

The TUNBRIDGE Quarterly
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The TUNBRIDGE Quarterly

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

May 15, 2010
issue #20

Tunbridge Select Board

Ingrid Van Steamburg, Chair (889-3459)

Shane Young (889-2804);

Tom Mullen(889-9499)

The select board would like to thank Tim Wolfe for his service and welcome Tom Mullen to the board. The board has been continuing working on several projects: personnel policies & job descriptions; the solar project; the potential purchase of the property adjacent to the rec. field & refinancing to name a few. We continue to address personnel issues in the Town Office. The board recognizes the efforts being made and encourages positive communications. We thank the Planning Commission for organizing a recent meeting on the future of our transfer station.

For something new, the town has been invited to participate in the first Landscape Auction in the United States. The board and planning commission members met with the representatives from The White River Watershed and the representative from the Netherlands, where the concept originated. This auction does not actually sell anything, but bidders “adopt”, via monetary donations, different landscapes and objects in a landscape. They are interested in one of our covered bridges. The funds donated to “adopt” the bridge would go to fund maintenance and general upkeep. The auction is planned for August. We will keep you posted. A special thank you to Daniel “Rudi” Ruddell for coordinating this work.

We want to thank Rodney and the Road Crew for a seamless transition to the Summer Season during his time out and send best wishes to Rodney for a fast recovery. If you have any questions or concerns about any issue, big or small, please contact any board member. Winter was kind to our town, hope we have a great summer!

Tunbridge Town Website

Rick Scully - 763-7474

The Town website is visible online at www.tunbridgevt.com. The site still needs people to provide content. If you are with an organization in town and want to post events, or other information, please consider becoming a content provider on behalf of your group. For more info contact Rick Scully at rick@tunbridgevt.com.

First Branch Sustainability Project

Henry Swayze - 889-5556

Activities: 1) The Tunbridge Town Energy Committee together with Wendy and the select board has applied for a grant to partially fund the installation of solar panels to help offset the electric bills of the town buildings. Time will tell whether we are successful but this could save significant town dollars in the long run and heighten awareness of green living. If we get the grant we must hold a special town meeting to vote on the town's portion of the funding. Contact Todd Tyson (431-3433) to ask questions or offer help.

2) A group of us attended a Transition Town meeting in Montpelier in late April. We continue to move towards embracing the TT model where all activities in town can work together to help one another to make our community stronger and better able to absorb the shocks of dwindling oil supplies and the vagaries of the economy. Contact

Henryswayze@gamil.com - 889-5556 or Dan Breslaw lostm@sover.net

3) There is much interest around food. The Chelsea farmers market has had a major injection of new energy with lot of new vendors and activities including music! Talk to a vendor or to Dan.

4) There is an ongoing effort to identify major sources of sustainable power that the town might bring on line as a community project. Wind, hydro, and biomass are all on the table and all have the potential to power the valley. Contact Henry if you have interest in this effort

Musings:

Oil needs, oil spills, the climate crisis, rapidly exhausting natural resources and the ongoing destruction of our environment not to mention the wares we fight over these resources all are very depressing and seemingly overwhelming. I am quite optimistic and here is why: man is crummy at implementing long term planning and excellent in responding to crisis.

In the seventies Jimmy Carter pressured the American car makers to ramp up the fuel efficiency of their vehicles and the manufactures said it will take 20+ years to do that and the public did not care about efficiency. The manufactures were right or at least until the Arab oil embargo generated lines at the pump then the public flocked to fuel efficient (mostly Japanese) cars. Our job is get our feet wet taking little steps towards sustainability so that when we feel the necessity to make big changes we know how and the infrastructure is there to support the change. We can live on less than half the energy we use now without suffering a loss in quality of life. There is the sustainable energy supply available to fuel it all. Help create a discussion so we may become empowered. The church has an environmental committee, First Branch continues to offer an umbrella, most town organizations at least touch on this territory. Talk with your friends and groups and then report to others so we may feed on each other's efforts.

