

TOWN NEWSLETTER

Hampton Falls, NH

July / August 2023

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Edward B. Beattie, Chairman; Lou Gargiulo, Vice Chairman; Mark Lane, Selectman

Public meetings of Hampton Falls Boards, Committees and Commissions held in the meeting hall at the Town Hall can be viewed live stream or later on demand by accessing the MEETING VIDEOS link on the Town's web site at www.hamptonfalls.org.

BOARD OF SELECTMEN – SUMMER SCHEDULE

The Board of Selectmen's 2023 Summer Meeting schedule is on Wednesdays as follows:

June 07, 8:00 AM; July 12, 6:00 PM August 09, 6:00 PM Sept. 06, 6:00 PM

Additional meetings or work sessions, as needed, may be scheduled and posted.

Taxation of Open Space, article by Karen Anderson, Town Administrator

Current Use, Discretionary Easements and Conservation Easements are three mechanisms that encourage the preservation of open space. The taxation for these lands, which benefit the environment and community, is shared by all taxpayers in the town. Hampton Falls is fortunate to have 3,242 acres in Current Use and/or Conservation Easements. That acreage amounts to almost one-half (1/2) of the 7,414 total acres of the town. The Current Use statute, RSA 79-A, was enacted in 1973 to promote the preservation of certain types of open land to be taxed at a value based on its "current use" rather than on the fair market value of the land to a willing buyer who wished to develop it to its "highest and best" use. As the N.H. Supreme Court explained in one of the early cases dealing with this statute, "*favorable tax treatment is justified by the fact that open land does not receive as many benefits on the public treasury as developed land.*": *Blue Mountain Forest Ass'n v. Town of Croydon* (1977). As an example, a 30-acre parcel of land in Hampton Falls that has an appraised value of \$250,000 is being assessed taxes based on \$2,160 because it is in Current Use as "unmanaged pine".

Anyone wishing to have land assessed at Current Use values must apply to the Town, and if approved, the Town will record a Notice of a Contingent Lien at the Registry of Deeds, to give notice that if the land is subsequently disqualified from the current use assessment, a tax will be assessed. The minimum acreage for most categories is 10-acres, but wetlands may qualify at smaller acreage amounts. RSA 79-A also provides the opportunity for a property owner to further reduce the taxes on open space by 20% by opening it to free, public recreational use on a year-round basis. When approved, the land remains in Current Use until it no longer qualifies. If the parcel is sold or transferred and no longer meets the 10-acre minimum or development occurs that changes the "current use" of the land then a Land Use Change Tax is assessed on the portion that no longer qualifies. The tax is 10% of the full and true value of the land, based on the highest and best use of the land. Land Use Change Taxes that are assessed are designated to be deposited into the Conservation Land Fund, in accordance with RSA 36-A:5. Those funds, through the Conservation Commission, are used to purchase other lands for conservation purposes.

A conservation easement or restriction differs from a current use assessment because it is permanent. The landowner grants to the Town, State or other non-profit conservation organization [such as the Southeast Land Trust (SELT)] the permanent right to restrict the development of their open space. The ownership of the land does not change; the landowner gives the holder of the conservation easement the right to prevent him and any future owner of the land from using the land in a way prohibited by the terms of the agreement. The landowner is generally compensated for the value he is giving up at that time. The land is then assessed at the land value based on the permanent restrictions, which cannot exceed what the assessment would have been if the land was in Current Use. Several property owners in Hampton Falls, have restricted their property in this way insuring the permanent protection of the land.

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At the current time, based on the requirements of the 5-year revaluation, all Current Use parcels are being evaluated to best determine the quality and condition of the land. Owners are being sent self-reporting forms to assist with the process. The Town's Assessing contractor will be viewing lands to ensure that the conditions of the Current Use assessment are being met and if adjustments to the acreage or type need to be made. If you have any questions, please feel free to reach out to the Town Administrator at townadministrator@hamptonfalls.org.

TOWN CLERK/TAX COLLECTOR, Stephanie Grant

townclerkcollect@hamptonfalls.org 1-603-926-4618, Ext. 101 or 106

2023 DOG LICENSES

The 2023 dog tags are available from the Town Clerk's office (in person or on-line). **ALL DOGS IN TOWN SHOULD BE LICENSED BY APRIL 30** each year as required by state RSA 466:1. Rabies vaccination certificate(s) are only required if the rabies expiration date has expired. **Each dog not licensed by May 31 will automatically receive an additional \$25 civil forfeiture fine (RSA 466:13).** If you no longer own a dog(s), call 1-603-926-4618; Ext. 101 or 106, or E-mail us at townclerkcollect@hamptonfalls.org; and we will remove your name from the list.

