

The Tuftonboro Times

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A Quarterly Newsletter Published by the Tuftonboro Association

Fall 2018

Hikers honor Barbara Williams; remember Ann Haley

At our October meeting, long time member, Barbara Williams was recognized as an "Honorary Member" of Hikers. "Honorary Membership" may be awarded to a member who has worked tirelessly over an extended period of time and has shown dedication and commitment to "The Hikers." Barbara has been involved with Hikers for sixty years, has served three terms as president, has served in several positions on the executive board, has chaired or served on every committee, has participated in fashion shows, performances, and just about everything that Hikers has organized. She is even the first to arrive for the Easter Breakfast each year. "The Hikers" would like to extend our sincere "thank you" to Barbara for her tireless work and dedication over the years.

You may have seen the new sign adorning the Triangle Garden in Melvin Village. Several years ago, Ann Haley, former president of Hikers was inspired to plant the Triangle Garden in memory of all

passed Hikers. She, along with her husband Richard, maintained the garden, planting new plants each year for all to enjoy. Upon her passing, the Hikers have renamed the garden as "Ann's Garden" to honor her commitment to the community. Ann's Garden will continue to be maintained by Hiker members.

As usual the Hikers are off and running with a busy fall, hosting fundraising events to support scholarships and local non-profit organizations. Thanks to the generosity of Camp Belknap, which hosted our first event, we kicked off the year with a BBQ, raffle, and live auction on September 21. This joyous event was sold out this year so get your tickets early next year.

The October fundraiser will be our annual "Fall Rummage Sale" to be held at Willing Workers Hall on Friday October 19 and Saturday October 20. Donation drop-off will be Friday from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

In November, we will host two events around the "Tuftonboro Open House" weekend. Friday November 9 from 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.; Saturday Nov. 10 from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.; and Sunday November 11 from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. will be "The Hikers Holiday Open House" at 164 Ledge Hill Rd., home of Joan Magrauth. There you will be able to purchase a variety of hand-crafted items as well as delicious baked goods and homemade jams.

The ever popular "Holiday Luncheon" will also take place on Saturday November 10 from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at Willing Workers Hall. Lunch will include corn chowder, a sandwich, chips, pie, and a drink.

The Hikers business meetings take place on the first Thursday of the month at 2:00 p.m. at Willing Workers Hall. Following each meeting, we enjoy



Barbara Williams was honored recently for her years of service to the Hikers organization.

an interesting program by a guest speaker. Our first program of the season was a presentation on "The Pickering House" by owner Patti Cooke. Upcoming programs include "Life and Times of Titia Bozwua," "Jewelry," and "Nutrition for the Holidays." Our annual Christmas Gathering will take place on December 20. Santa will arrive to hear our Christmas wishes, and Natalie Hebden will lead us in a Christmas Carol Sing. The meeting will also include a "Cookie Swap" and the assembling of "Good Cheer Plates" to be distributed to housebound members.

If you are interested in joining The Hikers or would like more information, please contact President Carol Simpson at 539-7587.

**Carol Simpson, President
The Hikers**



Ann's Garden is located at the intersection of High Street and Route 109.

Estimated life expectancy in Tuftonboro is best in state

According to data published recently by the National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS), the New Hampshire town with the highest life expectancy at birth, 88.3 years, is Tuftonboro. That's the conclusion reached in the U.S. Small-area Life Expectancy Estimates Project (USALEEP), a report released in September 2018. The study focused on 65,662 "census tracts," areas defined for the 2010 U.S. census

with numerical identifiers relating to state, county, and subdivisions (often individual towns) within each county. By analyzing information from state statistics sources and the NCHS, mortality data was coded to census tracts using the decedents' address information.

New Hampshire is among nine states with the longest life expectancy at birth (LEB) when census tracts are adjusted for population, and among the top

ten states when LEB estimates are unfiltered. Three of the six New England states are also among the top ten in both categories.

The mean life expectancy at birth for the total U.S. population (excluding Maine and Wisconsin, whose data was incomplete) was 78.7 years.

**Dan Barnard
Editor**

Fall in the Great Meadow: wildlife get ready for winter

Fall is as colorful at the Great Meadow as everywhere else, only the timing might be different. Trees growing under stressful conditions tend to turn color and drop their leaves sooner. Sometimes as early as late August. Red maples adapt well to a range of soil moisture conditions including wetness. They are one of the more common trees in forest wetlands and edges. The name implies the beautiful color they change to at the end of the season. Deciduous trees, they shed their leaves annually, salvaging all the chlorophyll and nutrients in the leaves before letting them go. These are stored in the wood until spring then reused to nourish the new leaves. All that is left of the old leaf is the skeleton of its cells and a few minerals. It is iron oxide that makes red maple trees so bright. Iron is common in wet soils. These beacons of color stand out from the green of other common wet site trees, hemlock, balsam fir, and spruce.

The color begins to change in the meadow also. As the leaves of meadow shrubs fall, a reddish hue begins to show against the yellow, green, and brown of sedges and grasses also turning with the season. Look closely; the red haze comes from the bark of the red osier dogwood, common in the meadow. Its fruit that matures in late summer is an important food supply for migrating birds.

Many of the birds we identified in the summer appear to still be here in early fall, but they are not. Our resident birds have already begun traveling south. The individuals we see now are from further north. They are stopping by to rest and feed in their preferred habitat. There are places in our country where certain habitat types have been eliminated through agricultural and commercial or residential development. This land use change interrupts or even eliminates certain travel routes for many species of migrating birds. That is why it is very important to preserve and protect some of our natural gems such as the Great Meadow.

A few of our local bird residents remain for now. Bald eagles and osprey will stay with us fishing until waterbodies begin to freeze. Chickadees, nuthatches, and pine siskins will often stay at home as long as the food supply lasts.

