, please do not hesitate to contact any one of us. Our email is [auditors@tunbridgevt.com](mailto:auditors@tunbridgevt.com).

## **Tunbridge Treasurer**

Ann Fragnella - 889-3571 [treasurer@tunbridge.biz](mailto:treasurer@tunbridge.biz)

The Treasurer's Office has been a bit quieter for the past few weeks. This is allowing me to go through some very old files and determine what must be saved and what needs to be destroyed. The Professional Auditor has been here working on the audit for FY 13 (2012/13). I am hoping to get that finished quickly, so we can move on. Work in this office will pick up soon as we come to the end of FY14; prepare to set the municipal tax rate (late July) and move toward presenting you will a property tax bill (mid to late August).

I want to mention, in regards to your property taxes: the listers have some very important information in their message (in this TQ), please take time to read that. Timely filing of the required Homestead Declaration saves all of us a lot of extra work, and could save you some money.

## **The TUNBRIDGE Quarterly**

Janet Zug 889-9602 [janet@zugglass.com](mailto:janet@zugglass.com)

If you would like to write an article for the TQ please send it on or before the current deadline; always on the first day of November, February, May and August. Entries are printed as received.

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

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

- May 24 - Walk for Washington ,D.C. 8th grade fundraiser  
3 mile trek leaves Chester Dr. at 10am. See pg 12.
- May 26 - Memorial Day: Library plant, book & bake sales, 9-2.  
Town Hall memorial service, 11am. Parade and  
cemetery program, following the service.  
TVFD chicken on the fairgrounds.
- June 1 - Art Opening at the Library featuring the work of  
Abel Fillion and Lyal Michel. 2-4pm
- June 8 - Historical Society/Library History Mystery Walk,  
3 p.m. Meet in front of the library.
- June 8 - Rec. Committee Breakfast, Town Hall 8am - 12pm.  
All you can eat for only \$8.00.
- June 21&22 - Vermont History Expo celebrating Artists & Artisans:  
Vermont's Creative Heritage at the Fairgrounds, 10-5
- June 26 - Summer Library Program begins 6:15 -7:45pm
- July 8 - Ice Cream Social on the Parish House Lawn - 6:30pm  
"Tunbridge Speaks," 7:30 p.m. Historical Society  
program at The Tunbridge Church
- July 11 - Ed Larkin Contra Dancers - 7:30pm , Town Hall. Live music  
and refreshments at intermission. All dance taught. \$8.00
- July 12 - Community Yard Sale on Parish House Lawn  
Down Home Craft Fair, 9-3 at Town Hall - see pg 12
- July 13 - Rec. Committee Breakfast, Town Hall 8am - 12pm.  
All you can eat for only \$8.00.
- July 27 - Friends of the Tunbridge World's Fair potluck, meeting &  
duck race. Festivities begin at 11:30am. See pg 17
- Aug. 8-9 Saturday Sewing Circle's Annual Quilt & Needlework Show,  
Town Hall, Sat. & Sun. 9 am - 1 pm contact Nancy 889-3750
- Aug. 11 - Historical Society slide program at 7:30, potluck 6:30 at  
North Tunbridge Baptist Church

## Friends of the Tunbridge World's Fair

Linda Lazaroff, Secretary – 889-9421 or  
2happyfeet@myfairpoint.net

Please join us at our annual meeting on Sunday, July 27th at the Dodge-Gilman building on the fairgrounds. There will be a potluck at 11:30, followed by the annual meeting at 12:30 and the event everyone looks forward to—the duck race at 1:30. Duck race tickets go on sale Memorial Day and will be sold up until the day of the race. Tickets are \$5 each or five for \$20.

