

# The **TUNBRIDGE** Quarterly

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



**May 15, 2016**  
**issue #44**

## **Tunbridge Select Board**

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

With this edition of the TQ, Gary and I would like to extend a warm welcome to our new selectboard member, Mike McPhetres. Mike arrives with extensive experience: When he lived in Brookfield, he served on the selectboard there for nine years. He is perhaps best known to the residents of Tunbridge as the proprietor of Farm-All-Fix in Randolph. He's the one at meetings wearing a red shirt.

We would also like to bid a fond farewell and a heartfelt thank you to outgoing board member, Erin Gooch. Erin wrote in her letter of resignation, "There has been no volunteer or private responsibility I have valued more than my time on the selectboard, and it is with no small sadness I tender my resignation." Going forward, we feel that Erin set the gold standard for selectboard members—we aspire to be as fair and as committed as she was in her service to Tunbridge.

Dogs have been a problem lately: Dogs menacing people, dogs attacking other dogs, dogs killing chickens, dogs threatening sheep. These incidents have made us aware that our dog ordinance needs to be updated and rewritten in language that is more straightforward and precise. In the event of a dog incident, we recommend that the party on the receiving end of the bad dog behavior write a complaint describing and dating the incident, and then file the report with the Town Clerk. Once there is a written complaint on file, the Animal Control Officer can investigate the incident and mediate or impel a resolution to the crisis. At the moment, the position of Animal Control Officer is vacant. If you know of anyone who might be interested in filling this important position, please contact the selectboard.

We recently appointed Dana Colson, Sr. as First Constable. Dan Mullen had been First Constable, but after his passing, the position was vacated. At Town Meeting, Dan's wife, Tammy, was elected to the position, in absentia, but she later declined (Tammy remains the Pound Keeper). Mike O'Donnell remains Second Constable. What's the difference between First and Second Constable? For those curious about the workings of municipal governance, the Vermont Statutes Annotated Book of Opinions informs: "No law establishes a pecking order of constables, and each may answer to his or her own conscience and the law, but not to the other. The ordinals only reflect the order in which they are elected, and the order of their authority."

After a half-pint winter and mud every month, the Road Crew is transitioning from plowing and sanding to spring maintenance and summer improvements. Between the low cost of diesel and not needing a normal winter's amount of sand, the Highway budget is in the black.

This summer and fall, the Town Hall is due for some much needed TLC, specifically some replacement of rotten moldings and clapboards, and a coat (or two) of paint. A committee—informally called “Friends of the Town Hall”—is being recruited to help the selectboard preserve and enhance this venerable building.

After a winter of discontent, the Transfer Station is functioning as it should be. The summer schedule has begun: It is open for business Wednesdays, 4 to 7 pm, and Saturdays, 9 am to 3 pm. Tickets to pay for your trash are available at the North Tunbridge Store, Tunbridge Library and the Town Clerk’s Office.

Last but not least, New Vista. David Hall, a developer from the Beehive State, has stirred up a swarm of curiosity, anxiety and outrage over his Plat of Zion-inspired planned community in the towns of Tunbridge, South Royalton, Sharon and Strafford. At a meeting for local selectboards and planning commissions, Kevin Geiger and Chris Sargent, Senior Planners from Two Rivers-Ottawaquechee Regional Commission (TRORC), outlined what would likely happen when New Vista meets Act 250. At the moment, all Mr. Hall can do is buy land and use the land the way it has been used. Act 250 is, essentially, a statewide zoning and subdivision ordinance. If Mr. Hall wants to build homes for 20 people or 20,000, his proposal would trigger multiple reviews of various Act 250 criteria. One of the criteria is that development be consistent with the Town Plan of said town. Which means that this year would be an apt time for the community of Tunbridge to have a discussion on the pros and cons of zoning and subdivision ordinances, to revisit our Town Plan, and to generally educate ourselves about what we can do when developments, be they mini or mega, appear on the horizon.

As always, selectboard meetings are open to the public. Our standing meeting schedule is now the first and third Mondays of every month, at 6:00 pm, in the town offices. If you would like to be on the agenda, please contact our Administrative Assistant, Cynthia Masterman, 889-5510. Selectboard minutes are available at the Town Clerk’s office and on the town website.

