



# The GAZETTE

The official newsletter produced by the Town of Starksboro

OCTOBER 2016

## COMMUNITY CALENDAR

WORSHIP SERVICES	p 2
BONEBUILDERS CLASSES <i>Tues &amp; Thurs at 8:30 am</i>	p 2
TAI CHI CLASSES <i>Thursdays at 9:30 am</i>	p 2
SHARE ON, each Sunday at 2:30, Baptist Church	p 2
ANNUAL HAM DINNER, Starksboro Village Meeting House - Oct 22 @ 5:00	p 3
FRIENDS OF JERU. SCHOOL	p 3
CRAFT FAIR, Oct 22, 9-3	p 4
STARKSBORO LIBRARY	p 5
ADVERTISEMENTS	p 6
CONTACT / INFO PAGE	p 7

## NOVEMBER GENERAL ELECTION

Tues, November 8, 2016

The General Election will be on Tues, November 8, 2016. Voting will be at the Robinson Elementary School with polls open from 7 am to 7 pm. Voting by Australian Ballot will consist of 4 separate ballots: General Election ballot, Justice of the Peace ballot, the School Unification ballot, and the new school board ballot.

Voters may vote early by Australian Ballot as well. All ballots are now available, except for the school ballots, which should be ready by the second week of October. Ballots are available by mail, or you may vote at the office, or pick them up at the office and bring them home to be voted. Call the office for details on voting early.

If your name is not already on the checklist, and you wish to vote in the November Election, you must apply for addition to the checklist by November 2, 2016, no later than 5:00 p.m.

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## TAXES DUE NOVEMBER 1, 2016

Don't forget to pay your taxes by the first of November. Late fees will be applied on November 2<sup>nd</sup>. Postmarks are not considered, so give it a few days to get here if you decide to mail it in. There are also no additional hours for the collection of taxes, so make sure it is here by the close of the normal business day on November 1<sup>st</sup>.

# WORSHIP SERVICES

## **The FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF STARKSBORO:**

[www.Starksborobaptistchurch.org](http://www.Starksborobaptistchurch.org)

*The First Baptist Church of Starksboro, 2806 VT Route 116., P.O. Box 12, Pastor Larry Detweiler – 802-989-2679 (cell) or [revdets@gmail.com](mailto:revdets@gmail.com). Church phone 453-5577, (pastor home) 802-434-6715.*

### **Sunday Morning Schedule:**

10:00 a.m. Chat, Chew and Renew adult small group bible study and fellowship  
11:00 a.m. Worship weekly with communion on 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of every month  
2:30 p.m. Share-on, a community food re-distribution program

**STARKSBORO SENIOR MEAL**, served at 11:30 on the 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday of the month, January-October. Meal held in the Community Room of the Church, 2806 VT 116. Donations to defray costs are gladly accepted. Senior meal contact Brenda Boutin, 453-6354 & [mtgazette@earthlink.net](mailto:mtgazette@earthlink.net).

**JERUSALEM GATHERING**: a congregation in the Episcopal tradition that has services on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> 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 – 434-6488.

**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.

**BONEBUILDERS EXERCISE CLASSES**: Every Tuesday and Thursday at 8:30 am at the Jerusalem Schoolhouse in South Starksboro. This class is to help prevent osteoporosis. Questions? Call Susan at 453-5537.

**TAI CHI CLASS**: Every Thursday at 9:30 am at the Jerusalem Schoolhouse. This class is for those that already know Tai Chi for Arthritis 1 & 2. Questions? Call Vera at 453-3597.

### **"SHARE ON..."**

Greetings Starksboro friends and neighbors,

There is an opportunity for you to enjoy the benefits of our local food distribution. Every Sunday @ 2:30pm the doors open at Starksboro First Baptist Church for folks to come "shopping" for free fresh, organic produce, dairy and meat. Trader Joes and Panera Bread are our main contributors. The amount and variety of food items change weekly which always keeps us curious. Please join the many local families that benefit from this blessing. Contact Roberta: [kidsrme7316@gmail.com](mailto:kidsrme7316@gmail.com).

## STARKSBORO ANNUAL HAM DINNER ON OCTOBER 22

The annual ham dinner of the Starksboro Village Meeting House Society will be held on Saturday, October 22, 2016, starting at 5:00 p.m. at the First Baptist Church, VT Route 116, in Starksboro village. The menu features delicious baked ham, vegetables (mashed potatoes, winter squash, and cole slaw), homemade baked beans, rolls, a wide variety of homemade pies baked by some of Starksboro's best pie makers, and beverages.

