

The
TUNBRIDGE
Quarterly

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

November 15, 2015
issue #42

Tunbridge Select Board

Erin Gooch 889-5612, Gary Mullen 889-3242, John O'Brien 889-3474

August 26th saw the realization of several years of study, planning, information gathering, and public meetings, at a special town meeting at the school. Almost two hundred registered voters – a number greater than we often see at Town Meeting – turned out to review and vote on an article regarding ambulance service. Voters chose to reject the proposal to join with Sharon and Royalton in creating a new, wholly-owned ambulance company in favor of retaining the current model of contracting for service from South Royalton Rescue and First Branch Ambulance. The board would like to thank the Emergency Services Committee for the tremendous number of hours they dedicated to meeting and talking with both contracted services, working with representatives from Royalton and Sharon, researching the proposal and the social and economic environment around volunteer services, and preparing for the meeting. This feat deserves tremendous appreciation and public recognition. Similarly, we were so impressed by the tremendous voter turnout at the meeting and the ensuing substantive conversation. We encourage everyone who attended to stay engaged with civil affairs, we hope to see you all in March.

We know that many of you experienced frustration with inadequate space in the trash and recycling receptacles at the transfer station at the end of the summer. In the spring the board made the decision to accept a bid to revert our business back to our previous vendor, in light of ongoing dissatisfaction with the current vendor. Two concrete pads were poured at the transfer station: one for the new recycling compactor and one for the existing trash compactor. During the time these pads were curing the trash compactor was not useable. Dumpsters were provided for our use. While these dumpsters were large, they did not compact, so their capacity was diminished in comparison to our normal weekly needs. We did not communicate adequately with Casella about our needs for replenishment and this resulted in residents finding the dump full, and in one case, closed. We would like to apologize again for the frustration and inconvenience this issue has caused. We are confident that the renovations to the transfer station, including the trial rental of the recycling compactor, will prove to be a long-term solution to our shared frustrations around the transfer station.

The board is sad to report that our long-serving town clerk, Wendy McCullough, resigned this fall. Wendy has served the town for many years as both clerk and administrative assistant to the selectboard. In these roles Wendy provided invaluable longitudinal knowledge of town affairs and a mastery of municipal code small and large. She is truly missed.

In the wake of Wendy's resignation, the board began a search process to fill these roles. Ads were placed in local papers, as well as on the town ⇨

Facebook page and on Front Porch Forum. We were incredibly impressed with the quality and volume of candidates we received for both positions. Narrowing the field was difficult and we felt spoiled for choice. We are pleased to report that we selected Betsy Sponable to serve out the remainder of Wendy's town clerk term, and Cynthia Masterman as administrative assistant. Vermont law requires that when the clerk's position, which is elected, is vacated, that the board appoint an eligible candidate to serve for the remainder of the term. In March, the position will again come before the voters, and we expect you will see and hear from some of these excellent candidates then.

As always, selectboard meetings are open to the public. Our standing meeting schedule is now every Monday at 6:00pm in the town offices. We are trying to hold every other Monday for working meetings, so please contact Wendy if you would like to be on the agenda. Selectboard notes are available at the Town Clerk's office and on the town website, www.tunbridgevt.com.

Tunbridge Town Clerk

Elizabeth Sponable 889-5521 tctunbridge@live.com

As many of you know, the Clerks office has been in a bit of transition. After 15 years of service to the town, Wendy McCullough moved on in September to pursue other interests. She will be deeply missed. If you should see her around town, please thank her for her years of service and dedication to Tunbridge. She will be a very hard act to follow.

Listers Helen O'Donnell and Elizabeth (Betsy) Sponable were both appointed as Assistant Clerks in the interim. Helen O'Donnell's past experience and knowledge as Town Clerk was invaluable in this process. After posting the position and following interviews with the Selectboard, Elizabeth Sponable has been appointed to fill the vacancy of Town Clerk until Town Meeting, when elections will take place.

Cynthia Masterman has been appointed to fill the position of Administrative Assistant to the Selectboard.

As of November 2, 2015, the Clerks office will resume its regularly scheduled hours of Monday – Thursday, from 7:30- 3:00. In the not too distant future I will be looking to include some evening hours for residents who are not able to make it in to the office during daytime hours. Please feel free to let me know your thoughts.

Many thanks to the residents of Tunbridge for your patience during our transition.

