Selectmen receive road paving study, improve facilities

Most of us remember the severe winter storm on Election Day in March 2017. Significant snowfall during the day followed by high winds in the late afternoon and evening rendered many roads impassable due to downed trees and utility lines. Most areas of town experienced power interruptions; some outages continued for several days. Ballot counting was completed by flashlight after the Town House lost power. The town applied for and received reimbursement from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) for some of the extraordinary costs incurred with this storm. Those funds were used this past fall to upgrade electrical service at the Town House and install an automatic standby emergency generator. The town is also in the process of installing emergency generators at the Highway Garage and Transfer Station.

In 2018, the town contracted with Lakes Region Planning Commission to assess the pavement condition on all 28 miles of paved town roads. In late fall, the final report was presented, including detailed current pavement condition and a schedule of recommended maintenance and paving activities for the next 10 years. Based on this study, the Selectmen are recommending an increase in the road repaving warrant article to $285,000 for 2019. Following the recommended maintenance schedule, including the use of existing and additional maintenance procedures, should result in an improvement in the overall condition of town roads from the current 68% (Fair) to 83% (Excellent) over the 10-year period.

Visitors to the Town Offices may notice the new entrance doors to the main entryway. They replace deteriorated wooden doors that were original to the building. They will provide improved energy efficiency, increased security, and better accessibility with their automatic operators. New doors from the entryway vestibule into the central hall and the police station will be installed in the next few weeks. Improved outdoor lighting has also been added for the front entrance walkway.

Work continues preparing the 2019 town operating budget. The Selectmen recently identified capital projects for inclusion on the warrant. They include:

- Renovation and expansion of the Tuftonboro Free Library – The Library Board of Trustees and Capital Campaign committee have achieved strong private fundraising, with over 62% of the project cost raised to date in contributions and pledges. When combined with existing capital reserves, this makes the expansion achievable with single year project funding.
- Update and conversion of town tax maps – Converts existing tax map data into GIS format and provides full tax map data access online.
- 19 Mile Bay beach improvements – Design work was completed in 2018 to improve drainage, eliminate standing water and enhance the winter lake access point. An improved perched beach retaining wall will decrease the existing tripping hazard and improve sand retention. Rain gardens and parking lot reconfiguration will redirect water runoff away from the lake. This will result in improved lake water quality and make the area more user friendly.
- 19 Mile Brook Baseline Study Update – A baseline study was conducted in 2008, when the Town of Wolfeboro was building their wastewater effluent rapid infiltration basin adjacent to 19 Mile Brook near the Tuftonboro town line. This study will update the 2008 work and identify any changes in water quality and plant and animal life in the brook, as Wolfeboro prepares to increase their discharge rate from the basin.

Town Elections and Town Meeting are coming. On Tuesday, March 12, voters will elect one Selectman, one Supervisor of the Checklist, a Trustee of the Town Funds, a Cemetery Trustee, a Library Trustee and two Budget committee members. Polls are open from 8 a.m. until 7 p.m. On Wednesday, March 13, Town Meeting will begin at 7:30 p.m. to act on articles in the town warrant. Mark your calendars and come out to participate in your town government!

Town government rests on the shoulders of our Boards, Commissions and Committees, composed of volunteer members who generously contribute their time and expertise in service to the community. Appointments to these bodies are for a 3-year term, with many volunteers serving multiple terms. Please contact the town offices if you are interested in serving.

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

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

Proposed library building project boosted by fundraising

The long-anticipated Tuftonboro Free Library addition and renovation project took a giant step closer to reality on January 4, when library Trustees met with the Selectmen and Town Treasurer in a work session to review the current status of the Library Building Fund and to determine the best way forward.

The projected project cost, revised in August 2018, is estimated at $1,997,000. As of January 5, 2019, the Library Building Fund totals $995,045.25 in cash, with an additional $246,250 in confirmed pledges. The Town’s Library Capital Reserve Fund, established by voters in 2010, totaled $422,731.46 as of November 30, 2018. This represents a combined total of $1,664,026.71 in cash and pledges, leaving a balance of $332,973.29 still to be raised. (Note: Contributions to the Library Building Fund are still welcome and are fully tax deductible. Information packets and pledge cards are available at the library.)

After considering the potential negative drag of three- or five-year financing at 5.75% or higher interest rates, and following Town Treasurer Jack Widmer’s strong recommendation, the Selectmen voted unanimously to forgo bonding or a bank loan, and instead to place the remaining balance on the warrant for a vote at Town Meeting, to be paid in one year. Because no money will be borrowed, approval will require a simple majority vote.

Continued on page 10
Winter is a harsh time in the Great Meadow. Snow and ice cover the once green sedges, and beaver ponds are frozen solid. Even on a rare sunny day, cold breezes swoop in to chill the air. Many of the part-time residents have traveled south; the remaining wildlife have learned to adapt.

Brook Trout in the Melvin River look for favorable stream hydraulic structures where they can rest without fighting the current. They rest and wait for morsels of food to drift by. That food is often an insect larva drifting in the current looking for smaller insect larva or tiny freshwater shrimp. A trout which is trapped in a beaver pond will find more food but may struggle in the oxygen-poor, stagnant water.

The beavers remain active in the winter but are rarely seen out of the water. They worked hard during the fall to fell trees, chew the branches into pieces, and jam one end into the mud at the bottom of the pond. Once the thick ice makes it difficult for the beavers to forage out of the pond, they can still swim from their lodge to the stored branches and eat the bark, twigs, and buds. Beavers have special enzymes and micro-organisms in their gut that breaks down wood fibers into carbohydrates. Baby beavers are born in the lodge during winter and create a high demand for food. If the family begins to run out of stored food, they will be forced to find an opening in the ice and venture into the forest for new trees to fell. Predators will be waiting for this.

