

TROY TOWN NEWS

Volume 31 Issue 3 ttntroytown@gmail.com March 2023

SELECTMAN'S CORNER

By Dick Thackston, Chairman Troy Board of Selectman

Selectman's Office Updates:

The Select Board will be taking over the Billing and Accounts Payable for the Water & Sewer Commission. In general discussions town offices have been looking for duplications and over-lapping activities. Both offices use the same accounting software and are on the same payment schedule so at the writing it seems like a reasonable consolidation. This resulted increased hours in the Selectmen's Office Staff and required that the existing half-time position be increased to full-time however this is more than offset by the elimination of the full-time position at the Water & Sewer Commission previously held by Rhonda Sheets.

The Select Board has chosen a new Road Agent for the Town, John Coons Jr., who comes to us from the City of Keene. John grew-up in Troy and is working with our existing staff to become fully appraised of all the Department's pending projects. The Select Board has received a number of calls concerning street light outages. The replacement of streetlights is handled by Eversource. We have a long list that we have asked them to address; hopefully they will have a chance to address by the time this newsletter is too old.

Budget Committee Wrapped Up:

The Select Board held a joint Public Hearing with the Budget Committee and Water & Sewer Commission at the Community Center on the 16th. The meeting included a Bond hearing for the Water & Sewer Commission as well as lengthy explanations of the situation with our Water & Sewer plants and the advantages of bonding this project at this particular time. Other than the fact that we have no choice in some aspects of the work to be done, at this time there is significant assistance from the State of New Hampshire and the balance that we will be responsible for will be borrowed at comparatively modest interest rates. The Budget Committee and Select Board are in agreement on nearly all Warrant Articles. Below is a brief review.

Open Elected Positions:

The Town of Troy has nineteen open elected positions on this year's Town Warrant. We encourage you to pick a position and help run our town. The Official Ballot is closed however "Write-ins" have a high level of success in Town elections.

Candidates Forum:

The Select Board is planning on conducting a Candidates Forum on March 9th at 6:30 for anyone running for any Town Office. We have done these for several years now and it has proven a good way to get to know who's running for what and how they think they can help. The location

has been confirmed at the Samuel E. Paul Community Center on South Street. Due to the large number of candidates expected to participate at this time the Selectmen's Conference Room in Town Hall was deemed to be too small. Write-In Candidates are welcome to participate as well. If you are planning on running for a position as a Write-In, please let the Selectman's Office if possible so we can plan the set-up accordingly.

Warrant Articles of Note:

The following Articles on our Town Warrant deserve some comment here.

Elizabeth Giorgianni Trust Fund Changes: This article concerns itself with the gift left to the Town by Elizabeth Giorgianni several years ago. Five years ago the town voted to turn the then approximately \$200,000 over to the Trustees of Trust Funds for investment to see what they could do with it rather than draw it down and spend it; at this time there is approximately \$1.2 Million in the account as a result of the work of the Trustees both the Select Board and Budget Committee feel that it should be left with the Trustees another five years.

Wastewater Treatment Facility Upgrade Bonds: There are two new bonds being offered. It's one or the other NOT BOTH. The two bonds are for different amounts.

The first is for \$765,000, this is the maximum amount that the State of NH will be subsidized. It is important to understand that only the actual amount needed to do work will be borrowed and a final amount would likely be equal to or less than this amount.

The second is for \$200,000, this is the minimum amount needed at this time. This amount will potentially leave us in the situation of putting off critical infrastructure to the future. This second bond will only be voted on if the first bond fails.

Either bond requires a 3/5 Vote to pass. If neither bond passes, then it's likely the town will need to handle the costs through other less desirable means without any support from the State of NH. Both the Select Board and Budget Committee have recommended these Bonds but believe that the larger first Bond for \$765,000 is the better choice for Troy in both the long and short run.

Town Clerk, Tax Collector Compensation: The Town Clerk Tax, Tax Collector is an elected position at this time in the Town of Troy. Elected officials' compensation is not subject to typical employment rules. The Select Board supports the Town Clerk, Tax Collector's request for a 4.5% raise. The Budget Committee voted overwhelmingly against the request after a comparison with other towns in our area and a review of recent raises to the position.

As always, Thank-you for your support.

