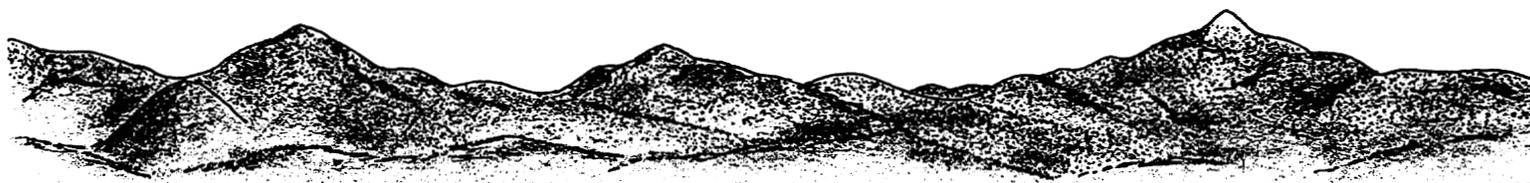


THE TAMWORTH CIVIC NEWS

Volume XX, Number 5 A Bi-Monthly Publication of the Tamworth Civic Association

July 1st, 2015



COMING TO TERMS WITH MARJORY GANE HARKNESS

Marjory Gane Harkness (1880–1974) was one of Tamworth's great literary figures and, if we exclude summer people, possibly the greatest of all. Her best-known work is *The Tamworth Narrative*. It stands as the most comprehensive history of the town ever written, and — in spite of many factual errors noted over the years — it is unlikely to be replaced any time soon.

In February, I had the privilege of making a presentation on Marjory Gane Harkness and her work to the Tamworth Historical Society at Cook Library. My preparations led me to people who knew her and who generously assisted my exploration of her life. I discovered a fascinating woman with remarkable literary ability. As I came to understand *The Tamworth Narrative* as a book of literature, rather than as history, my longstanding irritation with its anachronisms and vagueness melted away.

Marjory Gane Harkness's literary career didn't begin until middle age. Except for a love of reading, I have not been able to find any trace of it in her early years. She was born in Yonkers, New York, and spent most of her first half-century or so in Chicago. As a young woman, her family's wealth positioned her at the epicenter of America's Gilded Age. Smith College, music, travel (including an adventurous two year around-the-world tour with her mother and sister), and an appreciation for the visual arts shaped these years. A cousin introduced her to Wonalancet, and she became passionate about the outdoors, nature, conservation, and rural values. After marrying Frank Harkness, a well-connected Chicago lawyer, in 1918, she settled into household and social activities in the Chicago suburbs, supported Frank's career, and traveled often, including frequent visits to Wonalancet.

And so she might have lived the rest of her days. But Frank's sudden death in 1934 plunged her into an existential crisis. She refused to let society define her as "widow," and instead determined to start a new life entirely of her

own making. She was confident that neither her gender nor her age could prevent her from contributing in a useful and important way. Within a year of Frank's death she had written "Notes on Being a Widow" and gotten it published in *The Atlantic Monthly*. This meditative and uplifting essay proclaimed her new life; the act of writing launched her into it.

She moved from Chicago to Tamworth (first to Wonalancet, later to the center). She sold real estate because she wanted to share with others the liberation that she had found in country life. And, most importantly, she wrote. She moved on from the deep introspection of "Being a Widow" to witty sketches alive with the ironies of daily life. She started each one with a basically true story and polished it to a gem-like shine by making changes here and there, following her literary inspiration. She sold these to Scribner's, the *New Yorker*, and the *Christian Science Monitor*.

Marjory Gane Harkness reached a literary high-water mark with the publication of *A Brook of Our Own: A few notes from the files of a mountain real estate office* in 1945 by the prestigious New York house of Alfred A. Knopf. Critics, librarians, and the reading public responded to her special brand of humorous, hand-tinted nonfiction.

At the Historical Society presentation last February, a gentleman noted that in the section about his family, the portraits of individuals were true to life. She had turned him from a little boy into a little girl, but otherwise he, too, was well represented.

