

# The Tuftonboro Times

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Spring 2018

## Tuftonboro's Great Meadow teems with life in the spring

The Great Meadow, a special 512-acre wetland complex in Tuftonboro, is a remarkable place. Located along the Melvin River, between Sodom Road and Rt. 171, it remains mostly undeveloped and in a natural state. It is located over one of the purist and most productive aquifers in this region. The meadow area is surrounded by a transition, forested wetland and forested slopes. The Great Meadow's remoteness and diversity provide habitat for nearly all the plants and animals found in New Hampshire. Free from roads, speeding traffic, houses, and yards, nature can interact as it always did.

Winter is hard in the natural world. It feels cold and black and white, but as the season turns to spring there is a burst of color and warmth. There is a revival of green shoots, blooms of flowers, buzzing of insects, and the calls of birds. The abundance of warmth and sunshine stimulate a renewal of life. Here is a sampling of a few of the events taking place in the Great Meadow this spring.

Lengthening days and increasingly warm sunshine melt the ice and snow that have covered the meadow all winter. Migrating birds on their way north stop to rest and feed while local, hibernating wildlife begins to stir. Bald eagles will soar above the wetland on thermals generated by the open terrain. They look for brook trout in and ducks on the river to feed upon while waiting for the lakes and ponds to become ice-free. Wood ducks return for the season to raise a new family. The brightly colored males court the females as they look for a nest site. They need a hollow tree not too far from water. As soon as the eggs hatch, mother calls her ducklings to the entrance. They will jump and crash to the ground like a child's toy, then follow mother to water, and begin feeding under her supervision and protection.

Brook trout who have struggled through the spring melt begin feeding on the abundant insects produced in spring. They struggled because the snow accumulation is acidic from power plant and vehicle exhaust emissions. It melts all at once releasing an acidic shock. The acidic compounds block their gills, so it is hard for the fish to breath. The water is teeming with insect larvae changing into flying adults that will lay eggs in the water to start the process all over again. Abundant sunshine encourages algae and



**Tuftonboro's Great Meadow is located in a 512-acre parcel of undisturbed, forested land.**

**Photo: Ray Everest**

other microscopic plants to grow, which, in turn, feeds insect larvae, fish fry, and small crustaceans. These become food for larger fish, predatory insects, and amphibians, which eventually become the main food supply for brook trout and turtles.

Abundant Sunshine also stimulates terrestrial plants to grow and flower. Flowers attract pollinators such as bees, butterflies, and hummingbirds. Migrating birds from the South arrive as insect populations begin to explode. Mayflies, dragonflies, mosquitos, stoneflies, midges, and blackflies swarm in the air. These sources of high energy protein are required by nearly all migrating bird species who must recover from winter and their migration, build a nest, mate, and raise young in a few short months. The young birds need to mature, learn to fly, and to find food all before having to depart in the fall migration. This can only be done on a high protein diet.

The most common shrubs on the meadow are red osier dogwood and witch hazel. Red osier has a showy red stem that adds some color to the drab fall and winter landscape. In spring it has a small white flower producing a berry that ripens by late summer. These fruits provide important food for migrating birds in the fall including the wood duck. Native Americans made arrows from the stems as well as reinforcement

for baskets. The inner bark was used to flavor tobacco. Moose, deer, and beaver browse the plants year-round.

Another common woody plant, which looks like a shrub but is classified as a tree, is witch hazel. The "witch" part of the name originates from the use of a forked stem in dowsing for water. The wood can be rendered into an alcohol used medicinally as an astringent. The bark had many uses in Native American and early pioneer medicine. This shrub-like tree flowers in the fall, and seeds develop over the next spring and summer. When mature, the plant will expel the seeds from their pods and send them up to 20 feet beyond the plant. Beaver will harvest the stems in late summer and fall and store them in the mud as a winter food supply. Mother turkeys take their young poults to hunt for insects under witch hazel shrubs which provides protection from hawks.

Another shrub-like tree that is becoming more common is glossy buckthorn. This invasive weed from Central Asia is spreading rapidly into wet areas such as the Great Meadow. Birds eat its luscious fruit and poop out its inner seed as they fly around. Local plant-eating animals don't like to eat it so it just keeps spreading.

New emerging vegetation feeds mice, voles,

**Continued on page 10**

# Hunter family makes maple syrup the old-fashioned way

At least nine generations of the Hunter family have produced maple syrup at Bald Peak Farm. The tradition may go all the way back to the early 1800s when the big farmhouse was built (1803), and family members likely boiled sap over an open fire.

In the 1850s, the Hunter's first sap house was built in a field northwest of the house. It served the family for most of 70 years but had a nasty habit of tipping over when the winds were strong. The present "new" sap house, across the street from the farm on Route 171, was built in 1922. Much of it was built with re-cycled or re-purposed materials, particularly in the woodshed section.

On a recent Sunday, seeing steam from the chimney of the sap house, I stopped to learn more about the process. Hanging out minding the fire, the flow, and the temperature of the sap were Jeff Hunter and his grandson, Noah Smith (9th generation), and Steve Hunter and Cy Hunter, brothers and cousins.

It seems there is a lot of waiting for the sap to boil down in the evaporator and for the temperature of the sap to reach 219 degrees. Hence, the card playing on a corner table. And no wonder, when it takes about 40 gallons of sugar maple sap to make one gallon of maple syrup. (There are some who tap red maples, which takes even more sap to get a gallon of maple syrup.) You cannot leave the sap alone once you start boiling, as you must monitor the process and feed the fire until you finish the batch.

The maple sap from the Hunter lands was once collected using horses pulling the sap tank. Until 1960, Tom Hunter used a team of oxen; today the sap is gathered with a tractor. The collected sap is added to the evaporator on a continuous basis for as long as the sap is rising in the trees. This process repeats itself for as long as the nights are cold and the days are warm. Once the sap is delivered to the upper pan in the evaporator, it snakes through the four partitions via weep holes at one end or the other until fed into the



**Siblings Steve Hunter, Mary Hunter, and Jackie Rollins huddle over the most recent batch of maple syrup in the Hunter sap house. Photo: Joan Magrauth**

lower pan, using a float system. The lower pan also has four sections with weep holes at alternate ends to allow sap to pass through. Once the temperature reaches 219 degrees in the final partition, it is drained off then filtered through cotton cloth and felt. This syrup is then poured into a separate vat, to determine the density of the syrup for proper grading.

Hunter sap is gathered exclusively from sugar maple trees (*Acer saccharum*) also known as rock maple trees, on the surrounding property, all of which is owned by a family member. Three hundred gallons of syrup is a good year and is the annual goal. The amount of syrup produced at Bald Peak Farm has been from 167 to 475 gallons. The sap season runs a good five to six weeks and is officially over when the peepers (frogs) sing. The latest ending day recorded is April 27, 1939.

