They are not sneaking across the border or arriving by spaceships. We invited them here, and now the aliens are taking over. Some creep up the stems of our native plants, strangling them and blocking sunlight from their leaves. Other aliens grow so thick and aggressively that they displace all other native vegetation. These alien plants are called invasive weeds. They have no natural enemies here in the northeast, and they are multiplying out of control. These weeds are changing our landscapes and altering wildlife habitats.

Back in the 1800s, hundreds of plants were imported from around the world to beautify gardens and parks. Today, most of the flowers and shrubs we use in our yards, hedges, and landscapes originated in other parts of the world. Some of these imports have just the right characteristics that allow them to flourish without any effort on our part, and they can better compete for space and nourishment than can our native plants. As we drive our beautiful rural roads today, unless we stop to identify the plants, we don’t realize that the scenic greenness is often these aggressive aliens.

Why should we care? If we don’t do something about invasive aliens, our future forests will be dominated by these plants rather than our iconic white pine, sugar maple, oaks, birches, and red maples. This invasive vegetation will be so dense that it will be difficult for us to walk through the woods, and wildlife populations will crash from the resulting loss of habitats and forage.

Glossy buckthorn, a woody shrub, is spreading most aggressively in Tuftonboro. You can find it growing along our roadways, under powerlines, along the shores of streams, lakes, and wetlands, and on the margins of our yards and fields. It produces a succulent berry attractive to birds. The fruity portion is also a natural laxative causing the birds to poop out the seeds as they fly. Consequently, the seeds get spread everywhere and germinate, creating more shrubby invasive vegetation.

Under the shade of native plants, glossy buckthorn remains subdued. If one or several of the overhead trees die, are blown down, or are harvested, the additional light on the forest floor will stimulate the buckthorn to grow, produce fruit, and multiply the seeding effect. When this invasive plant becomes established in sunny locations, such as roadsides and powerlines, buckthorn grows faster and produces seeds earlier than native plants. Animals, such as deer, who normally eat shrubby plants, don’t like buckthorn. Instead, deer will eat native plants competing with it. In the end, glossy buckthorn will grow faster and crowd out native vegetation. Buckthorn can grow so dense with so many stems that it is nearly impossible to walk through it.

Our next most nasty alien is oriental bittersweet. This Asian transplant is a climbing vine that is still popular for making wreaths with the characteristic red berries. Birds love the fruit, spreading the seeds across the landscape. Once established, the vine will climb the nearest tree or shrub. It gains support by winding around its victim. It works its way to the top then produces foliage that covers the native vegetation, blocking the sunshine. In the end, the victim is either strangled by the vine or dies from lack of sunshine. Sometimes the weight of bittersweet vines on a smaller trees or shrubs will cause it to collapse into a tangled mess. You can also see bittersweet encasing road signs, utility poles and supporting guywires. Bittersweet also spreads through sprouts from its roots. Once established it grows very dense, climbing on anything available, even itself. The area quickly becomes an impenetrable jungle of vines.

Oriental Bittersweet controlling the landscape.

Next on the list is Japanese knotweed. You may have mistakenly thought it was bamboo growing along the roadside. Knotweed is not as easily spread by seed, but once established, it takes over an area, displacing all other plants. Knotweed also spreads through root sprouts, called rhizomes, and dominates more territory. It is most commonly found along roadsides and on old construction sites. New plant concentrations of knotweed are often spread by construction equipment doing road shoulder maintenance and during roadside mowing. Once established this shrub holds on tenaciously and seems to survive most attempts at eradication.

Buckthorn, bittersweet, and knotweed are currently the big three alien plants spreading across Tuftonboro. With concerted effort and town funding we have been able to get invasive milfoil in the lake under control. We have also treated a population of phragmites (an invasive weed that takes over wetlands) in 19-Mile bay. Currently, neighboring towns are still fighting large areas of milfoil and have
Steve Wingate leads group on tour of the Great Meadow

A few weeks ago, Steve Wingate, Chairman of the Tuftonboro Conservation Commission, led a small group across the remnants of a logging road, past an abandoned stump dump, through forest, hill and dale to the edge of a magical kingdom called the Great Meadow.

The Great Meadow is the largest wetland complex in Tuftonboro. It covers more than 512 acres, of which 176 acres are town-owned land. It is in an area between Sodom Road and Mountain Road and is home to populations of deer, bear, moose, bobcat, fisher, otter, beaver, muskrat and raccoon. Not to mention the 300+ species of plants (including six types of orchids growing in the wild), 13 species of reptiles and amphibians, 83 species of birds and two species of fish.

The Great Meadow includes high quality groundwater seepage areas which help protect Melvin Bay and the upper part of Lake Winnipesaukee by capturing sediments and nutrients before they can reach the big lake. It is described as a "regionally significant wildlife habitat for migratory waterfowl" and is the highest ranked wetland for ecological integrity in the region.

Two hours of informative lecture by Professor Wingate left little doubt about the complexity of our ecosystem and the importance of every element, large and small. In the spring when the insect population multiplies exponentially, birds appear simultaneously to feed on the flies and berries, scattering seeds as they fly so that new plants and bushes will grow to feed the 31 species of mammals that inhabit the bog.

Plans are currently being considered by the Conservation Commission, in conjunction with the Board of Selectmen and the Planning Board, to clear a trail through Tuftonboro land to a viewing stand at the edge of the Meadow. The goal is to protect this wonderful, wildlife habitat but also make it accessible to current and future generations for its recreational value.

