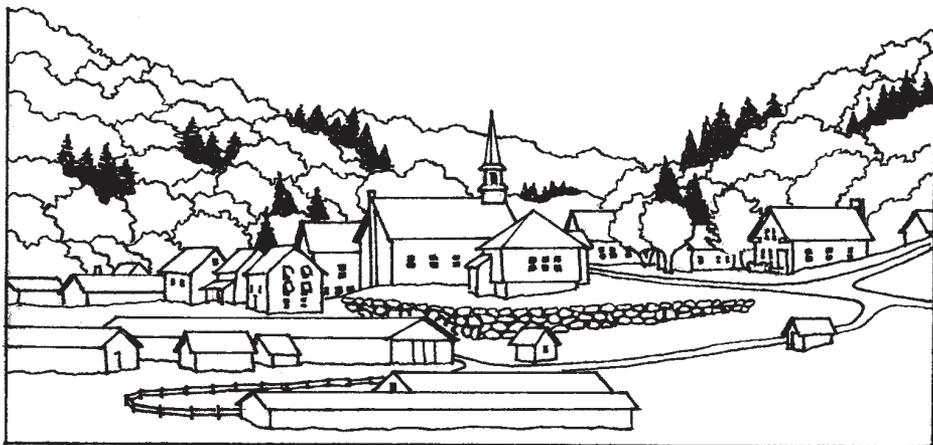


The **TUNBRIDGE** Quarterly

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



April 1, 2021
issue #64

Tunbridge Select Board

Gary Mullen, Chair (802-889-3323, barn or 802-889-3242, house or theflyingfarmer29@gmail.com)

Mike McPhetres, Vice Chair (802-272-6108, cell or 802-728-3390, shop or farmallfix@yahoo.com)

John O'Brien, Clerk (802-889-3474 or bellwetherfilms@yahoo.com)

Wendy Palthey, Administrative Assistant,
(802-889-3565 or tunbridge.adm.assist@gmail.com)

While it was very strange to have the first Tuesday in March come and go without a Town Meeting in Tunbridge, it is nice to look forward to lilac time and an assembly of residents and pies, on the Fair Grounds, May 22, 2021. Even though it's a different date and out-of-doors, what remains the same as past Town Meetings is that budgets will be voted on from the "floor," and officials will be elected by those voters who are present. The Society of Leashed and Well-behaved Dogs is especially looking forward to this civic event.

As the TQ goes to press, Tunbridge's Memorial Day parade is on hold. The Selectboard is committed to following the Governor's COVID recommendations and protocols, and he has yet to decide how to proceed with Vermont's big summer gatherings (like the Tunbridge Fair). Thumbs up or thumbs down, we will let the town know what's happening as soon as we get guidance from the State. Check out the Town's website, THE HERALD, or our new mobile digital sign at the Town Clerk's for an announcement.

With both meteorological and astronomical winter behind us, we can report that our road crew expertly and ably maintained our 80 miles of roads these past cold months. That they did so while masked and hand-sanitizing and social distancing is especially impressive. Our Town's motto could be applied to the Road Crew: "Not perfect, but pretty darn close!"

In other Highway Dept. news, we are sending our Dodge one-ton pickup down the road and replacing it with the equivalent Chevrolet Silverado. If the Dodge wasn't a complete lemon, it did enjoy frequent excursions to the dealership in Middlebury for fixes and quiet time. After the trade-in, the new Chevy will cost \$36,286 for the engine and chassis, \$40,779 for the dump package, sander and plow. Fortunately this replacement was budgeted for and planned for on the equipment schedule.

Thanks to the volunteer efforts of IT specialist (and President of the Tunbridge Historical Society) Mick Maguire, Tunbridge residents will

soon be able to buy dump tickets online! Go to “tunbridgevt.org,” then “Services,” then “Transfer Station.” Once purchased, the tickets will be mailed to you. The old method of buying tickets--in person at the Town Offices or Town Library—won’t change. The Transfer Station will remain open on Wednesdays and Saturdays until the State of Emergency is over. We feel it’s safer to spread the flow of dump-goers out, and certainly more convenient to have two shots at making it during the week.