Pretty much all family members, who can, participate, and there is much to do. Once we have warm days and cold nights, the season begins. First, 1,500 buckets need to be hung on a spout drilled into

the tree; the buckets need to be checked regularly, emptied when full, and then rehung. Finally, at season's end, all buckets, evaporating pans, and spouts need to be cleaned and stored. Although the Hunters could, like other producers, use a tubing system to collect the sap, they prefer the traditional way of operating. It means more visiting, more talking, and more connecting with family and community. For this reason, based on the size of their sapping operation, they are unique.

On the door of the sap house is a history of sap collection and syrup production, per land lot. Eventually, with no more room on the door, the same information is now being kept in a notebook.

All are welcome to stop by and visit or help when steam is rising from the Hunter sap house. To obtain your own Hunter maple syrup call Jackie Rollins at (603) 544-3252.

Joan Magrauth  
Tuftonboro Agricultural Commission

## Annual town roadside clean-up is on Saturday, April 21

For many 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. It has been particularly pleasing to see the participation of individuals and families. All who value the natural beauty of the wonderful community in which we live are encouraged to participate. Hopefully, all interested

individuals will join us in educating the public about the effect of littering on our society.

**DATE:** Saturday, April 21, 2018 (If you are unable to make it that day, please sign up and indicate the day you will work.)

**TIME:** 8:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.

### **LOGISTICS:**

Pick up bags at the Town Office parking lot

Pick up safety vests and bags at the at the Town Office parking lot or bring your own

Disposal - filled trash bags be taken directly to the transfer station or the rear of the Town Office parking lot

**ROADS:** Please see the poster boards in the lobby of the town office for the roads to be cleaned.

Please choose and sign up for a portion of one of the roads.

**QUESTIONS:** Call Sue Wingate: 569-3114

Thanks for your participation!

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# Transfer Station lists special collection dates for summer

Springtime is knocking on the door! Last year was a very busy year at the station, especially for construction debris. 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.

Upcoming events of interest are Island Day, Hazardous Waste collection day, and Controlled Medication collection days:

Island Day will be on 21 July at 19-Mile Bay from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon. This collection is for island residents of Tuftonboro only and is not for normal trash or hazardous waste items. Island day collection is only for construction debris, large bulky items, stoves, fridges, mattresses, TVs, etc. Normal transfer station fees will apply for items brought. More info will follow as the date gets closer.

Hazardous Waste Collection days will be on July 28<sup>th</sup> and August 4<sup>th</sup> from 8:30 a.m. to 12:00 noon. These two dates are when Tuftonboro residents can drop off 10 gallons of material free of charge. Specific times and locations for drop off will be published as dates get closer. All Tuftonboro residents may also drop hazardous waste material off at the Wolfeboro hazardous waste facility at their own expense from 8:30 a.m. to 12:00 noon on the third Saturday of each

month from May thru Oct.

Controlled medications collection dates will be published as soon as we know them. This will be at the Tuftonboro Transfer Station and usually occurs twice in the summertime.

Transfer Station Stickers for 2017-2018 are available for purchase at the Transfer Station or the Town Offices. The current 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. 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 at the Transfer Station remain the same this year. Many families are recycling which shows an awareness in our residents to the benefits of recycling both in "direct revenue" increases, and in "avoided costs" increases. Our total cash revenue for 2017 (not including avoided costs) was approx. \$101,690. Avoided costs, or the money we saved from recycling commodities at a lower cost than getting rid of it through solid waste compactors, was \$33,987. Our total net worth to the Tuftonboro community is the sum of cash revenue collected plus the total avoided costs. For 2017 our net worth was

\$135,677.

Please join us and assist in reducing all our taxes by recycling (plastic, tin cans, aluminum cans, glass, cardboard, and mixed paper). Residents who 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.

This year (2017) we shipped out the following:

Solid Waste	1060 Tons
C/D	800 Tons
Plastic	28 Tons
Paper	70 Tons
Glass	52 Tons
Cardboard	45 Tons
Steel/tin cans	7 Tons
Electronics	15 Tons
Car Batteries	3957 lbs.
Freon items	214 Units
Metal Scrap	104 Tons
Propane items	80 Units
Tires	16 Tons
Used Oil	450 Gallons
Recycle batteries	148 lbs.
Fluorescent Bulbs	1504 Linear Feet

**Clayton Gallagher, Supervisor**

## Conservation Commission postpones well-water testing

Since 2012 the Tuftonboro Conservation Commission has sponsored a well water testing initiative, has provided over 567 water test kits, and has transported these kits to the state laboratory in Concord NH.

The Commission feels that this program has been very successful and intends it to continue in the future. Currently, however, important new projects are being organized and worked on (such as conservation easements in and around the Great Meadow) and the Commission feels that the well water testing program could be offered on a two or three-year basis instead of annually.

Residents can certainly have their own

wells tested at any time by contacting the Department of Health and Human Services (NHHS) laboratory in Concord at 603-271-3445 or by visiting Department of Environmental services (NHDES) "Private Well Testing" page at [www.des.nh.gov](http://www.des.nh.gov), click on the A to Z list, and click on Private Well Testing. You will find extensive information on why and how to test your well along with lists of many labs in New England that conduct such tests. On that list is the contact information for the DHHS lab the Conservation Commission has used in the past for its testing program. When contacted, the lab will send you a test kit complete with directions for taking the

appropriate test samples and detailed mailing/delivery instructions.

You should also visit the Conservation Commission's web site at [www.tuftonboro.org](http://www.tuftonboro.org), click on Boards & Committees, A-L, Conservation Commission, Well Water Testing Initiative for additional information.

We cannot stress enough the importance of being "well" informed as to what is in the water you drink and how crucial it is to your health and the health of your family!

**Nancy Piper  
Tuftonboro Conservation Commission**

## Voters wishing to change political party have until June 5

Please note that if you are interested in changing your party affiliation prior to the NH State Primary on September 11 you must do so before June 5. 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 June 5 between 7:00 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. to complete the paperwork.

If you are an Undeclared voter who chose either a

Republican or Democratic ballot in the last NH State Primary in 2016 (in person or absentee) and DID NOT return to Undeclared, you are still, at this time, registered in the party whose ballot you took to vote in the primary. If you do not return to Undeclared, you will only be able to take the ballot of the party for which you are currently registered during this September's Primary.

If you have questions, please feel free to call or stop by the Town Clerk's office to check your party affiliation. Our next elections will be the NH State Primary on September 11 and the General Election November 6.

