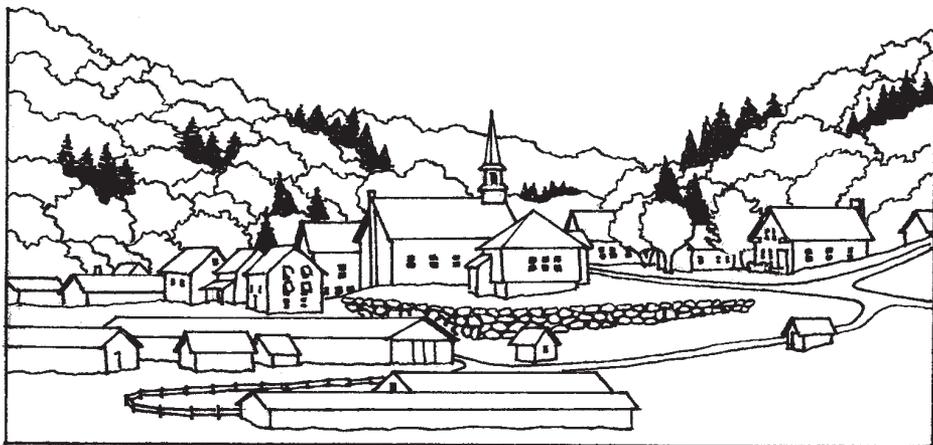


# The **TUNBRIDGE** Quarterly

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



**July 1, 2021**  
**issue #65**

## **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

Mariah Cilley, Administrative Assistant, (802-889-5521 or tunbridge.adm.assist@gmail.com)

Our long, strange trip of masks and hand-sanitizer, of separation and anxiety, is over! Tunbridge showed remarkable resilience in navigating the past 15 months, a period notable for no Tunbridge Fair in September, no Town Meeting in March, and no Memorial Day Parade in May. As we begin to define, post-COVID, what the new “normal” will be, we’re optimistic that a lot of our adaptations to the pandemic will make us a better town—safer, more accessible, and more transparent.

For example, while the Governor has ordered public meetings to return to the old in-person model, we noticed that a lot more Tunbridgians attended Selectboard meetings via Zoom. We also appreciated that the Zoom meetings are recorded and archived, not unlike podcasts, so that residents can watch them at their convenience. In the future, we would like to try a hybrid model, where the board will meet in-person at the Town Offices, but townspeople will be able to follow the municipal discussions on Zoom—not to mention watch Gary, Mike, John and Mariah eat cheese and crackers while they look over invoices!

While we missed the parade of flag-waving Little Leaguers, vintage Vermonters driving antique tractors, the oompas of tubas, and the recitation of “In Flanders Fields,” on Memorial Day, Tunbridge is going to celebrate, in a big way, on Monday, July 5th. There will be a red, white and blue parade, a memorial observation, a controlled-burn by the Fire Department that will result in perfect barbeque chicken, a gargantuan book sale at the Library, Rec. Dept. fun and games on the Fairgrounds, and a chance to see, for the first time in over a year, the smiles of your friends and neighbors.

Partly due to the inexact nature of budgeting (we’re not allowed to estimate the collection of delinquent taxes), and partly due to belt-tightening of our teams at the Town Garage and Town Offices, Tunbridge will end the fiscal year with a nice surplus in both the Highway Department and the General Fund. The Highway surplus can be rolled over and used

to replenish the equipment or paving accounts; the General fund surplus will be essentially set aside in an escrow account while it awaits the Selectboard-recommended, voter-approved re-purposing at the next Town Meeting.

As the Trails Committee works on an equitable solution to the Legal Trails conundrum, and the Planning Commission looks at Class 4 roads, two sections of the Strafford Road—a Class 2 road—have been paved by Pike, and the Dickerman Hill Road—a Class 3 road—was recently the recipient of grant-funded ditching improvements.

At Town Meeting, wild chervil came up—specifically, if Tunbridge had a policy for managing roadside invasives. We do not...but we should. The Selectboard will ask the Agencies of Transportation and Natural Resources for recommendations, and, in the meantime, just use some common sense—the best time to mow chervil is before it goes to seed!

The liveliest discussion at Town Meeting was around a proposal to divest Tunbridge’s portfolio from carbon-extraction industries. This debate reminded us why our town is such a engaged and thoughtful community—while the voters agreed to disagree on the process of divestiture, there was much articulation on the big picture (climate change is real, let’s do something) and what we can do right here in town (the Trustees of Public Funds meetings are open to the public and investment policy is something the trustees would be willing to discuss). Maybe our new digital sign could say: Slow down! Democracy in progress!