In the Melvin River, brook trout are stirring from their summer hideouts and moving upstream. They are looking for just the right place to spawn. Tumbling water or a spring welling up in the bottom of the stream may be just right to keep a bed of gravel clean of silt or sand and supplied with fresh moving water. When the female finds this place, she will create a small depression in the gravel bed with powerful strokes from her tail. She then lays 20- 60 eggs, so they drop into the crevasses between the gravel pieces. An accompanying male, who may have fought off several other males, will then cover the depression

with milt, sperm, to fertilize the eggs. The female then refills the depression with a few strokes of her tail. The eggs are now secure within the gravel structure. The trout pair will continue this process several more times until she distributes all her eggs. The eggs will develop slowly through the winter and not hatch until early spring.

We may be able to catch a glimpse of a beaver family preparing for winter. They inspect and repair the dam daily. While they usually harvest food at night to reduce the chance of meeting predators on land where they are most vulnerable, they may do some dayshifts if they are behind schedule. The beavers fell trees by chewing an ever-deeper ring round the base. They can slice off a ¼ to ½ inch wood chip with each bite from their incredibly powerful jaws and sharp teeth. The beaver cut up all the branches into manageable pieces and drag them into the water. They store them for winter feeding by jamming one end into the muck at the bottom of the pond. Beaver also chew off the outer bark of pieces too large to drag and then eat the inner bark that contains sugars and proteins. Like moose and deer, beaver have the ability to digest wood cellulose. Throughout the winter they will access the limbs stored at the bottom of the pond under the ice. In the spring there will be a profusion of tree limbs floating on the surface or stuffed in the dam without a shred of bark left on them.

If we are quiet, we may see a herd of wild turkeys pass by, darting in and out of the tree and shrub cover looking for the last of the insects and wind-blown seeds. The brood consists of mothers and their poults who have teamed up for mutual protection over the summer. The young turkeys have grown to nearly adult size and they are becoming wiser about the world. The mothers have taught them that there is more security with a cooperating group. As they look for food they periodically check for predators. In the group it is likely at any given time at least one individual is checking while the others are looking for food. They communicate with clucks and calls. Quiet clucking is used to locate each other and remain assembled as a group. Mothers give various commands to escape predators or call in the family when they are too dispersed.

Fall is mating season for moose and deer. There was a time when the Great Meadow supplied important habitat for moose. In summer they would have developed wallows to cool off in to get a break from biting insects. Moose would also feast on aquatic plants in the river and in beaver ponds. In fall, winter, and spring they could navigate the meadow with their long legs and browse on wetland shrubs. You can still find a few moose tracks, usually in the late fall and winter, but moose populations are in decline in NH. Warming temperatures, due to climate change, are

making summer heat stressful for them. There is also a current plague of winter ticks.

White tail deer bucks will be patrolling the wetland edge. They leave scent scrapes to warn other bucks and advertise their services for does. Deer like to stay out of the open areas during daylight, but the edge provides cover and food, so a doe will often pass by. If she is ready and finds the buck's advertisement agreeable, she will hang around looking for a 'hookup.'

Wood turtles are moving from forest areas to the wetland edge looking for the right spot in a bog or pond to overwinter. They look for a secure location underwater that won't freeze and then hibernate there. Wood turtles are becoming rare due to habitat destruction from development. They also suffer from being run over when crossing roads. Box and Blanding's turtles need similar habitat and are also declining rapidly in NH. Even under ideal conditions these turtles would be slow to recover. There are few adults to find each other and mate, and it takes over 10 years for them to be mature enough to produce young. The Great Meadow is ideal habitat for these rare turtles and still has the size and all the habitat ingredients to support them.

Ducks can be seen in the Melvin River and beaver ponds throughout the fall, moving south. The Great Meadow is an important rest and refueling stop. Dabbling ducks can find aquatic vegetation in the backwaters and ponds while diving ducks, like mergansers, are usually the last to leave and can find small fish in the river.

The Great Meadow area is a great place to make these observations. The Tuftonboro Conservation Commission is working hard to protect this natural gem in our region. We are also proposing a trail that would provide access and an observation platform that would allow visitors to sit quietly and observe or to photograph all these events. Please support our efforts.

**Steve Wingate, Chairman
Tuftonboro Conservation Commission**

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“Salmon Sunday” will be in Tuftonboro on November 11

The only Salmon Stripping Sunday in the world happens annually in Tuftonboro, at Pope Dam in Melvin Village, on the second Sunday in November. This year the event will take place on November 11 from 12:00 noon until 2:00 p.m. Known by the more sensitive as simply “Salmon Sunday,” the affair is a 50-year tradition of the New Hampshire Fish and Game Department.

“Salmon Sunday is a great chance for everyone to get a close-up look at landlocked salmon from Lake Winnepesaukee in their fall spawning colors,” said Fisheries Biologist John Viar. “Kids love to see the big salmon, averaging about four pounds each, and watch biologists collect the eggs.”

During the event, fisheries biologists will be busy harvesting or “stripping” eggs and milt (sperm) from adult salmon. Standing knee-deep in the cold water of Melvin River, the scientists expertly relieve the colorful adult female salmon of their eggs by stroking their stomachs. Milt (sperm) from the male fish is obtained in the same way, and mixed with the gold-colored eggs to fertilize them. This activity is all part of the “behind-the-scenes” work Fish and Game does every year to help maintain the landlocked salmon population in New Hampshire’s big lakes.

Fish for the stripping demonstration are netted from Lake Winnepesaukee during October and early November. They are returned to the lake after their

eggs and milt have been collected. The fertilized eggs are taken to Powder Mill Hatchery in New Durham, where they’ll hatch in three to four months. The salmon are raised in the hatchery for about 18 months, then stocked into Lake Winnepesaukee and other New Hampshire lakes.

Fish and Game staff will be on hand to answer questions about the salmon, the egg-stripping process and the stocking program that ensures these beautiful fish continue to be available in the lakes for anglers to catch. Salmon Sunday will be held rain or shine.

The New Hampshire Fish and Game Department is the guardian of the state’s fish, wildlife and marine resources. Visit www.fishnh.com.

