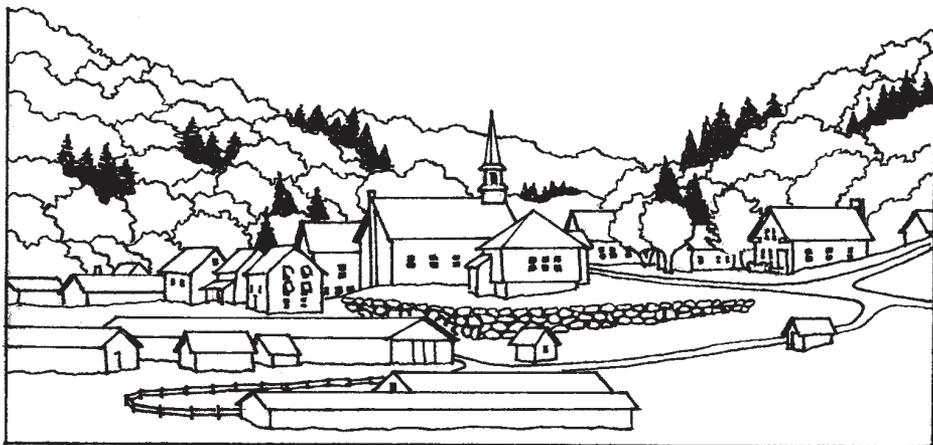


The **TUNBRIDGE** Quarterly

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



July 1, 2019
issue #57

Tunbridge Select Board

John O'Brien, Clerk

889-3474; bellwetherfilms@yahoo.com

Gary Mullen, Chair

889-3323, barn or 889-3242, house; theflyingfarmer29@gmail.com

Mike McPhetres, Vice Chair

802-272-6108, cell or 802-728-3390, shop; farmallfix@yahoo.com

Jillian Conner, Administrative Assistant, (802-889-3744)

tunbridge.adm.assist@gmail.com , Office Hours: Mon, Wed, Thurs, 9-1

Enticingly rolled up, the happily recovered and newly restored Town Hall painted curtain now resides at the back of the stage, awaiting display with the help of AUTHORIZED PERSONNEL ONLY! Now that state and town resources have been used to preserve this piece of rural American art and return it to its rightful home, we should all appreciate its value as a historical artifact and its connection to present-day Tunbridge: The Town Hall stage has witnessed hundreds of performances, some entertaining, some thought-provoking, some full of joyful noises—and that's a tradition that carries on in our community unabated. Another Tunbridge tradition—volunteering—made this preservation come to fruition. Kay Jorgensen, Butch and Jane Howe, Fern Strong, and John Holder ably assisted the curators with the restoration and hanging of the curtain. Lenora and Dave Kimball turned their home into “the Inn on Potash,” housing and feeding the curators during their stay in town. The next time you see one of these volunteers—or any volunteer, really—on behalf of the town of Tunbridge, thank them.

It took Mozart six days to write his Linz Symphony. It took the French 50 years to build Amiens Cathedral. As for duration, the renovation of the Town Hall kitchen has taken longer than a symphony, but shorter than a cathedral. The frustratingly slow transformation of the kitchen will soon be forgotten when we start to use the designed and built space for cooking and cleaning up. While it wasn't impossible to make good food with the old kitchen (the Rec Breakfasts proved that), the new kitchen should get lots of “so-much-better” compliments: cleaner, smarter, safer, easier, roomier, and nicer.

According to the Road Foreman, Rodney Hoyt, the town roads are in decent-to-good shape. Rodney is open to reasonable suggestions and valid complaints, but grouching and cussin' should be withheld until one drives on all the neighboring towns' roads. Comparison is the mother of appreciation: In general, compared to other towns, our roads are pretty darn good. Grading

and ditching and mowing will continue throughout the summer as long as the sun occasionally shines and equipment breakdowns are no more than average.

Last Saturday, if you had to go to a graduation, a wedding, a funeral, or maybe even camp, and you realized on Monday that your seven trash bags of trash in the garage, which include, but are not limited to, loaded diapers, used Kleenex, milk cartons, assorted plastic wrappers, and greasy pizza boxes, are going to stink to high heaven come next Saturday, don't despair: The Tunbridge Transfer Station is now open Wednesdays, 4-7 PM.