## **Tunbridge School Board**

Kathy Galluzzo 565-0695 [kgalluzzo@tunbridgeschool.org](mailto:kgalluzzo@tunbridgeschool.org)

Maryann Caron 889-5694 [mcaron@tunbridgeschool.org](mailto:mcaron@tunbridgeschool.org)

Liz York 889-3211 [lyork@tunbridgeschool.org](mailto:lyork@tunbridgeschool.org)

## **Tunbridge Town Clerk**

Elizabeth Sponable 889-5521 tctunbridge@live.com

Hours: Mon-Thurs 7:30am-3:00 pm Closed Fridays

Dog licenses per State Statue 20 V.S.A. 3581 were due on April 1, 2016. Late notices have been sent and as of April 28 there are 75 known unlicensed dogs. You may license your dog in person at the Town Clerks office, via mail, or the drop box located at the front entrance of the Town Office Building. Fees: altered \$11.00; non altered \$17.00. These fees include a late fee. A valid certificate of rabies is needed to license. If you no longer have your dog(s) please contact the Town Clerk so that we can adjust our records.

Vermont local primaries are scheduled for August 9th. If you are not a registered voter in Tunbridge, the last day to register to be able to vote in the primary is Wednesday, August 3rd, by 5:00 pm. If you have any questions, please call the Clerk's Office.

## **Tunbridge Town Treasurer**

Becky Hoyt - 889-3571

Happy Spring Tunbridge! The budget for fiscal year 16 (which is July 2015-June 2016) is looking great. The General Fund will most likely end on a positive number. The Highway fund is also in great shape and on track to end on a positive number. I think the Highway fund has had an easier year with gas prices going down, a very mild winter and easy mud season.

Our new budget for fiscal year 17 (which is July 2016-June 2017) passed during town meeting. For just a recap of next year's budget, we voted for the General Fund to have \$607,654.00 of which \$384,964.00 will be raised in taxes. Last year we voted to raise \$343,626.00 in taxes which is an increase of 12%. This increase of budget will be used to pay for some much needed updates to our town hall and will also be used to update the Transfer station in anticipation of the new composting laws. The Highway Fund was voted to have \$842,300.00 of which we will need to raise \$714,100.00 in taxes which is a decrease of .68%. This decrease is due to falling prices of gas.

For the next TQ, I will be able to give you an idea of how the taxes will look, after the grand list is lodged in June. I hope everyone is well and remembered to file their homesteads with their income tax returns. Have a great Spring into Summer!

## **Tunbridge Farmers' Market**

Lois Gross - 889-5679

We had a successful farmers market last year with vendors selling baked goods, veggies, jam, jelly, eggs, pottery, baskets, and more. We will be setting up on the parish house lawn from 9 - 12 each Saturday beginning May 14th. We hope to add more vendors this season. For information please contact Lois at the phone number above.

## **Tunbridge Town Forest**

David Kimball - 889-3758

Your town forest committee meets regularly to discuss the health & future of the town forest, located in two parcels east of Tunbridge village. We've been fortunate to have the county forester's expertise as well as several Tunbridge professional foresters and farmers involved. Current plans include upcoming maintenance to the forest; specifically thinning of certain areas.

To learn more about the activities of the committee, see the minutes on the town web site and/or drop by the monthly meetings held on Third Wednesdays, 7pm, Town Office.

### Mission:

The Tunbridge Town Forest is sustainably managed for multiple uses for the benefit of current and future generations of Tunbridge residents and visitors.

Management activities seek to enhance and protect various environmental and economic resources such as wildlife, water, educational and recreational experiences, cultural/historic sites, and wood products.

Through an adaptive and scientific management approach, the Town's stewardship of this property will serve as a demonstration model and inspiration for other landowners.

Your Town Forest Committee: Chair Gary Mullen, Brenda Field, Dave Kimball, Lee Lawrence, Larry Mengedoht, Rudi Ruddell, Fred Pond.

## **State Representative**

Sarah Buxton 763-0777 phone/text

## **Tunbridge Fire Warden**

Brenda Field 889-5548

It is usual to have a period of time each April and again in the fall with HIGH to RED FLAG days declared by the state of Vermont for grass/brush and forest fires. Due to the lack of snow pack, this particular April turned out to be extended and the Tunbridge Fire Department has been busy.