Annual open house celebrates Salmon Stripping Sunday

On November 11, Salmon Sunday, in Melvin Village, Robert Cram and Michael Mooney will once again open their home and display their growing collection of White Mountain Art to the public. Robert writes: “It’s a day of teachable moments for everyone involved. An opportunity for neighbors, friends, relatives and the public to learn about NH Fish and Game and the fisheries, have a hot meal, bowl of soup or chowder and hot mulled cider.”

“I get excited every year for Salmon Sunday” Robert Cram said in September. He continued to say “I am currently harvesting the cranberries along the shore of Richardson Lake for canning of the cranberry chutney...The cranberries are large and plentiful. I am

hopeful of having over 150 jars to give out.”

Robert goes on to explain “This will be our fourteenth year having an open house on Salmon Stripping Sunday. We began the open house for a late fall get together, the event has grown to close to 300 people, and everyone gets fish beads as they enter.”

In fact, 300 fish bead necklaces have been delivered. Fish lure earrings have been made and lapel and fish hat pins are ready for distribution.

This year the menu will feature three soups: Portuguese black bean kale, fish chowder and chili. The luncheon will feature roasted apple pork loins, spiral ham with pineapple, turkey with cornbread sausage stuffing, sweet sausage red pepper three-

cheese lasagna, scalloped potatoes, braided rosemary tomato Focaccia bread, and salad.

Robert and Michael’s friends and neighbors also volunteer their time to serve the food, fill coffee and soup containers, manage the ovens and the stove, handle the trash and clean up the dishes. As Robert said: “It certainly does take a village.”

Robert Cram summed it all up: “Above all, I love the spirit and camaraderie; the crowd is diverse, the feeling is friendly, and it’s awesome to meet new people. For those that have attended, they always come back and usually bring someone new along. We look forward to seeing everyone, bring something to share and dress warmly.”

Volunteers active in protecting Mirror Lake watershed

Why do people love Mirror Lake? It’s entirely possible that the best moments of their lives have been on this lake. Now that’s love!

As another summer season closes, residents look back on the good times and look forward to the splendid colors of autumn and the serenity of the winter season. There are about 100 homes on the shores of Mirror Lake (and close to 350 homes in the Mirror Lake watershed), and all the water surrounding these homes flows into Mirror Lake. All shoreline and watershed residents are invited to join the Mirror Lake Protective Association (MLPA) -- an organization whose mission is “to protect and preserve Mirror Lake, its wildlife and wildlife habitat, and to promote knowledge about the lake, its history, and related activities.”

The MLPA held its annual meeting in June at the Tuftonboro Fire Station, and Kathy Marien, wife of Gene Kelley, MLPA President, presided. Kathy opened by recognizing Lloyd Wood, member of the Tuftonboro Board of Selectmen, and Mike Phelps, member and former chair of the Tuftonboro Conservation Commission, and thanked them for attending. Mr. Wood commended the organization

for its volunteer efforts and announced that the environmental remediation work on the Mirror Lake boat launch had been completed by Jeff Moody, and the expense was substantially less than anticipated. If you happen to look over onto Mirror Lake as you travel Route 109, the new ramp is clearly visible. If you have a boat and use the ramp, you will be welcomed. Mirror Lake is identified as a good fishing lake for bass.

Larry Gil reported on the Lake Host program which has helped protect Mirror Lake for many years. Lake Host is a grant program which provides money to pay for Lake Host inspectors at the Route 109 boat ramp. The program has the incentive of increasing the amount of the grant by matching the grant award with volunteer time. The better we do with volunteer hours, the more money we receive the following year. This year, 2018, we received \$1,650. Larry thanked our volunteers including Beth Urda, (who initiated the program a decade ago), Louise Herrick and Eileen Gil for their efforts as Lake Host volunteers. For the last several years, the MLPA has successfully recruited students from the Kingswood High School as paid protectors. This season, there were two paid hosts,

Marianna Palladino and Emma Colegrove. They’ve done excellent work!

Last year, the Lake Hosts conducted a total of 95 boat inspections at the launch, primarily on weekends. Volunteers and paid hosts talk to the boat owners about invasive species. We are trying to prevent the transporting of invasive species such as plant life, snails, and other animals, from entering Mirror Lake. The most common route of entry is from boat traffic which has visited a contaminated lake and the invasive adheres to the hull or trailer or is in the bilge or as discarded bait. The motto for prevention is: “Clean, drain, and dry.” Hosts talk to the boat owners and try to educate them on these issues. It is important to stay particularly vigilant as the neighboring lake, Lake Winnepesaukee, has problems with variable milfoil. On Mirror Lake milfoil is not yet present. However, there are Chinese mystery snails in the lake. Chinese mystery snails were first seen in Mirror Lake about four years ago close to the ramp. Now they are found throughout the lake. If you see Chinese mystery snails, you are advised to remove them from the lake and toss them well onto the shore. The

Continued on page 10

Selectmen active in improving Tuftonboro infrastructure

The summer season now seems just a distant memory and winter will soon be upon us. The Board of Selectmen is working to ensure that your town government is prepared to safely navigate our most challenging weather season. Power loss during an election day storm in March of 2017 resulted in ballot counting by flashlight. An emergency standby generator is being installed at the Town House to ensure uninterrupted heat and light and to prevent a recurrence of that ballot counting challenge. Plans are also progressing to install generators at other town facilities including the highway garage, satellite fire stations, and the transfer station.

Roads are front and center in our winter preparation. Last year, the Board completed a survey of the location and condition of all culverts on town roads. The survey identified about two dozen culverts that were in poor condition, and the board is working with the Road Agent to schedule their replacement. This year, with the assistance of Lakes Region Planning Commission, Selectmen have conducted a study of road pavement condition. Using this data and the state Road Surface Management System will allow the board to better plan road maintenance and paving activities to achieve consistent, high quality town roads. The Selectmen look forward to conducting an inventory and maintenance plan for guard rails soon. To assist the Road Agent in keeping our roads safe to

travel, please remember to keep the road shoulder area free of obstructions. Mailboxes and mail box posts present a challenge for plow operators and can result in damage to the mailbox and plowing equipment.

