

The TUNBRIDGE Quarterly  
P.O. Box 68  
Tunbridge, VT 05077

PRSRT STD  
U.S. Postage PAID  
Tunbridge, VT  
Permit No. 3

Postal Patron  
Tunbridge, VT  
05077

# The TUNBRIDGE Quarterly

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

August 15, 2014  
issue #37

## The TUNBRIDGE Quarterly

Janet Zug 889-9602 janet@zugglass.com

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

## Tunbridge Town Clerk

Wendy McCullough- 889-5521 tctunbridge@live.com

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

Primary Election: August 26, 2014

General Election: November 04, 2014

Voting: Polls are open 8am-7pm at the Town Hall

If you are a resident of Tunbridge but are not on the voter checklist the deadline to register for the Primary Election is August 20, 2014 by 5:00pm.

If you miss this deadline, the deadline for the General Election is October 29, 2014 by 5:00pm. If you would like to vote absentee for either Election please call the town clerk for information.

If you are new parents and would like your child's birth information reported in the Town Report please contact the town clerk to ensure the information has been received. Out of State birth information is not sent to Vermont Town Clerks.

Please contact Wendy at the town clerks office with any questions or concerns.

## Tunbridge Treasurer

Ann Fragnella - 889-3571 treasurer@tunbridge.biz

The treasurer's office is busy. Seems like each time I start a project, 3 more come along (that need to be taken care of 'now'). At this point (7/30) I am still working on finalizing June 30 figures. Once that is done and the Lister's get one more 'down load' from the state, we can set the tax rate. You can expect your tax bills to be in the mail by the 3rd week in August.

The new truck is about to be delivered, so Rodney is checking (daily) J to be sure "I" have the money to pay for it. I've just assured him that when I see the truck & invoice, I'll pay for it. The money is in the Equipment Fund, set aside, to pay 'cash'. That planning ahead and saving for the future means we do not need to have a loan and pay interest. We should talk about putting money aside for other purposes and spread it out over a few years. Once in a while something comes up for which it would be nice to have 'cash' in reserve. That's my lecture for today!

## Calendar of Events

See individual entries for more info.

August

16 & 17 - Lippitt Morgan Horse Show at the fairgrounds

29th - Tunbridge Library: Oceanographer, John Milliman. 7 pm. "Water: Too Little, Too much; A Looming Global Crisis".

September

11-14 - 143rd Tunbridge World's Fair! A full schedule can be found at [www.tunbridgeworldsfair.com/schedules/fair/](http://www.tunbridgeworldsfair.com/schedules/fair/)

20&21 - Vermont Horse Council Trail Riders Club, on the Fairgrounds [www.vthorsecouncil.org/index.html](http://www.vthorsecouncil.org/index.html)

27th - High Country Cloggers 3rd Annual Benefit Variety Show. 7pm at the Town Hall. \$5./adults, \$3./kids 12 and under.

October

2nd - "A Taste of Tunbridge" dinner at TCS. Community potluck to celebrate local food and farms.

4 & 5 - VT Sheep and Wool Festival, on the Fairgrounds. for more info goto: [www.vtsheepandwoolfest.org](http://www.vtsheepandwoolfest.org)

5th - Ghost Walk, 1:30 p.m. at the Hutchinson Cemetery on Howe Lane. Rain date Oct. 19.

10th - Ed Larkin Contra Dancers - 7:30pm, Town Hall. Live music and refreshments at intermission. All dance taught. \$8.00

10-13 - Family Motorcoach Rally- on the Fairgrounds. [www.fmca.com](http://www.fmca.com)

18th - Harvest Supper, 5pm at the Grange in N. Tunbridge

November

1st - Shindig with "Still More Cats" at the Town Hall \$8. cover charge. [www.shindigsvt.com](http://www.shindigsvt.com)

9th - Rec. Committee Breakfast, Town Hall 8am - 12pm. All you can eat for only \$8.00.

14th - Ed Larkin Contra Dancers - 7:30pm, Town Hall. Live music and refreshments at intermission. All dance taught. \$8.00

15th - 4H Craft Fair from 9-2 at the Town Hall

## **Friends of the Tunbridge World's Fair**

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

We've had an exciting and productive year so far. Our annual duck race was a huge success and we have high hopes that it will continue to grow with each successive year.

We are pleased to announce that this year we will be donating money towards the purchase of a people mover that the Union Agricultural Society (UAS), aka Tunbridge World's Fair has purchased. Look for our banner on the side of the people mover.