FTWF was formed in 2007 and is a not-for-profit organization that provides exclusive tax deductible support for raising awareness, continued improvement and preservation of the Union Agricultural Society, aka Tunbridge World's Fair, its fairgrounds, infrastructure, educational programs and events while acknowledging and promoting its agricultural heritage and rural culture. All donations are tax deductible and no gift is too small. For further information, you may visit our website at [www.friendsoftunbridgefair.org](http://www.friendsoftunbridgefair.org)

## Public events at Tunbridge Fairgrounds

[www.tunbridgeworldsfair.com](http://www.tunbridgeworldsfair.com)

MAY	26	Tunbridge Memorial Day Parade
JUNE	6-8	VT Horse Show (All Breeds)
	13-15	4-H Horse Clinic
	21-22*	Vermont History Expo
JULY	25-29*	Jenny Brook Family Bluegrass Festival
	4-6	Morgan Heritage Horse Show
	10-11	Woodstock Dog Show
	12-13	Green Mountain Dog show
AUGUST	20	Tunbridge Classic bike race (test run)
	1-3	Blue Wave Taekwando Camp-club
	4-10	Good Sam RV Rally-club
	16-17	Lippitt Morgan Horse Show
SEPT.	11,12,13,14*,	143rd WORLD'S FAIR
	20-21	VT Horse Council Trail Rides-club
OCTOBER	3-5 *	VT Sheep and Wool Festival
	10-13	FMCA RV Rally-club

Some events\* require admission.

## Tunbridge Select Board

Erin Gooch, (889-5612) Gary Mullen (889-3242)  
Ingrid Van Steamburg (889-3459)

The selectboard has met several times since Town Meeting. We have elected Gary Mullen chair, Ingrid Van Steamburg vice chair, and Erin Gooch clerk. We have enjoyed getting to know one another, and are confident that we will work well together.

The board has begun to give thought to how to best plan its work over the coming year. We would like to spend some time together developing our vision for the board and the town, and better understanding how this vision will inform our work. We hope to report back to you on this work in the next TQ.

We have begun reviewing our existing town policies and procedures to identify gaps: what needs to be updated, and what does not yet exist at all. One of our first projects is to update the responsibilities of and expectations for town committees. Committee members, please be on the lookout for this work, and please be prepared to provide us with feedback.

One theme we plan to emphasize over the coming year is communication. We will continue to develop mechanisms that will make it easier for residents to understand the work the board is doing. We are considering a few options for visually displaying our current and upcoming work. Using a visual management tool is a way of tracking our work publicly, so that both board members and residents have a current snapshot view of our work pipeline: what we have in our queue, what we're working on at the moment, and what we've accomplished.

As always, selectboard meetings are open to the public. Our standing meeting schedule is the first and third Tuesdays of the month at 6:00 pm in the town offices. Selectboard notes are available at the Town Clerk's office and on the town website, [www.tunbridgevt.com](http://www.tunbridgevt.com).

## Transfer Station

Wendy McCullough- 889-5521

Wednesdays; May 7 – September 24 from 4-7pm + Saturdays 9-3

Edward Howe: Recycling and Green-up Coordinator

Please note that the Transfer Station is closed if a major holiday falls on a weekend and the Saturday of the Tunbridge Fair.

Central VT Solid Waste Collections:

May 1st - Paint, Batteries, Fluorescent and CFL Bulbs. FREE

June 7th -Household Hazardous Waste Day, oil, antifreeze, paint etc.

Get together with your neighbors cost is \$15 per car load.

Please see CVSWMMD Web Site for further information.

## **Tunbridge School Board**

Chair: Kathy Galluzzo - mgalluzzo@wildblue.net - 802-565-0695

Vice-Chair: Amy Frost – asf802@gmail.com – 889-3739

Clerk: Liz York - eyork72@yahoo.com - 889-3516

It was great to see so many parents and community members at our April meeting. Some came to discuss an issue, others simply to listen and learn more about the goings-on at the school and OWSU level. We want the community to feel welcome at our meetings - held the third Monday of the month at 6 PM in the School library -- and also to be able to understand and support the work of the school board. But not everyone has time to attend yet another evening meeting! You can find the minutes from previous board meetings by going to the OWSU web site; School Boards, School Board Calendar, pick the date of the meeting & click on the date; click on More Details. This is not the easiest system to navigate currently but we do anticipate positive changes happening soon as OWSU has recently contracted with Barn Door Media in Chelsea to provide a complete update and overhaul of the websites.

