

The Tuftonboro Times



Vol XXII, No 2

A Quarterly Newsletter Published by the Tuftonboro Association

Spring 2020

Tuftonboro residents stay at home, but the show continues

Sunday Services continue for churchgoers in Tuftonboro despite the stay-at-home orders and the coronavirus pandemic. Good old-fashioned Yankee ingenuity, combined with technology, the internet and a drone, have allowed the Rev. Kevin Van Brunt and his Melvin Village Community Church to faithfully maintain a weekly worship schedule. Music, scripture and an inspirational message are delivered every Sunday at 10:00 a.m. at www.mvccnh.org.

The effort is truly a family affair. Pastor Kevin admits that a key ingredient of the project is his marketing-major, college-age son, Tucker, who is a student at the University of New Hampshire. Contributing his talents on the church piano is another Van Brunt son, Owen. Also participating is regular church organist, Peggy Johnson.

The drone is owned by Camp Sentinel and is flown by Tucker, whose sharp eye for marketing has produced truly uplifting shots of the church building, steeple, cemetery, and neighboring Lake Winnepesaukee to visually enhance the production.

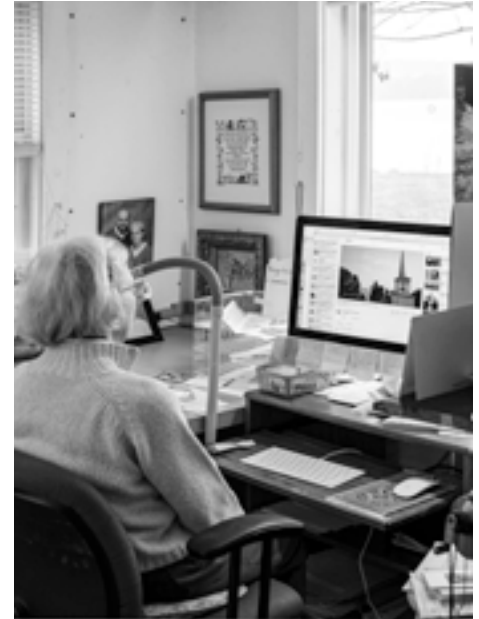
Using professional-grade video and audio equipment, the team captures and shares a story and projects a message that Rev. Van Brunt wants to share visually and audibly: connection and calmness.

The production is also a way to connect the church family while still maintaining the isolation and physical distancing mandated by the current healthcare emergency. On a recent Sunday the services began with a video visit to the homes of three church members, and a brief “back-porch” greeting to the watching audience.

Some of the exciting drone shots were produced last summer, some were filmed more recently at the site. In the videos Pastor Kevin preaches from the pulpit or his office, but always from the church building, which he feels is important. The service is recorded typically at the end of the week, before Sunday morning, then compiled and sent off in an email to the church YouTube channel.

Current and past services are all available on the internet by going to the church website, www.mvccnh.org, then navigating to the “Church Life” tab and clicking where it says, “Church Services.”

Following an earlier recorded service, Rev. Van Brunt received a call from a former church member, who had moved to South Carolina, and who wanted to compliment him on both the service and his sermon. When asked how she knew about the YouTube production she told him that she heard about it from a



This MVCC parishioner had a front row seat for the recent Sunday service.

friend in California. In Pastor Kevin’s words, “From sea to shining sea, it’s a small world!”

Dan Barnard

Annual roadside cleanup will go on as scheduled April 18

Are you looking for an outdoor activity that gets you out in the fresh air on a nice day and provides a community service at the same time? Then here is the activity for you: the **Tuftonboro Town-wide Roadside Clean-up!**

The official day for the Tuftonboro roadside clean-up is Saturday April 18, set to traditionally coincide with the Saturday nearest Earth Day (Wednesday April 22). As the snow has melted, you’ve probably noticed the detritus (if you are homeschooling kids, have them look up that word) littering the highways and byways in town. The community roadside cleanup is your opportunity to tidy up what’s accumulated over the past year. This will mark the 17th year that the Tuftonboro Association has sponsored this activity and townspeople have taken the time to cleanup the roadsides in Tuftonboro.

This year presents some challenges for clean-up,

but also an opportunity. In these uncertain times, as people are asked to stay home and practice physical distancing, many are working from home and some are home schooling children. It is suggested that outdoor activities are great as long as the “rules (physical distancing guidance)” are followed. The governor is encouraging walking and hiking consistent with the physical distancing guidance. Roadside clean-up provides an opportunity to get outside on a day when the weather is nice and to participate in a communal activity. This can be done as an individual or as a family. If each individual/family would take time to clean up a stretch of road fronting their and maybe their neighboring homes, Tuftonboro’s roadsides would get picked up in no time. There are some stretches of road where there are few homes, and some people have traditionally tidied up these areas. Feel free to take on some of these stretches of roadside.

Whatever you can do will contribute to the beautification of our town. Make this a family outing. If you do this with your family, see who can come up with the most _ _ _ (beer cans - there are a lot of those, candy wrappers, etc.); who finds the largest object; the strangest object (shingles, car parts, etc.).

Traditionally, The Tuftonboro Association has supplied blue litter bags for pick-up. This year there will be a box of blue bags in the town office vestibule, or you can use your own garbage bags. Please take filled trash bags to the transfer station. If you choose to separate out recyclables, glass, aluminum cans, etc. -- you will need to store these at home until they can again be taken to the transfer station. Unusual, large items will most likely need to be left at the side of the road for disposal at a later time.

Continued on page 10

Between a rock and a happy place; thoughts on a granite slab

The long granite slab that was once a grand front step to a humble summer camp now sits alone at the edge of an old dirt road. I'm standing next to it on a gray day in March after venturing out in search of fresh air and some semblance of freedom during the COVID-19 pandemic. Staring wistfully at a hunk of rock from my childhood is stirring up poignant memories.

My great grandfather, Ernest Hunter, cleared a piece of land on the shores of Melvin Bay in the 1920s. Eventually, he put up two small cabins side by side, separated by a grassy lawn not quite the size of a football field, but plenty big enough for summer games and gatherings. In the 1970s when I, my brother, four of our cousins, and our uncle Paul (whose age places him right in the middle of us all), were still just kids, we spent countless hours at the smaller of the two cabins, playing Marco Polo in the water, digging holes in the sand big enough to bury each other, and challenging the neighboring kids to baseball and croquet on the lawn. The big granite step sat in front of the little cabin keeping watch and providing a place for us to sit and rest while we planned our next adventure.

Situated between Prospect Slope Cabins to the North and Store Island to the South, our little camp looked out onto the heart of Melvin Bay. We had little need for power toys, speedboats, or fancy rafts



The mighty and proud *Kitty Belle* was a party barge and private island.



This granite slab stood on the doorway of family fun and youthful adventures. It still conjurs up memories of summers and people from a happy past.