Presently in the construction stages, a working sugar house is being erected on Antique Hill and the FTWF is happy to say we will be funding this project. The sugar house is expected to be completed in time for the fair so be sure to check it out.

Look for the FTWF booth located in the Pavilion during fair time. There you will find information about the FTWF and the projects we have done since our inception in 2007.

The FTWF meets regularly on the first Wednesday of each month at 7:00 PM upstairs in the Town Hall. Please feel free to attend any of our meetings. Feel free to also check out the FTWF website at [www.friendsoftunbridgefair.org](http://www.friendsoftunbridgefair.org).

## **Tunbridge Fact**

No. 9 of the Acts of 1985, effective March 27, 1985, designated the Tunbridge Soil Series as the official State Soil. The Tunbridge series (course-loamy, mixed, frigid Typic Haplothrod) consists of moderately deep to bedrock, well drained soils. It was selected from among more than 160 different soil series in the state. As it is a typical "hill farm" and "sugarbush" soil, the Tunbridge series well represents the soil resources of Vermont. A soil formed in loamy glacial till, it has good potential for agriculture and forestry. As Professor Richmond Bartlett of UVM says, "It's the soil that makes Vermont hills greener than those either in New Hampshire or New York."

## **Tunbridge School Board**

Chair: Kathy Galluzzo - [kgalluzzo@tunbridge.k12.vt.us](mailto:kgalluzzo@tunbridge.k12.vt.us) - 565-0695  
Vice-Chair: Amy Frost – [afrost@tunbridge.k12.vt.us](mailto:afrost@tunbridge.k12.vt.us) – 889-3739  
Clerk: Liz York - [lyork@tunbridge.k12.vt.us](mailto:lyork@tunbridge.k12.vt.us)- 889-3516

Graduation of 8th grade took place at the school the final week in June. The School Board was present to assist in the awarding of diplomas and presented each graduate with a dictionary/thesaurus. Our graduates will be continuing their education at Randolph High School, South Royalton High School, Chelsea High School and The Sharon Academy -- school choice in action!

We would like to thank Philip Bradley and Melanie Harrington as they leave TCS. And we offer a warm thank you to Kevin Moran, who leaves TCS after many years of dedicated service as our school custodian. We wish Kevin and his family good fortune as they travel south to pursue new opportunities and warmer weather!

When school begins on August 27th, there will be some new faces on the faculty: Christopher Franske joins TCS as the Middle School Science teacher and Amanda Flodstrom joins us as Special Education teacher. We are also pleased to have John Blakeney become our Head Custodian. Finally, many of you may find that you recognize Joanne Herrick in the lunchroom. Having retired several years ago as the 2nd grade teacher, Joanne is now returning to TCS as our new Food Service Director.

You may have read in the paper that the State Board of Education is disbanding WNSU. OWSU will likely be the recipient of one or more of these towns' schools. However, unless actual school governance legislature is passed at the State level, there will be no change in school governance without individual town approval. Furthermore, any potential changes to our existing structure would not go into effect until the 2015-2016 school year.

Finally, Board/Teacher contract negotiations continue through the OWSU-wide Collaborative Bargaining process. Board and Teacher representatives from each town in the OWSU have been meeting twice per month and working together toward the goal of achieving a unified contract and pay schedule. Once this process has reached its conclusion, all five towns will operate under one uniform contract.

TCS regular Board meetings are held the third Monday of the month at 6 PM in the School library. Please feel free to email any one of us with question or concerns and we welcome the public to our meetings.

## **Tunbridge Select Board**

Erin Gooch, (889-5612) Gary Mullen (889-3242)

Ingrid Van Steamburg (889-3459)

The selectboard has been working on a number of items over the past few months.

We have completed our first attempt at outlining the work we plan to accomplish in fiscal year 2015. This accounting is available for review on the whiteboard inside of the town offices. While we expect that we will do further triaging and evaluation of this draft, we encourage you to come in and take a look.

In June the board asked the Recreation Committee to trial our first attempt at creating a policy and procedure document for town committees. We have made several revisions based on their input and plan to create similar documents for other town groups.

The board has met several times with the Emergency Services Committee (ESC) to discuss the committee's work in creating a vision for the future for our emergency services. Please be on the lookout for notices of an upcoming meeting to discuss this work. While all ESC meetings are public, we are actively seeking public engagement and input on this vision. If you have strong feelings about emergency services, please come. Your input is invaluable.