The Planning Commission has been doing the heavy lifting on the thorny issue of legal trails and rights-of-way, working towards making a recommendation on how our trails can be used and by whom. We hope to have a clear Town policy or ordinance by this summer that finds an agreeable balance—something that respects the property of landowners and accommodates the enthusiasms of our recreating community.

As Tunbridge moves towards “herd immunity,” if you or your neighbor or “that old fellow who lives up by Squeaky Trees” might need any help signing up for a vaccination on the darn internet, or getting from your home to a vaccination site, don’t hesitate to call Tunbridge Neighbors Helping Neighbors, 889-3437.

Tunbridge Town Treasurer

Rebecca Hoyt - 889-3571 treasurer@tunbridge.biz

Happy Spring!!! I want to thank everyone for their patience with this past year and this crazy tax season. This is also a good time to make sure that I remind everyone that it is time to claim your homestead when you do your taxes. The due date for homestead claims is on April 15th. There is no extension for claiming your homestead. If you are going to ask for an extension for your income taxes please still file your homestead on time and then amend it when you have the correct information from your income taxes. This is very important if you would like to see a tax credit on your tax bill or if you would like to not have to pay the penalty for filing late.

Also for anyone that received a delinquent tax notice please reach out to Joe, but be patient it might take some time for him to get back to you. As always if you have questions for me you can call my office 889-3571 Monday, Wednesday, and Thursday, or you can email me.

Tunbridge Town Clerk

Mariah Cilley- 889-5521 tctunbridge@live.com Hours: By Appointment Only

As I write this entry, I am currently working from home to help minimize the spread of COVID-19 and keep our community safe. I am available by phone, email and mail Monday through Friday 8am-3pm and while I may be working from home, I am available by appointment for your notarization, vault, dump ticket, dog licensing and all other needs. Thank you for your understanding and patience during this time.

Town Meeting: Due to the pandemic, our Town Meeting has been postponed until Saturday, May 22, 2021 at 10am on the Tunbridge Fairgrounds. This way we will be able to spread out and practice social distancing, as well as being able to conduct our business on the floor as usual. Stay tuned for further information and updates regarding Town Meeting as we get closer. Town Reports will also be available 10 days prior to the new town meeting date.

Please note our new sign outside of the Town Offices. Our town was able to receive this from a COVID-19 related grant through the State of Vermont, and are able to display all the pertinent information related to COVID-19 vaccinations, Town Meeting, and is able to be moved to other areas for use during an emergency or disaster to help keep our town informed and safe.

If you would like to request a slot on a Selectboard meeting agenda, please email tunbridge.adm.assist@gmail.com or call the number above. Fortunately for me, tax matters are not within my job description, so questions related to tax payments, bills, etc. are best answered with Becky Hoyt, our town treasurer. Her number is 889-3571, email at treasurer@tunbridge.biz.

If you would like to reserve the Town Hall for an event, please call Judy Howe at 889-3487. She maintains the reservation book, reservation contracts, and can answer any other particulars that you may need to know. Contact information for all Town Officers is posted on the Tunbridge website- www.tunbridgevt.org. Our town website has a plethora of information about the Town, the latest COVID-19 information, Selectboard minutes, updates from various officials and more.

Dog Licensing: All dog licenses are due April 1, 2021. The easiest way to get this to me is by dropping your information in the drop box with your payment, rabies certificates and return address, and I will mail it out to you the following day. Cost per license is \$9.00 spayed/neutered; \$13.00 for non-spayed, non-neutered.

A reminder to new parents- if you have a new Tunbridge baby, please stop in to the Clerk's office to pick up a baby quilt. The Sewing Circle have supplied us with some lovely quilts for our newest tiny Tunbridge residents!