After the large fire on Brocklebank, I wanted to thank all the firefighters that responded. Since this is a Tunbridge publication though, I would like to talk about our Tunbridge Volunteer Fire Department and encourage all of you to thank your fellow townspeople who put so much time into training and responding to these fires.

If you were at the scene on that breezy day (always windy up there), you would have seen a great team dive in with rakes, water packs and chain-saws. Tunbridge FD dug and raked a long line through thick small trees. That was not fun item to do on your Sunday list. Tunbridge FD also ran a great Command post. Very professional! I am always surprised and pleased to see how fast folks can arrive with ATV's when you ask for them. The Tunbridge Fire Department showed off a particular skill, that I didn't know they trained for, they cut through a large steel gate in record time using just a hacksaw. They lined up and took turns cutting. Watch out for these guys...they have special skills! Thanks to all of you on the Fire Department!

By now everyone should know that when there is no snow surrounding your burning area that you need a permit. We get eager in the spring to clean up and I like to wait until there is a good amount of green grass to slow the fire down in April.

Also a reminder not to burn trash as those complaints go straight to Vermont Air Pollution to handle.

## **First Branch Ambulance**

Judy Tucker 889-3305 [judytucker1@myfairpoint.net](mailto:judytucker1@myfairpoint.net)

The FBA is in the process of ordering a new ambulance. We are in hopes of having it arrive after the Fair. We are very thankful for all the generous donations during our fund raising drive, but needless to say , if you haven't mailed it in yet, it's not too late!

Anyone interested in having an in-home fall risk evaluation should call the main number to schedule an appointment.

We are looking to hire two part time EMTs. Our transport numbers are increasing and there is need for more qualified professionals. We are putting together a short in -service on early stroke assessment and intervention. It will be held at the town hall at a date to be named soon.

## **ECFiber**

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

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

Thanks to all of you who did the pre registration sign up and encouraged other do so as well. We will know in about 5 days if Tunbridge will be in the first build or if we will have to wait for another year. Keep your fingers crossed as we are just on the edge of making it.

A separate grant application is being filed that would pay for an ECFiber extension to the school which is woefully under served at this time. Hopefully one or the other of these efforts will get service to the school.

ECFiber is a state of the art fiber network which is managed and owned by 23 towns of the White River watershed for the benefit of those towns.

Would you like to become a representative to ECFibers governing board? Tunbridge needs one or two more. Please contact Henry or Janet if you are interested in being an integral part of this important effort.

## **Better Bones**

Shelia Mitchinson - 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 Women's Group**

Pam Dietz 889-3315

The Tunbridge Women's Group started 12 years ago as a way for women to meet each other and share conversation and news about their interests. Monthly potluck suppers are held in homes or in Tunbridge Village during bad weather. Some suppers have suggested seasonal, holiday and ethnic themes.

This is an informal group without officers, committees and duties. Women who would like to be on the email list to receive notices of the suppers and local events can call Pam at the number above or email Elaine Howe at ehowe@tunbridgeschool.org

## **Tunbridge Library**

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

Jean Wolfe, Librarian 889-9404 [tunbridgelibrary@yahoo.com](mailto:tunbridgelibrary@yahoo.com)

ArtSpace Co-ordinator: Betsy Gaiser 763-2288

Come take a break and explore the worlds available at the library. We have videos, audiobooks and many books to discover! Our offerings include new bestsellers, classic masterpieces, guides and references on many subjects, and an array of 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. Our selection of quality videos include gripping dramas, entertaining comedies as well as probing documentaries. Recently we have expanded our offerings with a revolving collection of audiobooks and DVD from the Libraries of the Upper Valley (LUV) Coop.

If you're interested in downloadable audio or E-books, our offerings include titles from ListenUpVermont as well as additional titles we have purchased just for Tunbridge patrons-- we hope to reduce long lines for popular titles. We're also happy to help you learn how to use these services, and we can even provide a MP3 player with speakers for you to borrow. Let us know what we can do to help you.

The next ArtSpace exhibit will feature the work of artists Kristen Johnson and Janet Cathey. There will be an opening reception June 12, from 2 to 4 pm.

Young Writers' Group (ages 8 and up) meets on Fridays at 3:30 pm. An evening with readings by young writers will be held the evening of Saturday, June 11. All interested young writers are encouraged to contact us; any writers who would like to include their work need to share a draft with Ben Wolfe by Friday, May 20.