Lastly, our excellent Town Clerk, Betsy Sponable, has resigned to spend more time with her family. The Selectboard appreciated the values Betsy brought to the position—she was fair, efficient, prompt, knowledgeable, and patient. The Selectboard has appointed Tunbridge's Administrative Assistant, Jillian Conner, to be the acting Town Clerk until the next election, which will be Town Meeting, 2020. The transition should be a smooth one: Jillian is a quick study and Betsy will be available for mentoring. If you see Betsy, wish her well and thank her for her dedicated public service. If you're driving by the Town Offices, drop in and say "how-do-you-do" to the new Town Clerk.

The TUNBRIDGE Quarterly

Janet Zug 889-9602 zugglasstudio@gmail.com

The deadline dates for entries are the 15th of December, March, June and September. Entries are printed as received and only edited for typos. Feel free to contact me with any questions, comments or suggestions. My apologies for any mistakes I miss or make!

The TQ is mailed to all Tunbridge property owners on the grand list and Tunbridge postal patrons. Folks that live in Tunbridge but do not own property and receive their mail through another post office will not receive a paper copy. The current and past issues of the TQ are always available online at <http://tunbridgevt.org/tunbridge-quarterly/>

Tunbridge Town Clerk

Elizabeth (Betsy) Sponable 889-5521 tctunbridge@live.com

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

Dog licenses per State Statue 20 V.S.A. 3581 were due on April 1, 2019. Late notices have been sent and as of April 30 there are 63 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.

In addition to its usual Saturday schedule, the Transfer station will once again be open on Wednesdays, commencing May 8th from 4:00 to 7:00 pm. Tickets are currently available at the Tunbridge Library, Tunbridge Village General Store and the Town Clerk's Office.

Births: Everett James Hoyt, born April 9, 2019- to parents

Scott and Amber Hoyt

Bodhi Blae Benoit, born May 1, 2019- to parents

Rebekka Anne Read and Jayson Bernard Benoit

Freya Louise O'Donnell, born May 9, 2019 – to parents

Jody Elizabeth Lowes and Ian Guy O'Donnell

Laurence Edwin Butterfield IV, born May 22, 2019- to parents

Brieonna May Bassette and Laurence Edwin Butterfield III

Deaths: Many of us were saddened to hear of the passing of longtime resident, Joanne Goodnow, on March 26, 2019. Joanne had moved from Tunbridge to North Carolina last fall to be closer to her daughter. Joanne contributed so much to our community over the years, as did her husband, Dana. She will be dearly missed by all.

I have also been asked by the cousin of Frances (Pedusey) Johansen to include a notice on the passing of Frances (Pedusey) Johansen, who passed away on December 23. She and her husband Bill (who pre-deceased her in 2016) owned a home on Hoyt Rd which is now in a Trust. Her parents purchased a home in Tunbridge in 1946. Fran loved the town so much that she and her husband Bill purchased the Hoyt Rd property in the early 1980's, spending summers here for over 30 years. The Trust is hoping that the home will remain in the family so they may continue to enjoy Tunbridge for many years to come.

Last July the state proposed many changes with regard to Vital Statistics, which they ultimately put on hold until this year. July 1st, 2019, will bring about some procedural changes in Town Clerk's offices throughout the state regarding obtaining Certified copies of birth and death records.

The state has passed new legislation that will require anyone seeking a Certified copy of these records, to 1) Provide ID and prove a relationship to the individual on record, and 2) To complete and submit an application for each record they seek. The state's goal is to attempt to reduce identity theft. You will no longer be required to go to the Town where the birth or death occurred, but you can visit any Clerk's office in the state to obtain the record. Copies will no longer be made from the Clerk's recorded original. All Clerk's (unless they opt out) will be required to sign onto the Vermont Vital Statistics page online and download and print from there. These copies will be an edited version of the originals. They will not contain as much detailed information. Clerk's will be required to log in each and every Certified document number that they issue into the online system, and the state will then monitor the number of copies issued for any given record. This new system will not pertain to Marriage Certificates. They will continue to be available only at the individual Clerk's office in which the License was issued.

