



## **2018 HOLIDAY PROJECT:**

Your help is needed...It is time to start thinking about the Annual Holiday Project to help Starksboro families with children. The school provides a list of the families who could benefit from this, with the Fire Dept Auxiliary organizing the rest. Those wishing to make a donation can do so by Dec. 10, sending it to: Holiday Project, P.O. Box 91, Starksboro, Vt 05487, or by dropping your donation off at the Starksboro Town Office. Questions? Please call 453-2639.

## **TOWN REPORT DEADLINES / CANDIDATES FOR ELECTION:**

It is time to assemble the Town Report and think about running for office. Articles to be included in the town report should be in to the town office no later than December 20<sup>th</sup>. If you are an organization that requests appropriation from the town, please do so by this date, along with a one page write up for the town report, and a one page budget write up.

**January 17, 2019** – Last day to turn in petitions (signed by 5% of the voters) for articles to be included on the Warning for Town Meeting.

**January 28, 2019** – Last day to turn in nominating petitions (signed by 1% of the voters) for town/school offices to be included on the Australian Ballot.

**February 13, 2019** – Early ballots available

## **NEWS FROM THE SELECTBOARD:**

The following positions have open seats. Please consider running for office.

See page 2 for details on dates for submitting a petition for articles or nominations.

Positions and Terms:

- Lister (3 yr)
- Auditor (3 yr)
- Cemetery Commissioner (1 yr and 3 yr)
- Selectboard (2 yr and 3 yr)
- Planning Commission (3 positions, 3 yr)
- Library Trustees (2 positions, 3 yr)
- Town Agent to Prosecute & Defend Suits (1 yr)
- First Constable (1 yr)
- Second Constable (1 yr)
- First Grand Juror (1 yr)

## **STARSBORO MEETING HOUSE CHRISTMAS CANDLELIGHT SERVICE**

STARSBORO, Vt.—The annual Starksboro Village Meeting House Christmas Candlelight service is on Saturday, December 22, 2018, at 7:30 p.m. The program of lessons and carols will be led by Rev. John Burbank. Everyone is welcome.

This non-denominational service has been held for well over 50 years and many families treasure it as a holiday tradition. There will be special Christmas music, and afterwards holiday cookies, other treats, and hot cider.

The sanctuary is lit by the mirrored oil lamp chandelier, dating from 1884, and many candles. The Meeting House is located in the center of Starksboro Village on VT Route 116, just north of the Town offices. Parking is available to the rear in the town center parking area or at the First Baptist Church, where the memory tree program begins at 7:00 pm.

The Meeting House was built in 1838-40 and is listed in the National Register of Historic Places.

# WORSHIP SERVICES

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

2806 VT Route 116 and P.O. Box 12, Starksboro, VT 05487

Pastor Larry Detweiler – 802-989-2679 or [revdets@gmail.com](mailto:revdets@gmail.com). Church phone 453-5577

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

### **Sunday 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.

Food For All – Share - On a New Community Project food re-distribution program

NCP information contact Pete 434-2333

**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. Starksboro Senior Meal

program information contact Brenda Boutin, 453-6354, or [mitgazette@earthlink.net](mailto:mitgazette@earthlink.net).

**CROSS TRAIL** – All are welcome to hike or snowshoe this local trail. It's a 1 1/2 mile loop with a great view at the stone cross. The trail is at 590 Conway Rd and maps are at the trail head. Please park on right side of driveway. Look for orange blazes. Come hike or snowshoe and enjoy God's awesome creation.

**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.

### **"FOOD FOR ALL - SHARE ON..."**

Greetings Starksboro friends and neighbors,

Please join New Community Project (NCP) each Sunday for our community food (re)-distribution program also known as Share On. The program is held at the Starksboro First Baptist Church – the doors open 2:30 PM.

Come "shop" for free fresh organic produce, dairy, meat, and bread. Trader Joe's and the gardens of NCP are our main contributors. The amount and variety of food items change weekly. Please join the many local families that benefit from this blessing. For more information contact Pete at 434-2333 or [pantosketcham@newcommunityproject.org](mailto:pantosketcham@newcommunityproject.org).

