BOARD OF SELECTMEN

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

2022 HAMPTON FALLS TOWN MEETING

2nd Session (Town Election) March 8th, 2022, 8AM – 8PM Lincoln Akerman School – 8 Exeter Road

2022 TOWN BUDGET & 2021 TOWN REPORT

On January 12, 2022, a budget public hearing was held by the Board of Selectmen to review the proposed 2022 budget and to allow the public to voice opinions and ask questions. At the February 5, 2022, Town Deliberative Session, voters learned of the recommended budget as well as other warrant articles being presented on the 2022 Town ballot. The 2022 operating budget of \$3,011,022 represents an increase over last year's budget of \$104,507. The 2022 default budget totals \$2,927,055.

The 2021 Town and School Report has been forwarded to the printer. In an effort to keep costs down, a limited number of reports will be printed and made available for pick-up during the first week of March from the Town Hall or Library during regular business hours. It is requested that only one copy per household be obtained. An electronic copy can be viewed at www.hamptonfalls.org

The Town Report provides information from departments to include statistical and financial reports. It also has handy reference information such as contact numbers and hours of Town departments and officials, schedules of fees, board and committee activity and includes similar information pertaining to the schools.

PARKING BAN AND SNOW REMOVAL

Townspeople are reminded that effective December 15, no overnight parking (6 pm to 6 am) is allowed on any town roadway. This ban will be in effect until April 1. A Selectmen's ordinance prohibits the plowing of snow onto public roads. It includes a fine for any person causing snow or ice to be placed upon the surfaces of the traveled portion of the road.

FROST BAN NOTICE

In order to prevent heavy vehicles from damaging town roads whenever the frost thaws within town roadways, the Board of Selectmen have enacted the annual Frost Ban Notice effective February 16, 2022, for vehicles exceeding a gross vehicle weight of 10 tons on any town road. The Frost Ban Notice will be lifted typically in approximately 4-6 weeks, weather dependent, and at the recommendation of the Road Agent to the Board of Selectmen.

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR – Karen Anderson townadministrator@hamptonfalls.org 1-603-926-4618, Ext. 103

RECYCLING IN HAMPTON FALLS:

Recycling in Hampton Falls is easy. Residents can keep their recyclables together, separating out only the corrugated cardboard. In 2021 the Town recycled 128 tons of materials. When waste is recycled, limited landfill space is conserved and there is a significant environmental benefit.

Over the past few years, recycling has become more expensive and the Town has had to make some adjustments with the recycling of glass, and the Town is appreciative of the community's cooperation with this change. If there was no buyer willing to purchase the materials collected for recycling, the material was disposed of, by the

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vendor, at an additional cost. Glass collected through a single-stream recycling program included assorted colors of glass, some jars that were washed and many with remaining food products. As a result, the glass was considered "contaminated" and there has not been a market to sell that material; therefore, the glass was not being recycled. As technologies change and markets for mixed glass return, Hampton Falls will certainly consider recycling glass once again.

The pandemic resulted in the shipping industry needing cardboard materials to recycle, and the market for used cardboard, and its corresponding value, continues to increase. The Board of Selectmen approved the purchase of a baler in 2021 which has been used to compact corrugated cardboard, enabling the Town to sell the baled cardboard. The net revenue (less the expenses for baling wire) totaled almost \$1,300 in 2021 since the program began in July. Cardboard can be flattened, bundled and left at the curb on Fridays with recycling, or brought to the Brush Dump and put into the bin marked "Cardboard Only". As long as the Town maintains clean, uncontaminated loads of cardboard, the materials will be recycled, the Town will receive revenue, and trees will be saved.

If you have any questions regarding what can or cannot be recycled in Hampton Falls, please first check the Town website at www.hamptonfalls.org/recycling-solidwaste, and/or feel free to contact our contractor, ELM Services at hamptonfallsdisposal@gmail.com or Karen Anderson at townadministrator@hamptonfalls.com.

Please feel free to reach out to me with any questions, concerns or suggestions you may have at townadministrator@hamptonfalls.org.

