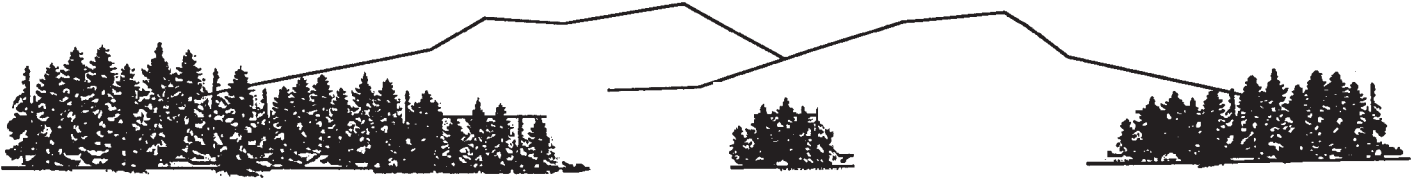


# The Tuftonboro Times



Vol XXIV, No 1

A Quarterly Newsletter Published by the Tuftonboro Association

Winter 2022

## Great Meadow Trail phase one construction is completed

At our last report, we were close to completing phase 1 of the Great Meadow Trail. Boardwalks over wetland areas and two bridges over streams were complete, and the meadow edge was in sight. Then, through the persistent efforts of our volunteers and the enthusiastic leadership of Trail Master Steve Scapicchio, in late October and early November the last of the temporary boardwalks were replaced with the remaining materials purchased through donations from the Tuftonboro Association and other generous individuals. The last boardwalk now terminates at the planned location of a viewing platform, which is planned for Phase 2, and is our target for 2022. To ensure that winter hikers don't mistake ice for solid ground, a few "Thin Ice" signs have been posted just beyond the current, temporary viewing spot.

The Tuftonboro Conservation Commission has purchased all the materials needed for the platform, and these are in storage awaiting late spring construction. The trail kiosk has been prefabricated by our carpenter volunteers (Jim Shildneck and Russ Baerenklau) and is ready to install when conditions permit in the spring.



**Steve Capicchio, Steve Metz, and Larry Phelps admire their work after completing the approach ramp to the last bridge**

The viewing platform will have a stairway leading up to a deck about 6 ft off the ground. This will provide hikers with a view over shrubs and small trees, out into the meadow and including a portion of the Melvin River. There will also be a view of the Ossipee Range. The platform will be large enough for a small group to gather. There will also be benches where hikers can relax and take in the view. Those willing to be still and quiet are nearly guaranteed to see some wildlife.

So far, our diligent trail crew has overcome Covid threats and persistent wet weather. True to form, a new challenge is emerging to make Phase 2 exciting. Beavers have occupied the area just in front of the viewing platform site, raising water levels above dry ground. Getting solid foundations in for the platform will be difficult and will involve some creativity.

Sounds like fun, right? Well, you don't have to miss out. Check this off your New Year's resolution list and sign up for 2022. Just give us a call at (603) 569-4539 x24 and leave a message with your contact information or send us an e-mail at [conservation@tuftonboro.org](mailto:conservation@tuftonboro.org). You can look forward to working with our fun-loving crew and learning from some of our "all-star team" members. This year we want to recognize "Vice-President and Director of Trails Material Transportation", Don Dow. If there is something in the back of a truck or lying on the ground and it looks like trail building material, Don is going to carry it to wherever it is needed. Don's energy and resilience is incredible.

If you are not sure you can keep up with Don, but you still want to help, we can find a job just for you, or you can donate to support the trail construction. Mark your check "Great Meadow Trail Project" and send it to the Tuftonboro Association, P.O. Box 121, Melvin Village, NH 03850.

There is still plenty of work to be done. After the kiosk and observation platform are in place, construction will start on the "go back" loop, which is Phase 3. From the platform, this trail will head west along the Melvin River, then back to the trailhead, taking in some great river views and a diversity of wildlife habitats. There will be more boardwalks to build over springs and wetlands and two more bridges to build over streams. Don could use an apprentice



**Don Dow pounds an anchor stake while Larry Phelps provides inspiration.**

materials transporter.

Another project will be to clean up an old gravel pit on the "go back" loop. We will hire a contractor to eliminate a concentration of invasive plants while volunteers will be needed to clean up some old appliances, a boat, and some other trash dumped there before the gravel pit closed. When that area is cleaned up, we will plant vegetation to support the wildlife habitat.

In the coming years, we will begin planning an educational component of the trail. We intend to use modern media to provide an educational journey around the trail and all its natural wonders. In the meantime, the Conservation Commission will continue to look for opportunities to preserve and protect this natural treasure called the Great Meadow.

**Steve Wingate, Vice-Chairman  
Tuftonboro Conservation Commission**

# Town election to be held March 8, several positions open

The upcoming town elections will be held at the Tuftonboro Central School on March 8 from 8:00 a.m. until 7:00 p.m. This is a temporary departure from tradition as local elections are normally held at the Tuftonboro Town House. Public health considerations regarding the COVID virus suggested that the larger space at the school would permit the voters, election workers, and officials to practice social distancing. Moderator Dan Barnard said: "I would prefer to use the Town House for our election given its history and small-town feel. But the uncertainty of these times makes it impossible to know what guidelines may

be in place this March and so we err on the side of caution."

The Governor Wentworth Regional School District has mandated that a mask or face covering shall be used in all district buildings and the town will abide by those restrictions. As was the case in the 2020 elections an exception to the rule will be requested to allow unmasked voters to enter the polling area through a second entrance and to vote in a specific area. "No registered voter will be prevented from exercising their right to vote," Barnard said.