Tunbridge One Planet Afterschool Program

Carrie McDonnell 889-3310

One Planet Summer Program will run July 5-30th and is open to all Tunbridge children entering 1st-7th grade. This year our weekly themes include, “Things that Fly, Float and Go Bang: Rocket Science and More,” “Circus Fun,” “Sports Mania” and “The Big Splash: Wonderful Water.” Our weekly activities will include hands-on, theme-related projects, sports, free time, journal writing, FREE healthy snacks and lunches, fieldtrips to ECHO and the Upper Valley Aquatic Center, and an in-house circus performance.

In addition, we will be partnering once again with Tunbridge Recreation to offer two weeks of swimming lessons at VTC.

For more information on how to enroll your child, please contact the Summer Director, Chelsey Hook, at 889-3310 or chook.1planet.tcs@gmail.com. “

Wellspring Waldorf School

Mary Savidge - 685-3181

Wellspring Waldorf School is pleased to announce plans for the renovation of their new campus property. After years of concerted search and work to find a permanent home for our Waldorf School, Wellspring has purchased the former Anichini manufacturing building on Route 110 in North Tunbridge. This building, along with 30 acres of land, will provide Wellspring with almost 50 percent more interior space for their Waldorf programs and vastly more outdoor opportunities.

Wellspring has been working with Brad Wheeler Engineering and Maryanne Thompson Architects, Inc. on renovation designs for seven classrooms, several multipurpose areas, office and reception areas, a school store, and a kitchen facility. Wellspring is contracting with John Parker Construction for the renovation work, scheduled to begin in July following receipt of all permitting. The Wellspring parent community will help with renovations with occupation planned for 2011.

Wellspring is pleased to be welcomed by the Tunbridge community and hopes to further develop programs (extra-curricular and summer offerings as well in addition current programs for Early Childhood to grade eight) for children and families that will be of interest to surrounding areas.

Tunbridge Town Clerk

Wendy McCullough- 889-5521

Dog(s) licenses were due April 1, if you have not licensed your dog(s) please do so.

If you are a resident of Tunbridge and would like to be placed on the Voter Checklist for the upcoming School Budget Vote you need to register with the Town Clerk; this can be done at the Office or through the mail. Call Wendy at the Clerk's Office with any questions or concerns.

Tunbridge Planning Commission

Sue Clark 889-3733

On May 11th the Planning Commission held a discussion for Tunbridge residents titled “Talking Trash” with the Select Board presenting our current situation with the Transfer Station. Our contract with the CVSWD has ended and cannot be renewed, so an alternative is needed.

Thank you to everyone who is participating in the interviews with the Tunbridge School Eighth Grade Class. We are looking forward to hearing the outcome.

No definite date has been set for the walk in the Town Forest. We would like to schedule it on a dry, sunny, bug-free Saturday in May or June. Let us know if you have a recommendation for a date. Please look for notice of the event in “The Herald”. Call a Planning Commissioner if you would like to be notified directly.

The TUNBRIDGE Quarterly

Janet Zug 889-9602

It's been 5 years of publishing the TQ, with the intent of providing a way for our town offices to communicate with us. The inspiration for this publication came out of a School Board and a Planning Commission meeting I attended one week, it seemed like something the town could really use. Any local volunteer efforts are also included. All reports are gathered and printed as received, though sometimes edited for typos and space constraints.

Please call, write or email me at janet@zugglass.com with questions, comments, or suggestions about the TQ.

Mon-Thur

8am-noon & 1-4pm

1st-3rd Tues 8am-6pm

Tunbridge Treasurer

Anne Mallary- 889-3571

Below is a chart showing the budgets voted at town meeting and the amount to be raised in taxes for the current, previous and next fiscal years.

	Budget 08/09	Taxes 08/09	Budget 09/10	Taxes 09/10	Budget 10/11	Taxes 10/11
Highway	\$619,100.00	\$489,600.00	\$634,850.00	\$519,850.00	\$671,165.00	\$514,958.00
Selectmen	\$398,965.00	\$250,865.00	\$403,428.00	\$248,828.00	\$432,011.00	\$231,540.00
FD and Amb	\$45,000.00	\$45,000.00	\$45,000.00	\$45,000.00	\$51,300.00	\$51,300.00
Appropriations	\$8,210.00	\$8,210.00	\$8,460.00	\$8,460.00	\$10,699.00	\$10,699.00
Total	\$1,071,275.00	\$793,675.00	\$1,091,738.00	\$822,138.00	\$1,165,175.00	\$808,497.00

The highway budget shows an increase of 2.5%(\$15,750) from 2009 to 2010 and 5.7%(\$36,315) increase from 2010 to 2011. The amount to be raised in taxes increased 5.7%(\$30,250) from 2009 to 2010 and decreased .9%(\$4,892) from 2010 to 2011. The amount to be raised in taxes does not necessarily correlate with the increase in the budget. The budget increase is directly associated with an increase in spending. The reason the amount to be raised in taxes differs is primarily due to revenue changes. See town report for details.

