



The G A Z E T T E



The official newsletter produced by the Town of Starksboro

MARCH 2018

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

TOWN OFFICE CLOSINGS:
March 6th for voting at the school

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Thursdays at 9:30 am

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Tues & Thurs at 8:30 am

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Each Sunday at 2:30, Baptist Church

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TOWN MEETING NEWS: *Town Meeting* will be on March 3, 2018, Robinson School multipurpose room, 9:00 a.m. You have to be present to vote on the town budget. *Voting by Australian Ballot* is on Tuesday, March 6, 2018, 7-7 p.m, at the Robinson School multipurpose room. All of the school budgets will be voted by Australian Ballots this year. We will also be voting on town and school officers and the Hannaford Career Center budget on Tuesday.

Absentee Voting: A voter who expects to be an absent voter, or an authorized person in his/her behalf, may apply for absentee ballots no later than 5:00 pm on the closing of the Town Office on the day preceding the election (March 5, 2018). A voter may have ballots mailed to them, or can come in to the office to vote or pick up ballots. Call the town office with questions – 453-2639.

Town Reports: Remember that town reports will not automatically be mailed out to you, unless you have gotten your name on the mailing list. There is still time to have one mailed to you. Reports will be available online, and at the following locations: Town Office, Robinson School, Jerusalem Store, and Starksboro Public Library.

RABIES CLINIC: Sat, March 17th, from 9:00 – 11:00 am at the Starksboro Town Office - \$15 per animal - Cats and dogs welcome. Please bring a leash & proof of prior rabies. Out of towners also welcome.



IMPORTANT GAZETTE INFO: This will be the last issue of the monthly newsletter that will be automatically mailed out to everyone in town. It is available on the town's website at www.starksborovt.org. If you would still like to have one mailed to you, please call the office and we will put you on a mailing list. Many people have expressed that they would prefer to read it online and not get the paper copy. We know that a lot also end up in the trash without being opened up or read. So, if you still want to receive one by mail, we can still do that. Just call and let us know – 453-2639. Thank you.

WORSHIP SERVICES

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF STARKSBORO:

www.Starksborobaptistchurch.org

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

Pastor Larry Detweiler – 802-989-2679 or revdets@gmail.com. Church phone 453-5577

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 1st 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 4th 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 mtgazette@earthlink.net.

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.

Notice of New Food Shelf Hours:

The Food Shelf is now open on the 2nd Wednesday of each month. The hours are 9:30 - 6:30.

STARKSBORO MEETING HOUSE SUGAR ON SNOW PARTY

Save the date for the afternoon of Saturday, March 24, and the annual Sugar on Snow Party sponsored by the Starksboro Village Meeting House with some of our friends. The event started over 50 years ago and we're switching it up again this year. Expect activities at the Meeting House, including an open house upstairs with area artists, in the town library, and outside. Further details will be available later on Front Porch Forum, local newspapers, and our website: www.starksboromeetinghouse.org

This tradition is based on the maple sugar socials held in the Meeting House by the church women's club in the early 1900s! We'll have delicious traditional maple sugar (locally produced of course) on snow, and more. Thank you for your continued support.

FRIENDS OF JERUSALEM SCHOOLHOUSE: The Schoolhouse is still quietly sitting on Jerusalem Road awaiting the Bone Builders exercise group each Tuesday and Thursday at 8:30am. They arrive in a flurry of conversation and enjoy their time catching up on local happenings while working their way through the osteoporosis prevention exercises...good balance, better posture, stronger bones are all benefits of joining the group...all are invited to come! Then along came the Tai Chi lovers on Thursday at 9:30am...that group also arrives with cheerful faces and lots of chatter as they prepare for their class. What a wonderful building to be able to use for these two community classes.

If ever you want to use the schoolhouse for an event, please contact Edie Sears at 453-3183 regarding availability.

Stories, stories, stories...we hope you have been enjoying hearing tales from some of the South Starksboro residents. There are sooooo many people in our community to hear from...each story unique yet often we see a common thread as to why someone moved here, what keeps them here and what they love most about our community. This month we have the pleasure of hearing from Ann Gibbons and her husband, Joerg Klauck. They make their home on Robert Young Road. Thank you Ann and Joerg ~ we are happy you are part of our community! And, remember, if you would like to share your story, please contact Nancy Orvis at norvis1113@gmail.com or 453-4573.

Life in South Starksboro - Ann Gibbons and Joerg Klauck

What a surprise it is to suddenly realize Joerg and I moved to our home on Robert Young Road twenty-one years ago and what a great place to call home it has been!