Tickets for this delicious event, which has been held for over 50 years, are \$10.00 for adults and \$5.00 for children under 12. Family ticket of \$25 for two adults and two children, with additional children at \$3.00 each. Reservations are not necessary but if you'd like to reserve seats, call 453-5227 or 453- 2079 for a seating at 5:00 or 5:45. Take-outs can be accommodated.

Check out the small silent auction. The Meeting House also will be selling Starksboro woven coverlets, t-shirts, sweatshirts, and Bertha's Book, the town history.

Please consider coming to support this event and enjoy a great home-cooked meal with your neighbors. The Meeting House is embarking on an ambitious effort to do necessary work on the building and would very much appreciate your support. Visit [www.starksboromeetinghouse.org](http://www.starksboromeetinghouse.org).

**FRIENDS OF JERUSALEM SCHOOLHOUSE:** The schoolhouse has a fresh, clean look thanks to the following workers: Molly Bidwell, Lisa Trayah, Vera Ryersbach, Erin Bent, Susan Klaiber, Suzanne Orvis, Greg Orvis and Nancy Orvis. We painted all day Sept. 2nd and for the morning of the 3rd. Our hope is to finish up the parts we didn't paint (kitchen and bathroom) before winter sets in. If you are interested in helping, please call 453-4573 and let us know...we will then contact you when we set days and times to paint.

**EARLY BIRD/HUNTERS BREAKFASTS:** They are fast approaching! November 12, 19 and 26...lots of good food at a very reasonable price. Prices and times will be in the next gazette...stay tuned! If you would like to help with this fundraiser, we would happily accept donations of eggs, maple syrup, bacon, fresh fruit or fresh baked goods. Contact Nancy at 453-4573 if you would like to make a donation. Thank you in advance to all who will be supporting the breakfasts.

This month's schoolhouse memory was written by Greg Orvis:

"During our recent volunteer day effort to give the interior a fresh coat of paint, my mind went back in time 50+ years. From the time I entered 1st grade in 1956 to my graduation from 8th grade in 1964, many wonderful improvements were made by volunteers in our community from fundraising to the labor of getting work done. The first day of school we were greeted to the smells of fresh paint and shiny varnished floors. Gardner Orvis, who was the school director from "up South", took great pride in keeping the schoolhouse in tip top shape. Gardner was a carpenter by trade as well as a licensed electrician and plumber. He could fix anything. He had attended school there and his four children, Reg, Linda, Larry and Rodney, attended the Jerusalem Schoolhouse too.

Gardner was a community organizer before the term became popular. I remember him spearheading the volunteer efforts to raise money to drill the well, construct a septic system for two new modern bathrooms to replace the outhouses, and purchase a new oil fired warm air heating system which was installed and continues to heat the schoolhouse today. Gardner not only coordinated the fundraising, he did much of the actual work to make the schoolhouse a better place for the students.

In 1962, Gardner rallied the town to oppose the State Highway's controversial plan to build Route 17 and place the highway directly in front of the school. This would have been very dangerous to the students as the steps would have been practically in the highway. After much debate and controversy, the state agreed to change their plan and relocate the much needed Route 17 so it would go behind the schoolhouse (where it is today).

Gardner passed away in 1979 but I have no doubt if he were still alive he would be at the forefront of the Friends of Jerusalem Schoolhouse...volunteering and fundraising for the restoration work on the schoolhouse in the community that he loved and served for many years. His handiwork is still on display as you enter through it's doors. I'm grateful for all that he did to make the school a better place to learn."

Thank you Greg for retrieving these remembrances from your vast storehouse of memories of days gone by. We all should feel honored that Gardner had such a heart for South Starksboro and the people who live here.

**BENEFIT CRAFT FAIR:** Life's Helpers Inc. is having a Craft Fair to benefit the Breast Cancer Foundation. Saturday, October 22, 2016, at the Hinesburg Fire Station from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. There will be a raffle and bake sale. All proceeds go to the Breast Cancer Foundation. If you have any questions or want a space please call: Penny – 802-434-6053.