As you may have read recently in the paper, the board and the road foreman, Rodney Hoyt, have reviewed a number of bids on repairs to Flint and Mill bridges. The board has asked VTrans to identify a state engineer with whom we can meet to further review the bids. We feel it is vital to understand better what a civil engineer would consider to be optimal repairs before we accept a bid. The board would appreciate public input on how we can better protect and maintain these local treasures.

Believe it or not, fiscal year 2015 commenced on July 1st. This means that the reporting period for town meeting has ended: town committees should have the information they need to reconcile their accounts for fiscal year 2014, and prepare their financial statements for the town report. We encourage you to begin this work as soon as possible. By getting our reports submitted this fall, we can all work together to spare our auditors from long and lonely winter nights in the town offices.

As preparation for our own work in drafting our proposed budget for March's town meeting, the board will be working with Ann Fragnella, town treasurer, to set the municipal tax rate. While this is new to some of us and old hat to others, we expect that by studying our recent budgets – including overages and unexpected expenses – and working closely with Ann, we will be as prepared as we can be to undertake this work.

## **Tunbridge Civic Club**

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

The Civic Club annual meeting will be held Monday, October 6th at 7:00 p.m. in the downstairs Town Hall.

It is with heavy heart that I write this, knowing that Merle will not be with us.

Discussion for an upcoming show, election of officers and other business will be on the agenda. Current officers are Butch Howe, VP; Jory Innes, Treasurer; Maxine Young, Secretary and Elaine Howe, Board of Directors. New faces are always welcome; and of course, we always enjoy seeing people come back to participate whom we have not seen in a while. Each year, proceeds of the show, after expenses, are distributed to various Tunbridge organizations. We are very proud of this tradition and are grateful that we have helped so many for so many years. What could be more worthwhile than putting your talent towards helping civic causes and having a great time in the bargain!! Hope to see you at the annual meeting. P.S. I continually run into people who tell me the 2013 show was one of the best they have seen. A group of ladies I encountered at the VSO concert in July again reiterated this.

## **Tunbridge Board of Auditors**

Maxine Young - 763-8274 auditors@tunbridgevt.com

Betsy Race, Becky Hoyt

Each year, it is difficult to collect the information for the Town Report. A few groups have a December fiscal year and need time in January to prepare their reports, but this is not typical. Most groups and departments should be able to complete the work earlier, for example groups that operate on a fiscal year ending June 30th are encouraged to submit their reports and budgets at the end of the summer or early fall.

PLEASE NOTE: The following deadlines will apply for financial and narrative reports. For groups following a July-June fiscal year, all reports are due by December 1, 2014. For those organizations following a calendar year, the reports are due January 9, 2015. If we do not receive the reports by the deadlines, we cannot guarantee that we can include them in the Town Report. Submit to: auditors@tunbridgevt.com. The Board of Auditors welcomes questions and we are happy to set up a meeting with any organization requiring our assistance with reporting.

## **Tunbridge School Club**

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

**Last Day of School Picnic:** School Club hosted a barbecue on June 19 to celebrate the end of the school year with over 150 students, faculty, staff, families and community members. The weather cooperated, and we had a fantastic turnout. Thanks to all who contributed food and volunteered their time to make the event go smoothly!

**Back-to-School Potluck:** School Club is hosting a back-to-school potluck on Wednesday, September 3 from 5:30-6:30pm. Bring a salad, hot dish or dessert to share. The TCS open house will follow from 6:30-7:30pm.

**What is School Club?** School Club is an organization dedicated to providing enrichment activities and services to students, families, staff and teachers at TCS. Anyone can participate and there are no membership dues.

**How can you participate?** School Club provides many opportunities for parents, teachers and community members to connect with one another, share ideas, plan activities and more. We welcome volunteers of all interests and abilities. Skills such as organization management, bookkeeping, fundraising, event planning, public relations, cooking/baking, etc. are helpful.

**What are School Club funds used for?** Last year, School Club supported the Back-to-School potluck, a movie site license for the school, the Vermont Symphony Orchestra performance, middle school Extended Classroom Experience at the Shelburne Museum, Tunbridge Tigers tshirts for all band members, gifts for children at the holiday concert, the Holiday Breakfast for teachers and staff, classroom supplies for teachers, sleigh rides for the school Winter Carnival day, contribution to the 8th grade class trip to Washington D.C., the Teacher Appreciation Week luncheon, blueberry bushes for the school beautification project, the Camp In at the Montshire Museum of Science for the 3rd grade class, flowers and cake for the 8th grade graduation ceremony and the end-of-the-year picnic.