Story Hours for families with children of all ages continue every other Tuesday in collaboration with TCS librarian and volunteer, Elaine Howe. We gather at 6:15 pm to enjoy fun activities together, enchanting stories, and a light snack. Upcoming Story Hours - May 24 and June 7.

Our schedule will shift somewhat for the Summer Library program. Besides offering times for Story Hour, we will challenge more accomplished young readers to use the summer to explore new ground. The theme this year is "Ready, Set, Read!" and we look forward to the opening event, a presentation about Falconry by VINS educators on June 28 (6pm).

A new fiber arts group meets every other Thursday at 6:30pm (May 19, June 2, etc.). Everyone is welcome, regardless of your skill level!

There are still things you can do to help us get ready for Memorial Day sales-- the Bake Sale, the Book Sale, but particularly the Plant Sale. This year we will be soliciting donations of whatever perennials you grow best (annuals and veggies welcome too). If you need potting materials or helping hands-- or if you can offer help with those who have potting to do-- just contact us at the library. You are the force that makes the Library and the Tunbridge community work!

As a final note, we invite you to come be a part of an historic community photo. Tree surgeons have sadly said our lovely birch must come down. 9:30 am on Saturday, May 21 Geoff Hansen will be photographing any and all Friends of the Library (that's you) in a photo that will be made into a commemorative puzzle. It's our farewell to our beautiful tree and an homage to all who have made our community what it is.

## **Tunbridge Historical Society**

Euclid Farnham, 889-3458

The Tunbridge Historical Society will celebrate its 55th anniversary this year, led by charter member Euclid Farnham. In addition to the annual mystery walk, Tunbridge Speaks oral history program, a slide talk and Ghost Walk, the society will be on Antique Hill for the June 18-19 Vermont History Expo.

The society's archives room in the library basement is being furnished and organized. Residents will soon be invited to an open house. Euclid will be available there during the summer to assist visitors seeking ancestors' information and burial places.

This year's fundraising raffle will offer a painting by Tunbridge artist George Lawrence that shows the rural landscape, cows included, looking toward the fairgrounds and Tunbridge Village.

The June 5 History Mystery Walk will begin in front of the library at 2:30 p.m., rain date June 12. On July 12, the Tunbridge Speaks program with costumed presenters sharing past residents' readings and writings will begin at The Tunbridge Church at 7:30 p.m. The society will provide a 55th birthday cake at the church's Parish House lawn ice cream social that precedes the program.

Euclid's annual slide program will be Aug. 9 at 7:30 at North Tunbridge Baptist Church. On Oct. 9 past residents buried at Button Cemetery will tell their stories at the 1:30 p.m. Ghost Walk, rain date Oct. 16. The annual meeting will be Oct. 23.

## **Tunbridge Board of Listers**

Dan Ruddell, Helen O'Donnell, Jola Colson 889-3571

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

Greetings from the Tunbridge Listers. We would like to welcome Jola Colson to the lister board. She was elected at town meeting and will fill a three year position. She brings great computer skills and an eagerness to learn all the details of this challenging job.

The annual state wide sales study arrived in December, and our Common Level of Appraisal (CLA) shows our current assessed values at 114.93% of statistically-derived "fair market value". This indicates that valid sales in Tunbridge (no special considerations such as family relations or lack of market exposure) are running roughly 15% below the current assessed values that were largely developed through our last town-wide reappraisal in 2010. The sales market has sagged since, and we have seen a rise in our CLA each year since 2010 (101.79%, 102.75%, 106.04%, 111.95%, 114.93%). We are legally mandated to assess property at "fair market value", and the mass appraisal system we use assesses all properties based on cost tables developed from sales statistics leading up to the 2010 town-wide reappraisal.

The Listers have set grievance day for Friday, June 17, 2016. If your property value has changed from the previous 2015 Grand List you will be sent a Change of Appraisal Notice. If your property value has not changed, you will not receive a formal notice, unless you requested one. However, any property owner may grieve the value that the Listers have given their property.

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

We will be starting quarterly rotations on the southwest quadrant of Tunbridge this year.

As always, if you have questions or concerns feel free to give us a call. Our typical office hours are Tuesdays and Fridays from 9-3.