Our journey to arrive here was a circuitous one but it started with a general objective that we identified during the time we lived in Toronto (Joerg's home town and where I had moved to from Massachusetts) and, like many others who had spent time visiting Vermont, we were ready to explore a move to the Green Mountains. Ironically, we had had our wedding at Tucker Hill lodge in Waitsfield just on the "other side of the Gap" and we began exploring Addison County from a distance with a subscription to the Addison Independent that allowed us to become familiar with the names of roads, towns, businesses, topics, and news - quite a few of which haven't changed all that much.

We landed in Vermont on April's Fools Day 1993 by starting with a condo rental in South Burlington and that became our base to explore the state. Having met a real estate agent, Jean Meehan, who, like Joerg, was a transplanted Canuck, we took quite a few road trips in both Chittenden and Addison counties and, by applying a process of elimination, Jean figured out that we should check out what use to be an old ski-house on Robert Young Road. Standing on the deck, listening to the brook and being surrounded by fall foliage proved too much to resist and with the bone-chilling polar vortex of January 1997 to welcome us, we landed in South Starksboro.

We were already familiar with our immediate neighbors, the Kreisels, as Joerg knew Peter for his accounting expertise. The very special nature of our new neighborhood was apparent when we were invited up the road by the Passmores - Helen and Alan - and they welcomed us with their hospitality and knowledge of South Starksboro's history along with their appreciation of a pre-dinner cocktail. Well, our good fortune of choosing to live "up-south" has always been apparent to us. With Joerg's business requiring that Burlington, Mad River Valley, Bristol and Middlebury all be easily accessible we were very well located and when Ann joined Addison County Home Health as a hospice nurse, we both knew we were living in just the right spot.

Along with its easy-to-see natural beauty, life on the hill is also shared with wonderful neighbors. We may not see each other on a daily basis but those neighbors are there whenever there's a dramatic event - this has been proved through ice storms, tropical storms, and wind storms - the most recent this past October when our garden shed exploded under a falling tree and those great neighbors helped with some of the immediate clean-up.

Even with a couple of decades under our belt, we know we're still relative newcomers but we hope to enjoy many more happy years in this beautiful community.

Starksboro Public Library

Monthly News for March 2018

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

Catherine Goldsmith, Librarian, 453-3732 - starksboropl@comcast.net

2nd Saturday Story Time at the library

March 10th at 9:30 am

Join us for a casual, fun storytime, geared for ages 0-5 with a craft. We will sing a little, read and visit. Meet other Starksboro families at the library and give your kid a library habit!

Fiber Arts Saturday!

March 10th at 10 am

Knitters, weavers, and crafters from all towns welcome. Coffee and tea on tap.

Sugar on Snow Party – co-hosted with the Starksboro Village Meeting House

Saturday, March 24th

Lunch and sweet treats on sale to benefit the Meeting House Restoration Fund. Storytime at 1pm.

WINTER FILM SERIES - “Citizenfour”

Friday, March 30th, 7pm

As a follow up on our Internet Privacy workshop, we show “Citizenfour”. This award-winning behind-the-scenes chronicle follows director Laura Poitras and journalist Glenn Greenwald's encounters with whistleblower Edward Snowden in Hong Kong, as he hands over classified documents that provide evidence of mass indiscriminate and illegal invasions of privacy by the NSA. Won the Academy Award and BAFTA for best documentary in 2015. Rated R for language. Popcorn and beverage provided.

Landscape painting in Acrylics:

Saturday, March 17. 10 am-noon

Cynthia Guild Kling leads these “make and take” art sessions using acrylic artist paints. Materials provided by the library. Suitable for ages 12 and up. No experience needed. Please register as space is limited.

Preschool Story Time: “A book is a special friend”

The Starksboro Preschool visits the library every week at 11 am, alternating between Monday and Thursday and following the public school schedule. Join this happy group as we enjoy books together.

RSVP Bone Builders: Tuesdays and Thursdays from 5:30-6:30 at the library, year-round. Simple exercises improve balance, enhance energy and build strength. Start at any time with this friendly group!

New Books in the Library:

Youth: *Dog Man & Cat Kid* – Dav Pilkey; *Thunderhead (YA)*- Neal Shusterman; *Smart about Sharks* – Owen Davey; *Land of Stories, Worlds Collide (bk 6)* – Chris Colfer.