A new Superintendent will be taking over from David Bickford in June. Bruce Labs is a New Hampshire resident with over 30 years of experience in education as a special educator, Principal, Curriculum Coordinator, and Superintendent. We look forward to welcoming him and wish David well as he departs.

One of the roles of Superintendent is to work closely with the Principal, Rick Talbot, to ensure that TCS is meeting the evolving state and federal requirements of schools. This includes making sure that all our teachers meet certification requirements in the subjects they are currently teaching as is required by statute.

The Superintendent is the best resource for questions of a general administrative matter or regarding standards of professionalism. However, the first and best line of contact for any school-related questions/concerns is always the Principal, Rick Talbot. If he cannot answer your questions/concerns, then next in line is the Superintendent (currently David Bickford, soon to be Bruce Labs). And if the SI is unable to resolve/answer your question, then it can and should come to the Board.

The Board is always interested in hearing from parents and community members about TCS. What do you think is working well? How can we do things better? To this end, plans for a parent/community member survey are in the works so stay tuned!

## **Tunbridge Civic Club**

Maxine Young, Secretary 763-8274 myoung7202@aol.com

We are saddened by the death of Merle Howe who was President of the Tunbridge Civic Club and sustaining force behind the Civic Club annual show. Merle was known as the “crooner” of the upper valley, and highly regarded for as his sense of humor and kindness as a human being. Merle will be greatly missed

The 62nd annual Civic Club show is past. There is always that nostalgia felt with the ending of a show-and what a show it was!! The comments were “best show ever”, “what super talent”, “there was not a bad act-enjoyed immensely”, “something for everyone”. I have to say, we really outdid ourselves and the decorating was spectacular. We missed those not able to be in the show this year and welcomed some new faces.

Show proceeds, after expenses, were distributed to the Public Library in honor of Marion Simonds and Elaine Cilley; to Better Bones; the Quilters; Button Cemetery Fund; Recreation Committee; Food Shelf to go towards handicapped refurbishing for the Parish House; School Library, North Tunbridge Grange, and to the Library for the archive room. We are fortunate to be able to generously donate to these wonderful local organizations. Everyone in the audience helps these causes by attending. We also received an anonymous generous donation which was included in the show proceeds to be given to local organizations. Thank you.

Sooo, be thinking about next year’s show-we encourage your participation.

## **Tunbridge Town Clerk**

Wendy McCullough- 889-5521 tctunbridge@live.com

Hours: Monday – Thursday 7:30am-3:00pm

Dog licenses per State Statue 20 V.S.A. 3581 were due on April 01, 2014. Late notices have been sent and as of April 28 there are 88 known unlicensed dogs.

You may license your dog at the Town Clerks office, mail, or the drop box located at the front entrance of the Town Office Building. Fees: altered \$10; non altered \$16.

These fees include the late fee. A valid certificate of rabies is needed to license. If you no longer have your dog(s) please contact the Town Clerk.

## **Tunbridge School Club**

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

**Teacher Appreciation Week:** Every spring, the first full week of May is National Teacher Appreciation Week. School Club organized a special luncheon on May 5 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 19. 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 the event.

**Finances in Good Standing:** After much successful fundraising, School Club currently has over \$4,500 in its bank account. So far this year, School Club has provided support for the Back-to-School potluck, movie site license, Vermont Symphony Orchestra K-8 performance, Shelburne Museum Wyeth Vertigo 6-8th Extended Classroom Experience, Tunbridge Tigers t-shirts for the TCS band, the holiday breakfast for teachers and staff, classroom supplies for teachers, sleigh rides for winter carnival and the Teacher Appreciation Week luncheon.

**Upcoming Meeting:** Parents, school personnel and community members typically meet in the TCS Library at 6:30pm on the first Monday of 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 2. All are welcome to come share ideas and get involved!