Just before this TQ was headed for press, we learned of the passing of Euclid Farnham. It’s a sad day for the town, to have lost such a lifelong champion of Tunbridge, but it’s also a moment to remember, with appreciation and enthusiasm, all that Euclid did for the place we call home. Is there any part of our community that he didn’t contribute to, with leadership, grace and honesty? Town Government. The Fair. The Church. The School. The Historical Society. Our cemeteries. The author of our history. Wedding Officiant for half a century. A counter of ballots. The voice of Town Meeting. And he did all this while being a farmer and a husband. It’s hard to imagine what Tunbridge would be like today if Euclid had decided, after being honorably discharged from the army, that Texas was the place for him.

Euclid may have left us, but he has left Tunbridge a better place.

## **Tunbridge Town Clerk**

Mariah Cilley 889-5521 [tctunbridge@live.com](mailto:tctunbridge@live.com)

Hours: Mon & Wed 8-2 by phone, email or appointment

Tues & Thurs 8-2 in the office, no appointment necessary!

Hello fellow Tunbridge residents. This year seems to be flying by! As I type this it is 85 degrees this June morning and I am looking out at the lush green landscape we are so lucky to live in!

There is a light at the end of the tunnel with COVID and it is getting brighter but we aren't quite there yet, hopefully by the time this issue ends up in your hands we have this pandemic almost completely behind us! Stay strong folks, we are almost there!

Just like many other things due to this pandemic we are all living through, our Memorial Day parade was postponed this year and will be taking place on July 5th at the Fairgrounds. We will have our parade, the Fire Department will be cooking chickens, the Library will be doing a book sale, Recreation will have Cow Pie Bingo and ice cream and it is bound to be a great time! Mark your calendars for a wonderful get together.

A friendly reminder dog licenses per State Statue 20 V.S.A 3581 were due on April 1. There are no late fees this year, so if registering your dog has slipped your mind there is still time. The cost is \$9.00 per dog if they are spayed/neutered and \$13.00 if they are not. You may license your dog in person at the Town Office, via mail or the drop box that is located at the front entrance of the office building.

Dump Tickets: This is a very big topic in our little town I have come to realize in the past few month as clerk. All of us here in the offices are working hard to make this as easy as possible for our patrons so below is all the possible ways to receive a dump ticket:

-In person with me Tuesday and Thursday from 8-2

-In person with Becky Monday, Wednesday, Thursday from 8-12

-In person at the library Mon.: 10-6, Wed. 3-7, Friday 3-7 and Saturday 9-12

-Via Mail (PO Box 6) send a check with your requested ticket amount and it will be sent back to you once it is received

-Via Dropbox same as above

-NEW! Online Dump Ticket orders. You can now purchase dump tickets online with a credit card and it will be mailed to you as soon as it is received.

If you would like to request a slot on a Selectboard meeting agenda, please email [tunbridge.adm.assist@gmail.com](mailto:tunbridge.adm.assist@gmail.com) or call 889-5521.

As always, I try to make myself available to the townspeople, so if you cannot come during a Tuesday or Thursday when I am working from the office, please call the Town Clerks number and I will make accommodations to meet with you around your schedule. As a mother to a toddler, I know how important flexibility is!

Stay safe all and enjoy this beautiful Vermont summer!

## **Tunbridge Historical Society**

Mick Maguire, 889-5612

Because of the COVID-19 pandemic the Tunbridge Historical Society had not been able scheduled any meetings. Since restrictions will be lifting, we are planning to hold an annual meeting in the Fall. For information regarding future meetings, please check our Facebook page.

Collections (archives and artifacts) – Committee members began the inventory process of items in archives located in the library basement prior to the library's closing and will soon resume since the library has opened to the public.

Programming - We are planning a program to possibly take place in August. The subject will be the sugarhouses in Tunbridge. Also, planned is the popular cemetery tour in the Fall. Please continue to follow THS on social media for updates.

We look forward to input and participation by all. Please share information, questions, and photographs with us on our Facebook page or feel free to contact any of the officers.

Mick Maguire, [president@tunbridgehistoricalsociety.org](mailto:president@tunbridgehistoricalsociety.org)

Fern Strong, [vicepresident@tunbridgehistoricalsociety.org](mailto:vicepresident@tunbridgehistoricalsociety.org)

Elaine Howe, [secretary@tunbridgehistoricalsociety.org](mailto:secretary@tunbridgehistoricalsociety.org)

Israel (Izzy) Provoncha, [treasurer@tunbridgehistoricalsociety.org](mailto:treasurer@tunbridgehistoricalsociety.org)

## **Tunbridge Grange # 384**

Rosemary Distel 802-272-2235

What a crazy up and down weather we've had this spring! We are hoping we will be able to continue our normal fund-raising activities soon, especially our famous Grange dinners, but in the meantime, you can help us out by ordering Rada Cutlery items. Selling Rada Cutlery has been a long-time tradition with the Grange, as we believe Rada offers great quality and affordable products. They make great wedding gifts! Go to <https://radafundraising.com/pages/select-your-fundraising-group> and enter Tunbridge Grange #384. Thanks for your support.