TROY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

We begin our 32nd year with our first business meeting of 2023 on Thursday, March 16, at 6:30pm at Kimball Hall. We are looking for new members to join us! We have been very fortunate to have Kimball Hall, for the display space downstairs, and for the storage upstairs for the vast number of items we have collected over the years. Hope to see you on March 16th, at 6:30!

We are still working to purchase the Bud Rail Diesel Car. We are close to the purchase price of the car and we are applying for a grant to cover the cost of moving the car to

Troy. Make your checks payable to the Troy Railroad Depot. Also, if you would like to become a member of the Troy Depot please call 603-209-4922. Both groups need members to look after things.



The Historical Society has a few upcoming events. We will be working with the Gay-Kimball Library on a project in May. On Saturday, July 15th, we are planning an Arts and Crafts event on the Common. We will also be working on an event at the Depot, and in September, the Lion's Club and the Historical Society will sponsor a program "Sheryl Faye Presents Historical Women." Our last event for the year is the Currier and Ives Cookie Tour in December. Details for the upcoming events will be in the monthly Troy Town News.

Join your historical society today, and help with the task of "Preserving the Past for Tomorrow."

FITZWILLIAM RECREATION

Are you looking for some friendly competition; **Adult pickup basketball** continues on Tuesday nights from 7-9 pm at Emerson Elementary school. No registration is necessary; however, if you are new to this group, TEXT Joe Pelkey to ensure you are on the contact list! 603-762-2247. If there are not enough to play, the pickup games can be canceled or moved to the Pole Barn once the weather gets nicer.

Yoga classes with Michelle Davis Wellness will continue on Wednesdays at 10 am and 630pm, above the Fitzwilliam Town Hall. The cost for drop-ins is 12.00. All levels are welcome!

Thank you to our Youth Basketball Sponsors: The Troy Recreation Department, Monadnock Fire Arms, Park Construction, KG Performance, and Beeze Tees.

Baseball/T-Ball is just around the corner- The Fitzwilliam Recreation Department is looking for a new Coordinator. Please call or email the Recreation Department to learn more!

Spring is coming; follow us on Facebook! More information for Baseball/T-ball and the Annual Fishing Derby will be available soon!

Volunteers are the only way we can run our Events and Youth Programs. The Fitzwilliam Recreation Department is always looking for Volunteers and Commission Members. If you want to get involved, contact Kate, the Recreation Coordinator, by phone or email.

Fitzwilliam Recreation Department 603-585-7270 Fitzrec@fitzwilliam-nh.gov





GAY-KIMBALL LIBRARY



Where Awesome Happens By Jennifer Momaney

Have you read any Sherlock Holmes recently? You might want to brush up on the great detective. Why? Because we are

going to have a mystery for you to solve in April.

Join us for the Fun!

Dr. Seuss Day - March 2 3:30pm-4:30pm Come to the library for storytime, crafts and games all about the silly world of Dr. Seuss.

Family Book Club – March 25th 11am

Make reading a family activity this year! We will be reading Basil of Baker Street by Eve Titus. Swing by the library to grab a book!

Banned Book Club March 28th 5:30pm

We will be reading A Study in Scarlet by Arthur Conan Doyle (yes Sherlock Holmes was banned from some libraries! WHY? Join the club and see if you can figure it out. Bring your own copy or borrow one from the Library!

Mark your calendars:

April 25-27 Family Escape room! Can you help Sherlock Holmes and stop the evil Moriarty from taking over London? Follow the clues, crack the case, and win a prize for saving London!

Reservations required. Call the Library in April (603) 242-7743 to book a time

Remember we have FREE e-books & audio books AND MAGAZINES! from our NH Downloadable Collection (in co-operation with the State Library & other NH Libraries). Will work with your Kindle, iPad, iPhone, etc. Find the link on our website.

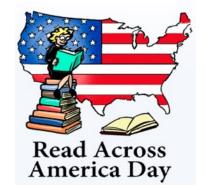
Our Hours:

Tuesday – 10:00am - 7pm Wednesday & Thursday - 2pm - 7pm Saturday - 10am - 2pm

Do those hours not work for you? You can make use of our 24/7 Library Lockers!

The **Library Board of Trustees** will meet on Wednesday March 1st at 5:30pm to discuss library business.