Improving lake front facilities continues as a priority. Last year, the Lake Road launch ramp on the Melvin River was rebuilt. This Spring, the Mirror Lake boat launch area on Route 109 was paved. Currently, design work and permitting for repairs to Union Wharf and the Lake Road bulkhead are progressing. This work should include dredging at both locations.

The Parks & Recreation Commission summer concert series was expanded to eight evenings this year and was an unbridled success. Use of town properties for recreation is on the increase. The town beach at 19 Mile Bay was particularly busy, and plans have been completed to conduct modest upgrade work before next season. This work will improve the perched beach, lawn area and parking lot resulting in reduced runoff into the lake and easier pedestrian access to the water. Recreational trail access continues to be a focus, with a parking area at the Great Meadow planned for next season. Trail development at the Great Meadow and on Cow Island is also a priority. Volunteer efforts are central to making these trails happen – if you are interested in helping, please let us know.

This year, our Old Home Days celebration was a

success once again. There was good participation at events on Friday evening, Saturday and Sunday. We saw many new faces along with lots of old friends. Next year's dates are Friday, August 23 through Sunday, August 25, 2019. Mark your calendars, and we hope you will plan to attend!

Election Day is coming. Tuesday, November 6, we will elect candidates for county, state and federal offices. Polls are open from 8:00 a.m. until 7:00 p.m. Mark your calendars and come out and vote!

Town government rests on the shoulders of our Boards, Commissions and Committees, composed of volunteer members who generously contribute their time and expertise in service to the community. Appointments to these bodies are for a three-year term, with many volunteers serving multiple terms. Please contact the town offices if you are interested in serving.

For happenings in Town or to see when various boards and committees meet please check out the Town website at www.tuftonboro.org. We encourage all to attend not only the Selectmen's meetings but any other boards or committees that may be of interest.

Tuftonboro Board of Selectmen
Bill Marcussen, Chairman
Chip Albee
Lloyd Wood

Tuftonboro Police Department joins the Pink Patch Project

For 2018 the Tuftonboro Police Department has joined the Pink Patch Project. Officers are wearing pink patches on their uniform shirts for breast cancer awareness. They have a limited number of patches to sell to raise funds for My Breast Cancer Support in Portsmouth. They support breast cancer patients while they are undergoing treatment.

One in eight women will develop breast cancer during her lifetime. New Hampshire has one of the highest rates of breast cancer in the country. Early detection and treatment save lives. The patches cost

\$10. To get your own patch either stop by the station during business hours or send a check for \$10 made out to the "Tuftonboro Police Benevolent Association" with "pink patch" on the memo line along with a self-addressed, stamped envelope to:

Tuftonboro Police Department
PO Box 98
Center Tuftonboro, NH 03816

The Pink Patch Project is a collaborative effort between the Los Angeles County Police Chiefs' Association and public safety organizations across

the nation. It started in 2013 with the Seal Beach, California Police Department wearing pink patches on their shirts during October. In 2015 the Irwindale, California Police Department sold patches to raise funds for cancer research and treatment. In 2017, almost \$500,000 was raised nationwide. The Tuftonboro Police Department is proud to join over 330 agencies across the country in this project. Help it fight cancer!

Andy Shagoury, Chief
Tuftonboro Police Department

Annual Christmas Fund appeal begins on November 26

Please consider making this holiday season a little brighter for one of your neighbors. On November 26, a Christmas tree will be in place at the Town Office. It will be adorned with ornaments listing the needs and wishes of a Tuftonboro child. This signals the kickoff for the annual Tuftonboro Christmas Fund.

Generous residents can either purchase and donate the item(s) listed on the ornament or do the shopping for the child and be reimbursed for expenses by the Christmas Fund (please save all receipts).

Gifts should be returned *UNWRAPPED* to the

Town Office by Friday, December 14 at 4:00 PM. Please make sure to put the ornament on the bag containing the gifts.

Monetary donations are gladly and graciously accepted. Donations can be made payable to the *Tuftonboro Christmas Fund* and sent to:

Tuftonboro Christmas Fund
c/o Heather Cubeddu, Town Clerk
PO Box 98
Ctr. Tuftonboro, NH 03816

Every year the town is astounded and grateful

for the number of residents who come in wanting to help. The Christmas Fund also continues to help neighbors throughout the year with funds that 1) help seniors with heating bills and other necessities; and 2) provide scholarship money for needy children to attend summer day camps. We are blessed to have such a caring community.

We look forward to seeing you. Thank you in advance for your generosity!

Heather Cubeddu
Town Clerk

The new season brings timely advice from Fire & Rescue

Fall is here. The weather is colder, and the angle of the sun is much lower. Please use more caution while driving in early morning fog and on slippery roads (black ice can form when the temperature drops below freezing.) Be aware that decks and stairs can frost over very quickly. Proceed with caution when running out in the morning. Allow a little extra time to scrape and defrost your windshield. Keep an eye out for wildlife that is starting to move around more. Watch out for people walking. They may be hard to see in the earlier darkness. Try to dim your headlights as soon as possible to help the pedestrian safely negotiate the side of the road while moving out of your way. If you do keep active and have to walk in the late afternoon, try to wear some reflective clothing or carry a flashlight to help ensure the oncoming traffic can see you sooner, rather than later. Keeping these tips in mind will help keep you and others safe during this beautiful but challenging time of year.

October is National Fire Prevention month. Remember to test your smoke alarms and, change the batteries in all alarms. Clean your chimneys if you burn wood, have your furnace checked by a professional, and, if you use alternate heat sources, please ensure they are working properly before you need them. "An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure." Today's building fires, although rare, can grow at an alarming rate. The more a fire grows the faster it grows, so seconds do count when you need to get out of your house. Take the time to plan two ways out of every room in your home and practice them. If you or someone in your home has special needs or has mobility issues, make sure they can safely get out. Remember your plan is only a plan if you practice it and ensure that the plan works for everyone. www.nfpa.org is an excellent place to go for fire safety tips.