**Heather Cubeddu  
Tuftonboro Town Clerk**



# Board of Selectmen report on Town Meeting, 2018 projects

For the second year in a row, Town Elections were held during a significant snow storm. Last year, the snow was accompanied by high winds, causing many road closures and significant, extended power outages. Fortunately, this year's storm turned out to be strictly a snow event, and the election was concluded without a repeat of last year's challenging conditions. Several incumbents were reelected: Selectman Lloyd Wood, Budget Committee member Helen Hartshorn, Moderator Dan Barnard, Cemetery Trustee Susan Weeks, and Library Trustee Gordon Hunt. Also elected were the following new officials: Budget Committee member Thomas Young, Trustee of the Trust Funds David Braun, and Supervisor of the Checklist William Rollins. Congratulations to the winners, and thanks to all who ran for office. We also want to thank outgoing Budget Committee Chairman Carla Lootens, Trustee of the Trust Funds Susan Weeks, and Supervisor of the Checklist Marianne Marcussen for their many years of service to the town.

Town Meeting featured a spirited sharing of viewpoints and information. Voters approved projects

to repair the Sodom Road Bridge over the Melvin River, to restore full load-bearing capacity, and to replace the failed septic system at the library. Both projects will commence this spring. Replacement of the 10-year old Code Enforcement vehicle was approved, and the new vehicle was delivered during the last week of March. Fire Engine 2 is 20 years old and at the end of its service life; a replacement pumper/tanker was approved, and a request for proposals has been issued. Funding was also approved for the study and design of a new or expanded police facility. Funding for road repaving was increased, and a pavement condition study will be conducted. This year's paving schedule will be finalized once the ground has thawed. Unfortunately, the Board of Selectmen did not hold a bond hearing for the library expansion, as required by law. Therefore, the library warrant article was tabled, to be acted upon at a future Town Meeting.

This year, work will continue on improving and upgrading town waterfront and recreational facilities. The Mirror Lake boat launch area is scheduled to

receive a paved apron. Design work and permitting for improvements at the town beach have begun. Also, permitting for repairs to Union Wharf and the Lake Road bulkhead are planned. In 2017, we entered into a cooperative purchasing agreement that reduced our electric energy rate by 18%. We will be looking to extend cooperative purchasing into other areas this year.

For happenings in Town or to see when various boards and committees meet, please check out the Town website at [www.tuftonboro.org](http://www.tuftonboro.org). We encourage all to attend not only the Selectmen's meetings but any other boards or committees that may be of interest.

The Board thanks all who assisted in making this past year a successful one and we look forward to a happy and productive 2018.

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

## The Fire & Rescue Dept. offers spring safety reminders

Hopefully spring has sprung, and the warm weather is here to stay. It has been a long cold winter, and March finished with a roar. This is a reminder that anyone who burns wood should clean their chimneys as soon as possible. It is easier to clean chimneys now, so you don't forget. It is very common for us to respond to chimney fires in late spring after the stoves have been shut down and folks restart them during a cold rainy spell. So, please be proactive, and if you clean them now you don't have to do it in the fall.

Spring is also the time to clean up your property. If you plan on having an outside fire, remember you need to have a permit, wait until after 5:00 p.m. (unless it is actively raining but you still need a permit!), and call the dispatch center (539-2262) to let them know you will be burning.

There are several reasons that the state of New Hampshire requires that most open burning occur during the evening and nighttime hours. The main reason is to prevent and control wildland fires.

As the day progresses from morning to afternoon the environment changes and makes fire control more difficult.

The temperature increases in the afternoon and the surface fuels on the ground are pre-heated.

The relative humidity decreases in the afternoon, and small fuels such as grasses, leaves, and twigs dry out.

Winds pick up allowing sparks and embers to travel away from the fire, making control more difficult.

Being a mostly rural state, New Hampshire relies on volunteer/Call Fire Departments. During

the daytime it is common for communities to have less coverage because many of their volunteers are at work. In the event a permitted fire did get out of control, a quicker response may occur during the evening hours than during the day.

Other than meeting the requirements of RSA 227-L:17, there are several reasons why permits are required.

Permits are the first tool in fire prevention and education.

It ensures that Forest Fire Wardens know where fires are occurring.

Often a citizen may call 911 when they observe smoke in an area. If the warden knows there is a fire permit for that area they may investigate the call first rather than call out an entire department.

It allows the Forest Fire Warden to inform the public when unsafe fire conditions may be present or predicted. This is important during times of high fire danger.

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

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

Other helpful information regarding outside fire laws can be found at the NH Division of Forest and Lands website, [www.dfl.org](http://www.dfl.org). There is also link from the Tuftonboro Fire Department's web page on the Town's website.

The Department responds to all types of

emergencies, in all types of weather, and at all hours. We are often slowed down by narrow roads and driveways that are overgrown with trees and limbs. As much as we can appreciate the "campy feel" that many of you tell us you enjoy while going to and from your properties, it does often hinder a timely response from the emergency services you require. If you have any questions about the accessibility of your property, please contact us. We are looking to assist you to get the help you need as safely and as quickly as possible. If you are planning a major road rehab or putting in a new driveway, ask us what we think. Also, having good reflective house numbers that are visible from the street is invaluable. It happens every year that we respond to an emergency, the people asking for help are not familiar with the area or the place they are staying, and the house has no number on it. Or, if the 911 center gives us the number provided by the phone company, we may be delayed due to the fact there is no physical number on the house.

Please share the road with pedestrians, bicycles, and motorcycles. Look twice at intersections, and please give plenty of room before pulling out in front of a bike or motorcycle. They have far less stopping power than a car does. Also, pass pedestrians and bicycles with caution.

Our non-emergency number is 569-3381; email is [firedept@tuftonboro.org](mailto:firedept@tuftonboro.org), and the Central Station is located at 189 Middle Road if you would like to stop by for a visit.

Wishing you a safe summer,

**Caleb Pike, Capt.**  
**Tuftonboro Fire and Rescue**

# The Police Department warns against fraudulent robo-calls

As tax season comes around, many people throughout the state are receiving robocalls purporting to be from the Internal Revenue Service and threatening to have them arrested if they don't call [*this number*] within "forty-eight working hours." Unfortunately, the Police Department can do little to deal with these calls. The important thing is to not give out personal information to callers. Also, if the police really did have a warrant, they would be either at your door, or, Tuftonboro's preferred method, they would call and ask you to turn on yourself in. Real police departments, and the Internal Revenue Service, will never ask for a green dot or other money transfers to avoid an arrest. It simply doesn't work that way.

We are thankful that the Town Meeting voted to continue the process of fixing the space needs of the Police Department. The current facility lacks the accessibility and privacy that is critical for the delivery of services. The Department also lacks space for evidence and storage of equipment. There have been several studies assessing the Department's needs, going back to 2004, with different committees. Every study has shown a need for a larger facility.

It is important to remember that our town sees a large increase in population during the summer. While the population of Tuftonboro is just under 2,400 people for half the year, during the warmer months our resident population increases to approximately

7,000 individuals. We have several summer camps and many seasonal homes which are occupied seasonally. The Department looks forward to working with the Board of Selectmen to get professional assistance and come up with plans to deal with its space needs.

