Conservation Commission project will map Tuftonboro

Within a few months, Tuftonboro residents will have a new option when it comes to reviewing land use in town. Currently, if a resident or other interested party wants to know more about parcels of property in town, the only option is to drive to the Town Offices and review property cards. When a property card of interest is found, the information can be printed. Wouldn’t it be nice to be able to do this kind of work at home? While you are at it, wouldn’t it be better to overlay wetlands, zoning, land under conservation and wildlife habitats? And to have all this information with contour lines to help show slope and vegetation that can be found on the property in question? And to identify the neighbors immediately surrounding the land you are interested in? This information is exactly what the town is placing online, to be viewed in Google Maps or Google Earth.

Current practice is for towns in New Hampshire to place property information online, but this often requires the installation of special software, or some type of plug-in for your browser. Once installed, property information will be available. However, there are no other ‘layers’ of information that can be added. Wetlands, conservation lands, wildlife habitats and other information is not listed on property cards. Tuftonboro thinks a better solution is to use software which is freely available to anyone, such as Google Maps. This software package is widely in use, is free, and may already be used by your household. With this software, Tuftonboro will add most property card information, and much, much more. By utilizing state and national resources, the town will offer all the different kinds of information previously mentioned, while allowing for the expansion of information to include hiking trails through property that has been conserved and local natural features and resources that would be of interest to residents and visitors.

The work was contracted by the Tuftonboro Conservation Commission to be performed by the Lakes Region Planning Commission (LRPC). When the LRPC work is completed, the town will have links on the town web site that will automatically take the visitor to Google Maps. The user will then select whatever layers of information the user wants to see. Information can be added, or removed with a click of the mouse. Once the initial contract with the LRPC is complete, maintaining the information should be easily accomplished within the current agreements in place between Tuftonboro and the LRPC. It is worth noting that the master files of information will remain within the Town Office, and the web based files are a service provided by the town and LRPC. This service will not replace the hard-copy files in the Town Offices.

The Conservation Commission started this effort for its own use but it became readily apparent the whole town would benefit from the information. Town maps and associated information can be downloaded onto your computer, tablet or cell phone. If you can connect with the internet, the information will be available for your use. In the next issue of the Tuftonboro Times there will be a complete list of map information available and a tutorial on how to use it.

Mark Howard, Member
Lakes Region Planning Commission

Townspeople will be able to access numerous maps and information through Google Maps and Google Earth.

Town Clerk reminds undeclared voters to check status

2016 is a busy election year! Please note that if you are interested in changing your party affiliation prior to the NH State Primary on September 13th you must do so before May 31st. Feel free to stop by the Town Clerk’s Office to fill out the necessary paperwork or meet with the Supervisors of the Checklist on May 31st between 7:00-7:30 PM to complete the paperwork.

Those who voted by absentee ballot in the presidential primary in February, and who were “Undeclared” (independent) voters prior to choosing either a Republican or Democratic ballot to vote need to remember the following: unless you change your party affiliation back to Undeclared before May 31st you are still currently registered in the party whose ballot you took to vote in the Primary.

Our next elections will be the NH State Primary on September 13th and the General Election November 8th. Every vote counts!
Motorboat gives Winter Harbor kids freedom in the ‘50s

Steve Wingate

If we had company on rainy days, we took the kids and rowed or motorized over to Libby Museum. Jennifer and I had visited it so many times we could recite the labels on most of the interesting displays, like the mummified finger with a ring on it. We often made up something about one of the displays so that we would sound smart and none of our visitors left believing every word we said.

Sometimes we didn’t like the kids we were expected to entertain (or else). These kids often had close encounters with giant shark spiders, were tricked into grabbing pitch-coated pine cones, or got lost in the woods. We would keep an eye on them, unobtrusively, until we thought they would be desperate enough to play by our rules. They often “squealed” on us. We would get a public admonishment for the record but nothing more, leading us to believe our parents couldn’t stand those kids either.

Looking back, I have to feel fortunate for having had the opportunity to grow up on Winter Harbor. When we returned to our home, after Labor Day, and reconnected with our friends, we realized how lucky we were and couldn’t wait until summer would come around again.

Steve Wingate

Annual road cleanup scheduled for Saturday, April 30

For the past eleven years, a significant number of volunteers from our community have participated in cleaning up our town roads. This activity is coordinated by the Tuftonboro Association and supported by the Tuftonboro Board of Selectmen.

This year we are planning to have the cleanup on Saturday, April 30. If you wish to discover all the “goodies” that those who don’t think or don’t care have left for us, we will work from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m., although the section of road which you choose may take less than four hours to complete.