Mink can often be observed moving in an out of the water along the stream bank looking for prey. They are quick and aggressive, catching and eating just about anything their size and smaller. Fish and crawfish are their main meal, but an unlucky vole or hibernating reptile is fair game as well.

Small mammals like mice and voles are still active but try to remain under the snow, creating small tunnel systems from their winter sleeping quarters to supplies of grass and sedges at ground level. These small mammals present a base food supply for most predators. Each species has its own hunting technique but listening carefully to the sounds of the voles scurrying around or eating is common to all.

Fox, coyote, bobcat, and owls will wait patiently and listen intently. When they think they have the right location they will pounce on the spot and often find lunch. Bobcats are also specialists in hunting ruffed grouse and snowshoe hares. Grouse feed on tree buds high up and dive into deep snow to keep warm when not feeding. The bobcat detects the grouse with its keen sense of smell and digs after the birds. If the grouse attempts to escape by bursting into flight, the bobcat can snatch it out of the air with its long claws.

We are not likely to see any of these events since wildlife can see, smell, or hear us and will escape long before we arrive. But in winter, animals leave their tracks. The most common tracks we will see are white tail deer. Mostly the deer will be wandering around looking for food. Generally, they eat buds and twigs of young trees and shrubs. The best feeding is in the meadow, but deer feel vulnerable out in the open, and they don’t like to get their feet wet. They will spend a lot of time near the edge where there is food but also cover. Deer like to sleep periodically for several hours, day and night. When it’s very cold, they like to sleep under dense evergreen cover. This dense winter canopy tends to hold in the daytime warmth and to prevent the heat from radiating into space.

Conifer cover in winter is also important to many other species of wildlife, especially birds. You can follow turkey tracks from their daily searches for food to their favorite roosting trees. Turkeys don’t like walking in deep or powdery snow and may remain in their roosting trees for days after a snow storm. Their favorite winter-feeding locations are spring seeps on the lower slopes above the meadow. The water flowing out of the soil is above the freezing temperature, and these springs will remain unfrozen throughout the winter. Green vegetation, insect larva, and worms can be found here in this seasonal oasis. You can often see where the turkeys have overturned small rocks and pebbles looking for flat worms. They stay in flocks over the winter to protect one another. Females and young of the year make up the largest groups. Mature males, normally rivals, tend to pair up or form small groups for protection. If you watch a flock, you can notice that one of the group is always watching out while the others feed.

One of the very important things about Tuftonboro’s Great Meadow is its remoteness, and it contains most of the habitat features needed by nearly all our native wildlife. We have developed so much of our town that few places like this exist anymore. There is still wildlife out there but only those that can fit into the habitat that’s left over after development. Many species, particularly the ones that stay all winter and breed here, need some special habitat types to survive. Species like wild turkeys need certain specialized places during the year to survive. They need access to those spring seeps in the winter. They also need older, taller, hemlock trees with thick branches for roosting on cold nights. They need a tight brushy cover under trees to nest and be difficult to find by predators in early spring. The mothers need a semi-open area with lots of insects but with overhead hiding cover to raise their chicks. Every other wildlife species has a similar list of special needs. Tuftonboro’s Great Meadow area has it all.

The Tuftonboro Conservation Commission has been working hard to preserve this natural gem for future generations. Recently we applied for and received two significant financial grants to purchase two properties in the Great Meadow that are for sale. We will be entering into an agreement with the Lakes Region Conservation Trust to create an easement to permanently protect this and other town properties in the Great Meadow area for the enjoyment of future generations. We would like to partner with other land owners around the meadow for similar conservation protection. Land owners can still practice forestry, hike, hunt, and fish on their land but know that it will be protected from development forever. There are also tax benefits available for these donations.

Steve Wingate
The Tuftonboro Conservation Commission (TCC) will be receiving $76,500 from the Aquatic Resources Mitigation Fund (ARM) and $72,500 from the Land and Community Heritage Investment Program (LCHIP) fund to purchase two properties, 149 acres, for sale in the Great Meadow Project area. The Wolfeboro-Tuftonboro Land Bank will be donating $6,000 as well.

The ARM Fund is administered by the NH Department of Environmental Services. Sometimes land development and other human activities that require dredging, filling, and construction in wetland and surface water resources can result in significant impacts on the environment. If these impacts affect the functions and values of wetlands and surface waters, such as wildlife habitat, water quality renovation, or flood storage, the developer will be required to mitigate the wetland loss by either restoring a previously existing wetland, creating a new wetland, or preserving land (at least 50 % upland) to protect the values of the adjacent wetlands or water resource. Most developers make a financial contribution to the ARM fund to satisfy this obligation. Communities and conservation organizations can apply for funds to finance wetland restoration or conservation. Each year a committee is formed to evaluate the requests and award grants. Tuftonboro’s application received a very high rating from the committee because of the quality of the Great Meadow Project and value of the aquifer below the Meadow, and the request was fully funded.

NH’s LCHIP awarded $3.9 million in matching grants on December 07, 2018. The forty-two projects receiving matching grants from LCHIP are spread across the state. Sixteen natural resource conservation projects will be supported by $2 million while twenty-six historic resource projects will receive $1.9 million, all in matching grants.

The natural resource projects will ensure permanent protection of more than 13,000 acres in parcels ranging from ten acres in Durham to over 6,000 acres in Gorham. Grant recipients are required to provide at least one matching dollar from another source for every dollar received from the state through LCHIP. This year, the recipients will provide more than $3.70 for each state dollar. The smallest grant is $7,500 for a planning study to help the Great North Woods Committee for the Arts explore what is needed to convert the former Shrine of Our Lady of Grace into a cultural and arts center. The largest grant of $350,000 will help the Southeast Land Trust of New Hampshire create the Birch Ridge Community Forest in New Durham.