I am working with the Selectmen to revise all parking and docking ordinances. It is hoped that they can be made clearer and easier to enforce. Several sections needed to be updated as the parking permit process had changed.

Finally, spring has come, and the snow is melting. Soon we will be preparing for summer and our busiest season.

**Andy Shagoury, Chief**

## Comma controversy takes center stage at Town Meeting

In case you missed out on the 2018 Tuftonboro Town Meeting, get ready for some drama. One issue in particular stood out: commas - a perennial topic among editors, grammarians, and language enthusiasts through the ages. Max Ledoux proposed to amend Article 16 by adding four commas.

In legal matters, commas can be crucial. Court cases have turned on the presence or absence of a comma. Scholars of the American Constitution have written tomes over the placement of commas in constitutional articles and amendments. In Maine, the absence of a "serial comma" in state law recently cost Oakhurst Dairy \$5 million. Based on a careful reading of the statute's punctuation, the First Circuit Court of Appeals in Boston unanimously ruled that the company's drivers were owed that amount of money in overtime. The judge in the case wrote a 29-page decision exploring the use of the comma.

Here in Tuftonboro, thankfully, we are not waging a multi-million-dollar legal battle about overtime pay. Nor are we writing the founding document of a new nation, but we still take our punctuation seriously.

Three of the four commas that Ledoux proposed were to properly set off the appositives (explanatory words or phrases) in the very long sentence that was Article 16. An appositive is set off by a pair of commas, and the appositives in the warrant article as originally written simply lacked the second comma of the pair.

But all the passion in the room was directed toward the fourth comma that Ledoux suggested: the "Oxford comma," infamous in some circles, also known as the "serial comma." (We're Americans, not Britons, so I prefer the term "serial comma.") As the name suggests, it's the comma in a series. Is it "red, white and blue" or "red, white, and blue"?

The vote on the Ledoux amendment was close. About half the voters raised their "yes" cards. A hand count was required to confirm the outcome. Result: It passed, by four votes. And a good thing, too. It turns out that the state statute from which our Article 16 draws most of its language uses not only the correct appositive commas but also the serial comma. The "No" voters, unintentionally, were voting against the punctuation in the current New Hampshire law.

Comma usage has changed over time, as a glance at any Dickens novel will show. Most style guides to American English recommend the serial comma, and most magazines and book publishers follow that advice. One reason to use the serial comma is to avoid confusion in sentences such as this one: "She thanked her parents, God and Roseanne Barr." Who are her parents?

The *AP Stylebook*, which governs the style of newspaper prose, is a notable exception to the norm. It eschews the serial comma. One explanation for this is that newspaper editors, in the old-timey days of traditional print media, were always trying to find ways to save space in their narrow columns. Shaving off commas throughout a whole newspaper could save inches of space, which saved money.

For book publishers today, the *Chicago Manual of Style* is the basic style bible. Here is what its 17th edition, published in 2017, says about the serial comma, in usage notes written by Bryan Garner: "When a conjunction joins the last two elements in a series of three or more, a comma—known as the serial or series comma or the Oxford comma—should appear before the conjunction. Chicago strongly recommends this widely practiced usage, blessed by Fowler and other authorities . . . since it prevents ambiguity."

Henry Watson Fowler was an early-20th-century Oxford scholar who wrote the classic style guide *A Dictionary of Modern English Usage*, published in 1926. It's been updated many times and is still a standard reference guide in publishing houses.

A side note: Bryan Garner received a glowing stamp of approval from the great contemporary writer David Foster Wallace—author of *Infinite Jest*, "Consider the Lobster," "This Is Water," and many sparkling essays, including "[Tense Present](#)," a superb rumination on our current language-usage wars. Wallace considered Bryan Garner a genius when it comes to language usage. I agree.

In a curious twist of linguistic history, Wallace introduced Bryan Garner to Supreme Court Justice Antonin Scalia. The grammarian and the justice bonded over their shared preference for the second edition of *Webster's New International Dictionary*, but their friendship nearly ended over a disagreement about the use of contractions. Garner liked contractions. He found them lifelike. Scalia, who wrote Supreme Court opinions meant to stand the test of time, thought them beneath the dignity of the Court.

Like contractions, serial commas can stir people's passions. At the end of town meeting, one petite lady, whom I've never met, wanted to share her opinion that serial commas are totally unacceptable. Her preference was for the AP style. "You're wrong!" she told me, shaking her head as she walked away. I well understand her fervor.

What are people arguing about when they argue about punctuation? That's a topic for another day.

**Molly Powell**

**Associate Editor, National Review**

# Planning to plant this spring? Soil temperature is critical

Despite the snow still on the ground, the Tuftonboro Agricultural Commission says it's time to think about gardening, whether it's vegetables or flowers. It's time to sign up for your Community Garden plot(s). Think warm thoughts, and start your seedlings. Remember, whether you grow your own or buy seedlings to transplant, according to UNH Extension, the most critical factor is soil temperature. It is also important to harden off your seedlings before transplanting.

**Coming Attractions:** Check the progress of the demonstration pollinator garden established in the Community Garden last year. With the goal of educating the community about the benefits of composting in general, and of food waste composting specifically, TAC is planning to establish a demonstration compost site in the area of the Community Garden, and we have applied for a grant to establish two food waste composting demonstrations.

Soil Temperature Guidelines for Vegetable Crops	
Crops that will germinate in the coolest soils, down to 40° F (4° C)	Arugula, fava beans, kale, lettuce, bok choy, parsnips, peas, radicchio, radish, and spinach seed
Crops that will germinate with a soil temperature above 50° F (10° C)	Chinese cabbage, leeks, onions, Swiss chard, and turnips
Crops that will germinate with a soil temperature at or above 60° F (16° C)	Beans, beets, broccoli, Brussels sprouts, cabbage, carrots, and cauliflower. <b>NOTE:</b> Beans will not tolerate any frost and may have to be planted again if the temperature goes below freezing
Crops that will germinate with a soil temperature above 70° F (21° C)	Tomatoes, eggplants, peppers, cucumbers, squash, corn, and melons.

Stay tuned. Look for a new sign designating the Community Garden sometime this year.

**In Progress:** Check out the local producers page on the Agricultural Commission's webpage: [www.tuftonboro.org/sites/tuftonboronh/files/uploads/tac\\_local\\_producers.pdf](http://www.tuftonboro.org/sites/tuftonboronh/files/uploads/tac_local_producers.pdf). This list

includes local producers of agricultural products as well as those individuals interested in sharing their knowledge. If you would like to be included on this list, please send a note to Joan Magrauth through the Town Office.

Sue Wingate

## Parks & Rec to sponsor Old Home Days logo competition

The Tuftonboro Parks and Recreation Commission and the Old Home Days committee are finalizing plans for the summer.

The Old Home Days committee is sponsoring a logo design contest. The previous two years, the 5th grade at the Tuftonboro Central School has submitted logos for consideration. This year the contest is open to everyone, both students and adults.