Picture Books: *Love Monster* – Rachel Bright; *Love* – Matt de la Peña; *Big Tractor* – Nathan Clement; *Otis and the Puppy* – Loren Long.

Adults: *Intensity* – Sherrilyn Kenyon; *The grave’s a fine and private place* – Alan Bradley; *The Cornish Coast Murder* – John Bude; *The Unit* – Ninni Holmqvist; *The Rooster Bar* – John Grisham.

Adult Non-Fiction: *River of Consciousness* – Oliver Sacks; *The Vanishing American Adult* – Ben Sasse; *We were eight years in power* - Ta-Nehisi Coates; *Hidden History of Vermont* – Mark Bushnell.

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**. **Anything not received by the 15th will not be included in the Gazette.**

COMMUNITY EMAIL GROUP: WWW.FRONTPORCHFORUM.COM

TOWN WEBSITE: www.starksborovt.org

TOWN OFFICE: 453-2639

Open Mon – Thu, 8:30 – 4:30

Town Clerk: Cheryl Estey starksboro@madriver.com, 453-2639

Treasurer: Celine Coon starksborotowntreasurer@gmavt.net

Zoning Administrator: Rebecca Elder starksborozoning@gmavt.net

(Hours - Mon & Wed 9-4; Thu 1:30 – 4:30) – 453-2768

Del. Tax Collector: Amy McCormick-Tues & Thurs @ 453-2639

starksborotaxes@gmail.com

Listers – 453-2778

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

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

Tony Porter – 989-5096

Keegan Tierney – 777-9431

Koran Cousino – 453-4352

SCHOOL BOARD

Every other month at 5:30 pm at Mt. Abe

Louis DuPont – 453-5538

Nancy Cornell – 453-2681

Caleb Elder – 434-4805

Mt. Abe: Meetings 1st and 3rd Tuesday at 6:30 at Mt. Abe Library

Supervisory Board – Nancy Cornell, Louis Dupont, Caleb Elder

LIBRARY: 453-3732 or starksboropl@comcast.net

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

Library Board Meetings 2nd Monday @4:30 pm at Library

REPRESENTATIVES

Fred Baser – 453-4391

David Sharpe – 453-2754 / 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

PLANNING COMMISSION:

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

363-4276

RECYCLING: 1st & 3rd Saturdays from 8-11 at the new Town Garage-3904 Vt Route 116. Trash fees: \$5/bag. Recycling – by donation.

HUB TEEN CENTER & SKATEPARK:

www.bristolskatepark.com

Ryan Krushenick – 453-3678 / thehub@gmavt.net

STARSBORO VILLAGE WATER COOPERATIVE: 453-5200

Meetings: 3rd 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

Chris Bray – 453-3444 / cbray@leg.state.vt.us

ADVERTISEMENTS

During the Open House at town sugar houses and the Annual Sugar on Snow event, there will be an Art and Crafts show and sale upstairs at the Meeting House – March 24th, 10 – 2. For info, call C. Kling – 453-5227

Senior Guidance.org

Living facilities

Services available for seniors living in Vermont – helpful state programs, help in finding assisted living facilities.

<https://www.seniorguidance.org/assistedliving/vermont/>

Free Tax Help for Vermonters

Free e-Filing with Free File or MyFreeTaxes Partnership



In 2017, about 65% of Vermont taxpayers qualified to file their federal and state taxes for free through Free File, but only about 2% of those eligible actually used Free File. Are you eligible? Find out at www.tax.vermont.gov (search for "Free File").



The MyFreeTaxes Partnership provides free federal and Vermont filing assistance for qualified individuals. Are you eligible? Find out at www.tax.vermont.gov (search for "myfreetaxes").

Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) and Tax Counseling for the Elderly (TCE) Programs

Free tax help to those with 1) lower incomes, 2) disabilities, 3) the elderly, or 4) limited English. TCE focuses on those age 60 years and older. Find a VITA/TCE location near you.

Find out more at www.irs.gov.
Search for "Free tax help."

AARP Foundation Tax-Aide Program

Provides tax assistance sites to taxpayers with low and moderate incomes, giving special attention to those 50 years and older. Find the location nearest you.

Find out more at www.aarp.org.
Search for "Tax-Aide."

IRS Agent Virtual Service Delivery System

Meet with an IRS agent via the Virtual Service Delivery System located in Montpelier (by appointment only on Mondays and Wednesdays). Call **844-545-5640** to schedule your appointment.

To download or order paper forms,
visit tax.vermont.gov.