Following the closing of the polls at 7:00 p.m.

a hand-count of the votes will be tallied in the same area by teams of volunteer counters. The public is welcome to observe the count in progress if it does not interfere with the counters as they work.

In a separate action, the Tuftonboro Association is currently deliberating whether it can sponsor a "Candidate's Night" as it has done in the past. Once again, the COVID pandemic is cited as the reason for concerns about creating large gatherings of individuals.

**Dan Barnard**  
Town Moderator

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## **TOWN OF TUFTONBORO**

### **PUBLIC NOTICE**

**Pursuant to RSA 669:19, all Candidates for Town Office must file a Declaration of Candidacy with the Town Clerk during the filing period, which will begin January 19, 2022 at 9:00 AM and end on January 28, 2022 at 5:00 PM.**

**Declaration of Candidacy will be received for the following Town Offices:**

- **Selectman for Three Years**
- **Moderator for Two Years**
- **Supervisor of the Checklist for Six Years**
- **Budget Committee for Three Years (2)**
- **Trustee of the Trust Funds for Three Years**
  - **Cemetery Trustee for Three Years**
  - **Library Trustee for Three Years**

**The Town Clerk's Office is open to receive filings:**

**Mondays, Wednesdays & Fridays – 8:30 AM to 4:00 PM**

**Tuesdays—4:00 PM to 7:00 PM**

**The office will remain open on January 28<sup>th</sup> until 5:00 PM.**

**Jennifer Coulter, Town Clerk**

**Town of Tuftonboro**

# Selectmen at work preparing warrant for Town Meeting

With the end of 2021, the selectmen have been busy creating the budget for 2022 and prioritizing upcoming projects. We are happy to report that the budget we have presented to the Budget Committee for approval increased only 4.1% despite inflation increasing costs by 4.9%.

Due to economic forces and the pandemic, we were forced to put construction of our new police station on hold for 2021. We have met with the construction management company and the architects and have every hope that construction will begin in 2022.

The other major project that we will bring to the voters in March will be the reconstruction of the pier at 19-mile bay. Negotiations with the Department

of Environmental Services and the Governor's Council have been positively concluded and we intend for work to begin on this project after ice out. Our hope is to not adversely impact the summer season with construction on this project, so, if we are unable to complete the project in the spring, we might wait and do the construction in the fall.

Included in this year's budget are the start-up costs for paper recycling at the transfer station, which the voters at Town Meeting approved last spring. The selectmen urge all our residents to participate in this recycling effort.

The selectmen are currently preparing warrant articles for the Town Meeting on

March 9. Our hope is to limit the amount to be raised by taxes to something close to the amount raised in 2021. We will also be proposing a change to the paving article by presenting two paving warrant articles, one for our major through roads and the second for smaller neighborhood roads. Our intention is to give these smaller roads more attention than they have been receiving.

We hope that all of you had a great holiday season, and we look forward to working for you in the coming year.

**Tuftonboro Board of Selectmen**  
**William Marcussen, Chairman**  
**William "Chip" Albee**  
**Guy Pike**

## Police staffing problems are a NH and nationwide issue

The year 2021 has finally ended--a year of real challenge for the Tuftonboro Police Department. It was fortunate to have the support of the community at last year's Town Meeting when it voted to build a new police station. The department is thankful and appreciative of the support shown by the townspeople. But shortly after the meeting, the construction manager delivered sobering news. He said that due to the sudden volatility of prices and availability of supplies, what we had thought was the cost of the facility, estimated on the day before Town Meeting, had increased dramatically. The increases meant that the new police station would cost more than the funds appropriated at Town Meeting and take longer to build. Therefore, the Selectmen decided to postpone construction of the facility to see if prices might stabilize. Although some materials did go down, others went up. The result is that the Selectmen are continuing to have meetings with the architect and construction manager seeking a solution. An emergency management grant is being pursued to help offset some of the costs, and the town is currently waiting for a final decision.

The department is still dealing with staffing short-

ages. The position of Administrative Assistant was filled only to have the applicant decide to take another job. She is currently working a few hours a week until the position can be permanently filled. To complicate things, off-duty injuries have reduced staffing continuously since May. There is no funding in the operating budget for 2022 for additional help, so the department will be short one or two officers at the beginning of this year and possibly until after Town Meeting. Other local agencies are helping with coverage, including the New Hampshire State Police and Carroll County Sheriff's Office. But they have also been dealing with their own staffing problems, as well as covering other towns that have vacancies. This inevitably is affecting response time.

Police vacancies are a nationwide issue. The New Hampshire Police Academy is trying to run extra classes to help departments fill positions. COVID-19 has impacted training at the academy, limiting it to day classes only and providing no meals. The demand to fill open positions in police departments statewide has limited the academy almost exclusively to training new recruits. That will mean less tuition free training

at a time when continuing education requirements are expected to increase. Some departments have increased pay and offered sign on bonuses to try to fill positions. There appears to be no easy solution.

For 2022, several new laws take effect. There are three related to animals. One makes it a misdemeanor to try to conceal the identity of a dog by removing the collar. The purpose is to stop the resale of stolen dogs. Another mandates that a driver who strikes a cat must stop and provide their information to the owner or police. This is already required of drivers that strike dogs. The third law extends animal cruelty laws to make it illegal to beat, whip, torture or mutilate any wild animal, fish, or bird. There is an affirmative defense if the person was hunting during open season and the following the appropriate laws and rules.

A reminder that Jessica's law requires snow be removed from vehicles before going down the road.

Hopefully the COVID risk abates this year so we can enjoy social activities and our lives will return to normal.