# **Tunbridge Volunteer Fire Department**

Jena Young 889-2804

It's BBQ time! If you would like to eat our barbecued chicken on Memorial Day, you must call ahead & reserve your chicken. Remember, you can purchase just a half chicken, or you can make it a meal for a few bucks more which includes macaroni and potato salad, a roll, butter and your choice of beverage. Please e-mail your chicken barbeque reservations to TVFDB-BQ@gmail.com or call Matt Loftus at 889-3274 or Simon Bradford at 889-5518 to place your reservation. Thank you for your continued support.s

At our annual meeting in March, Chase Ackerman was recognized for 5 years of service in the Department, while Fire Chief John Durkee was recognized for 35 years of service. Chief Durkee asked all who attended to send him feedback on the top 5 challenges facing the TVFD in the future. The feedback will help lend content and focus to a long range strategic plan down the road. John O'Brien and Pete Button were re-elected to 2 year terms on the Board of Trustees; John Durkee was re-elected as Chief; Jena Young was re-elected to a second term as Clerk and Luke Jandreau was voted in as our auditor.

In other Fire Department business, we received a 50% Forest & Parks grant to purchase 10 - 5 gallon buckets of foam and other supplies such as clothing, hoods, tools, nozzles, pumps etc. The grant covers 50% of the costs of these items, reducing our usual expenses by half for these purchases. Due to a grant we received last year for some new equipment, we are trying to sell our old tank and bottles. We are in the process of doing an inventory of these items and we are contacting fire equipment distributors to research the market for used equipment. We are also aware of annual grants for upgrading dry hydrants for use in geographically challenges areas where water sources are scarce. With these grants, landowners typically cover 25% if the cost of the project, while the grants picks up the rest. If you have a pond that could be accessible year round, and you would like to discuss the possibility of installing a dry hydrant, please contact us for more information.

Our 8th annual Easter egg hunt was held on March 26th. With mild temps and no sign of snow on the grounds some of the kids even found eggs still hidden from last year! After the egg search ended, the young (and hopefully future volunteers!) posed for photos with the fire & rescue trucks.

The TVFD was notified that is was the recipient of a \$25,000 donation from the estate of Edgar & Libby Dodge. The Dodge's were long time supporters of the Fire Department and the memorial donation will be deposited into our investment account for long term growth.

Want to burn? Remember to contact our Fire Warden, Brenda Field at 889 5548 for a fire permit if you want to burn brush. A permit is required to burn brush at your home.

## **The Tunbridge Church**

Kay Jorgensen, 889-9828, [thetunbridgechurch@gmail.com](mailto:thetunbridgechurch@gmail.com).

<http://tunbridgechurch.org/>

The Tunbridge Church Community Food Shelf has partnered with Tunbridge Central School to fill backpacks with a couple of meals for weekends when the Hot Lunch Program is not available to students. Anyone who would like to financially support this program may send a donation noted for the backpack program to Food Shelf Treasurer Euclid Farnham, 24 The Crossroad, Tunbridge, VT 05077. Thank you.

The Food Shelf is open on Fridays from 4-6 p.m. at the Parish House across from the Village church. Access without steps is available from Potash Road. The church Outreach Committee recently hosted the year's first Super Seniors Luncheon for more than 30 seniors at the Parish House. The house is also the meeting place for weekly AA, Al-Anon and Making Change meetings.

The pre-summer Sunday School year comes to a close on June 5 with a Youth/Children's Day church service and potluck picnic celebration. Families are invited to contact Interim Pastor Jo Shelnutt to learn more about the church's Youth Choir, Youth Group and Sunday School programs. Summer is when The Tunbridge Church congregation holds services in churches of two of its three founding denominations. September-June services in the Village Congregational Church will be followed by July Sundays at South Tunbridge Methodist Church and August services at North Tunbridge Baptist Church.

The annual Community Yard Sale will be Saturday, July 9, on the Parish House lawn from 7 a.m. to 2 p.m. Route 110 will have a lot of traffic to and from the Chelsea Flea Market that day. All vendors — pre-owned items, crafts, market gardeners — are invited. The 15'x15' spaces are \$20, payable that day. Bring your own tables and chairs. A portable restroom will be on site. Set-up begins at 6 a.m. Contact Nancy Howe to reserve a booth at [nan5lee@yahoo.com](mailto:nan5lee@yahoo.com) or 889-3750.