Dan Barnard, Editor

Agricultural Commission plans survey of town resources

As we move into fall, the Tuftonboro Agricultural Commission (TAC) is reviewing what has been accomplished during the past year and setting objectives for the upcoming year. The most noticeable accomplishment is the establishment of a pollinator garden in the front corner of the Community Garden by the parking lot. The idea is to showcase plants that attract pollinators throughout the year, to demonstrate the variety of pollinators and to remind the public of the importance of maintaining a variety of pollinators in the ecosystem. The TAC is also responsible for overseeing the Community gardens. We want to thank all those who maintained a plot this year, hope that you had a successful harvest, and look forward to your participation next year.

We also started to inventory agricultural lands within the town, those that were farms in the past and lands that are currently being used for a variety of agricultural uses. In addition to this inventory, the TAC is planning to compile a directory of people engaged in various agricultural pursuits in town. This directory will not only include people who have products for sale, but also people who are willing to act as a resource to help others in the community. If you are interested in participating in this project, please leave a message for Joan Magrauth c/o the TAC at the town office. Composting is another area in which the TAC is becoming involved. Several members of the TAC visited Camp Merrowvista this summer to see their food waste process.

For the upcoming year, the TAC plans to:
Continue with the pollinator garden.

Oversee the Community Gardens: If you have suggestions on how to improve the way these plots are managed please let us know. Do you think there is interest in or a need to develop structures for people who find conventional gardening challenging? Developing an on-line handbook for community gardeners.

Land inventory/AG Directory: Continue to inventory agricultural lands and add to the AG Directory as a resource for the community.

Composting: The TAC wants to look at ways to promote an awareness of food waste and composting of such waste. Possibly developing a food waste program at TCC. Hope to develop a demonstration composting process at the Community Gardens to increase awareness of the benefits of composting.

Partnering with Tuftonboro Central School: TAC is exploring several ways to partner with TCS to demonstrate to students of the importance of agriculture. We are considering ways to work with the school to resurrect and maintain the butterfly garden adjacent to the school.

Master Plan Update: The TAC is working on its contribution to the Master Plan update effort. There was no agricultural input in the original Master Plan, and the TAC is working on a section to be included under Land Use based on the original survey results. If you have ideas or suggestions on what could be included, please contact Sue Wingate c/o TAC at the Town office.

Sue Wingate, Chairman
Rev. Kevin Van Brunt is new pastor at Melvin Church

On Sunday August 13, 2017, after the 10 AM morning worship service and following a unanimous and positive vote of the members, the Reverend Kevin C. Van Brunt answered the call of God to serve at Melvin Village Community Church as the spiritual leader and permanent pastor of the church.

Pastor Kevin transitioned from interim pastor and officially began in his new role as permanent pastor on September 1st. He will continue to provide congregational and community care, office hours and administrative duties, and preach on most Sunday mornings while also continuing in his position as Executive Director at Camp Sentinel in Tuftonboro.

Since 2005, the Reverend Kevin Van Brunt has served as the President and Executive Director of Sentinel Ministries. He oversees the operation of Camp Sentinel in Center Tuftonboro. In his previous experience, he served the Young Men’s Christian Association in Goffstown as the Associate Branch Executive, overseeing branch operations and coaching the branch staff team. He also served at Faith Baptist Church in Manchester as Associate and Youth Pastor, where he was ordained in Pastoral ministry in 2002.

He holds a Bachelor’s degree in Recreation and Leisure studies with minors in Youth Ministry, Outdoor Education and Special Education from Gordon College. Kevin’s vision for ministry is to “clear the path to God” for people to experience God’s truth in love. Kevin and his wife Traci have been married since 1997 and they have three children Tucker, Abigail and Owen. In his free time, Kevin enjoys projects at the log cabin he and his family built in Madison, NH.

The congregation’s vote was an affirmation that MVCC believes Pastor Kevin will, with God’s hand, continue to guide the church in service of the congregation and the community and in fulfilling its mission to provide the best environment for young and old together to experience and share in the richness and generosity of Christ. We invite everyone to join us on Sunday mornings, meet Pastor Kevin and experience how our church family worships together, supports each other and helps those in need as neighbors.

For more information, see the church web site at http://melvinvillagecommunitychurch.org or on Facebook at http://www.facebook.com/mvccnh.

Glenn Cordelli, Moderator
Melvin Village Community Church

“Feet for Fuel/Walk for Warmth” is Sunday, October 22

Feet for Fuel/Walk for Warmth (FFF/WWW) is a community-wide fuel assistance program in Tuftonboro, managed by Melvin Village Community Church, where neighbors help neighbors. It provides folks in need of assistance with the resources to heat their homes, such as oil, wood, pellets, kerosene, propane and electricity.

Since its inception in 2008, FFF/WWW has helped over 200 families. In the 2016-17 heating season, $6,818.00 was given throughout our community to help keep our neighbors warm. This program allows people in our area to receive assistance when many have no other place to turn.

On Sunday, October 22nd at 2:00 p.m. Melvin Village Community Church members & friends, alongside other neighbors, will gather at the church for our annual walk. Please consider sponsoring a walker or visit this link to help someone in need www.youcaring.com/FeetForFuel. If you like, you may also make a tax-deductible contribution by calling 544-9661 or mail your contribution to MVCC Fuel Assistance, P.O. Box 233, Melvin Village, NH 03850.