VEHICLE REGISTRATION INFORMATION

The Town Clerk's office is open to the public for walk-in service.

Documents needed if you have bought a new vehicle/trailer/motorcycle:

- Your driver's license
- Title or Title Application (Town Clerk copy at the bottom)

Documents needed if you wish to transfer your old plates to a new vehicle:

- Your driver's license
- Old registration -Transfers require the original, current registration(s) RSA 261:168
- Title or Title Application (Town Clerk Copy)

Please continue to renew your registrations online, as well as licensing dogs. Please visit the Town Clerk's page on www.hamptonfalls.org to renew online. You may also renew your vehicle by dropping off a copy of your previous registration, copy of your license and a payment (please see above) and drop into the outside drop-box. You can also call the office to process a renewal by phone or schedule an appointment to come in and renew. Please call the office at 1-603-926-4618 ext. 101 or email townclerkcollect@hamptonfalls.org with any questions or concerns.

FILING FOR A MARRIAGE LICENSE

Please call ahead to schedule an appointment to apply for a new marriage license. Please note the appointment will take about 45 minutes. Any New Hampshire Town or City Clerk can do the filing for a marriage license. The cost is \$50 and requires both persons' I.D. and final divorce or death certificates, if filing for a subsequent marriage other than your first.

VITAL RECORDS AND 3-YEAR - DUMP STICKERS ON-LINE

You can request "certified" copies of NH Birth, Death, Marriage, and Divorce certificates on-line by choosing Vital Records on the town web page, please also email a picture of your driver's license when requesting any certified copy to townclerkcollect@hamptonfalls.org. Requests for self-cling, 3-year brush dump stickers are available on-line or from the Town Clerk's office at a cost of \$30 each.

TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE CLOSED TO THE PUBLIC FRIDAYS

A reminder that the Town Clerk's office is closed to the public on Fridays.

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TAX INFORMATION

IMPORTANT! Many property owners use online banking; please schedule your payment to arrive on or before the due date. Most systems require 5 – 6 days to deliver a payment. **Please do not postdate your check;** by law we cannot hold your check in the office until the posted check date. The check will be returned to you if the check is postdated and could result in the payment being late and incurring interest.

The first tax bill for 2023 was mailed in May and is due in July. As an alternate to mailing your payment, you can deposit a check in the exterior drop box, located to the left of the Town Hall front entrance. If you would like a receipt, please provide a self-addressed, stamped envelope.

You can also make payments online at www.hamptonfalls.org. Please be aware that there is a \$0.95 bank fee for using an online check or a 2.95% fee to use credit cards (this fee is charged by the credit card company, not by the Town of Hampton Falls).

Tax liens were executed for 2022 delinquent real estate taxes on April 12, 2023. Interest on delinquent taxes is calculated daily. Please go online or call the Town Clerk/Tax office to obtain an accurate balance due. If you have any questions regarding your real estate taxes, interest, setting up a payment schedule or need copies of your paid receipts for the IRS, please call the Town of Hampton Falls Tax Collector's office at 603-926-4618 ext. 101 or 106.

Many residents have inquired about the State claim forms for Low- and Moderate-Income Homeowners' Property Tax Relief. If you have qualified for the program in prior years, the claim form will be **sent to you** after May 1, 2023. If you would like to apply for the program and have not done so before, the (DP-8) Forms will be available in Town Hall after May 1st. Call 603 271-2192 or go to www.revenue.nh.gov/forms/low_mod_program.htm for more information.

BUILDING INSPECTION, Mark Sikorski

buildinginspector@hamptonfalls.org 1-603-926-4618, Ext. 105

Calls from residents and business owners alike are encouraged **before** starting any project. More than one resident has spent considerable time and money on engineered plans before they realized their proposed project would intrude into the wetlands buffer, setbacks from property lines, or other considerations, as defined by Hampton Falls Zoning Ordinances. Residents are encouraged to become familiar with these Ordinances which are available at Town Hall or online at www.hamptonfalls.org. All permit applications are available online as well. On the Town website, Home Page, under the "Citizen Action Center", please Click on the "Regulations" heading, to access ordinances, codes, and regulations. This is where you will find information regarding whether the project you have in mind is permitted. In most cases, projects require pre-approval by the Building Inspector, and possibly other Town officials or Boards. With regard to the Town's right-of-way alongside most roadways, the Road Agent and Building Inspector will notify owners of concerns immediately. The Town is not liable for damage to items placed within the Town right-of-way.