It is with much sadness that I regret to inform you that I have given my notice as Town Clerk. My last day will be June 28th. I am so grateful to have been given the opportunity to serve the residents of Tunbridge and have completely enjoyed my time as Clerk. Tunbridge is a very special place indeed. The Selectboard has appointed Jillian Conner as my replacement. She will officially take over as Town Clerk on July 1st. I have worked closely with Jillian in her role as Administrative Asst. to the Selectboard and I am confident that she will do an excellent job. I hope that you will all welcome her and be patient as she learns all the many facets of the job. I will be back and forth between Vermont and New York State, as I am retiring to welcome a new grand baby into the family. My new full-time job will be all those fun things that grandmas do.

I hope you are enjoying these warmer temperatures and all the beauty that Tunbridge has to offer as this beautiful valley turns every shade of green imaginable. We are so very fortunate to be able to call this place home! Take care, and be good to one another. Betsy

Tunbridge Board of Listers

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

lister@tunbridge.biz) Office hours - Tuesday and Friday from 9-3.

Welcome Spring! It is that time of the year where it is the busiest for the Listers. We are busy finalizing the properties we have seen this year, valuing new construction in the town, receiving the last of the homestead downloads from the state, and reviewing the Current Use Land.

On June 4, 2019 we lodged the abstract of the Grand List, and Change of Appraisal in Real Estate Notices were sent. Grievances are set for June 18, 2019; any property owners not satisfied with the response to their grievance have the opportunity to appeal the decision to the Board of Civil Authority (32 V.S.A. § 4404). If appeals go the BCA, the Town Clerk sets the date and time for these hearings. If a property owner is still unsatisfied with these decisions, they have the right to appeal to the Director of Property Valuation and Review or the Vermont Superior Court (32 V.S.A. § 4461). These decisions determine the assessed value of all property in town, and the "As Billed" Grand List will be lodged in early August. Taxes are actually set in July-August, based on the results of the municipal budget votes at Town Meeting (and the hard work of our Town Officers that build the budgets to account for them) as well as the statewide Education tax rates. Tax bills are mailed around the 15th of August, and in Tunbridge there is one due date on November 1.

Any transfers we receive after April 1st go on the 2020 Grand List, so as we are lodging the Grand List for this year we are also trying to get caught up on accounting property transfers that have occurred in the interim, starting the ball rolling on the work ahead for the coming year.

We will move on to the southeast quadrant rotational visits come summer (Button, Dairy, Kibling, Potash, and Town Farm Hill Roads). We will be sending out post cards soon and you will receive one if you are in this section of town. These visits are our primary process for staying current with changes, and we greatly appreciate your kindness and cooperation in scheduling and facilitating our service to the town and each of you.

Feel free to stop by or give us a call.

First Branch Unified District

Kathy Galluzzo 565-0695 kgalluzzo@wrvsu.org

Maryann Caron 889-5694 mcaron@wrvsu.org

Jena Young 889-2804 jyoung@wrvsu.org

Tunbridge Town Treasurer

Becky Hoyt - 889-3571 treasurer@tunbridge.biz

Happy Summer Everyone!

We are getting to the end of the fiscal year. By the time you read this we will be there! Everything seems to be doing great. Just a few updates, the first being that we hired Sullivan and Powers to do a review of the Town accounts. They came in April and made a few suggestions. The most important being that we should change our basis of accounting from modified accrual to a cash basis. Being a small town it didn't make sense to them for us to be modified accrual. I am very excited to make this change back to a cash basis. Sullivan and Powers are going to return after July to do a full audit of our accounts. I have been very pleased with their work and I am excited to keep working with them.

I am sure the one thing on everyone's minds is their Tax Bills. The tax rate will be set at the first selectboard meeting in August. Hopefully if everything goes well and the selectboard doesn't find any major problems the bills should be in the mail the follow week. When you receive your bill please look it over to make sure that it looks the way you think it should. If you find anything that doesn't look right, if it is missing a state payment or if you think it should say resident and it says nonresident, please call either the listers or myself to see if we need to fix something or if the state has made a mistake. It is easier to fix now than in November. Also just as a heads up the state legislature has made some changes on how they would like the tax bills to look. I have not seen the new set up but if you have questions, please let me know.

Another new feature this year is that we finally have the ability to accept credit card payments for tax bills. It is a 3%, of the bill, charge to you to use this feature. It can be done through the Internet on our web page. Right now it is specifically for tax and delinquent tax payments. If you wish to use this system and have any problems please let me know.

If you find you have any questions please reach out to me.