Tunbridge School Board

Kathy Galluzzo 565-0695 kgalluzzo@tunbridgeschool.org

Maryann Caron 889-5694 mcaron@tunbridgeschool.org

Liz York 889-3211 lyork@tunbridgeschool.org

ACT 46! This new law will be the dominating force in all education discussions here on out. Most pressingly, we are dealing with a cap on our allowable budget increase this year imposed under Act 46. If we exceed the cap, we will subject our taxpayers to double taxation. Right now, it appears that our allowable increase will be something less than \$40,000 overall. This will be eaten up mostly by scheduled pay increases and increases for health premiums for the district. Thankfully, we are looking at some cost savings in other areas thanks to the Supervisory Union merger now underway, most significantly in special education costs, as well as other savings in administrative costs. At the same time, we are facing the reality that Tunbridge has recently fallen behind its fellow schools when it comes to both technology infrastructure and instruction, for both our students and faculty. We would be doing our students a grave disservice by sticking with that status quo in this day and age, but catching up with our peers will come with a price. If you have thoughts or ideas on how we can continue to deliver a quality education for our students, without incurring the severe penalties in place for going over our allotted budget increase, please come to one of our meetings to share them! We will be grappling with the budget through the end of the year.

In addition to these short-term issues, Act 46 creates severe financial penalties for a failure to move toward merging districts in some form (it has been described as a “fiscal cliff,” which towns will fall off if they fail to do so). As news coverage points out, holding on to our current education delivery model -- operating a K-8 school while also having school choice for high school -- requires finding other towns with similar models willing to band together. And without a waiver from the Agency of Education, this will have to result in a district with a minimum of 900 students, or take place within an SU with a minimum of 1100 students. Your school board has reached out to other towns, but be aware that if other towns are unwilling to band together with Tunbridge, our ability to hold on to our current delivery model will be severely threatened. For instance, two of our neighboring towns are in the process of exploring leaving our current SU and joining with other upper valley towns to the east to form a new district. This would leave Tunbridge the only town of its kind in the SU. While we as a board will explore every option available, to some degree our destiny will depend on the will of other towns in our region.

As we engage in this process as required under Act 46, we are very interested in hearing what the town’s priorities are. A recent news article in the Vermont Standard declared “Hartland Wants School Choice, No Matter Cost.” ⇨

Meanwhile, by the time you read this, Elmore will have voted on a proposal to give up choice, and in so doing retain the ability to operate the Grade 1-2 school in their community and put the brakes on the jumps in taxes they have seen. Where do we fit in along this spectrum? Is retaining choice our highest priority? Is keeping a K-8 in town our highest priority? Is minimizing property taxes to the greatest degree possible our highest priority? How do we pursue any one of these goals while also making sure that each and every student who lives in Tunbridge is getting the best education possible? There are no easy answers, or we would have found them by now. (But if you know of any, why are you keeping them secret?!)

Our regular meeting is the third Monday of every month at 6pm in the school library, but please also check the OWSU website, Front Porch Forum, and bulletin boards around town for announcements of special meetings to deal with the above issues. Thank you all for your ongoing interest in and support of education in Tunbridge!

Winter Evenings Speaker Series

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

The 12th Winter Evenings season of free Friday evening talks will feature six programs at Tunbridge Public Library, starting with genealogist Scott Andrew Bartley on Jan. 8. All programs begin at 7 p.m. followed by refreshments. Donations are welcomed.

Committee members Chuck Ashton, Elaine Howe, Kay Jorgensen, Christina Marts, Michael Sacca and Ben Wolfe invite one and all to join them for the talks. Detailed information about speakers and topics will be released in print and online before each program.

Jan. 8: Scott Andrew Bartley, Genealogist, “An Introduction to Genealogy”

Jan. 22: Alyssa Bennett, Small Mammals Biologist and Bat Specialist, Vermont Fish and Wildlife Department, “Flicker in the Darkness”

Feb. 5: Eileen Ahern of Dandelion Acres and Wendy Palthey of Tunbridge Hill Farm, “Ask a Gardener”

Feb. 19: Sue Cain, linen spinster & weaver, “From Flax to Linen”

March 4: Ed Sharron, Science Communication Specialist and Naturalist, National Park Service, Northeast Temperate Inventory and Monitoring Program, “Track and Sign Investigation”

March 18: George Woodard, dairy farmer, actor, filmmaker, musician, storyteller, “An Evening with George Woodard”

Tunbridge Emergency Services Committee

Brena Field 889-5548

Committee members: Bob Sponable, Michael Sacca, Dave Kimball, chair.