We will meet at the parking lot of the Town Office where safety vests, for those who desire to use them, as well as trash bags will be available.

This year we are asking that the filled bags of trash be taken directly to the Transfer Station. For those who find this inconvenient you may bring the bags back to the Town Office parking lot.

Last year we were pleased with the participation of individuals and families. This year we are encouraging participation by all who value the natural beauty of the wonderful community in which we live.

Rev. Jamie Spriggs is the new minister at Melvin church

On Sunday, April 3rd, after hearing the Rev. Jamie Spriggs preach at 10:00 a.m. service, the members of the Melvin Village Community Church extended a call to her to become the church’s new minister. Rev. Spriggs graciously accepted the invitation and will officially begin her service with the church on May 8, 2016.

On May 1st the church will say thank you to its faithful former Pastor, Reverend Linda Overall. She has provided pastoral care and coverage during the past 13 months, and was a leader of the search committee for the new minister. According to our former Pastor, “I am very excited that this new chapter has begun.”

Rev. Spriggs is currently pastor of the First Baptist Church of Dorchester, MA, a small, diverse congregation which she has served since 2011. Having grown up in Tuftonboro, MA, she is also a long-time friend of the church, and has at her house in Boston been a steady presence in our lives. This is the third in a three-part series featuring Steve’s recollections from “the good-old days.”

In 1954 our family purchased a used boat for $15. We would load the boat with our friends and go to Johnson’s Cove on Wolfeboro Neck. There was an old sawmill there that was still intact. It had an original steam engine that must have failed as there was still a log on the carriage with its fence and jump a couple of feet in the air. Jumping over the fence and saying, “Oh, it must not have worked” was always an “I dare you” contest to see who was brave enough to touch the electric fence. Over time, I learned how to tolerate the shock so that I could grab the fence and say, “Oh, it must not be on”. The visiting kids would then jump on the fence and jump a couple of feet in the air. The jumping was a pastime for most of the summer and one time Mr. Pratt had just cut our line. We walked through the underbrush getting little cuts on our feet, and then jumped in cow pies. When we got home and whined about our feet and admitted to standing in cow pies, we spent the rest of the afternoon with our feet in a pail of disinfectant.

Rev. Jamie Spriggs is the new minister at Melvin church

Melvin Village Community Church continues to be very busy and has plans for many events. Please mark your calendars for the following – and note some changes to old favorites!

April 17th at 10:00 a.m. we will celebrate Children and Youth Sunday. Those who have participated in our program this year will join the service.

May 28th will be a carwash, which is a fundraiser for our Youth Trip to QUEST. It will also be the first church-wide event for 2016. The town will be open for donations on the Auction/Fair.

The Barn will be open on the following days: May 28th, June 18th and 25th, July 9th and 16th. All dates were determined by the auction committee. We would not want your donation ruined by the weather so please do not leave it outside anywhere on church grounds. Registration forms will be available at the Auction/Fair or by contacting the church office at 544-9661. All are welcome!

On September 5th, the Melvin Village Community Church Choir and Bell Choir will be doing the National Anthem at the Manchester Fisher Cats baseball game! What an honor! This is a family coordinated event and we encourage all of you to put on your calendar to attend with your youth group, family and friends.

We would love to see you at our services: 10:00 Sunday morning. Come and enjoy the music and fellowship of the church. For more information visit our website: www.northernharmony.pair.com/
Mirror Lake Church renovates steeple, plans new season

At the center of Governor Wentworth Highway (Route 16) and Tuftonboro Neck Road there stands an historic church celebrating its 152nd year as a place of worship. The Mirror Lake Community Church will open its 2016 season on Sunday, June 26th, with a special musical offering by soprano Janet Coussens, Vice-President Carol Simpson, Recording Secretary Lisa and Jenny Cooper, soprano; the Clearlakes Chorale; The Concord Vocal Octet; the Mirror Lake Community Singers, Ginny Cole, Director, Rebecca Hawkins, violinist; Michelle Voss, organist, and Deb Kumpf, soprano.

A variety of volunteers will also be providing the service music during the summer. They are Kit Paterson, Martha Judy, Matt Barnard, Jan Allen and Michelle Voss. Many of the favorite ministries from past seasons will be returning to the Mirror Lake pulpit this year. Included are the Reverends Raymond Weigle, Brad Wolff, Edward Charette, Robert Cain, Ken Venard, Stuart Lang, and Bruce Thayer for their oversight. Many of the favorite ministries from past seasons will be returning to the Mirror Lake pulpit this year. Included are the Reverends Raymond Weigle, Brad Wolff, Edward Charette, Robert Cain, Ken Venard, Stuart Lang, and Bruce Thayer for their oversight.