Design criteria: a simple 1-color line drawing of an image or scene that represents Tuftonboro, past or present. The image should NOT have fine detail, or shading. The final image should be outlined in marker and submitted on an 8 1/2" x 11" piece of paper. Please put your name and phone number on the back of the drawing.

All entries should be submitted to the Town Offices by May 15. The winning design will be used on the 2018 Old Home Days commemorative items and the events brochure. All entries are welcome. Old Home Days are August 24-26, 2018.

The town-wide yard sale will be Saturday, June 2, and the sign-up forms to be included on the map will be available May 1 at the Town Offices and online. Completed forms should be returned to the Town Offices by May 25. Completed maps will be available by May 29 at the Town Offices, online at [tuftonboro.org](http://tuftonboro.org) and at the Tuftonboro Library.

Swim lessons/team registration forms will be available in early May. Registration forms will be sent home with Tuftonboro Central School students and will be available both online and at the Town Offices. Not sure what level your child should be in? Join us for a summer kick-off on June 23 at 19 Mile beach from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Pre-test evaluations will be given to determine the right swim level for your child. Enjoy a free hot dog lunch, and a craft for the kids (while supplies last). The kick-off will be held rain or shine as this is the last day to register for lessons or swim team.

Stay tuned for the Summer Concert Series at the



**This was last year's winning Old Home Days logo, designed by Trevor de Haven**

Pavilion line up. Concerts will be Thursday nights in July and August at the 19-Mile Bay pavilion.

For up-to-date information check [www.tuftonboro.org](http://www.tuftonboro.org), e-mail to [parcsandrec@tuftonboro.org](mailto:parcsandrec@tuftonboro.org), or follow Tuftonboro Parks & Recreation on Facebook (@TuftonboroParksandRec).

Gina Lessard, Chairman

## Tuftonboro Grange starts new season beginning April 13

Greetings from the Tuftonboro Grange.

The winter hiatus is ending, and the Tuftonboro Grange is looking ahead to a full season. The first meeting is April 13, 2018 at the home of Florence Perkins. There will be a fish chowder supper. The Grange is having a "mask" contest. There will be prizes for the best and the most unique. Anyone wishing to attend and/or find out more about the Grange, please feel free to contact either Florence Perkins or Joy Perkins at 603-569-1887. The Tuftonboro Grange meets the second Friday of the month, with a pot luck supper at 5:00 p.m. and the

meeting starting at 6:00 p.m.

Already we've had an interested party waiting for our doors to open (see picture.) Unfortunately for the bobcat, parked in front of the Hall, he was a bit too early and lost interest.

Some upcoming activities are the annual penny sales on July 21 and November 10. Also, the Grange will participate in Tuftonboro's Old Home Days during the annual Town Picnic. Our Lecturer has some surprises in store for us as well.

Joy Perkins, Secretary  
Tuftonboro Grange



**A bobcat waits impatiently for a potluck dinner at the Grange Hall.**

Photo: Louise Marie Spinney



# Library hosts Book & Author lunches, artists, book groups

Welcome, Spring! If there's still snow on the ground as you read this, keep in mind that snowshoes and XC-ski passes are available to borrow as long as the snow lasts. Or, if you're just finished with winter, no matter what, then come in to sample the season's newest books, movies, and audios; to view the changing exhibits, and to take in a program or three.

April's Book & Author Lunch program brings NH teacher, writer, and foster parent Benjamin Ludwig to the Tuftonboro Free Library on Saturday, April 21 at 11:00 a.m. Ben's debut novel, *Ginny Moon*, was a breakout bestseller last year, winning starred reviews from Publisher's Weekly, Library Journal, BookPage, and Booklist, and a spot on Amazon.com's list of the 20 Best Books of 2017. The program will be followed by book sales and signing, and an informal buffet lunch with desserts provided by the Friends of the Library. Tickets are FREE but LIMITED to 40 due to space constraints. Pick up yours at the library or call 569-4256 to reserve.

Marcia Kiley-Lemay is an amazing art teacher at Tuftonboro Central School, and her students' output will be the focus of May's exhibit. Meanwhile, her own art is front and center during April, and there's still time this month to take a look at her current work and some of its inspirations. In May, Marcia will be back to hang one of TFL's most popular annual exhibits, the Tuftonboro Central School Student Art Show. Every single student is represented in this show, and the level of artistic creativity and execution is always exciting to see. There will be an Open House Reception for this exhibit on Friday, May 4th, from 4:30 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. Everyone is most welcome to stop in, view the exhibit, interact with the young artists, and enjoy refreshments.

First-time exhibitors Marilyn and Randy Zimmerman will be June's artists in the spotlight, and the first ever husband-and-wife show at TFL will feature their original acrylics. In July, Cate

Poole returns by popular demand, with a new show of her evocative watercolors. Look for TFL's annual Arts & Crafts Exhibit & Raffle in August, to benefit the Library Building Fund. If you would like to contribute an item (or two!) for this fundraiser, please let Christie know.

The Readers' Choice Book Group meets on the third Wednesday of the month from 10 to noon. On April 18, the group will discuss *The Beginner's Goodbye* by Anne Tyler. The selection for May 16 is *The One-in-a-Million Boy* by Monica Wood. For those readers who prefer non-fiction, the History Book Group meets on the last Wednesday of the month at 7:00 p.m. Join them on April 25 for *The Long Walk: A True Story of a Trek to Freedom* by Slavomir Rawicz, and on May 30 for James D. Hornfischer's *Ship of Ghosts: The Story of the U.S.S. Houston, FDR's Legendary Lost Cruiser, and the Epic Saga of Her Survivors*. New members are always welcome to join either or both book groups (and to recommend future reads), and books are always available to read in advance of discussions.

The newly formed Tuftonboro Garden Group will meet on the first Monday of each month at 9:00 a.m. in the Hamel Meeting Room. This is a congenial group of local green thumbs with an interest in sharing their expertise and enthusiasm for gardening in a short season. Cuttings and heirloom seeds may be shared, as well as stories and tips! All welcome to attend.

Preschool Storytime continues Thursday mornings at 9:30, with read-aloud stories, songs, felt board games, and simple crafts. This program runs weekly through June 14 and resumes in mid-September after a summer hiatus.

Food for Friends, the library's Summer Reading Program for kids, will again match youth readers with adult sponsors, who agree to donate one item per book read to the Lakes Region Humane Society. Kids who sign up to read for pleasure will get a reading log,

pencil, and bookmarks, and can post an autographed "dog biscuit" on the door every time they come in. Adult sponsors will receive a shopping list of LRHS's most-needed items to fulfil their pledges. Sign up at the circulation desk after June 15.