If you live on one of Hampton Falls' beautiful Scenic Roads, pay special attention to Article IX, Section 3 of the Zoning Ordinance for any changes you may wish to make along your property. Trees and stone walls located in the right-of-way require permission to disturb. If there is a question about where the wall or tree is located, *please* call before disturbing. Signs are posted at the



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beginning of all scenic roads. These roads include: Blakes Ln, Brimmer Ln, Brown Rd, Crank Rd, Curtis Rd, Depot Rd, Dodge Rd, Drinkwater Rd, Frying Pan Ln, Goodwin Rd, King St, Mill Ln, Nason Rd, Old Stage Rd, Parsonage Rd, Sanborn Rd, Stard Rd, Towle Farm Rd.

FIRE DEPARTMENT – Jay Lord, Fire Chief

chief@hffd.org 1-603-926-5752

Now that summer is upon us, here are a few tips to remember as we all enjoy the reasons we live in New England:

- The proper placement of grills is at least 5-feet (5 ft) away from the house or decking, and gas grills contribute to a higher number of fires than charcoal....so be careful.
- All portable fireplaces, chimeneas, etc. that are used in your yard require a seasonal fire permit (good until Dec 31st) and must be located 25-feet (25 ft) from a structure.
- All fireworks require a permit three (3) days prior to discharge – FREE permit applications are available on the Fire Department / Permits section of the town website www.hamptonfalls.org Discharging fireworks without a permit can result in a \$250 fine and PLEASE, PLEASE, PLEASE go talk to your neighbors, beforehand, especially if they have animals.
- As summer storms are sometimes very intense, remember the saying “When Thunder Roars, Go Indoors.”
- Hydrate, Hydrate, Hydrate – if you’re out in the sun and you are thirsty, you are already dehydrated, make sure you drink plenty of water prior to, and during, your time in the sun.
 - Don’t forget about Fluffy and Fido.... your pets need shade and water also.
- Bike helmets should cover the forehead and sit level on the head. Fasten the chin strap so that two fingers fit between the strap and the chin.
- Hurricane Season started June 1st, have you made a plan?YES, it CAN happen here, and it has... be prepared. More info at www.ReadyNH.gov.

POLICE DEPARTMENT, Chief Ryan Veno

hfallspd@hamptonfallspd.com Non-emergency #:1-603-926-4619

A reminder that The Depot Landing, (located at the eastern end of Depot Road off Route 1), is open each day from a half hour before sunrise to a half hour after sunset. The Depot is open until 10 p.m. on Wednesday nights so come take advantage of the view for Hampton’s Wednesday night fireworks which begin on June 21st.

It is starting to get hot outside, do not leave your pets unattended in your car. The inside of a car can get dangerously hot very quickly, even in the shade with the windows cracked.

Bicycle helmets save lives! Please be careful on the road and remember that it’s the law that anyone under age 16 must wear a bicycle helmet. If you need an adult size bike helmet, come on by and pick up a free one!

Happy Summer from all of us at the Hampton Falls Police Department!

And as always...See Something? Say Something!



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RECREATION COMMISSION – Gisela Manna, Chairwoman

Meets the third Monday of each month at 6:00 pm at Town Hall.

The Hampton Falls Recreation Commission's current members are Gisela Manna – Chair, Colleen Farias – Vice Chair, Linda Savoy – Treasurer, Colleen Farias – Communications, Kara Dumont – Secretary. We would like to welcome our new members Kara Dumont, who was voted in as Secretary, DeDe Kouloheras, and Karla Donatelli. Mark Lane is advising as the Selectman Representative. Larry Smith is the Governor Weare Park liaison.

The mission of the Recreation Commission is to provide programs and events that develop the physical condition and wellness of residents, young and old, to benefit their quality of life. The Recreation Commission encourages volunteerism to promote unity within the community.

During April school vacation, there was a Recreation Commission event held for kid's hosted by Studio to Go. It was an epic event with more than 55 kids in attendance. The event featured an inflatable Nerf Course and a gaming truck with multiple indoor and outdoor gaming consoles. It was awesome to see so many kids having a blast. Thank you to Studio to Go for such a great time!