The Grange supports our local community (like families in need or the school), so please consider joining the Grange so we can continue to keep this worthy organization going.

For more information, contact Marilyn (Mert) Vesper 889-5595 or email Rosemary Distel at [rdistel@vtc.edu](mailto:rdistel@vtc.edu)

## **Tunbridge Board of Listers**

Dan Ruddell, Helen O'Donnell, Darlene Miller 889-3571

lister@tunbridge.biz

Greetings from the lister office, with sincere thanks and congratulations for your help in navigating this very challenging year. On June 14, 2021 Gov. Scott announced Vermont had achieved 80% vaccination, and COVID-19 restrictions have been lifted. We are back in the Town Office on Tuesdays and Fridays and can be contacted as noted below. The changes of this past year have significantly shifted our work flow however, and email is likely to remain the most effective way to make initial contacts - but we certainly respond to phone calls as well.

On June 4, 2021 we lodged the "Abstract" of the Grand List, starting a process of finalizing our work for this year. This cycle remains relatively constant from year to year.

Change of Appraisal notices were sent to any landowners that had such changes between April 2, 2020 and April 1, 2021. Grievance hearings were warned in 5 locations in town and in the White River Valley Herald. Hearings were held June 18, and a property owner not satisfied with the response to their grievance has the opportunity to appeal the decision to the Board of Civil Authority (32 V.S.A. § 4404). If appeals go to 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 help set the town-assessed value of all property in town for the year, 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.

Unlike 2020, when we had to send two tax bills to Vermont residents, the school budget passed on the first round this year and spared us the confusing delays and billing changes from last year. Tax bills are mailed around the 15th of August, and in Tunbridge we will again have one due date on November 1. If you have an escrow account please make sure your tax service provider is aware of this November 1 deadline.

Homestead Declarations and Property Tax Adjustment credit claims (<https://tax.vermont.gov/property-owners/homestead-declaration>) are due when income taxes are filed (typically April 15, extended to May in 2020 due to COVID). Even if you file for an extension on tax filing, the initial declaration should be made then and can be amended. You can file a late homestead declaration and Property Tax Credit claim until October 15, though late fees and penalties will apply.

We will move on to northwest quadrant rotational visits come summer (VT Route 110 and west, Spring Rd. and north). We will send 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.

Office hours are Tuesday and Friday from 9-3.

Feel free to stop by or give us a call.

## **Tunbridge Town Treasurer**

Rebecca Hoyt - 889-3571 [treasurer@tunbridge.biz](mailto:treasurer@tunbridge.biz)

Happy Summer!!

We made it to the end of the fiscal year! Well almost for me. This year is ending well, we will have General Fund surpluses to talk about at town meeting in March.

This year's taxes will be back to normal. The bills will hopefully go out in August. There will only be one bill and it will be due on or before November 1, 2021. When you receive your bills please open them and check to make sure everything seems to be correct. If you applied for a homestead your bill should reflect this. If your bill does not or it does not seem right please call or email me as soon as possible so that we can make changes or help you contact the state about your homestead declaration. Please also note that you should check with me or your escrow company to make sure they have paid by November 1st. I think they will all understand that taxes are due in November. Last year was confusing for everyone involved.

As always if you have any questions please let me know. I should be back to my pre Covid hours by July 1st. I am available in the office M-F 8am-12pm.

## **Tunbridge Library**

Hours: Mon 10am-6pm, Wed & Fri 3-7pm, Sat 9-Noon

889-9404/tunbridgelibrary@gmail.com Tunbridgelibrary.org

Hello, my name is Mariah Lawrence and I am incredibly proud to be your new library director. In addition to being a source for books, I like to think of myself as a community engagement professional. As a public librarian my main job is to discover the interests of our community, help people make connections, and provide people with information. I have had the most amazing time getting to know our community through this lens over the last two months. If we have not met, I would truly love to meet you. Come in, say hello and tell me what you would like to see in your library.

Anna Dechart, Theresa FitzGerald, Catherine Freese, and Michael Krauthamer were voted in as trustees joining up with Mark Bomalaski at town meeting. Thank you to all our trustees and volunteers. You are the heart of the library!