This year's NFPA's Fire Prevention campaign "Look. Listen. Learn. Be aware. Fire can happen anywhere" works to educate people about three basic but essential steps to take to reduce the likelihood of having a fire—and how to escape safely in the event of one:

LOOK

Look for places fire could start. Take a good look



Members of the Tuftonboro Fire Rescue Department train on auto extrication at the Central Fire Station.

around your home. Identify potential fire hazards and take care of them.

LISTEN

Listen for the sound of the smoke alarm. You could have only minutes to escape safely once the smoke alarm sounds. Go to your outside meeting place, which should be a safe distance from the home and where everyone should know to meet.

LEARN

Learn two ways out of every room and make sure all doors and windows leading outside open easily and are free of clutter.

Once the leaves have fallen the outside fire danger will start to increase. Use caution when kindling outside fires due to the potential for leaves blowing around and sparks igniting dry grasses. Fall wildfires burn deeper into the ground than in the spring so they are much harder to extinguish. Historically the major brush fires in this area have taken place in the fall. Red Hill, Mt. Shaw and the Brownfield fire have all taken place in September and October. Fire Permits are required for all outside fires until there is enough snow cover. This is NH law. Regardless of the snow, all fires are required to be called in. Carroll County dispatch can be reached at 539-2262. If you have any

questions, do not hesitate to call the Tuftonboro Fire Department at 569-3381.

The hurricane season is well under way. The Carolinas recently saw a devastating storm with extensive flooding. We are fortunate that we do not normally see storms of that intensity, but they are not out of the question. With changing weather patterns it's anyone's guess as to when we will get walloped. There was the hurricane of 1938 and more recently hurricanes Sandy and Irene.

Although local damage was minimal it could have very well happened here, so it is always a good idea to have three days of food and water on hand, an alternative safe heating source, flash lights with batteries and a plan for any pets you may have in case you need to leave your home due to a storm. If you, or someone you know, needs oxygen at home have a plan in place if the power goes out for an extended period of time. Above all, please listen to the State of NH or local authorities when it comes to evacuations or storm preparations regardless of the time of year. Better safe than sorry. The Department wishes you all a safe fall.

**Caleb Pike, Capt.
Tuftonboro Fire & Rescue**

Historical Society Annual Meeting to be held October 24

The Tuftonboro Historical Society will conclude its year-long 60th birthday celebration at its Annual Meeting with a pot-luck supper at the United Methodist Church at Tuftonboro Corner. The date is October 24 and the time is 6:00 p.m. Officers for the 2018-19 season will be elected, and there will be a presentation on the history of the Tuftonboro Methodist Church, the oldest congregation in the town.

In the past year the Historical Society has hosted

Trivia Night in the society's barn and held two "barn sales" where patrons rented tables and sold a variety of goods to eager shoppers. On July 25 the Society held a special event: "Down Memory Lane." Reminiscences of the Billowfare Snack Bar, Lanes End, Club Melvin, Hallwood Lodges and Ernie Piper's Store were shared by all present. Cribbage tournaments were held in the society's barn, and, as part of Tuftonboro Old Home Days, the group sponsored a sing-along presented

by New Hampshire Humanities, "Rally Around the Flag."

The Historical Society Museum, on the Governor Wentworth Highway across the street from the Melvin Village Post Office, is now closed for the season. It will reopen next July and August.

**Jackie Rollins, President
Tuftonboro Historical Society**

Library Capital Building Campaign moves closer to goal

Tuftonboro Free Library (TFL) Capital Building Campaign update: The campaign goal is \$500,000. As of October 3, 2018, cash donations, confirmed pledges, and eligible matching funds totaled \$310,780. This is in addition to \$296,000 in previously raised private donations, and \$420,000 in Library Capital Reserve funds, all currently invested. More than \$20,000 is still available to match new and additional gifts or pledges to the campaign dollar for dollar, so now is the time to immediately double the impact of your support. For a complete project information packet, including a pledge card and instructions for giving gifts of appreciated stock, just stop by the library or call 569-4256.

The library Trustees intend to present the addition/renovation project for a vote at Town Meeting on Wednesday, March 13, 2019, at the Tuftonboro Central School.

The History Book Group gathers this month at 7:00 p.m. on Wednesday, October 31st in the Hamel Meeting Room, to discuss Candice Millard's *Hero of the Empire: The Boer War, a Daring Escape, and the Making of Winston Churchill*. The book selection for Wednesday, November 28th at 7:00 p.m. is *The Corpse Walker: Real Life Stories, China from the Bottom Up* by Liao Yiwu. December's meeting date and book will be decided by the group this month or next. Books are available to read in advance, and all history buffs are most cordially invited.

The Readers' Choice Book Group meets on the third Wednesday of the month from 10 to noon in the Hamel Meeting Room. The discussion on November 21st will center on Kate Morton's best-selling novel, *The Secret Keeper*. To join this group, just pick up an advance reading copy at the circulation desk. You'll experience congeniality, laughter, and delicious refreshments, and have a say in choosing the book for the meetings on December 19th and into the new year.

The Saturday Writers Group continues to meet from 10:00 a.m. to noon on (when else?) Saturday mornings. Aspiring authors of all ages in all genres are welcome. Bring a sample of your writing to share with the group and expect constructive criticism and lots of collegial support for your hard work.

The Tuftonboro Garden Group meets on the first

Monday of the month from 9-11 a.m. Gardeners and garden enthusiasts are encouraged to participate in sharing seeds, plants, cuttings, and stories. Please use the meeting room entrance on November 5th and December 3rd.