Thank you Hampton Falls resident, Donna Onacki, for hosting the Mid-Day Meditation Series at the Hampton Falls Free Library this Spring. The event was co-hosted with the Hampton Falls Recreation Commission, and provided a way for people to manage stress, anxiety, seasonal depression, and to focus on themselves.

Thank you Hampton Falls resident, Tuesday Sellards-Orluk, who instructed two multi-week Chair Yoga events held at the Community Room at the Meadows in Hampton Falls. There was a total of 11 sessions that were all well attended. Thank you to The Meadows for allowing the Recreation Commission to use their facility.

Hampton Falls Recreation Commission co-hosted with Hampton Falls Free Library a Making Mandala Stones workshop with Lisa St. Clair, owner of The Pickled Pug Jewelry. The program was so popular that an additional session was offered. Thank you, Lisa, for such a great class and the Hampton Falls Free Library for providing the classroom.

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The Hampton Falls Summer Camp Program is run by Director, Stacey Bellen, (LAS Art Teacher), and Assistant Director, Michael Queenan, (LAS STEM Teacher), from July 10th to August 4th, 2023 from 9-3 pm. The Summer Camp Program provides kids in grades 1 through 6 with many fun-filled activities and recreation. Students who are looking for volunteer hours are welcome to contact Stacey for scheduling. The camp continues to be a big hit for Hampton Falls children.



The graphic is a calendar for the Town of Hampton Falls Summer Recreation from July 10th to August 4th, 2023. It features a yellow background with a red banner at the top that reads "Town of Hampton Falls Summer Recreation July & Aug. 2023". To the right of the banner is a cartoon sun wearing sunglasses. The calendar is organized by day of the week (Mon, Tue, Wed, Thu, Fri) and lists various activities for each day. Activities include "Time Travel", "70's Bracelet Making", "Slip-n-Slide", "50's Hula Hoop Contest", "60's Space Race", "Dress up in your favorite Decade", "WILD WACKY WONDER WEEK", "Water Limbo Contest", "V-ennis 4 way Volleyball/Tennis", "Team Jersey Day", "Super Silly Sock Day", "Obstacle Course", "Shark Week", "Water Relay Races", "Shark Chase", "Crazy Hat day", "Boat building and Rolling Regatta", "Water Deal or No Deal", "Talent Show", "V-ennis 4 way Volleyball/Tennis", "Hilarious Hair Day", "Mask Making", "Face Painting", and "Talent Show & Ice cream Sundaes".

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
10 Time Travel	11 70's Bracelet Making 101 with Mrs. Bellen	12 Slip-n-Slide Through Time	13 50's Hula Hoop Contest	14 60's Space Race Rocket Design
15 Dress up in your favorite Decade	16 70's Bracelet Making 101 with Mrs. Bellen	17 Water Limbo Contest	18 V-ennis 4 way Volleyball/Tennis	19 Team Jersey Day
20 Super Silly Sock Day	21 Obstacle Course	22 Shark Week	23 Water Relay Races	24 Shark Chase
25 Crazy Hat day	26 Boat building and Rolling Regatta	27 Water Deal or No Deal	28 Talent Show	29 V-ennis 4 way Volleyball/Tennis
30 Hilarious Hair Day	31 Mask Making	1 Face Painting	2 Talent Show & Ice cream Sundaes	

The Summer Herbal Wellness Series will be kicking off this summer hosted by resident Donna Onacki at the Hampton Falls Grange located upstairs in Town Hall from 6:30 to 8:30 pm. There will be 3 Tuesday Sessions: Jun 13, Jul 11, and Aug 8th. These three interactive sessions focus on integrating traditional herbs and wildflowers into your daily routine! Learn the amazing benefits of these herbs while managing stress and tension and getting an incredible night's rest! Donna guides attendees on understanding the state of the body these herbs support, what's safe, creating an herbal vocabulary, and recipes (plus much more)! There is a \$35 fee for each session.

Hampton Falls Recreation Commission is very excited to be hosting the First Annual Hampton Falls Family Field Day. Save the date for Sunday, August 20, 2023. This event will include a lot of fun family challenges, prizes, food, and of course will include the Home Run Derby Contest. Stay tuned for more information. If you want to help plan or volunteer for the event, please contact Gisela Manna at gmannafam@gmail.com.