READ ACROSS AMERICA DAY IS MARCH 2ND



GAP MOUNTAIN LIONS

- WE SERVE

By Nancy Nye

March is coming and from the look of things right now there isn't much snow to disappear and hopefully we will be enjoying spring shortly. However, as we New Englanders know, the month of March can bring a lot of surprises.

Did you know that the Harsens Island Lions Club in Michigan is known to serve muskrat for dinner!

Our book bin at Hannaford's in Keene has been a great success. Thanks to all who donated used books and especially to those who purchased them. Our Operation KidSight is so vital to our school children and these funds go a long way in funding the program.

Remember WE SERVE and are here to give assistance where we are needed.

Check us out on Facebook. Gap Mountain Lions

Call Nancy @ 603-242-6293 or Marion @ 603-585-9465 if interested in joining the world's largest service organization or if an application for our help is needed.



March 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

DO YOU HAVE BREAKFAST, LUNCH OR DINNER PLANS? TRY THESE EATERIES!

Maple Madness Dinner

live fiddle music by Randy Miller

Sunday March 5

5:00 p.m. Hors d'oeuvres 5:30 p.m. Dinner

Visit our website for more details! east-hill-farm.com



Reservations required, call today!

East Hill Farm 603-242-6495

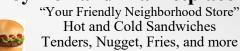


TROY PIZZA BARN

7 Marlborough Road, Suite 2 Troy NH 603-242-3700603-242-3701 Sunday 12—8 PM

Tues, Wed, 11 AM—8 PM Thurs, Fri 11 AM—9 PM Saturday 11 AM—9:00 PM Closed Monday CREDIT & DEBIT CARDS ACCEPTED

Troy Deli and Marketplace





Deli Meats and Cheeses by the Pound Fresh Burger, Steak, Chops and Chicken Groceries, Produce, Beer, Cigs & Lotto M-F 6AM-10PM Sat & Sun 7am-10pm



603-242-6639 Propane Exchange \$22.99

SPRING 2023 WATER/SEWER COMMISSION UPDATE

Since our last letter to Troy Town News in the late summer, the Troy Water/Sewer Department has been actively working toward improving our operations to better serve the town. A summary of findings and actions we have taken is below.

The federal Environmental Protection Agency issued an Administrative Order to our department in September notifying us that because of high levels of copper, ammonia, and phosphorus in our discharge, we have 24 months to create a plan to correct the issue.

In late December we received a technical report from Underwood Engineering on the condition of our wastewater system. The document is posted on the town website for public access. A key finding is that, although we have a permit to treat 265,000 gallons a day, the capacity of our lagoons is only 90,000 gallons a day and our current daily max flow is 87,500 gallons, meaning we are already at 97% of our capacity. Even though the administrative order did not require it, we voted to place a moratorium on new sewer connections until we have had a chance to work with the NH Department of Environmental Services (DES) and our Engineers on a plan forward.

We have been meeting with multiple teams from the DES and engineers to discuss the options for our capacity issue, sludge removal and disposal options, as well as different funding opportunities.

By the time this issue of TTN is delivered in early March, we will be coming to the end of our Request for Qualification (RFQ) process to select a qualified engineering firm, selected from a list provided by DES, to assist us with the next steps in upgrading our Wastewater Treatment Facility.

The Select Board has agreed to put forward a warrant article for the March 2023 Town Meeting (3/15 7pm at Troy Elementary School) requesting the town to apply for a bond to begin planning and implementation of upgrades to the system that are intended to address the issues identified in the Administrative Order. Through our discussions with DES we are aware of multiple programs which could help cover a percentage of the bond payments for the town.

The commissioners and department staff will continue to work with state/federal regulators and engineers to begin fixing the issues in the system. It is a multi-faceted process that will take time to complete, but we are making progress and will continue to strive to identify and implement the right solution for our town.

In the last few months, after holding Public Hearings when applicable, we have updated and adopted a new Sewer Ordinance, a new Water Ordinance, a new Fee Schedule, and a new Water/Sewer Application; all of which are available on the town website.

As of 2/1/23, payments can no longer be dropped off at the

WWTF on Dort St. They can be mailed to PO Box 215 or dropped off in-person with Selectmen's Office staff or in the designated box at the Town Hall- 16 Central Square. Our phone contact for customer service calls continues to be 603-242-3890 but, our non-emergency response time will be one business day while we work through the transition of office management to the Selectmen's Office.

