

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

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The TUNBRIDGE Quarterly

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

November 15, 2014
issue #38

Tunbridge Listers

Dan Ruddell, Helen O'Donnell 889-3571

(listers@tunbridgevt.com) office hours: 9-3 Tuesday and Friday

We are enjoying this wonderful Fall weather and taking advantage of getting out on the road to do the Northeast Corner of our quarterly rotation. This is an inspection of the outside of people's property. We would call and request an appointment should we see anything that triggers an inside inspection. We will basically be updating our pictures of the property and comparing to the current file.

Thank you again for your continued kindness towards us as we strive to do this job.

Adam Smith has stepped down to take a manager position at the Co-op. We truly miss his quick learned expertise of the lister job. We wish him well in his new endeavor.

By the time you receive this TQ, the tax due date will be past, but just a reminder for next year, that if your taxes are escrowed, you need to forward to your lender, as no copy gets sent to them by the

Tunbridge Board of Auditors

Maxine Young - 763-8274 auditors@tunbridgevt.com

Betsy Race, Becky Hoyt

The auditors are busy working on the 2014 Town Report. Please note the deadlines for submissions. For groups following a July-June fiscal year, all financial and narrative reports are due 12/1/14. For those organizations following a calendar year, the reports are due 1/9/15. If we do not receive reports by the deadlines, we cannot guarantee that we can include them in the Town Report. However, as soon as the information is available, we would appreciate receiving it, which helps avoid that last minute "crunch". The deadline for submission to the printers is earlier, therefore, it is imperative to submit reports timely. 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.

The theme for this town report will be "Family Recreation for all Seasons in Tunbridge". We are soliciting pictures of the subject to include snowshoeing, skiing, softball, kickball, hiking, soccer, running, swimming, boating, equestrian events, etc. The focus should be on family or group events with family involvement. Along with your submission, please identify Tunbridge residents (and with your permission, we may be able to include as a caption). Please submit photos to the auditors at the above email or call one of the auditors for further assistance.

Calendar of Events See individual entries for more info.

November

15 - Hunter's Breakfast, 4-9am North Tunbridge Grange

December

6th - Shindig with "Kenny Odell and the Blue Rooster Band" at the Town Hall. \$8. cover charge. www.shindigsvt.com

13 - Family Craft Day and Cafe at the school, 10am-2pm
Enjoy opportunities to make holiday crafts to benefit 8th grade class trip.

31 - New Year's Eve Shindig with "Jeanne and the HiTops"! Town Hall. \$15. cover charge. Advance tickets are required for this Shindig only. www.shindigsvt.com 889-9602

January

9 - Howard Coffin Winter Evenings talk, 7 p.m. Tunbridge Public Library,

9 - Bingo begins at 7pm at the North Tunbridge Grange and continues every Friday thru April.

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

10 - Mountain Folk presents Kina Zore', 7:30pm, Town Hall Advance tickets \$15. at Tunbridge Store, SoRo Mkt and mtnfolk.org. Or at the door for \$20.

23 - Green Writers Press authors Winter Evenings program, 7pm, Tunbridge Public Library.

February

6 - Bill Mares Winter Evenings talk, 7 p.m. Tunbridge Public Library,

7 - Shindig with "Mo Combo" mocomboband.com at the Town Hall. \$8. cover charge. www.shindigsvt.com

Additional events and regular public committee meeting times can be found at www.tunbridgevt.com

Friends of the Tunbridge World's Fair

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

If you attended the fair this year, you might have seen a banner displayed on the side of the new people mover the Union Agricultural Society (UAS), aka Tunbridge World's Fair purchaed. We were pleased to have donated a portion of the fees needed to make this purchase. The FTWF funded the project of the working susgarhouse on Antique Hill and it was exciting to see it up and running. The FTWF meets on the first Wednesday of the month at 7:00 PM upstairs in the Town Hall. We are always looking for new "friends" so come join us at one of our meetings.

Winter Evenings Speaker Series

Kay Jorgensen, 889-5528 • Tunbridge Library 889-9404

The free Friday evening Winter Evenings series will host six programs at Tunbridge Public Library, starting with Howard Coffin on Jan. 9. All are at 7 p.m. followed by refreshments. Donations are welcomed.