The Recreation Commission has been planning some new events for the coming months. Stay tuned for more details. The Recreation Commission is always looking for people to volunteer. Do you have a passion for building community spirit or have creative ideas and want to help encourage social bonds? If you can answer YES, please consider attending a meeting and potentially joining the Hampton Falls Recreation Commission.

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CONSERVATION COMMISSION – Mary Ann Hill, Chair

ConservationChair@HamptonFalls.org Meets the second Tuesday of the month at 6:30 pm at Town Hall.

The Conservation Commission is continuing its efforts to control and map invasive plant species on Town properties this year. Summer 2023 Internship opportunities were posted on UNH's Handshake which yielded numerous applicants and inquiries. Three (3) Conservation Commission Summer Interns have been hired with backgrounds in conservation and GIS to move the Commission's projects forward. There is a clear interest in this type of opportunity for young people and it's a boon to the Conservation Commission. In addition to controlling the invasive plant species, the Conservation Commission intends to replant the bare spots (from where the invasives were removed) with an assortment of native plants for the benefit of the wild life and people.



Snapping Turtle



Eastern Box Turtle



Wood Turtle



Blanding's Turtle

The Conservation Commission received a request for turtle crossing signs in the Wellington Farms area. In response, ten (10) signs were ordered for locations where turtles are known to cross the road in Springtime when they lay their eggs. Please look out for the Turtle Crossing signs and be kind to the turtles. The inquiry regarding turtles inspired additional research on the subject and found seven (7) species of turtle native to NH: the Snapping, Eastern Box, Wood, Blanding's, Common Musk, Eastern Painted, and Spotted turtles. The Conservation Commission would like to know more about the turtles that inhabit Hampton Falls for a natural resources inventory. When you see turtles, please take photos and send them to the Conservation Commission email address along with a note regarding the location where the photo was taken. This information assist understanding the type and distribution of turtles in Hampton Falls. This could be a great project for all ages, and especially kids.



Common Musk Turtle



Eastern Painted Turtle



Spotted Turtle

The Conservation Commission has recently completed a revised copy of the pamphlet **"A Citizen's Guide to Understanding Hampton Falls' Land Use Regulations that Protect Critical Water Resources."** A huge thank you to Brianna O'Brien for her work updating the guide! There are copies of the guide available at Town Hall and the Library, and the guide can be located on the Conservation Commission's webpage of the Town's website at www.hamptonfalls.org. Within the guide there are QR codes to scan for links to an interactive map. There are many wetlands in Hampton Falls; homeowners are encouraged to be aware of the do's and don'ts regarding structures on or near wetlands, and to carefully and properly use any garden chemicals in proximity to wetlands.

HISTORICAL SOCIETY – Tracy Healey-Beattie, President “A Gift From The Past To The Present”

Much continues in the Historical Society's efforts to renovate the former “old library” kitchen into a state-of-the-art Archival Room. Progress was delayed as the carpenter, a detailed cabinet maker who brought his expertise on restoration to our plans, experienced health issues. He is now well and eager to bring this long-awaited project to closure! His ideas and craftsmanship have given the Historical Society renewed energy to sort and store collected items in a separate and proper space. The Trustees of the Historical Society bring talent and determination in the ongoing Mission to preserve the history of Hampton Falls.

In spite of the Historical Society's state of flux, the New Hampshire Old Graveyard Association was hosted for their Spring Board Meeting. The beauty and history of the Museum was shared, as well as the significant exhibits. A program was presented on the local cemeteries of Hampton Falls by Wendy Harrington and Tracy Healey-Beattie (both are Cemetery Trustees) with focus on “If This Grave Could Talk” and similar information from the Tricentennial experience in 2022. Wendy shared with the guests her extensive knowledge of monuments and information on the Hampton Falls' Town's cemeteries. The Coronation was occurring simultaneously in London so Wendy chose to wear her mother's hat and feathers. The gathering was delighted with Wendy's interjected humor!



In an effort to enlarge the Museum's storage area and to provide money for the Historical Society, selected items were removed from the storage shed and sold at a recent Yard Sale. Hunter Stetz chaired the Yard Sale event, and, in spite of wind and rain, Trustees met with success. Special thanks to Hunter for orchestrating the Yard Sale.