The Water/Sewer Commission meets at 6pm on the 2nd Wednesday and 4th Thursday of the month at the WWTF located at 151 Dort St, unless otherwise posted.

Lastly, we would like to thank former Office Manager Rhonda Sheets for her 17 years of committed service to the department and the town. Here's hoping for long drives and short putts on the golf course, Rhonda!

Troy Water/Sewer Commissioners
Burt Lang, Chairman
Adam Hopkins, Vice-Chair
Ben Drugg, Secretary
Courtney Davis
Jeff Denis

DON'T FORGET TO CHANGE YOUR CLOCKS FOR DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME

DST officially begins at 2 AM Sunday, March 12, 2023. So before you go to bed on Saturday, March 11 move your clocks forward one hour. Or you can just change them all when you get up Sunday morning like most people usually do. Hawaii and most of Arizona are the only places that don't observe DST.



WATER/SEWER COMMISSION CANDIDATE 1-YR POSITION

I am Darline Harris, and I'm running to fill the one-year seat on the Troy Water/Sewer Commission. I'm a native-born New Englander and I've been a Troy resident since 2006. I worked at the Gay Kimball Library for the last ten years and just recently retired!

I was inspired to run for this position because of the recent issues at the water/sewer treatment plant. Lack of maintenance of the lagoons, no meetings on a regular basis, and very poor communications with the community. (Though the Commission is meeting twice a month now.) I want to be part of increasing transparency. One of the ways I would like to improve transparency is by ensuring that all documents and meetings are recorded and posted, easily available at the town hall and on the town website.

Thanks for your consideration.

TO THE VOTERS OF TROY

My name is Adam Hopkins and I am running for a 3 year term on the Water/Sewer Commission, I have lived in Troy and have been a water/sewer customer since 2006.

I have served the town in the following capacities: Troy Budget Committee for the last 8 years (5 years as Vice-Chair), Monadnock School District Budget Committee for 9 years (3 as Chair and 4 as Vice-Chair), and was appointed to the Water/Sewer Commission in June 2022 and was elected Vice-Chair.

I believe my years of municipal budgeting and navigating government regulation experience are an asset to the Commission as we work through the challenges facing our system.

In my opinion there has been a lot of quality work started by the current Water/Sewer Commission and staff to address system issues and I'd like to see us returned to the Commission to continue making progress.

There have been questions of conflicts of interest and openness brought up recently on the Troy Community Facebook page. Addressing conflicts of interest: the only people I am related to in Troy are my wife and children, the only property in town I own is my home, and the only business dealings I have with anyone in town is with a mechanic and a landscaper. As for openness: I pledge to follow all applicable state laws (91-A Right to Know specifically) and town ordinances/rules at all times.

I am not pro or anti any specific project in town and will use my best judgement when making decisions on any proposal that comes before the Commission. Above all I will have the best interests of the water/sewer system and the town in mind when casting my votes.

Thank you for your consideration, Adam Hopkins

56 South Street Phone: 603-903-7508

ELECT BEN DRUGG TO THE WATER/SEWER COMMISSION

My name is Ben Drugg and I am running for the 4-year seat on the Water/Sewer Commission. I was appointed Commissioner in June of last year and have held the position of Board Secretary since.

As a Commissioner I have spent countless hours learning as much as I can about the administration of Troy's Wastewater Treatment Facility (WWTF). This includes many meetings with the NH Department of Environmental Services, various water and sewer specialized engineers, former Board Members and Department Staff. I have applied the knowledge that I have gained to many initiatives that were desperately needed within the department. With the help of the new Board of Commissioners (four of whom were appointed to the Commission this past year, including myself, who are all running for election in March) and the department staff, I have been able to update fee structures, modernize the ordinances that govern our water and sewer systems and set the department on a path towards a more sustainable future.

Given that we were recently notified by the EPA that we need to perform upgrades to our existing WWTF sooner than the previous Board had anticipated, we have a sizeable challenge before us. I believe that I, along with the current slate of Commissioners that we have now; Adam Hopkins, Courtney Davis, Jeff Denis (write-in candidate for 1 year) and Bert Lang have the real-world experience and institutional knowledge required to tackle this daunting task. With the Town's current need to provide the service of a properly functioning WWTF to potential customers of all sizes as soon as possible, it's imperative that we keep the current group working on what has been an extremely complex task. Please consider casting your ballot on March 14th for me, and the rest of the team that has worked so hard to move us all toward this common goal. Thank you for your consideration.