Committee members Anita Abbot, Chuck Ashton, Elaine Howe, Kay Jorgensen, Jeffrey Lent and Ben Wolfe invite everyone to join them for the talks. Detailed information about speakers and topics will be released in print and online before each program.

Jan. 9: Vermont historian Howard Coffin,
"Vermont and the Civil War"

Jan. 23: Vermont-based global press publisher Dede Cummings
and authors, "An Evening with Green Writers Press"

Feb. 6: Author and VPR commentator Bill Mares,
"40 Years of Beekeeping"

Feb. 20: Retired archeologist Caroline Steele of Tunbridge slide
program, "An Archeologist's Life in Turkey,
Iraq and Syria"

March 6: Michael B. Sporn, M.D., of Tunbridge, will speak
about his work in medical research

March 20: To be announced

Tunbridge Town Clerk

Wendy McCullough- 889-5521 tctunbridge@live.com

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

Results for the General Election November 04, 2014 :

Registered Voters: 926; Total Ballots Cast: 590; Absentee: 105.

JP's: Euclid Farnham, Gordon Barnaby, Rob Howe, Helen O'Donnell,
John O'Brien, Marsha Higgins, Louise Barreda.

A reminder to new parents. If you are a resident of Tunbridge, have a child born out of Vermont in the year 2014 and would like your child's birth information included in the 2014 Town Report, please send me the information before 12/1/14
If your child is born in Dec.'14 please provide the info by 1/1/15

Tunbridge School Board

Chair: Kathy Galluzzo - kgalluzzo@tunbridge.k12.vt.us -565-0695

Vice-Chair: Amy Frost – afrost@tunbridge.k12.vt.us – 889-3739

Clerk: Liz York - lyork@tunbridge.k12.vt.us- 889-3516

It's unofficially official -- Windsor Northwest Supervisory Union (WNSU) will be joining our Supervisory Union (OWSU) with the final vote taking place in January 2015. WNSU includes the towns of Rochester, Bethel, Stockbridge, Hancock and Granville. The Executive Boards of both Supervisory Unions have had many meetings and will continue to work together to ensure a smooth merger. We anticipate not only a cost savings but more opportunities for student learning.

As we stated previously, 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.

We have already started the budgeting process and had our first workshop where we took a hard look at the budget - again. Because of rising costs beyond the reach of the School Board's authority, and because the Legislature has been steadily decreasing the amount of money devoted to education in the General Fund, we are struggling to keep our budget marginally close to what it has been in past years.

TCS regular Board meetings are held the third Monday of the month at 6 PM in the School library. Also, we are anticipating additional budgeting workshops and encourage you to think seriously about attending -- the sooner we hear from you, the better we will be able to incorporate your ideas into the final budget that we present to the town in March. 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)

At the time of writing, the board has begun its FY 16 budgeting. This is the budget that will be presented to voters at Town Meeting in March for the fiscal year that commences on July 1, 2015. The offset between the traditional Vermont town meeting date (the first Tuesday in March) and the fiscal year forces all town groups to rely on a combination of last year's budgeted vs. actual numbers, the FY 2015 first quarter numbers, and our own research on financial trends to make our best guesses at appropriate budget numbers. By the time this TQ is in your hands, the board's budget will be set and ready for inclusion in the Town Report.

In the last TQ we reported that we had sent a request for consultation to the VTrans bridge engineering group in regards to necessary repairs on Flint and Mill bridges. With input from VTrans the board has sent out a request for revised bids. While this process has taken longer than we had anticipated, we feel that the input from VTrans will result in thoughtful and pragmatic stewardship of town resources.

Over the last quarter the board has continued its conversations about the future of emergency services with the Emergency Services Committee (ESC), a study group comprised of Sharon, Royalton, and Tunbridge selectboard members. These conversations included several information sessions, including a meeting in South Royalton with the representatives to the three-town study group, the selectboards of Royalton, Sharon, and Tunbridge, and the general public. The goal of this meeting was for the study group to present the proposed plan and budget for a three-town emergency medical services collaboration to the boards. The boards were then ask to consider whether or not the study group should continue its work. After the joint meeting, each board considered this question independently at one it its own meetings.