**Getting the Word Out:** Stay informed about School Club happenings by watching for information sent home with students, the TCS email list, articles on the Tunbridge page in The Herald, the news section of [www.tunbridgevt.com](http://www.tunbridgevt.com) and the School Club section inside the Tunbridge Quarterly. Interested individuals can write to schoolclub[at]tunbridge.k12.vt.us to sign up for the email list and receive event details, meeting agendas and more.

**Upcoming Meetings:** Parents, school personnel and community members regularly 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. Upcoming meetings are on September 8, October 6 and November 3.

## **Tunbridge Select Board, Cont.**

As we mentioned in our last report, the board is deeply committed to excellent communication between municipal officers and residents. A vital aspect of communication is the recording of meeting minutes and making these minutes available to the public in a timely fashion. Vermont recently amended its open meeting laws. The law has always required that all town entities – from the Town Forest Committee right through to the selectboard – make their notes available for public inspection within five days of a meeting. The altered law now also requires that, if a town has a website, the notes also be published to the website within five days. Tunbridge does have a town website, which we think is an excellent public resource. Therefore, we will be working with the town webmaster and committees to discuss how best to achieve this mandate by 7/15.

We are saddened to report that we did not receive any nominations to the South Royalton Rescue board, the First Branch Ambulance board, or the position of Town Agent. We know that this is neither indicative of residents' level of interest in town affairs, nor reflective of our spirited public debates at town meeting. We encourage all residents who are passionate about Tunbridge and our future to consider serving on town committees and in appointed positions.

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. As of September, the standing meetings will transition to the first and third Thursdays at 6:00 pm in the town offices. Selectboard notes are available at the Town Clerk's office and on the town of Tunbridge website, [www.tunbridgevt.com](http://www.tunbridgevt.com).

## **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)

## **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 Volunteer Fire Department**

Jena Young- 889-2804

Over the last few weeks the Fire Chief, Officers, Members & Trustees have spent a good amount of time responding to a request from the Tunbridge Emergency Service Committee (ESC) for information regarding our operational procedures and plans for the future. The requested information will be presented to the ESC on August 6th. At the meeting we will also review our 10-year operating & capitol expense plan as well as our current plans for long term sustainability.

Our annual coin drop fundraiser will be held on Friday September 12th and Saturday September 13th. Please contact Matt Loftus 889-3274 if you are able to help out. We need around 15 people for shifts each day to help us make this event successful & we greatly appreciate any time you may have to offer. This is our biggest fund raiser of the year and it provides much needed resources for the department.

We are always looking for new members for fire and/or rescue services. We have many opportunities for volunteers including grant writing, maintenance, traffic duty, or helping out at the station during calls. If you have an interest, feel free to stop by the fire house during one of our business meetings which are held on the second Thursday of each month at 7:00pm.

## **High Country Cloggers**

Linda Lazaraoff - 889-9421 or 2happyfeet@myfairpoint.net

Please be sure to mark your calendars for Saturday, September 27, 2014 for High Country Cloggers 3rd Annual Benefit Variety Show. The show will begin at 7:00 PM at the Town Hall. Admission will be \$5/adults and \$3/children 12 and under--a great bargain these days. This year, proceeds will be donated to the Parish House restoration project. Come and support your community for this great cause.

Our raffle table has been a huge success. Anyone interested in donating an item for the table, can contact Linda no later than September 1st.

We look forward to another "sold-out" crowd.

## **The Shindigs**

Janet Zug - 889-9602

The best thing about the Shindigs is the spontaneous magic that transpires. There is an unspoken energy conversation that happens among the dancers and the musicians that feeds the souls of everyone involved. It's the universal power of music and it's happening right downtown!

Our town hall offers a rich history, great sound, and a substantial dance floor with a lower level perfect for visiting in a quieter setting. There is always a potluck munchie table set up downstairs and you are encouraged to bring-your-own-beverage. If that beverage contains alcohol we ask that you also bring-your-own-designated-driver!

The Shindigs work because it's a multi-generational community effort. None of it would be possible without all of it. A few folks "put it on" but it takes the many performers and patrons - all in the room - to make it successful.