**FRIENDS OF JERUSALEM SCHOOLHOUSE:** The annual Hunter/Early Bird Breakfasts were such fun! Thank you to everyone that attended and enjoyed delicious food while visiting with friends and neighbors. We received many donations and had lots of people give their time to help make the 3 breakfasts successful. THANK YOU! All proceeds have been put in our renovation fund. Progress is being made by a recently formed committee to establish a concrete plan to move ahead with the Schoolhouse renovations as well as a new building to house the fire equipment "up south". Stay tuned as updates will appear in future issues of the gazette.

**ANNUAL CAROLING PARTY!** Please join us on Sunday, Dec 9th at the Jerusalem Schoolhouse from 2:00-4:00pm for a festive gathering of carols, cookies, hot cider, hot chocolate and SANTA! The big jolly fellow will make his appearance at 2:45 so be sure to arrive at the Schoolhouse before that time. He plans to greet the children, hand out treats and sing a few carols with us before heading off to his next stop. So, bring the kids, grandkids, grandma, grandpa and your neighbors for an afternoon sure to put you in the holiday spirit! Questions? Call 453-4573.

## ENERGY CORNER – Starksboro Energy Committee

These days when it comes to fighting climate change and pollution it can be overwhelming to know where to begin. It can be even harder if your available funds to make changes are limited. A great place to start is home weatherization.

In Vermont, the second largest (transportation being first) source of carbon pollution is space heating. With some of the oldest housing stock in the U.S., we annually spend a tremendous amount of money and emit extra carbon to the atmosphere due to inadequate air sealing and insulation. It is often said that the cheapest energy is energy we don't use. With this in mind, the Energy Committee is actively working on a variety of weatherization projects including:

- In partnership with Efficiency Vermont (EVT) and New Community Project (NCP), the Starksboro Energy Committee has joined the Button Up program. Button Up Vermont is a statewide program of EVT to help cut the energy needed for heating and cooling. Button Up offers educational materials, resources for Do It Yourself projects, rebates and incentives, and several programs to assist low and moderate income Vermonters – [www.buttonupvermont.org](http://www.buttonupvermont.org).
- NCP is offering resources and free weatherization products at the weekly Share On Food Pantry held at the First Baptist Church in the village on Sunday afternoons (2:30-3:00 PM). Community members are welcome to come see the Button Up display, get signed up, and receive free products. An evening Button Up presentation is being planned for early December at the church where these resources along with a representative from EVT will be available – watch Front Porch Forum for details – [www.frontporchforum.com](http://www.frontporchforum.com).
- The Energy Committee recently worked with staff and volunteers from EVT to help a local elder on a fixed income with some basic home weatherization. We are working with the home owner to get him considered for additional support through the Vermont Weatherization Assistance Program (WAP). Vermont's WAP reduces energy costs for about 1,400 low-income Vermont families each year by improving the energy efficiency and comfort of their homes and making sure these homes are healthy and safe to live in. More information and eligibility requirements can be found at <https://dcf.vermont.gov/benefits/weatherization>.
- Working with the Mt. Abe School District, the Energy Committee is seeking permission to conduct a comprehensive energy audit of the school with the goal of identifying additional opportunities to reduce energy use and costs.

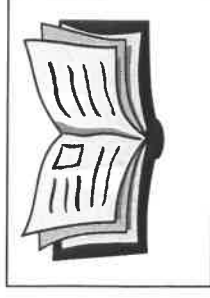
If you are interested in finding out how you can start saving money through weatherization at your home or business check out Efficiency Vermont at [www.encyvermont.com](http://www.encyvermont.com) or contact Pete Antos-Ketcham at [pantosketcham@newcommunityproject.org](mailto:pantosketcham@newcommunityproject.org) or 434-2333.

## Starksboro Public Library

Monthly News for December 2018

Hours: Mon. 10-6, Thurs. 10-5, Sat. 9-2

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



The Library will be closed Monday, December 24.

### **Second Saturday Toddler Meet-up**

**Saturday, December 8<sup>th</sup> 9:30-10:30**  
Meet friends at the library. Toys and snack provided. All welcome including infants and older siblings!