**Andrew Shagoury, Chief**  
**Tuftonboro Police Department**

## Fire & Rescue report record number of calls in 2021

The New Year has come in with some colder weather and a little snow. The department is closing out the year with over 615 calls for service with a couple of weeks to go. This breaks the all-time high of 609 calls we had in 2017. Calls were up across the board, but the largest number continues to be calls for medical emergencies. "The times, they are a changin'" as the old song goes, but the department is doing its best to keep up and will continue to provide the level of service the town deserves.

Flu season is here, and this season has been a bad

one. If you have the flu, or think you do, please stay home, rest, drink plenty of fluids, and try to keep eating to maintain your strength. If symptoms persist more than a few days, please try and see your doctor. It is not too late to get a flu shot if you have not gotten one already. If you know someone that lives alone or does not get out much, please try to make a point of checking on them. Remind them to drink lots of fluids. These folks seem to be in a constant state of dehydration so when they get the flu or flu-like symptoms it can be a real emergency. Please do not hesitate to

call 911 if they need immediate medical attention. I will mention COVID but with all the media and surrounding noise you are aware of the crisis (and sick of hearing about it). If you haven't gotten vaccinated by now you probably have chosen not to. So, I see no need to beat a dead horse. Insert covid above where it says "flu."

If you are reading this and still have your natural Christmas tree up, please remove it from your home

**Continued on Page 10**



# \$3K grant received for new bike trail in Tuftonboro

The New Hampshire Electric Co-op Foundation just awarded a \$3,000 grant to the Tuftonboro Parks & Recreation Commission to be used for the building of our own bike trail!

A proposal prepared by Bella Terra Trail Design has been approved by the Tuftonboro Recreation Commission, the Board of Selectman, and the Conservation Commission to go forward with the bike trail

project. The proposed location would be off Middle Road, and adjacent to the Fire station. The proposed trail system would be designed with the primary use being cycling. This new system would not interfere with the existing hiking/walking trail system and will coexist with the current trails to provide a greater access to the property. This system will be accompanied by a small skills park designed for bikers to

hone skills in a safe area that has been designed and constructed with progression in mind.

The cost of the total project is \$55,520. The recent grant award is the start for our community to come together and help fund this project!

**Dennis Zilembo, Director  
Tuftonboro Parks & Recreation Commission**

## Residents are encouraged to participate in LRPC survey

The Lakes Region Planning Commission (LRPC) would like to invite Tuftonboro residents to participate in a Bicycling and Walking Survey for the 2022 Lakes Region Bicycling and Walking Plan. The survey

seeks some basic demographic information and asks questions regarding citizens thoughts and habits on walking and bicycling in the Lakes Region. All survey answers will be kept anonymous. In order to access

the survey citizens need to go to the website:

<https://arcg.is/1qaKr>.

The Tuftonboro selectmen urge residents to participate in this survey.

## Lakes Region Curling winter season off to a great start

Here come the Winter Olympics and the Lakes Region Curling Association's Winter League.

As we all know by now, the 2022 Winter Olympics are slated to begin in Beijing in a matter of weeks. High on the interest scale will be curling, in large part because of the gold medals won by John Shuster and his American teammates at the last games in 2018.

Schuster and a slightly altered squad are back to defend their title this year, while a talented women's team led by Tabitha Peterson looks to bring back medals on their side of the sport.

Equally competitive is the pair representing the US in mixed doubles: Chris Plys (a member of Shuster's squad) and Vicky Persinger. For those who don't follow curling, mixed doubles is a fast-paced version of the game in which two couples vie for supremacy with a limited number of stones and a shortened time period. There's no place to hide mistakes in this type of match.

For those who want a quick introduction to



**Heather and Bob Patterson work together to "sweep" the ice ahead of the curling stone. This can affect the direction and the distance that the stone travels.**

the rules and strategy of the game while watching televised Olympic matches, check out the Lakes Region Curling Association's web site at <https://lakescurlingnh.org/learn>.

The Olympics run February 2 through February 20.

With a successful fall league in its back pocket, the LRCA is now launching its Winter 2022 season, with eight teams returning to the ice at Pop Whalen ice Arena in Wolfeboro. The winning squad for the Fall 2021 season was Team Nine, so named as they were the first expansion team in what was originally an eight-team league. The win was the second title in a row for the talented squad, which includes Tuftonboro Moderator Dan Barnard among its members

Tuftonboro is also represented on the LRCA by husband-and-wife team Heather and Bob Patterson, who have been with the organization from its inception in 2016. Other Tuftonboro curlers include

Brad Swain and David "Snoop" Raymond.

In addition to Wolfeboro and Tuftonboro, the organization brings together players from near and far, including Ossipee, Alton, Gilford, Laconia, Sanbornton, and Webster. Two players hail from Massachusetts and Maine, respectively.

While slots are fully filled for the winter season, experience shows that, following the Olympics, interest in the sport always peaks. With that in mind, LRCA organizers are planning to participate in Wolfeboro Recreation Department's winter carnival once again in February. The organization will organize a free learn-to-curl session to let anyone who's curious about this ancient sport get a chance to try it out. Watch the LRCA web site (<https://lakescurlingnh.org>) for time and date.

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

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# Lakes Region officials interviewed about stewardship

Can a lake take care of itself? That's the question Mirror Lake Protective Association (MLPA) incoming President, Kathy Sciarappa, asked her own board members, as well as officials from Lake Wentworth, Lake Winnepesaukee, and NH LAKES, to discover ideas on how to provide proper lake stewardship. Their thoughtful answers will provide the foundation for a strategic plan to advance two intricately linked themes: 1) clean water, and 2) land conservation.