Glenn Cordelli, Moderator
Melvin Village Community Church

United Methodist Church final supper is November 28

“The Tuftonboro United Methodist Church will be serving its final supper of the year on Saturday, October 28, 2017 at 5:30 p.m. The event features a Roast Turkey supper, including stuffing, gravy, mashed potatoes, mixed vegetables, coleslaw, cranberry sauce, rolls and homemade pies for dessert.

The dinner price is $10.00 for adults and $5.00 for children. To make reservations, please call 569-2097. On November 11, 2017, the church will be holding its annual Snowflake Fair from 9:00 am to 2:00 pm as part of the Tuftonboro Holiday Festival. There will be Christmas gifts and decorations, crafts, food sale, white elephant tables and raffles. From 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., a chowder luncheon will be served with a choice of corn chowder or seafood chowder.

Estelle Zedalis
Tuftonboro United Methodist Church

Tuftonboro Christmas Fund kicks off on November 27

On November 27th, a Christmas tree will be put in place at the Town Office adorned with ornaments listing the needs and wishes of a Tuftonboro child. This is the kickoff for the Annual Tuftonboro Christmas Fund. Please consider helping make this holiday season a little brighter for your neighbors.

Ornaments will list the needs and wishes of a child and you can either purchase all the items, or consider doing the shopping for this child and the Christmas Fund will reimburse you for your expenses (please save your receipts).

Gifts should be returned unwrapped to the Town Office by Friday, December 15th at 4:00 p.m. Please make sure to put the ornament with the child’s name on the bag containing the gifts.

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

Tuftonboro Christmas Fund
PO Box 98
Crt. Tuftonboro, NH 03816

The fund continues to help our neighbors throughout the year. There will be funds funds to help seniors with heating bills and other necessities. Scholarship money will be available for needy children to attend summer day camps.

Heather Cubeddu, Town Clerk
Tuftonboro Grange announces 2017 Citizen of the Year

Tuftonboro Grange #142 is back in session for the fall season.

Meetings are on the 2nd Friday of the month in the fall, from September through November. All are welcome to visit and find out what the Grange is all about. Meetings are at the Tuftonboro Grange Hall at 157 Middle Road. Please feel free to contact either Florence Perkins at 569-2041 or Joy Perkins at 569-1887 for more information.

Dictionary Project: During the 2nd week of September the Tuftonboro Grange delivered 24 dictionaries to Ms. Benson’s third grade class at Tuftonboro Central School. Education is an important part of our community outreach and we have been supporting this annual event for several years. This year not only did the students get their dictionaries, but we were able to include notebooks, crayons, and pencils to go along with the dictionaries. The dictionaries belong to the students and they get to keep them beyond the third grade.

Mystery Ride: On Saturday, September 16th, seven Grange members enjoyed an outing with a visit to the Remick Museum in Tamworth along with a picnic lunch. The outing had been planned well in advance but no one knew what they would be doing nor the destination. Our members were surprised to arrive at the museum and had a wonderful tour. Afterwards we enjoyed a picnic lunch on the grounds. We had good weather and a great lunch. We saw goats and cows, toured the outbuildings, and learned the history of the country doctors who practiced in Tamworth for almost a century. A good time was had by all.

Longevity & the 2017 Citizen of the Year Awards: On Friday, October 13th, we honored our long-standing members with the presentation of longevity awards. Receiving these awards were: Joan Kimball for 30 years of continued membership; Barbara Leslie and Holly Clarke for 35 years; Eunice Hodgdon for 45 years; and a special award to Patricia Hodgdon for 75 years of continued membership in the Grange. Also during the evening, we were proud to present Jackie Rollins as our 2017 Citizen of the Year. Ms. Rollins has been a presence in this community for many years and the Grange is proud to recognize her as this year’s 2017 Citizen of the Year.

Dates to Remember: November 11th during the Tuftonboro Holiday Festival. The Tuftonboro Grange will be participating with a bake sale in the morning and our semi-annual Penny Sale in the evening. Our Grange bakers will be at their best and you won’t want to miss out on any of our goodies. The Penny Sale is developing into being one of our best. Come join us as we celebrate the holiday season. The next meeting of the Tuftonboro Grange will be on Friday, November 10, 2017.

Joy Perkins, Secretary

Hikers raise funds for scholarships and have fun doing it

Once again, “The Hikers” have geared up for a busy fall hosting fundraising events to support scholarships, which will be awarded in the spring of 2018. Thanks to the generosity of YMCA Camp Belknap, which hosted our first activity, we kicked off the fall with a BBQ and raffle on September 14th. This was the second year for this fun filled, successful event.

Our October fundraiser will be our annual Fall Rummage Sale to be held at Willing Workers Hall on Saturday October 21st from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Donation drop off will be Friday October 20th between 10:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m.

In November The Hikers will host two major events around the “Tuftonboro Holiday Festival” weekend. Friday November 10th from 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. and Saturday November 11th from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. will be “The Hikers Holiday Open House” at 164 Ledge Hill Rd., Tuftonboro, home of Joan Magrauth. There you will be able to purchase holiday gifts including home-made knitted, quilted, and stitched items as well as, delicious baked goods and jams.