LCHIP is an independent state authority that provides matching grants to New Hampshire communities and non-profits to protect and preserve the state’s most important natural, cultural and historic resources. Its legislatively mandated mission is to ensure the perpetual contribution of these resources to the economy, environment, and quality of life in New Hampshire.

The eighteen-member LCHIP Board of Directors selects the grant recipients as the culmination of a rigorous application and review process. In 2000 the TCC applied for and received an LCHIP grant to do a natural resource inventory in the Great Meadow area. This was accomplished under contract with Rick Van de Poll. His report has been used as a planning tool since that time to conserve parcels already owned by the town and to acquire new property. Recently two properties in the heart of the Great Meadow area came on the market. Fortunately, the land owners agreed to wait for the TCC to find financial help for the purchase. The TCC once again turned to LCHIP for help and the grant request was approved enthusiastically.

Both grant sources have stringent requirements for purchasing, surveying, and conserving properties for the long term. This creates some additional cost that could not be fully paid through the TCC Conservation fund. The Wolfeboro-Tuftonboro Land Bank agreed to step in with $6,000 to complete the financial package. The Land Bank is a privately managed fund that often partners with other groups or finances its own conservation projects. They previously contributed to the last TCC land purchase in the Great Meadow. They often assist the Wolfeboro Conservation Commission, Moose Mountain Regional Greenways, and have spearheaded the conservation of Whiteface Mountain in North Wolfeboro.

The LCHIP grants were awarded at the State House by Governor Sununu on December 7, 2018. Attending were Steve Wingate, TCC Chairman, Rick Van de Poll, an indispensable advisor and worker in the whole process, District 8 Representative Bill Marsh, and Lloyd Wood, Selectmen’s representative to the TCC. Governor Sununu gave an enthusiastic speech about the economic and social value to the state and its citizens of natural and historic resources. He said that our historic towns, rural character, picturesque landscapes, forests, and mountains define who we are and are worth saving.

For more information on how you can contribute to the effort to preserve the Great Meadow contact Steve Wingate (603-569-3114) or any member of the Tuftonboro Conservation Commission.

Steve Wingate, Chairman
Tuftonboro Conservation Commission

Agricultural Commission details ambitious 2019 schedule

The Tuftonboro Agriculture Commission (TAC) had two major accomplishments in 2018.

The first was a sign for the Community Garden. TAC is proud of the work that people do at the community garden and wanted to let passersby know the existence of the Community Garden. Thanks to Karen Nemeth who spearheaded this project.

The second major project was the establishment of a composting demonstration project adjacent to the Community Garden. The purpose is to let townsfolk see the various methods than can be used to compost vegetative matter. Thanks to Ron Sundquist who worked hard to establish this project.

Additionally, Joan Magrauth has worked to keep up a list of those in Tuftonboro who have an interest in agriculture, either professional or personal, and are willing to share their expertise. If you have an interest in being included on this list, please contact Joan. Also, Joan has provided articles to the Tuftonboro Times highlighting agricultural pursuits in town.

Support of the Community Garden continues to be a focus of TAC. All but five of the plots were occupied in 2018. Bill Stockman of Spiderweb Gardens prepares the ground in the spring and puts it to bed in the fall. TAC maintains a pollinator garden in the front corner by the parking lot. If you haven’t visited the garden at the height of summer make sure you do so to see the great array of vegetables and flowers growing there.

This fall TAC received the donation of two bat houses from Russ Baerenklau. Russ and Jim Shildneck (Wolfeboro) also made and donated 11 bluebird boxes. “Thank you” to them both.

In the new year TAC will be relocating the compost demo project to a place closer to the Community Garden and will be incorporating food waste composting into that project. A representative of the Northeast Recycling Center (NERC) will be helping in that endeavor, and TAC is hoping to be a pilot project through NERC. The purpose of this project is to demonstrate to interested individuals how to reduce household waste, which in turn reduces what goes to the transfer station, ultimately saving the town money, and providing usable compost. Following this project upgrade TAC will be working with the Tuftonboro Central School to consider establishing a food waste project.

TAC will post signs at the Community Garden to explain the purpose of the pollinator garden and the compost demonstration.

With the help of Michael Haeger, TAC will be working to refurbish what was a butterfly garden adjacent to the school. The hope is to plant fruit trees.

Also, in the coming year, TAC will be contacting other local Agriculture Commissions to see what can be accomplished by the group.

Sue Wingate, Chairman
Melvin Church “Feet for Fuel” is underway, fair date set

The Melvin Village Community Church (MVCC) is a church where all who would like to share in worship and fellowship are welcome. It strives to meet people where they are, providing an environment to share together in a faith journey with God and to provide service to the local community. On December 24th, the church hosted a special Christmas eve candlelight service for over 200 community members complete with the reading of scripture and carol singing by candlelight. There are many ways to get involved and the MVCC would welcome you and your family.

The second Sunday of each month is designated for children. There is a children’s story during the service before they retire downstairs with a story, craft, and a snack.

Family Game Night is the second Tuesday of each month from 6:30 p.m. until 8:00 p.m. It includes a monthly board game for six to 12-year-old students and their parents. The dates are February 12, March 12, and April 9.

Sunday morning worship begins at 10 a.m. and provides a place to enjoy music through the bell choir or special music. The service offers Christian fellowship and involves God-centered, Bible-based teaching (Love God, Love others. Mark 12:30-31.) The MVCC is an active church in the local community, helping those in need through the FEET FOR FUEL program. If you are a neighbor in need of fuel assistance, please call the church at 603.544.9661. The church will also host its Annual Church Fair and Auction on July 13 to raise money for the mission of the church in the local community.