## **Royalton Community Radio**

Rick Scully - 763-7474 rickscully@royaltonradio.org

Royalton Community Radio (WFVR-LP) is an independent, community-based, all volunteer, non-profit station which intends to educate and entertain its audience with diverse, thought-provoking, local programming that has been neglected or underrepresented by other media. In particular, WFVR-LP's programming reflects the values of environmental/agricultural sustainability, freedom of expression, grassroots democracy and the uniqueness of our creative, cultural community. At this time WFVR-LP is only available on the Internet at royaltonradio.org, but WFVR-LP is currently fundraising to build the transmitter it needs to begin broadcasting over the airwaves. You can even tune in directly from the tunbridgevt.com homepage! WFVR-LP's board, and programming staff, is made up of a number of Tunbridge residents.

## **ECFiber**

East-Central Vermont Community Fiber-Optic Network

Janet Zug 889-9602 <janet.zug@ecfiber.net>

Henry Swayze 889-5556 <henryswayze@gmail.com>

ECFiber will soon have over 200 miles of network in Barnard, Bethel, Royalton, Vershire, Chelsea, Tunbridge, Thetford, Strafford, Sharon and Norwich. Over 650 customers are enjoying the service and there are over 200 subscribers waiting for connections. Both numbers are growing daily and by the end of 2014 we hope to have nearly 1000 subscribers.

We hope that you appreciate the fact that having a community-owned, subscriber-funded entity like ECFiber in our neighborhood is something of a minor miracle. There are millions of households in rural areas across the US that have NO alternatives for true high speed internet. It takes more than \$5,000 of investment to connect each ECFiber customer. ECFiber is the result of millions of dollars of investment by hundreds of people like you and your neighbors, and thousands of hours of volunteer work by the ECFiber Governing Board members and Valley Net.

ECFiber holds 3-4 investment closings a year. If you are interested in getting in on this worthwhile cause, while generating some income, contact Henry, Janet or John Roy john.roy@ecfiber.net.

## **Tunbridge Recreation Committee**

Kevin Barnaby - 889-5671

Well another summer is coming and another season of fun at the Rec field. We had a successful green up day on May 3rd. Thanks to everyone who pitched in. We would also like to take the time to say a huge thanks for all who have supported us and purchased banners which will be going back up on the field soon .

We are planning on putting up a new backstop because the old one is really getting to be a hazard. Once again the playground is already getting a lot of use . Little league is starting up there now.

Our monthly breakfast fund raiser is held the second Sunday of each month at the town hall. Stop by to enjoy a hearty all-you-can-eat meal for only \$8. and if you have any ideas or concerns let us know. The Rec. Committee meetings are held on the second Tuesday of every month at 6 at the town hall. Anyone is welcome to come. Once again we would like to thank everyone for all of your support.

## **Tunbridge Volunteer Fire Department**

Jena Young- 889-2804

At our annual meeting in March, Mike Morrison was recognized for 10 years of service, Simon Bradford was recognized for 15 years of service, Peter Button was recognized for an amazing 30 years of service and Dan Roberts was recognized for an extraordinary 45 years of service on the fire department. Peter & Dan were both presented with framed group photos of the TVFD members, one of which was donated to the department by Scott & Kathy Terami. Bob Dunkle was re-elected to another 2 year term and John O'Brien was elected to his first 2 year term on the board. John Durkee was re-elected as Chief, Ariel Harrington was re-elected as Clerk for the fourth year and Anne Fragnella was voted in as our auditor.

Don't forget to sign up for VT Alert. This service will send you e-mails or phone messages from the national weather service to alert you of local disasters or weather events that could cause flooding, high winds, road closings or power outages. To sign up, go to [www.vtalert.gov](http://www.vtalert.gov), click on the "Sign up for VT-Alerts", and follow the prompts to enter your contact information. We plan on having the availability for people to sign up for this service at the Memorial Day celebration as well.

Our 6th annual Easter egg hunt was held on April 19th at the School. Over 40 children searched the grounds for eggs hidden high & low. Even Flat Stanley made an appearance this year! This has always been a very well attended event as kids race to fill their baskets in a matter of minutes and pose for photos with the fire & rescue trucks.

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 Matt Loftus at 889-3274 or Simon 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.

Want to burn? 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.