Tunbridge Library

Hours: Mon & Wed 3-8, Thur & Fri 3-6, Sat 9-3

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

Fern Strong, ArtSpace Coordinator, 860-986-0507; redbarnrugs2@yahoo.com

Your library is your place to work, study, read, or just catch up with friends and neighbors. We have everything from the mundane (transfer station tickets, health information, etc.) to the sublime (historic masterpieces, great mysteries, and films) We look forward to stopping by to see what's new this week, and let us know how we can be more helpful to you.

The Library is proud to announce we have a grant to participate in Vermont Reads 2019, featuring the graphic novel "March." In this remarkable book, the civil rights leader John Lewis tells the story of how he helped participate in a movement that changed history. Books will be first available at our annual Frederick Douglass reading on Sunday, June 30 at 6:30 pm. We'll have ongoing events surrounding this book, examining the history and legacy of the civil rights movement, with an eye to our nation today.

Summer Library Program encourages young readers of all abilities to spend the summer exploring books! The theme this year is "A Universe of Stories," and we'll be getting together every Saturday at 9:30, and we'll be welcoming storyteller extraordinaire Jools Skeet-Browning to lead us in interactive storycraft throughout the coming weeks. You can sign up any time, and come as often as you like. A finale of the Library Program is tentatively scheduled for the evening of Thursday, August 8 with a visit from our own Racing Reader Gary Mullen with a chance to sign his car – #29! Contact the Library for details.

Story Hour for families with children of all ages will be held on Wednesday mornings at 10 am starting June 26. It will continue July 3 and then (mostly) every other week through the summer (July 17, July 31, August 7, August 21). This is especially for children who are not yet reading on their own-- but there is something for all ages.

For more experienced readers, we look forward to a new book discussion focused on environmental stewardship in everyday life. Join us as we look at how we can change the future of the planet for the better.

Every Thursday (excluding July 4), we will have an intergenerational event at 6:30 pm. We'll start with Puzzle Night on June 27-- with jigsaw puzzles and brainteasers of many kinds. Throughout the summer we'll be hosting Thursday evening movies, walks, stargazing and more. Come join us!

Other regular events at the library include a Chess Club led by Philip VanDusen every Monday from 4:30 to 6:30, as well as a Gathering of Fiber Artists from 6 to 8 pm first and third Wednesday evenings (April July 3, 17, etc.). Any age and ability are welcome in either group.

The current ArtSpace exhibit celebrates “The Tunbridge Fair,” by Bridgewater artist Rae Newell. This show will anticipate the excitement to come, running through the beginning of September. Mark your calendars for a reception on Sunday, July 21, from 2-4 p.m.

In August, the Friends of the Library welcome you to join their annual community picnic, time and date to be determined. The Friends of the Library invite you to consider ways to help the library better serve the community. Look for an upcoming survey from the Library Trustees where you can share your input.

Friends of the Tunbridge Library

Kay Jorgensen - 889-9404

Thanks to everyone – workers, donors and patrons – who helped the Friends raise funds on Memorial Day for special needs at the library.

Baked treats, such as pies, cookies and cakes, were donated by residents and quickly sold out to people who enjoyed them on site or took them home. Thanks to generous plant donors and energetic diggers and potters, several hundred plants from lilacs, chives and sedum to peonies, hostas and houseplants were sold on the library lawn.

New gift items were under a tent on the lawn, with new and used books in the library. The Fiber Artists group that meets at the library hosted a first-time crafts sale that featured items and works donated by local artists.

At a recent Friends meeting Meg Hopkins was elected secretary, taking over from Catherine Freese, who helped establish the library and was the Friends’ secretary for many years. Officers who were reelected are Euclid Farnham, president; Elaine Howe, vice pres.; and Donna Nelson, treasurer.

In addition to donations to the library, the Friends provide community support through their Town Meeting Dinner and the Memorial Day sales. Gift, card and books sales will be held in November. New Friends are welcomed to help generate new ideas and energy. Book donations are invited at any time.

Tunbridge Sewing Circle

Elaine Howe -889-5560 elaineahowe@gmail.com

All skill levels are welcome to join the Tunbridge Sewing Circle from 8am until noon in the School Library. Call Elaine or Nancy Howe (889-3750) for dates and more information.

Tunbridge Auditors

Anissa Morrison 889-3535

Greetings from our community's newest auditor. As a quick introduction, I returned to Tunbridge in 2000 with my husband and young children. Children grow quickly, so I now have time to serve as one of the three town auditors. I am taking on the task Maxine Young so adeptly completed, the creation of our annual town report.