ECFiber

(East-Central Vermont Community Fiber-Optic Network)

Henry Swayze 603-667-8932, Amy Frost, Richard Dybvig
ECF office - 763-2262 info@ecfiber.net www.ecfiber.net

ECFiber continues to be able to hook up subscribers at more and more locations. There are just a few neighborhoods where available fiber strands are limited and those are in the process of being made available. The limitation of available strands has led to a neighbor having service but you're not being able to get hooked up. This is almost completely corrected now but installers have a backlog to work through.

Here is the history. Tunbridge was one of the first towns to receive any service. In the early days of ECFiber there was no funding to build the system. ECFiber had to prove its business model and went to places where local funders were to build the system. Now we have proven the business model and get our funding from wall street to build out our network and we do it on a town wide design. To get service to the original funders and their neighbors Tunbridge was serviced from adjoining towns and did not have a town wide build plan or road map for where all dwellings were to be serviced. This left Tunbridge with no central hub and not enough strands of fiber in all the right places. Without those early chaotic builds we would not have proven the fiber to the home model that is now spreading over many underserved areas of the state. ECFiber, for the last 4 years, has done only town wide plans and builds and has pretty well tamed all the early build chaos.

We appreciate your support for this community led and community owned project. We now have better Internet service than many living in cities. Learn to make good use of it.

Intelligence Based Policing

VSP barracks 802-234-9933 recorded

Email DPS.VSPROYALTONIBP@VERMONT.GOV

There is little change in our group status since the last Tunbridge Quarterly, but the group's original cause is still the same. We support the Vermont State Police in their efforts to keep us all safe. Despite the pandemic, VSP are busier than ever. You have only to listen to the local media or read the newspapers to see all the issues they are facing. There seems to have been no decrease in the use of drugs, quite the opposite, and all forms of abuse seem to be increasing as well. Please feel you can alert them to any problems you see. "If You See Something, Say Something".

Please stay safe and well, during this unusual time and continue to support the VSP.

Tunbridge Library

Hours: Mon, Wed, & Fri 3-7; Sat 9-Noon 889-9404

The library is very excited to announce that their community room is now open for individuals to access the Wifi in one hour increments. Safely reopening the doors to the public has been a top priority for our staff and trustees. Either call the library to make an appointment or visit <https://the-tunbridge-library.appointlet.com>. You can also access the link through the website tunbridgelibrary.org. Beginning April 1st the library will open by appointment for browsing the shelves and checking out materials as well!

In addition to the numerous dedicated volunteers that help keep the library running, four new trustees have joined the library crew. The library extends a warm welcome and big thank you to our trustees which now include: Michael Krauthamer, Theresa Fitzgerald, Anna Dechert, Mark Bomalaski, and Anita Abbot. Thank you also to our past trustees: Carrie Cooker, Eve Ermer, Billie Smith, and Fern Strong. We recognize the time and effort involved with this volunteer position and are grateful for all the willingness and strength within the people of our community.

We are putting out a call to all aspiring and seasoned sugarmakers and those inspired by the beauty of springtime, to create a Haiku for the next community poetry walk. Participants are encouraged, but not required, to submit a photo or image along with their poem. This project will be featured at the fairgrounds during town meeting on May 22nd for all to see! Send your submissions to tunbridgelibrary@gmail.com

The library continues to offer three virtual programs for area youth: Lego club on Wednesdays @3:30, a chapter book club on Fridays @3:30 and weekly story hour every Saturday at 10AM. Connect for more information and a link to join!

Close to 40 people have signed up for the current session of Generation Connect, the library's intergenerational book club! The next round of the club is going to be held in collaboration with The Chelsea Public Library. The book choice for the Tunbridge/Chelsea connect will be *Front Desk* by Kelly Yang. This club will include book discussions and a virtual Chinese calligraphy class! To find out more information, or to sign up to participate, patrons are encouraged to call or email the library.

Though not quite as many townspeople were willing to brave the elements to visit our StoryWalk, the displays were still consistently visited all winter. Now that the weather seems to be turning, come check out what we have going on at the fairgrounds, sign the log, and grab a craft bag! Readers of all ages will enjoy our selections.