Our committee continues to work with the selectboard in an advisory capacity on all matters pertaining to Emergency Services to the town.

In June the committee recommended to the selectboard that the town join Sharon and Royalton in the formation of a three town owned and operated ambulance. A public meeting was convened on July 29 where details of the plan were presented to the townspeople.

On August 26th, the town held a special town meeting to decide if Tunbridge would join Sharon and Royalton. The vote to join was defeated 120 to 74. The town will continue to be served by First Branch Ambulance roughly north of town and by South Royalton Rescue roughly south of town. The selectboard planning to enter into contracts with each of the two services in the near future.

The ESC is in the planning stages to facilitate the formation of a Tunbridge First Responder squad with the support of the selectboard. These neighbors will assist with emergency in town until an ambulance arrives and takes over. We could use a few more volunteers to take the class especially from the North Tunbridge area. Call Brenda Field if you have questions or want to be added onto the list.

In the coming months we will be taking a look at Police Services in town and welcome your thoughts, concerns and ideas for this and any topic concerning emergency services. We will continue to review all services from time to time. We meet at the town offices on the first Wednesday of each month at 6:00 (note change of time), unless otherwise posted.

First Branch Ambulance

Judy Tucker 889-3305 judytucker1@myfairpoint.net

The FBA has voted to add a second representative to the board from Tunbridge. Those interested in the position please contact the town select board. We meet the third Tuesday of every month at the Chelsea fire station @ 7pm. Anyone interested can attend any of our meetings.

Tunbridge is lucky to have two more first responders living on the Strafford Rd. Justin Seguin is an Advanced Life Supporter with an AED and ALS supplies. He is in training to become a paramedic and Kate-Lynn Dauphinois is an EMT. All Tunbridge first responders carry Narcan.

We are planning a CPR course for interested people in town. This will be taught on a Saturday at the town hall. The course is \$15.00 . Anyone interested can call or email me. I hope to have a firm date by the end of this month. It will be in January. People need to sign up in advance so we will have enough providers to facilitate the course. The class will run for four hours

Tunbridge Volunteer Fire Department

Jena Young 889-2804

The Fire Department has 2 gas Grills & a quick connect, propane fired Fry-o-lator that we are seeking new home for. These items are from the “Smokies” cook shack that was used at the Fair years ago. If you have an interest, please contact Chief Durkee for more information.

We are planning to hold a Fire Fighter 1 class sometime during the coming year. If you have an interest in joining the class, please contact a member of the department so that you can be added to the participant list.

The TVFD was notified that we were named as beneficiaries of Edgar & Libby Dodge’s estate. The Dodge’s left the TVFD \$25,000 from their estate. At our last business meeting the Trustees passed a motion to turn this donation over to Morgan Stanley to manage along with our other memorial investments.

Emergency shelter supplies from the Red Cross were delivered to Tunbridge in early October. Blankets, vests, signs & stands, light sticks, wind up flashlights and 27 cots for sleeping were among the items delivered. For now, the items are being stored at the Town Hall. These items were funded by a federal grant from the Red Cross. Thank you to Chief Durkee for initiating the grant application.

Fire Dept members provided a significant amount of community service / education these past few months. For the 7th 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. We also had a visit at the fire house from a local Girl Scout Troop for a tour and talk about fire safety & we provided traffic control for the Fall 5k Run/Walk. Finally, several members attended Story Hour at the Library and demonstrated both their protective equipment as well as several functions on one of the fire trucks. All events provided an opportunity for public education to many children and adults.

Our fair time coin drop was back to our usual level this year thanks to the sunshine and warm temps. Thank you to the volunteers who helped us out this year during the collection. Remember to 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.

Tunbridge Library

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

Jean Wolfe, Librarian 889-9404 tunbridgelibrary@yahoo.com

ArtSpace Co-ordinator: Betsy Gaiser 763-2288

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

ArtSpace currently features *The Bowl*, a Celebration with bowls, both elegant and homely, belonging to folks in our community, with their stories through December 31. Some are even available to borrow like a book. Bowls decorated by TCS students will be available for donation. All proceeds from the exhibit will go to the Tunbridge Community Food Shelf. Look for a reception on January 10 for an exhibit by local painter Dian Parker.