Special summer events for kids and families will be presented Friday mornings at 10:00 a.m., beginning on July 6 and continuing through August 10. The fun starts with a return visit by Catalyst Corey, The Mad Scientist, with a flaming didgeridoo! Watch this space for details on a host of other engaging programs and workshops to come, including Indoor Tide Pooling, Wild Animal Sounds, Building a Recycled Orchestra, and more. We'll also host Freestyle Family Crafts on July and August Saturdays from 10 to noon, and Rainy-Day Matinees whenever it rains, showing family movies at 11 and 2, with popcorn and lemonade.

The Trustees' decision to table the library addition/renovation project vote at Town Meeting this year was a tough one, but the delayed vote does present an opportunity for the TFL Capital Campaign Committee to continue working to raise additional private donations and pledges, with the goal of reducing the amount to be financed by as much as possible before Town Meeting on March 13, 2019. As of this writing, the Library Capital Reserve Fund, private cash and stock donations, and private pledges all together total \$945,462.00 which is 49.2% of the total estimated cost of the project. To make a gift or pledge, please see Christie.

The Friends of the Library have some wonderful programs and delicious events with celebrity authors (and companions) coming up later in the season. Details will be forthcoming as plans firm up. But in the meantime, do hold these dates open: Saturday, August 25 (breakfast time) and Saturday, September 15 (cocktail time) – you won't be sorry!

**Christie V. Sarles, Librarian/Director**

## Reading challenge earns TCS students Fisher Cat tickets

Once again "thank you" to all the community members who attended the spaghetti dinner prior to Town Meeting. Your contributions directly support the Tuftonboro Parks and Recreation Davis Field Playground Maintenance Fund. Thank you to all the parents and the Parent Teacher Community Organization (PTCO) members who generously contributed to this important fund.

Students at Tuftonboro Central School have been extremely busy this year. Before February break, students participated in a school-wide reading challenge sponsored by the minor league baseball team, the New Hampshire Fisher Cats. Students worked very hard to read enough books to earn free tickets to one of the baseball games. Reading is an essential part of education and to be rewarded for

it is even more exciting! Spring is also an exciting time at TCS for after school activities. Many clubs are ongoing this spring including Yearbook, Art, and Lego club. Chess club will be held later in the spring.

The PTCO also has multiple projects this spring. April brings our annual Family Fun Night. Parents were invited to come for dinner then participate in rotations. Included in the rotations were team building activities, mindfulness breaks, trivia hunt, games, and a book fair. In May our annual Mother/Son Social is held at YMCA Camp Belknap. Mothers and their sons enjoy dinner, dancing, and games for an evening of quality time spent together. These events are always well-attended where families can enjoy time together and have fun!

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! Other important dates:

April 12th - Kindergarten Registration - Family Fun Night

April 23rd - Friday, April 27th - Spring Recess

May 12th - Mother/Son Social at YMCA Camp Belknap

May 18th - Delayed Opening for students

May 28th - Memorial Day/ No School

May 29th - Memorial Day program

**Andrea Fournier, Principal**

# The Hikers will install a new slate of officers on April 7

The Hikers opened their busy spring on March 16 with a pot luck dinner and a stunning photographic presentation of Iceland by Amy Piper. Amy's artistic photography left all who attended with a dream and desire to visit this spectacular country and to see its natural wonders for themselves.

The annual Easter Breakfast, held at Willing Workers Hall, was enjoyed by many members of the community. This full breakfast of eggs, ham, sausage, hash browns, hot cross buns, juice and coffee is always a hit, especially when the Easter Bunny visits.

The Hikers will hold their Annual Meeting on April 7. At this time the new slate of officers will be installed. The incoming officers will be: President, Carol Simpson; Vice President, Judy Lawless; Recording Secretary, Tina Antonucci; Corresponding Secretary, Natalie Hebdon; Treasurer,

Helen Hartshorn; Assistant Treasurer, Jackie Rollins; Auditor, Barbara Widmer; and Directors Maria Coussens and Carolyn Sundquist. This slate of officers will serve until the June 2019 Annual Meeting.

This spring we will enjoy a program on the history of NH wildlife by Trish Leipold, following the meeting on April 19. Following the June 7 meeting, Megan Fichter will present a program on the Lakes Region Humane Society. On May 3rd the Hikers will celebrate all of this year's new members by holding a "New Members Tea."

Fundraising events for the spring include a "Soup Cook-off" on April 27 and the ever popular "Spring Rummage Sale" on May 18 and May 19. Items may be donated at Willing Workers Hall between 9:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. on Friday the 18. The actual sale will take place later that Friday from 5:30 p.m. until 7:30

p.m., and on Saturday the 19 from 10:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. Also coming on July 7 will be a chance to buy scrumptious baked goodies at our "Bake Sale." Be sure to come early to get your pick of pies, cakes, coffee cakes, sweet breads, cookies, and assorted treats. The sale will be held in front of the Geez Louise shop, from 8:30 a.m. until sold out.

All monies raised by Hikers goes toward scholarships for higher education and to support many local charities. Hikers is a committed group of women who are dedicated to making a difference in the lives of others, while having fun, and finding enrichment in their own lives. New members are always welcome. If you would like information on becoming a member of Hikers, please contact President Carol Simpson at (603) 539-7587.

**Carol Simpson, President**

# Tuftonboro Historical Society celebrates 60th Anniversary

The Historical Society is celebrating its 60th anniversary this year! The Society was organized at a meeting in June of 1958 with five persons in attendance: Bertha Shepard, Margaret Hunter, Milton Bean, Carroll Lamprey, and Rev. Edwin Brooks. These five people were dedicated; within three months of that meeting, they had hosted a guest speaker, elected officers, adopted by-laws, and recruited 66 members who had paid their dues. These first few meetings were held at individual homes or at the Tuftonboro Town House. Within a few years the Society secured the Melvin Village school house, which is now the Society's museum. The purpose of the Society is to preserve items from everyday life in Tuftonboro.

We started this year with a fundraiser – providing dinner for the election workers. In May we will have a

work day to clean up the museum and barn and to get ready for the summer season. Members and friends gather to dust, vacuum, set up displays, and wash windows.

On May 19 we will host a Market Day at the barn where vendors can bring items for sale – contact Sue Weeks at 603-520-0395 for more information on this. On May 23 the Historical Society will have its opening meeting of the season with a potluck supper at Willing Workers Hall, starting at 6:00 p.m. Sue Weeks will present a program celebrating "60 Years in the Life of Tuftonboro."

In June the third graders from Tuftonboro School will visit the museum. On June 27 at 7:00 p.m. there will be a program at the museum showcasing collections from the earliest items to the most recent.

The meeting will end with a dessert auction – always a popular event! Prepare to bid on pies, cakes, and other homemade treats.

The museum opens for the season in July and August on Wednesdays and Fridays from 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. and on Saturdays from 10:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m. Also, watch for news about Trivia and Cribbage programs in July and August. Members and friends volunteer their time and talents setting up and hosting at the museum and at our programs. The Tuftonboro Historical Society is a private, non-profit organization funded entirely by members' dues and private donations. For more information contact Jackie Rollins, President, at 603-496-8212.