### **Knit/Fiber Arts**

**Saturdays, December 8<sup>th</sup> at 10:30** Inspired by craft fairs? Enjoy visiting with others as you work on your projects: knitting, quilting, rug-hooking, cross-stitch, etc. There is usually an experienced knitter in residence to answer questions or offer advice.

### **Chocolate Making with “The Chocolate Man” Stephen Ahern**

**Thursday, December 6, 7pm** Back by popular demand. Make beautiful chocolates in your own kitchen for the holidays. Just three ingredients plus optional tasty add-ins! We'll have molds to lend out. (like a book)

### **New Books in the library**

**Adult Fiction:** *The Clockmaker's Daughter* - Kate Morton; *The Tattooist of Auschwitz* ; *Kingdom of the Blind* – Louise Penny; *Overstory* – Richard Powers; *Your Duck Is My Duck*: Stories-Deborah Eisenberg (as profiled in the NYT Magazine recently); *Gone So Long* -Andre Dubus III; *Spark of Light*-Jodi Picoult; Stay Hidden – Paul Doiron (pronounced D’Warren according to the author)  
**Non-Fiction:** *Run Fast. Cook Fast. Eat Slow.*: *Quick-Fix Recipes for Hungry Athletes* – Shalane Flanagan; *The Indian World of George Washington: The First President, the First Americans, and the Birth of the Nation* – Colin Calloway.

**Youth:** *Assassination of Branvain Spurge* – M.T. Anderson (National Book Award finalist); *Dog Man: Lord of the Fleas* – Dav Pilkey; *Ed Emberly's Drawing Book of Animals*; *Far Side Gallery* – Gary Larson; Here We Are: *Notes for Living on Planet* – Oliver Jeffers; *Path to the Stars*-Sylvia Acevedo ( CEO of Girl Scouts USA); *Sheets* – Brenna Thummler; *Warcross* – Marie Lu; *Wild Robot Escapes* – Peter Brown; *Haunting of Sunshine Girl* – Paige McKenzie; *Night of the Crash Test Dummies* – Gary Larson.

Download e-books and e-audio books on your phone or device FREE via the library's membership in Listen Up Vermont. You'll need a library card on the new system and log-in instructions. The free app "Libby" is SO easy to use. Play through your car system too.

**RSVP Bone Builders: Tuesdays and Thursdays from 5:30-6:30** at the library. Friendly group! All ages. Prevents and Reverses Osteoporosis • Improves Balance • Enhances Energy and Well-Being!

FREE  
Wi-Fi



Find the whole world  
at your public library!

**The Gazette** is published monthly and mailed to all Starksboro residents. Articles and advertisements must be submitted by the **20<sup>th</sup> of each month** to the Town Clerk. If the 20<sup>th</sup> falls on Fri, Sat, or Sun, then it is due the following Monday **by NOON. Anything not received by the 20<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 \[starksboro@madriver.com\]\(mailto:starksboro@madriver.com\)](mailto:CherylEstey@starksboro.madriver.com) 453-2639

**Treasurer:** [Celine Coon \[starksborotowntreasurer@gmail.com\]\(mailto:starksborotowntreasurer@gmail.com\)](mailto:CelineCoon@starksborotowntreasurer@gmail.com)

**Zoning Administrator:** [Rebecca Elder \[rebecca@starksborovt.org\]\(mailto:rebecca@starksborovt.org\)](mailto:RebeccaElder@starksborovt.org)

*Hours: Tues, Wed, Thurs mornings 453-2768*

**Del. Tax Collector:** [Amy McCormick-Tues & Thurs @ 453-2639](mailto:AmyMcCormick@starksborovt.org)

[starksborotaxes@gmail.com](mailto:starksborotaxes@gmail.com)

**Listers** – 453-2778 Tues/Thurs 9 – 3pm [starksborolisters@gmail.com](mailto:starksborolisters@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.*

Peter Marsh – [pmarsh@starksborovt.org](mailto:pmarsh@starksborovt.org) 453-3478

Tony Porter – [tporter@starksborovt.org](mailto:tporter@starksborovt.org) 989-5096

Keeegan Tierney – [ktierney@starksborovt.org](mailto:ktierney@starksborovt.org) 777-9431

Koran Cousino – [kcousino@starksborovt.org](mailto:kcousino@starksborovt.org) 453-4352

Eric Cota – [ecota@starksborovt.org](mailto:ecota@starksborovt.org) 373-9763

#### **SCHOOL BOARD**

Mt. Abe Unified School District Board:

Caleb Elder – 434-4805

Steve Rooney – 453-4963

See the “School Board & Committees” tab at [MAUSD.org](http://MAUSD.org) for the meeting calendar and Minutes.