We continue to offer terrific Story Hours for families with children of all ages the first and third Tuesdays of each month in collaboration with TCS librarian and volunteer, Elaine Howe. 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 "Stone Soup" (November 17) where we'll enjoy a little meal that starts with merely a stone and generosity. Look for Santa's annual visit to the library early in December—with photographs captured by the artful eye of Geoff Hansen. Look for more details soon.

A reminder that November is National Novel Writing Month. Whatever your age, the world needs your novel—and we can help you find resources and encouragement to help you rough out the frame of your story within the month! The Young Writers' Group meets every Friday from 4-5:30, and we'll be holding other events for all ages in partnership with Royalton Library.

An industrious group of volunteers is completing work on this, the 12th season of Winter Evenings starting the January 8, 2016—don't miss the chance to hear from extraordinary presenters from across the region and within our own valley! Thanks to volunteers including Kay Jorgensen, Chuck Ashton, Elaine Howe, Michael Sacca, and Chrisitina Marts.

We are looking forward to providing times for families of babies and young toddlers, birth–three—for less-structured play-times starting in January.

Tunbridge Planning Commission

Ingrid VanSteamburg 889-3459

First, we would like to thank Liz York for over a decade of service to our town and the Planning Commission will miss her as she moves on to do other ventures in town. Over the next few months we will be looking for someone to replace Liz and if you are interested the Planning Commission meets the second Tuesday of the Month, 6:30pm at the Town Offices. We usually make a recommendation to the Selectboard around Town Meeting time. So think about attending a meeting or contacting a member of the Planning Commission if you are interested.

We continue to focus our efforts on the recently updated Flood Ordinance that was approved by the Selectboard in Summer 2014 and you will be hearing from the Planning Commission in the coming months about potlucks/forums we intend to host in regards to the Agricultural Survey data we received from so many of you. The idea is to have one to present our findings and do a bit more education on the issues we discussed in the survey and then have a follow-up one to discuss any actions to take as a town and what that might look like. Please look for announcements about that in the Herald Paper, the next TQ in February and of course the sandwich board outside the Town Offices.

Tunbridge Fire Warden

Brenda Field 889-5548

As Fire Warden, I want to take this opportunity to thank all of you for being so diligent in calling for Permits to Burn. This saves me a lot of volunteer time and fuel driving around chasing smoke calls.

I have never written as many as I have this year. I try to make it as easy as possible for you by asking you to state your name, telephone #, when you want to burn, what type of plain wood, leaves, brush and size of pile you are burning. I fill out the state permit and keep it on file. I will call you back if it is not safe or I need more information.

Keep an eye out for notices if I need to put out a NO BURN time or call and ask me. I can give you more advice if you have any questions. I always encourage you to ask and I am willing to drive out and take a look if you have concerns or more questions.

Thanks again for giving me writers cramp this year!

PS You do not need to get a Permit if snow surrounds your burn but it is against state and federal law to burn plastic, garbage or other manmade products. No burn barrels allowed for household products. If you have a large burn in the winter months, feel free to call me and give us a heads up. Calls start coming in regarding all the smoke. Your neighbors get concerned and that is a good thing.

Tunbridge Neighbors Helping Neighbors

Pam Dietz, President – 889-3315

Maxine Young, Secretary – 763-8274 youngvt@myfairpoint.net

For TNHN services, call: 889-3437

TNHN provides needed services to residents through volunteer actions and acts as a coordinator for volunteer efforts.

Anyone needing help with something should call 889-3437. Someone will take your request and try to find a volunteer who can do it. 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.

There is no charge for any service. We are supported so far entirely by donations.

At the annual meeting in October, board member terms were updated. Pam Dietz was elected President, Patricia Howe as Vice-President, Maxine Young re-elected as Secretary, and Lee Banas and Bill Gefell re-elected as co-treasurers. The next regularly scheduled meeting will be January 11, 2016 at 5:30 in the Library.

Board members: David Wolfe, Lee Banas, Pam Dietz, Brenda Field, Bill Gefell, Michael O'Donnell, Patricia Howe and Maxine Young.