Every other Monday morning, except the first of the month, the Hamel Meeting Room is draped in drop cloths from 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m., and the Tuftonboro Painters Group sets up their easels for a couple of hours of artistic creativity. Painters should bring their own supplies and use the meeting room entrance.

The Hamel Meeting Room is always busy on Monday evenings, too. The first of every month at 7:00 p.m. is the regular meeting of the Board of Directors of the Tuftonboro Association. Every other Monday at 6:30 p.m., the KnitWits gather to knit, purl, and basket weave everything from clothing to blankets to wall hangings and more. Bring your own needles and yarn or pick up donated supplies here. You can count on experienced help with your own knitting, and the group also works on projects for charity.

There's still plenty of time to experience the creative energy and imagination of October's exhibiting local artist, Martha Koons. Marty is a practicing fine artist specializing in colored pencil, photography, various painting techniques, and other crafts. Her newest work is a series of stunning photographs printed on aluminum, but her eclectic exhibit this month also includes intricately beaded jewelry, pottery, and engaging animal portraits in colored pencil, ink, and charcoal. Most of the artwork is available for purchase, and 10% of sales will be donated to the Library Building Fund and matched 100%. We thank Marty for her generosity and invite one and all to marvel at her wide-ranging talents.

November's artist is Linda Barrowclough, returning with a brand-new display of original design quilts and colorful flags. Jill Moxcey is another popular returning artist, back in December with an all-new exhibit of fantastical colored pencil drawings. Original local art makes memorable gifts!

Speaking of gifts, mark your calendars now for TFL's Big Book Sale on the Saturday of Thanksgiving weekend, November 24th, from 9-2. For sale: new,

good-as-new, and very gently used books, DVDs, music CDs, puzzles, games, and toys, most for \$1 or less, or fill a mixed bag for \$10. It's a great opportunity for affordable family holiday shopping.

Preschool Story Hour has moved to Friday mornings at 9:30 a.m. No registration necessary to join the happy crew for read-aloud stories, songs and rhymes, and simple crafts. Thanks to regular volunteers Judy LaBranche and Joan Sayce for their able assistance with setup, clean up, and small motor skills!

Don't miss the annual TCS Halloween Parade on Wednesday, October 31st at 2:15 p.m. The entire school parades in spooky finery from Davis Field to the library and back again. Come early for a prime viewing/photo op spot in the library parking lot.

The Friends of the Library will again host another popular family event on Friday, December 7. Christmas tree lighting and carol singing outside kick off the evening at 6:00 p.m., followed by warming up inside with hot chocolate and homemade goodies. Then, *The Polar Express* pulls back into the library at 6:30. Kids (and parents!) are encouraged to come in PJs, listen to Ed Fayle's magical retelling of the holiday classic, and receive a silver sleigh bell, "the first gift of Christmas."

On Saturday, December 8th, holiday crafts for the whole family will be set up in the Hamel Meeting Room. Drop in any time from 10:00 a.m. to noon and choose from several seasonal projects for all ages and abilities to make and bring home.

Occasionally, pre-arranged times and dates may change. For up-to-date program and event information, check the library's website events calendar or Facebook page, or call 569-4256.

The library will be closed on Thanksgiving Day and Friday, November 23, reopening on Saturday November 24 as usual, from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. The library will be also closed on Christmas Day, reopening on Wednesday the December 26, from 9:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. and on New Year's Day, reopening on Wednesday, January 2.

Christie Sarles
Librarian / Director
Tuftonboro Free Library

Cemetery Trustees start on French Cemetery restoration

Many have noticed the work going on at the French Cemetery located on Middle Road (Route 109A) just south of Ledge Hill Road. One may have noticed that there was a good deal of work to be done to repair the cemetery to its original condition. The project started nearly two years ago when the Tuftonboro Cemetery Trustees first sought proposals from various stonemasons in order to know how much money they needed to raise at Town Meeting.

Fortunately, a very generous donor gave the

trustees enough money to do the work, but the voters at town meeting still had to accept the donation and establish an expendable trust fund before the Trustees could access the money. The voters approved; the fund was established; and the process began.

The Trustees hired Natt King Stoneworks, Inc. of Moultonborough to repair the walls on the French Cemetery. That company in turn contracted with Tim Morrison of Northern Woods Corp. to remove the trees that were growing inside the cemetery and

the ones adjacent to the cemetery that had grown into the walls causing them to buckle. Neighbors John Sweeney and Richard Lovett allowed the contractors access over their lands and neighbor Wilson Stewart has allowed the use of his parking area while work is being done. The Trustees are very appreciative of their cooperation.

Northern Woods Corp. arrived on Sep. 10, 2018 to remove the trees. They hired Overall Crane Service to

Continued on page 10

Four generations of Stockmans involved with agriculture

Looking through four generations of Stockman's in Tuftonboro, one finds that many were, or are, involved in agricultural pursuits. This story begins with Frank and Doris Stockman, who purchased a goodly part of the Wallace Farm in Tuftonboro's Canaan Valley in 1937 while living in Newton, MA. In 1942, Frank, Doris and their two boys, Frank Jr. and Philip, moved permanently to Canaan Valley. Frank and Doris maintained a large garden, hens, chickens, sold eggs, built a sawmill and raised their boys.

Frank Stockman, Jr. married Muriel Williams. They also lived in Canaan Valley where they kept chickens, steers, milkers and produced maple syrup. Frank and Muriel had four children: Bill, John, Nancy and Donald.

Philip Stockman married Jean Peaslee and continued to live in Canaan Valley. Philip logged, ran the saw mill and built homes and fine furniture. Philip and Jean had four children: Mary Ann, Gary, Jim and Brian. Philip later married Nancy Wilson and had a daughter Amy. Philip's children all still live in Canaan Valley.

Muriel Williams' parents, Roger and Bernice Williams, owned land in Tuftonboro, including a former golf course that had operated from 1899 until 1905. On this land the Williams developed Spiderweb Gardens in the late 1930's. The name came from Roger's nickname of "Spider" due to his lanky frame. In the 1940's, Spider Web Gardens offered a full range of plants (especially geraniums), shrubs, landscaping materials and a landscaping service.