We are always on the hunt for patrons who would like to be featured in the “Spotlight on Readers” section of our monthly newsletter. Readers of all ages are encouraged to send us your recommendations! Not on our weekly email list? Send a note to tunbridgelibrary@gmail.com and get signed up today.

It may only be March, but here at TPL we are already dreaming up what the summer will bring. First on the agenda will be an in person performance with Michael Caduto, master story teller. This event, on June 12th, will serve as both the kick off for our summer reading program as well as the next session of our Generation Connect book club which will focus on connecting with this youngest readers in our area. Stay tuned for a full line-up of summer activity.

All our Generation Connect programming has been funded in part by a generous community building grant from the Children’s Literacy Foundation. Thank you CLIF!

Jean Wolfe retires:

After decades of dedicated service to the Tunbridge community, Jean Wolfe is retiring as director of the Tunbridge Public Library.

Over the past 30 plus years, Jean has been a linchpin for the library, a one-woman welcoming committee for newcomers, an endless source of library materials, reading suggestions and ingenuity!

Jean’s vision for the future of the library was pivotal in moving the library from a single room at the Town Office building to the current welcoming spacious library location. In addition, she was responsible for continually increasing programs and events while working side by side with the Friends of the Library. For many years patrons benefited from her gardening acumen through the amazing annual Memorial Day plant sale, (with her gratitude expressed at the annual volunteers picnic), and her dedication to the Friends of the Library luncheon as part of the annual Town Meeting.

A celebration to give thanks, offer your gratitude and congratulations to Jean for her many years of love for the community, the library, and its patrons is most certainly planned. Although COVID guidelines for gathering may delay the opportunity, a gathering will occur to celebrate Jean’s many years of accomplishments!

Currently, a hiring committee composed of dedicated residents, staff, and trustees is working diligently to facilitate a transfer of duties to the new incoming director. The hiring committee meetings and minutes are available for viewing on the library’s website.

Jean, with so much gratitude, wishing blessed and restful retirement!

Alliance for Vermont Communities

Michael Sacca - 889-3210 mfsacca@sover.net

Dear Friends and Neighbors,

AVC and the Ashley Community Forest Committee are happy about a townwide vote held at the recent Strafford Town Meeting where voters were asked (in abbreviated form) whether to accept the gift of the Ashley Community Forest. The vote was 399 “yes” to 70 “no”. The Sharon Town Meeting will take place on May 8th at which time voters will be asked the same question on a Town Meeting Article. The Sharon selectboard graciously offered to enter into negotiations ahead of that vote with Town of Strafford, AVC and the Vermont Land Trust if the Strafford vote was a positive one. Officials will work on creating a co-management structure agreeable to all parties. The hope is to realize a 256 acre community forest for the two towns and the region. The Ashley Community Forest is open to the public for hiking. Learn more at <https://www.alliancevermont.org/ashley-community-forest/>

In 2019, residents of Royalton, Sharon, Strafford, and Tunbridge came together through the Vermont Council on Rural Development Community Visit Program. This Community Visit process engaged over 320 residents of the four towns in a series of dialogues surrounding common interests, needs, and solutions. The Four-Town Coalition was born, within which volunteer committees formed to support projects around housing, economic development, local food resiliency and access, supporting the working landscape, and recreation and natural resource protection. (The full action report generated by this process is available here on the Vermont Council on Rural Development website.)

In the year and a half since the formation of the Coalition, these groups have undertaken a tremendous amount of work on an exclusively volunteer basis. The Coalition is now ready to advance to its next phase with its community development work.

The Coalition has been offered the opportunity to utilize a full-time 3-year Americorps VISTA position hosted by the Green Mountain Economic Development Corporation at minimal cost. This employee would help coordinate and facilitate Coalition meetings; build public relationships through communications and community outreach; research case studies relevant to Coalition projects; and explore long-term organizational structure options for the Coalition that will help build capacity and funding for ongoing efforts.

The 4-Town Coalition believes this is an incredible opportunity to rapidly advance our work and to design a sustainable structure for future collaboration among the 4-towns. It is our hope that with increased support from a Vista volunteer, our 4-Town work will take a significant step forward, increasing the viability of our region in these key areas.