Finally, we would like to recognize the recent passing of one of our founding TVFD members, Merle Howe. We recognize and respectfully remember his contributions to the Fire Department and we will miss his presence in our community.

## **The Tunbridge Fuel Assistance Fund**

Ben Wolfe - 889-9467

Our Committee's mission is to steward the use of the Fuel Assistance Fund for no-interest loans to Tunbridge residents, allowing them to get the fuel they need and to pay this large expense over a longer period of time. Individual donations have created this fund.

We are constantly learning how to make this Fund serve the entire community better. Your input has helped us a lot in the past, and we hope to continue improving in order to meet the needs of our neighbors. Look for more information about our annual meeting and potluck coming up in the next couple months.

Donations of any size help a lot! Donations can be given to the Town Treasurer directly, or mailed to Town Treasurer, PO Box 6: 05077. Include "Fuel Assistance Donation" in the subject line.

## **State Representative**

Sarah Buxton - (802) 233-0274 (cell) [sbuxton@gmail.com](mailto:sbuxton@gmail.com)

With only a week left of the legislative session, we are working late nights and early mornings. By the time this edition lands in your mailbox, we will have adjourned for the session (hopefully!). The bills that are gaining the most attention are the budget, tax bill, and education governance bill. I'm watching each very closely and can't predict how I'll vote at this moment because it depends on what the "compromise" proposals will be. For example, the House version of the tax bill eliminated small school grants (which I opposed) but only raised the education tax rate \$.04 (rather than the \$.07 recommended by the tax commissioner). The Senate version appears to raise the tax \$.06 and does not have the elimination of small school grants -- as of this writing. The Budget bills are somewhat closer in final recommendation, the major difference being that the Senate's version recommends that we increase the Medicaid reimbursement rate to health care providers by 2% (I support) instead of the House recommend of (.75% -- better than nothing!). I support the higher amount because it assures health care providers who are nervous about the legislature's future action re: health care reform that we understand that true "reform" won't be successful if we don't continue to support the doctors, nurses, and other professionals who make our excellent care possible. We can't be one-sided about health care delivery policies because affordable, quality, accessible care is just too important. Finally, changes to education governance have become a pressing priority of the Governor and leaders of both chambers. The House version is so different from the Senate's that a compromise will likely result in some (currently unknown) structure. Under both proposals, however, the implementation date is years away (plenty of time for revision next session!). See you at the Memorial Day Parade!

## **Tunbridge Library**

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

Contact: Jean Wolfe, Librarian 889-9404

ArtSpace Co-ordinator: Betsy Gaiser 763-2288

Thanks to all who participated in our Spring Cleaning Event - the main shelving of the library has a new look, with items easier to find than before. As we weed through older audio and video titles, we are adding many more new ones. Come take a look! We also have new bestsellers, classic masterpieces, and magazines. If you can't find an item in our collection, we will be happy to get it by Inter-Library Loan as quickly as possible.

Jody Lowes continues to offer terrific Story Hours for families with children of all ages two Thursdays each month. Come at 6:15 pm and enjoy fun activities together, enchanting stories, and a light snack. The themes coming up will be Big Trucks (May 15); and Fathers (June 5).

The Summer Library Program is coming up, and we are looking for parents and community members (including youth!) who are enthusiastic about reading to volunteer in our upcoming Summer Library Program. Whether you can help read to young or old, or prefer to help out with a craft or snack, your energy can make great things happen. This program is designed to keep all ages listening, learning and reading—from Preschool through Middle School. Our theme this summer will be “Fizz, Boom, Read!” – an adventure into science and imagination! The main programs will be held every other Thursday from 6:15 to 7:45 pm: June 26, July 10, July 24, and August 7. For the first time, a light meal will be offered at 5:30-- look for more details and sign up at the library!

The current art exhibit of paintings by Peter Flint will be up for the coming week. An Art Opening for the artwork of Abel Filion and Lyal Michel will follow on the afternoon of Sunday June 1st from 2 to 4 pm. Come enjoy good company and refreshments while you view the artwork of these budding artists.

For a full list of events call the library, visit the website <TunbridgeLibrary.org>; or email us for updates: <TunbridgeLibrary@yahoo.com>.