Gary Stockman, Philip's son, logged for years with his brothers. Jim Stockman, like his Dad, builds fine furniture and household items, portable self-contained garden carts, and houses. He repurposed a hen house on his property to be a shop for his furniture making activity. The shop subsequently burned, but it was rebuilt and serves today as a furniture showroom. Jim also built the log cabin home where he lives with



Spider Web Gardens in 1940 was owned and operated by Roger "Spider" Williams and his wife, Bernice.

his wife, Patty.

Brian Stockman, an artisan in all things natural, designs in wood, leather, stone, metal and even ice. He also grows heirloom hops and raises chickens. Philip's daughter Amy and her family now live in another repurposed hen house, next door to her father.

The kids loved growing up close to each other in the valley and grew to love nature in all its facets. Any of them who wanted could work at Spider Web Gardens. The boy who loved it the most was Bill Stockman. His purchase of the business from his grandparents, Roger and Bernice Williams, was completed in 1980.

And so, it goes on. Nancy Stockman married Jonathan Downing, had a home farm, raised cut flowers and developed a thriving orchard. Donald Stockman is pesticide certified in NH and works for Pride Landscaping, part of Outdoor Pride of Rye (NH) Garden Center, and bids for commercial accounts.

The fourth generation of the Stockman family includes Adam Stockman, John Stockman's son, living in Canaan Valley and working at Spider Web Gardens for his uncle, Bill Stockman. Adam is a bee keeper who also raises chickens and sells eggs. Adam is the only Stockman of his generation working in the agricultural field.

Author's note: I owe a big thank you to Roger "Uncle Bill" Williams and to Bill Stockman, who answered all my questions, provided personal information and two photos. "Uncle Bill" is Muriel Williams' brother, a former Marine who has raised Holsteins, worked as an engineer and as a large equipment operator. He and his wife Barbara live just north of Spider Web Gardens at Swett's Corner, the intersection of Middle Road and Dame Road.

**Joan Magrauth
Tuftonboro Agricultural Commission**

Agricultural Commission takes on several new projects

Two major accomplishments for the Tuftonboro Agricultural Commission (TAC) this summer were the installation of the new sign at the Community Garden (CG) and the development of the compost demonstration area at the rear of the CG.

A lot of love and work goes into the plots at the CG, and the TAC wanted passers by to know that it is the work of their friends and neighbors who plant and harvest there. If you've driven by and wondered who is responsible for the beautiful display of sunflowers, vegetables, and other flowers, there is now a beautiful sign proclaiming that it is Tuftonboro's Community Garden. The time to cut out and prep the sign was donated by Richard Croteau. "Thanks, Richard" and to all those who worked to make the CG spectacular this year.

Something you may not have noticed was the

development of the compost demonstration area at the rear of the CG. In an effort to promote composting and provide information on various ways to accomplish this, the TAC has been developing several examples of how you could create a composting area to fit your needs. There are three examples of composting "containers," one made from pallets, one from cinder blocks, and one from wire mesh. A lot of work has gone into constructing these "containers," starting the compost piles (utilizing waste collected from the CG, shredded waste paper from the town office, and manure), and continuing to turn the compost. If you see Ron Sundquist, thank him for his herculean effort at getting this project started and keeping it going. Please contact him if you would like to help



Richard Croteau donated his time to cut and prep the new sign at the Tuftonboro Community Garden

Continued on page 10

Old Home Days 2018

Picnic, Car Show, Cardboard Boats . . . fun, fun, fun for everyone!





Cemetery from Page 6

come in with a large crane and an operator. Northern Woods had a crew of five including one person to climb trees and wrap and cut them to be lifted. The crane lifted the trees above the power lines, swung the trees (usually one at a time) over neighboring trees and into the Sweeney driveway. Once there, the tree was de-limbed and cut for logs. The logs were piled for later removal; the branches, limbs and tree top were put through a chipper and blown into a truck. Once the tree touched the ground, the process of delimbing, cutting, piling and chipping took about five to seven minutes. Meanwhile, the man in the tree had selected the next tree and had gotten into position to repeat the process. The crane hook would be back over to him as the last branches were being fed into the chipper. About twelve trees were removed in this manner – a few of them in one lift but most required multiple lifts. Several loads of wood chips were taken out for disposal.

Natt King Stoneworks will rebuild the front of the cemetery – first dismantling it, bringing in fill to level the ground in front of the cemetery, and then building a sturdy stone base. The work began by clearing bushes away from the work area and bringing in large rocks for a retaining and support wall between the road and the front of the cemetery. The Trustees expect this work to be completed this October.

In late June a large tree limb broke and fell into

the Edgerly Cemetery on the Governor Wentworth Highway (Route 109) damaging several gravestones. It was clear that the beautiful old tree from which the branch came had to be removed before more extensive damage occurred. The abutting landowner, John Edgerly, gave us permission to cross his field for access and to take down whatever trees were necessary to protect the cemetery from further damage. Northern Woods came in mid-September and removed the damaged tree and two others.

Trees are an ongoing issue with Tuftonboro's cemeteries and graveyards. There are many cemeteries with trees growing within their boundaries. Since trees don't live forever, all of them will eventually need to be removed. The Trustees are developing a long-range plan for regular tree removal.

A final note: for more than 30 years Roger "Bill" Williams, a/k/a "Uncle Bill", has been doing annual maintenance on most of the old family burial grounds in Tuftonboro. He picks up dead branches, replaces fallen stones, and trims grass and bushes. He has notified us that this will be his last year doing such work. The Trustees would like to sincerely thank him for his many years of service to the town.

Susan Weeks, Chairman
Guy Pike
Charlotte Allen



The Cemetery Trustees have begun restoration work at the French Cemetery on Middle Road. Note the Northern Woods Corp. worker delimbing a tree that was encroaching on the cemetery.