Of the dozen people interviewed, Julie Brown, Executive Director of the Wentworth Watershed Association, had the deepest roots stretching back eleven generations to General Wentworth! The most recent board arrival, Steve Cloutier, relocated from Rattlesnake Island in 2019. He chose Mirror Lake because *"It's so clean and lacks the overgrowth of weeds found on so many NH lakes."* Steve went on to say, *"My location maximizes the sun, the sunset, and breezes. I also appreciate the prevalence of unbuilt waterfront. A big plus."*

Regarding the overwhelming interest in clean water, Larry Gil, MLPA board member, clarified: *"We've had three cyanobacteria outbreaks since 2008. Since then, a huge percentage of lakes in New Hampshire have experienced multiple outbreaks. We were among the first to do something about it. The most valuable defense we have is the water samples data set. We have records from 1958. We need to keep looking for trends and create a 30-year plan that includes a solution to our deep hole problem. That 40-foot depth has no, or very little oxygen which likely contributes to the cyanobacteria problem. Dusty Davies, MLPA board member, agrees: "Our challenge is to keep the lake clean despite rising temperatures and erratic rainfall patterns." Dusty went on to say "We have extensive knowledge regarding the impact of the Wolfeboro Sewage Treatment plant including how the spray fields worked. Or, actually, how they were not working. The spray field closest to Mirror Lake had a history of permit violations due to the saturation of the field, yet the spraying continued. Ultimately, the fields were shut off. That amounted to sewage going nearly directly into the lake." Pat Tarpey, Lake Winnepesaukee Association Executive Director emphasized, "It's bigger than Mirror Lake because water flows between Mirror Lake, Winter Harbor, and other parts of Lake Winnepesaukee. But it's smaller, too, because Winnepesaukee has over 400 sites that have to be fixed and Mirror Lake has already corrected their dozen or so issues." Pat warned, "We have to put these lakes on a diet and reduce the amount of phosphorus coming in." Gene Kelley, past President of the MLPA affirms, "The health of Mirror Lake depends on the watershed. We have to be vigilant. We don't have the horrible problem of milfoil, and MLPA Weed Watchers are not only credited for this accomplishment, but they are*

*the 'Big Enchilada.' Our Weed Watchers are great."* Julie Brown, concurs: *"Our mission is water quality. We have seven subcommittees working strictly on that in the Wentworth Association."* Val Zanchuk, MLPA Vice-President, has created an opportunity to review thousands of data points collected on Mirror Lake waters over several decades. Val offered, *"Using Tableau software we can do a thorough analysis of all that the MLPA Lake Chemistry Committee now knows. We can analyze, predict, get rid of misconceptions and clear up suppositions. We can then construct a plan unique to Mirror Lake."*

Some of those interviewed spoke about rising temperatures and weather patterns as impacting water quality. Gene Kelley stated, *"Global warming is a reality"* while Larry Gil noted, *"2021 was the rainiest July on record."* Larry suggested we match our water samples with the weather patterns over the decades to see if there is a correlation. Dusty raised this concern: *"What happens if there are more draughts and wells go dry? Should we be drawing from the lake to water plants, flush toilets etc. Do we all need solar panels? Steve Scapicchio already has them. Should we be getting ready?"* Steve Scapicchio, MLPA board member and Chair of the Tuftonboro Conservation Committee concurred: *"I've taken precautionary measures with solar and a lake pump. The weather and temperatures have made a negative impact on other areas in and around Tuftonboro and the four committees I serve have seen a pervasive problem with having mud on the trails. All of Carroll County has been impacted. We need to be proactive with conservation of the land. Too often natural barriers around the lake are removed."*

The second largest interview response focused on land conservation. Ann Torregrossa, MLPA board member and chair of the MLPA Land Conservation Committee explained: *"It's about trying to get the undeveloped parcels protected. Rick Van de Pol thinks we should conserve as many properties as we can and keep them in their natural state."* The Tuftonboro Conservation Commission would likely agree. Steve Scapicchio and Larry Gil, a member of the Commission, have served as excellent liaisons to MLPA. Fran Donoghue, MLPA Secretary added: *"It's critically important that we continue with our efforts to acquire and convert land for conservation purposes regardless of the designations, especially land abutting the lake."* Gene Kelley acknowledged, *"We need to help people understand how to stay in compliance with the Shoreline Protection Act. Many who buy do not know the restrictions. Sometimes contractors, although knowledgeable, do not share the information."*

Unsurprisingly, money came up during the interviews. Julie Brown, Executive Director of the Wentworth Watershed Association, Pat Tarpey,



**An unusual pattern was formed this year as Mirror Lake became frozen. The picture was taken from a drone owned and operated by Karl Ramsdell of Old Orchard Beach, Maine.**

Executive Director of the Lake Winnepesaukee Association and Andrea LaMoreaux, President of NH LAKES already have professional financial investment strategies to help their organizations grow. MLPA relies solely on memberships, which have been generous, even without fundraising. At a cost of \$25 it is hoped that members of any generation can afford to support Mirror Lake. Many donors far exceed the expected fee. In other lake organizations endowments, appeals for funds, and annual fundraising events are common, but not on Mirror Lake. Treasurer Robin Muench proposed, *"We need to connect more with the membership. A lot of people just don't seem to know about us, or what we do."* Overall, it is the belief of the board members that if and when we need capital to combat a specified problem, residents will respond accordingly. Property values were also discussed. Val Zanchuk explained, *"Lake properties account for 75% of the revenue for the town of Tuftonboro. If blooms diminish house values, it hurts everybody. From a tax standpoint, maintaining value is important. For owners, the health of the lake has a bearing on the value of their homes. We have a problem now with property turnover and people turnover. The newer people know less about the issues and are unconcerned. They need to know about the benefits of clean water and the efforts and value of MLPA."*

Each interviewee spoke earnestly about the value of making connections. Gene Kelley suggested, *"We need to rally all one hundred households on the lake*

**Continued on Page 10**



# Tuftonboro Association is eligible for Amazon Smile

Recently, the Tuftonboro Association, publisher of the *Tuftonboro Times*, was approved as a charitable organization eligible for AmazonSmile donations. Shoppers who use Amazon can now direct a percentage of their purchase price to go to the association, a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt organization.