Used and unwanted Christmas items and gently used general items may be donated to the church's "Christmas in July" tables. Proceeds from fees, donation sales and refreshments will benefit the fund to paint the Village church. Please contact Elaine Howe (889-5560) or Kay Jorgensen (889-5528) if you have donations to be picked up.

## **Tunbridge Farm to School Program**

Jen Thygesen 889-5628 jthygesen33@gmail.com

### Hatching Chicks & Ducklings

Mrs. Brown and Mrs. Hook's first and second grade classrooms were busy hatching eggs this spring – chicks the last week in March, and ducklings the first week in April. Students candled the eggs to monitor progress and growth until hatching. They also discussed the variety of chick colors and sizes once they hatched, as well as how quickly they grow. Many students, even some who are typically hesitant to read, took turns reading to the chicks.

### TCS Gardens

A school-wide Garden Day is planned for an afternoon during the last week in May. For the third year, students and teachers will spread compost, mulch, plant and weed garden beds, among other activities, around the school grounds. First and second grade students have already gotten a jump on preparing the soil in their classroom garden, plus they have been busy planting seeds indoors for lettuce, spinach, tomato, basil and corn starts.

### Grades 5 & 6 Plant Trees

Fifth and sixth grade students worked with the White River Partnership to help plant approximately 50 trees on Friday, April 29, at Green Acres Farm in Randolph Center. After recently studying a science unit on climate change, students were eager to make a positive impact on climate change in their local communities.

### Local Food Taste Tests

During the month of May, students will be preparing and tasting two different recipes featuring local vegetables highlighted in the Vermont Harvest of Month program. Students will try the foods prepared by their peers, and then determine whether they will recommend the recipe to Mrs. Herrick for the hot lunch program.

Please contact Jen Thygesen if you are interested in volunteering to help with Garden Day or taste tests. Happy spring!

## **Tunbridge Fuel Assistance Committee**

Ben Wolfe- 889-9467

Now that the cold weather is behind us, how important is the Fuel Assistance Committee? What do we do?

The Fuel Assistance Committee is just one way we can get together as a community to help ensure everyone is able to meet their fundamental needs. The no-interest loans facilitated by our Committee allows Tunbridge residents to get necessary heating fuel without having to pay interest on a loan, which would further compound financial problems. If we can couple the loans with weatherization resources or a woodbank in the future, this will strengthen us as a community even more. This is just one effort possible to keep Tunbridge vibrant and strong-- each one of us has a lot to offer!

We're here to answer questions too! If you 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. Currently, the members include Sue Barnaby, Betsy Sponable, Helen O'Donnell, Anne Mallary, David Wolfe, Joanne Goodnow, Ben Wolfe and our Town Treasurer, Rebecca Hoyt. Feel free to reach out to us with questions, or your interest to participate.

We are constantly learning how to make this Fund serve the entire community better. Our next quarterly meeting will include a potluck dinner at 6 pm on Thursday, July 14 at the Library Community Room. Following dinner and a brief meeting, we'll hear from representative from Capstone Community Action to hear their observations for the months ahead and to hear their insights on our efforts here in Tunbridge. Everyone is invited.

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. Donations of any size help a lot, too! Donations can be given directly to the Town Treasurer, or mailed to Town Treasurer;

### **The TUNBRIDGE Quarterly**

Janet Zug 889-9602 [zugglassstudio@gmail.com](mailto:zugglassstudio@gmail.com)

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

We had a wonderful presentation about gardening on March 19TH with Jim Bulger from the Riverside Grange. It was nice to see lovely pictures during the bleak snow and mud season. We hope to continue with guest speakers on various topics a few times a year and we always invite the public to attend; look for announcements in the future.

Friday night Bingo went well this winter. We do several fundraising events such as Bingo, Harvest dinners, Hunters' breakfast, food sales and more. Much of the fundraising goes to help local needy families, organizations, and our school.

The Tunbridge Grange is in desperate need for new members. We meet once a month and the meetings usually only last about an hour and then we have good conversation and snacks. Please consider joining the Tunbridge Grange so that we can continue to keep this worthy organization going.

The National Grange, founded in 1867, is the oldest agricultural organization which has advocated on behalf of agricultural communities and families; providing services to rural areas for economic development, education, and legislation to assure a strong and viable rural America.