"Still More Cats" will kick off the eighth season on November 1st. With 46 dances behind us, and 26 different bands so far there has been quite a mix! We try to keep the genre within good ole rock n' roll with some rhythm and blues, soul and honky-tonk thrown in. We strive to fill the hall with happy, up-beat dancing music.

The Shindigs are non-profit. It costs \$200. to rent the hall and pay the insurance. With a cover charge of \$8. it takes 25 people just to pay the overhead. After that the band starts getting paid, so the more people that come, the more support we can offer the musicians.

The Shindigs always happen on the first Saturdays from November thru April from 8-11, except the January gig is on New Years' Eve from 9-12:30. Advance tickets are only sold - and are required - for the New Years' Eve dance.

Please consider saving those dates on your calendar, and when the day comes up, remember that even though that couch is looking so good or there are other choices of things to do that night, the Shindig bands need you and you will be glad you went! The best way to support these dances is to show up!

We hope you will make the choice to experience, and help continue to create, the Shindig Magic.

## **Tunbridge Library**

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

Contact: Jean Wolfe, Librarian 889-9404

ArtSpace Co-ordinator: Betsy Gaiser 763-2288

ArtSpace at the Tunbridge Library currently features an exhibit of pastels by ten local artists. Artists contributing to the show include: Karen Chalom (Pomfret), Joan Feierabend (Tunbridge), Marcia Hammond (Brookfield), Roberta Henault (Tunbridge), Marsha Higgins (Tunbridge), JoJo Levasseur (Royalton), Kathryn Myers (Chelsea), Kate Reeves (Barnard), Deb Rice (Barnard), and Wendy Wells (Bethel). This installation will be on display at ArtSpace through October 10th. The next show will be a photography project by Geoff Hansen and Laura Decapua, with an opening in late October.

The library offers a Young Writers' Workshop every Friday from 3:30 to 4:30 pm. Anyone age 9 and up is welcome to join us as we practice writing, share ideas, and learning from one another in a fun atmosphere. We are working on a collection of our writing so far, and we will be hosting an evening where we do a public reading of what we have completed. Look for a date in the next few weeks to hear stories and poems from some of the most imaginative minds around!

Oceanographer (and part-time resident) John Milliman will be offering a presentation at the library on Friday, August 29 at 7 pm. His presentation is entitled "Water: Too Little, Too much; A Looming Global Crisis". You'll hear how a new global climate is affecting human and non-human life around the world, and how the availability and quantity of water is causing huge human migrations and changing the economies of many states and nations. Don't miss this important and fascinating program.

Thanks to the many volunteers that have helped us make the Summer Story Hours and Library programs a success. Volunteers continue to be indispensable as they help out with publicity, serve patrons at the circulation desk, offer refreshments at events, and much more. If you have some time and are looking for way to serve the community, we would love to have your help.

You can email us [TunbridgeLibrary@yahoo.com](mailto:TunbridgeLibrary@yahoo.com) or visit our website at [TunbridgeLibrary.org](http://TunbridgeLibrary.org) We are accessible to those with disabilities.

## **Tunbridge Emergency Services Committee**

Dave Kimball- 889-3758

The Tunbridge Emergency Services Committee is finishing work with First Branch Ambulance, South Royalton Rescue and the Select Board regarding long range plan and town representatives on the respective boards. If you are interested in serving as a town representative to either First Branch Ambulance or South Royalton Rescue, Please contact Wendy McCullough at the town offices.

A subset of our committee has been meeting with Select Board members from both Sharon and Royalton in an effort to consider the feasibility of creating a 3 town ambulance service. There are many questions concerning this idea and residents will have the opportunity to learn more and voice their opinions at several public meetings. The first is on September 21th at 7pm at the Town Offices. The second is on Sept 3 at 7pm at the Town Hall. The 3 Select Boards will meet together at a public forum on Sept 17 at 7pm at the South Royalton School.

We have been reviewing the TVFD services much the same as were the ambulance services including gathering information and data about the department and requesting a five year plan. The TVFD board will be responding to questions put forth by us at our regular August 6th meeting. We will create a set of recommendations to the Select Board later in the fall.

Beginning in January, we will be turning towards taking a look at police services for the town and again will be requesting information and holding direct meetings with State Police, Royalton Police, and with the Office of the Orange County Sheriff.

The Tunbridge Emergency Services Committee meets on the first Wednesday of each month, generally at the Town Offices. Please contact Dave Kimball at 889-3758 with inquiries.