Which brings us to *The Tamworth Narrative*, and the importance of understanding what it is, and what it is not. Marjory Gane Harkness often took up her pen on behalf of the town of Tamworth and its people and institutions. A major concern, often addressed in her newspaper column in the *Laconia Evening Citizen*, was the steady loss of the old-timers, along with their experiences and wisdom. Her



Marjory Gane Harkness (looking at the camera) at Ned & Joan Behr's wedding reception, Feb. 1949.

Continued on page 2

April 23rd

Police Chief Dan Poirier reported on the monthly activity as well as the request by the department for citizens to take part in a survey available on the Tamworth Police Department Facebook site. ♦ Fire Chief Richard Colcord reported on the generous, anonymous gift of equipment to the Tamworth Fire Department to illuminate general job sites via a thirty-foot adjustable extension. He also requested and gained approval for the town office staff to issue fire permits, which could also be issued online. ♦ Melanie Streeter updated the board on the plans for the 250th celebrations. ♦ Bob Seston and John Walsh of the Chocorua Lake Conservancy discussed the five-year PILOT affecting twenty-two lots. ♦ Town Clerk/Tax Collector Kim Trammell discussed the storage plans re: the Tamworth Foundation grant. ♦ The deeding process was clarified. If an individual has made only a partial tax payment, that amount must be refunded if the town ‘deeds’ the property for incomplete payment. ♦ Selectman John Roberts informed the board of upcoming cemetery stone repairs.

May 7th

Poirier reported on the monthly activity as well as the continued complaints concerning identity fraud that seems to be targeting Anthem Health Insurance clients. ♦ Road Agent Richard Roberts reported on the excellent logging job done by Day Brothers at the town garage and also said that all road bans were off as of Monday. ♦ Board and Bruce Knox reviewed bids for the restoration of Whittier Road Bridge over Stoney Brook. Knox will evaluate as to compliance with insurance, bonding, concept, and appropriate codes to be followed. This process usually takes about one week. The design will take a couple of months during which time the work will begin and a portion of the road will be closed for forty-two calendar days. ♦ At 5:56PM there was a public hearing on discretionary preservation easement applications.

Board voted to grant barn easement renewal applications to the two applicants.

May 21st

Chairman Steve Gray reported that the road agent has been involved with the G.W. Brooks bid regarding the Whittier Road Bridge project. J. Roberts reported the presence of a possible tire dump on Route 113. ♦ Pat Farley reported that the Tamworth Economic Development Commission (EDC) has been working on a forum, planned for this fall, to bring together companies and craftspeople in the region willing to have an intern and/or an apprentice with individuals interested in participating in such a program. ♦ EDC is also working on plans for a 250th celebration street fair for Tamworth featuring the businesses in Tamworth. This will be held on a Saturday in August 2016. ♦ Selectman Jim Hidden discussed a restructuring of the 250th anniversary committee. ♦ Lou DeMaio requested a letter of approval from the selectmen to the NH Liquor commission regarding the indoor sale of beer and wine at The Barnstormers Theatre during intermission. The board agreed to provide a letter. ♦ R. Roberts will deal with the posts for the new “Welcome to Tamworth” signs. ♦ There was a request from the Capital Improvements Plan committee asking that the selectmen state their long-term monetary needs. Discussion ensued regarding the appropriate amount for the study/implementation of town office reconfiguration. Peg Loughran offered to assist in contacting the architect who had previously presented plans. ♦ Chocorua Village curb damage was discussed and J. Roberts suggested the board meet to assess the damage. The board will walk the area on June 4th. ♦ As to an inquiry regarding the ability of the town to accept a monetary gift bequeathed in a will, the answer was in the affirmative.