Auditors held a formal organizational meeting in April and plan to meet soon with tax collector Joe Paquin. In addition to formal and work meetings town auditors Betsy Race and Linda Hoyt recently attended a Vermont League of Cities and Towns Training at Lake Morey Inn. Town Treasurer, Becky Hoyt, joined Betsy and Linda for a day focused on Governmental Accounting. The information presented validated many of our current practices.

Prior to the next TQ, we will be selecting a theme for the 2019 Tunbridge Town Report. If you have any suggestions or possible photographs please email me.

Friends of the Tunbridge World's Fair (FTWF)

Joann Welch - 802-477-2147

The Friends of the Fair are selling duck race tickets for \$5 each or 5 for \$20. The grand prizes are \$250 for first place, \$150 for second place and \$100 for third place. Last year we had an additional 40 prizes donated by local merchants to give away as well! Tickets can be purchased from any board member.

The annual meeting is July 28th. There is a potluck lunch at 11:30am followed by the annual meeting at 12:30pm and the duck race around 1:30pm.

Anyone interested in becoming a member of the Friends can join by sending the annual membership fee to:

Friends of the Tunbridge World's Fair PO Box 159 Tunbridge, VT 05077

Single- \$25 Couple- \$50 Family- \$100

Lifetime- \$1000 (may be paid over 3 years)

Additional information is available on our website at www.friendsoftunbridgefair.org.

Meetings are held in the downstairs of the Town Hall at 7pm the second Wednesday of every month through November. All meetings are open the public. We hope to see you there!

Tunbridge info from Wikipedia

There was an empty page this time so I'm filling it with potentially interesting information about Tunbridge....

Geography and Geology

According to the United States Census Bureau, the town has a total area of 44.8 square miles (115.9 km²), of which 44.7 square miles (115.9 km²) is land and 0.04 square mile (0.1 km²) (0.04%) is water. The First Branch of the White River running north to south divides Tunbridge into two nearly equal parts. Two mineral springs exist in the town, one of which is a white sulphur spring located on "Spring road," one and a half miles from Tunbridge Center; this spring was once valued for its medicinal properties.

The highest points of land are Brocklebank Hill at 2100+ ft near the northern boundary with Chelsea, Old Hurricane Hill at 1900+ ft in the north-western part near East Randolph, and East Hill at 2112 ft near the Strafford line. The soil is well-drained and was formed in Wisconsin-age glacial till, its average depth is around 20 to 40 inches. Typical composition of the soil is; a surface layer of very dark brown, partially decomposed organic material, a subsurface layer of gray fine sandy loam, upper subsoil of dark brown fine sandy loam and subsoil of brown channery fine sandy loam. The rocks underlying Tunbridge are entirely of the calciferous mica schist formation, with a small bed of granite, syenite and protogine in the northeastern part.

No. 9 of the Acts of 1985, effective March 27, 1985, designated the Tunbridge Soil Series as the official State Soil. The Tunbridge series (course-loamy, mixed, frigid Typic Haplothrod) consists of moderately deep to bedrock, well drained soils. It was selected from among more than 160 different soil series in the state. As it is a typical "hill farm" and "sugarbush" soil, the Tunbridge series well represents the soil resources of Vermont. A soil formed in loamy glacial till, it has good potential for agriculture and forestry. As Professor Richmond Bartlett of UVM says, "It's the soil that makes Vermont hills greener than those either in New Hampshire or New York." ---From Office of the Secretary of State, Vermont Legislative Directory and State Manual, Biennial Session, 1993-1994, p. 16.

Alliance for Vermont Communities

Michael Sacca - 889-3210 mfsacca@sover.net

The Alliance for Vermont Communities (AVC) continues to work to steward and protect our region to support healthy communities. AVC welcomes your ideas, support and engagement.

Vermont Council on Rural Development (VCRD) has just about finished their end of the Community Visit to the towns of Royalton, Sharon, Strafford and Tunbridge. At this writing they are in the process of tossing the baton to the 3 task forces that will continue the work: Economic Development and Cultural Vitality, Housing with special focus on senior housing, and lastly, Working Lands, Natural Resources and the creation of an Agricultural Network. The task forces are made up of residents of the 4 towns. If you want to sign up for one and join in on creating vibrant communities, contact Jenna at VCRD or AVC (see below).