With great amounts of gratitude we were kept busy this spring; regular open hours and in-person programming are underway once again. While our all ages book club; Generation Connect, kept us busy all winter, we are now excited to announce another all ages program called Book Buddies. This is a reading mentor program for anyone looking to make connections and inspire each other with a love of reading.

Story hour has been a huge success, with dozens of families gathering outside the library to plant a sunflower garden amongst other fun activities, as well as to read books and to play. Story hour happens on the first and third Saturday of every month at 10AM.

The “Our World” Summer Reading program sign ups are now happening! This summer, adults and children of all ages are encouraged to come to the library and pick up a golden folder filled with a bingo reading inspiration chart for each age group, a scratch ticket with the potential to win money to our book sale or the library store, and many other reading goodies. Every Wednesday night at 6PM we have summer reading programming that will engage participants of all ages. Coming up you can expect an entomologist, a fly tying workshop, storytelling from Jools, and a pet portrait workshop. There will be an exciting raffle at the end of the summer during our grand finale, with prizes from VINS, The Montshire, Red Elite cleaning, and Fore-U golf!

The library would like to remind everyone we have state park passes, Echo passes, and VINS passes available for check out. We also would like to remind people that at TPL we take celebrating a reading milestone seriously. Whether you have recently learned to read, finished a thick series, or are simply coming into the library for the very first time we want to honor your

achievements! We welcome all patrons to sit in our golden chair and pose for a picture to be hung in our Reading Hall of Fame.

StoryWalks® are a great way to enjoy long summer days. Head down to the fairgrounds to read a story and pick up a craft bag! While we choose stories that can be enjoyed over and over again, they are rotated every few weeks. Come to the library to see a preview of the frames we are fundraising to purchase which will be placed around the library as a part of our new outdoor space.

We are welcoming volunteers to donate home baked pastries and treats for our July 5th bake and book sale. Contact the library for more information. Even if you are not a baker, but simply a lover of sweets, head on down to the fairgrounds on the 5th and buy a treat and a book from the book sale in the library basement! All proceeds will go towards the Friends of the Library.

Are you looking for volunteer opportunities or ways to help the library? We have many spaces where your skills could be valuable! The library is currently forming a committee to execute the recommendations of the recent Efficiency Vermont energy audit for the library's building and are seeking a technical support person to assist with various tasks. If either of these positions appeal to you, contact the library trustees at [tpltrustees@gmail.com](mailto:tpltrustees@gmail.com)

The Friends of the Library and the library staff would like to sincerely thank our community for the generous donations in honor of Sue Barnaby. The many, many contributions will be going towards creating an outdoor space that is as welcoming as our indoor space, and one that reflects the life works of our town's beloved Sue. Her energy will continue to inspire us as we follow the path her legacy left behind.

## **Tunbridge Town Website**

Geoff Hansen, 802-889-3373, or [info@geoffhansen.com](mailto:info@geoffhansen.com)

Tunbridge's town website is a timely resource for information from the Town Clerk, board meetings (including videos of meetings via Zoom), an Events Calendar listing upcoming meetings and community 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.

## **Tunbridge Volunteer Fire Department**

Jamie Bradford 889-3478

The Fire Departments Annual Meeting was held on May 13, 2021 at 6:00 p.m. on the Tunbridge Fair Grounds. At this event a potluck dinner began at 6:00 p.m. followed by the meeting that began at 7:00 p.m. Any and all community members were welcome and invited to attend and we thank those who were able to attend. At the meeting Simon Bradford was reelected as our Fire Chief. Jamie Bradford was reelected as the Clerk and Amy Young was reelected as Auditor. Bob Dunkle and Dominick Amadeo were reelected and Ken Sypher was elected for a first term to the board of trustees. The trustees serve as members for a two year period.

The Tunbridge Volunteer Fire Dept. will be holding our annual Chicken BBQ on July 5th. Pickup will be immediately following the parade as usual, if you reserve chicken and will be late, be sure to let us know ahead of time. Chicken halves will be \$8, chicken meals will be \$12. Meals include potato salad, macaroni salad, a roll, and a drink. Due to having many leftover chickens in 2019 and not knowing how many people will attend this year we have decided to reduce the amount of chicken we order, so please reserve early. If you leave a voice message please be sure to speak clearly and leave a phone number to reach you if we have any questions about your order. Emails will receive a message back if received. To reserve chicken please email [tvfdbbq@gmail.com](mailto:tvfdbbq@gmail.com), or call either Tiffany at 802-693-0396 or Matt at 802-889-3274.