HARKNESS, continued from page 1

take-charge response to this problem — although she had no background in historical work — was to start building a town history. The townspeople urged her on. She pushed ahead with the best tools she had: writerly ones, such as humor, imagination, and drama. The introduction to *The Tamworth Narrative* makes clear that she understood some of the book’s limitations as history. She admits that much of it is made from unreliable “oral testimony out of living people’s memories.”

Reading this book is like being present at a community conversation from the last century, perhaps sitting on a cracker barrel by the checker board at the general store (did that cliché really exist?), or a dorm room bull session lasting till dawn (I know for a fact *those* existed!).

Caveat emptor if you read history because you want to know what actually happened in the past, or if you are doing your own research and need solid sources, accurate in place, time, and context.

The national marketplace for writers is a great river at flood stage; only a handful of giants can hold their place for long. Marjory Gane Harkness made that scene just briefly, and now is virtually unknown except in her beloved adopted town. In *The Tamworth Narrative*, she preserved the collective memory of her generation. But in the process she spackled over the gritty and mysterious irregularities of two centuries of life. She did this, I firmly believe, not to deceive but to achieve aesthetic closure. As an artist, she did what she had to do.

—Doug McVicar

For more on Marjory Gane Harkness: Two events are planned this summer, see the *Community Calendar* section and the “Summer at Cook Library” article on page 3.

On a Saturday morning in June, cars arrive at the Tamworth Recreation Department baseball field, just off Durrell Road. Once parked, kids spill out and race to the dugout, ready to play ball! Parents, grandparents, younger siblings, and other fans set up chairs along the sidelines or find a seat in the bleachers. People socialize, sip coffee, and settle in to cheer on their team.

For years, baseball has been a Tamworth tradition, starting in spring as soon as the fields are clear and dry, and continuing on into the sweet days of early summer. Local kids enjoy strong support from the town, parents, and a dedicated squad of volunteer coaches. Players gain skills and the fundamentals of good sportsmanship and teamwork.

But field space in Tamworth — for baseball and popular youth soccer programs — is limited and could use some upgrades. Over the past two years, a group has gathered to address needed infrastructure improvements and to expand field areas for both baseball and soccer. The group's focus is to improve the entire Durrell Road facility for the benefit of both players and spectators.

But why, some have asked, do we need more field space? Why can't teams just use the school fields or make do with what they have? When asked these questions, Cal Ripken coordinator and long-time coach, Mark Anthony, gave this explanation: Field access for teams is limited. When games begin in the spring for Tamworth's Cal Ripken teams at the rookie, minor, and major levels, practices can no longer be scheduled due to lack of field time. If games are rained out, it is very difficult to reschedule them. The school fields are primarily for school use. Mark sees a direct correlation between the amount of time that kids spend practicing and playing baseball to their skill level. Greater field availability equals better ball players.

The ambitious ball field expansion project — which will include the Roy W. Grace Memorial Field — has been structured in three phases. Phase One (2014–2016) is already underway and has included brainstorming and planning, tree cutting and stumping, and survey work. Still to come in this phase are grading and seeding in new field areas, initial layout of the expanded and safer access road and parking area, as well as budgeting and fundraising. Phase Two (2016–2018) is projected to include more infrastructure improvements to the parking lot, restrooms, cook shack, playground, fencing, and continued work on field layout and irrigation. Phase Three (2018–2019) will see work on the facility completed, signage and scoreboard in place, and all fields in use!

A recent on-site visit with committee member Chris Money Penny gave this writer (and former Cal Ripken parent) a close-up look at the project: an impressive vista of cleared land for the new fields, with towering piles of stumps and debris ready to be hauled away. Chris, a driving force behind the project and eloquent spokesperson, proudly pointed out that *all* work to-date has been done by area contractors *for free*. Donated goods and services so far include sand and gravel, heavy equipment work, surveying, timber cutting and chipping, copying and printing, irrigation consulting and planning, and grant writing.

Our first fundraising event — a yard sale — was a huge success and the Tamworth 250th Committee thanks all who donated and helped, especially Granite State Storage and Runnells Hall for the use of their facilities.