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

Tunbridge Central School

Michael Livingston, Principal 889-3310 mlivingston@wrvsu.org

By the time you receive this journal it will be officially spring and we will have passed the one year mark for the pandemic. I wanted to take time to pause for a moment and reflect on the extraordinary efforts of my colleagues as they have so earnestly endeavored to turn the completely abnormal into as normal an experience for our children as humanly possible.

It's worth noting that only 30% of Vermont school children have been in-person, five days a week, since the beginning of the school year. Thank you, to all of my colleagues for your incredible dedication to our children and your profession. It is truly an honor to work with you.

Thank you to parents and guardians for your flexibility and understanding in these extraordinarily challenging times. Finally, here's a shout out to the children who, despite remarkable obstacles, come to school each day under circumstances we would have previously thought unimaginable.

Tunbridge Volunteer Fire Department

Jamie Bradford 889-3478

The Fire Departments Annual Meeting will be held on May 13, 2021 at 6:00p.m. Due to Covid-19 we have postponed this event to a later date in the hopes for better circumstances or the opportunity to be held outdoors. At this event a potluck dinner typically begins at 6:00 p.m. followed by the meeting at 7:00 p.m. Any and all community members are welcome to attend. This event will be warned in the Herald as the event date approaches.

The Annual Easter Egg Hunt put on by the fire department each year was canceled last year. Due to the heightened awareness and safety protocols around Covid-19 this event could not take place. The Fire Department did arrange for Easter egg filled bags to be handed out to families at the station. The department is awaiting guidance as to how the egg hunt will look this year or if they will need to improvise as they did last year. Once they have received word they will post information on The Fire Departments Facebook page (Tunbridge Volunteer Fire Department).

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.

Tunbridge Board of Listers

Dan 'rudi' Ruddell, Helen O'Donnell, 889-3571 (lister@tunbridge.biz)

Spring is in the air and we are encouraged by news about COVID-19 vaccinations and possibilities for getting to see many of you in person again soon. For now, our offices remain closed to the public pending further notice, and we greatly appreciate everyone's efforts and patience over the last year. We have learned many new routines for work in a new era, and hope you'll let us know how we might serve you better. Jola stepped down this year, and at Town Meeting on May 22 there is a one-year opening for a Lister to finish her term (in addition to a 3-year position for which rudi stands for re-election).

April 1 is the "assess as is" date in our annual cycle, and we are focusing on quarterly rotational reviews in the southwest quadrant of town for the 2021 Grand List. We are updating outdoor pictures and making phone calls instead of visiting properties, and as always greatly appreciate notice if there have been significant changes to your property (whether in the SW quadrant or elsewhere). Our goal is always to set a fair market value for each property in town and ensure that the costs of living and working here are borne as equitably as possible across the town and across the state. (Ask yourself, "what do I think I could sell my property for on the open market?") We are also verifying information for properties enrolled in Current Use (Use Value Appraisal), and Tunbridge has the highest number of parcels enrolled (213) of any town in the state.

HOMESTEAD DECLARATIONS AND HOMESTEAD PROPERTY TAX ADJUSTMENT CLAIMS ARE DUE APRIL 15, 2021, even if you anticipate filing an extension for income taxes (adjustments can be made later and still be considered timely if you file by April 15). Tax preparers sometimes need to be reminded about the Property Tax Adjustment claim in particular, especially if they are out of state preparers. Late fees and penalties apply after April 15, and no HS declarations are accepted after October 15 .

If you are eligible, the Homestead Property Tax Adjustment is a credit against taxes, filed at the same time as the Homestead Declaration. Further information can be found at:

<https://tax.vermont.gov/sites/tax/files/documents/HS-122.pdf> and

<https://tax.vermont.gov/property/tax-credit>

We are working on the 2021 Grand List (GL) statewide sales equalization study with a particular eye to how the pandemic is affecting sales (so far the most noticeable trend is a quicker turn-around on sales). We received the results of the 2020 GL sales study in late December, and Tunbridge now has a Common Level of Appraisal (CLA) of 103.22% (our last town-wide reappraisal, when the CLA by definition was 100%, was in 2010). The CLA

helps equalize sales values across towns for purposes of leveling education taxes (<https://tax.vermont.gov/property-owners/understanding-property-taxes/education-tax-rates>).