The Tunbridge board voted unanimously to support the study group in continuing its research. It is our shared opinion that the role of the selectboard is to encourage rigor on the part of the parties – all parties – that have an interest in providing the town with emergency services. We feel it is our job to present well-researched options to the town for consideration and a vote. It will ultimately be the responsibility of all voting residents to decide the future of emergency services in Tunbridge.

The end goal of the study group's work is to present a business case and proposal for public vote. It seems that the group will not be ready to present their final work for a vote at Town Meeting. At the time of writing this submission for the TQ, the board does not have a firm timeline for that proposal. Although we had anticipated brining this issue to a vote at Town Meeting, we do think that the group is wise to privilege thoroughness over expediency. Once we better understand the study group's timeline, the board and the ESC will host a series of public information sessions open to all residents. ⇨

Tunbridge Civic Club

Elaine Howe, President 889-5560

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

The Civic Club held its annual meeting on October 6, 2014. The slate of officers voted in are: President- Elaine Howe; Vice-President - Butch Howe; Secretary - Maxine Young; and Treasurer - Jory Innes.

Two Directors elected were Jory Innes and Butch Howe.

It was sad to not have Merle with us. A unanimous decision was made to hold the Civic Club Annual Show on Friday and Saturday evenings, March 27th and 28th, 2015, which will be our 63rd show. This show will be dedicated to Merle Howe. We encourage participants to perform numbers in Merle's memory. Rehearsal dates are not established as of this date. Again, a fun filled evening of entertainment (with some surprises thrown in) is planned. We are encouraging new energy –and are recruiting for high school students from Tunbridge. Of course, we also welcome all residents of Tunbridge to participate (or lived in Tunbridge at one time). The expectation for practices is that one try to make at least four of the practices, the dress rehearsal being mandatory. We realize everyone has a full schedule and if there are extenuating circumstances why you cannot attend practices, but want to be in the show, please let us know. We also would like as many as possible to make the first practice, or express your interest in being in the show by contacting Elaine Howe at 889-5560; Butch Howe at 889-3716; or Maxine Young at 763-8274. This will give us an idea of how many slots we have to fill for specials.

The 2014 show was a spectacular success and we want a repeat of this success. Proceeds from the show, after expenses, are distributed to various Tunbridge organizations. So join us-have fun and in the process, help to benefit civic causes. More information to follow in the next TQ!!

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 School Club

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

Chicken Pie Supper: On October 25, School Club hosted the Chicken Pie Supper as a fundraiser for the school. Over 150 diners enjoyed a meal of biscuit-topped chicken pie, vegetable potpie, mashed potatoes, squash, coleslaw, cranberry sauce, beverages and a slice of homemade pie. School Club raised over \$1,000 that will go towards enrichment activities for students. Several area farms, businesses and individuals contributed ingredients. Many volunteers, led by Liz York and Amy Bogardus, worked together to plan and prepare the supper. Middle school students expertly served the meal.

Fair Supper Committee Needs Volunteers: Planning for the biggest School Club fundraiser of the year is well underway. Each year on the first Saturday in December, School Club prepares a four-course meal for the Tunbridge Fair Association's annual meeting. To minimize expenses and maximize earnings, School Club will seek monetary and food donations from area businesses and donations of time and ingredients from parents. Lead organizer, Jen Thygesen, is planning the menu and will coordinate all volunteers including those who will solicit donations, set up and decorate tables, prepare and serve the meal and clean up the dining room and dishes. If you are interested in helping with any of these tasks, please call 889-5628 or email jthygesen33@gmail.com to express your interest.

Upcoming Meetings: 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. Upcoming meetings are on December 1, January 5 and February 2. All are welcome to come to share ideas or get involved! Children may come along to do homework, read or play games in the library.

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

⇒ At that time each option for emergency service provider(s) will be presented for discussion, evaluation, and debate in preparation for an eventual town vote.

The public meetings held prior to the South Royalton meeting were lightly attended, despite publicity on Front Porch Forum, Facebook, the town office signboard, and the Randolph Herald. As we know that the TQ is delivered to all residents, we would like to take this opportunity to ask for your input on how to best communicate with you. If you are interested in attending town meetings but these vehicles mentioned above do not reach you, please let us know how you would prefer to learn about town events. Your input is critical; please tell us how best to reach you.