To learn more, visit [smile.amazon.com/charitylists](https://smile.amazon.com/charitylists) or tap Charity Lists on the “Programs & Features” menu in the Amazon Shopping app on your mobile phone.

The following piece is by Joanne Fritz and is taken from an article posted on the website “the balance small business” ([www.thebalancesmb.com](http://www.thebalancesmb.com)):

*What Is AmazonSmile?*

*AmazonSmile, a separate portal from Amazon's main site, offers the same items, prices, and benefits as*

*Amazon.com, but with one distinct difference. When users shop on AmazonSmile, the retailer's Foundation contributes 0.5% of the price of eligible purchases to the charity of your choice.*

*There is no cost to charities or customers, and 100% of the donation generated from eligible purchases goes to the consumer's charity of choice. For frequent Amazon users, this additional perk is a great way to give back to charities effortlessly.*

*It's the ease of use that attracts socially responsible shoppers to AmazonSmile. They can choose the charity they wish to support, change that charity later if they wish, and shop on the website or with the Amazon app on their mobile devices.*

The Tuftonboro Association is not supported by Tuftonboro tax dollars or commercial advertising.

It is totally dependent upon the generosity of individuals who choose to support the goals of the organization. A five-dollar contribution is all it takes to become a member of the Tuftonboro Association. Larger contributions, of course, are always welcome. Whether the gift is large or small it all goes to support the Tuftonboro Association's mission: to be an active voice for conservation and civic improvements in the Town of Tuftonboro.

Contributions to the association can be directed to The Tuftonboro Association, P.O. Box 121, Melvin Village, N.H. 03850.

**Mark Howard, President  
The Tuftonboro Association**

## “Hope for the Future” is sermon series at Melvin church

Melvin Village Community Church: “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 welcomes you to join us Sunday mornings for an authentic gathering of young and old to experience and share in music, fellowship, and a positive encouraging message to inspire your faith journey. Currently, Pastor Kevin is sharing a sermon series “Hope for the Future” this winter with a focus on 1 Peter 3:15. Services are Sunday mornings at 10:00 a.m., or you may view online at [www.mvccnh.org/church-life](http://www.mvccnh.org/church-life). We strive to not only serve the families of those who attend church but also to those within our local community.

On Christmas Eve we hosted a special candle-light outdoor service with special music and reading of the Christmas story with 103 community members

in attendance. It was a beautiful service! (See the accompanying picture.)

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](http://www.mvccnh.org). Contact the church by phone at (603) 544-9661 or email us at [secretary@mvccnh.org](mailto: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  
Melvin Village Community Church**



**Christmas Eve photo by Matt Barnard.**

## Sign-up now for Sentinel 2022 day and overnight camps

Camp Sentinel Mission Statement: “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.”

We are excited for the summer ahead and counting the days until we enjoy time together around the campfire, refreshing swims in Dan Hole Pond and gazing at the stars above. 2022 Camp registration is open for day camp and overnight camp, and families may sign up at [www.campsentinel.org](http://www.campsentinel.org). Our summer theme is “Engage” and we will unpack the Bible study verse together in 1 Peter 3:15: “But in your hearts revere Christ as Lord. Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect.”

Each of us plays an important role as followers of God - our role is to engage with God and our neighbors. We do this by being prepared to share the reason for the hope we have in God. In 2022, we

will equip ourselves to speak the truth in love with gentleness and respect.

Sentinel is MISSION FIRST as we never turn a family away for the inability to pay for camp. Scholarships are available for families in need. Last summer we saw 604 campers come to the grounds, 93% of our campers come from the local community and around New Hampshire. Sentinel is here for the local community.

Thank you for your financial help with our new playground! The funds have been raised, and the playground will be installed and ready for the camp season ahead.

See you soon on the mountaintop,

**Kevin Van Brunt “Pk”  
Executive Director, Camp Sentinel**



**2021 Camp Sentinel staff photo.**

# Hot coffee & chocolate is served on Sundays at the library

Happy New Year from all of us at the Tuftonboro Free Library!

Hopefully, reading more books is one of your New Year's resolutions. If so, what better way to begin than by visiting your local library? With thousands of titles to choose from – including the latest bestsellers and recent additions to popular series – you could be well on your way to achieving your goal. *Books continue to be available in both large and regular print, on compact disc, or in digital format with a valid library card and free access to New Hampshire OverDrive and Hoopla Digital.*

The Readers' Choice Book Group meets on the third Thursday of the month at 10:00 am. They will discuss *The Midnight Library* by Matt Haig on January 20th, *The Thirteenth Tale* by Diane Setterfield on February 17th, and *Educated* by Tara Westover on March 17th. The History Book Group will meet on the last Wednesday of the month at 3:00 pm during the winter months. They will discuss *God's Shadow* by Alan Mikhail on January 26th, and *The Republic of Pirates* by Colin Woodard on February 23rd. Future titles for both groups will be listed on the library website once they are chosen. Copies of all books will be available in advance at the Circulation Desk. Please use the rear entrance when attending meetings.