The ever popular “Holiday Luncheon” will also take place on Saturday November 11th at Willing Workers Hall from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Lunch will include corn chowder, a sandwich, pie and a drink. Please come early to enjoy this annual event.

“The Hikers” business meetings take place at 2:00 p.m. on the first Thursday of each month at Willing Workers Hall. Following each meeting we enjoy an interesting program. The upcoming programs include “Orations Gourmet Oils” on November 2nd; and “Package Decorating “ with Ann Scott on December 7th.

Our “Christmas Gathering” will be on December 21st, featuring “Santa’s Surprise” and Christmas carols with Natalie Hebeden. “Remembrance and Good Cheer Plates” will be assembled, followed by a “Cookie Exchange”.

As you can see, The Hikers have a mission to raise funds for scholarships in a fun, cooperative manner. This dedicated group of women have been at this since 1930 and continue to carry out their mission with great passion.

New members are always welcome. If you are interested in joining “The Hikers” or would like further information, please contact Carol Simpson at 539-7587.

Carol Simpson, President

Historical Society gets donations of dollars and documents

The Tuftonboro Historical Society continues to add to its collections. It recently received a letter from the Norwell (MA) Historical Society which has been researching all the names on its Civil War Monument. Herbert Graves, a name on the monument, had been a mystery. The society knew he was a young man from South Scituate (now Norwell). It then confirmed through census and family records that Herbert Graves was John Herbert Graves. He enlisted in the Lincoln Light Infantry Brigade in Hingham, MA in 1861. He mustered out 3 months later, then enlisted in New Hampshire and died of disease December 1861 in Washington DC. He is buried in the Graves Cemetery near Phineas Graves Road in Tuftonboro NH. Herbert Graves was probably the grandson of Phineas Graves, one of 3 settlers recorded in Tuftonboro in 1780. All this information, letters etc. will be filed in one of the many binders at the Tuftonboro Historical Society museum.

The Society has received an antique platform scale from the Doug Evans family and placed it in the barn next to the museum.

The Historical Society always accepts any written or photographic history of families, the homes they lived in or anything else related to Tuftonboro. As I write this, Norm Isler (Tuftonboro property owner) is researching the history of Museum Lodges on Gov. Wentworth Highway. Norm is President of the Topsfield (MA) Historical Society and knows the importance and value of history.

The Museum and barn have ongoing projects: the foundation on the front of the barn will be faced with granite thanks to generous donations from 2 families. A new flagpole, donated by Gordon and Anne Hunt and Bradley’s Hardware, will be placed on the front lawn after the society finds someone to do the installation. A glass display case, needing new glass and restoration, was donated. The society is grateful for the donations which have been received towards its restoration. Two other projects this year are converting the electrical box that is on the 6’ stump in front of the museum to a useable outlet above the ground, prior to removal of the stump. Also, a light needs to be installed for the new flag and flagpole.

The Historical Society has one program left in the 2017 season. A pot luck supper at the Tuftonboro Fire Station at 6:00PM on October 25th will be followed by the History of the Fire Department. Bring your own place setting; beverages will be provided.

Jackie Rollins, President
Parks and Rec reviews summer concerts, Old Home Days

It was a fun, busy, activity-filled summer for the Tuftonboro Parks and Recreation Commission. Four concerts were held at the 19 Mile Bay Beach Pavilion as part of the Tuftonboro Parks and Rec Summer Concert Series at the Pavilion in July. The series was well received as concertgoers enjoyed great music, a sense of community and a beautiful setting. By popular demand, Parks and Rec will be adding more concert dates next summer.

The concert series was sponsored by Meredith Village Savings Bank and offered a variety of musical styles, starting on July 6 with the Carolyn Ramsay band. With roots in rock and folk music, the band’s soulful style proved to be a crowd pleaser. A barbecue concession was offered during the concert; supper on the beach by the lake was very well received. At each of the concerts the Parks and Rec Commission hosted a concession stand and collected donations for the Tuftonboro Scholarship Fund.

On July 13, The Sweetbloods performed, and those who braved the unusually cool July night were treated to great music by Janet and Phil Sanguedolce. The duo performed acoustic versions of classic rock tunes, folk rock and country rock tunes intermingled with folk, bluegrass, reggae, calypso, blues, and jazz tunes.

On July 23, the NH Music Festival returned to Tuftonboro with a Brass Quintet, which part was of their Music in the Mountains Series.

The final concert of the series was on July 27 and featured Big Medicine Band. Their set list consisted of classic rock from Eagles, Beatles, 60s hits, Motown and lots of surprises, all designed to take the audience back comfortably to a simpler time.

All concerts were free and open to the public. Watch for updated information about next summer’s concert series throughout the coming months.

The summer of fun continued into August with Tuftonboro Old Home Days. The festivities kicked off on Friday, August 25 at 7 pm at the Tuftonboro Central School Gym where Jeff Warner entertained with “Banjo, Bones and Ballads.” The show featured traditional songs, rich in local history and a sense of community spirit by lending a hand with all the events that took place during Tuftonboro’s Old Home Days.

On Sunday a scavenger hunt, hosted by the Conservation Commission, invited participants to look for answers to questions on the Central Park Trails. The hunt was followed by the Town Picnic, where hamburgers, hotdogs, potluck dishes and live music were enjoyed.

Residents and summer visitors alike could make new friends and mingle with old friends, some that they had not seen for quite a while.