We also think it is important that residents know that the board has tried several times to secure a meeting with the Chelsea selectboard to discuss the future of emergency services and to invite the Chelsea board to join the three-town study group. At this time the Chelsea board feels that it does not have time on its docket to meet with us. We do understand that they have a number of pressing issues in front of them, and we hope that they will meet with us in the new year.

We are excited to report that our town webmaster, Rick Scully, has developed a very simple solution to the posting of meeting minutes to the town website. The solution will involve responsible parties (committee secretaries or other designees) emailing .pdf versions of their notes to the website within the required five day window. The site will auto-post the notes. We anticipate that after budget season has finished the board and the webmaster will conduct informational sessions for all committees. We would like to publicly thank Rick for his persistence in solving the Open Meeting/website puzzle.

In September, a section of Strafford Road and Howe Lane were repaved. The Road Crew Foreman, Rodney Hoyt, was able to work with the paving contractor to utilize town equipment and staff for some of the grading work, decreasing the overall expenditure on Strafford Road by \$3,600. We were able to use the savings to help offset the cost of Howe Lane. The board supported the Foreman's opinion that there was an economy of scale to be had in having the contractor pave Howe Lane while in town for the Stafford Rd. project.

We are still seeking nominations to the South Royalton Rescue board, the First Branch Ambulance board, or the position of Town Agent. We know that Tunbridge is passionate about town affairs; every resident sees that on the first Tuesday of March. We encourage you to channel your enthusiasm into civic volunteerism: just let us know what interests you!

As always, selectboard meetings are open to the public. Our standing meeting schedule is now the first and third Thursdays 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 of Tunbridge website, www.tunbridgevt.com.

Tunbridge Volunteer Fire Department

Jena Young- 889-2804

The TVFD recently applied for and received a grant for just over \$13,000 from the State of Vermont, Dept. of Public Safety. This grant will go towards the purchase of 12 portable radios, a mobile repeater and a radio for Engine 1. The current radios we have will be given to the town for use by the highway or other departments.

For the 6th year in a row, Fire Department members went to the Tunbridge Central School in October to provide fire safety education to students in recognition of Fire Prevention month. While running a mock fire drill, several recommendations were identified that would allow for better evacuation of the school in the event of a real fire.

Due to inclement weather, our coin drop amounts were down this year. Additionally, we needed to hire an outside contractor to install the new signage that was purchased to comply with State regulations for coin drops. The applications for holding a coin drop next year have already been submitted & have been signed off on by the Bethel Police Commander.

If you have not yet signed up for VT Alert, you can sign up at the Library. You can also visit us on Facebook under "Tunbridge Volunteer Fire Department" for communication during disasters response. Contact our Fire Warden Brenda Field at 889 5548 for a fire permit if you plan to burn brush. If you are interested in learning more about membership on either the fire or rescue squads, please feel free to stop by the firehouse at one of our business meetings on the second Thursday each month at 7:00pm.

Daylight savings time has just past us by again. Remember to change the batteries in your smoke detectors and have your chimney cleaned. These regular maintenance activities can help to ensure you and yours have a safe holiday season and winter ahead.

High Country Cloggers

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

The 3rd Annual Benefit Variety Show held on Saturday, September 27th was a huge success. New performers were welcomed as well as some familiar faces from last year. Our raffle table had many wonderful prizes donated by local individuals and craftspeople. Proceeds from the show this year benefited the restoration of the Parish House. If you attended the show and liked it, please be sure to tell your friends. We will be back next year on September 26, 2015!

Tunbridge Fuel Assistance Committee

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. This fund is made up entirely of individual donations for this purpose. Loans through this fund are to be used when other resources (including state fuel assistance) have been exhausted. We ask that applications be submitted well in advance of using up the last of your fuel, since it takes several days to process a request,

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. If you have questions or are interested in applications, you can check out the Fuel Assistance Group on the Town Website, or you can feel free to contact any member of the Fuel Assistance Committee. These include Sue Barnaby, Betsy Sponable, Helen O'Donnell, Anne Peters, Anne Mallery, David Wolfe, and Susan Peters.

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

Tunbridge Town Website

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

Got an event you want to promote? The Tunbridge website (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 169 participants at the time of this writing.

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

As we weed through older audio and video titles, we are adding many more new ones. Come take a look! We also have many, many 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.