A TALK WITH A BEAR AT C.W. WHITNEY'S STORE

By Valerie Britton

A friend contacted me recently and asked if I had any information on the bear in the famous C.W. Whitney postcard. I shared my theory and thought it might be interesting for the Troy Town News also.`

A few years ago, I spoke with a person about a scrap book she acquired of a journey of hunting by C.W. Whitney, Jr. documented from 1895-1898. Another gentleman from Troy named Chauncey N. Garfield was mentioned as part of this group of men. They hired a guide and went to Adirondack Camp on Bay Pond and Salmon Pond in Maine on hunting trips where they hunted deer, bear, and turkey. Based on a print from the Manchester Masonic Hall her belief was that they were affiliated with Masonic Halls. C. W. Whitney was grand master of the Third Masonic District in 1880 and must have kept ties to these groups. Two photos in the album of 44 pictures were taken of their "first bear." This connection puts C. W. Whitney in close contact with a bear killed by either himself or one of the other members on these trips. Possibly it returned home with C. W. Whitney, was stuffed and displayed in the C. W. Whitney Store. As far as I know the whereabouts of this bear after the store closed remains a mystery.

If anyone knows please share with us.

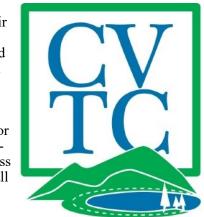


A Talk with the Bear at C. W. Whitney's, Troy, N. H.

GET A RIDE, OR GIVE A RIDE: EVERYONE BENEFITS

Right down the road, right now, someone needs a ride to somewhere essential. And volunteer drivers for Community Volunteer Transportation Company (CVTC) drive people where they need to go.

When riders can keep their essential appointments, they stay independent, and can live at home in peace. Riders can request to be taken to their doctor's or social service appointments, pharmacy or grocery shopping; all non-emergency. A five business -days' advance notice is all CVTC needs to enter a rider's trip request in our TripList system. And for



the rider, it is more than just the free ride. Our drivers are courteous and trustworthy, willing to converse and engage. Sometimes even new friendships are made.

Once our vetted volunteer drivers choose which trips best fit their schedule, they call the rider to verify pick-up times and, when they return home themselves, they track their total mileage for reimbursement from CVTC. Drivers select when, and to where, and for how long they are available. By making this difference in a rider's life, drivers contribute to the health of the Monadnock Region, one person at a time

Please call CVTC for more information at 1-877-428-2882 x 5.



STATE HOUSE UPDATE

By Dick Thackston State Rep. Cheshire 12 – Troy & Fitzwilliam

The 168th session of New Hampshire's General Court is now in full swing. I can honestly say there's more coming at us than I had expected. There are over 3,000 bills for the house to consider this session before we recess this spring. Personally, I have been assigned to the Commerce and Consumer Affairs Committee which focuses primarily on Banking, Insurance, Liquor, Real Estate and Business-Related legislation. I have concluded, given the volume of Bills for consideration, the first step is to figure out bills that never should have been brought up. These are typically sent by the Committees to the full house with a recommended vote of Inexpedient to Legislate (ITL) The sponsor or sponsors can make their case before the full house, but the house tends to follow committee recommendations especially if the committee vote of ITL is broadly bi-partisan, and most are. The two most interesting bills to have come before my committee, as of this writing, are regarding the legalization of Marijuana and an increase on penalties for over serving alcohol in restaurants. Testimony on both bills was passionate. Due anticipated number of speakers on the Marijuana bills, we actually herd the testimony in the House Chamber. No final vote has been taken as of this writing on either bill. Both are being reviewed and amended at this time.

The House Session on February 14, 2023 I voted on the following bills:

In Favor: HB347 This bill expands the number of Superior Court Justices specifically with regard to housing/land issues. This would help the supply of housing not with subsidies or mandates but by shoring up the existing justice system to work for everyone.

In Favor: HB62 This bill would cut the gas tax by approximately 20%, a reduction of approximately \$35 Million per year. In this case I voted against the Committee recommendation of ITL.