**Jackie Rollins, President**  
**Tuftonboro Historical Society**

# Musicians meet Tuesday nights at the Old White Church

All are invited to the weekly old-fashion country, bluegrass, and gospel jam session at the historic Old White Church of Center Tuftonboro.

Musicians and listeners alike gather here each Tuesday evening from 6:30 p.m. until 9:30 p.m. to sing, play their instruments, learn new songs, and share their musical skills and ideas with others. The mix of instruments usually includes some guitars, dobro, banjo, fiddle, piano, string bass, and a mandolin or two. Of course, there are singers. The jam sessions are open to singers, instrumentalists and fans of country, bluegrass, and gospel music. There is no admission charge, but a \$2.00 minimum donation is requested.

The Church is located on Route 109A, just across from the Tuftonboro General Store & Post Office. Although this historic building no longer has an active congregation, it continues to serve as a place of public



**The public is invited to the weekly old-fashioned country, bluegrass, and gospel jam session at the historic Old White Church in Center Tuftonboro.**

gatherings and as a music hall. Everyone is invited to attend the jam session, while enjoying some cookies and a cup of coffee, every Tuesday evening from 6:30

until 9:30 pm. Come enjoy the fun!

**Joe W. Ewing**  
bigjoe65@roadrunner.com



# Melvin Village Church will sponsor a car wash on May 26

The mission of the Melvin Village Community Church is, "To provide the best environment for young and old together to grow and experience the richness and generosity of Christ."

The Melvin Village Community Church exists as a mission to our local community. Our purpose is to provide welcoming Christian fellowship and authentic church worship services. Please join us Sunday mornings at 10:00 a.m. As a local mission, we serve the families who attend church and those in our community. We encourage you to come and see what we are about and to join us at one of our ongoing or upcoming events.

Spring is finally here, and we are excited for the opportunities that come with it!

Plan to bring your cars to the Melvin Village Community Church Youth Group's annual car wash

fundraiser, raising money for "Feet for Fuel" on Saturday, May 26th, from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

Get ready for the Annual Church Fair and Auction on Saturday, July 21, 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. If you have items you would like to donate, they can be brought to the church on Saturday mornings starting in June.

Beginning on Monday, July 30th until Thursday, August 2, the church will be hosting Church Adventure Week where kids come together in the mornings to learn about God and have an exciting time with friends!

The MVCC youth group is for anyone in grades 7 through 12, and they are invited to join and participate in all MVCC youth group events. Please contact Nicki Hunter through the church office at (603) 544-9961 for more details about the MVCC Youth Group.

If you are interested in joining the MVCC Bell Choir, practice begins at 6:30 p.m. on Wednesday evenings directly followed by Choir rehearsal at 7:30 p.m. All who are interested are encouraged to contact Music Director, Peggy Johnson at [peggyjohnjohnson@gmail.com](mailto:peggyjohnjohnson@gmail.com).

If you would like more information about any of these events, or about our church community please contact Judy in the church office at (603) 544-9661.

You can also find us on the web at [www.melvinvillagecommunitychurch.org](http://www.melvinvillagecommunitychurch.org) or friend us on Facebook: [www.facebook.com/mvccnh](http://www.facebook.com/mvccnh)

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

**Rev. Kevin Van Brunt, Pastor**

# Camp Sentinel will sponsor a Women's Retreat May 11-12

Swimming with new friends in the crystal clear, refreshing waters of Dan Hole Pond, enjoying the spectacular views from the Ledges hike, challenging yourself on our team-building ropes course, relishing well-balanced home-cooked meals in the Lodge dining hall, and simply appreciating the warm and distinct smell of the campfire with friends: these experiences and other life-long memories await you this summer at Camp Sentinel.

Since 1949, Sentinel has been providing a summer Christian community for youth to build self-esteem, have meaningful connections, develop character, become strong leaders, and to discover and explore creativity through the guidance of a well-trained staff. We believe that camp is an opportunity for everyone, and we are excited to see you and your family this year! Sentinel offers overnight and day camp programs for youth 5 to 18 years-old during the summer. For over 60 years the camp has provided a safe, fun, Christian summer camp experience. Daily activities include: swimming, boating, arts & crafts, teambuilding games, ropes course with zipline, rock

wall, archery, hiking, large group team sports, and many other great adventures. Each evening the entire camp gathers for Vespers which is a time of worship, singing, and Bible study. On Friday evenings, we gather at a special "red carpet celebration" banquet where campers dress up for a special dinner to celebrate the week. For a full list of our program offerings, more information, or to sign-up, please visit our website at [www.campsentinel.org](http://www.campsentinel.org). We strive to never turn a child away from overnight camp for the inability to pay, and scholarships are available.

What the staff say:

"Often people ask me, how could you 'give up' your summer to work at camp for 9 weeks, and I suppose that could be a valid question. I guess it's because camp is my home away from home, where my second family is. I get to spend my summer not only with amazing people but in a bubble that protects against all the world throws at me. I wake up to constant love, fun and smiles, and, most importantly, my summer is devoted to helping kids find their relationship with Christ. Life outside camp is just so

boring in comparison. Simply put, I would miss it." – Claire, staff member.

On Friday May 11 at 5:00 p.m. until Saturday May 12 at 3:00 p.m., Sentinel will offer a retreat for women. The theme of the retreat is "Worship the Lord with Gladness!" Psalm 100:2. This retreat is open for women of all ages to come together and spend time in the stillness of God's Creation together. The cost is \$70 per person, includes lodging, activities and meals. To sign up go to [info@campsentinel.org](mailto:info@campsentinel.org).

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

The camp is located at 29 Sentinel Lodge Road, Center Tuftonboro, NH 03816. The phone number is (603) 539-4839, and the website is [www.campsentinel.org](http://www.campsentinel.org).

**Rev. Kevin Van Brunt, Director  
Camp Sentinel**

## To Mrs. G. S. Horner - An Appreciation

Editor's Note: *In the days before word processors and e-mail, mail was the primary means of communication and writing letters was an eloquent, well-developed art. A fine example of that is the following tribute, submitted to the Tuftonboro Times by Susan H. Weeks, Curator of the Tuftonboro Historical Society Museum. It is reproduced in its original, typed form. The format, punctuation and capitalizations are as Miss Lakey typed them.*

To Mrs. G. S. Horner  
An Appreciation  
By Alice Lakey

A rarely beautiful spirit has passed into Life Eternal through the gateway of the change we call death.

Dear Mrs. G. S. Horner has left her earthly home and Melvin

Village will ever seem the poorer because she will no longer greet us when come the sweet summer days. Her gentle, quiet presence, her friendly hand clasp and welcoming words will be sorely missed by all of us who have loved her these many years.