The current ArtSpace features "Then and Now," an amazing display of photographs from Tunbridge as it was long past (from the Tunbridge Historical Society) and in the current day (taken by Tunbridge's own Geoff Hansen). Come compare parallel scenes and see how time has changed our town, and how it leaves remarkable traces on our valley.

Jody Lowes continues to offer terrific Story Hours for families with children of all ages the first and third Tuesdays of each month—please note the change in the day of the week. Come at 6:15 pm and enjoy fun activities together, enchanting stories, and a light snack. The theme of the next Story Hour coming up will be Thanksgiving (November 18).

We are also looking forward to providing times for families of young children to have less-structured playtimes in the coming months. Please get in touch with us for more details. You can stop by, give us a call, or send us an email.

Look for the annual visit to the library by Santa— with photographs captured by the artful eye of Geoff Hansen. Look for more details on this event, coming on a Saturday visit in December.

An industrious group of volunteers is completing work on a new season of Winter Evenings starting the first Friday of 2015—don't miss the chance to hear from extraordinary presenters from across the region and even our very own valley. Thanks to volunteers including Kay Jorgensen, Chuck Ashton, Elaine Howe, Anita Abbot, and Jeffrey Lent.

The TUNBRIDGE Quarterly

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

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

Tunbridge Emergency Services Committee

Dave Kimball- 889-3758

Our committee met with representatives of the Tunbridge Volunteer Fire Department on August 6th. The TVFD presented ten-year budget projections, their Standard Operating Procedures and an outlook on their future.

The TVFD is operating very well at this time, while addressing some long-term and short-term issues. Due to ongoing changes in Vermont, including an aging population, the TVFD foresees the probability of a decline in the number of volunteers. That may change the organization in the future.

The department is facing radio communication issues, due to the federally required narrow banding. The department is continually working on resolving this problem. Our committee will work with the TVFD in the future.

The work of the Tri-Town Ambulance Study Group continues. A public meeting of the Select Boards from Tunbridge, Royalton and Sharon was held on September 17th. The Select Boards of the three towns unanimously approved a motion to have the committee continue its work. We will be having more public meetings in the near future to gather citizen input. The Study Group, and our committee, welcome input at any time.

WFVR-LP

Rick Scully - 763-7474 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, but WFVR-LP expects to begin broadcasting over the airwaves at 96.5 FM by sometime in November of this year. 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, so tune in and support YOUR community radio station.

First Branch Ambulance & Rescue

Linda Kuban - 685-3112

First Branch Ambulance has had a busy and productive quarter. We are doing non emergency transfers with our second ambulance as well as using it as a backup ambulance. Our house calls program is going well and we encourage anyone who may need a visit to call us at the station 685-3112.

Our EMT class is in it's final month and students will be testing in December. We are looking forward to some great additions to area squads. This will add four new EMTs to the list of volunteers at First Branch. A little known fact that of Vermont's 175 services 64 are all volunteer and another 77 agencies like First Branch rely on paid and volunteer staff

We are finishing work on a pamphlet as well as our web site www.firstbranchambulance.com First Branch conducted a CPR class for the staff at the Tunbridge School, plus replaced batteries and pads in their AED. We enjoy providing CPR classes for our community.

First Branch is working on our budget for FY 2015 and even with all of these extra services we provide we are able, through donations, small grants and our dedicated volunteers keep our per capita rate around \$28.00. We hope to have a solid number before the end of November. We wish to thank you for your continued support.

Tunbridge Planning Commission

Liz York - 889-3211

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

The Planning Commission continues to explore ways to support agriculture in town. Look for a survey on this topic coming to your mailbox soon! We appreciate the time and energy you put into giving us your feedback. Thank you in advance!

In other news, we are up-to-date and in compliance with our floodplain ordinance, making Tunbridge residents eligible for federal flood insurance. Phew. The state is offering incentives, however, to do a better job of anticipating and mitigating flood disasters by looking at the river corridor and major tributaries. The Planning Commission intends to follow up on this to make sure the town is doing the best it can to prevent flood damage and to take advantage of any and all programs available to do so. Finally, we are still waiting to hear back from FEMA on our Hazard Mitigation Plan, but are confident it will ultimately win FEMA's approval. Thank you for your interest in these matters and attendance at recent presentations regarding flood dangers in Tunbridge.

8th Grade Class trip to DC

Chris Hoyt -889-9451

The eighth grade class at our school is raising funds for the annual class trip to Washington DC. Several efforts are underway.