#### **ENERGY COMMITTEE:** Digger Faesy – 434-4254

Pete Antos-Kercham, Jeff Dunham, Richard Faesy, Phil Mosenthal, Megan Nedzinski  
Meetings on the 1<sup>st</sup> Monday of each month, 5:30, Starksboro Town Office

#### **STARKSBORO VILLAGE WATER COOPERATIVE: 453-4034**

*Meetings: 3<sup>rd</sup> Wed of March, June, Sept, and Dec at 7:30 pm at the Starksboro Public Library*

#### **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:**

Heather Ragsdale – 453-6485

**ROAD FOREMAN:** Tom Estey – 453-2319

#### **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:**

Meetings: 4<sup>th</sup> Monday @7 pm at the Starksboro Public Library

Chair, Jan McCleery – 453.3755 or [mcclleery@norwich.edu](mailto:mcclleery@norwich.edu)

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

#### **EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COORDINATOR:** Charlene Phelps

363-4276

#### **RECYCLING:** 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturdays from 8-11 at the new Town Garage-

3904 Vt Route 116. Trash fees: \$5/bag. Recycling – by donation.

#### **LIBRARY:** 453-3732 or [starksboropl@comcast.net](mailto:starksboropl@comcast.net)

Open Mon 10-6; Thurs 10-5; Sat 9-2

*Library Board Meetings 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday @ 4:30 pm at the Library*

#### **HUB TEEN CENTER & SKATEPARK:**

[www.bristolskatepark.com](http://www.bristolskatepark.com)

Ryan Krushenick – 453-3678 / [thehub@rhmvt.net](mailto:thehub@rhmvt.net)

## **Notice of New Food Shelf Hours:**

The Food Shelf is now open on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of each month. The hours are 9:30 – 6:30.

# 2018 STARKSBORO MEMORY TREE

Annually in December on the eve of the winter solstice town residents celebrate, remember and honor their loved ones by purchasing bulbs to illuminate Starksboro's Memory Trees. The suggested minimum donation per bulb for each honoree is \$3.00. Larger donations are gladly accepted as all proceeds benefit the Starksboro Volunteer Fire Department.

Use the format provided below to submit the name(s) of individual(s) you wish to remember or honor. Deliver your completed form and donation by Thursday, December 20th to the Town Office or mail it to P.O. Box 91, Starksboro, VT 05487 so it arrives no later than Thursday.

If you miss the mail in deadline you may bring your information to the tree lighting ceremony scheduled for 7:00 p.m. on Saturday, December 22<sup>nd</sup> in the community room of the Baptist church located at 2806 VT Route 116. In doors the names of individuals being honored and remembered are read aloud followed by the tree lighting on the front yard of the church.

All are welcome to enjoy a free soup supper served in the community room of the church from 5:45-6:45 p.m. preceding the Memory Tree lighting ceremony.

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# 2018 STARKSBORO MEMORY TREE

A BENEFIT  
FOR THE  
STARKSBORO VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

Contributor's Name: (print) \_\_\_\_\_  
Please PRINT the name of each individual you wish to remember and honor  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Total enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_. Please make checks payable to the ...  
**Starksboro Volunteer Fire Department.** Suggested minimum donation per each honoree is \$3.00. Larger donations are welcomed to benefit the Starksboro Volunteer Fire Department  
Donations are tax deductible.

Return donations to:  
Memory Tree  
Starksboro Town Office  
P.O. Box 91, 05487

For information call:  
Cheryl Estey at the  
Town Clerk's Office  
802.453.2639