IN RECOGNITION OF THOSE WHO VOLUNTEER:

Hampton Falls has many residents who have given of themselves in diverse ways to protect, preserve, and enhance our community and make life here unique and special. From Rev. Sereno Abbott in 1844 organizing a picnic celebration for school children on the Fourth of July to the volunteers of today, including the Friends of the Bandstand that work hard to provide summer concerts for our residents, groups and individuals have found opportunities for community service which have evolved and expanded over time. In an effort to determine the longest serving volunteers, I found that Karen Ayers has been volunteering on the Conservation Commission since at least 1986, Tracy Healy-Beattie was volunteering with the Planning Board 37 years ago and has been serving in volunteer positions on various boards and committees ever since, and Abby Tonry has been on the Planning Board for over 30 years!

Most residents are aware of those who volunteer to serve on our numerous boards, commissions, and committees with terms of one, two, or three years of defined responsibilities. Hundreds more provide volunteer hours at the library, school and other service organizations. Still others volunteer to work with youth sports programs through the Town's Recreation Commission and local sports programs. The Friends of Library sponsor many programs for residents and fund passes to local museums. The list of individuals that volunteer at the library is lengthy and many have been volunteering for years. The Tricentennial Committee, Heritage Commission, Historical Society, Recreation Commission and Board of Selectmen have been working hard over the past few years to prepare for the upcoming week-long Tricentennial Celebration.

At times, individuals have filled a particular void, as does Grant Winnes who created and maintains the ice-skating rink and Mick Bramante who helps keep our microphones and sound system working. The town lost a long-time volunteer who filled the special need of mowing the Raspberry Farm, Glenn Schremp, who passed away this year. Other volunteers come forward as they see a need arise and quietly accomplish it. The Town Common is a visible reminder of what volunteers, such as those on the Town Improvement Committee, can accomplish in a community.

Taken as a whole, there are volunteers too numerous to thank individually and time freely given too great to be catalogued here. We are all the beneficiaries of the volunteer contributions of others. There are opportunities to share your expertise with fellow townspeople and your participation is welcomed and definitely appreciated.

TOWN CLERK/TAX COLLECTOR – Stephanie Grant Monday – Thursday 8:00 am – 3:00 pm townclerkcollect@hamptonfalls.org 1-603-926-4618 ext. 101

2022 HAMPTON FALLS TOWN MEETING

EVENT	DATE & DEADLINE
	Location
2 nd Session – Town Meeting (Town Election)	March 8, 2022, from 8 am – 8 pm
_	Lincoln Akerman School

ABSENTEE BALLOTS FOR THE MARCH 8 TOWN & SCHOOL ELECTIONS:

Registered voters who qualify to vote absentee may submit the signed application form(s) (available on-line) to the Town Clerk any time prior to the upcoming election. The ballots will be available approximately two to three weeks prior to the election. Absentee ballots are subject to restrictions as to their proper distribution and return.

VOTER REGISTRATION:

Residents who would like to register to vote in town may do so with the Town Clerk up until February 24th or with the Supervisors of the Checklist on election day (show proof of identity, age and domicile).

TOWN ELECTION:

The annual Town and School District Elections will be held on Tuesday, March 8, 8 a.m. to 8 p.m., at Lincoln Akerman School. Hampton Falls' voters vote all money articles and the annual budget by ballot. I.D. IS NOW REQUESTED IN ORDER TO VOTE IN EVERY ELECTION (or fill out a challenged voter affidavit)

VEHICLE REGISTRATION INFORMATION:

We are open for walk in services.

OR if you would prefer to not come into the building, you may use the following procedures and utilize the drop box

If you have bought a new vehicle/trailer/motorcycle. Please provide the following:

- Copy of your driver's license
- Title or Title Application (Town Clerk copy at the bottom)
- Contact information (name, phone number and email)
- Payment (check made out to Town of Hampton Falls and we will fill in amount or credit card over the phone once processed)

Please put this information in an envelope and utilize our drop box outside to the left of the Town Hall doors. We will process and call you to arrange a time to pick up the plates.