Pamela Thayer

Hikers 2015-2016 season draws to an end this spring

The Hikers 2015-2016 season is drawing to an end, and we have had a few activities remaining on the calendar. Our annual meeting was held at the Todaro Leadership Center at North Woods Camp on April 7, 2016 to install the new slate of officers for next year. The new officers will be led by President Marcussen, Vice-President Carol Simpson, Recording Secretary Faye Friedel, Corresponding Secretary Carolyn Stundquist, Treasurer, Assistant Treasurer Alicia Getman, Auditor Barbara Widmer and Pat Lee and Joan Magrath as Directors. Committee chairmen and officers read their yearly reports followed by a luncheon. The annual meeting is always a time to celebrate the members’ hard work and dedication in raising monies for our community.

The program meeting on April 7th is our fun filled White Elephant Sale. Our auctioneer Monte Zarinsky will talk Hikers through spending more money than anticipated, but all for the worthy cause of our charities. The New Member Tea follows in May with the introduction of eight new members.

On May 21st, from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., visit the Rummage Sale at the Willing Worker Barn in Melvin Village. Featured will be gently-used clothing, shoes, linens, household goods, children’s clothing, games and many more items. There will be bargain galore! Our May events close with the Hike Bridge Luncheon held at Bald Peak.

Our business meeting in June will distribute the new yearbooks and have a “Bond Auction.” Closing in Bal in Melvin Village. Featured will be gently-used clothing, shoes, linens, household goods, children’s clothing, games and many more items. There will be bargain galore! Our May events close with the Hike Bridge Luncheon held at Bald Peak.

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Canada Day will be a social outing and a good opportunity to present the new slate of officers. A variety of volunteers will also be providing the service music during the summer. They are Kit Paterson, Martha Judy, Matt Barnard, Jan Allen and Michelle Voss.

Dan Duffy, former Air Force pilot, retires as selectman

Dan Duffy will be attending meetings on the water and enjoying retirement.

Dan Duffy will be attending meetings on the water and enjoying retirement.
Tuftonboro Parks and Rec ressurects Old Home Days

The Parks and Rec commission is busy planning for the summer season. Swim program information will be available in early May. It will be set ton with TCS students and be available on www.tuf tonboro.org.

Join us for a Summer Kickoff at 19 Mile Beach on Saturday June 25 from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Enjoy the beach, a free holding lunch, and a craft for kids. Meet the beach staff and register for swim lessons & swim team. This event will be held rain or shine.

Hopefully you have heard about Tuftonboro Old Home Days on August 26th through 28th. A small committee is working to create a fun weekend of happenings which will include something for everyone. The weekend’s events include the following: a movie under the stars; a 5K Run/Walk; a scavenger hunt; an antique car show; a cardboard boat race; a chicken dinner, a contra dance; a pick-up softball game; a nature walk and the Town Picnic. More detailed information will be available as summer approaches, but be sure to save the dates and come out and enjoy some community fun!

Here is a little history on Old Home Days: The observance of Old Home Day is a long-standing tradition in New Hampshire. It was started in 1899 by Governor Frank W. Rollins, who was concerned about the decline of the small town and decided that the communities of New Hampshire should set aside a time for residents, both past and present, to re-unite to keep their towns alive. The governor hoped that if each village had its own week of celebration, inviting former residents back to reconnect with their roots, then perhaps others might think about relocating former residents back to reconnect with their roots, it's 2 social.

The Tuftonboro Grange is already preparing for its 2016 season. It had a very successful sale in 2015, and is trying to get one after hours, they are available online at www.nhfldpermits.com. As well, follow the link from the NH division of Forest and Lands website, www.nh.gov. There is a $35 fee for online permits. Neither the State nor the town receives any money from this transaction.

Fire & Rescue focuses on outside fire and grilling safety.

Another summer season is quickly approaching, and now is the time to think about some summer safety. Remember that you need a permit for an outside fire by state law. Fire permits are available at the Central Fire Station, Tuftonboro General Store and, if you are trying to get an oil permit, they are available online at www.nhfldpermits.com. As we all know, a fire can change your life, so we can trace the origin more efficiently. A complete list of outside burning laws can be found on the NH Division of Forest and Lands website: www.nh.gov.