This winter on Sunday mornings, Pastor Kevin Van Brunt will be offering a sermon series, “Anchor for Life’s Storm”. There are four anchors he will explore: God’s presence, God’s promise, God’s providence, and God’s performance. As the pastor and congregation unpack these together, they will be reminded of the importance of each anchor and remember when they pass through the waters, God will be with them. Anyone may listen to a sermon at www.melvinvillagecommunitychurch.org or follow the church on Facebook: https://m.facebook.com/mvccnh. If you would like more information about any of these events, or about the MVCC community, please contact the church at (603) 544-9661 or email it at mvcc@tds.net. Blessings.

Pastor Kevin Van Brunt

Camp Sentinel celebrates its 70th anniversary in February

Camp Sentinel has been building relationships and changing lives for 70 years. Sentinel is a summer camp for children to learn about God in the stillness of God’s Creation. This coming summer we will explore the practice of godliness in our lives. Godliness is the idea of a personal attitude towards God that results in actions that are pleasing to God. Each day we will look at a different attitude trait to gain a deeper understanding of who God is and who we are in Him.

Sentinel offers traditional summer camp activities: archery, arts and crafts, swimming in the refreshing waters of Dan Hole Pond, exploring on Sentinel’s 600+ acres and team games to help campers build self-esteem and make lifelong friendships. Overnight and day camp is available for children 5-16 years old. Sentinel also offers family camps and camps for senior adults. Sentinel is “mission first” and it offers scholarship assistance for families in need.

During the winter months, our retreats for churches and school groups are known for our attention to detail and homecooked meals. Winter Camp for teens is a high energy weekend of traditional camp in a fun winter setting. Campers sleep in Sentinel Lodge in warm, bunk-style rooms. “Winter Palooza!” (which runs from Friday at 6:00 p.m. until Sunday at 2:00 p.m.) consists of team games, winter activities, and a theme-based Bible study. The cost is $100 which includes lodging, meals, and activities.

“Middle School Winter Palooza!” (ages 11-15) is Friday, Feb 22 - Sunday, Feb 24. “High School Winter Palooza!” (ages 14-18) is Friday, March 1 - Sunday, March 3.

On Wednesday, February 13 from 11:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. Sentinel will host a snowshoe hike and chili lunch for the community. All are welcome, and the cost is any donation to the scholarship fund for children to attend camp.

On June 29 from 2:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. Sentinel will host a unique birthday party to celebrate 70 years. There will be a special program and BBQ (at 4:00 p.m.) to celebrate.

For more information about Sentinel, please visit our website at www.campsentinel.org or call the camp office at (603) 539-4839 for a 2019 program brochure.

Rev. Kevin Van Brunt, Director
Camp Sentinel

The Town Clerk reports on the Annual Christmas Fund

Many in town are familiar with the Tuftonboro Christmas Fund and it offers each Christmas season. The fund was created in 1999 at the urging of residents in Town who wanted to help others in the community. Each year after Thanksgiving, a tree is placed at the Town Office with the age, gender, and wishes of a Tuftonboro child in need written on a paper ornament. Every year we are astounded and grateful for the number of residents who want to help and to make a child’s wishes come true.

This year the program assisted 65 children, families and seniors in Tuftonboro. A heartfelt thank you to all those who purchased gifts for the children and/or made a monetary donation to the fund. We are so blessed to have such a caring community. Many of our donors and shoppers have supported our program for several years since the fund’s inception in 1999.

Heather Cubeddu
Hikers to trace ancestors, hold “Italian Dinner” this year

The holiday season has come to an end, and the Hikers are gearing up for a busy winter full of activities. They will start by dancing away the winter doldrums at the January 17 program meeting. Chrissy Livie will get us moving and grooving at Willing Workers Hall. The February 7 business meeting at Willing Workers Hall will be followed by sharing a bit of “Family Roots.” Then on February 21, the club will meet at the Tuftonboro Library for a session on how to research family history. The first session will be run by Lucy Carlson and the follow-up session will be run by Marianne Marcussen.

On March 1 at 6:00 p.m., there will be an “Italian Dinner” fundraiser at Willing Workers Hall. This event, which is open to the public, will support scholarships for the 2019 academic year. This past year the Hikers awarded a total of $15,000 in scholarship money to Tuftonboro students. The March 7 business meeting, to be held at Willing Workers Hall, will conclude with “Something that needs a New Home,” led by Nancy Gaver. Bring something that needs a new home and take home a new treasure. This fun event will be an auction for the general fund.

“Hikers Guest Night” will be a pot-luck dinner on March 22 at 6:00 p.m. at Willing Workers Hall. Following the dinner there will be a photographic presentation titled “Morocco: People, Places, and Colorful Birds.” The presenters will be Bob and Dana Fox. Both are bird experts and enthusiasts who summer in Tuftonboro and winter in North Andover, MA. The dinner is open to all who wish to come. Please bring a main dish, salad, side dish, or dessert to share. Be sure to bring your own plate, utensils, and mug. Beverages will be provided.

The April 4 business meeting at Willing Workers Hall will be followed by a program on the “Libby Museum” run by Alana Albee. The April 18 meeting will be held in Ossipee at the “Sap House.” There the members will learn about the history and making of maple syrup.

The April 7 business meeting at Willing Workers Hall will be followed by sharing a bit of “Family Roots.” The April 18 meeting will be held in Ossipee at the “Sap House.” There the members will learn about the history and making of maple syrup.

The April 7 business meeting at Willing Workers Hall will be followed by sharing a bit of “Family Roots.” The April 18 meeting will be held in Ossipee at the “Sap House.” There the members will learn about the history and making of maple syrup.