In Favor: HB388 This bill would remove the mandate the requires us to have both front and back license plates on our cars. Honestly, I don't feel strongly on this issue, but many do. With modern tracking devices built into your car I see it as almost irrelevant if you have one or two plates. In Favor: HB309 This bill clarifies NH Curriculum standards by education on genocide education must include by is limited to the Armenian Genocide, the Holocaust,

Chinese coolie labor in Cuba, the Uighurs in China and the

Rohingya in Burma.

Details of all bills and legislative sessions can be found at https://www.gencourt.state.nh.us/

Thank-you for your support; listed below are some news items from around the state about the state that may be of interest.

Senate Majority Whip Regina Birdsell, R-Hampstead, authored the resolution responding to the Democratic National Committee's decision last week to approve a 2024 calendar that would give the first primary to South Carolina.

https://www.unionleader.com/news/politics/voters/nhsenate-adopts-primary-resolution/article_3f9ac56f-61b2-5737-bf5a-74a2f8a73b95.html?block_id=868819

Bill to let locals restrict 'biological sex' facilities stalls https://www.unionleader.com/news/local/bill-to-let-locals-restrict-biological-sex-facilities-stalls/ article_bla81d56-a2b8-5d6f-9881-6cffd799d8b1.html? block id=1399899

Arguments begin on series of NH gun safety bills https://www.sentinelsource.com/news/local/statehouse/arguments-begin-on-series-of-nh-gun-safety-bills/article_65e05a5a-81cb-5d38-92d9-1680833a57bf.html

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TRINITARIAN CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

"What comes into our minds when we think about God is the most important thing about us." (A.W. Tozer) Whether we think highly or lowly of God will completely dictate how we choose to live our lives and how authentic our worship of Him will be. Therefore, it is critical that we have a proper and correct understanding of the character of God.

Throughout the month of March, Pastor Clark will continue a series that begun last month titled "The Theology of God". According to the Merriam-Webster dictionary, the word theology means "the study of God and of God's relation to the world." Through this sermon series, Pastor Clark will examine six different attributes of who God really is.

Last month we learned that God is both a Holy and jealous God. In fact, one of the Ten Commandments explains this to us in, Exodus 20:3-6, "You shall have no other gods before me. You shall not make for yourself a carved image, or any likeness of anything that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth. You shall not bow down to them or serve them, for I the LORD your God am a jealous God."

Coming up in the month of March, we will learn that God is merciful by looking at Deuteronomy 4:29-31. We will come to understand God's infinite wisdom through our look at Job 28:20-28 and we will thoroughly understand that He is a loving God through the teaching of 1 John 4:7-10 where the passage repeatedly reminds us that "God is love".

Lastly, Pastor Clark will conclude this series by sharing a sermon reminding us that God is unchanging. Therefore, all of the attributes of God described in the Bible are still exactly the same today. These truths of who God is do not change with the times or "adjust" to fit our desires. Ultimately, if our theology of God is in line with Holy Scripture than it is reassuring to know that, "Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever." (Hebrews 13:8)

*Sunday Morning Service ~ 9:30 a.m.

*Church Website:

www.trinitariancongregationalchurch.org

*Church Email: troycongregational@gmail.com

*Church Phone: (603) 242-7800

Tri-State Restoration, LLC WATER FIRE SMOKE MOLD Water, Fire, Smoke Damage Restoration, Mold Remediation & Post Construction Cleaning (603)352-6802 Proudly Serving NH, VT & MA www.TriState Restoration.info

CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH

A Biblical, Confessional, and Liturgical congregation of the Lutheran Church Missouri-Synod

Sunday worship at 10:00 am Lenten worship Wednesday at 6:30 pm Church Office: 603-242-7283

Church Email: office@clctroy.org

Easter is Coming

Does it seem like I am jumping the gun? Not really, Easter will be here before we know it. Easter is where we see in bold relief how far God is willing to go to save us.

To save us: from what?

Back in the 1930's Cole Porter wrote a song "Anything Goes." I suppose it came across as a sort of declaration that now we can do anything we want to—free at last. That was bad enough, but I think we can see that we just keep sliding farther and farther down that hill. We are free now—to believe whatever we like, to say whatever we like, to be whatever we like without any reference to what is good and true, without any concern for others.

Is that what you want?