Committee Members: Brenda Field, John Durkee, Dave Kimball, (chair), Michael Sacca, Bob Sponable.

## **First Branch Ambulance & Rescue**

Linda Kuban - 685-3112

First Branch Ambulance has had a very busy summer. Our call volume is up and we are back doing transfers. We were unable to do transfers in July due to our ambulance having work done, so our back up / transfer truck A2 was front line most of the month. Confirming again that it was good planning to keep our old ambulance. We started our fiscal year in July with a positive balance in our operating account, so we will not need to borrow any money from our growing capital account.

We have added two new crew members from the Emergency Medical Responder class last winter. They will both be going on for their EMT certification. We currently have ten applications and six others who have expressed an interest in our EMT class that starts in September. There are still a few slots open so get your applications in soon. Our House Calls program is going well, we have six people we see once or twice a week, and 12 others on a less regular basis, depending on their need.

We wish to thank the residence of Tunbridge for their continued support. It is a joy to serve you.

## **Tunbridge Grange #384**

Mert Vesper - 889-5595

The grange has finally got the bathroom put in upstairs and it is very nice. We gave Kevin Barnaby the community service award for all the work that has been done on the recreation field, the new playground and opening the swimming pool. We worked with the Royalton Civic Club at the Old Home Days and made some money.

We have a new quilt that we are selling tickets on. The tickets will be drawn at the harvest supper on October 18th. We are looking forward to having a booth at the fair and hope you will come visit us.

We are still looking for some new members. Our meetings are held the first Wednesday of the month. Everyone is welcome to come to our meetings.

## **8Th Grade Fundraiser**

Chris Hoyt - 889-889-9451

The eighth grade class at our school is gearing up for the annual class trip to Washington DC. The cost per student is \$700. With 15 students in the 2015 graduating class, the total cost for the trip will be over \$10,000. So far, \$3,500. has been raised.

Fund raising efforts currently on the schedule include two upcoming events at the town hall. The students will be selling refreshments at the High Country Cloggers Variety Show on September 27th and participating in the 4H Craft Fair on November 15th from 9-2.

Further information may be found on the "TCS: Washington 2015" facebook page. If you are interested in making a direct donation to this worthwhile cause please contact Geoff Hansen at <hansen.geoff@gmail.com> or call 889-3373.

## **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.

It has been a quiet summer for the Planning Commission, having completed the revision process on both our flood hazard bylaws and our town hazard mitigation plan. Speaking of hazard mitigation, the TPC would like to draw your attention to Vermont's new emergency alert enhancement called VT Alert. You may sign up with phone numbers, email addresses, etc., and you will receive notification via those media if there is a life-threatening situation near your location. The registration is through the Vermont State Police website at:<http://vtalert.gov/> Site information provides easy sign-up directions to create an account. The more people who participate and receive notification, the better prepared we are individually and as a town for emergencies.

Looking forward to fall, we will be revisiting the idea of a municipal farmers' contract. Please contact us if you are interested in being part of the discussion. Our next regular meeting will be Tuesday, August 12 at 6:30 pm in the town offices.



## **Tunbridge Church**

Deadra Ashton, Pastor - 889-9828

The weekly Sunday Worship Service is held at 10 a.m. with Sunday School for children during the school year. In August we worship in the North Tunbridge Church next door to the Grange. Services return to Tunbridge Village in September.

The church-sponsored Food Shelf is open every Friday 4-6 p.m. at the Parish House.

This summer The Tunbridge Church is doing repairs and renovations at the Village Congregational Church building and the Parish House. The big project is having the many plaster cracks in the sanctuary walls repaired and the walls and ceiling repainted. While this work is a big expense, the sanctuary will be in good repair and look much brighter and better for years to come.

The Food Shelf's area of the Parish House is being upgraded. The back room off the kitchen and the back entry are being renovated to improve storage capacity and access. Some interior changes were made earlier after a large refrigerator was donated. Restoration in the meeting room part of the house continues with recent reinforcement of the floor and replacement of its carrying timbers.

The Tunbridge Church supports fundraising events and welcomes donations to maintain historic buildings and the Food Shelf. Donations may be sent to the church at PO Box 270 or Treasurer Townsend Swayze, 57 Swayze Rd. Donations to support the Food Shelf go to Treasurer Euclid Farnham, 24 The Crossroad.