(though we looked longingly at others on the shoreline who had them). We had something better - the *Kitty Belle*. The *Kitty Belle* was a gas-powered barge with iron sides, each side containing giant, old-fashioned paddle wheels, and, high up on one side, was the captain's tower. On either end were giant iron ramps that flattened outward when loading and folded up like crab legs when the barge was underway. The *Kitty Belle* belonged to our grandfather (and Paul's father), Tom Hunter. It was always a treat when Grampa showed up at camp, but when he arrived on the *Kitty Belle*, it was practically a holiday. The *Belle's* size was impressive - 24-feet wide and 54-feet long - and we'd see her well before she made it over to us. A black and white floating mirage approaching from across the bay. We'd all stop what we were doing and watch as Grampa gingerly maneuvered her up to the beach and slowly lowered the giant legs of the ramp onto the sand. As soon as the ramps were down, we'd scramble on, our bare feet jumping across the hot, greasy black iron, in search of shady spots or pieces of wood on which to land so as not to burn off the soles

of our feet. (What kid takes time to put on shoes when an event of this magnitude occurs?). On really special occasions, when the barge was emptied of trucks and materials, our entire - very big - family would load her with picnic tables, BBQ grills, and inner tubes, and out we'd all go for a family picnic, with Grampa steering us to just the right spot on the water. The *Kitty Belle* was our party barge and our own private island.

Time marches on. Grampa Tom has been gone for nearly 30 years, and the camps and *Kitty Belle* have all been sold. Bigger, more modern houses have replaced the little cabins, and the *Kitty Belle* has undergone her own transformation, still operating on the Lake but now sporting a coat of shiny white paint with colorful "racing stripes".

On a gray day in March, I'm standing on this dirt road next to this beautiful granite rock with my memories, knowing that there's almost nothing I wouldn't give to have all of it - especially our Grampa Tom Hunter - back.

Mindy Jones

Looking for things to do during a quarantine? Check this out

If the town is still in "stay at home" mode when this is published, there are great places to go in Tuftonboro, thanks to the conservation community, where you are unlikely to meet many people. There is a great trail network donated and maintained by Ann and George Hackle off Ledge Hill Road about ½ mile from Rt. 109A (Middle Road). Watch to the left-hand side, just after passing Old Town Rd.

There is also the Chandler Trail at Twenty Mile Bay. One can park alongside the road at Twenty Mile Bay and walk into the driveway near where Twenty Mile Brook enters the bay and then quickly turn right into the woods. There is also a small parking area about 100 feet from the entrance where there is a kiosk with a map of the trail. Use caution where the trail

is wet in the spring. The trail goes through a lovely forested setting, and, about half-way around the loop, the trail comes to the southern edge of the Cops Pond wetland area. There is a fantastic view of the Ossipee Range.

Then there is always Abenaki Tower. If someone else is there ahead of you, be a good citizen and let them come down before you go up. It's not possible to maintain the appropriate social distance on the stairway or in the tower cabin. Wearing gloves to hold the handrail is probably another good precaution. If you haven't been there in the last few years, give yourself a treat; the Abenaki Tower Association has done a lot of clearing to improve the view.

Also, don't forget the many trail opportunities

available through Lakes Region Conservation Trust. This site offers free trail maps at 14 different trails <https://lrct.org/explorelearn/trail-maps/>. You can also get information on hiking in the Castle in the Clouds Recreation area at <https://lrct.org/explorelearn/castle-in-the-clouds/#hiking>. If there are a lot of cars at the trail head, try another place to insure you can follow the physical distancing guidelines. See the best in NH right here in your back yard.

One last opportunity, **Roadside cleanup!** (See the roadside clean-up article on Page 1 of this edition.) Grab a trash bag, walk your favorite route and get some upper body flexibility going. You'll feel good afterward, mentally and physically, guaranteed!

Steve Wingate

Mirror Lake welcomes back favorite fine-feathered friends

Love is in the air on Mirror Lake! Springtime ushers in the return of creatures who have captured the hearts of all the residents on the lake: the loons. Loons are migratory and winter on the ocean. Mirror Lake loons, tracked by the Loon Preservation Committee in Moultonborough, are known to winter in Portsmouth, New Hampshire. Loons return to inland lakes for breeding as soon as the ice goes out and remain until late fall. Highly territorial, loons typically return to the same lake, so Mirror Lake onlookers have enjoyed what we believe to be the same couple for many years. The belief that the loons mate for life is a fable, as it is now known that a loon's mate will be replaced after a death or following the successful duel of a rival. Loons can accept a new mate. Since loons typically live for 15-30 years, if each can fight off rivals and their own demise, a pair can potentially be together for a long time. The oldest tracked loon in New Hampshire is over 30 years of age.

Loons are attractively feathered during the long mating season with their black heads, long beaks, white underbellies, checkered backs, white necklace rings around their throats, and red eyes. Their eye color helps them see underwater by filtering out blue and green. Males and females look alike although males are typically about 25% larger. The size difference can be difficult to spot.

Loons need to run on the water to take flight, and their weight makes lift difficult, but, once in the air, they are efficient flyers and have been clocked at 80 miles per hour when there are strong tailwinds. Loons are large for water birds and can weigh from seven to 15 pounds and typically measure three feet from front to back. Loons' legs are far back in their bodies, which makes them excellent swimmers but awkward on shore. Their bones are dense, which helps them dive and keeps them low in the water as swimmers. As divers, they can sink 200 feet and remain underwater for up to three minutes as they search for prey. Their large webbed feet and powerful leg muscles allow for speed and excellent steering underwater. If you happen upon a loon while swimming, their size and strength are quite striking! Alarming, even.

Sometimes Mirror Lake neighbors argue about whether the same loon couple are on the lake. Loons change appearance throughout the season which may be what leads to the confusion. When the breeding season concludes, loons molt. Generally, the transformation starts in late September when plumage appears gray and white. By winter, the plumage turns dark gray and the eyes are more brown than red. Juvenile loons have the same coloring as wintering adults but can be distinguished by the white-gray tips of their feathers which create a scalloped look. Year-round, loons preen daily to keep their feathers aligned and oiled for the purpose of protecting their skin. A gland at the base of the tail, the uropygial gland,



It's a sure sign of spring when loons return to inland waters to fish and find a mate. This loon, paddling placidly in Mirror lake, may have wintered in Portsmouth.

secretes oil which must be distributed by the loon to coat its feathers. Loons roll and shake, stick their feet in the air, flap their wings appearing to struggle taking flight, and rub their heads all over their backs as they distribute the oil. Loons also bathe which involves vigorous thrashing and diving to shake off parasites. All this activity is followed by long periods of motionless rest. Loons sleep in deep waters at night, away from predators.

The most alluring feature of loons is their call. They have four distinct calls: 1) the wail, 2) the tremolo, 3) the hoot, and 4) the yodel, to communicate with their family members and to connect with or threaten other loons. The wail, their long melodic sound, is often heard at night as mated loons call to one another from long distances. The tremolo, also known as the "crazy laugh," serves multiple purposes including greeting, alarm, worry, or annoyance. The tremolo is used for socializing. The hoot is used for short distances by loon families or sometimes issued to rival loons who come too close. Finally, the yodel, used only by males, is a six-second-long repetitive series of notes with a rising middle section used when defending territory. Studies have shown that each male loon has a unique, slightly distinctive yodel. Loons will combine calls during periods of high stress, particularly if their nests or chicks are threatened. Their alarm is palpable to Mirror Lake residents. In seasons where the loon pair loses a chick their mournful calls can be heard for days. A deeply sorrowful sound for all.

Mirror Lake is fortunate to have one pair of loons since couples usually need more than the 333 acres of water the lake offers. Loons are predators feeding on fish, frogs, snails, leeches, and crayfish in summer while adding crabs and sometimes even lobsters in winter. Rogue loons sometimes visit Mirror Lake for various reasons. Loons are social and sometimes the visits seem amiable, but loons will get aggressive when searching for a new mate. An interloper may engage in a "circle dance" with a rival in order to

assess the competition. The dance may continue underwater and result in a stabbing from below. Sometimes no physical fight evolves. Sometimes these confrontations result in a switch of partners, especially after a failed nesting attempt.