Any Tunbridge residents in need of obtaining a burn permit please contact the Fire Warden Brenda Field at 802-889-5548. Please follow safe burn practices and have a water source nearby. Please check the town website to inquire about burn bans and what is permitted to be burned [www.tunbridgevt.org](http://www.tunbridgevt.org).

The Fire Department is always welcoming new Volunteers. If you are interested in joining or would like to receive information about joining the Tunbridge Volunteer Fire Department please stop by a meeting any Thursday evening at 7:00 p.m., or email [Tunbridge.fire@gmail.com](mailto:Tunbridge.fire@gmail.com).

## **Intelligence Based Policing**

VSP barracks 802-234-9933 recorded

Email [DPS.VSPROYALTONIBP@VERMONT.GOV](mailto:DPS.VSPROYALTONIBP@VERMONT.GOV)

The group has not met in person since the beginning of the pandemic, but the overall message remains the same....

“If You See Something, Say Something”! Let the VSP or local authorities know your concerns and give them your information.

The IBP network (meetings and Facebook page) was established as a means of communicating, to help notify our communities about suspicious activity. It was also to encourage trust with the Vermont StatePolice and other local authorities. Please use judgement when posting messages on the IBP Facebook page. Many of the recent posts don't represent in any way, the overall mission of the IBP group. We continue to strongly encourage you to use the number or email address above to notify VSP or to call the local sheriff/police departments directly with your concerns.

## **First Branch Ambulance**

Judy Tucker - 889-3305 [tuckerjudy40@yahoo.com](mailto:tuckerjudy40@yahoo.com)

The First Branch Ambulance continues to encourage everyone to seek their vaccinations as soon you are able. Due to reaching the 80% Mark in our state the governor has re-opened the state this past week.

House calls has restarted for any individual requiring a wellness check during the week. Emits will come to your home for a brief assessment, assist with any medical issues or questions and check vital signs. Please call the office 685-3112 to speak with Chase Ackerman or whomever is covering.

To all our new members of the town of Tunbridge looking for the red house number sign for your home, please call me at 889-3305. They are available for a \$20.00 donation to FBA.

FBA is currently looking to hire EMTs or volunteer EMTs. We have had several people move onto school or out of the area. We are looking for team members with the desire to help their community. If interested please call the station 685-3112 or mail your cover letter to FBA.

We are hoping to sponsor another EMT course this fall.

## **The Tunbridge Church**

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

Outdoor Sunday worship services at the fairgrounds began at Easter and ended on Memorial Day. Sunday services will continue at 10 a.m. through July at the Congregational Church in Tunbridge Village. The church's interdenominational roots will be honored in August with services at both the S. Tunbridge Methodist Church and N. Tunbridge Baptist Church.

Church members will participate in the July 5 Independence Day Parade, if anyone would like to join them. The first annual event to resume after last year's cancellations is the Community Yard Sale to be held July 10 on the Parish House lawn. This is a good time to catch Chelsea Flea Market vendors and browsers. For information about nonprofit and vendor spaces contact Nancy Howe at 889-3750.

All are invited to the Parish House lawn on Aug. 1 for the second Sacred Sound Circle – a time for playing drums, gongs, rattles and the like to make a “joyful noise” and share sacred readings.

The Outreach Committee delivered a hot soup meal to some 50 seniors in February and a salads meal in June. Super Senior Luncheons at the Town Hall will resume in August and October.

The Community Food Shelf is open on Fridays from 4-6 p.m. at the Parish House across from the church. During the school year it provided weekend backpack provisions for local students. Thanks to Gardener's Supply in Lebanon, a Food Shelf Garden with four raised beds has been planted on the Parish House lawn.

News about services and events will be announced through the church Facebook page and website, Front Porch Forum, Tunbridge Facebook and Tunbridge Digest and in The Herald.

To join the email list please send a note to [thetunbridgechurch@gmail.com](mailto:thetunbridgechurch@gmail.com). Donations to the food shelf may be sent to Mary Fisk, PO Box 12, Tunbridge VT 05077. The church welcomes donations at PO Box 270, Tunbridge VT 05077.

The church is accepting donations of gently used goods for its tables at the July 11 Community Yard Sale. Proceeds from vendor space rentals on the lawn and church tables will go to the fund for Parish House restoration.

The Community Food Shelf is open Fridays from 4-6 p.m. at the Parish House. Sunday worship services through June are at 10 a.m. at the Tunbridge Village church. The choir welcomes new members at rehearsals on Thursdays at 6:30 p.m. through mid-June.

To receive weekly church announcements and the bimonthly newsletter by email contact the church via email.