Numerous volunteers (too many to mention by name, but all extremely appreciated!) embraced that spirit by lending a hand with all the events that took place from during Tuftonboro’s Old Home Days. From setting up sound systems and tents, baking goodies, registering runners and walkers, doing traffic control, cooking and serving at the car show concession stand, lining up the antique cars and selling raffle tickets, officiating the cardboard boat race, greeting families at the Wildlife Encounters shows, setting up, cooking and serving the chicken dinner, to moving picnic tables, setting up more tents and tables, entertaining picnic goers, ensuring the safety of bouncers in the bounce house, leading a scavenger hunt, manning the grill for hungry picnickers, cleaning up afterwards and photographing every event, we couldn’t have done it without you! I think it is safe to say, a good time was had by all.

A special thanks to sponsors: Curtis Quality Care, LLC, Pier 19 Grocer, Spider Web Gardens, Melvin Village Marina Inc., Lovering Tree Care, Lamprey Real Estate Associates, JB & Son Sewer & Drain Plus, Lanes End Marina, Antoucci Insurance Services, Inc., CWA Lighting Group, LLC, DJ’s Septic Pumping Services, Inc., Lakes and Mountains Keller Williams Realty, The Black Bear Micro Roastery, Eastern Propane, Wolfeboro Chiropractic Office, YMCA Camp Belknap, William Lawrence Camp, Camp Sentinel, AYP Merrowvista and North Woods, Pleasant Valley, Sandy Island and Laughing Loon YMCA Camps. Without these sponsors, this weekend of community fun would not have been possible.

Be sure to save the dates for next year’s Summer Concert Series at the Pavilion, which will take place on Thursdays in July and August and for Tuftonboro Old Home Days, which will be August 24 to 26, 2018 and join in the fun!

Check www.tuftonboro.org or like us on Facebook: www.facebook.com/TuftonboroParksandRec for events throughout the year.

Gina Lessard, Chairman
TUFTONBORO OLD HOME DAYS
CARDBOARD BOATS
As we move into Fall, your Selectmen would like to report on some of the activities of the past Summer and on ongoing projects that will continue through the Fall season.

You may have noticed some folks with orange vests working at the side of our roads. These folks are conducting a survey of the condition of all the culverts under our Town roads. The town, thanks to Senate Bill 38, has received a block grant of $70,700.00 for additional highway work, not in our current budget. And while we do have both the Sodom Road and Tuftonboro Neck bridges on the State bridge list for cost sharing reconstruction, the condition of the Sodom Road bridge has deteriorated to the point that we have had to post a weight limit of 15 tons on that bridge until funds become available for repairs.

Work will begin soon on the construction of two new boat launching areas, off Route 109, at Mirror Lake, and at the Lake Street boat ramp in Melvin Village.

Thanks to our Parks and Recreation Committee for bringing us a very successful summer season. The concert series at the beach exceeded everyone’s expectations and Old Home Days were also a great success. We all are looking forward to their 2018 season.

Board of Selectmen urges attendance at budget meetings

Budget season is upon us now and the Selectmen want to encourage all residents of Tuftonboro to stay engaged and attend the deliberative sessions as well as the formal budget hearing. We look forward to your input.

As always, there is a fair amount of ongoing business for the Selectmen to work on and we look forward to the challenge.

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

Capt. Pike: October is National Fire Prevention Month

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

Please keep your eyes open for trick or treaters. They can be hard to see in their costumes at night. If you are trick or treating or taking someone trick or treating make sure they have some reflective material on their costume or carry a light.

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

Once the leaves have fallen the outside fire danger will start to increase. Use caution when kindling outside fires due to the potential for leaves blowing around and sparks igniting dry grasses. Fall wild fires burn deeper into the ground than in the spring. So they are much harder to extinguish. Historically, major brush fires in the area have taken place in the fall. Red Hill, Mt. Shaw and the Brownfield fire have all taken place in September and October. Fire Permits are required for all outside fires until there is sufficient snow cover. This is NH law. Regardless of the snow, all fires are required to be called in. Carroll County dispatch can be reached at 539-2282. If you have any questions do not hesitate to call the Department at 569-3381.

Hopefully all our residents who split their time between here and Florida or another warm location made it through the hurricane season safely. The South saw an unusually high number of large storms. We are fortunate that we do not normally see storms of that intensity, but they are not out of the question. There was the hurricane of 1938, Hurricane Carol in 1954 and, recently, Hurricanes Sandy and Irene. Although local damage was minimal it could have very well occurred here. So it is always a good idea to have three days of food and water on hand in case of a storm, if you or the someone you know needs home oxygen have a plan in place if the power goes out for an extended period of time, and above all please listen to the State of NH or local authorities when it comes to evacuations or storm preparations regardless of the time of year. It was just last March that we had the blizzard that caused wide spread damage to our area. Better safe than sorry. Wishing you all a safe fall,

Caleb Pike,, Tuftonboro Fire & Rescue

The Plymouth State T.I.G.E.R. program returns to TCS

We love this time of year at Tuftonboro Central School (TCS). The weather is pleasant and great for playing outside at recess. We have begun the school year learning rules, routines, and procedures at TCS. As students have been learning essential work habits and life skills they have also been hard at work with academics. Students could showcase their academic work at our Open House night in September.