The selectmen's budget increased 1.1%(\$4,463) from 2009 to 2010 and 7.1%(\$28,583) from 2010 to 2011. The amount to be raised in taxes decreased .8%(\$2,037) from 2009 to 2010 and decreased 6.9%(\$17,288) from 2010 to 2011. The same is true for the selectmen's budget as the highway budget, spending is increasing, but the amount to be raised from property taxes takes into account changes in income.

The estimated tax rate for 2010/2011 is \$.495. This tax rate is based on the reappraised grand list. (See the lister information) This is the most accurate tax rate I could figure with the information I have at this time. Last year's tax rate was \$.742. If there was no reappraisal I would estimate this year's rate to be \$.716. I am not going to even venture a guess on the education tax rate because of all the uncertainties at this time.

The current selectboard budget looks to be right on target. At this point there is a +\$74,000 on the revenue side and a -\$40,000 on the expenses side with an estimated expected revenue of \$30,000 and expenses of \$85,500 which would leave a surplus of about \$58,500. The highway budget has a +\$73,000 in revenue and -\$126,500 in expenses, with estimated expected expenses to be \$130,000 and no revenue. This would leave a surplus of almost \$69,500. These are just estimates and anything could happen in the next two months.

State Representative

David Ainsworth - 763-8017

As the legislative year draws to a close it seems to get crazier at the capital. Yesterday we had five roll-call votes on bills which were basically not bills that required roll-call votes yet house leadership requested each time. S-103-ignition interlock devices; S-138 Unfair business practices of credit card companies; S-222 Abenaki tribe recognition; S-263 Vt. benefit corporation act; and S-292 Misc. corrections bill did no real harm or cost the State any money and the vast majority were in agreement of them, yet we had to waste time taking roll-call votes! Today we had more important bills which do have serious effects upon all of us.

H-782 Voluntary school district merge incentive program passed but without my vote. If I'm not mistaken, it would restrict families choices of where to send high school students when the town doesn't have a school- important to many of you. It will be up for a third and final reading on Monday and may have some changes offered. I will try to keep abreast of any changes and vote accordingly. After our vote it will probably go to Conference meeting as it will not be accepted by the Senate. After the two conference committees meet we get to vote the new version either up or down but can not change it on the floor. We also voted on S-247 Bisphenol A ban. Another roll-call vote which had only one no vote- the member voted no because industry is already using other materials to do the same job, and the government has issued ways to reduce the exposure to the chemical- all agreed upon on the floor- but this makes leadership look like they are taking action although there is no real way to enforce this act- we don't have any labs within state to test for compliance.

We will be completing our session this coming Friday or more likely Saturday(7th or 8th) and hopefully pass something to try and shore-up our bleeding un-employment fund; leadership had a press conference today to outline their behind-close-doors plan to replenish the fund. Now the House and Senate Committees will have to finish the details and pass something out before the end of the week. Two weeks ago Chap Smith was saying nothing would be done this term. I guess public pressure sat him down to the table. Once we are done I will e-mail a final report. Let me know if you don't receive my e-mail letters now.

If you have questions or problems with any State agency contact me. I can't promise I can solve your problems or find you answers but I'll try and get you headed in the right direction. You can e-mail me or call me at home dainsworth@leg.state.vt.us

Tunbridge Civic Club

Linda Lazaroff at 889-9421.

Once again, the Tunbridge Civic Club sponsored a very successful show at the Tunbridge Town Hall. A record attendance for both Friday and Saturday nights (March 19th and 20th) was recorded. This year's 58th annual show again highlighted the impressive talent from such a small town. The proceeds, after expenses, from the show are given back to the community for local causes. This year, funds were distributed to the Town Library and the School Library to purchase books in honor of Cornelia and Henry Swayze. Funds also went to the recreation committee, the food shelf, and Neighbors Helping Neighbors. The town hall is handicapped accessible and is used on a regular basis for community events and private functions.