Nesting is the pride and joy not only of the loon pair but also thrilling to Mirror Lake residents. After years of no results, The Loon Preservation Committee lent Mirror Lake a nest which is maintained and stored by Beth and Larry Urda. The loon pair prefers the nest close to shore, but on a small island where they bring leaves, moss, grass, needles, and other vegetation to construct the nest which protects the eggs. Their preference is to continue using the same nest in the same spot year after year. Both the male and female build the nest and warm the eggs for a period of 26-31 days. If the eggs are lost or unproductive, loons can try again up to three times during the same season. Adult loons care equally for their chicks for twelve weeks when their young can become independent. Eggs and chicks are often lost, so the longevity of adult breeders is important for the survival of the species. New Hampshire loons are known, on average, to raise one chick to fledgling every two years. Nesting is a

Continued on Page 10

The Tuftonboro Times,
the Voice of the Community,
is published quarterly
by the Tuftonboro Association

Editor: Dan Barnard
Production: Phil Martin
e-mail: timeseditor@roadrunner.com
Printed by
Lilac Printing and Graphics
Rochester, NH

Town offices are closed, meetings curtailed by Selectmen

Election Day, March 10, brought mild weather and calm proceedings. Several incumbents were reelected: Selectman Chip Albee, Moderator Daniel Barnard, Town Clerk Heather Cubeddu, Tax Collector Jacqueline Rollins, Road Agent Jim Bean, Budget Committee member Gordon Hunt, Trustee of the Trust Funds Peter Sluski, Library Trustee Paul Matlock, and Supervisor of the Checklist Christopher Ruel. Also elected were the following new officials, both of whom are returning to positions they have held in the past: Budget Committee member Gary Chehames and Cemetery Trustee Guy Pike. Congratulations to the winners, and thanks to all who ran for office. We also want to thank outgoing Budget Committee member Guy Pike and Cemetery Trustee Charlotte Allen for their years of service to the town.

At Town Meeting, voters were presented with the conceptual design for a new police facility. This work was completed by Alba Architects as part of a needs and site evaluation study in 2019. A motion was approved to complete design work for the police facility, and the Selectmen will hold several public meetings over the coming months to involve the community in the design process.

The 19 Mile Brook water quality study was also

reviewed and discussed. This was an update to work conducted prior to construction of Wolfeboro's Rapid Infiltration Basin and showed that the brook is in generally good health. To provide for ongoing testing and monitoring, an expendable trust fund was created.

Articles concerning replacement vehicles and equipment which were approved included a police cruiser, two road sanders, a trash compactor, and a vertical baler. Funding for road repaving was increased, and a separate drainage improvement project was also approved. This year's paving schedule will be finalized once the ground has thawed. Voters also approved reclassifying a portion of Willand Road from Class VI (non-maintained) to Class V (town maintained) and the acceptance of Deer Path Lane and Farm Pond Road as town roads.

At the Board's organizational meeting, Selectman Lloyd Wood was elected Chairman. He will continue to serve as representative to the Conservation Commission, CIP Committee, and the Lakes Region Technical Advisory Committee. Selectman Marcussen will continue as the representative to the Planning Board, Milfoil Control Committee, Agricultural Commission, and Joint Loss Management Committee. Selectman Albee will continue as the representative

to the Budget Committee and the Parks & Recreation Commission.

Shortly after Town Meeting, the Coronavirus (COVID-19) temporarily upended townspeople's lives and activities. To slow the spread of the virus, changes have been instituted in the way town services are provided. The town offices are closed to the public, and some employees are working remotely. Most information and services are still available online through the town web site or by mail. Also, there is a drop box in the vestibule for your convenience in delivering payments and other correspondence. In-person services from the Town Clerk, Tax Collector, Selectmen's Office, and Code Enforcement Officer are available by appointment only; please call before you come by. Group meetings of more than nine people have been curtailed, and selectmen's meetings are now available for public participation via telephone call-in.

The Board thanks all who assisted in making this past year a successful one.

Tuftsboro Board of Selectmen

Lloyd Wood, Chairman

Bill Marcussen

Chip Albee

Hikers club hopes to begin soon with its 2020 agenda

The Hikers Are Looking Ahead...

As many of you already know, The Hikers organization elected to cancel or postpone several events scheduled for this spring due to concerns regarding the Coronavirus. It is hoped that we will be able to reschedule Guest Night with Jeff Warner singing Old Songs of New Hampshire sometime later this summer, and the Italian Dinner will be rescheduled at a later date.

One of the group's greatest disappointments was having to cancel the Annual Easter Breakfast at the Willing Workers Hall on Easter Sunday. The Hikers have always looked forward to our friends, the membership, and the community, gathering on Easter Sunday morning to share good food and fellowship.

Other events which have had to be cancelled include the New Member Tea on May 7, and the Spring Rummage Sale on May 22-23. Still on, but tentative, is the Annual Bake Sale beside the Melvin Village Post Office on June 27.

The Scholarship Committee has been busy reviewing applications and selecting candidates for receipt of a scholarship. The Events Committee is



Jackie Rollins and Judy LaBranche in the kitchen at Willing Workers Hall surrounded by gift baskets prepared by the Hikers.

looking toward late summer and fall, making plans for the Annual BBQ and Auction, as well as the Tuftsboro Holiday Open House.

Details of all future events will be in the summer edition of *The Tuftsboro Times* or the *Granite State News*, and by then, and with the grace of God, this healthcare crisis will be behind us.

In closing, I would like the membership to know

that we will be sending out weekly updates on The Hikers organization, various newsworthy events, and happenings in an attempt to stay connected while we all practice social distancing.

Stay well, everyone.

Faye Friedrich, President

The Hikers

Jam sessions at the Old White Church are postponed

Jam sessions at the Old White Church of Center Tuftsboro, featuring Country, Bluegrass & Gospel

Music, normally held at 6:30 every Tuesday evening, have been indefinitely postponed. The jam sessions

will resume as soon as practical.

Big Joe Ewing

Fire permits are required according to NH state law

Hopefully spring has sprung, and the warm weather is here to stay. It has been a strange winter but strange is the new normal. By the time this comes out, we all have been dealing with COVID-19 for quite some time. Please continue to follow the CDC guidelines. Let's not drop our guard and get complacent. Thank you all for doing so. Tuftonboro is still a community that cares for each other and we will get through this. The department will continue to provide you with best possible service under the circumstances. Just remember to breathe, keep calm, and carry on. We are all in this together, and together we will get through it.

This is a reminder that anyone who burns wood should clean their chimneys as soon as you can. It is easier to clean them now, so you don't forget. It is very common for us to respond to chimney fires in late spring after the stoves have been shut down and folks restart them during a cold rainy spell. So please be proactive. And, if you do them now, you don't have to do it in the fall. I'm sure by now everyone is looking for more projects to take up their time.

Spring is also the time to clean up your property. If you plan on having an outside fire remember you need to have a permit, wait till after 5:00 p.m. (unless it is actively raining) and call the dispatch center (539-2262) to let them know. The burning laws are State of NH laws not those of Tuftonboro Fire and Rescue; please refrain from shooting the messenger.

WHY CAN I ONLY BURN BETWEEN 5:00 p.m. & 9:00 a.m.?