For our young readers, a Virtual Preschool Story

& Craft Hour is held Friday mornings via Zoom at 10:30 am. Registration is required, and take-home craft kits will be available for pick up at the library during the week. If you cannot log in for the live reading, a link for the recording can be provided. *An individualized, in-person Storytime is also available upon request and can be scheduled at your convenience.*

For parents, a growing selection of educational kits can be borrowed for teaching and learning at home. In addition to the LeapFrog TAG Reading System, Habbi Habbi Bilingual Books, and the ever-popular Hooked on Phonics, TFL now offers selections from STEAM-To-Go. Choose from *All About Magnets*, *Everyday Science*, *Understanding Our Universe*, *Arts & Crafts*, and *Yoga for Mindfulness*.

Looking for your next great read? Try NoveList Plus!

NoveList Plus is a reader's advisory database provided by the State Library, and accessible for free with your library card. It offers information on over 100,000 titles, including full-text reviews, author read-alikes, book discussion guides, series information, current and past award winners, audiobooks, film adaptations, and much, much more. Call or email the library today for login information.

And finally, when you are ready to take a break from reading – or stock up on more books -- stop by



**Something good is always happening at the Tuftonboro Free Library!**

the library on Sundays between 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. and enjoy a hot beverage in the main program room. Coffee, tea, and hot chocolate will be available for our winter weary patrons. *(For our winter enthusiasts, don't forget snowshoes are also available to borrow, as well as the new season passes for the Sewall Woods and Nordic Ski Trails.)*

Until then... stay warm and read more books!

**Dennis R. Guilmette**  
Library Director  
Tuftonboro Free Library

## Agricultural Commission reviews 2021, moves on to 2022

As winter closed in, the Tuftonboro Agricultural Commission (TAC) wound down projects in 2021. The main focus of the past year of COVID has been the Community Garden. This has been the second year of transition to no-till gardening. It's still amazing to see the blossoming of different ways the gardeners have embraced that concept. It was a difficult year weatherwise, and as always there were battles with garden pests. The larger pests included turkey and deer-pests that also bedevil the nearby Spider Web gardens. However, on the positive side, there was at least one family of bluebirds inhabiting the nest boxes around the perimeter of the garden. There was also a family of red fox kits that frequented the garden area to the delight of gardeners lucky enough to see them.

In the spring of 2021, TAC broadcast wildflower seeds in the swath of ground adjacent to the gardens farthest from the parking lot. Despite the dry spring, germination eventually took place. By late summer, if you ventured out into this area, you could see a myriad of flowers amid the volunteer sunflowers, clover, and weeds. This effort is to eventually to produce a native wildflower meadow adjacent to the Community Garden that will encourage the pollinators essential to the wellbeing of the garden. There are over 400 native species of bees in NH. Maybe next year you will

venture into the garden on a hunt to see how many different species of bees you can find.

TAC has several areas of interest we will be exploring in 2022. As with everything else, what we can accomplish will again be COVID-dependent. If you want to contact TAC regarding any of our projects, please send an email to: <https://www.tuftonboro.org/home/webforms/contact-us>. Or snail mail to: TAC, P.O. Box 98, 240 Middle Road, Center Tuftonboro, NH 03816.

**Community Garden** –Maintenance of the permanent paths is an ongoing task. Rehab of the area where the compost demo was located is under consideration. If you have ideas of what should be done there, let TAC know. Late in the season, there was an incident of a stake through one of the underground lines to a water faucet that will need to be repaired. Volunteers are always needed to help with the pollinator plot. TAC will be broadcasting additional wildflower seeds around the perimeter of the Garden in the early spring when the snow is gone.

**Integrated Pest Management Plan (IPM)** – Pests of various kinds are life as usual in any garden, and the Community Garden is no exception. To help control these diverse "pests," Adam Stockman has been working with UNH Extension to develop a non-

chemical Integrated Pest Management Plan for the Community Garden. This plan will be available to anyone who is interested.

**Tuftonboro Agriculture Directory** – This has been an ongoing project that Joan Magrauth has been shepherding. If you are involved in any aspect of agriculture, commercial/non-commercial, and would like to share your interest and act as a resource for others in town, we would like to add your information to our directory. If interested contact Joan through the town website.

**Outreach to Other Area AG Commissions** – Recently a member of TAC attended a meeting of the Wolfeboro Agricultural Commission. The idea is to reach out to neighboring commissions and explore areas where we can cooperate.

**Community Agriculture Day** – The idea is to celebrate/showcase/share and acknowledge those people in town who are involved in any form of agriculture – commercial/non-commercial, gardening, bee keeping, forest management, egg raising, soap making, etc. This is only in the planning stage and will be dependent on the COVID state of affairs in late summer/early fall. If you would be interested in participating/planning such an event, please contact TAC.

**Continued on Page 10**

# Hikers plan art show, Loon Center update, guest night

The Hikers enjoyed a full slate of programs this fall and early winter. They expect to continue to socialize and raise funds for the rest of the program year. This fall we held a successful rummage sale and Holiday Luncheon. The year was capped by a beautiful Christmas get-together at Camp Sentinel complete with Christmas carols and a roaring fire. The program for the 2021-22 season finds the Hikers exploring the talents within our own membership with members displaying their artwork in February. The group will enjoy an update on the Loon Center and will have our

Annual Guest night March 18 with Celtic music to get us in the spirit. The Hikers have traditionally hosted a breakfast on Easter Sunday and look forward to reviving that event, post pandemic, on April 7. Mark your Calendars!

The Hikers was founded in 1930 by a group of women in the Melvin Village area. It is a 501(c)(3) organization which provides community service through a variety of annual fundraising activities. All funds raised go towards scholarships for Tuftonboro residents or children of Hiker members.

In addition, the club has contributed to several area charitable organizations. In 2021 The Hikers awarded 21 scholarships ranging from \$300 to \$750 for a total of \$12,250.