Because there are always consequences to everything we do. God calls the kind of freedom I just described as sin. When we turn our backs on God to do what we want, when we only care about ourselves, we are moving deeper and deeper into darkness. From the first time we took a toy from another child just because we didn't want them to have it, to the last time we used a harsh word to, or about someone, we have been guilty of sin.

I am saying it is hopeless? Almost, there is nothing you can do that will please God. But that is exactly the reason we celebrate Easter, because God loves you so much that He did something that we could never have even imagined. He died in our place. The consequence of sin, even the "little" ones, is death. That judgment was satisfied when Jesus hung on the cross.

He did it for you! He did it so that you can live with Him now and eternally.

That is why we make a big deal of Easter. Jesus broke the power of sin and death that day. So we spend the weeks before Easter in solemn anticipation. You can join us Wednesdays during Lent as we await Easter, praising and thanking our God and King.

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

The good news concerning this being March is that we are getting much closer to spring!

I always try to find something to "celebrate" in each month just because it cheers us up a bit. Life can get difficult and stressful so diversions can be helpful and healthy for us.

In March we hear much about St. Patrick's Day. In case you are not aware, the day commemorates Saint Patrick and the arrival of Christianity in Ireland. Interesting! I wonder if Irish people still celebrate for the purpose of being thankful that Christianity did arrive in Ireland.? If we knew nothing of Christianity, what would our fate be? If we do not believe in Jesus Christ as the One who was sent to earth to pay for our sins, as He had no sin of His own since He is God's Son, our fate would be sealed. I am thankful that I live in a country where Christianity did come and I am also very grateful for all the missionaries who are in many countries around the world bringing Christianity to so many who otherwise would never hear the gospel of Jesus Christ.

Knowing Christ as Savior and having fellowship with others of like faith is very important! For that reason, we invite those who do not already have a "home church" to visit First Baptist Church of Troy. We are located on Route 12 north of the common. Our Sunday morning service is at 10:30 am. During that time, we focus on four things: singing hymns and songs in praise to the Lord, praying for one another, the teaching of God's Word, and fellowship with one another.

We meet for an informal time of prayer at the church on Tuesday evenings at 7 pm. All are welcome to come as we share praises and prayer requests and discuss any questions concerning the previous Sunday's message. It is a great time to encourage one another.

The Sunday morning messages are available to everyone. The messages are on Pastor Donn's ministry website www.biblelabs.com. From the homepage, click on the link titled "Bible Book Commentary" under the heading "Audio Message Library" and that will take you to the message series. The current message is usually uploaded before 10:30 AM every Sunday.

If you have a prayer request, or want to be added to the list of those who receive the link to the messages via text or email you are encouraged to email Pastor Donn at pastor@troybaptist.com or Sue at suewill@me.com

The podcasts are also linked from the homepage at http://www.biblelabs.com. We would love to hear from you.

There is always a warm and friendly welcome at First Baptist Church of Troy where we believe

Jesus Still Saves.



CANDIDATE FOR FIRE CHIEF

By Mark Huntoon

I have lived in Troy since 1991 with my wife who grew up in Troy. I have 40 years in the fire service and prior to moving to Troy I held the position of Fire Fighter, Lieutenant, Captain and Assistant Chief in Fitzwilliam. Since being in Troy I have held the positions of Fire Fighter, Lieutenant, Captain and presently the Fire Chief in which I have held since 2008. I also held the position of Deputy Forest Fire Warden in 2009 and from 2010 I have held the Forest Fire Wardens position for the town of Troy that I currently still hold.

As part of my ongoing commitment to the Troy Fire Department and the Town of Troy I have obtained the following certifications, Highway Incident Response, Propane Emergencies, Rapid Intervention Team [RIT], Flammable Liquids, Cevo II Fire for Ambulances, ISI Magnum Tech, Emergency Vehicle Response Course for Fire Apparatus, Hazardous Materials Awareness, Hazardous Materials Operational, Hazardous Material Decontamination, Thermal Insult Recognition, Wildland fire fighter 1, Fire Fighter Level 2, Vehicle Rescue Instructor, State of NH Forestry GPS#1, State of NH Forestry GPS#2, State of NH Fire Weather, Incident Command System I-100 & I-200 & I-300 & I-400 & I-700 & H806 NIMS-ICS as well as a former Nationally Registered EMT-B for 4 years.