The former Manning Farm located near the 4 corner area of the towns of Royalton, Sharon, Strafford and Tunbridge was conserved by the Upper Valley Land Trust when the Strafford Organic Creamery purchased it in January 2018. Part of the conservation easement included a trail requested by AVC. Well it's time to roll up sleeves and begin building the 2.5 mile trail on the parcel. This trail will link to the trails in the Ashley Community Forest, another project being stewarded by AVC to bring increased recreational opportunities to the region. If you want to help build the trail and be the first one on your block to walk it, please contact AVC.

The Third Annual Ranger Gravel-Enduro Bike event and "Party in the Pasture" took place at the Tunbridge Fairgrounds on Sunday, June 9th under ideal weather. Over 300 gravel riders enjoyed the day after riding either the 18 or 36 mile courses and were joined by hundreds more who took in great music, food and activities. The Junior Ranger was one of the big hits of the day, encouraging kids on bikes. The event, organized by Alex Busley raises money for AVC, Little Bellas and Vermont Adaptive Ski and Sports. To learn more go to www.therangervt.com

AVC will continue to work in collaboration with local and regional organizations, and with residents and town officials from our communities to encourage innovation with developing a new rural economy from land based economies such as agriculture, forestry and recreation.

To learn more or to get involved, check out our website or contact Michael Sacca at 889.3210. We are a 501(c)(3) nonprofit. Tax deductible donations are very welcome and can be mailed to: AVC P.O. Box 545 South Royalton, VT 05068 or be made at our donate page on our website; www.alliancevermont.org.

Intelligent Based Policing

VSP barracks 802-234-9933 recorded

Email DPS.VSPROYALTONIBP@VERMONT.GOV

IBP is a new concept the VSP and local citizens are trying. Residents have been meeting once a week since April to try to determine strategies to disrupt illegal activity in the area. The program is being used in several other areas of the state, and is showing positive results.

People are urged “If you see something...Say something” by calling or emailing at the above numbers.

Reportable offenses are possible drug activity, theft, burglary, assault, or child endangerment. Important information could include: Vehicle color, make and/or license; Gender of person(s); Age, best guess; Description of clothing worn; Date, time and location.

The core goals /principals of the program are...

- *Create a safe and secure environment.
- *Promote and foster community relationship/partnership with Local, State Police community leaders and local organizations.
- *Reduce drug activity/violence.
- *Establish positive, effective youth and parental programs
- *Unity of effort is essential.
- *Generating intelligence by, with and through community.

Everyone is invited to attend any of the weekly meeting, held Wednesday nights at 6:00 in the Tunbridge School. Your ideas and input are needed.

“The world is a dangerous place to live; not because of those that do evil, but because of those who watch it and let it happen.” Albert Einstein

Tunbridge Town Website

Geoff Hansen, 802-889-3373, or info@geoffhansen.com

Tunbridge’s town website is a timely resource for information from the Town Clerk, board meetings, upcoming events and past issues of the Tunbridge Quarterly. Please let us know if there’s something you would like to see listed, or have any questions.

The Tunbridge Church

Kay Jorgensen, 889-9828, thetunbridgechurch@gmail.com.

During July and August The Tunbridge Church honors two of its three founding denominations by holding July worship services at the South Tunbridge Baptist Church and August services at the North Tunbridge Baptist Church. Another tradition is the outdoor service and picnic on the first Sunday in August — Aug. 4 at Judie Lewis's pond on Dickerman Hill. Services begin at 10 a.m.

All are invited to the July 9 Community Ice Cream Social on the Parish House lawn at 6:30 p.m. Bring a chair and a favorite topping if you like. The Tunbridge Historical Society's "Tunbridge Speaks" oral history program will be held in the church at 7:30.

On July 13, the annual Community Yard Sale will be open from 7 to 2 on the Parish House lawn and at the Town Hall. Vendors, crafters market gardeners and others are invited. The 15'x15' spaces are \$20, payable that day. Contact Nancy Howe to reserve space at 889-3750. There's good visibility, plenty of parking and lots of traffic due to the Chelsea Flea Market. The church welcomes donations of Christmas and gently used items, excluding clothing and large furniture, for its tables. Donations may be left in Elaine Howe's porch across from the Howe Bridge or contact Kay Jorgensen, 889-5528, kjayvt@gmail.com, for pickup.