Sixth graders took their annual trip to Camp Merrowvista. They returned and presented their experience to the entire school. They incorporated four elements learned: honesty, leadership, respect, and communication. They incorporated the theme of “reaching your goals” into their presentation and could facilitate the discussion with the younger students on how they can set goals for the school year.

You may have noticed if you’ve been to the Davis field recently, TCS has a new, “Buddy Bench”. This bench allows students to come on the play with and fosters new friendships during recess. The bench would not have been possible without our anonymous donations and the Lakes Region Technology Center’s carpentry students. We are so pleased and thankful to provide such a great resource for the students of TCS.

Some upcoming events are Fire Prevention day presented by the Tuftonboro Fire Department. The annual Halloween parade where students will walk from TCS to the Tuftonboro Free Library on Tuesday, October 31, beginning at 2:15 p.m. We are also very excited to have Plymouth State University’s Theatre Integrating Guidance, Education, and Responsibility (T.I.G.E.R.) program return to our school in November. For more information visit, [http://www.plymouth.edu/outreach/tiger/](http://www.plymouth.edu/outreach/tiger/).

Andrea Fournier
Principal
Friends of Library present eclectic concert November 18

Autumn is finally in the air, and thanks to the Friends of the Library, there’s more going on at TFL this fall than ever before! Of course, the newest books, movies, and audios are arriving weekly, so stocking up for the bedside or fireside will be a breeze. And be sure to check out the range of programs, exhibits, and special events for all ages, all coming your way in the next few months.

There’s still time this month to browse Jill Moxcey’s enchanting exhibit of whimsical colored pencil drawings, through the end of October. Her original jewelry designs are also on display in the mirrored case, and many items are available for sale. Dora Clarkson is the featured artist for November, the perfect month for her vibrant floral collages and watercolors. In December, Linda MacDonald’s pastels will grace the walls, in an exhibit we’ve been anticipating for more than a year. January introduces the work of another first-time exhibitor, when Linda Barrowclough’s artwork in fabric and wood will be shown on the walls and in the case. Note to local artists/crafters/collectors: Exhibit space is available next year for the months of February, October, November, and December. Please contact Christie if you’re interested in displaying your work or special collection.

Preschool Story Hour has resumed on Thursday mornings at 9:30. Join the happy crew for stories and rhymes, finger plays and flannel board fun, and simple make-and-take craft projects that (full disclosure!) occasionally involve glitter. Story Hour promotes early literacy development and socialization for kids, and provides peer support for parents/caregivers. No registration necessary. Younger/older siblings are always welcome.

The new Readers’ Choice Book Group, just inaugurated in June, is proving very popular – we hear lots of laughter coming from the meeting room! This group meets monthly on the third Wednesday, from 10:00 a.m. to noon. On October 18th, the group will consider Roland Merullo’s novel, Breakfast with Buddha. On November 15th, it’s Olive Kitteridge by Elizabeth Strout. December’s book is Extremely Loud and Incredibly Close by Jonathan Safran Foer. The December meeting date is to be decided by the group. Books are always available to read in advance, and new members are always welcome to join the group.

The History Book Group meets the last Wednesday of the month. The book for October 25th is Colonial New Hampshire: A History by Jere Daniell, and meeting time is 7:00 p.m. In November, the group shifts to an afternoon meeting time for the winter months. On Wednesday, November 29th, the group will discuss The Johnstown Flood by David McCullough at 3:00 p.m. Selections for December and January have yet to be made. New members (and their suggestions for future selections) are most welcome, and books are available for advance reading. Please use the Hamel Meeting Room entrance.

The Friends of the Library have three special events planned for this fall. The first is a Book & Author Lunch on Saturday, October 28th. Roxie Zwicker will present Stories, Stones, and Superstitions of New England, with an emphasis on particular New Hampshire graveyards. The program is scheduled for 11:00 a.m., followed by an informal buffet lunch, and book sales and signing. Free and open to the public. Content is aimed at adults, but older kids are welcome, too. Come and celebrate Halloween!

And speaking of Halloween, don’t miss the annual Tuftonboro Central School parade on Tuesday, October 31st at 2:15 p.m. If you’ve never seen this amazing procession of ghouls, vampires, witches, Elsas, Annas, and ninjas, save the date! Everyone marches from the school to the library and back, so TFL is prime parade viewing space. Come early to park in the lot, or in the field across the street, and get your camera out!

The Friends have also lined up a host of talented local musicians for a wonderfully eclectic concert on Saturday, November 18th at 7:00 p.m. at the Todaro YMCA Leadership Center. Wine, appetizers, and a raffle of themed gift baskets will be on offer as well as beautiful music. Proceeds will benefit the Library Building Fund. Please check the TFL website (www.tuftonborolibrary.org) and FaceBook page for additional details closer to the date of this event.

The 19th annual retelling of Chris Van Allsburg’s classic Christmas story, The Polar Express, is scheduled for Friday, December 8th. Before storyteller Ed Faye adjusts his specs and spins the tale, the Friends invite everyone to gather outside to light the Christmas tree, sing a few carols, and then warm up inside with some hot chocolate and yummy goodies. Pajamas are optional for this event, and every child will receive “the first gift of Christmas.” Tree lighting at 6:00 p.m. and storytelling at 6:30.