If you have a knack for gardening, the Historical Society would be grateful for your input and help to improve the front section of the Museum. Trustee Ward Dilmore's son is an expert in the field, as is Jack Fermery with his colorful and varied gardens. It is anticipated this work will start in the upcoming months.

The plan is to resume the Museum's visiting hours in late June 2023, with the hope that the current renovation will be complete. There will be regular visiting hours as well as scheduled appointments available. Speaking on behalf of all Historical Society Trustees, we look forward to your presence and involvement at the Museum...
YOUR HISTORICAL SOCIETY!

HERITAGE COMMISSION - Beverly Mutrie, Chair

Meets the second Wednesday of the month at 9:00 am at Town Hall (mtg time subject to change)

The Heritage Commission meets regularly to discuss the current state of historic resources in Hampton Falls. It is welcome information to learn that some buildings are being updated, some returned to their original state, and most are being maintained. There have been some historic properties that, over the years, have been demolished,



relocated or burned. Unfortunately, an old barn may soon be dismantled. RSA 79-D and the Selectmen will give owners tax relief for 10 years if the barn owner makes improvements to their barn. See more information at www.hamptonfalls.org/heritage-commission where you can easily explore this option to help keep Hampton Falls' agricultural heritage viable and visible.

The Whittier House (Elmfield) c. 1787 formerly on Lafayette Road (Currier's Leather location) and the Nathan Dodge House c. 1817 at 148 Kensington, are now gone from town. The Whittier House was dis-assembled and moved to

Connecticut and rebuilt, even though the Historical Society made a valiant effort to save it. Those two buildings along with many barns and outbuildings that regrettably are no more, could not be easily replaced. The cost alone to build a large wooden post and beam structure with the same materials today would be considerable, even without including outfitting the interior.



Restoration and reuse of historic buildings in situ would have been the better and greener choice as well as keeping those structures part of the local landscape and cultural fabric of Hampton Falls.

The Heritage Commission has the power to delay the demolition of a structure aged over 75-years to enable the owner and the Heritage Commission to find another solution instead of demolition. The Heritage Commission encourages anyone with a structure over 75-years old, such as a historic house, barn or outbuilding to explore options with the Heritage Commission, for revamping their old structure for modern uses without changing the exterior historic architecture before applying for a demolition permit. At the very least, the Heritage Commission needs to measure, photograph and complete a Historic Resource Survey form to document your historic building. The rules for the Demolition Delay Ordinance are located on the Town website at www.hamptonfalls.org, under Building Codes, or contact the Building Inspector.

There are a few houses in Hampton Falls that could be nominated for the State's Historic Register. This is an honorary program that puts the state on notice that the property's history is significant and important to the community. The State Register designation can mean financial assistance for its preservation and some relief from building and safety code regulations. There is a survey form that must be submitted and the property's history must be researched. The Heritage Commission will help with this research process. To find out more, please visit the NH Division of Historical Resources: https://www.nh.gov/nhdhr/programs/state_register.html

The Heritage Commission was formed after the March 2008 Town Meeting vote. There were five (5) regular members appointed including Selectman Ted Tocci, and several alternates. The approved Mission Statement was *"to inspire and encourage preservation of the historical and cultural heritage of Hampton Falls"*. The Heritage Commission is currently seeking another Commissioner. If you have a passion for old houses and would like to help encourage historic preservation and historic rehabilitation for the benefit of the town's heritage, please contact the Chair of the Heritage Commission or attend a monthly meeting.

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SCHOOL BOARD NEWS

Jason Farias, Chair, jfarias@sau21.org; Barbara Goodman, Vice-Chair, bgoodman@sau21.org; Anthony Lang, alang@sau21.org; Renee Palm, rpalm@sau21.org; and Jill Swasey, jswasey@sau21.org