There are several reasons that the state of New Hampshire requires that most open burning occur

during the evening and nighttime hours.

The main reason is to prevent and control wildland fires. As the day progresses from morning to afternoon the environment changes and makes fire control more difficult. The temperature increases in the afternoon and the surface fuels on the ground are pre-heated. The relative humidity decreases in the afternoon and small fuels such as grasses, leaves and twigs dry out. Winds pick up allowing sparks and embers to travel away from the fire, making control more difficult.

Being a mostly rural state, New Hampshire relies on volunteer Fire Departments. During the daytime it is common for communities to have less coverage because many of their volunteers are at work. In the event a permitted fire did escape control, a quicker response may occur during the evening hours than during the day.

WHY IS A PERMIT REQUIRED?

Other than meeting the requirements of RSA 227-L:17, there are several reasons why permits are required. Permits are the first tool in fire prevention and education.

It ensures that forest fire wardens know where fires are occurring. Often times a citizen may call 911 when they observe smoke in an area. If the warden knows there is a fire permit for that area, they may investigate the call first rather than call out an entire department.

It allows the forest fire warden to inform the public when unsafe fire conditions may be present or predicted. This is important during times of high fire

danger.

It gives the warden an opportunity to ensure that the fire is in a safe location and that the proper setbacks from structures are in place. (25 feet for Category I, 50 feet for all others).

It protects the air quality in the state by outlining the materials which may be burned (clean, untreated wood/brush no greater than 5 inches in diameter).

Other helpful information regarding outside fire laws can be found at the NH Division of Forest and Lands website there is also link from the department's web page on the town's website: www.nh.gov/nhdfl/.

Drivers please share the road with pedestrians, bicycles and motorcycles. Many will be out in force after a long winter. It's a great way to enjoy the outdoors while keeping a good social distance. Sadly, we have already had one instance of a bicyclist that was hit from behind. The accident was a hit and run, the rider had only minor injuries, but the very expensive bicycle was a total loss. Look twice at intersections and please give plenty of room before pulling out in front of a bike or motorcycle. They have far less stopping power than a car and often are going faster than they appear. Also, pass pedestrians and bicycles with caution leaving at least 3 feet of room. Wait to pass until you have good visibility and make sure there is no oncoming traffic. Be patient. A safe passing area will open up soon enough.

As always, I would like to thank the community for their support of the department. I want to wish all well and hope you all stay healthy and safe.

Caleb Pike, Capt.

Parks and Rec pushes forward with ambitious schedule

Due to the healthcare emergency, be sure to check the town website for last-minute changes to this schedule.

The Tuftonboro Parks and Recreation Department has been forced to cancel its last three events. A program had been planned to be held every Saturday in May for grades K-4 at Davis Field called "Saturday in the Park," but the commission voted to cancel this event at its March 9 meeting.

The commission has scheduled the town wide Tuftonboro Yard Sale for Saturday, June 6, 2020. Last year 35 families took advantage of this travelling yard sale! The event will take place from 9:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. at each house location. There is also room at the town offices parking lot for families to sell their goods that day! Sign up forms are available at the Town Offices and online at www.tuftonboro.org. Each family will be included on a town-wide map to have all the addresses of each sale. Each family will also get a yard sale sign to promote their sale. To be included on the map, completed forms must be returned to the town offices or emailed to

parksandrec@tuftonboro.org by May 29. For further information, contact Dennis Zilembo, Parks and Recreation Director at the Town offices.

The popular Paint Class will take place on Wednesday, May 20 at 6:00 PM at the Town House in Tuftonboro. "Doodlin Di" will instruct the class, which will be limited to the first 16 people who register! Space is limited so please reserve your spot. Contact Di at doodlindi@yahoo.com, or text or call (603) 998-7159. Participants may bring their own snacks and beverage, but coffee, water, and snacks will also be provided. All materials for the class will be provided by Doodling Di. The cost of the program is \$25. A second paint class is also scheduled for June 17. This class will take place at Nineteen Mile Beach in Tuftonboro, under the beach pavilion. Signups are also being taken for this outdoor class.

Summer Kickoff will take place on Saturday, June 27 at Nineteen Mile Beach. This is the last opportunity for parents to register children for swim lessons. The event will run from 12:00 noon to 2:00 p.m. Kids can meet their instructors, enjoy a hot dog

and hamburger lunch, and take part in a summer craft project. Swim lessons will begin on Monday, July 6.

The Summer Concert Series will begin on July 9 and take place every Thursday evening at Nineteen Mile Beach from 6:30 to 8:30 PM. Admission is free; bring your friends and your favorite chair or blanket. A concession will be available on site. The schedule includes the following: July 9 - *The Big Picture Band*; July 16 - *Granite Planet*; July 23 - *Wooden Nickels Band*; July 30 - *Brian Hastings and Sky Road*; August 6 - *Terry Collins Band*; and August 13 - *Carolyn Ramsay Band*.

Old Home Days will be held August 21-23. One big change will be on Saturday, August 22nd. A beach Party is planned at Nineteen Mile Beach to include the following: "Run to the Beach" race/walk (3 miles) to begin at 9:00 a.m.; a Chili cookoff from 11:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m.; a corn hole tournament from 1:00 p.m. until completion; a cardboard boat race at 2:00 p.m., and a concert featuring the music group, "Echotones" from 3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Dennis Zilembo, Parks and Recreation Director

Conservation Commission continues to protect our land

Like every other organization, the Tuftonboro Conservation Commission (TCC) has been staying home, which has affected its productivity. Before the current emergency, the TCC did close on a property in the heart of the Great Meadow, just south and west of the town transfer station. Fred Sargent and his family agreed to sell this property to the town at a bargain price, which allowed the Commission to pay with grants from the Land and Community Heritage Investment Program (LCHIP) and the Aquatic Resource Mitigation fund. Now the commission is working to close on an adjacent property using the same grant funding. These lots include significant portions of the wetland area and the surrounding upland watershed. There is an historic wagon road on this land that is thought to have been used to haul hay out of the meadow to barns for drying and storage. The Melvin River also flows through both lots. In addition, there is an active snowmobile trail that passes through the Sargent lot, mostly on a powerline right-of-way.

The Commission will be hosting a celebration on the site sometime this coming summer and will include a nature hike with Rick Van de Poll. Rick is a celebrated ecologist and naturalist known throughout the state. In 2000 he completed the first natural inventory of the Great Meadow area, funded through LCHIP. The Commission has relied heavily on Rick in applying for grant funding and with landowner contacts.

At some point in the future, the Commission will be working on establishing a parking area and trail system on these properties. Also, a generous donor has offered to pay for the development of a forest plan for this and other town-owned forested areas.

The Commission thanks Kate Nesbit for donating an additional 15 acres to the original 32-acre conservation easement gift on Tuftonboro Neck she made several years ago. Kate also has generously created a walking trail through the property which is open for public use. The trail has several important wildlife habitats along its route. You can access

“Kate’s Trail” by going right on Cross Neck Road from Tuftonboro Neck Road. There is a sign at the entrance, and the trail is on the right just before the intersection of Cross Neck and Hurlburt Road.

The Commission is also working with the new owners of the land along the east side of Mirror Lake and along Lang Pond Road to establish a conservation easement on 130 acres. The voters at this year’s town meeting approved \$12,000 to fund a grant-writing effort to secure funding to purchase the easement. Once again, Rick Van de Poll will be completing the necessary surveys and grant applications. The Mirror Lake Protective Association previously provided funding for work on a conservation plan for the watershed and preliminary field surveys of this property together with an inventory of wetland resources.