On Saturday, December 9th, drop in any time to make and take home a holiday-themed craft. There will be a variety of seasonal crafts to choose from, with options available for even the youngest crafters. There will also be a special one-day Holiday Book Sale of new and good-as-new books, puzzles, and games for all ages, all suitable for gift giving, and nothing more than $2.00. All in the Hamel Meeting Room.

Please note that the library will be closed on Saturday, November 11th in observance of Veterans Day, and on Thursday, November 23rd and Friday, November 24th for Thanksgiving. All remote resources and onsite Wifi will still be available on the days that the library is closed, and we’ll be open again on Saturday, November 25th as usual, from 9-2.

Christie V. Sarles
Director, Tuftonboro Free Library

New Libby Museum director offers thanks to Tuftonboro

The new Libby Director wishes to thank the many Tuftonboro residents and groups who visited the Museum this year. “It’s been a busy summer, with 800+ more visitors than last year”, explained Alana Albee, herself a resident of Tuftonboro. “Thank you to the Tuftonboro Library for encouraging use of the “free museum pass”; the Abenaki Tower & Trail Association for choosing the Libby for their Annual Meeting, and The Tuftonboro Times for using us as a distribution point for this newsletter”.

The Libby is a landmark that many Tuftonboro residents think of as their own, and well they should. Built on ground originally within Tuftonboro’s boundaries, the Museum’s creator Dr. Henry Forrest Libby was born on the Neck, a descendant of one of the earliest settlers (Reuben Libby). The Museum has housed Dr. Libby’s personal collection of natural history (and much more) since its opening in 1912. Yet surviving 105 years has required support from many, and Tuftonboro residents have given generously through artifacts, donations and voluntary time on “the Friends.” The skills of three of Tuftonboro’s master craftsmen underpin The Museum’s displays today; taxidermy by Steve Berry, cabinetry by Richard Croteau, and carvings by Brian Stockman.

If you couldn’t stop by this year (or since childhood), we’re open again June 1, 2018. We’re FREE to under 16s and veterans; tickets are $5.00/ adult.

Alana Albee, Director
Aliens, continued from Page 1

not yet begun to deal with phragmites. Unfortunately, these aliens are not the only concern. There is a host of other difficult invasive plants, including garlic mustard and Japanese stiltgrass, working their way toward us.

So now you should be asking, “Is there anything we can do about this alien invasion?” Yes, but it isn’t going to be easy. The most effective control/eradication method is the use of herbicides. Many people object to using chemicals and try to eradicate invasives with mowing and hand pulling. Frequent mowing will help keep the plants from taking over, maturing, and providing seeds. Mowing must, however, be done continuously over time, because the root systems stay alive and keep producing new shoots – sort of like the story of the Sorcerer’s Apprentice whose broom kept multiplying.

Some of these aliens can be pulled from the ground by hand if they are small enough or by using a tool looking something similar to an oversized nail puller that can be used to pry large plants from the ground. This is extremely arduous work and even when done thoroughly, some root material remains and provides new sprouts the next growing season. This method does not work well with Japanese knotweed. The roots are just too tough, and there is great danger of spreading it to new locations by escaping root fragments.

For these reasons, the most effective eradication method is through the use of herbicides. Products containing 2,4-D and/or triclopyr are effective on all three invasive plants. There are other established products, but they are generally available only to licensed applicators. Herbicides are usually most effective if used in the spring, when leaves are completely out, or in late summer. A combination treatment for glossy buckthorn and bittersweet is to cut the above ground portion of the plant and apply concentrated herbicide to the stumps. You can also wait for them to re-sprout after cutting, and then spray herbicide on the new sprouts. These methods allow reduced amounts of herbicide to be applied with greater accuracy.

You can learn a lot more by going on line and reading articles about the issue and the specific plants. There will be a lecture about the problem sponsored by the Lakes Region Planning Commission at the Squam Lakes Nature Center from 6 -8 pm on October 23rd. It is Free and open to all.

The take-home message is that for every year that we ignore this problem, it gets exponentially worse and more difficult to solve. It will take concerted efforts by all land owners, land scape businesses and government to turn back this tide of aliens taking over our town.

Steve Wingate, Chairman
Conservation Commission

Aliens, continued from Page 1

The weather this fall has been unseasonably warm, but at the end of September more seasonal temperatures returned. With the cooler weather, male members of the Tuftonboro Police Department began growing “Beards for Bucks” as a fundraiser for the Child Advocacy Center (CAC) of Carroll County. Last year they joined 50 other departments around the state to help raise money for local CACs. This year Tuftonboro hopes to raise more than they did last year. The officers have contributed their own money and hope others will also contribute. Individuals can donate in the name of an officer or the department.

Along the line of community policing, Chief Shagoury has been trying to keep everyone up to date through the department’s Facebook page, www.facebook.com/tuftonboropolice/. The department helped with Tuftonboro Old Home Days. Chief Shagoury joined US Senators Jeanne Shaheen and Maggie Hassan on October 24th when they announced Community Policing week.

The law decriminalizing marijuana took effect September 16, 2017. Recreational marijuana is still illegal and when found will be confiscated. The change in the law reduces the penalty for possession of small amounts. In such a case, a complaint form with a mail-in summons will be issued. Unfortunately, the Tuftonboro Police still do not have the complaint forms. The court has, in the opinion of many, created an unconstitutional, unfunded mandate requiring towns and cities to purchase the complaints. There are a series of other issues, such as exempting this law from the right to know law, and other restrictions on the information that create burdens on law enforcement and the courts.

