The GAZETTE

The official newsletter produced by the Town of Starksboro

AUGUST 2014

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

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Happy Summer!

TAX BILLS

By now you all should have received a new tax bill. If you have not, please call the office right away. These bills are due on or before November 3rd, 2014. Please be sure to read the inserts from the Tax Department that are included with your bill. They contain important tax information.

PRIMARY ELECTION INFO

The Primary Election will be held on Tues, Aug, 26th, 2014. Voting will be held at the Robinson Elementary School with polls being open from 7:00 am to 7:00 pm. Sample ballots will be posted at the Starksboro Post Office bulletin board, Town Office, and Jerusalem Store.

Party Choice: You don't have to tell which party you favor, but you can only vote for candidates on one party ballot in the primary election. You will be given all four ballots, but must choose only one to vote on.

Voters may also vote any time now by absentee ballot. You can vote at the town office, have ballots sent to you, or you can pick ballots up at the town office and bring them home to be voted.

Please call the office if you would like ballots sent to you. Voters who cannot get from the car into the polling place may have a ballot brought to their car by two election officials.

The last day to register to vote in time for the Primary Election will be August 20, 2014 by 5:00 p.m.

**A reminder to not socialize inside of the voting area (area roped off) so as not to disturb other voters in the polling area. There is no campaigning in the polling place. Campaigning has to be outside of the Robinson School parking lot, and voters cannot be hindered from entering or leaving the polling place.*

If you need any assistance while voting, please ask the town clerk or another election official.

FOOD SHELF NEWS:

Starksboro's food shelf is located in the former town office / country store beside the post office and is open the second, third, and fourth Wednesday and Friday of each month. (Wednesdays 3:00 – 7:00 pm, and Fridays 11:00 to 3:00 pm).

The food shelf is grateful for all the donations that have poured in – both in actual food and in monetary donations. We've been getting fresh produce, with donations from Lewis Creek Farm, Purington's gardens, the Abby & Kids Community Garden and several home owners. There has also been a generous supply of excess food from Panera Bread and Trader Joe's, facilitated by Roberta McKinney. Furthermore, Homeward Bound (of Addison County Humane Society) has donated pet food. We hope the food shelf will increasingly be able to connect available food with those who can use it.

If you have any questions or would like to be involved, please call Dona Norton, 453-4476.

WORSHIP SERVICES

The FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF STARKSBORO:

The First Baptist Church of Starksboro, 2806 VT Route 116. Church phone 453.5577. Pastor Larry Detweiler, 802.434.6715 (home), revdets@gmail.com. In emergency situations, phone 802-989-2679.

http://www.starksborobaptistchurch.org/

Sunday's Schedule:

10:00 a.m. Chat, Chew & Renew, *bible study and adult fellowship*
11:00 – 1:00 Sunday's Cool youth bible study and fellowship (grades K-7)
11:00 a.m. Worship service with communion every 1st Sunday
Roberta McKinney, Associate for Youth Ministries Kidsrme7316@gmail.com. Phone: 802.922.1766.

JERUSALEM GATHERING: a congregation in the Episcopal tradition that has services on the 1st and 3rd Sundays of each month at 9:30 am. We meet in the Jerusalem Schoolhouse, 397 Jerusalem Rd, in South Starksboro. Everyone is welcome. Contact: Vickie Backus - 453-6488.

SOUTH STARKSBORO FRIENDS MEETING: Singing every Sunday at 9 am, meeting for worship at 9:30 am at the Meeting House located at 430 Dan Sargent Rd. Call 453-4927 for details.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL AND ADVENTURE CAMP:

Need a summer activity for your k-6th grader? **VBS and Adventure Camp** are well into the planning stages. Mark your calendar for August 11-15th for SFBC's week long program. VBS runs from 9-noon, the Adventure camp from noon-5 pm. This year's theme is a little weird, well actually it's quite weird, honestly the whole theme is "WEIRD". And so much fun! Does your tweenager/teenager need a purposeful community service this summer? Contact me concerning volunteer opportunities for this week long program. Last year we had almost 100 kids thru adults involved! So much energy and great memories. Feel free to contact me for more information.

Lov'n Starksboro!