For more information contact either Marilyn(Mert)Vesper 889-5595 or Rosemary Distel 272-2235.

## **Tunbridge Neighbors Helping Neighbors**

Pam Dietz, President – 889-3315

Maxine Young, Secretary – 763-8274 [youngvt@myfairpoint.net](mailto:youngvt@myfairpoint.net)

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. 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.

## **Tunbridge School Club**

Kathi Terami 889-5575 schoolclub@tunbridgeschool.org

Last Day of School Picnic: School Club will host the annual last-day-of-school picnic on June 8th from 11 am - Noon for all students, staff, teachers, parents and volunteers. Community members are welcome to join us in celebrating the end of the school year. Please email schoolclub@tunbridgeschool.org if you would like to volunteer your time or contribute food items to this event.

Finances in Good Standing: School Club currently has over \$6,000 its bank account. So far this year, School Club has provided support for the Back-to-School potluck; movie site license; Chelsea/Tunbridge Exploratorium; field trip to the Montshire Museum; student gifts at the holiday concert; the holiday breakfast for teachers and staff; classroom supplies for teachers at the New Year, a Teacher Appreciation Week luncheon and the VAHPERD Fitness Competition. Upcoming support will include the overnight Camp In at the Montshire Museum of Science for the 3rd grade class; flowers and cake for the graduation ceremony and last day of school picnic.

Vermont History Expo Supper: The Vermont Historical Society has asked School Club to help organize a community supper on the Saturday evening during the Vermont History Expo – June 18. The supper will give Expo staff, volunteers, visitors and general community members a meal option right in town midway through this two-day event. The 6:00pm setting is open to the community. The TCS Class of 2017 is busy planning a Vermont-inspired menu that will feature local ingredients and historical recipes. Please email schoolclub@tunbridgeschool.org if you would like to contribute ingredients or volunteer to cook, set up, serve or clean up. All proceeds will benefit the TCS Class of 2017. Watch the Herald and advertisements around town for details!

Important – Last Meeting of the School Year: School Club's last meeting of the year is on Monday, June 6 in the TCS Library at 6:00pm. Please mark your calendar for this important planning session. We will review this year and look ahead to next year: creating a budget, establishing planning committees for fundraisers and setting dates for events. All are welcome to come to share ideas or get involved!

## **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. Events submitted are posted to the website, the online calendar, as well as on the Facebook page. The latter has nearly 300 members!

## **Friends of the Tunbridge World's Fair (FTWF)**

Jena Young, President - 889-2804, JTrombly@claramartin.org

David Smith, Vice President - 889-9416, dcs4363@gmail.com

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

Carmen Lafromboise, Treasurer - 685-3184, cmlafromboise@gmail.com

The FTWF has been busy over the winter months attending the 1/9/16 and 2/20/16 Union Agricultural Society Strategic Planning Meetings (UAS). You will notice that the horse barn located near the south gate has been dismantled and a new one constructed in its place. The FTWF has spearheaded the fundraising efforts for this long, over-due project. Discussions are taking place regarding the immediate goals for 2016, as mentioned at the UAS Strategic Planning Meeting.

Tickets for the 6th Annual Duck Race (scheduled for Sunday, July 31, 2016) will be available for purchase on Memorial Day. Tickets are \$5 each or five for \$20. As in the past, prizes include three cash awards for 1st, 2nd and 3rd place winners, plus many donations for goods and services from local businesses.

The FTWF meets on the second Wednesday of each month at 7:00 p.m., downstairs in the Town Hall. Please feel free to attend any of our meetings.

FTWF was formed in 2007 and is a non-profit organization that provides exclusive tax deductible support for raising awareness, continued improvement and preservation of the Union Agricultural Society, aka Tunbridge World's Fair, its fairgrounds, infrastructure, educational programs and events while acknowledging and promoting its agricultural heritage and rural culture. All donations are tax deductible and no gift is too small. Donations can be made to the Friends of the Tunbridge World's Fair, P.O. Box 159, Tunbridge, VT 05077. For further information, you may visit our website at [www.friendsoftunbridgefair.org](http://www.friendsoftunbridgefair.org)

## **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.secondgrowth.org](http://www.secondgrowth.org)

## Calendar of Events

See individual entries for more events.