The Tunbridge Civic Club is proud to have such an outpouring of support from the community. The cast and crew work hard to bring this show to the community, with practices twice a week for six weeks. The basic criteria for participating is that you must be of high school age or older and be a current resident of Tunbridge or have been in the show as a past resident of Tunbridge.

The book, Tunbridge Civic Club Presents" an historical book with 55 years of Civic Club Show memories from 1952-2007 still has a few copies for sale. This may be purchased by calling Linda Lazaroff at 889-9421. Anyone with questions or suggestions regarding the Civic Club may call any of the officers, Merle Howe, President at 889-5574; Butch Howe, Vice President at 889-3716; Maxine Young, Secretary at 763-8274; or Jim Wick, Treasurer at 889-3524. Thank you to everyone who participated and we will see you next year!

Tunbridge Tree Warden

Jim Ludwig - 889-9422

With help, I have planted over 35 trees in the two villages over the years. Almost all are thriving. There is room for another 10 or so trees. I need help in fund raising, site-ing, planning for the big planting day, ordering trees, arranging for back hoe digging, watering, sheriff traffic control, and much more. I need 2 or 3 dedicated people to do this.

Tunbridge Board of Listers

Judie Lewis- 889-3571

The Board of Listers expects to mail out 2010 change-of-appraisal notices to all property owners no later than June 3 and has set official grievance hearings for 9 a.m. June 18 at the Town Office Building.

The board is concluding a two-year town-wide reassessment. The value of all town properties will change for the 2010-2011 tax year. The change notice will include the old and new values for all properties and information on how to contest the new property value should you chose to do so. We also plan to include an estimate of how much more or less you may expect to pay in taxes excluding any state payments.

The Listers will be available for pre-grievance discussions by appointment prior to the official hearing. We plan to extend office hours to include at least two evenings. The times will be announced in the official notice.

The average overall increase for all properties is approximately 50%. There was an average 55% increase for the 2002 reappraisal. Disregarding state payments, more than half of the tax payers can expect a reduction of \$1 or more in their tax burden; and a little less than half can expect an increase of \$1 or more.

The Listers are required to assess all properties at what you could reasonably expect that property to sell for on the open market. The law prohibits us from making any exceptions. For example we cannot make exceptions for people who aren't planning to sell, for folks worried about paying the taxes, or for people that are nice and well-meaning folks just trying to do the best they can. If we could make such exceptions, the only people whose property would be assessed at "fair market value" would be the not very nice folks who aren't worried about paying their taxes 'cause they're going to sell anyway.

Tunbridge Green-Up

Jim Ludwig - 889-9422

I will be stepping down from Green Up Chairman after 15 or so years. Anyone can contact me about filling my shoes. It is time for fresh blood and possible contact with the schools. Please Contact me if you are interested.

Tunbridge Volunteer Fire Department

Jena Young- 889-2804

You'll notice a project at the fire department unfolding over the next few months as we prepare to pave the driveway in front of the fire house. This project will require us to dig up and re-position the culvert that gets clogged from the silt coming down from Monarch Hill Road, and brings lots of sand run off into the driveway. Fire department members are locating equipment that can be borrowed to use in the re-positioning of the culvert, and in digging out the driveway to lower it by roughly 3 – 4 inches to make room for the pavement. The initial prep work should be done by the end of May, with the plan for pavement to be put down in July. The total cost of this project is not coming from taxpayers. Our decision to take on this project was significantly impacted by the extremely generous donation of Bob Dunkle & family, to pay for half of the cost of the project. The other half will come out of our fundraising budget. A paved driveway will greatly improve the cleanliness of the fire station, trucks & gear, which must be cleaned after fire calls to get rid of the carbon build up, soot, dirt and chemicals that get on the gear during a fire. The task of cleaning and drying the gear properly is hampered by the dirt driveway – the pavement will improve our ability to maintain our hoses and equipment by helping to keep them clean.