The committee has undergone some changes in the last few months. If you are interested in Tamworth's upcoming 250th celebration, the people to contact are: Jim Hidden, chairman; Bruno Siniscalchi, vice chairman; Melanie Streeter and David Little, co-secretaries; Pat Cook, treasurer; Betty Wasson, events coordinator. Stop by and see us at Tamworth Family Day on the 4th of July. To receive email updates about Tamworth 250th events, send an email to: tamworth250thcelebration@gmail.com.

—Jim Hidden, Chairman

SUMMER AT COOK LIBRARY

The Cook Memorial Library has a summer filled with free programs for kids and families. It begins with the Ordination Rock 5K at 8:30 on July 4th. Later that day, there will be a library float in the parade that children are welcome to ride on. There are story times for young children every Tuesday at 10:30 throughout July and August. Programs for school-age kids are on Wednesdays at 2, including a special comics workshop on July 29th. An Ultimate Frisbee game on Saturday, July 25th at 3 with Jeff Landesman and family is always fun. The always-popular "Music on the Lawn" will feature a variety of musicians on four different Wednesday evenings from 6:30–7:30. The library's book group meets on the fourth Wednesday of each month at noon. On Wednesday, August 5th, 6–8PM, Doug McVicar will lead a community discussion on Marjorie Gane Harkness's book *A Brook of Our Own*, a memoir of Harkness's days as a real estate agent selling homes in Tamworth in the mid-20th century. Some of her clients should be in attendance. People who own homes mentioned in this book are encouraged to attend. This event includes a potluck dinner (bring a dish or nonalcoholic beverage to share; plates, napkins, and utensils will be provided).

Call 323-8510, check out tamworthlibrary.org, or come in to pick up a bookmark filled with summer event details.

An integral part of Tamworth culture has always been that, when people see a need, they put heads and hands together to meet it. And so it is with the developing project to expand and improve the fields and facilities on Durrell Road. Although the existing fields are ok, work done over the course of the next few years will benefit Tamworth kids — now and into the future. This is a true community effort, all done without taxpayer dollars. Although future maintenance costs will likely come under the Rec Department budget, in-kind and monetary donations will cover project costs.

For more information on how you can become involved or how to donate, call Chris Money Penny at 651-7484 or Chris King at 387-7362. For a description of Tamworth's Cal Ripken and Babe Ruth baseball programs, including game schedules, go to tamworthoutingclub.org.

—Amy Berrier

TAMWORTH'S BIG TREE HUNT

The group of nearly two dozen curious-minded souls made its way over mossy rocks and tree roots, around massive tree trunks, and into the primeval Tamworth Big Pines Preserve. We came in search of a champion Big Tree. Could the biggest Eastern White Pine in Carroll County or even the state be growing here?

Folks came equipped with all manner of measuring devices to detect angles and distances and calculate tree heights: fancy laser sighting devices, a clinometer, a theodolite cell phone app, a fine old-time Abney level, and a 100' tape measure. One practical-minded participant dangled his camera to serve as a plum-bob. We crossed the Swift River and made our way along the Betty Steele trail and up the Peg King trail.

Finally, there it was — a behemoth of a tree — a tree that wants you to join hands and give it a four-person hug! We could see bits of clothing lint from people who'd hugged the tree before us. Is it a contender for county, maybe even state champ?

Get out the tape measure! Find a line of sight to the top! Figure out the span of the branches! The clinometer gave a height of 150'. The laser got 152.8'. About five years ago, some industrious Big Tree hunters climbed it and measured it at 150'. So, 151' now sounds about right, and that's 32' taller than the current state champ in Keene, according to the UNH Cooperative Extension's Big Tree Program website (extension.unh.edu/Trees/NH-Big-Tree-Program). But the Keene tree is what's known as a "wolf tree,"

with multiple branches spreading out from a hefty trunk at the base, and wins out on the overall point score that combines height, circumference, and average crown spread.