- **Stepping up from LAS:** The HFSB extends their warmest congratulations to our graduating 8th grade class as they head out on their next adventure!
- **Congratulations on retirement:** We are indebted and extend our gratitude to Donald Conti for his many years as a part of our LAS community. Mr Conti has been the lead teacher across our 7th/8th grade team and instrumental in expanding the world for our kids beyond the boundaries of our town. We wish you the best Mr. Conti!
- **Building repair updates:** The K-2 wing of LAS reopened at the end of April following damage from a burst pipe. All students and staff are thrilled to be back in the new brighter space. In addition to fixes, the space received a much-needed touch-up to brighten the walls and halls for our youngest students. We are pleased to share that the repairs were able to be conducted with no tax implications.
- **Tiger Club Preschool:** APPLICATIONS ARE NOW BEING ACCEPTED for The TIGER CUB Preschool Program at Lincoln Akerman School for the 2023/2024 school year. For more information and to register visit <https://www.sau21.org/las>. The Application is [online](#) and hard copies are available in the LAS office, Library and Town Hall. Drop off completed paper applications to LAS front office. Questions? Contact Betty Anne Binette at 603-926-2539 x102 or email bbinette@sau21.org
- **Portrait of a Learner:** At their May meeting, the SAU21 Joint School Board approved the SAU-wide "Portrait of a Learner" framework, which will serve to guide strategic planning efforts across SAU 21 districts. In the coming months, SAU administration and teachers will leverage this framework to pursue measurable goals related to budget, curriculum implementation, building initiatives and student services. The presentation on the Portrait of a Learner Strategy [can be found online](#).
- **The sign is up!** The digital sign at LAS is an important step in enhancing communication across our town. Town events interested in sharing news may submit a request using the form available online: <https://www.sau21.org/las/facilities/index>. Requests must adhere to HFSB policy and be submitted to Director of Facilities Alan Lajoie (alajoie@sau21.org) and Principal Beth Raucci (braucci@sau21.org).

Upcoming dates:

- WHS class of 2023 graduation: June 9 @ 6pm
- HFSB meeting: June 12 @ 6:30 pm
- WHS SB meeting: June 14 @ 6:30 pm
- 8th Grade Graduation: June 15 @ 6:30 pm
- Last day of school for students: June 16th

Wishing everyone a safe and enjoyable Summer!

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HAMPTON FALLS FREE LIBRARY - Joanna Meighan, Director

director.hamptonfalls.library@comcast.net



Greetings from the Hampton Falls Free Library! Summer reading is at the Library!

Summer Reading Program: *All Together Now*, Summer 2023

There is a great lineup of fun activities for all ages to celebrate the Summer theme, “*All Together Now!*” Come together at the Library for family game days, messy play, story times, arts and crafts, STEM programs, and more! This year’s **grand prize** will be a **new LL Bean snow tube**. [Sign up here](#) for the summer reading program.

Program highlights include:

June 20: Summer Reading begins! Start tracking your reading to win prizes!

June 28: Wildlife Encounters! Meet seven (7) fascinating live animal ambassadors.

July 12: Silver Circus! A one-man circus performance, sure to amaze.

July 19: Community Read: *Braiding Sweetgrass*! Open to all ages.

July 26: Center for Wildlife! CFW returns this Summer with three (3) of their beautiful live owls.

August 2: Pajama Story Time! A cozy story time with Miss Leah.

Traveling this summer?

Send us a postcard to share on our “Where in the world is Hampton Falls?” bulletin board.

The Library is looking for summer reading sponsors:

If you or your company would like to sponsor a program or donate a prize, please contact the library.



NEW HAMPSHIRE
humanities

All Together Now – Hampton Falls Community Read 2023

July 19, 2023 – Events Throughout the Day

Envisioned as a collaborative effort between the Library and community to encourage reading for pleasure and to start a conversation. The Community Read book is: *Braiding Sweetgrass* by Robin Wall Kimmerer (both adult and YA versions) and the picture book, *The First Blade of Sweetgrass* by Suzanne Greenlaw. Books will be available at the Library starting in June. Events will include book discussions around town led by NH Humanities speaker [Damian Costello](#), story times with Miss Leah and the opening of the school house museum. Events held throughout the day.

Co-hosted with the Hampton Falls Historical Society and Recreation Commission.

[Sign up here](#) for the Library’s monthly newsletter to get all the latest information.

ENERGY COMMITTEE – Carol Schutte, Chairman

Meets the fourth Monday of the month at 6:30 pm at Town Hall



The Energy Committee for Hampton Falls is now active and seeking new members. If you are concerned about saving energy and cost, your help is welcomed to support the mission of the Energy Committee. Recent federal legislation provides for several tax credits, rebates, and savings for energy updates to municipal buildings and your homes. The Energy Committee aims to get the word out on these benefits, especially where these upgrades can help the residents of Hampton Falls. See the Energy Committee web page on the Town's website at: www.hamptonfalls.org/energy-committee for the updated mission statement, duties and responsibilities, and information on how to save with rebates and tax credits for energy updates to your home.