We are also in the process of applying for a dry hydrant grant thru the George Aiken Foundation. The proposed site of this new hydrant is on Ordway Road. The work will be done with a substantial amount of volunteer labor so any help from the community will be greatly appreciated.

We just received a Pager Grant which replaced 13 of our pagers in order to comply with the new narrow band requirements. The amount of this grant was roughly \$4,100.

We are also looking into a grant for an exhaust system for the fire station.

In April we held our 2nd annual Easter Egg hunt at the School. It was a bright and sunny day, and approximately 50 local kids joined their parents in the egg hunt on the playground, and around the surrounding area. Lots of fun was had by all, and many of the kids enjoyed a close up viewing and exploration of Engine 1.

We would be remiss if we did not mention that Memorial Day is coming up! Be on the look out for our annual advertisement in the Herald and be sure to call ahead & reserve your barbeque chicken and dinner. Thank you for your continued support as this fund raiser proves to be a great success every year.

If you would like to get involved with your fire department, we are always looking for volunteers to join the squad. We also have an opening for the position of clerk from now until March 2011. The role of clerk is minimal and involves monthly attendance at Trustee meetings, and the writing on the minutes. Our business meeting is every 3rd Thursday at 7:00 pm at the fire house. Stop by if you would like to join our squad or serve the department in any way.

Tunbridge School Board, Con't.

And then remember the book about Dick and Jane and the first word you learned, the biggest word of all: "LOOK."

Everything you need to know is in there somewhere. The Golden Rule and love and basic sanitation, ecology and politics and sane living.

Think of what a better world it would be if we all - the whole world - had cookies and milk about 3 o'clock every afternoon and then lay down with our blankets for a nap. Or if we had a basic policy in our nation and other nations to always put things back where we found them and clean up our own messes. And it is still true, no matter how old you are, when you go out into the world, it is best to hold hands and stick together.

Important dates:

Regular School Board Meeting – Monday, May 17 at 6 pm

School Budget Revote – Monday, June 7 at 7:30 pm

8th Grade Graduation – Monday, June 14 at 7 pm

ECFiber.Net

Janet Zug 889-9602

Despite the optimism, the RUS declined our loan application for Stimulus Funding. We have applied for the "Round 2" grants. Meanwhile we've been told by Oppenheimer Securities that the markets are opening up and we are now continuing with our original intention of putting our project out for funding through a public offering.

Tunbridge Needs More Pre-Registrations!

Tunbridge is 9th in line with 43% of household pre-registered for ECFiber service, Barnard is #1 with 88%! Pre-registering does not commit you to signing up for the services, but does show your support for the project.

A higher percentage of pre-registrations will also be helpful to keep Tunbridge at the top of the list when it comes to building the network!

Please go to **www.ecfiber.net** to pre-register for service.

Feel free to contact me if you want to talk about this Community-Owned, High-Speed Internet project.

ECFiber is a grassroots initiative to build a state-of-the-art fiber-optic network in 22 towns, bringing digital television, reliable telephone, and high-speed Internet service directly to homes, schools, and businesses.

Tunbridge School Board

Lorinda Oliver 889-9462

The sun is shining, the grass is growing and schools everywhere are preparing to graduate another class of students onto their next stage of life. Nearly twenty-five years ago I stood on the stage at the Tunbridge Town Hall and gave my eighth grade graduation speech. Although I have saved my notecards from that night, I don't need to review them to remember the speech. I spoke about education being one of the few things in life that truly belongs to you in that it cannot be taken away by anyone, no matter what challenges you face. I still feel that way today.

There is an essay by Robert Fulghum entitled "All I Need to Know I Learned in Kindergarten", published in a self-titled book which has been referenced innumerable times by people around the world. So with the retirement of our long admired kindergarten teacher Marilyn Lyford, and with the state of the world around us, I leave you with one person's viewpoint of what it truly important and ask you to consider the value of your own education, and that of those children of our community. It reads:

"Most of what I really need to know about how to live, and what to do, and how to be, I learned in Kindergarten. Wisdom was not at the top of the graduate school mountain, but there in the sandbox at nursery school.