The Friends of the Library is the volunteer group who supports the library's mission and does fund raising for the Library's operation. If you have volunteered at the library or for the library—you are a Friend of the Library. There are still plenty of ways to help us out getting ready for the Plant, Book, and Bake Sales at Memorial Day. If you can lend a hand to these event, drop by or call the library (889-9404).

## **First Branch Ambulance & Rescue**

Deb Mullen - 889-9406

Spring is finally here!! And mud season is almost over! Despite the long winter, our call volume is about the same as last year at this time. Starting in September we will be hosting an EMT course. Anyone who is interested is urged to sign up early so we can set convenient class dates and hours for all that are interested.

We are continuing to do non-emergency transfers. This is going well and is a great way for us to generate extra revenue. Anyone in our community (Tunbridge or Chelsea) who could use some help at home with vital signs, blood glucose checks, medicine management or other medical services is urged to contact us and we will come to your home to help. This service is offered at no cost. Please contact 1st Branch at 685-3112 for information or to sign up for the EMT course.

## **Tunbridge Planning Commission**

Liz York - 889-3211

Board Members :Ingrid VanSteamburg, Nancy Chapman, Liz York, Gary Mullen, Dan Rudell, Brenda Field, Ted Hoyt, and Sue Clark.

Did you know that \$1.7 million worth of property in Tunbridge is insured through the federal flood insurance program? Did you know that there are programs to help people elevate structures that may be threatened by floodwaters? Federal and state programs such as these depend on Tunbridge having up-to-date ordinances governing building in the floodplain, and the state would like to see something similar for fluvial erosion zones. The Planning Commission will be doing its final review and update of the Town's floodplain by-laws at its June meeting; Tuesday, June 10, at 6:30 pm in the Town Offices -- to meet our July 1st deadline. Please join us if you are interested!

In other matters, thank you for the great turn-out for our first Dairy Farmers' Contract potluck. Please look for information regarding a second potluck early this summer. People brought great questions and alternative ideas about how Tunbridge can maintain its rural and agricultural character. We will be continuing the discussion at the next potluck, to be announced. The Planning Commission hopes to have something for voters' consideration either in the fall, or at least by the next regular Town Meeting. If you missed the last potluck and can't make it to the summer one, please feel free to contact us individually with your thoughts.

Finally, we sadly bid farewell to one of the Planning Commission's longest serving members, Ben Wolfe. Thank you, Ben, for your many, many...many years of service! Anyone interested in filling the vacancy, please contact either a member of the TPC or the Selectboard.

## **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.

This program will celebrate it's 9th birthday in July! Congratulations to all the instructors and participants who have stuck with it and reaped the benefits!

## **Tunbridge Cemetery Commission**

Erin Gooch - 889-5612

The Cemetery Commission would like to thank the residents who volunteered to mow in town cemeteries this summer. We are working with volunteers, the Town Treasurer, and the mowing contractor to finalize these arrangements, and look forward to trialing this project.

Over the next few weeks the commissioners will make our annual inspection of all town cemeteries. We note stone damage, sign condition, and other considerations to help us triage our restoration dollars. If you happen to encounter damage or something that concerns you in a town cemetery, please let us know. As a reminder, the town does not maintain the Hunt and Spring Road cemeteries.

We are giving thought to the location and timing of our annual volunteer day. We are tentatively planning this for June. If you have any suggestions for location or for the focus of the activity, please let us know.

Cemetery Commission meetings are open to the public. Our standing meeting schedule is the first Monday of the month at 6:30pm in the Parish House. Commission notes are available at the Town Clerk's office.

## **Tunbridge Grange #384**

Mert Vesper - 889-5595

We had a good bingo season. The toilet up stairs is being put in soon. We have a new quilt we are selling tickets on this summer. We are putting a float in the memorial day parade.

Our meetings are the first Wednesday of the month every one is welcome to come and visit.

## **DivorceCare**

Robert Brinkley- 717-903-4663

DivorceCare 2014 Spring/Summer Seminar

Meeting weekly on Tuesdays; 5/6/2014 - 7/29/2014 from 6:30 - 8:30 pm.