# **Starksboro Public Library**

## **Monthly News for October 2016**

**Hours: Mon. 10-6, Thurs. 10-5, Sat. 9-2 (extra hour!)**

**Catherine Goldsmith, Librarian, 453-3732 - [starksboropl@comcast.net](mailto:starksboropl@comcast.net)**

**Preschool Story Time:** Every child is welcome to join us for story time geared towards our 3-5 year old patrons. We'll be meeting on Mondays, October 10<sup>th</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> and Thursdays, October 6<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> at 11:00 at the library. Younger children always welcome to come visit when the Starksboro Cooperative Preschool groups walks over for storytime!

**Knit/Fiber Arts will meet on Saturdays, October 15<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 a.m.** Enjoy visiting with others as you work on your portable projects. The skill of the group is considerable and help is available if you have questions. Coffee, tea and chai from the Keurig is always available for \$1.00 per cup (shelf stable half & half is in the refrigerator.).

**Adult Book Group: Join us on the fourth Wednesday of the month, October 26<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m.** October's book choice is *The immortal life of Henrietta Lacks* by Rebecca Skloot. This best-selling book tells the true story of an African-American woman whose cells were harvested without her permission and used to produce the first immortal human cell line for medical research. It's a story of medical arrogance and triumph, race, poverty and deep friendship between the unlikeliest of people. To be made into a movie starring Oprah Winfrey for release next year. We have eight copies as well as the book on tape. Join us!

**Starksboro Community Parents' Group and Storytime: Saturday, October 1 at 9am**

This is free and open to all ages and stages of parents! Come meet other local families, find support, share resources and form bonds with your neighbors. We'll have a storytime this month while Sarah is out of town.

**RSVP Bone Builders meets year round on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 5:30-6:30.** Every class is taught by trained leaders and is designed to keep bones and muscles strong and prevent osteoporosis. All equipment provided and conversation keeps it from being dull. Newcomers always welcome!

**Just some of the new materials in the library – call to put on hold:**

*Razor Girl* by Carl Hiaasen, *All Fall Down* by Jennifer Weiner, *Foreign Agent* by Brad Thor, *Substitute* by Nicholson Baker, *The Beautiful Struggle* by Ta-Nehisi Coates, *2<sup>nd</sup> Life of Nick Mason* by Steve Hamilton, *The Marriage of Opposites* by Alice Hoffman, *The death and life of the great American school system* by Diane Ravitch. *Lab Girl* by Hope Jahren.

For the kids: Ivy and Bean books nos. 2, 3, 6; *Miss Peregrine's home for peculiar children*; *Big Friendly Giant* by Roald Dahl; *The war that saved me*; and *Goosebumps monster edition #3* by R.L. Stine; the new graphic novel *Sisters* by Raina Telgemeier; and the newest in the *Amulet* Series.

DVDs: *Black Holes, explained*, A Great Courses video lecture.

# ADVERTISEMENTS

More cards and prints available at Art on Main of Starksboro by artist Cynthia Guild Kling. These are New post cards!

Shovel • Sewers Roads • Waterlines Screened Topsoil Snowplowing • Sanding Firewood	Backhoe • Excavator Bulldozer • Grader Dump Trucks Skid Steers
	
<b>Dennis W. Casey</b> E X C A V A T I N G	
P.O. Box 31 Starksboro, VT 05487	Tel: 453-4054 or 373-4403

<b>FIREWOOD</b> DENNIS W. CASEY	
P.O. Box 31 Starksboro, VT 05487	Tel: 453-4054 or 373-4403
	

The **GAZETTE** is published monthly and mailed to all Starksboro residents. Articles and advertisements must be submitted by the **15<sup>th</sup> of each month** to the Town Clerk. If the 15<sup>th</sup> falls on Fri, Sat, or Sun, than it is due the following Monday by **NOON**. **Anything not received by the 15<sup>th</sup> will not be included in the Gazette.**

COMMUNITY EMAIL GROUP: [WWW.FRONTPORCHFORUM.COM](http://WWW.FRONTPORCHFORUM.COM)  
TOWN WEBSITE: [www.starksborovt.org](http://www.starksborovt.org)

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

**SELECT BOARD**  
Meetings 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> 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  
Tony Porter – 989-5096

**SCHOOL BOARD**  
3rd Wednesday at 5:30 pm at Robinson Library.  
Louis DuPont – 453-5538  
Nancy Cornell – 453-2681  
Caleb Elder – 434-4805