But, as Kevin Martin, author of *Big Trees of New Hampshire* and our fearless trip leader pointed out, Tamworth's Big Pines area is one of the most important white pine areas in New England because there are so many big trees in one place. In fact, our Hemenway Eastern White Pine is the biggest single stem pine in all of New England. "While there are taller trees in the Mohawk Trail State Forest, coming in around 165' to 170', they are smaller in circumference. Only Elders Grove in Paul Smiths, New York, and Cooks State Forest in Pennsylvania have trees that are of the Hemenway size in circumference and also taller," said Martin.

Sam Stoddard, retired UNH Cooperative Extension agent from Coos County, explained that these trees probably date from the 1860s, when farm fields in the area were abandoned as farmers moved west in search of better soils. The area also seems to have dodged the hurricane of 1938 that decimated forests across New England. In 1966, Betty Steele, Peg King, and the other members of the newly minted Tamworth Conservation Commission got a permit protecting much of the Big Pines area, the first of many TCC projects.

We left a few more lint balls clinging to the bark and made our way to the next champion tree contender in the Bolles Preserve by Chocorua Lake. There we were joined by more Big Tree hunters, some from the Chocorua Lake Conservancy. We walked about a mile on the Heron Pond trail to our other county champ contender. This tree stands out, surrounded by much younger trees. You can see it, towering above its neighbors, if you look across the lake from the Tamworth residents' beach off Route 16.

The band of merry measurers sprang into action again. Circumference? 165". Height? 142'. Crown spread? 48'. Not quite as big as our Tamworth Big Pines contender, but still taller than both the national champ (119', according to the American Forests Big Tree Program (americanforests.org/our-programs/bigtree/)) and the current 109' Carroll County Champ in Sandwich. The Sandwich tree is another wolf tree, with a whopping

268" circumference, compared to our more svelte white pines. So, on our three-factor "unit-less" score, the Tamworth trees are taller, but not bigger overall.

Not to worry though. We still had one more quest for the day — a possible champion Big Tree contender to check out — this time in the Tamarack category.

I had come that morning with a cone from a Tamarack tree in our yard that my husband Richard Doucette thought might be in the running for biggest in the state. Kevin and Sam confirmed the cone was from an American Tamarack

(not an imported European one), and agreed to swing by at the end of the day to have a look. So off we went, now a small band of very dedicated Big Tree hunters. Out came the tape measure, the laser, the clinometer. This was a much easier task because our Tamarack is edged by open field, giving clear line-of-sight to the top and the edge of the side branches. Circumference? 119". Vertical height? 83'. Average crown spread? 45', for a total point score of 213. Kevin quickly pulled out his cell phone to look at the UNH database of state and county champions. Well, what do you know: we beat the current state champ by nineteen points! Our big momma is taller by 3', and her circumference is bigger by 17". Her crown is a bit smaller, but it all adds up to her being the unofficial new state Big Tree champion for Tamaracks. Our Tamarack is just six points shy of the national champ out in Minnesota, according to the American Forests database. Who knows, we might even tie for national champ, once we get the final, official measurements from our local Big Tree team.

We're thinking we may name her the "Betty & Fred Steele Tamarack," since Betty, Fred, and their family lived here before us and cared for the tree and this land, as they did for many of Tamworth's open spaces.



Big Tree hunters (from left to right): John Watkins, Kenn McCreary, Geoff Burke, and Gabrielle Watson.