During the first week in March, the Commission provided another well-water testing opportunity for Tuftonboro residents. This program was organized and managed by Laurel Podsen. Unfortunately, the number of test kits provided by the state lab was limited, and the kits were all taken quickly. Laurel was able to obtain some additional kits, but many who came later in the week found the table empty. When the virus emergency is over, the Conservation Commission will try to obtain more kits and have them available at the Town Office for people who are willing to deliver their samples to the State Lab.

The Commission continues to be involved in assisting the Selectmen in monitoring the town’s old landfill site, monitoring water quality in Nineteen Mile Brook relative to Wolfeboro’s Rapid Infiltration Basin, and continues to work with the Lake Winnepesaukee Association in developing a Watershed Plan for the Tuftonboro area. It should be completed this year.

There is a new member on the Commission, Stephen Scapicchio, who lives on the south shore of Mirror Lake. Steve retired from the corporate offices of Lindt Chocolate two years ago. Previously he summered in a cottage on The Basin. He also serves on

the Board of the Mirror Lake Protective Association, volunteers as a Lay Lakes Water Quality Monitor and Weed Watcher. He and his wife Joan have enjoyed hiking in the outdoors throughout New Hampshire. Recently, Steve agreed to work on developing a sign and posting it near the recently restored Copps Pond viewing Platform. The sign would give a little history and credit to the Boy Scouts who built the original platform, and to the volunteers who recently helped restore it. The sign will also ask photographers to share their photos with the Commission Facebook page.

The Tuftonboro selectmen recently sent a thank you letter to Ray Everest for his service on the TCC and his continued support and assistance for its Facebook page. If you check out the page, there is a good chance the posting you’re looking at came through Ray from his new home in North Carolina.

Finally, the TCC is working with Lakes Region Conservation Trust (LRCT) to conserve 132 acres on Mount Pleasant. This is a rocky summit in Tuftonboro, off Northline Rd. along the Wolfeboro town line, with a million-dollar view. It has a nearly a 300-degree panorama starting with Lake Wentworth and Cople Crown Mountain on the left, Lake Winnepesaukee and the Belknap Range in the middle, Ossipee Range on the right, and Mount Washington behind. After acquisition, there will be a project to establish parking and a hiking trail to the top. As hiking trips go, it’s a modest climb with incredible views. There is also an old graveyard on the property which contains the grave of a revolutionary war veteran. LRCT has received a Grant from LCHIP, and the Wolfeboro/Tuftonboro Land Bank has pledged a significant amount toward the purchase. LRCT has an ongoing fund-raising campaign to raise the remainder of the purchase costs. If you would like to contribute go to <https://lrct.org/conserved-lands/current-land-projects-mount-pleasant-tuftonboro-wolfeboro/> for more information.

Steve Wingate, Chairman

Library services continue even while building is closed

Because of the pandemic, the Tuftonboro Free Library is closed to the public until further notice. But the library services continue. All online resources are still available 24/7, as is free WiFi access (outside the building from the parking lot).

Patrons can link to Overdrive (eBooks, audios, magazines), Hoopla (eBooks, audios, movies, music, TV, and comics), Heritage Quest (genealogy research), and half a dozen reference databases from the library’s website, on the right-hand side of the home page: www.tuftonborolibrary.org. Login requires a valid 14-digit library card account number.

If you don’t know your number, or you need a card, or you experience any difficulty with any online platform, please leave a message at 569-4256 or email info@tuftonborolibrary.org. Messages are being monitored and library personnel will respond as quickly as possible.

Construction is considered an essential service, so work continues to finish up the renovations to the old building, which is looking “mahvelous” after an extensive facelift – new windows, new paint and carpet, new ceiling and lights, and removal of old duct work.

The library staff misses all of the patrons and look forward to welcoming everyone back to their beautiful new library as soon as possible. In the meantime, please stay safe and be well!

**Christie Sarles
Librarian / Director**



Lots of changes are coming to the Community Garden

The Tuftonboro Agricultural Commission (TAC) hopes this article finds you all well during these uncertain times. The commission has been working through the winter on several things that concern the Tuftonboro Community Garden (CG). The garden is important for the community, and TAC wants to ensure the garden's continued success. Many people rely on the garden not only for the food they produce, but also for the sense of peace and camaraderie between fellow gardeners. TAC wants to make sure that this activity is available for interested gardeners in the coming months. To facilitate this, TAC will be implementing new rules based on social distancing and handwashing, all of which will be subject to approval by the Selectmen. The commission will be sending out a Community Garden FLASH message to those that participated in the garden last year and will post updated information on the commission's web page (<https://www.tuftonboro.org/agricultural-commission>) as information is available. Stay tuned.

The big change for the Community Garden will be the transition to no-till gardening following the spring plowing. The commission has been working with master gardener Susan Poirier on the benefits of no-till gardening and how we can transition the Tuftonboro Community Garden. (See her write-up at the end of this article.) The main advantage of no-till agriculture is an overall improvement in soil health. A more practical advantage of no-till is it will allow the construction of permanent walkways between plots, reducing the need for constant weeding.

An ongoing project of TAC has been the establishment of a compost project at the garden. Geoff Blackett has been working on a flyer that explains how the compost project will be managed, and the help needed from the garden community to keep the project going and maintaining a ready source of compost for the gardeners. There will also be updated signs directing gardeners how to participate

in the composting project. This information will also be sent as a CG FLASH to community gardeners and will be posted on the town website/TAC page, as information is available.

Gardeners have expressed interest in having water more readily available in the garden, and TAC will be providing extra hoses this year.

Joan Magrauth has been working to compile an agricultural directory for the town. This will include a list of people in town who participate in agricultural pursuits or are willing to share knowledge. Do you or someone you know fit this category? Who is selling eggs, vegetables, or honey? Do you cut/sell hay? Do you make soap? Do you raise bees? Are you a master gardener or just an interested gardener willing to share your expertise? If so, and you would like that information included in a Tuftonboro Agricultural Directory, please contact Joan or Michael Haeger through selectmen@tuftonboro.org.

The pollinator garden is always a place that can use a few minutes of any gardener's time. TAC will be sprucing up that plot and adding additional plants this spring. This plot provides a variety of plants available for pollinators throughout the growing season. If you have non-invasive perennials you would like to donate to this effort, please contact us at the town website/TAC page or email us at selectmen@tuftonboro.org.

For those community gardeners interested in starting seeds early, TAC was donated seeds from the NH Extension. Those seeds include: gourmet blend and black-seeded Simpson lettuce, Sow Easy Siberian Kale, Peppermint stick Swiss chard, Blue Lake bush and Kentucky pole beans, yellow straightneck squash, tall snap peas, California Poppies, zinnia, larkspur, hollyhock, delphinium, columbine, cut-flower mix, and perennial wildflower mix. If you are interested in any of these seeds to use in the community garden, please contact Sue Wingate through selectmen@tuftonboro.org.

The Agricultural Commission had hoped to host a pest control seminar in the late spring. However, that information will now be sent via a CG FLASH, and it will also be posted to town website/TAC page, as information is available

Over the past several years, gardeners have expressed an interest in ways to be able to contribute extra produce to the local food pantry. We will be developing a plan to have excess produce picked up for the pantry on a weekly basis. We are also considering donating unsold CG plots to those willing to garden for the food pantry. As we get these proposals worked out in detail, the information will be released in a CG FLASH and on the town website/TAC page.