In September worship services will return to the Congregational Church in Tunbridge Village. All services will start at 10 with the exception of the annual Festival of Worship Fair Service at 9:30 on Sept. 15. For more than 50 years this service has featured a band and chorus of singers from around the area. All are invited to participate. Contact organist/choir director Judie Lewis at 889-9490 or singjudie@gmail.com.

The Community Food Shelf is open weekly on Fridays from 4-6 p.m. at the Parish House across Route 110 from the church. AA and Al-Anon also meet there.

The house has a new "old" doorway, returning it to the original look identical to that at the brick house/public library when they were built circa 1830. Former resident Michael McDonnell of Watershed Fine Furniture built the doorway.

The Pastor Search Committee invite queries about the pastor position through the UCC Vermont Conference office at <http://vtcucc.org/employment-opportunities> or 728-4999.

Church news is posted at www.facebook.com/thetunbridgechurch. To receive weekly announcements by email contact thetunbridgechurch@gmail.com.

ECFiber

(East-Central Vermont Community Fiber-Optic Network)

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

ECF office - 763-2262 info@ecfiber.net www.ecfiber.net

As of June 2019, ECFiber has more than 3500 customers connected. Service is available on at least some roads in 22 member towns, with essentially full coverage of 8. By the end of 2019, the District hopes to double the number of fully covered towns to 16.

Our top priority is reaching as many un-served and under-served locations as possible, with a focus on back roads and outlying neighborhoods. This spring's focus is on completing the 2018 buildouts of Braintree, Brookfield, Rochester and Stockbridge. During this year's main construction season we will be filling in the remaining un-served parts of Royalton, Sharon, Tunbridge, and Vershire, to be followed by 80 additional road-miles in parts of Bethel, Hartford, Norwich, Randolph, Woodstock and Reading.

The town of Tunbridge is one of several that only partially built out. The active routes can be seen on the Map at <http://map.ecfiber.net/> More will be built until all town roads are built. You can help to streamline the process by subscribing now. This allows us to place a pin on our map showing your residence as a future site for ECFiber's wicked fast, and reliable, internet and crisp, clear, and affordable telephone service. The ECFiber network engineers will use that map to make sure they can reach you and your neighbors. They will alert you when they are ready. ECF is now working to bring fiber optic Internet to all Tunbridge households and businesses.

Be sure to subscribe at www.ecfiber.net/subscribe.

First Branch Community Phonebook

Janet Zug 889-9602 zugglasstudio@gmail.com

There is an effort underway to create another Community Phonebook. This edition will cover Tunbridge, South Royalton and Chelsea. Cell phone and land line numbers will be included and advertising space will be sold.

This is a monumental task that will take some time to complete.

To be included in the phonebook please go to the website: www.firstbranchphone.com and input your name and telephone number(s). If you check the corresponding box we will contact you about advertising in the book.

Better Bones

Kay Jorgensen – 889-5528, kjayvt@gmail.com

The Better Bones program offers free exercise sessions for adults on Tuesdays and Thursdays at 6:30 a.m. and 5 p.m. The Better Bones with Music class led by Linda Howe on Monday mornings has ended and will resume in October.

The classes offer balance and weight-bearing exercises aimed at increasing bone density at an age when bone mass is lost and many people become susceptible to osteoporosis. Sessions are upstairs at the Town Hall. Anyone can drop in and try it out. A doctor's permission is requested for those who continue with the classes.

Tunbridge Neighbors Helping Neighbors

Pat Howe, Vice President and Treasurer – 889-5512

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

TNHN continues to provide services to local residents through volunteer action. We mostly get requests for rides, but have done many other things.

Our service is for anyone; there is no membership and the service is free. We can always use more volunteers, especially people who are able to drive during the weekdays.

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 add you to the list.

Board members: Pam Dietz, David Wolfe, Michael O'Donnell, Patricia Howe, Jory Innes, and Maxine Young.

Tunbridge Grange # 384

Rosemary Distel 802-272-2235

Did you Know? The Grange, officially named The National Grange of the Order of Patrons of Husbandry, is a fraternal organization in the United States that encourages families to band together to promote the economic and political well-being of the community and agriculture. The Grange, founded after the Civil War in 1867, is the oldest American agricultural advocacy group with a national scope and women have been members of the Grange since its inception! Every year, Grange members across the country, give thousands of hours to volunteer in their communities and raise millions of dollars for important causes. To learn more about the Grange go online to www.nationalgrange.org

Recently, we've had a few new folks join the Tunbridge Grange, but we need more people to join so that we can continue to keep this worthy organization going. We meet the first Wednesday of the month and the meetings usually only last about an hour and then we have good conversation and snacks! You don't have to commit to every meeting or every fundraiser, but we've love to have you. The Grange is located in the North Tunbridge village.