—Gabrielle Watson

TAMWORTH COMMUNITY CALENDAR

- Sundays**
Live from the Lyceum. Starts at 1. Music listings at tamworthlumber.com.
- Sundays**
Dinner Bell community meal, 5PM at St. Andrews.
- Tuesdays, every other week**
Fiber Arts group meets. Come work on your own project. Remick Museum, 9:30–12. 323-7591.
- Tuesdays & Fridays**
Community Food Center at St. Andrew's Church, open 10–12. Call 960-4067 for more info.
- Saturdays**
Tamworth Farmers' Market. Unitarian Church parking lot, Tamworth Village, 9–1.
- Fridays, July 3rd & 31st**
Outdoor walks focusing on recognizing useful plants. Remick Museum, 10–11. 323-7591
- Saturdays, July 4th to Sept 5th**
Contradance at the Tamworth Town House, 7:30–10:30. See caller and band listing at tamworthoutingclub.org.
- Sunday, July 5th**
Trash pick up with Chocorua Lake Conservancy. Meet at Chocorua Lake grove. 9–10:30AM.
- Sundays, July 5th to August 9th**
Concerts by the River, 3–5PM, behind The Other Store.
- Sunday, July 5th**
Village Harmony teen world music ensemble. 7:30, Tamworth Congregational Church.
- Sunday, July 11th**
Personal relationships in the digital age. TCNA presents, 10–11AM, Tamworth Lyceum.
- Wednesday, July 8th**
"Fill 'er Up!" *The stories of Chocorua service stations*. 6:30–8PM, Runnells Hall. Refreshments.
- Saturday, July 11th**
Save the Loons fishing derby. Meet at Chocorua Lake grove. 10–2PM. Email jenbuchanan@comcast.net for details.
- Saturdays, July 11th & 25th**
Make your own herbals. Remick Museum. Call 323-7591 for details and to pre-register.
- Sunday, July 19th**
Croquet costume party & picnic. Tamworth Historical Society Village Green. Call: 323-7762.
- Wednesday, July 22nd**
Look to the Mountain: The Chocorua Summers of LeGrand Cannon Jr with Peggy Cannon. 6:30–8, Runnells Hall. Presented by Chocorua Library. Refreshments.
- Friday, July 24th**
Get to know goats. For ages 2–6. Remick Farm, 10–11. Call 323-7591.
- Saturday, July 25th**
Bearcamp Valley School golf tournament. Call 323-8300 to sign up.
- Monday–Friday, July 27th–31st & August 3rd–7th**
Music camps with Shana Aisenburg. The Community School, 9–3 each day. Call 323-7000.
- Saturday, August 8th**
The Wall-Stiles in concert at The Community School. Info at 323-7000.
- Saturday, August 15th**
What someone needs to know about you. TCNA presents. Call 323-8511.
- Wednesday, August 19th & Saturday, August 22nd**
Tamworth Barns with Bob Cottrell. Talk (8/19); tour (8/22). Sponsored by the Tamworth Historical Society. Call 323-7762 for details.
- Sunday, August 23rd**
The Barnstormers annual auction, 5PM behind The Other Store. Details at barnstormerstheatre.org.
- Thursday August 27th**
Marjory Gane Harkness and *The Tamworth Narrative*. 7:30–9PM Wonalancet Chapel
- Saturday, September 5th**
Bean Supper at Union Hall. Two sittings at 5 & 5:45. Adults \$8, kids under 12, \$4.

JULY 4TH FAMILY DAY SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

- 7:00–8:00** Ordination Rock 5K sign-up at Brett School
8:30 Ordination Rock 5K race begins
11:00 Parade sign-up on porch of Lyceum, Tamworth Village
12:00 Parade starts at Tamworth Town House and proceeds to Brett School

NOTE: The parade starts one hour later this year. Anyone interested in having a float in the parade can contact Parker @ 323-7582. Everyone can enter! The more old cars, tractors, civic groups, local businesses, animals, musicians, dancers, decorated bikes, costumes, and kids, the better. Prizes include: most patriotic, most original, most humorous, best music, best commercial, best overall, best family float.

- 1:00–3:30** Idol Hands band plays under the tent (at the Brett School)
2:00 Parade awards presented under the tent
2:30 Pie eating contest, egg toss, chicken BBQ, ice cream, cold drinks, hot dogs & hamburgers, games, and more. Members of the 2015–2016 Brett School 8th grade class will hold a fundraiser for their class trip.
7:00 Jonathan Sarty Band under the tent
9:30 Fireworks at the Brett School

Send calendar items to TCNcalendar@gmail.com. Submissions for the September 15th TCN are due by August 30th.