We look forward to continuing to offer varied and interesting programs to our members. If you would like additional information on becoming a Hiker, please contact President Eileen Gil, 603-318-9393.

**Eileen Gil, President  
The Hikers**

## United Methodist Church repairs steeple, weathervane, roof

The Tuftonboro United Methodist Church continues its fundraising efforts to repair the church steeple, weathervane, and roof. The church hosts the oldest congregation that has been meeting for the longest time in Tuftonboro and is listed on the National Register of Historic Buildings.

The fellowship is still gathering for regular Church Services at The Tuftonboro United Methodist Church at 10:30 a.m. on Sunday mornings. All

are welcome. If you have driven by the Church lately on Mountain Road, you can see some of the completed repair work on our steeple, weathervane and roof. We hope to have the Church painted in the spring by the same construction company that made the recent repairs, Limerick Steeplejacks Inc. of Maine. Restoration of this historic building is our responsibility as a community. The Church members want to thank everyone who has contributed to our

fundraising effort. Without their support, we would not have been able to accomplish all that had to be done. We are still accepting donations, which can be sent to The Tuftonboro United Methodist Church, 129 Mountain Road, Tuftonboro, NH 03816. Again, thank you and wishing everyone a Happy and Healthy New Year.

**Estelle M. Zedalis, Member  
Tuftonboro United Methodist Church**

## Transfer station thankful to have spare compactor container

Winter is Here! There is a nip in the air. The Swap Shop is closed for the season after a very busy summer, thanks to all the dedicated volunteers. It will open again in May.

We have all had to continue to deal with the challenges of COVID-19 and its variants. I am happy that the staff here at the Transfer Station has been able to maintain a clean and safe environment/facility in which the public can conduct business.

On four different occasions during 2021, transfer station personnel had to pull out and change one of the 10-ton household-waste, compactor containers. Thankfully, arrangements had been made in the spring with Waste Management to have a spare container on site. Previously, this overflow trash would have been discarded into an open-container and been vulnerable to animals rummaging through it looking for food. The construction debris containers also fill up as soon as they get emptied during most of the summer.

Our goal is to continue to improve efficiency in our operations. As Supervisor, I will continue to apply for and request equipment that will aid in the success of that mission.

Current transfer station stickers for 2021-2022 are maroon in color and available for purchase at the Transfer Station or the Town Offices. The transfer station stickers are \$5 per sticker. Please make sure you have the current sticker displayed on the front window of any vehicle you drive to the Transfer Station. This helps us ensure that only Tuftonboro residents are using the facility and that our tax dollars are only subsidizing Tuftonboro household waste.

Current transfer station Staff include Rob Edwards, Barry Colbert, and Christopher Ruel. Per Diem employees are Ralph Bussiere, Bob Dean, Kerry Long, Rick Sargent Jr., and Dave Smith.

The following services are open for inside the building recycling:

- Corrugated Cardboard
- Aluminum cans
- Steel/Tin cans
- Plastics 1-7 (no rigid plastic or plastic bags)
- Used motor oil only – (no larger than gallon containers)
- Lead Acid batteries
- Rechargeable batteries
- Fluorescent bulbs and items containing

mercury

The following services are open for outside the building recycling:

- Glass Bottles and Jars only are still recycled but collection is outside the end corner of the recycling building by the loading dock. Residents will drive up next to sign “GLASS Bottles and Jars only Please” at the 30-yard container and then dump their glass only directly into the container (No plastic bags or boxes)
- Electronics, Tires, Construction Debris, Propane tanks, fridges, scrap metal, and brush are all outside in designated areas (see attendant as charges apply).

Upcoming:

- Controlled medications for spring collection date will be published as soon as we know the dates. Collection will be at the Tuftonboro Transfer Station by the Police Department.

Respectfully submitted,

**Chris Ruel  
Transfer Station Supervisor**



# CRIBBAGE

ARE YOU A CRIBBAGE PLAYER OR  
WOULD YOU LIKE TO LEARN? THERE  
IS CRIBBAGE EVERY TUESDAY AT THE  
**TUFTONBORO LIBRARY** STARTING AT  
6:30 P.M. UNTIL ABOUT 8:30 P.M.

CRIBBAGE BOARDS AND CARDS ARE  
PROVIDED. COME AND HAVE SOME  
FUN!

SPONSORED BY THE TUFTONBORO  
HISTORICAL SOCIETY.

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT  
JACKIE ROLLINS AT (603) 544-3252.

## Fire & Rescue, continued from Page 3

immediately. It has become a real fire hazard! They burn like gasoline if ignited. (Just look online at videos of old Christmas trees burning if you don't believe me.) Yes, you will have to clean up the needles that will be on the floor, and the cat may be upset that you took away his jungle gym (They'll get over it). It is well worth it to keep you and your loved ones, as safe as possible.

Remember to keep all vents clear of snow and ice buildup. Vents need good air flow around them to work properly. A blocked vent may allow carbon monoxide to build up in your home. Carbon monoxide is a colorless, odorless gas that can kill you. Every home needs at least one carbon monoxide detector installed around the bedrooms, along with working smoke detectors. The detectors can help save your life. If they go off, please get out, stay out, and call 911. We recommend that once everyone is out, try not to ventilate the building. The fire department has specialized meters that can detect CO and verify if it is present. If there is CO it will remain there, and we can try and narrow down the source. Once the building is

ventilated, it makes it more difficult to find the issue.

If you burn wood, please keep your chimneys clean, burn seasoned wood and dispose of wood ashes properly. Always put ashes in a noncombustible container away from your house or other combustibles. Dump them in area that is free of vegetation or on the snow. Wood ashes can remain hot for days after you think they are out.