Ralph Bussiere is the Grange’s “2018 Citizen of the Year”

Tuftonboro Grange #142 is on winter hiatus but has nonetheless been busy during this last quarter. In September 2018, the Grange delivered dictionaries and notebooks to the third-grade students at Tuftonboro Central School. This annual event is sponsored by the Grange through the Dictionary Project.

Tuftonboro Fire Fighter, Ralph Bussiere, was presented a proclamation and award noting him as the Tuftonboro Grange’s 2018 Citizen of the Year during a ceremony in October 2018. Mr. Bussiere has unselfishly and faithfully served the firefighting community for over 50 years.

In November 2018, the semi-annual Tuftonboro Grange Penny Sale was a success. There was a good turnout and all attending had a good time.

Tuftonboro Grange will start with its regular monthly meetings in April 2019. The meetings are the second Friday of the month, with a pot luck at 5:00 pm followed by the meeting at 6:00 pm. The Grange is a fraternal organization welcoming one and all.

Joy Perkins, Recording Secretary

Historical Society shares 1925 Peanut Butter Soup recipe

The Historical Society is in quiet mode right now after having a successful cleanup day in the barn and buttoning up the Museum for the winter. Planning out next season will start on February 1. If anyone has an idea for a program, please tell a member. The society meets on the fourth Wednesday of the month, beginning on May 22, and always includes a pot luck supper and a program.

A project the society hopes to undertake this coming season is getting the rear of the museum, the kitchen area, leveled up before it is a major problem. Old buildings have never-ending upkeep.

Here is a peanut butter soup recipe by Mrs. John Collins from a 1925 cookbook located in the museum.

- 1 quart of milk
- 1 cup of peanut butter
- ½ t. salt
- 1 small onion, grated
- 1 T. flour
- 1 T. butter
- 3 stalks chopped celery
- a little cayenne

Heat milk, add peanut butter and seasoning. Melt butter, add flour. When smooth, add to other ingredients, which have been strained. Cook until thick and smooth.

The third and fourth generations of Mrs. Collins’ family still own property on Eastwood Road.

All Historical Society meetings and programs are open to the public.

Jackie Rollins, President
Tuftonboro Historical Society

Ralph Bussiere receives commendation for more than 50 years service
Recycling at the Transfer Station reduces town taxes

2018 was a very busy year at the Tuftonboro Transfer Station, especially for construction debris. For the third year in a row, with an improved economy, the construction debris (C/D) total weight collected in 2018 has been well over what was shipped out the previous year. This will necessitate an increase in requested funding for the C/D budget line for 2019.

The new Transfer Station Stickers 2019-2020 are available for purchase at the Transfer Station or the Town Offices. The valid stickers are orange in color with white 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. This helps us ensure that only Tuftonboro residents are using the facility, and that our taxpayers are only subsidizing Tuftonboro solid waste and construction debris.

Recycling procedures changed at the Transfer Station this year due to the collapse in the mixed paper market. Mixed paper now goes into the household trash compactor. We still recycle glass; glass bottles and jars are dropped off by residents into a 30-yard container outside the recycling building. More families are recycling which shows an awareness in residents to the benefits of recycling, both in “direct revenue” increases and in “avoided costs” increases. The cash revenue generated by collecting fees for disposal of certain items added up to approximately $94,380 for 2018. However, the collapse of the mixed paper market, increased charges for transportation, and lower commodity prices are a constant challenge to our bottom-line. Our best avenue to offset these challenges is to keep improving the percentage of our residents that recycle.

Please assist in reducing taxes by recycling plastic, tin cans, aluminum cans, glass, and corrugated cardboard. Residents that continue to throw recyclables into the compactors are just throwing tax dollars down the drain and costing everyone more money in taxes. The more material we keep out of the household waste compactors, the more tax expense we avoid.

Following is a chart showing materials shipped from the Transfer Station during 2017 and 2018.

Fire & Rescue Dept. warns of black ice, carbon monoxide

The Tuftonboro Fire & Rescue Department wishes everyone a safe, healthy and prosperous New Year. The winter of 2018/2019 started early with snow for Thanksgiving and skating on the ponds a few weeks before Christmas. All the snow storms have been quite manageable, and no ice storms have happened yet. So please keep your fingers crossed for the rest of the winter. The total calls for the Department for 2018 are more in line with past years. 2017 was unusually busy with 609 calls. A complete breakdown of department activity will be in the annual town report.

The ice on the lakes came in early this year. There are already numerous ice houses on the bays. Please use caution when going out onto the ice. There are areas that never freeze enough to support your weight and reefs (pressure ridges due to the ice expanding) can open up at any time. Falling into the cold water can be deadly at worst, costly at the least if you’re in a vehicle that falls in. If you are not familiar with local conditions, please ask someone who is before venturing out onto the ice. I am sure most people who enjoy the ice on a regular basis will be more than happy to share their knowledge if you ask.

Please use caution when traveling on the roads; black ice can occur when the temperatures fluctuate between above and below freezing. The pavement may look wet, but it may be ice. Allow a few extra moments to drive to your destination so that your windshield is properly thawed and you don’t have to rush on slippery roads. I realize this is plain “common sense” to most folks, but we continue to respond to calls that could have been easily prevented by using plain “common sense.” Thanks for giving me the chance get these reminders out.

Please keep an eye on your neighbors, especially ones that are not able to get out much due to the fact it is harder to keep up with the cost of heat and electricity. Often time houses are kept very cool to conserve money. Because of this many people live in a constant state of near hypothermia. When the power fails or the heat goes out for some other reason, these houses cool very rapidly putting these folks into full hypothermia very quickly. This can cause problems for many reasons such as compounding preexisting medical conditions or making poor decisions because of impaired mental function (one of the first signs of hypothermia is impaired mental function.) This can be very minor or as major as forgetting to take the correct medication on time. Hypothermia, if allowed to go on, can result in death on its own. So again please stop by and visit any one you may feel falls into this situation, if nothing else it may make their day having a little company.