## **Tunbridge Women's Group**

Theresa FitzGerald - nfitzy@gmail.com

A walking we go, spring, summer, fall and snow

Walks are posted and graciously hosted

Healthy hearts and good cheer, Tunbridge Walking group's 10th year  
Weekly walk posted via email. Meet @ 9:30 T,W,Th. Typical walk approxi-  
mately 2-3 miles/ 60-90 minutes

To be added to the email list contact Theresa @ above email

## **South Royalton Rescue**

Steven Sanborn - (802)788-1050.

As things begin to get back to some sense of normal, after this difficult past year, we here at South Royalton Rescue continue to grow. With this growth has come some changes. We have a different phone number (802)788-1050. As well as some new faces.

We have a new Paramedic/Administrator, Stephen Sanborn, who has been with South Royalton Rescue for four years as a part time/per diem employee. We also have some new EMTs that have been part of the greater community and now have joined Rescue.

Also in the past year we have been able to do more training and improved the quality of care we are able to deliver.

We have our annual Duck race happening Saturday August 28th in the afternoon. Exact time to be announced. Check our website southroyaltonrescue.com or our facebook page for more details. Ducks can be purchased on the website or at Royalton Old Home Day. We are planning the annual coin drop. Scheduled for the 18th of September.

For those with a subscription the renewals will be mailed soon. For those that do not have a subscription please consider subscribing.

## **Chelsea Area Senior Center**

Susan Pirie, 685-2290, chelseaseniorcenter@gmail.com

The Chelsea Area Senior Center is having a Soft Opening starting June 14th. All the client has to do is call 685-2290 before 9:30 am and request that you want to come here and eat.

We will give you a time to pick up at curb-side, then you can eat under the tents outside with others if you would like.

## **Alliance for Vermont Communities**

Michael Sacca - 889-3210 mfsacca@sover.net

Friends and Neighbors,

With the warm season here, along with the promise of safely gathering with friends and family again, there is a festive feel in the air. We hope the spirit of community which has been so evident in the last year, continues to strengthen this wonderful region that is such a pleasure to call home.

Ashley Community Forest - Voters of Sharon and Strafford voted overwhelmingly to accept the gift of the 256-acre Ashley Community Forest at their Town Meetings. In Strafford the vote was 399 yes - 70 no in favor and in Sharon, 230 yes - 72 no in favor of accepting the gift. If all goes well with the two town discussions, transfer of ownership to the towns could occur late this year and the 256-acre Ashley Community Forest will become a reality as a shared resource for the two towns and the region.

An excited rush to create a new series of outdoor programs was supported with the good news of once again being able to gather socially. Stay tuned on the listservs, Facebook and the AVC website for a series of natural and cultural history walks coming up. The Ashley Community Forest is open to the public for recreational use. Please be respectful of other users and local landowners. See maps and learn more about access at : <https://www.alliancevermont.org/ashley-community-forest/>

Trails Update - The Four-town Gravel Bike Trails network is taking shape. Fifty-two routes in the 4 town area have been identified. A survey and public input meeting are planned in the fall so please watch for announcements. Manning Farm Trail on the Upper Valley Land Trust conserved former Manning Farm is nearing completion with a planned late summer opening.

The Ranger - The popular bike event happened in person again this year on June 13th. T. With many precautions still in place, the event featured an 18 and 43 mile "Ride with Purpose." Other notable elements were the Junior Ranger Ride and the strong presence of women riders in the event. Most registrants were from the Upper Valley. As in other years, The Ranger is a festive fundraiser for Vermont nonprofits, AVC, Vermont Adaptive Sports, Royalton Community Radio and two municipal organizations, Tunbridge Recreation Committee and the Tunbridge Volunteer Fire Department. Visit <https://therangervt.com/> to learn more and see images..

Four Town Coalition - The Four Town Coalition (FTC) is gaining traction and support! As you may know, the FTC grew from the VCRD "4-Town Future" series of meetings that took place in early 2019 in the towns of Royalton, Sharon, Strafford, and Tunbridge.

The Coalition is now ready to advance to its next phase with its community development work with the opportunity to utilize a full-time 3-year Americorps VISTA. This employee will help coordinate and facilitate Coalition meetings; build relationships through communications and community outreach; and to design a sustainable structure for future collaboration among the 4-towns. The selectboards from all four towns as well as VCRD and AVC have each pledged financial support a one year VISTA position. If you are someone you know would like to apply for the community building position, contact Sarah Danly at [sarahdanly@gmail.com](mailto:sarahdanly@gmail.com)

AVC welcomes your feedback, input, questions, ideas, and interest. 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](http://www.alliancevermont.org)

## **Friends of the Tunbridge Library**

Henry Rosario - 802-461-3832.