Tunbridge Board of Listers

Dan Ruddell, Helen O'Donnell, Betsy Sponable 889-3571

listers@tunbridgevt.com

We have been enjoying this wonderful autumn weather and taking advantage of getting out on the road as much as possible to complete the Southeast corner of our quarterly rotation. These inspections will continue well into the next several months, as we have a considerable area to cover, and the weather does not always cooperate. This is simply an inspection of the outside of people's property. We will call and request an appointment should we see anything that triggers an inside inspection. We are basically updating our pictures of the property and comparing to the current file.

This fall has also presented us Listers with some new challenges, as the "Easy Out" option for landowners with property enrolled in the Current Use program was introduced, taking effect from July 1, through October 1, 2015. Owners were given the option of withdrawing anywhere from a portion of their parcel, to the entire parcel, without paying a penalty. The owner is then responsible for the entire amount of taxes on whatever portion is withdrawn for the current 2015 tax year. If you have taken advantage of this option, you will be receiving a revised tax bill at some point after processing is completed. The state has received considerably more applications than they anticipated, so we will be continuing to adjust our affected property records as the approved withdrawals are returned to us.

Many thanks to all Tunbridge owners for your continued kindness and understanding as we strive to do the many facets of this job.

We realize that by the time you receive this TQ the tax due date will be past, but just as a reminder for next year, that if your taxes are escrowed, you need to forward the bill to your lender, as no copy gets sent to them by the town (as stated on your tax bill) and we have no record of the escrow. Thank you in advance for your cooperation.

Our office hours remain on Tuesdays and Fridays from 9:00 am. to 3:00 pm. If you have any questions please feel free to contact us.

The Tunbridge Church

889-9828, thetunbridgechurch@gmail.com.

Kay Jorgensen, Parish Council President

Regular Events

- Sunday Services & Sunday School: 10 a.m., Village church.
- Food Shelf: Fridays, Parish House, 4-6 p.m.
- Soup and Stories: third Wednesdays, Parish House, 12:30 p.m.
- Making Change: Wednesdays, Parish House, 5:30 p.m.
- Adult Choir: Rehearsals Wednesdays, 7:15 p.m.

Special November-February Events

- Nov. 21: Thanksgiving bags of donated baked items and candies plus fruits purchased with cash donations will be packed at the Parish House at 1 p.m. for delivery to seniors.
- Dec. 4: Trimming of the Village church tree at 6:30 with a carol sing at 7 p.m.
- Dec. 18: Caroling at seniors' homes. Meet at the Parish House at 5:45 p.m.
- Dec. 24: Christmas Eve Service, Village church, 7:30 p.m.
- Feb. 7: Potluck & Annual Meeting, Town Hall, 11 a.m.
- Feb. 13: Chocolate and music Valentine's social, Town Hall, details to come.

On Oct. 25 The Tunbridge Church said farewell to the Rev. Deadra Ashton. Her new ministry is with Christ Church Presbyterian in Burlington. Guest pastors will conduct services for the next several months as church leaders prepare to engage an interim pastor. In addition to leading worship and doing visitation, the interim pastor will help members of the church community consider the church's evolution, future, community service and priorities before a church search committee begins the work of finding a permanent pastor.

Thanks to everyone who supported the Tunbridge Food Shelf benefit Harvest 5K Fun Run/Walk. Volunteers, Tunbridge Fire Department, runners, walkers and donors helped raise \$550. Special thanks to Dandelion Acres which gave the prize for the person with the most donors.

The Tunbridge Church Fundraising Committee appreciates the many volunteers and participants who helped make Anything Apple a success. We look forward to making this an annual event with community participation and welcome ideas for next year. The committee plans a Valentine's social with chocolate and music on Feb. 13.

Anything Apple raised \$2,400 which, with proceeds from the Valentine's party, will go toward painting the church in the village historic district. The High Country Cloggers' October Variety Show proceeds also will help paint the church. Previous fundraising and 5K proceeds renovated the back section of the Parish House to give the Food Shelf a clean space for storage, a freezer and refrigerator and a new entryway with easier access.