On 12/13 from 10am-2pm there will be a Family Craft Day and Cafe at the school with opportunities to make holiday crafts, purchase gifts and engage in festive activities. Please join us.

Artist Shawn Braley's wonderful donated illustrations of Tunbridge's covered bridges over four seasons are for sale on coffee cups – the 15 oz. mugs are \$12 each, or \$40 for the set of four distinct designs! Contact Lori Elderd at lorielderd@yahoo.com for more information or to order.

Do You Need a Burn Permit?

Brenda Field - 889-5548 John Durkee - 889-3408

Open Burning: The Tunbridge Fire Warden issues permits to burn natural wood products in accordance with the regulations set forth by the VT Department of Forest & Parks, however the VT DEC has Air Pollution Control Regulations that dictate what materials can be burned.

Am I required to acquire a burn permit to burn brush/leaves/logs/lumber?

Yes, except when the ground is blanketed in snow.

If you are planning a large fire you should always call prior to burning even when there is snow to prevent false responses for the fire dept. Large controlled burns can result in numerous calls to 911.

How can I acquire a permit?

Call Brenda or John at the numbers above. Leave a message with your name and call back number.

Do I need a permit for a camp fire?

No permit is required for a camp fire, under 36" in diameter.

What materials am I allowed to burn?

Only natural, untreated wood, examples: logs, branches, limbs, cuttings, stumps, brush, leaves, slab wood, pallets WITH a permit as stated.

Burning with out a permit and/ illegal materials can result in a fine from the town of Tunbridge Fire Warden and/or the State of Vermont

Tunbridge Church

Deadra Ashton, Pastor - 889-9828
tunbridgechurchpastor@gmail.com

Regular events:

Sunday Services and Sunday School: 10 am at the church in the village. Pastor's office hours (in the Parish House): 10am-12pm Wednesdays and Thursdays.

Soup and Stories: third Wednesday of every month from 12:30-2:30.

Special November and December Events:

Wednesday, November 26, 7:30pm: Thanksgiving Eve service: at the church in the village.

Saturday, November 22: 40 Senior "Goodie" baskets packed at 1 pm at the parish house. Baked goods are needed: i.e. cookies, muffins, etc. or money to help buy fruit and folks needed to deliver a few baskets each. See Sue Barnaby (889-3736)

Friday, December 5: Come help decorate our church and sing carols after. The fun starts at 6 pm at the church! There's a social time after at the parish house, too!

Saturday, December 13: Family baskets for Food Shelf families are picked up at the Parish House. Needed: Money for fruit or children's books, baby dolls, small toys, small trucks/cars, fun food items like pickles, olives, jams, jellies, crackers, etc.

Friday, December 19: Caroling at seniors' homes. Meet 6 pm at the parish house. Gather at the home of Amy and Matt Frost afterward.

Wednesday, December 24: Christmas Eve service at 7:30 pm in the church in the village. This year we will offer one unified Candlelight Service of Lessons and Carols incorporating the traditional pageant for all ages. Music will be offered by both adult and youth choirs.

Tunbridge Grange #384

Mert Vesper - 889-5595

Well, we had a fairly quiet summer. We have our harvest supper the 18th of October. Our hunters breakfast is the 15th of November starting 4.am til 9am. All you can eat. We will be starting bingo Jan. 9th through April starting at 7 p.m. We are getting estimates to have the grange hall painted, so if any one wants to donate, it will be greatly appreciated .

ECFiber

East-Central Vermont Community Fiber-Optic Network
Janet Zug 889-9602 <janet.zug@ecfiber.net>

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

ECFiber continues to make steady progress towards the mission of providing universally-available, high speed broadband access in our 24 member towns.

Thanks to the over 400 households that have invested over \$5.8M (including \$980,000 so far in 2014,) allowing ECF to light up nearly 200 miles of network in 11 towns and connect over 900 subscribers. The final closing for 2014 will take place on December 15. See <http://ecfiber.net/invest/> for more information.

In 2015 ECF (with the help of the Vermont Telecommunications Authority) will add another 100 miles of network and reach 8 additional towns (Braintree, Brookfield, Hancock, Randolph, Reading, Rochester, Stockbridge, and West Windsor) for a total of 19 of our 24 member towns.