Any residents who wish to transfer their old plates to a new vehicle please provide the following:

- Copy of your driver's license
- Old registration (the plates you wish to transfer must be original not a copy)
- Title or Title Application (Town Clerk Copy)
- Blank check (once filled in we will copy and send back to you)

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• Contact information (email, phone # and address)

Please put this information in an envelope and utilize our drop box outside of the Town Hall door. We will process and mail back to you.

We ask you that you 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 mailbox. You can also call into the office to process a renewal over the phone or schedule an appointment to come in and renew.

Please call our office at 1-603-926-4618 ext. 101 or email <u>townclerkcollect@hamptonfalls.org</u> 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. Limited staff prevents us from being able to produce certified copies "on the spot." Requests for self-cling, 3-year brush dump stickers (required for brush disposal only; no longer required for household waste collection days) 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.

TAX INFORMATION;

As of December 21, 2021, all unpaid property taxes are now delinquent and are accruing interest. Please call or check the website for the correct amount due before sending your payment. Any 2021 unpaid taxes will be liened on April 12, 2022. You can also pay your taxes online at www.hamptonfalls.org. Please be aware there is a 2.95% charge to use your debit/credit card and a \$0.95 charge to use an online check. This fee is charged by the credit card company and bank, not by the Town of Hampton Falls. The Tax Office is now merged with the Town Clerk Office, so when coming into Town Hall to pay your taxes please go to the former Town Clerk window. Abatement applications for 2021 taxes are due before March 1. Anyone who qualifies for the Veteran's Tax Credit, or one of the exemption categories, should submit their application by April 15.

BUILDING INSPECTION, Mark Sikorski buildinginspector@hamptonfalls.org 1-603-926-4618, Ext. 105

SPRING DRAINAGE ISSUES: With the spring thaw on our doorstep pay attention to where the water from your driveway is going. If it is heading towards the road check to see if the roadway culvert is clear enough to accept the flow. Cold nights can refreeze water on roads and if it's not making it into a drainage area, the Town would like to know. Give the Town a call and it will be addressed.

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A NUMBER CAN SAVE A LIFE: Is your house number visible from the street? Is there a number on your mailbox? Can you find your mailbox after the snow? Make it easy to see and put a number on both sides. It could be as simple as the FEDEX driver being able to find your house, yet, if a threatening situation occurred, it could mean the difference between life and death. Next time you are approaching your home, look at it through the eyes of a first responder. Can you clearly see your address from the street? Precious seconds save precious lives.

SPRING AHEAD! CHANGE BATTERIES: In what conditions are your smoke alarms and carbon monoxide alarms? Is the power on to the units? Are the batteries in good shape? These units can save a life.

PLANNING TO REMODEL OR ADD ON?: Time for a new deck or pool? Visit the town web site for links to frequently used permit applications. Applications can take time to approve if certain conditions exist. Please remember that Smoke and Carbon Monoxide alarms are required to be brought up to current standards as part of any-remodeling. Plan ahead and make the job easier for everyone involved. If you have questions or need help contact my office at 1-603-926-4618 ext. 105 or by e-mail at buildinginspector@hamptonfalls.org

PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION - Lyn Stan, Chairwoman

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

The Hampton Falls Parks and Recreation Commission continues to meet on the 3rd Monday of each month. The current members are: Lyn Stan, Chair; Karen Sabatini, Treasurer; Beth Forgione, Secretary; Pam Fitzgerald, Phil Chura and Kathy Dittami. Selectmen's Representative is Mark Lane and Governor Weare Park (GWP) Liaison is Larry Smith. The mission of the Parks and Recreation Commission is to provide programs and facilities that develop the physical condition and wellness for a quality of life that benefits the young and adult residents of Hampton Falls. The parks and Recreation Commission encourages volunteerism to promote unity within the community. The Commission encourages residents with ideas for recreational activities or interests in organizing recreational activities to join the Commission's monthly meetings.