In April, the Friends of the Tunbridge Library (FOL) held their first series of in-person meetings since the pandemic. The Spring meetings focused on electing new officers, adjusting traditional fundraising events for waning but still present COVID considerations, and generally planning on how best to support the amazing work the library does for our community.

In May at Town Meeting, the FOL raised over \$1,000 between pie sales, book sales, and the raffle. Thank you to the esteemed Tunbridge bakers that contributed pies, and the dedicated sweet tooths that bought them (while the FOL guarantees anonymity, we can confirm that several residents bought pies at a 1 pie to 1 person ratio). Thank you also to our wonderful raffle donors - Brocklebank Brewery, Two Of Us Photography, First Branch Coffee, Chelsea Green Publishing, Mary Lake & Sunshine Hill Farm, South Royalton Coop, Dandelion Acres, 802 Calls and Janet Zug Glass. Congratulations to those that walked away with an awesome prize!

Looking forward, the FOL will be holding a bake and book sale on July 5th, the day of the parade. Look for us at the North Gate ticket booth! A flower sale is planned for the Fall. Donors are always welcome to sponsor a Story Walk. Please feel free to reach out to any of the FOL officers with ideas or to get involved.

President: Elaine Howe, [elaineahowe@gmail.com](mailto:elaineahowe@gmail.com)

Vice President: Henry Rosario, [henry.v.rosario@gmail.com](mailto:henry.v.rosario@gmail.com)

Treasurer: Donna Nelson, [donnanelsonvt@gmail.com](mailto:donnanelsonvt@gmail.com)

Secretary: Meg Hopkins, [meghopkins930@gmail.com](mailto:meghopkins930@gmail.com)

## **The Shindigs**

Janet Zug - 889-9602 shindigsvt@gmail.com

Good News, Shindiggers !!

We have received approval from the select board to resume the Shindigs! Unless there is a surge, our Town Hall is open for full capacity which is 149 people. For this season, we plan to only sell 100 tickets for each dance (maybe less) and to support the bands (they work for the cover charge), the ticket prices will be \$15.each for all dances except- \$20.each for New Years' Eve. Advance tickets will be available on the website a month before start of the season. So far, we have 4Play on Nov. 6th and The Party Crashers for NYE! :-). If the plan changes, you'll find updated info on the website at [www.shindigsvt.com](http://www.shindigsvt.com)

Coming up on it's 14th season, the Shindigs are dances held in the Tunbridge Town Hall from 7:30 - 10:30pm on the first Saturdays from November thru April with the January gig happening on New Years' Eve.

## **Tunbridge Neighbors Helping Neighbors**

Pat Howe, Treasurer – 889-5512 **For TNH services call 889-3437**

Mike O'Donnell, President Jory Innes, Vice President

Board members: Jory Innes, Linda B Howe, Linda Lazaroff, Mike O'Donnell, Pat Howe, Sarah Priestap Porter, David Wolfe (emeritus)

If you or someone you know in Tunbridge is in need of assistance such as a pick up of groceries, prescriptions, or library books call Neighbors and we will do our best to help. We can help with wood stacking, snow shoveling and other tasks where physical distancing can be maintained. Due to COVID restrictions we are unable to provide rides to doctor and dental appointments until it is deemed safe to do so for our volunteers and clients.

Our kindest thoughts go out to everyone. Please stay safe and take care of yourself and loved ones.

## **Better Bones**

Kay Jorgensen – 889-5528, [kjayvt@gmail.com](mailto:kjayvt@gmail.com)

A twice-a-week session of the free Better Bones balance and weight-bearing exercise program is offered at the Town Hall on Tuesdays and Thursdays at 5 p.m. It is aimed at increasing bone density at an age when bone mass is lost and osteoporosis is a concern. Anyone can drop in for a session. A doctor's permission is requested for those who continue with the program.

## **Tunbridge Walking Group**

Theresa FitzGerald - ntfitz@gmail.com

A walking we go, spring, summer, fall and snow

Walks are posted and graciously hosted.

Healthy hearts and good cheer,

Tunbridge Walking group's 10th year

Weekly walk posted via email. Meet @ 9:30 T,W,Th.

Typical walk approximately 2-3 miles/ 60-90 minutes

To be added to the email list contact Theresa @ above email

## **Tunbridge School Club**

Tiffany Tucker - 802-893-0396 tunbridgeschoolclub@wrvsu.org

This school year the Tunbridge School Club (TSC) participated in our first High Mowing Seed Fundraiser. We were able to raise approx. \$1,700 for our outdoor space fund. We look forward to running this fundraiser again next year but starting early (January).