Tunbridge Farm to School Program

Jen Thygesen 889-5628 jthygesen33@gmail.com

Taste of Tunbridge

The third annual Taste of Tunbridge was a huge success on Friday, October 9th. We had a fantastic crowd of more than 100 people in attendance, plus a successful take-a-chance table and Thanksgiving turkey raffle (thanks to Liz York and Ray Williams for donating a turkey!). We had a variety of foods available at the dinner, which provided a delicioumeal. Each grade and TA had a hand in preparing part of the meal:

Kindergarten: applesauce

Grades 1/2: carrot soup & Swedish apple bake

Grade 3: kale chips

Grade 4: homemade rolls and cheesy potatoes

Ravens TA: apples and onions

PG's TA: macaroni and cheese, apple crisp

Hawks TA: baked beans

Eagles TA: roasted potatoes

After school: baked wheat crackers

Grades 5/6: apple cider/juice made during community week

Many thanks for all the wonderful help with set up and clean up of the event - everything went quickly and smoothly with so much help from adults and students. We hope to replicate the event again next harvest season!

School Gardens

Students and teachers harvested produce from the school gardens for use at the Taste of Tunbridge dinner and in the school cafeteria this fall. Carrots, tomatoes, celery, beans, Brussels sprouts and cabbage were some of the delicious items grown in the gardens this year.

Farm Field Trip

As part of their "Community Week" in September, TCS fifth and sixth grade students ventured out into the community for various trips and projects, including a field trip to two local farms. At Tunbridge Hill Farm they helped harvest fall vegetables, and at Seize the Day Farm they learned about dairy farming. As a culmination project at the end of their week, with the help of many local community volunteers, these students also constructed raised beds for the school gardens.

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. That means we rely on your generosity to ensure we can meet any increase in need for the heating season that is now upon us.

This is a service offered to help residents of Tunbridge such as yourselves. The committee can consider these loans when other available 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 Mallary, David Wolfe, Joanne Goodnow, Ben Wolfe and our Town Treasurer, Rebecca Hoyt. Donations of any size help a lot! Donations can be given directly to the Town Treasurer, or mailed to Town Treasurer; PO Box 6; Tunbridge, VT 05077. Include "Fuel Assistance Donation" in the subject line.

Better Bones

Shelia Mitchenson 889-5547

Classes on Tuesdays & Thursdays

6:30am - Elaine Howe 889-5560

8:30am - Shelia & Gordon Mitchinson - 889-5547

5:30pm - Kay Jorgensen - 889-5528

Classes at the Town Hall are free with weights provided. You only need to bring yourself, a towel and a bottle of water!

You can pick up your liability and Medical Release Forms at the Town Clerk's office. These are required before you begin and can be turned in at your first class. Come join us or come back for renewed strength, energy and balance!

Tunbridge Board of Auditors

Maxine Young (763-8274), Betsy Race, Luke Jandreau

auditors@tunbridgevt.com

REMINDER:

For the Town Report, 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, 2015. For those organizations following a calendar year, the reports are due January 8, 2016. 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 at above email. The Board of Auditors welcomes questions and we are happy to set up a meeting with any organization requiring our assistance with reporting.

The TUNBRIDGE Quarterly

Janet Zug 889-9602

The deadlines for TQ entries are always on the 1st day of August, November, February and May. Every effort is made to include all entries as received. Submissions are edited only for typos and space constraints.

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

Tunbridge Grange # 384

Mert Vesper 889-5595

The Tunbridge Grange had a great turnout for the harvest supper. The quilt we sold tickets on was won by Thatcher Morrison. Our hunters breakfast is Nov. 14 4a.m til 9 a.m. We will be starting bingo on January 8th at the Tunbridge Town Hall every Friday night thru April.

We are planning to work with the school to do something with the children like a coloring contest and writing projects.. We will welcome anyone to come to our meetings they are held on the first Wednesdays of the month at 7p.m.

Tunbridge Civic Club

Elaine Howe, President 889-5560

Maxine Young, Secretary 763-8274 - youngvt@myfairpoint.net

The Civic Club held its annual meeting on October 5, 2015. A unanimous decision was made to hold the Civic Club Annual Show on Friday and Saturday evenings, April 8th and 9th, 2016, which will be our 64th show. With Easter falling on March 27th, the next best weekend is April 8th and 9th. Rehearsal dates are not established as of this date. The music committee is comprised of Jory, Judie, Butch and Elaine, who will be meeting in January. 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 2015 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. Watch for updates in the stage lighting as Seth works his magic!! Officers are: Elaine Howe, President; Butch Howe-Vice President; Maxine Young - Secretary; and Jory Innes-Treasurer. More information to follow in the next TQ!!