Also effective October 1, 2017, there will be a new system in place for inspection stickers. The sticker for most vehicles will be a new style and location. The new style will print out on a computer and be attached in the lower left corner of the windshield. Our transfer station stickers will have to be moved.

In reviewing an article the Chief submitted last year, he noted that he had reported the sad news that Tuftonboro had two overdose deaths in 2016. So far to date, the town has not had any overdose deaths. From the trends statewide, it appears deaths are down slightly. It is not clear why the deaths are down as it appears statewide there are more overdoses. It could be that Narcan has been saving lives, or that the same people are overdosing more than once. There is some success in getting more treatment available but there is still not enough to meet the demand.

Have a safe fall. The Police Department hopes to see kids Trick or Treating at the Town Office on Halloween. The office will extend its hours on October 31 from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m

Andy Shagoury, Chief
Tuftonboro Police Department

Transfer Station revenues up $20K in “busiest summer”

Another summer has come and gone at the Transfer Station! This summer was the busiest summer we have seen in many years. That’s a good sign that our economy is picking up! Our current employees at the Transfer Station remain the same: Robert Dean, Kerry Long, and Ralph Bussiere are per diem attendants. Barry Colbert, Rob Edwards, and Clay Gallagher are full time employees.

There are still new Transfer Station Stickers 2017-2018 available for purchase at the Transfer Station or the Town Offices. The new stickers are white in color with black lettering and they 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.

There were new procedures this year for household hazardous waste disposal and the new program was a great success. We joined the Lakes Region Planning Commission (LRPC) hazardous waste disposal program which held two collection dates this summer (July 29 & August 5th) at eight different locations where our residents could drop off their hazardous waste. There was no cost for Tuftonboro residents and the only administrative requirement was to have a current Tuftonboro transfer station sticker on your vehicle. There were no restrictions on the number of Tuftonboro households that could use the program.

We held Island Day again this year for our island residents to get rid of their construction debris and bulky items. Over 25 boats were served. They filled up a 30-yard container of debris from the islands! Well done.

Drug Take-Back Day will be at the Transfer Station on October 28 from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Current revenues as of the end of August for the Transfer Station are approximately $72,211 which is $20K higher than this time last year. Keep up the recycling……it makes a huge difference.

Clay Gallagher
Transfer Station, Supervisor

News

We do not sell our mailing list. Mail to: Tuftonboro Post Office, P.O. Box 116, Tuftonboro, NH 03817 or email tuftpost@hostingtuftonboro.org. Advertising inquiries: 603.259.9555rika@hostingtuftonboro.org
COMMUNITY CALENDAR

October
18 10 AM - 12 PM  Readers' Choice Book Group  TFL
21 11 AM - 1 PM  Harvest Festival - sponsored by Parks & Rec  TCS
28 11 AM - 1 PM  Book & Author Lunch - Roxie Zwicker presents Haunted New Hampshire  TFL
28 5:30 PM  Roast Turkey supper - call for reservations 569-2097  TUMC
31 2:15 PM  Halloween Parade  TCS

November
1 All Month  Artist of the month - Dora Clarkson - Floral collages and watercolors  TFL
2 6:30 PM  Cribbage  THS
4 9:30 - 2:00 PM  Holiday Bazaar  TCS
8 1:00 PM  Early Release – Parent/Teacher Conferences  TCS
9 All Day  No School – Parent/Teacher Conferences  TCS
10 All Day  No School - Veterans Day observed  TCS
11 AM & PM  Grange #142 Bake Sale (morning) Penny Sale (evening)  TGH
11-12 All Day  Tuftonboro Holiday Festival  Various locations
12 11:00 AM  Salmon Sunday Open House at the Pope Dam  Melvin Village
12 1:00 PM  Salmon Stripping at the Pope Dam  Melvin Village
15 10 AM - 12 PM  Readers' Choice Book Group  TFL
18 7:00 PM  Library Benefit Concert  Todaro Center

December
1 All Month  Artist of the month - Linda MacDonald - Pastels  TFL
8 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM  Tree Lighting, Carol Sing, Polar Express  TFL
9 10 AM - 1:30 PM  Christmas Crafts & Book Sale  TFL
12 6:00 PM  Holiday Concert  TCS
25-1/1  No School  Christmas Vacation  TCS

Ongoing
First Tuesdays of the month  PTCO meeting at 6:00 PM  TCS
Thursdays - 9:30 AM  Pre-school story hour at the Library  TFL
Last Wednesday of the month  History Book Club meeting  TFL
3:00 PM (7:00 PM - Oct only)
Tuesday - 6:30 – 9:30 PM  Country, Bluegrass & Gospel Music Jam Session  OWC
Every Monday night EXCEPT first Monday of the month, 6:30 PM - 8:30 PM  Knit Wits  TFL
Saturdays - 10 AM - 12 PM  Saturday Writers Group  TFL

KEY to Abbreviations:
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
Dr. Henry Forrest Libby, founder and namesake of the Libby Museum in Wolfeboro, was born in 1850 in this farmhouse situated on Tuftonboro Neck, overlooking Lake Winnipesaukee and the Belknap mountain range. Subsequently, Dr. Libby had the house moved and dragged on the ice to a location on Winter Harbor (inset) across the street from where he built the Libby Museum in 1912.