These are the things I learned: Share everything. Play fair. Don't hit people. Put things back where you found them. Clean up your own mess. Don't take things that aren't yours. Say you're sorry when you hurt somebody. Wash your hands before you eat. Flush. Warm cookies and cold milk are good for you. Live a balanced life. Learn some and think some and draw and paint and sing and dance and play and work some every day. Take a nap every afternoon. When you go out into the world, watch for traffic, hold hands, and stick together. Be aware of wonder. Remember the little seed in the plastic cup. The roots go down and the plant goes up and nobody really knows how or why, but we are all like that. Goldfish and hamsters and white mice and even the little seed in the plastic cup - they all die." So do we.



Tunbridge Historical Society

Kay Jorgensen - 889-5528

The Tunbridge Historical Society's 49th season of local history programs will begin in June.

The annual History Mystery Walk on Sunday, June 6, will begin with carpooling from the library, which co-sponsors many of the society events, at 3 p.m.

On Saturday, June 19, bus tours of northern valley and hill roads are scheduled at 10 a.m. and 1 p.m. from the school. Reservations are requested through Euclid Farnham at the phone number above or the library at 889-9404. A \$5 fee to cover costs will be collected at the bus.

Society members will be on Antique Hill for the Vermont History Expo the weekend of June 26-27. This year's theme is "Back to the Land Again!"

The annual "In Their Words" program with costumed speakers giving presentations of local writings and speeches will be in the church at 8 p.m. on Tuesday, July 13. The program follows the church's ice cream social.

On Tuesday, Aug. 10, Euclid Farnham and Mick Maguire will give a slide talk about the First Branch Valley's mills. Their 7:30 p.m. program in the Dodge-Gilman Building follows a potluck supper, to which everyone is invited, at 6:30.

The Sunday, Oct. 3, annual meeting will be in the Parsonage at 2 p.m. People are invited to bring show and tell items such as photos and artifacts. The meeting will include potluck desserts, drawing of raffle winners and election of officers.

The season will close with the annual Ghost Walk. This year's walk will be at Hunt Cemetery at 1:30 p.m. on Sunday, Oct. 24. Past residents who are buried at the cemetery will tell about their lives in Tunbridge. The rain date is Oct. 31.

Euclid is selling the last copies of the society's 2010 calendar with 14 photos of historic local houses for \$5. The high-quality photos are suitable for framing.

Everyone is invited to attend Historical Society programs. All are all free, except for the bus tour. Society officers are Euclid Farnham, Kay Jorgensen, T Swayze and Elaine Howe.

Tunbridge School Club

Kathi Terami, Parent Volunteer 889-5575

Student Art Show: Be sure to stop by before June 5 to see the remarkable work of our community's young artists at the Tunbridge Library.

Last Day of School Picnic: As long as there are no more snow days, school ends with a half day on June 15. School Club will host the annual last-day-of-school picnic from 11am - Noon for all students, staff, teachers and volunteers. Please call Kathi Terami at 889-5575 or email schoolclub@tunbridge.k12.vt.us if you would like to contribute to this celebration in any way.

Vermont History Expo Supper: School Club was recently presented with a new fundraising opportunity. The Vermont Historical Society has asked School Club to host a community supper on the Saturday evening during the Vermont History Expo – June 26. The supper will give Expo staff, volunteers, visitors and general community members a meal option right in town midway through this two-day event. A School Club committee is busy planning a Vermont-inspired menu that will feature local ingredients and historical recipes. Please call Anissa Morrison at 889-3535 or email schoolclub@tunbridge.k12.vt.us if you would like to contribute ingredients or volunteer to cook, set up, serve or clean up. Watch the Herald and advertisements around town for details!

Finances in Good Standing: School Club currently has \$3,031 in it's bank accounts. So far this year, School Club has provided support for the Back-to-School Potluck, the free dinner at the Open House, the 8th grade leadership retreat at Lotus Lake, the movie site license, the Halloween Party, the school production of Peter Pan and the Holiday Breakfast for teachers and staff. Upcoming support will include Teacher Appreciation Week, the Camp In at the Montshire Museum of Science for the 3rd grade class, flowers and cake for the graduation ceremony and the end-of-the-year picnic.

Upcoming Meetings: Parents, school personnel and community members meet at 6:30pm on the first Monday every month (or the following Monday due to a school break, holiday or inclement weather) to plan events, hear new ideas, review funding requests and manage the organization. The next meetings are in the TCS library on May 3 and June 7. All are welcome to come to share ideas or get involved!