The Commission continues the management of <u>Governor Weare Park</u>. The scheduling of all teams and leagues using the fields including: Cal Ripken Baseball, Hampton Attack Spring and Fall Soccer and Lacrosse, are overseen by Mike Montville, Mark Lane and Ad hoc member Larry Smith. If interested in working with the leagues, please contact Mike or Mark. Governor Weare Park will continue to be used by our community residents to have fun pick-up games with families and friends.

The Parks and Recreation Commission is excited to sponsor a <u>Home Run Derby</u> on Sunday, July 31st, 2022, for all Hampton Falls residents young and old to participate in the celebration of our town's 300th birthday. Stay tuned for exciting details

The Parks and Recreation Commission is grateful for the many donations that were contributed to the community Ice Rink located at Governor Weare Park. It is nice to see that Mother Nature has blessed us with some perfect winter skating days for all. Once again, thanks go to Grant Winnes and his team of volunteers for maintaining the Ice Rink for all to enjoy.

The Hampton Falls <u>Summer Camp program</u>, run by Lincoln Akerman School Art teacher, Stacey Bellen, is in the process of being planned for Summer 2022, with details to follow in upcoming weeks. The Summer Camp program provides kids with many fun-filled activities and recreation, and continues to be a big hit for Hampton Falls children.

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The <u>Castleberry Fair</u> returns to the Town Common on Mother's Day weekend, May 7th & 8th with many great gift ideas for mothers.

The return of the <u>Farmers' Market</u> to Hampton Falls this coming Summer and Fall 2022 is a welcomed activity. Thank you, Sue Veilleux and the many wonderful farmers who will contribute to the Farmers' Market. The Farmers' Market will run from Wednesday, June 1st until October 5th hours weekly are 2pm-6pm on Wednesdays at the Town Common. For more details, please see the website: https://hamptonfallsmarketinfo.weebly.com

The Friends of the <u>Hampton Falls Bandstand/Cool Wheels</u> will kick off the 2022 season on June 23th thru August 25th with diverse and cultural performances. The Cool Wheels is seeking volunteers, if interested please contact Steve Sabatini. Please go to Friends of the Hampton Falls Bandstand/Hampton Falls Cool Wheels social media pages for a full line-up and updates. Friends of the Hampton Falls Bandstand and Cool Wheels will also be participating in the Town's 300th Birthday celebration with a special concert and Cool Wheels event featuring the sounds of Johnny Cash, June Carter, Elvis and Hank Williams. You will want to "save the date" for this fun event.

A <u>Children's Craft Fair</u> has been organized by Melissa Bender and the children of Hampton Falls. The date for the craft fair will be Saturday, June 11th with a rain date of June 18th with hours from 1pm – 4pm.

<u>Wayne from Maine</u> will return on Tuesday, July 19th at 6pm. The 50-minute show is a musical adventure thru various musical styles designed for the young and young at heart. The rain date is Tuesday, July 26th.

The <u>Seniors Partnering with Seniors</u> is planning to host an evening of music with the Deep Blue C Studio Orchestra. This 17-member orchestra will be performing favorites by musical contributions of composers such as Burt Bacharach and lyrist Hal David along with Bernstein, Lennon, McCartney and others. They will be performing on Tuesday, August 9th from 6pm – 8pm on the Town Common.

The newly formed <u>Depot Road Subcommittee</u> is a subcommittee of the Hampton Falls' Parks and Recreation Commission and are charged with the responsibility to examine the current, proposed and potential uses of the Depot Road Landing. If you are interested in learning more or want to be a part of this subcommittee, please contact Alex Dittami at: <u>ADittami@hotmail.com</u>

The Parks and Recreation Commission is always looking for people to complement our membership. Do you have a passion to build community spirit or have creative ideas? If you can answer YES, please consider joining the parks and Recreation Commission.