**Mt. Abe:** Meetings 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday at 6:30 at Mt. Abe Library.  
Bonita Bedard – 453-4305  
Jodi Bachand – 434-5336  
**Supervisory Board** – Nancy Cornell, Louis Dupont, Caleb Elder

**LIBRARY:** 453-3732  
Open Mon 10-6; Thurs 10-5, Sat 9-1  
Library Board meetings 2nd Monday @ 4:30 pm at Library

**REPRESENTATIVES**  
Fred Baser – 453-4391  
David Sharpe – 453-2754 / [dsharpe@leg.state.vt.us](mailto:dsharpe@leg.state.vt.us)

**NEW POST OFFICE HOURS:**  
Mon – Fri, 7:30 – 11:30; 12:30 – 2:30  
Saturday – 7:30 – 11:00  
Closed each day 11:30 – 12:30

**ANIMAL CONTROL OFFICER:**  
Tony Porter – 989-5096

**CONSTABLES:**  
1<sup>st</sup> Constable – George Wyckoff – 989-4538

**FIRE WARDENS:** Please call ahead for burn permits.  
Tom Estey-453-4511, 453-2319, or Tony Porter-989-5096

**PLANNING COMMISSION:**  
Meetings 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursdays at the Town Office  
Development Review Board meetings 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Thursdays

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

**HEALTH OFFICER:** Peter Ryersbach – 453-3597

**EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COORDINATOR:** Charlene Phelps  
453-3461

**RECYCLING:** 1<sup>ST</sup> & 3<sup>RD</sup> Saturdays from 8-11 am at Town Garage,  
1686 Vt Route 116. Trash fees: \$4.50/bag. Recycling – by donation

**HUB TEEN CENTER & SKATEPARK:**  
[www.bristolskatepark.com](http://www.bristolskatepark.com)  
Ryan Krushenick – 453-3678 / [thehub@gmavt.net](mailto:thehub@gmavt.net)

**STARSBORO VILLAGE WATER COOPERATIVE:** 453-5200  
Meetings: 3<sup>rd</sup> Wed of March, June, Sept and Dec at 7:30 pm  
at the Starksboro Public Library

**SENATORS**  
Claire Ayer – 545-2142 / [cayer@leg.state.vt.us](mailto:cayer@leg.state.vt.us)  
Chris Bray – 453-3444 / [cbray@leg.state.vt.us](mailto:cbray@leg.state.vt.us)

**NOTE CHANGE IN HOURS, EFFECTIVE JUNE 1st**  
**Food Shelf Hours: 10:30 am – 6:00 pm on the 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesdays**



# The Scoop

Produced by the School Board to help keep  
Starksboro residents informed of news  
relating to Robinson Elementary School

**October 2016**

## SCHOOL DISTRICT CONSOLIDATION (ACT 46) ON THE BALLOT NOVEMBER 8th

*In This Issue:*

- Act 46 - Upcoming Vote*   pg 1
- Negotiating Contracts*   pg 2
- 2016/2017 Calendar*   pg 2

Assuming that the State Board of Education approves the school district consolidation plan proposed by a majority of members of the ANESU Act 46 Study Committee, the plan will come before voters for approval on November 8.

The proposed plan represents a major change in the governance structure for our schools: there would be one budget that would include the operating expenses for all 5 elementary schools and Mt. Abraham Middle/High School, as well as the superintendent's office. The budget would also include debt payments for all of the schools that have outstanding debt. Decisions about everything from budgets to staffing would be streamlined – handled by the superintendent, the leadership at each of the 6 schools in our district, and the single 13-member unified district board. The school district budget, which would be a total of about \$27,000,000, including funds for Robinson School, would be voted on by Australian ballot. There would no longer be an option for towns to debate and amend their community school budgets at an annual school town meeting, as voters currently do in Starksboro and in Lincoln.

The ANESU Act 46 Study Committee's report can be found on the ANESU website: <http://www.anesu.org/home/act-46-unification-study/final-report> . Three members of the ANESU Act 46 Study Committee – Nancy Cornell, Herb Olson, and Mike Fisher, have written a Minority Report expressing opposition to the proposed plan. That Minority Report has been attached to the Committee's Report and begins on page 54. You can also find that Minority Report here: <https://drive.google.com/file/d/oB9RN785qCXNMkE5YVVMWGHlLbFU/view?usp=sharing>

Remember that a majority of voters in each of the 5 towns must approve the proposal in order for the plan to go forward. If a majority of voters in one or more towns votes "no", school boards will need to decide what to do next.