Contact Roberta: kidsrme7316@gmail.com.

"SUNDAY'S COOL": If you are looking for an opportunity for your children to learn great stories from the Bible, then come join us at "Sunday's Cool". Our program starts at 11:00 a.m. with up-beat music,

crafts and lively conversation. As we learn healthy and helpful principles that can be applied to our lives today, we do so by engaging in dramatic play, music, memorization, reading and interactive instruction. Lunch is served around noon, then it's activity time, which may include cooperative games, outdoor recreation and relevant videos. Occasionally we venture out to enjoy a seasonal fieldtrip. Kids of all ages are invited and encouraged to be part of something "Cool" happening on Sunday's at First Baptist Church of Starksboro.

Contact Roberta: kidsrme7316@gmail.com

"School's out and those lazy-hazy days of summer are rolling out before us. Believing a little structure and a whole lot of exploring will make for our kids best summer ever, a community wide play date has been set in motion. All kids and their adults are encouraged to gather at the school playground on Wednesdays from 10:am-noon. Hope to see you there for this informal opportunity for kids to connect. "

Contact Roberta: kidsrme7316@gmail.com

Starksboro Public Library 🕮

Hours: Mon 10-6, Thurs. 10-5, Sat. 9-1

Librarians ✂ Lisa Daudon & Nancy Kerwin ☎ 453-3732 ☎ email: starksboropl@comcast.net

Fizz! Boom! Read! Youth Summer Programs

Monday, August 4th -- 10:30-11:45 -- Rocks Really Rock! Four Winds trainer Chris Runcie will lead us in an exploration of rocks & minerals. Activities include making fossils, gathering and exploring rock collections, and making our own Andy Goldsworthy rock sculptures/structures. Free, but call or email to register. Snack Provided.

Magic with Tom Vernor @ Holley Hall in Bristol -- Monday, August 11th from 2:00-3:30 p.m.

Tom Vernon, director and founder of Magicians Without Boarders, delights audiences with the physics of magic, up close and with kid's participation. His magic shows have been a great hit in years past!

Thursday, August 21st – 10:30 – 11:45 -- Fabulous Paper Sculptures – How many ways can you use paper to create art? Vera Ryersbach will lead us in an exploration of paper sculptures. We'll make mobiles or 3D sculptures so bring your imagination for a morning of creativity and engineering. Free, but call or email to register. Snack Provided.

❀ **Automation Update:** Many thanks to those who have donated to the automation project by collecting change in jars. Change does add up and to date we've raised a bit over $500. Kate Antos-Ketchum sent out some grant applications and we are waiting with great anticipation and hope that these grants will bring us closer to our overall automation budget. We hope to ultimately reach our goal between these monies and other fundraising efforts.

Bar Code labels are on their way, scanners are next, and we start entering data in August. It will still take time to go on-line, but the goal is to do so by the end of this calendar year. We are looking forward to providing Starksboro residents the benefits of being automated!

Vermont State Park Pass, State Historic Pass, and Echo Museum Pass

All are available, are great deals and are at the library ready for you to use.

Call for details and reserve these great passes.

❀ **Crafting in the Library – August 9th & 23rd** -- Bring your portable craft and enjoy working in the company of others. The group includes members with a wealth of information about knitting.

❀**Adult Book Group resumes** in **September,** so look for book choice and date later in the month.

❀ *Useful Tidbits:*

- **Universal Class** is a FREE online service – visit our website, then call the library for an access code. This is an incredible opportunity to explore a wide variety of topics.
- **Bone builders** – Tuesdays and Thursday evenings from 5:30-6:30. Stop by visit to learn how you can strengthen your bones. We have enough weights for new members thanks to the generosity of RSVP. FREE
- ***Downloadable books*** – listen to books while you do chores or download free books on your e-reader... go to our website to learn more.
- ***Library Website :_www.starksborolibrary.wordpress.com.***
- **Preschool story time** – begin again in September and will continue to alternate Mondays and Thursdays. Look for dates and times in September.

OPEN MEETING LAW Changes effective July 1, 2014

The legislature significantly amended Vermont's Open Meeting Law this year. Changes include new requirements for posting meetings, creating and altering agendas, posting minutes onto a municipal website, and for entering into executive session.