Tunbridge Library

Librarian_ Jean Wolfe 889-9404

Publicity, ArtSpace Coordinator: Marsha Higgins 889-5576

**Hours: Sun 11:30-1:30 (May through October),
Mon and Wed 3-8, Fri 3-6, Sat 10-4**

The popular Memorial Day Plant, Book, and Bake Sale is coming soon. Volunteers are needed as are donated books in good condition. The plant sale always offers locally grown perennials and shrubs at excellent prices. This event is a major fundraiser for the Library, dependent upon the help of many committed volunteers. If you can volunteer, please contact the following committee chairpersons as soon as possible:

Liz Guth 889-3746 (Plants)

Catherine Freese 889-9410 (Book Sale)

Sue Barnaby 889-3736 (Bake Sale)

ArtSpace at the Library is currently featuring through June an exhibit of art teacher Stephanie Loeffler's K-8 students at Tunbridge Central School. Coming up July 9 (7-9 PM) is an opening reception for part-time Tunbridge resident Henry Steiner. Henry Steiner, Professor of Law, Emeritus, is the founder of the Harvard Law School Human Rights Program. His photography covers years of travel covering his work in human rights.

Don't miss the annual History Mystery Walk co-sponsored by the Library and the Tunbridge Historical Society. The Walk leaves from the Library on Sunday, June 6 at 3 PM. Children's Story Hours are usually held on the first and third Thursdays of each month, 6:15 at the Library. Stories are accompanied by fun activities and refreshments. The theme for May 20 is "Fishy Stories" and "Gardens/Flowers" for June 3. Watch for notices about upcoming Story Hour activities and the Summer Reading Program.

On sale at the Library are reduced price books, calendars, stationery, seasonal greeting cards, gift wrap bags, and specialty gift items for children and adults. Free, highspeed, wireless internet access is available at the Library. Audio books may also be downloaded to an MP3 player. (Ask librarian Jean Wolfe for details or visit the tutorial on the Library's website: www.tunbridgelibrary.org)

Tunbridge Church

Deadra Ashton - 685-3029

Sunday worship services are held at 10:00 a.m. Sunday School will be offered every Sunday, except July 4.

During the month of July, beginning Sunday, July 4, we will hold services at in the South Tunbridge Methodist Church.

During the month of August, beginning on Sunday, August 8, we will hold services in the North Tunbridge Baptist Church.

We will return to the Congregational Church in Tunbridge on Sunday, September 5.

Sunday, June 6: Children's Day Picnic immediately following the service on the Parish House Lawn

Sunday, June 27: Family Night beginning at 5:30pm the Parish House Lawn

Tuesday, July 13: Ice Cream Social, 6:30pm on the Parish House Lawn

Sunday, July 25: Family Night beginning at 5:30pm on the Parish House Lawn

Sunday, August 1: Outdoor Service and Picnic, 10:00am (place to be announced)

Sunday, August 22: Family night beginning at 5:30pm on the Parish House Lawn

Union Agricultural Society(Tunbridge Fair)

Rebecca Beguin - 889-5555

www.tunbridgefair.com

A bicycle was found on the fairgrounds last fall, if you think it's yours please call the fair office.

See the "Happenings in Tunbridge" listings on pages 9 & 10 for summer events at the Fairgrounds.

Tunbridge Better Bones

Shelia Mitchinson 889-5547

Tues. & Thurs. - 6:30am/8:30am/ 5:30pm

Mon. & Wed. - 8:30am

Classes are free with weights provided. Come join us or come back for renewed strength, energy and balance.

Tunbridge Neighbors Helping Neighbors

Jim Wick 889-3437

Tunbridge Neighbors Helping Neighbors continues to provide services to local residents through volunteer action.

We mostly get requests for rides, but have done many other things. **Help Line 889 - 3437**

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.

Tunbridge/Royalton Phone Book

Janet Zug 889-9602

trphonebook@aol.com

The phone book is finished and offered for sale for \$5. at the Royalton and Tunbridge Town Offices, The Tunbridge Library, the Corner Stop Mini-Mart, the North Tunbridge Store, the South Royalton Market and the Chef's Market in Randolph.