### May

- 14 - Tunbridge Farmers Market begins. 9am - 12pm Parish House Lawn. Continues every Saturday. 889-5679
- 21 - Library Friends Town Photo, 9:30am on the Library Lawn.
- 21 - 22 Green Mtn Poultry Show, Tunbridge Fairgrounds 889-5555
- 30 - Memorial Day Festivities. Library Friends plant, bake and book sales, Town Hall ceremony 10:30, parade 11:15, cemetery ceremony, Fire Department barbecue. Tickets for 7/31 Duck Race available.

### June

- 5 History Mystery Walk, carpool 2:30 from the library.
- 12 - All-You-Can-Eat Breakfast , 8am - 12pm Town Hall. \$10.00
- 13 - 14 Vt-4H Horse clinic south oval, Tunbridge Fairgrounds 889-5555
- 18 - 19 Vermont History Expo, Fairgrounds, 10-5
- 22 - 26 Jenny Brook Bluegrass Festival, Fairgrounds. [jennybrookbluegrass.com](http://jennybrookbluegrass.com)

### July

- 1 - 3 Morgan Heritage Days, Fairgrounds, [www.vtmorganheritagedays.org](http://www.vtmorganheritagedays.org)
- 8 - Ed Larkin Contra Dancers 7:30pm Town Hall, \$8.00 Live Music
- 9 - Community Flea Market, Parish House Lawn, Route 110, 7-2.
- 10 - All-You-Can-Eat Breakfast 8am - 12pm Town Hall. \$10.00
- 12 - Tunbridge Speaks oral history program, Tunbridge Church, 7:30 p.m.
- 14 - 15 Woodstock Dog Show, Fairgrounds, [www.woodstockdogclub.org](http://www.woodstockdogclub.org)
- 16 - 17 Green Mtn Dog show, Fairgrounds, [www.greenmountaindogclub.org](http://www.greenmountaindogclub.org)
- 18 - 19 Dairy 4H Clinic, Fairgrounds, 889-5555
- 31 - Friends of the TWF Potluck 11:30am, Annual Meeting 12:30, 6th Annual Duck Race 1:30pm, Fairgrounds, 889-9421

## **August**

- 5 - 7 Blue Wave Taekwando Camp, Fairgrounds, [bluewavetkd.ning.com](http://bluewavetkd.ning.com)
- 12 - Ed Larkin Contra Dancers 7:30pm Town Hall, \$8.00 Live Music
- 8 - 13 Good Sam Rally, Fairgrounds, [www.vermontgoodsam.com](http://www.vermontgoodsam.com)
- 9 - Euclid Farnham slide talk, North Tunbridge Church, 7:30 p.m.
- 14 - All-You-Can-Eat Breakfast , 8am - 12pm Town Hall. \$10.00
- 15 - 16 Lippitt Morgan Country Show, Fairgrounds, [lippittcountryshow.com](http://lippittcountryshow.com)

## **Tunbridge Civic Club**

Elaine Howe, President 889-5560

Maxine Young, Secretary 763-8274 - [youngvt@myfairpoint.net](mailto:youngvt@myfairpoint.net)

Another great show has passed. The 64th annual Civic Club Show got off to a slow start, and we were a little nervous about not having enough performers, however with late starters, and all rising to the occasion, a good time was had by all. Fun antics from members of the chorus added greatly to our good time. Our own Martin Young received a rousing applause with the audience requesting “more music” from him. A wonderful ending to this year’s show! We are fortunate to have such talent in this area. Next year is the BIG 65th show and we are working on many ideas to generate more of that talent to join us, plus ideas to include past performers.

After paying all show expenses, we were able to give monies to the following: the Tunbridge Public Library in honor of Ruth Durkee; Tunbridge Central School library; Tunbridge Church Food Shelf for the backpack project; Tunbridge Recreation Committee (for One Planet swim lessons); Tunbridge Central School for helmets and socks fund; Ski Runners program; Royalton Radio and Tunbridge Historical Society. We encourage new participants to join in our madness!! Contact Elaine, Butch or Maxine or one of the other show members so we know you are interested.

Our annual meeting will be held October 3, 2016 in the town hall downstairs at 7:00 p.m. All are welcome to attend.

The TUNBRIDGE Quarterly  
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