Few knew of the countless kindly deeds of this gentle woman. Those who were in trouble or need found always in dear Grace Horner a tender friend and helper.

In her beautiful life we saw exemplified Saint Paul's definition of the "fruit of the Spirit" ---- "love, joy, peace, long suffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness, temperance". Each and all of these ruled Grace Horner's daily life. We may well



**Grace Horner**

**Continued on page 10**

## Great Meadow, from page 1

snow shoe hares, and deer. Red and gray squirrels find seeds and nuts left over from last year and will eat those as they begin to germinating and become young plants. These mammals will become prey for predators such as eastern coyotes, gray fox, weasels, and bobcats. The goshawk returns in the spring. With their powerful but relatively short wing span, they can hunt in the woods taking squirrels and ruffed grouse. Goshawks make their nest from small and medium sticks in a large tree and aggressively defend the nest from anyone coming within a few hundred feet.

Black bears are waking up from their long winter sleep. Females have given birth during the winter and suckled their young in their den. These mothers haven't had a drink or eaten a meal since winter began. They venture out into the meadow to find tender shoots of sedges, grasses, and skunk cabbage. They also prowl along the wetland edge looking for rotten logs where they might find some grubs or an ant colony. Like migrating birds, bears have a need for protein in their diet after their long winter fast.

Spotted salamanders, newts, toads, wood frogs, and tree frogs all make their way to the wetland pools from winter shelters. During the fall they produced an anti-freeze to protect their bodies from freezing. Their hearts stopped beating, and they stopped breathing until spring arrived. These amphibians found shelter under dead leaves and rotted wood. Now they all make a beeline for the water, sometimes traveling over melting snow and ice. Once in the



**The Great Meadow is located between Sodom Road, Mountain Road (Rte. 171), and part of Dame Road**

water, breeding begins. Male frogs and toads establish territories and sing to attract a mate. These rock stars of the natural world sing into the night and early mornings competing for females. Fights often break out between rivals who have not provided enough space between each other. Salamanders develop gills, so they can remain under the water until summer. All these amphibians will lay eggs in strings, chains, or clumps often attached to wetland plant stems.

Raccoons go into the meadow at night and seek out the spring bounty of frog eggs. Great Blue herons arrive back from their southern second home. They stealthily walk through the wetland wading on their stilt-like, long legs feeding on frogs, tadpoles, and fish. They make stick nests in trees that are flooded by

beavers. The high water around the tree helps protect nests from climbing predators such as raccoons.

This is only a small sample of all the natural activity that is happening night and day in the Great Meadow area. As we humans spread out over the landscape changing things to suit our needs or desires, we also change the natural habitat. Roads, culverts, houses, and lawns interrupt where wildlife can travel and live. It's good to save a few special places where the natural world can carry on almost as it did before people changed everything. The Great Meadow is one of those very special places. Join the Tuftonboro Conservation Commission in trying to save this and other special places. **Steve Wingate, Chairman**

## Horner, from page 9

say with the poet, "none knew her but to love her, none named her but to praise".

The many floral offerings, I am told, were beautiful, and were laid upon the grave when her last earthly garment was put in the arms of loving mother earth. We may well believe that each blossom typified the eternal flowers that she found blooming around her Heavenly Home.

Mrs. Horner leaves a devoted husband, a loving daughter, and a sister, also many other relatives and a host of friends, who each and all, will never cease to miss her; but while mourning the loss of the dear one from earthly vision all must rejoice the triumphant life that has opened wide the gates into a glory that will forever be hers. We shall not see her again with our mortal eyes but we know she lives and awaits her loved ones on the heavenly shore where there will be no more partings, no more tears.

Our Blessed Lord brought Immortality to Light. Through Him our dear friend and summer

neighbor has found her heavenly home, not made with hands, eternal in the heavens. A home she has been creating during these years of earthly life, a home fragrant with flowers springing from the seeds sowed during these years of her life so filled with loving, kindly deeds.

In garments of glistening white Grace Horner stands in the celestial light and glory of God's Everlasting Love.

Her life on earth finished in Victory.

Her life in Heaven begun in perfect joy and peace.

Cranford, N.J.

Oct. 17, 1929

*Horner, ran a general store in Melvin Village next to the Melvin River. Miss Lakey was a summer visitor for many years and a good friend to the Horners as they were to her. When Grace's daughter, Marion, finished high school Miss Lakey sponsored her in her continuing education in Boston. Grace died of ovarian cancer at the age of 58 in 1929 and is buried in the Melvin Village Cemetery.*

**Submitted by Susan Weeks**



**Grace Horner is pictured on the right, next to her daughter, who would become Marion Horner Robie**

# COMMUNITY CALENDAR

## April

13	6:00 PM	Grange meeting at the home of Florence Perkins	TGH
21	8:00 - 12	Tuftonboro Town Road Clean-up	All Over Town
27	6:00 PM	Hiker Cook-Off	WWH

## May

10	10:00 - 12	HS Museum clean up	THS
11	5:00 PM	Pot Luck/Meeting	TGH
19	8:30 - 12	Market Day HS Barn	THS
23	6:00 PM	Pot Luck Supper & "60 Years in the Life of Tuftonboro"	WWH
26	5:00 PM	Turkey Dinner	TUMC

## June

1	(Hours below)	Libby Museum opens for the 2018 season!	Libby Museum
8	5:00 PM	Pot Luck/Meeting	TGH
23	5:00 PM	Roast Pork Dinner	TUMC
27	7:00 PM	60th Anniversary celebration and dessert auction	THS

## July

10	6:30 – 8:00 PM	Trivia Night at Museum Barn	THS
13	5:00 PM	Ice Cream Social	TGH
17	6:30 - 8:00 PM	Trivia Night at Museum Barn	THS
21	5:00 PM	Penny Sale	TGH
21	8:30 AM – 12	Market Day HS Barn	THS
24	6:30 –8:00 PM	Trivia Night at Museum Barn	THS
25	7:00 PM	"Down Memory Lane" at Museum	THS
31	6:30 – 8:00 PM	Trivia Night at Museum Barn.	THS

## Ongoing

First Tuesdays of the month	PTCO meeting at 6:00 PM	TCS
Thursdays - 9:30 - 10:30	Pre-school story hour at the Library	TFL
Last Wednesday of the month - 7:00 - 8:30 PM	History Book Club meeting	TFL
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
Last Wednesday of the month	History Book Club at 7:00 PM	TFL
BEE School - 6 - 8:00 PM - Most Thursday evenings - contact the library		TFL
Libby Museum - Tuesday - Saturday 10-4; Sunday 12-4; thru Labor Day. Admission \$5		

## 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	TOTH - Tuftonboro Old Town Hall





Peering out her window in the old Melvin Village Post Office is Marion Horner Robie. A tribute to her mother, Grace Horner, is on Page 9.

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

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