Journey Church Fellowship Hall on S. Windsor St. in S. Royalton. Facilitators: Robert Brinkley, Sharon Deuso

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.

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. Most benefit is committing time to three or more sessions. Experience our group sessions. No requirement to talk.

For confidential registration information, call Journey Church: (802) 763-2139 or DivorceCare Facilitator Robert Brinkley (717) 903-4663 DivorceCare official website: [www.divorcecare.org](http://www.divorcecare.org)

## **8Th Grade Fundraiser**

Chris Hoyt - 889-889-9451

WALK FOR WASHINGTON, D.C.

Fun. Friends. Fresh air. Fundraising. What better way to celebrate Memorial Day weekend-the unofficial start of summer-than to join us on a three-mile walk/hike in beautiful Tunbridge!

Please join us on Saturday, May 24, 2014 at 10 am for our trek, which will begin and end on Chester Drive off Strafford Road. There will be a \$10 entry fee for all participants over age 5. The fees will benefit the Tunbridge Central School Class of 2015 annual 8th grade class trip to Washington, D.C. If you cannot join us we would also welcome pledges to support participants. There will be prizes for the top two fundraisers as well as "door" prizes for walkers and runners.

Applications can be downloaded from our facebook page: TCS: Washington 2015. They can also be picked up at the Tunbridge Central School or The Tunbridge Store. Forms can also be completed immediately prior to the event.

Please note that this is NOT a timed race. Dogs on leashes are also welcome.

## **Tunbridge Church**

Deadra Ashton, Pastor - 889-9828

Every Sunday our Worship Service is held at 10 a.m. and Sunday School for children is offered during worship. Adult Bible Study, led by Rev. David Wolfe, is at 8:45 a.m. in the Parish House October-June. Mid-day prayer, led by Rev. Ashton, is at noon every Thursday in the Parish House. Rev. Ashton's Parish House Office hours: Tuesdays and Thursdays, 1- 3 p.m.

During the month of July we worship in the South Tunbridge brick church and in August we worship in the North Tunbridge Church next door to the Grange.

The Tunbridge Church is hosting a Community Yard Sale on the Parish House lawn on Saturday, July 12. This is a high traffic day for Route 110 due to all the bargain hunters making their way to the Chelsea Flea Market. The Church will offer 15'x15' spaces for \$20 (payable on the morning of the sale) and a portable restroom will be on site. Set up begins at 6 a.m. and the sale runs from 7a.m.-3p.m. Proceeds will benefit the restoration of the Parish House. Also, individuals may donate unwanted Christmas items to a special "Christmas in July" booth where 100% of sales will go to the Church. Contact Nancy Howe to reserve a booth at nan5lee@yahoo.com or 889-3750. In addition, the Youth Group will sell concessions and Linda Lazaroff is organizing a craft fair in the Town Hall to make Tunbridge a destination for shoppers that day.

Special Summer Events:

- Memorial Day Observance: Sunday, May 25 at 10 a.m. during the worship service.
- Children and Youth Recognition Day and Potluck Picnic: Sunday, June 1 at 10 a.m.
- Ice Cream Social: Tuesday, July 8 at 6:30 - Parish House lawn.
- Community Yard Sale: July 12 on the Parish House Lawn
- Outdoor Service and Potluck Picnic: August 3 at 10 a.m. at the home of Pam Dietz on Falls Hill Road.

## **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

## **Tunbridge Listers**

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

**IMPORTANT REMINDER:** Filing Homestead Declarations annually became mandatory in 2013. If you are a Vermont resident and own and occupy a Vermont dwelling as your principle residence on April 1, 2014, you must file a Homestead Declaration, form HS-122. The Homestead Declaration must be filed even after the due date (April 15 each year). The declaration is necessary so that your property is charged the residential tax rate, and is a prerequisite to a property tax adjustment.

Spring is underway and we are entering our busiest time of the year. We will be lodging the 2014 Grand List soon, which means looking at any new properties and/or additions or out-buildings that we see as we ride around town. With no zoning or permit system in place, it's the only way to spot new construction.