On Saturday, July 25th, everyone is invited to join in the fun of the Chocorua Day Festival, a celebration of the history, the art, and culture of this village in Tamworth. The day begins at 10AM at Runnells Hall with the Chocorua Public Library's "Book 'n' Bake" sale featuring great buys on books and DVDs, plus delicious home-made entrees and sweets. The Chocorua Community Church presents its "Attic Treasures," unique antiques, collectibles, and well-loved items. Art Works art show and sale is on Saturday and Sunday from 10-4 with paintings, photography, and multi-dimensional creations by some of our area's most gifted artists. On Friday evening, the Arts Council of Tamworth hosts a public reception for the artists from 6-8 in Runnells Hall. A delicious BBQ lunch will be served by the library staff. The Dixieland Dandies will play toe-taping traditional jazz. The Tamworth Fire Department and Tamworth Police Department will be on hand with their vehicles. At 1PM the Chocorua Citizen of the Year will be recognized by the Chocorua Community Association.

TAMWORTH RECREATION DEPARTMENT

Call Director Parker Roberts for program info, 323-7582

ONGOING ACTIVITIES

Tai Chi, Town House, Monday, 6-7:30PM; Tuesday, 9:30-11AM. Call Parker to find out which class is appropriate for you, as one is introductory and one is for more experienced students.

Step Aerobics, Town House, Wednesdays & Fridays, 8-9AM.

Living Strong, Town House, Tuesdays & Thursdays, 8-9AM.

The Summer rec program for children ages 7-14 starts in early July and runs through mid-August. Visiting children (including grandchildren and out-of-town guests) are welcome to join for part or all of the program. Call the Rec. Department for more information. Registration is ongoing.

THE TAMWORTH CIVIC NEWS

Issue deadline: August 30th for the September 15th edition

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The Tamworth Farmers' Market was founded to promote high quality, locally produced food and to create a friendly, community-minded atmosphere to bring customers and producers together. Now in our ninth year, we can see, through the market's growth and diversity, that it is a success. But there are members of our community who cannot afford to shop the farmers' market.

In response to this problem, and as part of our ongoing effort to support local farming, the Tamworth Farmers' Market has decided to join other farmers' markets nationwide in offering increased buying power for farm-fresh, local food to those in need. If you are part of the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), you can now double



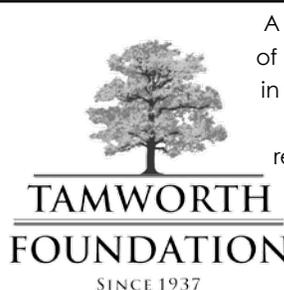
your benefits for everything SNAP allows when you swipe your card at the Tamworth Farmers' Market. This makes that \$4/lb. tomato a \$2/lb. tomato and a gallon of small farm, grass-fed milk affordable, thanks to generous donations in response to our fundraising letters and through our SNAP donation sap buckets located at the market. It will take quite a few buckets to make life a little sweeter for those who are over their heads in rent, healthcare, car payments, and other obligations of life in our area and we believe Tamworth has what it takes.

You've heard it before — Americans spend less than 10% of their income on food — the lowest percentage in the world. We are the richest country on earth, calories are plentiful and cheap, and there are lots of other goods and services competing for our monetary attention. Our reality is an embarrassment of riches, and yet there are many in our country who cannot afford to buy high quality food in the quantity that human health demands. It goes without saying that, for this demographic, shopping at local farmers' markets isn't the wisest way to spend limited funds . . . until now!

We all have had help in our lives and we all possess the capacity to reach out and assist others. Right now, you can help by dropping a few dollars in the sap bucket and by encouraging SNAP shoppers to come to the market to take advantage of this dollar-doubling program. It is a win-win circle, joining producers and consumers from all walks of life. We believe there is plenty of room for all of us.