A longer-term project that TAC is considering is the conversion of the two back sides of the community garden to a wildflower meadow. In the past, sunflowers or pumpkins were planted, and last year a cover crop of oats was planted. This wildflower meadow conversion can be accomplished over several years. TAC will be working with the NH Extension folks on the best way to implement this project.

We also want to welcome Adam Stockman as the newest member of TAC. Adam owns and operates Spider Web Gardens. A native of Tuftonboro, Adam lives close to the earth in Canaan Valley, keeping bees, woodworking, and gardening. Valuing sustainability and good stewardship of the land, Adam is determined to maintain an environment in which we may enjoy health and happiness for generations to come.

Finally, stay safe by practicing physical distancing and plenty of handwashing. Remember to check on loved ones as well as neighbors who may need assistance in these trying times. If you want to be added to the CG FLASH email list let us know by dropping a line to selectmen@tuftonboro.org.

**Sue Wingate, Chairman
Tuftonboro Agricultural Commission**

A professional on the many benefits of no-till gardening

Would you buy a knitted afghan, undo all the stitches, spread the yarn out over you, and expect to be warm? Of course not. Then why till the soil, destroying the connections within it, creating a hard pan 6" or 12" down (through which neither roots nor water can go), and expect to grow great crops?

Take a walk in the woods and look at all the growth. Does Mother Nature till every year? Then why not follow her lead and work our soil the way she does:

Every year she puts down new mulch (fallen leaves, needles, etc.)

She never tills; instead she encourages earthworms, beetles, fungi, and bacteria to move through the soil, eating decaying matter and

distributing nutrients.

Did you know that the roots of all plants form symbiotic relationships with mycorrhizal fungi? The roots give the fungi carbon, feeding them; in return, the fungi give the plants needed nutrients that the plants cannot otherwise absorb. When we till, we destroy the fungi.

When we till, we also destroy the very structure of soil, we decrease aggregation (well aggregated soil holds moisture better than tilled soil). We also increase the chances of soil erosion.

When we till, we expose more and more weed seeds. These seeds will only sprout in the top 2" of soil. Leaving them buried, means they won't sprout, and our weeding chores are lessened.

When we till, we cut up perennial weeds and give them more opportunities to root and take over. More weeding!

The best practice for us as gardeners is the following:

Limit soil disturbance: just open small holes to drop in seeds; or for small seeds, lay them on top then cover with a dusting of soil.

Keep the soil covered: use mulch and cover crops as much as possible. Always give the beneficial organisms living in the soil something to eat by replanting soon after harvesting.

What about that bountiful crop of weeds that have

Continued on Page 10

Historical Society hosts a series of lectures this summer

Another season! The Tuftonboro Historical Society Board of Directors has approved a series of interesting programs from May through October. Let's hope all the "bad stuff" around will be a thing of the past by the time of the first scheduled meeting on Wednesday, May 27. It will be a pot-luck supper at 6:00 p.m. at the Willing Workers Hall. A presentation will follow by Sandwich resident Martha Carlson, who will speak of her firsthand knowledge of local immigrants. In June and August, the Historical Society will be hosting two New Hampshire Humanities programs: "NH Roads Taken or Not" with Steve Taylor and "New Hampshire on High: Historic and Unusual Weathervanes" with Glenn Knoblock. In July the Tuftonboro Conservation Commission will take us on a walk into the Great Meadow with Rick Van de Poll, followed by a pot-luck supper and a talk by Rick.

The Society decided to bring back a Craft Fair this year on August 22. Crafters will have their handiwork for sale, and there will be a small farmers market and a bake sale. This is in conjunction with Old Home Days. If you are interested, or know of someone who is, my email is: jackierollins@roadrunner.com.

In September, the Society will be meeting at the new Tuftonboro Library with an updated history of the library. In October there will be a pot-luck supper followed by a program "Tuftonboro Anecdotes" by Sue Weeks. She has been researching this through old newspapers and other source materials.

There will be three barn sales this summer in May, July, and September. Contact Sue Weeks (shweeks@roadrunner.com) for more information. Every Tuesday in July Mindy Jones will be hosting Trivia in the barn, and then every Tuesday in August

we will have cribbage. All are welcome for these fun activities.

More information concerning dates and times will be available as the time gets closer.

The big undertaking in 2020 will be a major repair to the Historical Society Museum. The back wall and kitchen area of the museum is separating from the floor, which is on a rock foundation. As we all know rocks grow and move around! There is someone who is willing to make the repairs, but the cost is at this point unknown.

The Society appreciates any support it can get; if you are interested in becoming involved let Jackie Rollins hear from you. Her number is (603) 544-3252. The Historical Society is a 501(c)3 organization so any donation is tax deductible.

Jackie Rollins, President

Libby restoration fundraising on track (until it wasn't)

We all know the story, the pandemic has hit every aspect of our lives and though saving The Libby Museum may seem initially unimportant, it might be one of many projects with the potential to gear up our local economy. The estimated (2019) cost to save this historic building and its unique collection is \$2.4-\$2.8 million. We're going to need stimulus like this!

We were doing well on fundraising just before we were all advised to hunker down. We passed the \$1 million mark in just nine months with contributions and pledges from many Tuftonboro and Wolfeboro residents ("Thank you!"), other generous donors, events, and a new Capital Reserve Fund approved by the Town of Wolfeboro (\$300k).

The best way forward from here isn't yet clear; it's the early days (in pandemic terms). So, we are in partial pause mode as this newsletter goes to print. What we can do is keep putting messages on the sign in front of The Museum and prepare for our popular plant sales: garden and house plants June 13 and 14, then MUMs on Sept 4-6. And, you might even see construction start on repairing the waterfront retaining wall this spring, too. The Selectmen in Wolfeboro (the Museum's Trustees) will determine if (and when) The Museum opens for the summer, and, in any case, our dedicated volunteers and staff will do their best on spring clean-up (keeping social distance, of course!).

So, the next time you pass by The Libby, swing in and enjoy the view across Winter Harbor, and take a minute to imagine the local men who felled and



Circa 1910, the crew excavating for construction of the Libby Museum (inset) located on Route 109, north of town. From left: Frank Bradley, H. Sleeper, Isaak Burke, Fred Gould, Gilbert Welch, John Gould, Joe King, unknown, Charles Libby, J.C. Blake, and George W. Hersey.

dragged the timber off Rattlesnake Island and dug the foundation to build the Museum in 1912. They were tough and did the unimaginable, building a natural history museum in what was, a remote rural area. Now it's our turn to find a way to save the only (and oldest)

natural history museum in our State. We can do this!

Donations by check to: "Libby Restoration".
c/o Friends of The Libby, Box 2062, Wolfeboro, NH 03894.

**Alana Albee, Director
The Libby Museum**

Tuftonboro Grange #142 waits out the healthcare crisis

Tuftonboro Grange has been on winter hiatus. It was looking forward to the spring meeting on April 10, but in the wake of the Covid-19 situation, all meetings have been canceled for now.

The group remains hopeful that it can resume

meeting again soon. In the meantime, the Tuftonboro Grange wishes everyone good health.

The Grange is a non-partisan, non-sectarian organization involved in promoting programs and ideas which will enhance the lives of those who live

in our communities. Believing that when we band together we can make a better world, the Grange supports stewardship of the earth, good schools, and a better and more wholesome life for all of us.