Every house should have at least one working carbon monoxide detector near the sleeping areas. Carbon monoxide (CO) is a colorless odorless gas that is the result of the incomplete burning of carbon-based fuels. It is a normal by-product of your furnace, woodstove, gas dryer, or other gas appliance. It can enter the home by a malfunctioning appliance/furnace, a blocked chimney, or an exhaust vent that is too close to a window. CO is deadly if present in sufficient quantity. It is known as the silent killer due the fact it is almost impossible to notice the effects of the gas until the levels are beyond safe limits. Please call 911 immediately if your CO detector goes off. Unlike smoke detectors, you will not be able to see or smell the presence of the gas. The fire department has specialized meters that detect the presence of the gas as well as the amounts of gas present. It may be a faulty detector, but, better safe than sorry when it comes to this silent killer. CO is probably not more common now than ever before, but the modern houses are much more air tight than those in the past due to modern building practices and better building materials. Because of this, the air in today’s houses “doesn’t move,” and the toxic CO gets a chance to build up. Also CO detectors are more prevalent due to availability and lower cost than in the past.

2019 is the 81st year that the Tuftonboro Fire Rescue Department has been serving the community. I would like to thank all the past and present members for their dedicated years of service. It is humbling to be part of this department with its history of dedicated community service.

The Department and I look forward to continuing the best possible service to the community in 2019 and beyond. We encourage you to call or stop by if you have any questions or concerns you would like to bring to our attention.

Be safe.

Caleb Pike, Capt. 
Tuftonboro Fire & Rescue

Candidates Night to be February 19 at the Town House

The Tuftonboro Association is once again sponsoring a “Candidates Night” where townspeople can hear the views and ask questions of those seeking elective office. The date is Tuesday, March 19, 2019, and it will be held at a new venue: the Tuftonboro Town House, 247 Middle Road, Tuftonboro at 7:00 p.m.
Applicants for police work are in short supply statewide

As the New Year starts, the Tuftonboro Police Department is pleased to again have three officers working full time: Officer Tom Lefavre, Officer Jamie Hathcock, and Chief Andy Shagoury. Another open, full-time position will possibly be filled by publication time.

Hiring a new police officer is a long process of testing and processing several candidates to get down to a finalist. The Chief sent out over 50 requests to a regional test site and to those that responded to ads placed by the Department. In the end there were six applicants. The low number of respondents is a problem for police departments statewide and in Carroll County. There are many reasons, and there are many openings to be filled. It is difficult to find good applicants. Out of the six, two failed to appear at the physical test. It takes time to complete the background and other testing to come with a finalist that will be a good fit for Tuftonboro.

December marked the end of Chief Shagoury’s term as President of the New Hampshire Association of Chiefs of Police. The chief said: “It was a supreme honor to represent not only Tuftonboro but also New Hampshire, not only statewide but also nationally.”

Central School students are “learning through service”

Winter is upon us at Tuftonboro Central School (TCS). Students will spend Wednesdays in January experiencing a specific winter sport. TCS students can participate in snowshoeing at Tuftonboro Central School, skating at Pop Whalen Ice Arena, or skiing at the King Pine Ski Area. It is a great opportunity for staff and students to experience winter sports in New Hampshire.

The TCS Student Council donated numerous boxes of food items to the L.I.F.E Ministries Food Pantry on Tuesday, December 18. Student Council members began the food drive in early November at an all-school meeting. Teachers read the book Maddy’s Fridge to their classes prior to assembly, and Student Council members created a quiz game to review the message with the whole school. The presentation kicked off our food drive, and we received a lot of donations from community members at the TCS

MLPA says “Slow the Flow” of phosphorus into the lakes

As one of nearly 1000 lakes in New Hampshire, Mirror Lake is not the largest (Lake Winnipesaukee holds that title.) nor the deepest (depth distinguishes Newfound Lake,) or the most pristine (also Newfound Lake.) But Mirror Lake is dearly loved by residents lucky enough to live on or near its shores. Even by passers love the pretty little lake seen from Route 109 just after the Libby Museum and then again beyond the Mirror Lake Community Church.

The Mirror Lake Protective Association (MLPA) works hard to keep the lake as clean and desirable as possible. Our lake monitoring systems have been in place for nearly 40 years and for several decades Nancy and Dick Byrd gallantly collected water samples, tested them, then sent the samples and results to UNH and the NH Department of Environmental Services for analysis. Until last year; they retired recently from Mirror Lake to a new home in Wolfeboro. We toast the Byrds and their deep commitment to Mirror Lake. They will be sorely missed. They were honored at the MLPA Annual Meeting this past summer with a gorgeous photo of the lake and matching fleeces with the Mirror Lake logo.

The Byrds taught us a lot including the concept that both small lakes and large are fragile. A major source of fragility is phosphorus. Invisible to the human eye, phosphorus is one of the elements the Byrds sought to track in their years of water testing. Excess phosphorus easily enters lakes from various sources including rain, and more importantly ground water, and can lead to cyanobacteria outbreaks which

Continued on following page

Holiday Concert on December 12. Thanks to your support, we were able to make these great donations to the L.I.F.E. Ministries Food Pantry.

January will include another service learning opportunity for our Day of Service on January 18. We will make crafts for locations in Tuftonboro, Ossipee, and Wolfeboro. We will close out January with a school Spelling Bee and a school Geography Bee.