The annual Festival of Worship (Fair Service) will be Sunday, Sept. 14, at 9:30 a.m. If you are interested in participating in the choir contact Judie Lewis at 889-9490. Rehearsals are held every Wednesday in August from 7:15-8:30 p.m. in the Town Hall.

The Harvest 5k Fun Run/Walk will be Saturday, Oct. 18, beginning at 10 a.m. at the Parish House. Registration for adults is \$20, children \$10 and families \$40. Participants are encouraged to raise additional funds by seeking sponsors. Proceeds will be used for renovations of the Food Shelf facilities. Contact Amy Frost at [thetunbridgechurch@gmail.com](mailto:thetunbridgechurch@gmail.com) for more information.

## **Tunbridge Listers**

Helen O'donnell, Rudy Ruddell, Adam Smith 889-3571  
<[listers@tunbridgevt.com](mailto:listers@tunbridgevt.com)>

The Listers have almost finished with the grievance process for this year. We have one appeal to the Board of Civil Authority to finalize and we will be ready to submit the Grand List. Once that happens we will start all over again for next year. Post cards will be mailed notifying residents who will be included in the quarterly rotations and we will be hitting the roads. When we see signs of new construction or renovations we will call the homeowner to set up an appointment.

If you have any questions or concerns about the listed value of your property or about the details of listing in general feel free to stop in or give us a call. Our office hours are 9-3 Tuesdays and Fridays.

## **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)>

Work on the fiber-optic line that will connect parts of North Tunbridge is continuing. This line starts from the corner of Route 110 and the Chelsea Mountain Road, runs up the hill to Chelsea Line Road, down Dickerman to Whitney Hill and down to Rt 110. Goto [www.ecfiber.net](http://www.ecfiber.net) to see a map of the service area. If you are on this route please subscribe on the website to indicate your interest in becoming an ECFiber customer. ECF will contact you to discuss the procedure for hooking up your premises.

The ECFiber Network has been funded by private investments. The next closing is set for Sept. 29th. In some areas of ECFiber territory the State of Vermont is paying to install the fiber-optic line on the poles. This greatly increases the number of possible customers which perpetuates the project in the long term. In the short term additional investments are needed to help fund the cost of connecting those subscribers as that is not part of what the state is funding.

If you are interested in getting in on this worthwhile cause, while generating some income, contact Janet, Henry (listed above) or the ECF treasurer, John Roy [john.roy@ecfiber.net](mailto:john.roy@ecfiber.net).

## **Tunbridge Neighbors Helping Neighbors**

Maxine Young - 889-8274

**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.

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

## **Royalton Radio WFVR-LP**

Rick Scully - 763-7474 [rickscully@royaltonradio.org](mailto:rickscully@royaltonradio.org)

WFVR-LP (AKA Royalton Community Radio) 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 [wfv.org](http://wfv.org), but WFVR-LP met its fundraising goal and has started the process of securing the transmitter needed to begin broadcasting over the airwaves at 96.5 FM. You can even tune in directly from the [tunbridgevt.com](http://tunbridgevt.com) homepage! WFVR-LP's board, and programming staff, is made up of a number of Tunbridge residents.

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

Jennifer Thygesen – 889-5628, [jthygesen33@gmail.com](mailto:jthygesen33@gmail.com)

Please make plans to join us for the second annual Taste of Tunbridge harvest dinner at Tunbridge Central School on the evening of Oct. 2nd. All grade levels will create dishes for this local-food-inspired potluck dinner. Donations will be accepted at the door. If you have any recipes to share that include local ingredients, please let us know, or bring a dish to share on 10/2.

### **Farmer Photo Project:**

Local photographers have been busy this spring and summer capturing images of Tunbridge farmers to showcase in a farmer portrait project we plan to unveil in school this fall.

### **School Gardens:**

Many thanks to our volunteers who are active this summer tending our school gardens, which are full of potatoes, carrots, beans and other veggies! We are excited to incorporate harvested vegetables into school lunch and taste tests with students this fall.

### **Looking to Volunteer?**

We have a number of volunteer opportunities available with the Farm to School program this school year. Opportunities include assisting with taste tests, helping create/update the Farm to School bulletin board, and helping plan and cook for the Taste of Tunbridge. One-time or longer opportunities are available! Please contact Jen for more information and opportunities that match your interests and availability.

## **Tunbridge Town Website**

Rick Scully - 763-7474 [rick@tunbridgevt.com](mailto: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 135 participants at the time of this writing.