The Coefficient of Dispersion (COD) is a measure of equity within the town. A COD of less than 10% is considered indicative of a high degree of equity within town. This year our COD is 15.37%. We are mandated to do a town-wide reappraisal if our CLA drops below 85% or exceeds 115%, or our COD exceeds 20%; none of these thresholds applies in Tunbridge this year.

Education tax rates are divided by the CLA; if the CLA is over 100%, the education tax rate is adjusted downward (as will happen in Tunbridge this year). The Vermont Tax Structure Commission is currently charged with reviewing taxes and education funding, and is considering a possible move to income-based taxes for at least part of this funding rather than the current heavy reliance on property taxes.

Tunbridge Historical Society

Mick Maguire, 889-5612

Because of the COVID-19 pandemic the Tunbridge Historical Society has no meetings scheduled in 2021 presently. 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 on a very limited basis observing all the COVID-19 protocols.

Programming - Unfortunately, we can not predict when we will be able to host community events, but we will continue to interact through social media. 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

Fern Strong, vicepresident@tunbridgehistoricalsociety.org

Elaine Howe, secretary@tunbridgehistoricalsociety.org

Israel (Izzy) Provoncha, treasurer@tunbridgehistoricalsociety.org

Fred Pond, collections@tunbridgehistoricalsociety.org

The Tunbridge Church

Kay Jorgensen, 802-693-0098, thetunbridgechurch@gmail.com.

The Tunbridge Church enters the second year of Covid protocols with a continued emphasis on health and safety. Masks and distancing were the rule for 2020 outdoor worship services in front of the church, on Antique Hill and on the lawns of South Tunbridge Methodist Church and the Parish House and for five fall indoor services.

On April 4, two outdoor Easter services will be held, weather permitting. A sunrise service, on Strafford Road at Orchard Road, will begin about 6:15. Pastor Jenny Cook will lead a 10 a.m. Easter service at the fairgrounds. Details about both will be publicized closer to the date.

Community events were cancelled last year and may have to be again this year. These included a Sugar on Snow Party, Ice Cream Social, Community Yard Sale and Care for the Caregivers monthly meetings. Notices will be posted about any that are scheduled.

The Outreach Committee could not host its four Super Senior Town Hall Luncheons last year. Instead, meals were delivered to homes, plus Thanksgiving treats bags and poinsettia plants with banana bread and tea. In February homemade turkey and rice soup, rolls, brownies and candies were delivered to some 50 people.

When life returns to normal the church will be available for baptisms, weddings and funerals. Visitors will see new sanctuary lighting, funded by Barbara Howe's family and donations given in her memory, and a quilt hanging behind the pulpit. Crafted of Depression-era fabrics by Nancy Chapman's maternal great-grandmother, its "Dresden Plate" design symbolizes, "We are many, we are different, we are one."

The Community Food Shelf is open on Fridays from 4-6 p.m. at the Parish House across from the church. It also provides weekend backpack provisions for some local students' families.

Send a note to thetunbridgechurch@gmail.com if you'd like to receive the pastor's midweek messages and Sunday worship services, music with choir members and accompanist Judie Lewis, and occasional announcements. The church Facebook page shares some photos and messages.

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.

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

The Better Bones balance and weight-bearing exercise sessions remain canceled until further notice. Information will be posted on the town Facebook page, Front Porch Forum, Tunbridge List and sent to the Tunbridge Women's Group email list when sessions resume at the Town Hall.

First Branch Ambulance

Judy Tucker - 889-3305

The First Branch Ambulance strongly recommends that everyone sign up for their Covid vaccines. Dial 211 for assistance if needed and be aware that there may be a long wait, but you will get answers.