FIRE DEPARTMENT – Jay Lord, Fire Chief chief@hffd.org non-Emergency calls: 1-603-926-5752

- With deep snow, remember to clear all vents (dryer, water heaters, pellet stoves, etc.) around your house to prevent carbon monoxide from building up in your house; also, remember if you don't have a CO detector, go get one, they are inexpensive and worth the investment.
- If you have an LP tank also clear snow from the regulator where it enters the house.
- Prior to the power going out, see the Town website/Fire Department page for generator safety tips.
- Space heaters need a three-foot clearance to all combustibles.
- If pipes freeze, use a hair dryer or hot water to thaw them out. don't use a flame torch.
- Check your emergency kit supplies (for both your home and cars) more information is available at Ready.gov or NHReady.gov.

You can also sign up for NH Alerts at the NHReady.gov page. NH Alerts will notify you (text and/or call) if there is an emergency in your area (includes storm warnings, road closures, police action, and others.)

• Develop a fire escape plan and practice family fire drills. (Practice both in the daylight and dark.)

HISTORICAL SOCIETY - Tracy Healey-Beattie, President

"Your Future Is a Present from The Past"

"The prevalence of smallpox...during the eighteenth century was a much dreaded and fatal disease. It visited Hampton Falls in 1760, and again in 1782. At the latter visitation a pest house was established on Great Hill...for treatment. Two lines were drawn around the house at a considerable distance from it. All supplies were delivered at the outer line...In 1796 the introduction of vaccination met with great opposition".

One could draw some parallels to our current COVID-19 crisis! History is so fascinating and we are privileged to live in a Town steeped in 300-years of history. Visit the website of the TRICENTENNIAL: www.hamptonfalls300.com. The Historical Society is busy planning for the Tricentennial events with: The banner on the side of the Museum; The Great Uncasking Night, August 3, Town Hall, presented by Beer Historian Mark Chag and the Czar's Brewery of Exeter as a special edition, collectible, Tricentennial colonial-style beer is uncasked. A very limited-release brew specially crafted for the Hampton Falls Historical Society Limited to 100 tickets; In Vino Veritas with Ciao Italia August 5100 ticket holders will be treated to a catered event and an elegant evening as television's longest running cooking host, Mary Ann Esposito presents a story of the role wine plays in history. We are also busy preparing for our celebratory week to assist Fritz Wetherbee as he presents a colorful history of Hampton Falls on Channel 9. Our new Salt Marsh Exhibit in the Museum is being prepared for the Grand Re-Opening Celebration of our recently renovated building. Also, the author of the third volume of Hampton Falls History, Collin Garcia will be presenting his work and signing the book.

Keep up with these events and more at www.hamptonfalls.300.com. Purchase a new or renew membership to Hampton Falls Historical Society. Not too late to enter the Time Capsule Raffle and sign-up for the Historical Society's Newsletter.

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 has been receiving complaints about dogs running loose at the Raspberry Farm and owners not cleaning up after their dogs. Some of these complaints, but not all, involve professional dog walkers who arrive with multiple dogs which are sometimes turned loose to run. The Conservation Commission has been researching solutions that other towns have employed to manage dogs on their public lands. The Conservation Commission will be discussing the situation with the Board of Selectmen asking they consider drafting an ordinance that clearly defines the rules for professional dog walker to follow when bringing dogs onto Town-owned conservation lands. Signs will be installed at the Raspberry Farm and Marsh Lane to remind everyone bringing dogs onto these properties that they must carry bags (carry in & carry out) for cleaning up after their dogs. Doggie doodoo is not good for the hay field or other natural areas. You may say "but the animals do it". The difference is that wild animals eat the native vegetation and so their excrement is natural, whereas dogs receive fortified food, heartworm medicine, flea repellent pills, antibiotics, and cortisone throughout their lives. So, yes, there is a difference!

The Town's recently hired Conservation Coordinator has been working hard collecting the following types of information to input into a database of Town-owned conservation land: location, owner, deed reference, terms of the Conservation Easement including description of permitted activities, and access available to residents. It

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will be nice to have all these details in one place, as the Conservation Commission frequently receives questions regarding this type of information.