Ryan Gilpatrick, Principal
Snowshoeing on the Chandler-Wild Park Pedestrian Trail

On a winter day, after a storm when the sun is sparkling on the freshly fallen snow and the winds are calm, there is no better place to be than stepping into your snowshoes at the Wild Park-Chandler Pedestrian Trail. This 1.9 mile trail at the head of Twentymile Bay is a hidden gem, a moderate hike for families and groups. My husband, our friends and I snowshoe this trail often and never tire of its terrain, stillness, and beauty.

Imagine the trail as a lollipop or a balloon on a string. You leave the trailhead and walk 0.6 mile to a fork which creates a big loop. 0.7 mile in length; then you are back at the original junction and return as you entered, for the final 0.6 mile. The trail is marked in blue: blue markers, blue blazes painted on tree trunks and/or strips of blue surveyor’s tape tied to branches.

You begin at the parking lot in the Wild Park and soon pass onto the Chandler property. This is a somewhat wet part of the trail and even in the deep of winter there may be shallow little spots not totally frozen over. At the loop junction, take the right turn and shortly find yourself in the “Enchanted Forest,” an area of dense, enormous pine trees, laden with fresh snow, which can creep down your neck if you brush a branch or two. Passing through here is an “enchainting” experience and one of my favorite places on the trail.

After leaving this area, the trail opens up and soon leads to a spectacular lookout, with wetlands in the foreground, and the Copps Marsh, and the Ossipee Mountain range in the background. Take a moment here to step out from the trail into the clearing, enjoy the view, and listen for birdcalls. (If you happen to be here in November, you’ll enjoy a view of golden tamarack in their full autumn color.)

Continuing along to .4 mile on the loop, the trail takes a left, indicated by an arrow. There is a trail going off to the right and if you detour there, you can overlook Copp’s Pond. Returning to the main trail, you ascend the only real hill on the hike. Arriving at the top of the hill, the trail again goes to the left. On the right is another short detour which will take you to the Chandler Family Graveyard.

From the beginning point of the detour it is another 0.2 mile to complete the loop and rejoin the initial section of the trail. Before you complete the loop, however, you will notice you are walking parallel to a large open field; then the trail veers to the left away from the field and back into the woods. Just before going into the more wooded area, sidestep off to the edge of the field. This is the “sunspot.” On a bright day, before you continue back to the trailhead, you can stand here for a minute, feel the sun’s warmth, and remember that winter isn’t forever.

To access the Wild Park-Chandler Pedestrian Trailhead, park on the east side of Route 109 across from Twentymile Bay, before the bridge over Twentymile Brook. Walk over the bridge and turn into the driveway at 301 Governor Wentworth Highway. There is a small parking lot after entering the Wild Park, but it isn’t plowed in the winter. Please note that the permitted activities in this area include hiking, cross-county skiing, snowshoeing, picnicking and bird watching. Use of wheeled vehicles, fires and camping are prohibited. Enjoy the trail in any season!

Gerry DeGeorge, Past-President
The Tuftonboro Association
Library, continued from page 1

The Trustees proposed completing engineering work and architectural plans prior to Town Meeting, both to provide a more detailed cost estimate and, assuming a positive vote, to get a jump on bidding as early in the construction season as possible, so as to have everything enclosed well before winter. The Trustees also proposed splitting the upfront A&E costs of $135,000. The Selectmen agreed and voted unanimously to take $67,500 from the Town’s Library Capital Reserve Fund for this purpose, with the remaining $67,500 to come from private donations to the Library Building Fund.

The Trustees will schedule several public forums before Town Meeting to present detailed plans and answer questions about the project. Dates and times will be posted on the library website (www.tuftonborolibrary.org) and Facebook page, flyers in the community, and in the Granite State News.

Town Meeting is Wednesday evening, March 13, 2019, 7:30 p.m. at the Tuftonboro Central School. There are no absentee ballots for Town Meeting. You must be present to vote.

Meanwhile, back at the library, there’s plenty of time to check out X-C ski trail passes and snow shoes, and perhaps plan a field trip to the Currier Museum in Manchester or the MFA in Boston. Closer to home, the Remick Country Doctor Museum and Farm in Tamworth is open all winter, and the Seacoast Science Center has just announced newly expanded annual display, filled with exciting new work from talented amateurs. The Photography Club will mount their always-popular special exhibit, featuring Michael Cameron Ward, author of the Sketches of Lee trilogy-in-the-making. The first book, A Colored Man in Exeter, focuses on his family’s move from Harlem to Exeter in 1957 to escape gang violence, and their varied experiences as the first “colored” family in the community. Many of these stories were recounted to Michael by his father, Harold, who requested just before he died in 2015 that Michael write them down for his great grandchildren (and, for all of us.)

On Saturday, March 16, author Joan Dempsey, a NH native who now lives in Maine, will read from and talk about her debut novel, This Is How It Begins, a dramatic “torn-from-the-headlines” story of working to overcome politically motivated and secretly orchestrated intolerance. Paradoxically, the book is set in Massachusetts, a state usually noted for its liberal bent. Joan is now working on the sequel and will provide a taste of what’s to come for her engaging characters.

April’s Book & Author event on Saturday, April 13 brings fabled mountaineer Edward Webster to Tuftonboro. Ed has summited Mt. Everest 4 times, once forging a brand new and extremely difficult route through Tibet with only 3 companions and no Sherpas or bottled oxygen. His photographs are breathtaking, and so are his stories. Local climbers and armchair adventurers alike won’t want to miss this one!

All Book & Author Lunches are held in the Hamel Meeting Room, beginning at 11:00 a.m., and are followed by book sales and signing, and an informal lunch. (Note to her legion of fans: Vicki Zimmerschied will be catering the February and April lunches.) Programs and lunches are free and open to the public, but seating is limited so reservations are required. Stop by the library or call 569-4256 to reserve seats for any of these events.