Joy Perkins, Secretary

Celtic music will soon return to the Old White Church

Greg and Teri Heppes of the Tuftonboro Store are avid Irish music fans. Back in 2005, they began hosting Celtic musicians at the Old White Church across from the store. It began as a favor to a friend in Loudon who was presenting Irish music concerts in a remodeled barn. They received a request to play from a touring Irish band, but could not accommodate them. Thus began 12 years of Irish music concerts at the Old White Church.

About 4 years ago when the Heppes moved out of the green colonial home across from the store, they quit hosting concerts since they then had no place to house the musicians and no place to offer an after-concert party.

Now, they are back at it. With friends Michael and Ellen DeCarlo, who live on Durgin Rd, willing to

host the musicians overnight and have the afterparty at their house, Greg and Teri have again scheduled Celtic musicians who will be performing at the Old White Church.

Saturday, May 23, Irish fiddler Manus McGuire and guitarist Joseph Carmichael will be entertaining their audience with impressive traditional Irish music.

On Friday June 19, Heron Valley, a five-piece band, hailing from Scotland, will delight us with tunes both traditional and contemporary. You'll hear energetic pipe tunes as well as flute, whistles, banjo, guitar and vocals.

On Saturday, July 18, The Old White Church hosts Cuig, a five-piece Irish band from the North of Ireland. They have taken both sides of the Atlantic by storm with banjo, mandolin, fiddle, uilleann pipes

bodhran, button accordion, guitar and vocals.

Finally, on Saturday, August 15, hear the Byrne Brothers, a family band from Dublin, then Donegal, and recently, Orlando, Florida. The family is made up of 3 brothers age 10, 15, 18 and their father. The unbelievable talent of these young musicians is not to be missed.

Each concert will start at 7:30 p.m. and costs \$20.00 per person. There will be a pot luck and session at 5 Durgin Rd. after every session.

Contact Teri Heppes at hepx216@yahoo.com if you want to be on their mailing list. They will also be putting articles in the Granite State News about two weeks prior to each concert. Watch the store and the newspaper for notices of any other upcoming concerts.

Greg and Teri Heppes

Lakes Region Curling Association completes fifth year

Between the 2014 Winter Olympics in Sochi and the games planned for Beijing in 2022, the Lakes Region Curling Association (LRCA) was formed and came of age. In 2020 the league completed its fifth year of bringing the Olympic sport to the Lakes Region of New Hampshire.

In the curling world, five years marks a milestone, the point at which curlers are considered to have evolved from beginner-level play to competitive game strategy and skills. With the end of the Winter 2019-2020 season, the LRCA crossed that threshold.

From the start, Tuftonboro residents have played a leading role in maturing the sport in this region. Of the original 46 members, nine were from Tuftonboro, including Melvin Village and Mirror Lake. They remain a core element of today's membership.

At the end of this year's competition, the Winter 2020 season saw a squad named Team Nine, cobbled together from both experienced and rookie curlers, wrest the league championship from a three-time-winner, the all-woman team known as the Wolf Pack.

"The season came down to the last shot of the last game," Dan Barnard, a Team Nine member, recalled. "Bringing down the curtain on the season that way

was gratifying for a team that really came together over the course of a few short months."

Other Tuftonboro residents filling out LRCA teams this year included newcomers Scott and Julie Adams and Jim McIntyre, as well as veterans Heather Patterson, David "Snoop" Raymond, and Rick and Susan Weeks.

By mid-March, the precautionary closing of Pop Whalen Ice Arena forced the LRCA to cancel its final week of matches, as well as its end-of-year gathering and awards presentation. It was a sobering end to an otherwise outstanding year that for the first time saw the expected membership drop-off during the winter months more than offset by an influx of new curlers.

Over the years the LRCA has reached and recruited curling enthusiasts from around the Lakes Region and beyond. Now, with preparations and trials for the 2022 Winter Olympics scheduled to start in 2021, the coming year promises a new surge of interest and involvement, and LRCA organizers will be at work over the summer months working on how to get the word out even more about this growing sport.

Information about curling in general and Lakes



Heather Patterson, using a sliding delivery, sends her stone to the "house."

Region Curling in particular is available on the association's web site www.lakescurlingnh.org.

**Rich Masse, President
Lakes Region Curling Association**

Melvin Village Church prepares for Annual Fair in July

"To provide the best environment for young and old together to grow and experience the richness and generosity of Christ."

The Melvin Village Community Church (MVCC) welcomes you to join it **online** at www.mvccnh.org on Sunday mornings to share in music, fellowship and a positive encouraging message to inspire your faith journey. Sunday morning worship services begin at 10:00 a.m. We strive to serve all the families within our local community.

The church has joined with Camp Sentinel and Bald Peak Colony Club to help provide homemade

meals to those in need around the community. They are called Sunday Dinners. Bald Peak provides the food, Camp Sentinel cooks the meals, and MVCC parishioners deliver (covid-19 servsafe) to the homes of locals in need of a warm meal and a friendly face.

We are planning and getting ready for the Annual Church Fair and Auction on Saturday, July 11 from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. If you have items you would like to donate, they can be brought to the church barn on Saturday mornings starting in June. Check out www.mvccnh.org/auction for more information.

MVCC is a community-minded fellowship of

believers who give back in a multitude of ways. We help those in need through our FEET FOR FUEL program. If you are a neighbor in need of fuel assistance, please call the church at 603.544.9661. If you would like more information about the church or upcoming events please visit our website at www.mvccnh.org or contact the church at (603) 544-9661 or email us at secretary@mvccnh.org.

It is our pleasure and act of worship to serve those in our local community and beyond, to share the good news of Jesus Christ.

Pastor Kevin

Camp Sentinel assists in serving Sunday meals to needy

Camp Sentinel is a community mission of Tuftonboro, NH. We are a mission-first ministry which strived to never turn away a Tuftonboro resident for the inability to pay and provides scholarships to many campers in financial need.

We are excited and looking forward to summer and the arrival of kids and giving them an amazing outdoor experience. Sentinel has been working in conjunction with the Melvin Village Community Church and Bald Peak Colony Club to make and deliver 40+ meals on Sunday evenings. These meals have been delivered (Covid-19 *servsafe*) to those within Tuftonboro who are in need. Sentinel is a ministry without walls, and we have been honored to help in this way.

Since 1949 Sentinel has offered a safe, fun, Christian summer camp experience for youth starting as early as age 5. Our camp staff experience

a weeklong training each summer, learning the best practices of camper supervision and Bible-based program service.

Camp Sentinel's ministry motto is, "Where Relationships Are Built and Lives Are Changed." These relationships are built through the programs we offer. Activities include swimming, archery, canoeing, paddle boating, arts and crafts, traditional campfire, soccer, volleyball, basketball, frisbee golf, Bible study and more. We also offer specialty camps like Day Camp, Two-week camp, Discovery (for those who want to experience the rustic outdoors), Little Adventurers (abbreviated overnight camp for five and six-year-olds), Senior Ventures for adults over 50, Leaders, and Teen Camp.

Check out our website for more details at www.campsentinel.org or call the main office at 603-539-4839. We look forward to hearing from you!

Our mission is to create a welcoming environment for Christian relationship building and spiritual renewal. Within the stillness of God's creation and through the guidance of the staff, people are moved from discovery into authentic relationships with others and with Jesus Christ.