While the VTA's program of building fiber trunk lines that ECF can connect customers to is very helpful to the cause, it does need additional investments to cover the cost of making the premise connections. Another issue it has caused is that they require that the line be built with 144 count fiber. Currently this is in high demand and large companies like Verizon and AT&T are getting priority on their orders. The North Tunbridge ECF route is currently on hold because ECF is waiting for their backordered supply of 144 count fiber to run on the Chelsea Mtn Rd part of the route.

ECF is running a subscription promotion. When a new customer you referred is installed both you and they will receive a \$50 credit! To take advantage of this offer please send an email to Promotions@ECFiber.net with your neighbor's physical address, phone number and email address or call us at 763-2262. This promotion, meant for folks that already have service available like the Button Hill route in Southeast Tunbridge, is also being extended to the people waiting (too long) for service on the Northwest Tunbridge route. Just go online and subscribe or call the office. To find out if you are on the route check out the map at www.ecfiber.net

Lastly, ECFiber is made up of a Governing Board which consists of a delegate and an alternate from each town. From that pool an Executive Committee is elected. After 7 years on the Executive Committee, I (Janet Zug) resigned last month. I am now just a regular delegate on the Governing Board. Public meetings are held on the second Tuesday of each month in the Oaks Hall at VLS.

Tunbridge Neighbors Helping Neighbors

Maxine Young - 889-8274

For TNHN 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.

The Neighbors Helping Neighbors phone line is not answered 24 hours a day; you should leave a message stating your request. One board member is responsible for taking the calls each month. When a message comes in, that board member will start calling volunteers until a volunteer can be found for that specific request. We do the best that we can to find a volunteer who is available for that specific request at that specific time and date, however, this is not always possible. Therefore, we need sufficient lead time to call around and if we cannot find a volunteer, this gives us enough time to notify the individual calling that we were unable to comply with that specific request.

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

Tunbridge Treasurer

Ann Fragnella - 889-3571 treasurer@tunbridge.biz

State Representative

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

Tunbridge Farm-to-School Program

Jennifer Thygesen – 889-5628, jthygesen33@gmail.com

With school back in full swing, TCS teachers, staff, students, parents and volunteers have been busy incorporating local farms, food and community into their classrooms and cafeteria.

Taste of Tunbridge: On October 2, 2014, over 100 people attended the second annual Taste of Tunbridge community dinner. Each grade created and contributed their own dishes including pasta with homemade sauce, breads, pickles, vegetable dishes, salads and much more.

Cafeteria: Mrs. Herrick has been busy incorporating local foods into her delicious hot lunch and breakfast programs. Some regular items on the menu now include “Sloppy Farmer Joes” and “Taco Tuesdays” with local beef and pork from Back Beyond Farm, a “baked potato bar” with potatoes from Chapman Family Farm, and French toast with maple syrup from the Bogardus family. She has also incorporated into meals sweet corn, squash and maple sausage from Lincoln Farm, cheese from Vermont Farmstead Cheese Company, and a wide variety of vegetables from both Tunbridge Hill Farm and Mt. Pleasant Farm.

Extended Classroom Experiences (Field Trips): Third and Fourth grades helped dig a mountain of potatoes at Chapman Family Farm in early October. Many of these potatoes are being used in the school cafeteria, and the rest went to other local organizations and families. Fourth grade also picked apples at VTC in September. Grades K, 1 & 2 visited Billings Farm to learn about pumpkins and squash on October 29th. All grades experienced the Tunbridge Fair on Thursday morning, and the fifth grade returned the following Monday for a presentation at the fairgrounds from Euclid Farnham.

Garden harvests and cooking/baking: TCS students and teachers planted, tended and harvested vegetables from three on-site gardens this year! Their harvest included tomatoes, Brussels sprouts, pumpkins, watermelon, basil, eggplant, carrots, beans, potatoes, and celery. On October 29th, third and fourth grades made homemade bread and also vegetable bean soup with beans they grew and harvested from their garden. Mrs. Loeffler and students also learned how to grind wheat berries to make their own coarse and fine flour.

Farmer Photo Project: Geoff Hansen, Emily Ferro, Laura DeCapua and Sarah Priestap have all captured some wonderful photos of local farmers that are all currently being displayed at the school. Be sure to check them out.