There’s still time this month to take in Diane Kirkup’s first exhibit of new paintings in 30 years. On display are three “mini exhibits” of her work in acrylics on canvas, plus a display case full of hand-painted jewelry. Her aim was to bring lots of color to the library in January. In February, we welcome two first-time exhibitors. Megan Langlois produces the original anime art that will deck the walls, and Derek Waterfield designs the eye-catching jewelry that will grace the case. In March, the Lakes Region Photography Club will mount their always-popular annual display, filled with exciting new work from local photographers, both professionals and very talented amateurs.

The History Book Group meets monthly on the last Wednesday at 7:00 p.m. in the Hamel Meeting Room. The selection for January 30 is the Narrows by Laura MacDonald, a riveting retelling of the slow motion disaster that was the deadly explosion in Halifax Harbor in 1917. On February 27, the discussion will focus on Tom Feiling’s The Island that Disappeared: The Lost History of the Mayflower’s Sister Ship and Its Rival Puritan Colony. Leonardo DaVinci by Walter Isaacson will be up for discussion on March 27.

The Readers’ Choice Book Group also meets monthly, on the third Wednesday from 10 to noon. For February 20 the group is reading Beautiful Ruins by Jess Walter, a novel set in a small village on the Italian coast during the fabled filming of “Cleopatra” in Rome. On March 20, the selection is News of the World by Paulette Jiles, a compelling piece of historical fiction set in the aftermath of the Civil War, and a finalist for the National Book Award.

Advance reading copies are always available for both regular reading/discussion groups, and new members (and their suggestions) are always welcome.

Other ongoing gatherings in the meeting room: Preschool Story Hour on Friday mornings at 9:30 a.m., the Tuftonboro Garden Group on the first Monday of the month at 9:00 a.m., the Saturday Writers Group, weekly from 10:00 a.m. to noon, and the KnitWits, Monday evenings at 6:30 p.m. (except the first Monday evening, which is reserved for the Tuftonboro Association Board meeting.) Check the online events calendar for details of these and other community group meetings and programs.

Please keep in mind that pre-arranged program times and dates may change, especially in case of bad weather. For up-to-date event information, or to confirm that we’re open, check the library’s website or Facebook page, or the WMUR-TV closings list. And remember that if you have electricity, a web-connected device, and a library card, you can access Ebooks, audiobooks, movies, music, magazines, TV shows, and even comics on Hoopladigital or Overdrive, all from the comfort of home.

So many free events and activities to choose from this winter. But if all you really crave is just to curl up and disappear into a delicious new book (or movie or audio), of course TFL will come through for you, too. And if you don’t see whatever you’re longing to read (or watch or listen to) on the shelf, just ask – we specialize in happy patrons!

Christie V. Sarles
Librarian/Director
# COMMUNITY CALENDAR

## January

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>19</td>
<td>10:00 AM</td>
<td>Book &amp; Author Lunch - Michael A. Bruno - call library for details</td>
<td>TFL</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1:00 PM</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21</td>
<td>1:30 PM</td>
<td>Hikers Meeting - Hamel Meeting Room</td>
<td>TFL</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## February

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>9:00 AM</td>
<td>Tuftonboro Garden Group - Hamel Meeting Room</td>
<td>TFL</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>11:00 AM</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>6:30 PM</td>
<td>Parks &amp; Recreation Meeting</td>
<td>TTO</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>10:00 AM</td>
<td>Book &amp; Author Lunch - Michael Cameron Ward - call library for details</td>
<td>TFL</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1:00 PM</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19</td>
<td>7 PM</td>
<td>Candidates Night - NOTE: New Location - Town House</td>
<td>TOOTH</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21</td>
<td>1 PM</td>
<td>Hikers Meeting - Hamel Meeting Room</td>
<td>TFL</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26</td>
<td>7 PM</td>
<td>Newcomers Book Group - Hamel Meeting Room</td>
<td>TFL</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## March

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>6 PM</td>
<td>Hikers Italian Dinner</td>
<td>WWH</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>9:00 AM</td>
<td>Tuftonboro Garden Group - Hamel Meeting Room</td>
<td>TFL</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>All Day</td>
<td>Town Election</td>
<td>TOTH</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>7:30 PM</td>
<td>Town Meeting</td>
<td>TCS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>6:30 PM</td>
<td>Parks &amp; Recreation Meeting</td>
<td>TTO</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22</td>
<td>6 PM</td>
<td>Hikers Guest Night</td>
<td>WWH</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Ongoing

- **Last Wednesday of the month** - 7:00 - 8:30 PM History Book Club meeting
- **Tuesday - 6:30 – 9:30 PM**  Country, Bluegrass & Gospel Music Jam Session
- **Every Monday night EXCEPT first Monday of the month, 6:30 PM - 8:30 PM, Knit Wits**
- **Saturdays - 10 AM - 12 PM** Saturday Writers Group
- **Last Wednesday of the month** History Book Club at 7:00 PM
- **Every Friday - Pre-School Story Hour - 09:30 AM**
- **Thursday Evenings - BEE School - 6:30 PM - 8:30 PM - Except first week of the month**
- **Libby Museum - Closed for the season**

## KEY to Abbreviations:

- 19MB - 19 Mile Bay Pavilion
- 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
- TCS - Tuftonboro Central School
- TOT - Tuftonboro Town Offices
- TUMC - United Methodist Church
- TWH - Willing Workers Hall
- TOOTH - Tuftonboro Old Town Hall
This photograph was taken in February 1939, looking from Tuftonboro Neck Road towards the Mirror Lake Community Church. The picture is courtesy of Edwin Garrett, whose great-great grandfather, Henry Hayes, was likely the photographer.