On behalf of the department, I want to wish you all a safe and healthy new year. Please feel free to contact us if we can be of assistance to you or you have a question. We would rather come out for something small than for a real emergency.

Be nice, be positive and never, ever give up!

**Caleb Pike, Captain  
Tuftonboro Fire and Rescue**



**Fire and Rescue personnel had extrication training recently at the transfer station.**

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## Lake interviews, continued from Page 5

as well as those beyond." Steve Cloutier contended, "As more people turn to the MLPA for information, especially about cyanobacteria advisories, we need to refer them to the NH state advisories. This is a state responsibility. We need to keep aware of state and federal initiatives, especially with an eye towards grants to help us." Pat Tarpey explained, "The Winnepesaukee Environmental and Community Action Network (WE-CAN!) is bringing together all the towns, lake associations and conservation groups to look for collaboration opportunities to address things in a cohesive manner, to leverage opportunities, and to establish partnerships. Moving forward comes down to strategic planning." Pat also remarked about coming and going, "Turnover, at the residential and municipal levels, impacts people's understanding of what's at stake. Many new people are simply not aware. People will do the right thing if they know about an issue and

understand what to do." Secretary Fran Donoghue emphasized, "The strength of MLPA is its core leadership. The sense of service among the people who live at the lake is strong; people want to be stewards of the lake. Overall, on Mirror Lake there is a sense of trust with each other and a strong feeling of commitment. We need to understand there is a need for constant vigilance with no one-time solution." Robin Muench is relieved there is "so much talent in the membership." Larry Gil credits "Don Kretchmer, Bob Craycraft, UNH, NHDES and the NH Fish and Wildlife services" commending our "very active citizenry for carrying out the excellent watershed plan developed by Geosyntec—as good a consulting company as there is—over the past twelve years under Dusty's leadership." Larry worries, however, "about a changing populace. The people who were here the longest are aging out. The new people seem less inclined to get

involved. Ann Torregrossa echoed the thought, "We lack young people in the chute. Engagement is essential."

Andrea LaMoreaux summarized, "With COVID and people wanting to be outdoors and many moving to NH, there seems to be a greater degree of appreciation for how the lakes positively impact mental and physical health." Andrea talked about Blue Mind, of interest to scientists who have proven that simply being close to or in water creates a mildly meditative state characterized by a sense of peace and calm. Andrea went on to say, "The tenants of 'blue mind' are real and lakes have a measurably positive impact. The message: Your lakes are taking care of you, but you need to take care them."

**Kathleen Sciarappa, President  
Mirror Lake Protective Association**

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## Agriculture, continued from Page 7

**Barn Documentation** – There is a state barn preservation project. Tuftonboro has many historic barns. We would like to use the forms available from the state to document the various barns in town. In addition to filling out paperwork, a photographic record is also made for each barn included in the survey. If you have

a barn and would like to have it documented or you would like to assist in this endeavor, please let TAC know.

TAC generally meets the first Tuesday of the month at 4:30 in the Selectmen's room. However, this is subject to change, so look for meeting announce-

ments on the town website <https://www.tuftonboro.org/>. TAC is always looking for volunteers.

**Sue Wingate, Chairman  
Tuftonboro Agricultural Commission**



## 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.

### Jan

20	10 AM – 12 PM	Readers' Choice Book Group	TFL
20	2 PM - 3 PM	HIKERS Program Meeting "Exploring the Talents from Within"	TFL
26	3 PM – 5 PM	History Book Group	TFL

### Feb

3	2 PM - 3 PM	Hikers Business Meeting	TFL
17	10 AM – 12 PM	Readers' Choice Book Group	TFL
17	2 PM - 3 PM	Hikers program meeting " All About Loons"	TFL
23	3 PM – 5 PM	History Book Group	TFL

### Mar

3	2 PM - 3 PM	Hikers Business Meeting	TFL
8	8 AM – 7 PM	Town Election	TCS
9	7 PM – end	Town Meeting	TBD
17	10 AM – 12 PM	Readers' Choice Book Group	TFL
18	6 PM - 7 PM	Hikers Guest Night (Celtic Music-Brian Hastings Trio)	TBD
30	3 PM – 5 PM	History Book Group	TFL

### Weekly / Monthly Ongoing

Knit Wits	Monday	6:30 PM - 8:30 PM	TFL
Rug Hooking Group	Tuesday	10:00 AM - Noon	TFL
Cribbage Group	Tuesday	6:30 PM - 8:30 PM	TFL
Writer's Group	Saturday	Noon - 2:00 PM	TFL
Dodgeball	Thursday	6:00 PM - 7:30 PM	TCS

### KEY:

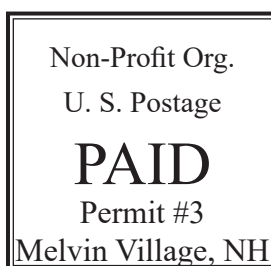
19MB - 19 Mile Bay Pavilion	Libby - Libby Museum	TBD – TO BE DETERMINED
DMF - Davis Memorial Field	OWC - Old White Church	TCS - Tuftonboro Central School
TFL - Tuftonboro Free Library	TFS - Tuftonboro Central Fire Station	TGH - Tuftonboro Grange Hall
THS - Tuftonboro Historical Society	TTO - Tuftonboro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



When our seasonal friends, the “Snowbirds,” head for Florida, Tuftonboro is grateful to have the winter birds return to the backyard feeders. That’s a Tufted Titmouse on the left and a Downy Woodpecker on the right.

Photos by Phil Martin.

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



TUFTONBORO POSTAL PATRON