If you like the phonebook, please recommend it to your friends, neighbors and colleagues. Let me know if you would be interested in selling them for the cause or if you have any other ideas of stores in surrounding towns that may be willing to carry them.

Tunbridge Church Community Playground

Janet Zug 889-9602

We have chosen the play structure and ground cover for the new playground being built in downtown Tunbridge. The structure is called the "C-3 Tunnel Escape" and can be seen on the swingkingdom.com website.

A good portion of the funds needed have been raised through the phonebook project, but we are still about two grand shy of our goal. We intend to open the playground on June 27th, the evening of the first "Family Night" of the season.

To further this cause you may mail direct donations to Janet Zug P.O. Box 68 Tunbridge, VT 05077

If you are interested in giving in memory or honor of someone, give me a call to discuss those options.

We are also looking for someone to take care of cutting the grass surrounding the play structure. If you can help with this task please let me know.

Happenings in Tunbridge

Look under the Library Section (page 13) for more events.

- May 31 - Memorial Day Festivities in Downtown Tunbridge
9am - Library Plant, Book and Bake Sale.
11am - "Peace" program in the Town Hall followed by the parade. After the parade, the observance in the cemetery will be in honor of Pete Jorgensen. A reenactment civil war group called "The Hemlocks" will fire the cannon in Pete's absence.
- June 6 - History Mystery Walk. 3pm at the Library.
Co-sponsored by the Historical Society and the Library.
- June 11-13 - 4-H Horse Clinic - South Fairgrounds
www.vtmorganhorse.org/events.htm
- June 16-20 - Jenny Brook Family Bluegrass Festival - Fairgrounds
www.jennybrookfestival.com
- June 19- Bus tours of northern valley and hill roads are scheduled at 10 a.m. and 1 p.m. from the school. Reservations are requested through Euclid Farnham or the library. A \$5 fee will be collected. An Historical Society event.
- June 26&27 - Vermont History Expo - fairgrounds. This year's theme is "Back to the Land Again!" www.vermonthistory.org
- July 2-4 - Morgan Heritage Days - Fairgrounds, South Oval
<http://www.vtmorganheritagedays.org>
- July 9 - Ed Larkin Contra Dancers - Town Hall, 7:30pm
All dances taught. \$5.00 donation
- July 13 - Ice Cream Social - 6:30pm on the Parish House Lawn
Sponsored by the Tunbridge Church
Followed by:
The Historical Society's annual "In Their Words" program with costumed speakers giving presentations of local writings and speeches. In the church at 8 p.m.

- July 16 - Woodstock Dog Show - Fairgrounds
www.infodog.com/panels/vt.htm
- July 25 - Friends of the Tunbridge World's Fair Annual Mtg & picnic. 12pm - Dodge Gilman Bldg.
- July 30 - Winnebago Rally, Fairgrounds - Dodge Gilman Bldg.
- Aug 1 - www.winnebagoind.com/clubs/wit/events.php
- July 31 - Tunbridge Midsummer Music Festival - Fairgrounds Memorial Arena, South Gate entrance.
Gates open at 12:30 pm shows at 1:00 'til 11:00 pm
\$20 per person general admission. Under 12 FREE.
Food and Refreshments benefit Tunbridge Fire Department. Coolers at own risk. No glass. No dogs.
Performers:
Evan Crandell & the Too Hot Too Handle (jazz/funk/soul)
Hifidelic (jazz/rock/pop)
Laslo Cameo (americana/roots)
Mono Malo (hot blues)
and the night time dance party featuring:
Jeanne & the Hi Tops
- August 5-7 - Blue Wave Taekwondo - Fairgrounds - Oval area
www.bwtkdandolph.blogspot.com
- Aug 10 - Slide Show in the Dodge-Gilman Bldg. Sponsored by the Historical Society, Euclid Farnham and Mick Maguire will speak on the First Branch Valley's mills
The Evening starts at 6:30pm with potluck, slideshow begins at 7:30pm.
- Aug 13 - Ed Larkin Contra Dancers - Town Hall, 7:30pm
All dances taught. \$5.00 donation
- Aug 9-15 - Good Sam Rally - Fairgrounds
www.vermontgoodsam.com