The following are some grilling tips by Derrick Riches, a Barbeque and grilling expert:

1. **Category III Fire** means a controlled fire, such as a camp or cooking fire, no greater than two feet in diameter contained within a ring of fire-resistant material or in a portable fire. A category III fire, conditions permitting, may only be kindled with a permit at any time of day, whether it is raining or not.

2. **Category II Fire** means a controlled fire, such as a camp or cooking fire, no greater than four feet in diameter contained within a ring of fire-resistant material or in a portable fire. A category II fire, conditions permitting, may only be kindled with a permit between the hours of 5:00 p.m. and 9:00 a.m. unless it is actually raining.

3. **Category I Fire** means any other fire, not a category I or category II fire, a fire greater than four feet in diameter or a fire not contained within a ring of fire-resistant material. A category III fire, conditions permitting, may only be kindled with a permit between the hours of 5:00 p.m. and 9:00 a.m. unless it is actually raining.

Since the weather is hot, the outdoor cooking is hot. Tips include:

1. **Keep your grill clean.** Grease and food residue can build up over time. It is easy to get several pounds of grease on your grill. The residue that collects on your grill or smoker contains carbon monoxide, and you are inviting it into your backyard for a little cookout. First thing you need is a fire. Second, you need to know your fire and how to control it. Every grill and smokers cause thousands of fires, hundreds of injuries, dozens of fatalities and millions of dollars in damage. You need to know how to cut fuel supplies, extinguish fires and call the fire department. Always have one person in charge of the fire at all times, a fire marshal if you will. You should also know something about treating burns.

2. **Be aware of grease fires.** A grease fire is an explosion in the path of the fuel. The grease itself can catch on fire. This will blow place behind, underneath or inside your grill where you do not look. This means you need to regularly inspect your gas grill for gas leaks. Bugs and other critters can climb into little places causing the flow where it shouldn’t. At the first signs of turning off your control valves, turn off the fuel tank, and disconnect everything. Gas grills produce a great deal of heat that can melt through hoses, knobs and other parts. Assume everything is third degree burn hot. Bad enough that you are using flammables materials for your cooking, but the food on the grill goes up in flames. Flaps are more than a nuisance, they are potentially lethal. Grease that collects in your grill builds up over time. It is easy to get several pounds of grease on your grill after all over a few cookouts. This is why you need to keep your grill clean.

3. **Clear your grill of debris.** A clean grill is a safer grill whether it is gas or charcoal. Also, smokers are not exempt from this problem as it has seen many uncontrolled grease fires in smokers. So, whatever you use, keep the grease out.

Location is everything when it comes to placing your grill or smoker. Every year hundreds of people cause fires to their houses, garages and patios because they didn’t put their grill or smoker in the correct location.

Know where your grill or smoker is located in relation to your unit that must be kept clear. I suggest that you take a good look at your equipment and imagine the worst fire can make. You may not there anything (buildings, trees, etc.) in that space. Also, make sure that your grill isn’t going to require people to walk too close to hot surfaces and that children won’t be playing nearby.

Smoke gets in your hair, clothes, eyes, and ears. While a big part of the cookout experience is the smoke, you need to be careful with smoke. Smoke from your grill or smoker contains carbon monoxide, Polycyclic Aromatic Hydrocarbons (PAH), and other dangerous substances. PAH are cancer causing substances that are formed when greases burn. As much as we all love the smell of the smoke from our outdoor cooking it is best to let it get away without breathing it in. So enjoy the smell from a distance and remember that the younger you are when you are exposed to this stuff the worse the outcome.

These tips along with some good old fashioned common sense will hopefully help keep you and your safe while grilling.

I would like to welcome back our sea- sonal residents and visitors to our great town and want to wish everyone a healthy, safe, and fun season. Please do not hesitate to call or stop by if you have any questions or are in need of assistance.

Caleb Pike, Capt.

Tuftonboro Grange announces an active 2016 schedule

Tuftonboro Grange #142 began its 2016 season on July 6th. It had a very successful sale in 2015, and this year’s event promises to be even more spectacular. There will be a $50/50 drawing in conjunction with the Penny Sale. Ticket sales begin at 4:30 p.m. with drawings beginning at 6:00 p.m.

Annually, the Tuftonboro Grange #142 supports the Dictionary Project at the Tuftonboro Central School. It also organizes and performs fundraising activities for local organizations, such as VNA/Hospice, the local food pantry, and annual special projects. Each special projects have included donations to the Tuftonboro Central School.
The Tuftonboro Historical Society has had a quiet and regenerating off-season. It is now ready to start an exciting new beginning, first in May with Library Mutual Insurance Co. volunteers again coming to help with the book and museum outside cleanup and anything else we might need done. “Thank you to Joy Rambotham from Library Mutual for organizing this effort.”