**PLEASE NOTE:** Informational Meetings about this ballot item will be taking place in each of the 5 towns before election day. The date of Starksboro's informational meeting will be on November 1st at 7:00 p.m. in the Robinson Elementary multipurpose room. If you have questions about this ballot item, please plan to attend that informational meeting and/or contact any of Starksboro's representatives on the ANESU Act 46 Study Committee: Nancy Cornell, Caleb Elder, and Herb Olson.

**PLEASE ALSO NOTE:** When residents of the five ANESU towns cast votes on whether to consolidate school districts, the law requires that they also vote on members of the board that would direct that school district. The ANESU Act 46 Study Committee has been seeking residents of the 5-Town region to run for the 13 seats on that board. Starksboro would have 2 seats on that board, as would Lincoln, Monkton, and New Haven. Bristol would have 5 seats. Candidates for the proposed board must file a petition with their respective town clerks on or before 5p.m. on Monday, October 10, 2016.

<b>School Board Members</b>	
Chair	
<b>Louis duPont</b>	453-5538
Vice Chair	
<b>Nancy Cornell</b>	453-2681
Clerk	
<b>Caleb Elder</b>	434-4805
*****	
Robinson Principal	
<b>Edorah Frazer</b>	453-2949
Superintendent	
<b>Patrick Reen</b>	453-3657
Scoop Editor	
<b>Evelyn Bushey</b>	453-2949



## BUILDING A NEW MODEL FOR NEGOTIATING CONTRACTS

The ANESU Bargaining Committee is taking part in a series of training sessions led by Cynthia Jeffries of the Federal Mediation and Conciliation Service. We will be joined, in these training sessions, by members of the teachers' and support staff negotiating teams. The specific negotiating model we will be learning about is "Critical Issues Bargaining". The goal, as we understand it, is to have both sides work together to set the ground rules for our negotiations and then determine, as clearly as possible, what are the key or critical issues we need to discuss, and hopefully resolve. The training started on 9/15 5:00- 8:00 with meetings weekly till 10/6.

This training is part of the ANESU wide effort to create a more collaborative approach to educating all of the children in our Five Towns. This work began in the spring of 2015 when the Federal Mediation and Conciliation Service was brought in to assess and make recommendations on our governance. A guiding principle of the training, is that both teachers and staff, as well as administrators and school board members have a deep, vested interest in the success of the overall organization. Teachers and taxpayers, staff and school leaders, all want our schools to be as effective, sustainable and high quality as possible.

It is our sincere hope that this up front work, with participation from both sides, will allow us to eventually be much more efficient in reaching workable contracts with staff. No one benefits when stalemated negotiations go on for month after month as they have in the past.

### School Board Meeting Calendar

We'll be using a new format and schedule for board meetings in the coming months. This new schedule is designed to utilize staff and board member time more efficiently. Please see below for our calendar and location of the upcoming meetings for the Robinson School Board:

Meeting date	Meeting location	Meeting time
Tuesday October 25, 2016	Lincoln Elementary School	following the 6:00 ANESU Executive Committee Meeting *
Tuesday November 22, 2016	Robinson Elementary School	following the 6:00 ANESU Executive Committee Meeting *
Wednesday December 21, 2016	Robinson Elementary School	5:30 PM
Wednesday January 17, 2017	Robinson Elementary School	5:30 PM
Tuesday February 28, 2017	Bristol Elementary School	following the 6:00 ANESU Executive Committee Meeting *
Tuesday March 28, 2017	Beeman Elementary School	following the 6:00 ANESU Executive Committee Meeting *
Tuesday April 18, 2017	Monkton Elementary School	following the 6:00 ANESU Executive Committee Meeting *
Tuesday May 23, 2017	Mt. Abe Small Cafeteria	following the 6:00 ANESU Executive Committee Meeting *
Tuesday June 27, 2017	Lincoln Elementary School	following the 6:00 ANESU Executive Committee Meeting *

\* When the Robinson Board meeting follows an ANESU Executive Committee meeting, the estimated start time for the Robinson Board meeting is 7:00 PM.

**PLEASE NOTE:** As in the past, agendas and minutes for Robinson School Board meetings are posted on the ANESU website: <http://www.anesu.org/school-boards/starksboro-agendas-and-minutes>