There is new contact information for the Conservation Commission, as follows: the new email address for the Chairman, Mary Ann Hill, is <u>ConservationChair@hamptonfalls.org</u>, and the new email address for the Conservation Coordinator, Brianna O'Brien will be <u>ConservationCoordinator@hamptonfalls.org</u>.

HERITAGE COMMISSION - Beverly Mutrie, Chair

Meets the first Tuesday of the month at 9:00 am at Town Hall

The Heritage Commission meets on the second Tuesday of the month at 9:00 AM at Town Hall. The Commission has been continuing their mission of photographing and gathering information about each historic home (over 75-years old) in town. The resultant survey booklet, along with an interactive map, will hopefully be available on the Town's website in time for the Tricentennial (July 31-August 6, 2022).

Recently the Heritage Commission sent postcards to the owners of historic homes in Hampton Falls, requesting historical information and requesting to share with the Commission any old photos of their properties. The Heritage Commission welcomes the participation of residents in adding to and helping to create the historical record of Hampton Falls.

The Heritage Commission identified approximately 170 historic homes in Hampton Falls that have been and still are a testament to their past owners and stewards' maintenance and appreciation. The Heritage Commission is available to answer any questions about the maintenance of a historic home. Please contact the Commission at hfnhheritage@gmail.com or through the Town Clerk or Town Secretary with any questions or inquiries. We welcome and encourage participation of residents with the work of the Heritage Commission.

TRICENTENNIAL COMMITTEE – Judy Haskell, Secretary

Meets the first Monday of the month at 1:00 pm at Town Hall.

Six months to go! If you've been following the past year's Town Newsletters, you'll know that the planning for the Town's Tricentennial Celebration is well underway. If you haven't been keeping current on Town of Hampton Falls news, you'll find all prior newsletters and meeting minutes on the town's web site at www.hamptonfalls.org/tricentennial-committee.

The focus moving forward, is on the wonderful activities that are being organized by the stellar Kids' Activities Subcommittee for the youth of Hampton Falls!

While the celebration happens in the summer of 2022 (July 31, 2022 to August 6, 2022), there are opportunities for kids aged Kindergarten through Grade 8 to participate in activities before July 31st. An art and essay contest will take place this Spring on the topic "What do you want kids to know about your life in Hampton Falls?" All entries will be judged by the Kids' Subcommittee, and the winning entries will be placed in the Time Capsule to be opened 100 years from now and honored during the Tricentennial closing ceremonies. A cash prize will be given to the winner of each group (Grade K-2; Grade 3-5; Grade 6-8). Another fun way to celebrate the Town is for kids to submit a drawing to celebrate the 300th birthday of Hampton Falls, and those drawings will be transferred to tiles to create a <u>Tile Mural</u> that will be displayed in one of the Town's buildings.

A <u>Family Scavenger Hunt</u> will take place during the week of the Tricentennial, where the children will solve riddles from the history of Hampton Falls and take pictures of themselves with the answer to the riddle. Those photos will then be added to a photobook for the Time Capsule.

Friday, August 5th from 10 AM to 2 PM will be <u>Kids Day on the Common</u> which promises fun and educational activities geared toward kids under the age of 12. Stations will be set up for children to enjoy learning more about the town of Hampton Falls and the surrounding area throughout the ages. Families can participate in as many or in as few stations as they like. Children who check-in at each station will receive a stamp in their <u>Hampton Falls Through History Passport</u> and receive a prize.

To purchase <u>Tricentennial commemorative caps</u>, hats, clothing, coffee mugs and medallions please contact Weezie Vance at <u>weezievance@gmail.com</u> and she'll make arrangements for purchase and pickup. To view the Tricentennial merchandise please visit either the Town Hall and/or Library where these items are on display.



The Tricentennial Committee is still welcoming more Volunteers to get involved. This is a great opportunity for newcomers and/or long-time residents to learn more about Hampton Falls and to meet neighbors. Please contact Susan Porcelli at toilntrouble21@gmail.com to find out how you can help.