On Wednesday May 25th at 6:00 pm there will be a pot luck supper at the Wiling Workers Hall, followed by David Warren presenting “The Governor Endicott Steamship” on Lake Winnipesaukee. The SS Governor Endicott was located in Lake Winnipesaukee. David will have his large scale model of the steamship with him. Also, on May 27th, the third graders from the Tuftonboro Central School will again visit the museum to learn about Tuftonboro History.

June brings a bountiful sale on Saturday the 18th from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. If you are interested in renting a table to sell your “wares” or have items you wish to donate, call Sue Weeks at (603) 520-0395. June 29th at 7:00 p.m. the society will host the third grade essay winners, who wrote about Tuftonboro, followed by a movie “Stories of the Past” taken from old local news items.

A fun evening!

The July meeting date has been changed to Friday the 8th at 7:00 p.m. in the museum in order to accommodate Christopher Marsden. He is the director of Modern Book Works, a producer of glossy, coffee-table style family history monographs. He will lead a discussion with local family resident Bruce Fernald on his latest title “The Fernalds Family in America.” This should be a very interesting meeting in the Fernald’s have a lot of history in Tuftonboro.

Our major project this year is to remove 3’ x 12’ heavy glass panels designed and stained by local artist Lawrene Peterson. He lived in Melvin Village.

Our Silent Auction effort has been a success, and will be held on Saturday evening, from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. The Tuftonboro Historical Society is not town-sponsored. The efforts of all the volunteers and local contractors who have donated to the society are so much appreciated.

The museum July and August hours are Wednesdays and Thursdays from 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. and on Saturdays from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. All meetings and the museum are free and open to the public. Call Jackie Rollins at (603) 544-3252 for more information.

Jackie Rollins
Editor’s Note: This is the first in a series of articles that will be published under the heading “Comments from Concord”. In each issue, one of Tuftonboro’s four representatives to the NH legislature will have an opportunity to address any topic of their choosing. The Tuftonboro Times, and its parent organization, the Tuftonboro Association, remain non-political and impartial. The “Comments from Concord” column is offered simply as an opportunity for Tuftonboro citizens to hear from their elected state officials.

Carroll County Farm, to be or not to be! I really thought that the farm would be a given chance to prove its worth. With the County Delegation allocating enough money to operate until August, I thought the farm would generate enough revenue to prove to the Delegation that it was sustainable and could continue on for the entire year.

I was told that this is not the case, and that the $90,000 taken out of the DPW budget for the farm could not be reallocated. Now I regret my vote completely.

The last thing that I wanted to do was to vote to discontinue the County Farm, but it seems that with my vote to reduce the DPW budget by $90,000, I have done just that. My thought process, when the vote was taken, was to keep the Farm going until August to make sure its revenue from hay, produce, and wood could be accounted for and a profit made. Then the Delegation would make the adjustment to continue the farm for the remainder of the year.

The farm needs to stay active in the county. There are many ideas being considered and volunteers are willing to contribute their expertise to make the farm viable and profitable. An ad hoc subcommittee (the Carroll County Agricultural Learning Center) will be established, but without a working farm the “Learning Center” cannot happen. This was reiterated by the UNH Cooperative Extension service. I am not sure what the sub-committee charge will be without having a working farm.

We cannot just forget the farm; it has been part of this county for 162 years. It belongs to the people of this county. The citizens of Carroll County need to let their representatives know that it is important to them. It will be up to the citizens to speak loud and clear. I hope that the next move will not be to sell off the land!

Central School from page 9

Student council members are an integral part of our TCS community who help lead the way to new and exciting leadership opportunities. They are just beginning the planning stages of our Earth Day activities, Spirit week, and Field Day. It always amazes me how dedicated the students, staff, parents, and the community are to TCS. Thank you for your continued support!

Important dates:

- Thursday, April 21st - Drama Performance
- Monday, April 25th - Friday, April 29th - Spring Rec ses
- Saturday, May 7th - Mother/Son Social at YMCA Camp Belknap
- Tuesday, May 10th - PTCO Meeting 6pm
- Wednesday, May 18th - Delivered Opening for students
- Friday, May 27th - Memorial Day program
- Monday, May 30th - Memorial Day! No School

Andrea Fournier
Principal
Before it became Pope Pond and Pope Dam, this was known as “Melvin River Falls.” Note the rock construction visible through the falling water.

Photo courtesy of David Peterson