The Listers have set grievance day for Friday, June 20, 2014 from 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM. If your property value has changed from the previous 2013 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 their 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, to make your case. If you are not satisfied with the results you may go before the BCA, which is the Board of Civil Authority, and consists of a quorum of the following people: the three selectboard members, the town clerk, and the seven Justices of the Peace. Following their decision on the matter, you may continue (if still not satisfied) to the State Appraiser or to Superior Court.

As always, thank you for your patience and support as we take on the delicate task of assessing the properties in town at their fair market value. If you have any questions or concerns feel free to call, email or stop by the office. We are generally in the Town Office on Tuesdays and Fridays from 9am-3pm.

## **Tunbridge Neighbors Helping Neighbors**

Maxine Young - 889-8274 David Wolfe - president

**For TNH services call: 889-3437**

TNHN has been started by local residents in order to improve the lives of residents of Tunbridge, Vermont and the immediate surrounding area. Our emphasis is to provide services for seniors, but ANYONE 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.

If you want to volunteer, please contact any of the board members or call 889-3437 and we will put you on the list. You may then be called from time to time. No one is going to be asked to do something week after week. Let us know if there are particular things that you might be able to do.

## **Tunbridge Town Website**

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

Got an event you want to promote? The Tunbridge website ([www.tunbridgevt.com](http://www.tunbridgevt.com)) is a great way to reach your audience!

Just email the details to Rick Scully with enough time before the event. If you, or your group, are posting things in The Herald you should also consider posting them on the official Tunbridge website. Many items are also cross-posted to the town's Facebook page, which has over 125 participants at the time of this writing.

## **Trustees of Public Funds**

Rob Howe - 889-3704

The Trustees of Public Funds met on April 18 to review accounts of the town organizations. The meetings for the year are posted on the bulletin board in the post office and the Town Clerk's office building. Meetings will be held every other month on the third Friday at 3 pm. The next meeting will be June 20th in the Town Office Building. Organizations requesting funds from investments for the 13/14 fiscal year, need to be filed before that date in order to have funds transferred before June 30.

Matt Frost, Pam Dietz, and Rob Howe

## **Lost from the Town Hall**

The patchwork curtain and rod for the serving window have gone missing along with two 100 cup coffee makers. All serve a useful purpose during functions. If you know whether these are hidden, misplaced or gone, please let Nancy Howe know at 889-3750. If removed from the building, please just return them.

## **Tunbridge Farm-to-School Program**

Kate Reimanis, - 765-4114 kreimanis@gmail.com.

Farmer Interviews: 5th grade students have started to interview Tunbridge farmers to learn about growing food and life as a farmer. The interviews will be paired with photographs and will be on display later in the year. Big Thanks to: English teachers Walt Garner, Jen Thygesen, Phil Dimond and Sherri Spittle who helped facilitate the interviews, and to our local farmers: Gary Mullen, Alan and Pat Howe, Corey Chapman, Rob Howe, Gene Palthey, Kyle Thygesen, and Shane Young. We hope to continue interviewing more Tunbridge farmers in the fall.

Taste Tests: There was an "overwhelmingly positive response" to the kale chips that Jen Thygesen and Brooke Trottier served to the students in February. For this recipe, kale is torn into bite size pieces, tossed with a small amount of olive oil and salt, and baked until crisp. Coming soon: Sampling salad greens from Back Beyond Farm.

How do you make cheese? Ask a fourth or sixth grader at TCS! In March, these students learned about various cheeses and how they are made. Vermont Farmstead Cheese Company CFO Kyle Thygesen shared his knowledge of the trade. Students tasted Windsordale, cheddar, mozzarella, goat cheese, and others.

School Gardens are in the news these days. TCS now has 3 vegetable plots. Teachers attended a workshop led by Sharon Elementary teacher Martha Cain to share ideas on integrating gardens into the curriculum and cafeteria. Summer volunteers are needed to help weed, water and harvest. Please contact Kate Reimanis or Stephanie Loeffler at TCS if you are interested!