Agriculture from Page 7

with this project. The TAC is planning on holding a "Composting Informational Meeting" in the future that will invite participants to discuss their experience with composting (or desire to compost) and to tour the CG demo area and the larger composting area at Spiderweb Gardens. We are also going to explore food waste composting in varying scales in the coming year. Stay tuned.

We recently received a donation of two bat houses thanks to Russ Baerenklau. These will be installed somewhere in the vicinity of the CG. "Thanks, Russ."

Hope you had a chance to check out the pollinator garden in the front corner of the CG this summer. If you had, you would have seen many varieties of native bees, bumblebees, and butterflies that were attracted to the plants selected for pollinator attraction. We will be putting together more information out about this

plot and about the importance of encouraging native pollinators this coming year.

Please welcome Geoff Blackett, the newest member of the TAC

If you have anything you would like the TAC to consider, a seminar you would be interested in, or would like to be involved in any of our projects, please contact me at swingate0447@roadrunner.com.

Mirror Lake from Page 3

MLPA can always use more help at the boat launch on Rt. 109 monitoring boats, especially after mid-August. Val Zanchuk noted that recently, three beer cans were retrieved from the lake. Larry noted that most of the fisherman are considerate and careful, but there were some issues due to parties and renters. Following Val's comments, refrigerator magnets were distributed by Education Chair Kathy Sciarappa. The magnets list ten important facts regarding how to treat the lake. This is one way to advise renters and guests about caring for the lake. In fact, everyone can use reminders about the fragility of the lake.

Another important group protecting Mirror Lake is Weed Watchers. Led by Norma Milne, this

vigilant group of volunteers, in kayaks and canoes, work around the shoreline of the lake identifying new plants to ensure that they are not an invasive species. This is the fourth year of operation for the Weed Watchers. The volunteers are diligent in their work identifying and preventing the infiltration of invasive species. Tina Urv is the most recent volunteer. Weed Watchers use smart phones to take photos of the plants and send the pictures to the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services for advice and plant identification. Norma is always looking for more volunteers.

Regarding the water level this year, Mirror Lake is at a slightly higher elevation and therefore flows into Lake Winnepesaukee. Due to the good snowfall

in the winter followed by a rainy spring there were higher water levels on Mirror Lake this summer. During the summer of 2017, the water was so low exposed rocks prevented some residents from using their boats. The beavers were once again active on the lake and built another dam, but not at a location that will interfere with lake levels.

It was another beautiful summer on Mirror Lake, and fall is yet another season to enjoy. What is particularly stunning this time of year are the very still nights when the stars are actually reflected in the lake. Come by some evening and take a look. It's memorable.

Kathleen Sciarappa, Education Chair
Mirror Lake Protective Association

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

October

19	2 PM – 7 PM	Hikers Fall Rummage Sale	WWH
20	10 AM – 2 PM	Hikers Fall Rummage Sale (Continued)	WWH
21	2 PM	Feet for Fuel, Walk for Warmth - Raise money for fuel assistance	MVCC
24	6 PM	Historical Society Pot Luck & annual meeting - note: meeting location	TUMC
27	11 AM - 1 PM	Fall Festival - bounce house, haunted trail, pumpkin patch, and much more	DMF
27	3 PM – 4 PM	Trunk or Treat – Decorated auto trunks and candy for youth & families	MVCC
27	5 PM	Church Supper - Turkey Dinner - call 569-2097 for reservations	TUMC
31	2:15 PM	Halloween Parade - TFL parking lot is turnaround spot	TCS

November

3	9 AM - 2 PM	Christmas Bazaar	TCS
6	8 AM - 7 PM	Election Day at the Town House - Get out and VOTE!	TOTH
6	6 PM	No School, however PTCO meeting	TCS
9 -11	All Day	Tuftonboro “Open House” Weekend	various sites
10	9 AM - 2 PM	Snowflake Fair - Gifts, Crafts, Food Sale and much more	TUMC
10	11 AM - 1 PM	Chowder Luncheon - Corn or Seafood Chowder	TUMC
10	9 AM - 1 PM	DAR meeting - Hamel Meeting room	TFL
11	12 PM - 2 PM	Salmon Stripping by NH Fish & Game - Melvin Village	Pope Dam
22 & 23	All Day	Library closed for Thanksgiving	TFL
24	9 AM - 2 PM	Big Holiday Book Sale (including DVDs)	TFL

December

7	6 PM - 7:30 PM	Tree Lighting, Carol Sing, Polar Express	TFL
12	6 PM	Holiday Concert in the gym	TCS

Ongoing

Last Wednesday of the month - 7:00 - 8:30 PM	History Book Club meeting	TFL
Tuesday - 6:30 – 9:30 PM	Country, Bluegrass & Gospel Music Jam Session	OWC
Every Monday night EXCEPT first Monday of the month, 6:30 PM - 8:30 PM,	Knit Wits	TFL
Saturdays - 10 AM - 12 PM	Saturday Writers Group	TFL
Last Wednesday of the month	History Book Club at 7:00 PM	TFL
Libby Museum	Closed for the season	

Key to Abbreviations

DMF – Davis Memorial Field
 OWC – Old White Church
 TCS – Tuftonboro Central School
 TGH – Tuftonboro Grange Hall
 TUMC – United Methodist Church
 TOTH – Tuftonboro Old Town Hall
 WWH – Willing Workers Hall

MVCC – Melvin Village Comm. Church
 TFL – Tuftonboro Free Library
 TFS – Tuftonboro Central Fire Station
 THS – Tuftonboro Historical Society
 TTO – Tuftonboro Town Offices
 TWS – Town Website



The Melvin Village School building, seen here in 1906, still exists today as the Tuftonboro Historical Society Museum. It also served in the mid-20th century as the home of the Tuftonboro Men's Club. It is located across the street from the Melvin Village Post Office and the Geez Louise store.

The Tuftonboro Association
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Melvin Village, NH 03850

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