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

Tunbridge Women's Group

Pam Dietz 889-3315

Local women are invited to send their email addresses to Elaine Howe at elaineahowe@gmail.com to receive Tunbridge Women's Group (TWG) mailings.

In addition to sharing community news through occasional emails, the women's group hosts monthly potluck suppers in local homes. This is an informal group without officers, committees and duties that offers women a chance to meet each other and share conversation and information about their interests.

Tunbridge Civic Club

Elaine Howe, President 889-5560

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

The annual comedy and musical showcase held in March turned out to be “one of a kind” show – which we hope to repeat next March! On both nights we appreciated large audience turnouts. What a fun show - we loved having new talent and always enjoy those who return to be in the show year after year. Everyone on stage had a great time and so did the audience – who danced in the aisles, and sang along with the songs. We wish to thank everyone who participated and a special thanks to many new acts.

Thanks to our new format, new and returning participants, we were able to give generous donations to the Tunbridge Little League, Neighbors Helping Neighbors, the town and school libraries in memory of Dale Howe, Royalton Radio, Cemetery Committee, Curiositorium, a clogging scholarship, and Ski Runners scholarship.

The show will be held the second weekend in March – which will be March 13 and 14, 2020, so mark your calendars! If you are interested in participating, please contact Elaine or Maxine. Our annual meeting will be held Monday, October 7, 2019 at 7:00 p.m. in the downstairs town hall. Looking forward to next year.....

Tunbridge Walking Group

Maxine Young-802-763-8274 youngvt@myfairpoint.net.

The Tunbridge Walking Group continues to walk three or four times a week on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday from 9:30a.m. We will schedule a Friday walk occasionally also. We meet at various locations (an email is sent each week) and walk for about an hour or an hour and one-half. We have logged many miles, some great hikes and in the winter snowshoe or cross-country ski. The terrain varies, however, there is something for everyone. Anyone is welcome to join us – you do not have to be from Tunbridge. Contact above to be added to our email list.

Recently, a Tunbridge Walks guide to hiking in Tunbridge was published. Many thanks to Ellen Hosford (the main force behind this endeavor), Lydia Flanagan, Euclid Farnham and Betty Brown. The book is available at Tunbridge Library, Tunbridge Recreation Committee, Tunbridge Conservation Committee and the Tunbridge Historical Society for a nominal fee. Friends of the Fair have also received copies. This guide is small and can easily be carried on a hike for direction. The guide includes maps, pictures and fauna and flora.

Calendar of Events

See individual entries for more events.

July

- 9 - Community Ice Cream Social, Parish House lawn. 6:30pm, BYO Chair. Followed by “Tunbridge Speaks” Tunbridge Historical Society program at the Tunbridge Church, 7:30.

- 11- 14 Vermont Scenic Circuit Dog Show, on the fairgrounds
www.woodstockdogclub.org, www.greenmountaindogclub.org

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

- 13 - Community Yard Sale on Parish House Lawn, 7am - 2pm, see pg 13.
The 15’x15’ exhibitor spaces are \$20, payable that day.

- 14 - All-You-Can-Eat Tunbridge Recreation Committee Breakfast is Back!
8am - 12pm., Town Hall, \$10. Great chance to see the new kitchen!!

August

- 4 - Annual outdoor service & potluck picnic hosted by The Tunbridge Church, 183 Dickerman Hill Rd., 10 a.m.

- 9 - Ed Larkin Contra Dancers, 7:30pm, Town Hall, \$8.00
Live Music, refreshments at intermission

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

- 17 - Vermont Nanobrewery Festival 12:00-6:00 pm, on the Fairgrounds
Celebrating Vermont’s smallest breweries with 12 breweries, 6 food trucks, and 3 bands. \$10 tickets at vtnanofest.eventbrite.com

Sept

- 12 - 15 148th Tunbridge World’s Fair !!

- 15 - Festival of Worship Fair Service with chorus and band, The Tunbridge Church, 9:30 a.m.

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