Since being elected to the Fire Chief position, I have tried to keep the budget level funded, and upgraded gear and equipment to stay compliant with the NFPA regulations. I have assumed the role of ambulance Chief since the Town acquired the ambulance in 2016 and along with a lot of time and dedication form Troy and Fitzwilliam Chiefs, Selectmen, and a few members who committed to serving their community, have made a successful per diem ambulance service that runs 24hrs a day 5 days a week and the volunteers cover the weekend shifts. Chief Mark Huntoon, Deputy Fire Chief Ryan Huntoon and Captain Robert Crowell have been working with the State of New Hampshire to set up the new Tempsis and RespondNH fire reporting system.

I would like to thank everyone for your support over the past 15 years as Fire Chief and I am confident that I will exceed the expectations of the voters and the department if I am reelected as Fire Chief. I would appreciate your vote on Tuesday, March 14th, 2023. I look forward to continuing to serve the people of Troy to the best of my ability. Thank you for your consideration.

CALLAHAN FOR FIRE CHIEF

By Joe Callahan

We have reached that season again; election season and campaign signs have started to bloom all around town. This year I am running for Fire Chief and asking for your vote. Fire Chief being an elected position is unique to Troy. The Fire Chief serves as a Member of the Board of Engineers (the Board Tasked with overseeing the Fire Department) and the working position of Fire Chief.

As a member of the Board of Engineers, I will strive to make the Board more transparent and open to the citizens of the Town of Troy. When is the last time anyone heard or saw anything from the Board of Engineers? Ultimately, all boards and board members are working for and on behalf of the citizens of the Town of Troy and answerable to the same.

I will also update operations to make the Department eligible for competitive grants, not just grants that are earmarked for the town. My goal will be to retain the services of a Grant Writer (they get paid through the grant, only if awarded) and create a Capital Improvement Plan that can be integrated with the various grants and grant opportunities, both public and private.

I have served in the Fire and Emergency Medical Service (EMS) for thirteen years. In those years I have strived to advance my education and training to be of service to my community. I am the only candidate that currently holds both a Prehospital Medical Providers License and is a Certified Fire Fighter. In addition to taking training classes, I have also become a State Instructor, CPR Instructor, EMS Instructor and hold a Fire Instructor 1 Certification.

I hold the following Certification. These are Certification not classes, each Certification takes twenty-four to several hundred hours of training and testing, I am also able to teach most of these.

Fire Fighter 1, Fire Fighter 2, Airport Rescue Fire Fighter, HazMat Awareness, HazMat Operations, Emergency Vehicle Driver, Wildland Firefighter 1, Fire Instructor 1, ICS 100, ICS 200, ICS 700, ICS 800, CPR, CPR Instructor, Emergency Medical Technician and Advanced Emergency Medical Technician. I have taken and passed the Fire Officer 1 class but, have not tested for the certification yet.

The Fire Service has been changing over the last twenty to thirty years and EMS is becoming a more and more dominant element every year. Fire Departments are becoming more an EMS Service that will occasionally fight fires. Most of the budget, training and hours worked are EMS. Every Fire Call has an EMS component to it however, few EMS calls have a Fire component to it. This does NOT diminish or negate the dedication, determination and outstanding service provided by Troy's Fire Fighters, it is merely putting into perspective the dedication, determination and outstanding service provided by Troy's EMS providers, and the importance of EMS in the future of the Troy Fire Department.

I would like to thank everyone for their time and consideration. If you are eligible to vote, please vote and make you voice heard. On March 14th I hope you will vote Joseph Callahan for Fire Chief.

MARCH 20TH SPRING BEGINS

The beginning of Spring in US (Northern Hemisphere) traditionally marks the end of winter and the beginning of a season that signifies longer days and warmer temperatures. The first day of spring is also known as the vernal equinox. This marks the day that the sun's path is directly over the equator. This day also contains an equal amount of daytime and nighttime.

Spring occurs annually either on March 19th or March 20th.



WEEK OF MARCH 12TH IS GIRL SCOUT WEEK

Did you know that Troy has it's very own Girl Scout Troop? You may have seen us at our Girl Scout cookie booth at various events recently at the Samuel E. Paul Community Center. Keep your eyes peeled at upcoming March events in Troy, like the community breakfast! You never know where we will be next but we will be sure to post notice on the Troy Facebook page when we're set up somewhere!



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