Starksboro has designated the following locations where notices and agendas for meetings will be posted:

Post Office parking lot – Town Office bulletin board – Jerusalem Corners Country Store

The town's website has been temporarily shut down so that we can come into compliance with the new Open Meeting Law. We are unable to post minutes and agendas on the website at this time.

You can read the new law in it's entirety by going to www.leg.state.vt.us/DOCS/2014/ACTS/ACT143.PDF.

The GAZETTE is published monthly and mailed to all Starksboro residents. Articles and advertisements must be submitted by the 15th of each month to the Town Clerk. If the 15th falls on Fri, Sat, or Sun, than it is due the following Monday by noon.

COMMUNITY EMAIL GROUP: WWW.FRONTPORCHFORUM.COM
TOWN WEBSITE: WWW.STARKSBORO.ORG

TOWN OFFICE: *453-2639*
Open Mon – Thu 8:30 – 4:30
Town Clerk: *Cheryl Estey starksboro@madriver.com*
Treasurer: *Celine Coon starksborotowntreasurer@gmavt.net*
Zoning Administrator: *Dave Wetmore starksborozoning@gmavt.net*
(at Town Office on Mon & Wed 9-4; Thu 1:00 – 4:30)
Del. Tax Collector: *Amy McCormick-Tues & Wed @ 453-2639*
starksborotaxes@gmail.com

SELECT BOARD
Meetings 1st and 3rd Tuesdays at 5:30 at Town Office.
Please call at least one week in advance to get on the agenda.
Susan Jefferies – 453-3611
Peter Marsh – 453-3478
Mathew Norris – 453-3273

SCHOOL BOARD
1st Wednesday at 5:30 pm at Robinson Library.
Bonita Bedard – 453-4305
Louis duPont – 453-5538
Dennis Hysko – 453-5960

Mt. Abe: *Meetings 1st and 3rd Tuesday at 6:30 at Mt. Abe Library.*
Bonita Bedard – 453-4305
Jodi Bachand

LIBRARY: *453-3732*
Open Mon 10-6; Thurs 10-5, Sat 9-1
Library Board meetings 2nd Monday @ 7 pm at Library

STARKSBORO VILLAGE WATER COOPERATIVE: *453-5200*
Meetings 3rd Wed. of March, June, Sept, and Dec at 7:30 pm
at the Starksboro Public Library

REPRESENTATIVES
Michael Fisher – 989-9806 / mfisher@leg.state.vt.us
David Sharpe – 453-2754 / dsharpe@leg.state.vt.us

NEW POST OFFICE HOURS:
Mon – Fri 7:30 – 4:30
Closed each day 11:30 – 2:30
Saturday – 7:30 – 11:

ANIMAL CONTROL OFFICER:
Wayne Marcelle – 233-9534

CONSTABLES:
Eric Cota – 453-5239
2nd Constable *– George Wyckoff – 989-4538*

FIRE WARDENS: *Please call ahead for burn permits*
Tom Estey – 453-4511 or Tony Porter – 989-5096

PLANNING COMMISSION: *453-4054*
Meetings 1st and 3rd Thursdays at the Town Office
Development Review Board meetings 2nd & 4th Thursdays

CONSERVATION COMMISSION: *Matt Witten (434-3236 or mwitten@gmavt.net) or Jan McCleery (453-3755 or mccleery@norwich.edu). Meetings: 4th Monday @ 7 pm at the Starksboro Public Library*

HEALTH OFFICER: *Peter Ryersbach – 453-3597*

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COORDINATOR: *Charlene Phelps*
453-3461

RECYCLING: *1ST & 3RD Saturdays from 8-11 am at Town Garage, 1686 VT Route 116. Trash fees: $4.50/bag. Recycling fees by quantity.*

HUB TEEN CENTER & SKATEPARK:
www.bristolskatepark.com
Ryan Krushenick– 453-3678 / thehub@gmavt.net

SENATORS
Claire Ayer – 545-2142 / cayer@leg.state.vt.us
Chris Bray – 453-3444 / cbray@leg.state.vt.us