Making Change

Lisa Kippen 889-9822

Making Change is 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.second growth.org](http://www.secondgrowth.org)

WFVR-LP

Todd Tyson 802-431-3343

The Upper White River Watershed's community radio station, WFVR-LP in S. Royalton, will be hosting its "3rd Annual Hills and Hollers Talent Show and Silent Auction" on Friday, November 20th from 6:30-9PM at the Chase Center of the Vermont Law School.

With performances by Neil Fitzgerald, Alison Turner, Andy Mueller, Peter Neri, Dave Farnsworth, The Brass Swans, the short film "Hurt" by Ethan Murphy and poetry by Jamie Gage...this promises to be a wonderful evening in support of Royalton Community Radio. The Silent Auction will feature artwork from local artists, many gift certificates to local restaurants, maple syrup, concert tickets and more.

For more information and great community radio, just go to www.wfvr.org or email to folkbloke@gmail.com. WFVR can be found on the dial locally at 96.5FM throughout most of Tunbridge.

Tunbridge Town Website

Rick Scully 763-7474 rick@tunbridgevt.vom

Got an event you want to promote? The Tunbridge website (www.tunbridgevt.com) is a great way to reach your audience .. your friends and neighbors! Just email the details to Rick Scully (rick@tunbridgevt.com) 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.

ECFiber

Janet Zug 889-9602 zugglassstudio@gmail.com info@ecfiber.net

Henry Swayze 603-667-8932 henryswayze@gmail.com

ECFiber is a consortium of 24 towns in East-Central Vermont that have banded together to build a community-owned fiber-optic network to deliver high-speed Internet to every home, business, or civic institution in our territory. With over 1000 subscribers so far, in more than half of the towns involved, ECF continues to grow. To see if ECF is available at your address goto: www.ecfiber.net and check the service area map.

Thus far, the entire network has been built with money raised in private investments. If you are intersted in speaking with ECF about investing, please call Janet, Henry or the ECF home office in Royalton at 763-2262.

Tunbridge School Club

Kathi Terami 889-5575 schoolclub@tunbridgeschool.org

Chicken Pie Supper:

On October 24, School Club hosted the Chicken Pie Supper as a fundraiser for the school. Over 180 diners enjoyed a meal of biscuit-topped chicken pie, vegetable potpie, mashed potatoes, squash, coleslaw, cranberry sauce, local cider and a slice of homemade pie. School Club raised over \$1,600 that will go towards enrichment activities for students. Several area farms, businesses and individuals contributed ingredients. Many volunteers, led by Amy Bogardus, worked together to plan and prepare the supper. Costumed Student Council members 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 6pm 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 7, January 4 and February 1. 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.

Calendar of Events

Nov.

20 - WFVR-LP 3rd Annual “Hills and Hollers Talent Show and Silent Auction” 6:30-9PM at the Chase Center of the Vermont Law School.

Dec.

13 - All-You-Can-Eat Breakfast , 8am - 12pm Town Hall. \$8.00

31 - Shindig with Kenny Odell and the Blue Rooster Band. 9pm - 12:30am Town Hall, \$15.00 cover charge at the door. www.shindigsvt.com

Jan.

8 - Ed Larkin Contra Dancers 7:30pm Town Hall, \$8.00 Live Music

8 - Friday Night Bingo begins at the Town Hall 7pm See pg14.

8 - Winter Evenings at the Library, 7pm, Scott Andrew Bartley. See pg4.

10 - All-You-Can-Eat Breakfast , 8am - 12pm Town Hall. \$8.00

22 - Winter Evenings at the Library, 7pm with Alyssa Bennett. See pg4

23 - Mountain Folk presents Mark Erelli, 7:30pm, Town Hall.
www.mtnfolk.org

Feb.

5 - Winter Evenings at the Library, 7pm with Eileen Ahern. See pg4

6 - Shindig with Rockit Science, 8-11pm, Town Hall. \$8. cover charge

12 - Ed Larkin Contra Dancers 7:30pm Town Hall, \$8.00 Live Music

14 - All-You-Can-Eat Breakfast , 8am - 12pm Town Hall. \$8.00

19 - Winter Evenings at the Library, 7pm, Sue Cain. See pg4

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