During Covid the FBA is not making in person House Calls, but does reach out by phone each week to individuals on their call list. Please call the main office number 685-3112 to sign up for assistance.

Many new families moving into our towns may want to purchase the red house number sign for a \$20.00 donation by reaching out to Judy Tucker 889-3305 or judynikki.822@gmail.com.

We wish to thank everyone for their generous response to our fund raising letter. The money was used to purchase an electronic IV pump for medications used for Advanced Life Support on route to hospital.

There will be an EMT training class offered March 21 at the Chelsea Fire Station following Covid regulations. Please contact Chase Ackerman at the main number 685-3112. You can leave a message and they will get back to you. FBA also continues to offer BLS and first aide courses to individuals or groups.

Any further questions please reach out to Judy Tucker or Barbara LaFrancis 889-3378 Tunbridge Town Reps.

The TUNBRIDGE Quarterly

Janet Zug 889-9602 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/>

Friends of The Tunbridge World's Fair (FTWF)

Deb Mullen - 889-9406

Happy Spring! The Friends of the Fair are hoping we can resume with events and our fundraising efforts for 2021. Look for updates on our new Facebook page. Membership is always available for individuals at \$25 annually. Requests can be mailed to PO Box 159, Tunbridge, VT 05077. Or you can call the number above.

Tunbridge Planning Commission

Laura Ginsburg - 889-3386 lauralee.ginsburg@gmail.com

The first quarter of 2021 has been busy for the Planning Commission: the Hazard Mitigation plan was finalized by the Selectboard, the 2020 Town Plan revision was submitted to the Selectboard, and we have been asked to develop a policy recommendation regarding use of the legal trails in town. It is important for the PC to hear from as many Tunbridge residents as possible regarding the legal trails; we appreciate all of the time and energy many of you have put towards this effort. As of this writing, we have held three of four public information sessions hearing thus far from land owners, trail users, and the Randolph-Rochester Area Sports Trail Alliance (RASTA).

The PC portion of the town website has all meeting recordings, minutes, agendas along with resource documents that we have gathered to help build the community's knowledge about this complex subject. By town meeting we will be sharing a survey, additional information about the trails, and next steps. If you are interested in joining the Planning Commission, please reach out directly to Laura Ginsburg; new members are welcome and we will be seeking to fill a few seats this year.

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.

Tunbridge Grange # 384

Marilyn (Mert) Vesper 889-5595 Rosemary Distel rdistel@vtc.edu

Days are longer; the sun is brighter and we hope sugaring season was extra sweet this year!

Since COVID hit, other than a couple “drive-through” dinners, we haven’t been able to host our normal yummy Grange dinners nor our fun-filled Friday night Bingo. We depended upon these traditional fundraising events to help raise money to continue giving support back to our community. So, the Tunbridge Grange has connected with Rada Cutlery to assist us with raising money. Selling Rada Cutlery has been a long-time tradition with the Grange, as we believe Rada offers great quality and affordable products. In addition to the typical paper order forms which you can ask a Granger for, we have recently added an easy to use online ordering option by typing <https://radafundraising.com> into your internet browser and then enter Tunbridge Grange as the group you wish to 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.

Tunbridge Walking Group

Theresa FitzGerald - ntfitzy@gmail.com

The Tunbridge Walking Group has been going strong since 2011, consisting of individuals varying in both age and ability. The commonality among the walkers is a desire to walk on a regular basis, benefiting from fresh air, exercise and friendship.

The group meets at 9:30 on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday mornings for a predetermined walk route. An average walk is 3-4 miles in length and takes about an hour to an hour and a half to complete.

Any one interested in walking, either on a regular basis or occasionally is welcome. Weekly emails are sent out designating the location to meet for the week’s walk. Contact Theresa at above email to receive weekly notifications.

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. The selectboard’s recent remote meetings are also recorded and can be found on the Agendas and Minutes page. Please let us know if there’s something you would like to see listed or have any questions.

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

Electronic Service Requested

issue #64
April 1, 2021

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Tunbridge, VT 05077