Here's to the first BLT of summer!

—Peg Loughran & Bob Streeter



A community foundation serving the town of Tamworth by supporting local non-profits in the areas of arts and culture, education, recreation, civic and community responsibility, local infrastructure, health, and safety for over 77 years.

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Year-Round • Most Saturdays



THE VIEW FROM HERE

Massive trees! Miniature libraries! Read all about it here, in Tamworth's own *Civic News*!

When you look closely, the spectrum of issues and events in our town is broad and fascinating. We strive to keep our ears to the ground, our eyes on the ebb and flow of town life, and bring stories to you. Historical or present day; mainstream or obscure. If it sounds interesting and has to do with Tamworth, we'll look into it.

Thanks for reading and for supporting our efforts. Send comments and donations to Tamworth Civic Association, PO Box 402, Tamworth, NH 03886. Or go to our website (tamworthcivicnews.org) to read current and back issues and donate securely online.

PARK, SWIM, (AND PAY?)

How much do you want to pay to swim at Bearcamp Pond? A recent notice on the Tamworth Exchange from the Sandwich Chief of Police caught our attention. According to the notice, Sandwich Board of Selectmen voted to increase the fine for parking at a Sandwich town beach without a permit from \$50 to \$75. Tamworth Residents and taxpayers may use Bearcamp Pond Beach in Sandwich, but must display a current Town of Tamworth facilities sticker or guest pass on their vehicle to do so. Those without a valid sticker will receive a ticket and a fine. The regulation is strictly enforced. Tamworth stickers are available from the Tamworth Town Clerk's office.

TAMWORTH'S NEWEST LIBRARIES

Tamworth will soon *double* the number of libraries within our town boundaries! But how, you may ask, can a town this small be home to four libraries?

As part of an area initiative coordinated and funded by the Rotary Club of Ossipee Valley, two Little Free Libraries will be installed at the Tamworth Transfer Station and at White Lake State Park.

These diminutive lending venues are part of a global literary phenomenon. According to littlefreelibrary.org, they are "a 'take a book, return a book' gathering place where neighbors share their favorite literature and stories. In its most basic form, a Little Free Library is a box full of books where anyone may stop by and pick up a book (or two) and bring back a book to share."

Tamworth's Little Libraries are a true community effort: they were built by students at Kingswood High School, area building suppliers gave significant discounts on the necessary materials, a local artist finished and decorated each structure, and inmates from the Carroll County Corrections Department will do the installation.

Although Rotary members will supply the initial books, all are invited to participate in this "take one, leave one" endeavor.

—Amy Berrier, with thanks to Ruth Timchak

TAMWORTH CIVIC ASSOCIATION
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HAZARDOUS WASTE DISPOSAL

The 2015 Household Hazardous Waste collection days are 8:30–noon on Saturdays, July 25th and August 1st. Locations closest to Tamworth are the Moultonborough Town Highway Garage, 68 Highway Garage Road (left off Moultonborough Neck Road) and the Ossipee Town Highway Garage, 55 Main Street, Center Ossipee. Common products collected include oil-based paints and stains, spray paint, hazardous cleaning products, insecticides, fluorescent bulbs, and rechargeable batteries. Go to lakesrpc.org/serviceshww.asp for details and additional drop-off locations. Latex paints are not hazardous and can be stirred into sawdust or kitty litter, left to dry, and discarded at the Tamworth Transfer Station. Paints taken to the transfer station must be completely dry and are classified as demolition debris. Dry, empty metal paint cans are recycled with metals. Non-rechargeable batteries are discarded in household trash. Businesses should take hazardous waste to the permanent Lakes Region Household Hazardous Products Facility, located at 404 Beech Pond Road in Wolfeboro, open Saturdays through October 3rd from 8:30–noon. There is a fee for disposal at this site.

—Sue Stowbridge,
Tamworth HHW Coordinator