The kitchen at Sentinel put to good use.

Roadside cleanup continued fom Page 1

While Tuftonboro Town-wide Roadside Clean-up day is officially set as Saturday April 18, you can choose to participate on any day of your choosing. Just take an hour or two, get out, and start picking. No matter when you decide to participate, remember **Safety First**. If you don't have an orange or other color safety vest to wear, **please wear something bright that will make you visible along the side of the road**. Be aware of your surroundings at all times,

and watch for cars. **Wearing gloves is appropriate for this activity at any time!**

You may be staying home and practicing physical distancing, but you are still part of a community that cares for one another and our town. The Tuftonboro Association hopes you can have an enjoyable time participating in this activity. And, if you see someone doing roadside clean-up, honk when you pass. Stay safe. Questions can be sent to selectmen@tuftonboro.org.

If you do participate in the Tuftonboro Town-

wide Roadside Clean-up, please go to the Tuftonboro Association Facebook page (www.facebook.com/tuftonboroassociation/) and leave a comment. Tell who participated (number of people), where they picked up, how many bags were filled, and the number of miles covered. You can even tell about anything unusual you found. This is all information that gets turned into NH DOT. Let's see how many posts we can get on the Tuftonboro Association Facebook page!

Susan Wingate

The Tuftonboro Association

Loons continued from Page 3

vulnerable time, and loons will assume a flattened position with heads craned forward when threatened. If adult loons are forced to abandon the nest, even briefly, the eggs are highly susceptible to predators. It's best to back away if you see a loon in a defensive posture as you may be the perceived threat even if you are just trying to look.

Chicks are our heart's delight! Able to swim at birth, but not well, these fluffy babies look adorable on their parents' backs where they rest, are kept warm, and avoid turtles, fish, eagles, and crows who find them delectable. For eight weeks the parents provide most of their food while gradually allowing the chicks to swim and dive on their own. By twelve weeks juveniles provide most of their own food (although

they will still beg parents for food) and are nearly flying. Parents leave the lake one at a time in late fall and somehow, their young know to follow within weeks.

Humans and global warming pose threats to the loon population. Lead poisoning as a result of consuming fishing tackle in New Hampshire accounted for most loon deaths before protective legislation was passed. Once lead is ingested, a loon will die within weeks. Entwined fishing line can also kill a loon if it impairs eating or movement. Climate change accounts for rising temperatures and increased rainfall. Both are harmful to loons and their nests. Shoreline development has significantly reduced areas for nesting while general human population growth has driven up the numbers of raccoons and other scavengers who prey on loon eggs. Chemical

contaminants, even some banned years ago, are still found in the food chain and have reduced the loon population or weakened their eggs. Even wakes from boats can disrupt nests and drown loon chicks. Finally, although a victory in many ways, the bald eagle population has grown. Eagles are long-time predators for loon eggs and chicks. We've cheered silently and sometimes aloud as the Mirror Lake loons savagely fight off the two eagles who inhabit the skies of Mirror Lake. Loons are bolder and stronger than we think.

We enjoy many natural wonders in the Lakes Region. Loons add sights and sounds that are cherished. Listen to their haunting calls on Mirror Lake.

Kathleen Sciarappa

Mirror Lake Protective Association

No-Till continued from Page 7

popped up as soon as the weather warmed, you may ask. How do I get rid of them? If you planted a good cover crop as soon as you harvested in the fall, you

won't have those sprouted weed seeds, but if you do:

On otherwise bare soil, cover with a dark tarp for a couple weeks to kill the weeds.

On cover-cropped soil, cover with clear plastic to solarize, letting the heat of sun kill the weeds.

In a few years, you'll have almost no annual weed seeds to worry about – the weed bank will be depleted, and you'll have more time to enjoy gardening.

Susan Poirier,

Master Gardener

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Please note: All events are all subject to cancellation or rescheduling due to COVID-19 restrictions. Consult the town website or event contact for up to date information.

May

20	6:00 PM - 7:00 PM	Paint Class - sponsored by Parks & Rec - call to confirm	TTH
----	-------------------	--	-----

June

6	9:00 AM - 2:00 PM	Town Wide yard sale - sponsored by Parks & Rec	Town
13 & 14	9:00 AM - 5:00 PM	Garden and House plant sale - sponsored by Libby Museum	Libby
17	6:00 PM - 7:00 PM	Paint Class - Sponsored by Parks and Rec - location 19 mile bay	19MB
27	12:00 PM - 2:00 PM	Summer Kickoff - sponsored by Parks & Rec	19MB
27	9:00 AM - Noon	Hikers Bake Sale - Note location: Melvin Village Post Office	Melvin

July

6	Noon - 2:00 PM	Swim Lessons begin at 19 Mile Beach - sponsored by Parks & Rec	19MB
9	6:30 PM - 8:30 PM	Summer Concert - The Big Picture Band - sponsored by Parks & Rec	19MB
16	6:30 PM - 8:30 PM	Summer Concert - Granite Planet - sponsored by Parks & Rec	19MB
23	6:30 PM - 8:30 PM	Summer Concert - Wooden Nickels Band - sponsored by Parks & Rec	19MB
30	6:30 PM - 8:30 PM	Summer Concert - Brian Hastings & Sky Road - sponsored by Parks & Rec	19MB

Ongoing

****NOTE:** Due to the COVID-19, the library was closed at the time of printing this newsletter.
Please consult the Library's web page for updates. <www.tuftonborolibrary.org/>**

Last Wednesday of the month	7:00 PM - 8:30 PM	History Book Club meeting	TFL
Tuesdays	6:30 PM - 9:30 PM	Country, Bluegrass & Gospel Music Jam Session	OWC
Monday	6:30 PM - 8:30 PM	Knit Wits	TFL
Friday	10:00 AM - 11:00 AM	Pre-School Story hour	TFL
Saturdays	10 AM - Noon	Saturday Writers Group	TFL
Last Wednesday of the month	7:00 PM	History Book Club	TFL

Contacts:

Hikers	Faye Friedrich	< fayefriedrich@icloud.com >
Parks & Rec	Dennis Zilembo	< parksandrec@tuftonboro.org >
Libby Museum	Alana Albee	< director@thelibbymuseum.org >

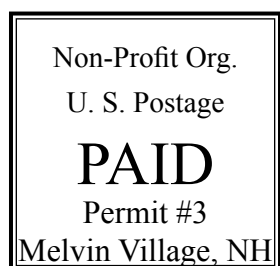
KEY:

19MB - 19 Mile Bay Pavilion	Libby - Libby Museum	
DMF - Davis Memorial Field	OWC - Old White Church	TCS - Tuftonboro Central School
TFL - Tuftonboro Free Library	TFS - Tuftonboro Central Fire Station	TGH - Tuftonboro Grange Hall
THS - Tuftonboro Historical Society	TTO - Tuftonboro Town Offices	TUMC - United Methodist Church
TWS - Town Web Site	WWH - Willing Workers Hall	TTH - Tuftonboro Town House



A venerable visitor to the Wildlife Observation Station maintained by the town on Copp's Pond. This amphibious reptile has a favorite resting place a stone's throw west of the newly reconstructed observation deck and frequently poses for a photo. Visit the Observation Station on the south side of Middle Road between #315 and #319. (Phil Martin Photo)

The Tuftonboro Association
P.O. Box 121
Melvin Village, NH 03850



TUFTONBORO POSTAL