One of our big initiatives we started this year was to start fundraising to improve the outdoor space where our children play daily at Tunbridge Central School (TCS). We are hoping to update existing structures, create more spaces for children to play with nature, and create more teaching space for staff. With this comes more planning and fundraising. If you are interested in sitting in on the Outdoor Space Committee or you would like to make a donation to this fund, please reach out.

The TSC also managed to pull off an exceptional week in May to celebrate the Staff at TCS. We could not have done it without the help from amazing community members and parents! We would like to take this opportunity to THANK YOU! Each day the staff members at TCS were provided with a surprise: Monday- Breakfast, Tuesday- Gifts, Wednesday- Lunch (which carried into a few days), Thursday- More Gifts and Goodies, and Friday- Desserts and Ice Cream!

The TSC has started to meet regularly on the second Tuesday of the month. Recently we have been meeting online via google meet but we look forward to meeting in person again very soon. As always we are looking for volunteers, the right candidates would be a community member, parent, staff member, or student. Please reach out if you are interested in joining the Tunbridge School Club!

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

Deb Mullen - 889-9406

Welcome, Friends, to Summer 2021!!

The Friends of the Fair are excited to announce that we are back to our pre-COVID schedule, meeting at 7 p.m. the 2nd Wednesday of each month until November.

We will once again be holding our duck race fundraiser; join us on July 24 th at 1:30 on the fairgrounds to watch the fun! Ducks are \$5 each or 5 for \$20. Call Deb Mullen at 889-9406, or see any Friends board member or Nancy Howe to purchase ducks. We will also be set up at the Tunbridge parade and celebration on July 5 th here in town. Prizes include cash as well as beautiful pieces by local artists, and gift certificates to stores and restaurants.

Our annual meeting will be held at the fairgrounds on July 24 th around noon, before the duck race. We are looking for new board members and to build our membership. All are invited to the annual meeting!

The current fundraiser is focused on helping to cover the cost of replacing the old bingo hall and maintenance building on the fairgrounds. The project is progressing quickly and the walls and rafters are up. If you'd like to help, donations can be mailed to us at PO Box 159, Tunbridge, VT 05077.

Memberships are available for \$25 for a single membership, \$50 for a couple and \$100 for a family. Lifetime memberships are \$1000 (may be paid in installments over a 3 year period). Your membership dollars go towards enriching the fair experience for all fairgoers by contributing towards educational exhibits, improved signage, and our award-winning shuttle service.

There will be a fair this year and we look forward to seeing everyone there.

## **NanoFest**

Anne Linehan - 802-685-4838

5th Annual Vermont Nanobrewery Festival

Saturday, August 21, 2021 12:00-6:00 pm

Tunbridge Fairgrounds

Tickets at [vtnanofest.eventbrite.com](http://vtnanofest.eventbrite.com), on sale until Aug. 19th.

Hosted by Brocklebank Craft Brewing.

## **Tunbridge Recreation Committee**

Kathy Galluzzo - 802-565-0695

The Recreation has been very busy down at the field. The pool is clean, cold and open. We have added a volleyball court and some horseshoe pits. We are currently adding new dirt to the field to improve it. We have many other little projects we are working on to keep improving the space. We will be scooping free ice cream and have the cowpie bingo on the fairgrounds July 5th. We hope to start having breakfasts again soon. We are discussing a website or some other tools to be able to communicate better as we grow.

We are also working with Janet Zug to get our banners back up and displayed so if you had a banner with us on display we will be reaching out to get updated artwork for Janet to print. If you are a business that would like to advertise please reach out to one of us.

We are excited to have added members to our committee this year. So any questions, or want to use the field for an event or just have an idea of something the recreation department could offer to the community please contact any one of us.

Kathy & Matthew Galluzzo, [kgalluzzo@wrvsu.org](mailto:kgalluzzo@wrvsu.org),

Seth Johnson, [guernsey95@yahoo.com](mailto:guernsey95@yahoo.com)

Andy Bogardus, [theracingfarmer29@gmail.com](mailto:theracingfarmer29@gmail.com)

Luke Barnaby, [luke\\_barnaby@yahoo.com](mailto:luke_barnaby@yahoo.com),

Jeremiah Caron, [Jeremiah.Caron@hypertherm.com](mailto:Jeremiah.Caron@hypertherm.com)

## **The TUNBRIDGE Quarterly**

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

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

Current and past issues of the TQ are always available online at <http://tunbridgevt.org/tunbridge-quarterly/>

The TQ cover artwork was drawn and donated by George Lawrence.

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

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