

TOWN & LIBRARY & SCHOOL NEWS

Hampton Falls, NH

September / October 2023

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

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

HAMPTON FALLS HOUSEHOLD WASTE COLLECTION DAYS CONTINUE ON THE FIRST SATURDAYS THROUGH OCTOBER 2023, AND THEN RESUMING, AFTER WINTER, IN MAY 2024.

The Town's monthly waste collection days, on the **First Saturdays at the Brush Dump**, are going well, and will continue through October 2023. Please see the details of how this program works on the town's website at www.hamptonfalls.org, under: Departments, Recycling & Solid Waste. Please note that all fees must be pre-paid at the Town Clerk's office, and a Brush Dump sticker is required to participate. The Brush Dump sticker is obtainable either at the Town Clerk's office or online through the Town Clerk's webpage on the town's website under: Departments, Town Clerk, Dump Stickers. Questions, please contact Town Administrator Karen Anderson at 1-603-926-4618, x103.

HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE COLLECTION DAY IN HAMPTON, NH - CANCELED

The September 2023 date for Hampton Household Hazardous Waste Collection has been canceled by the Town of Hampton. The next collection will be in the Spring 2024.

RECYCLING IN HAMPTON FALLS, by KAREN ANDERSON, TOWN ADMINISTRATOR

Recycling in Hampton Falls is easy!!! Hampton Falls' residents can keep their recyclables together, and bring them to where their driveway meets the road by 6AM on Fridays. One of the most important benefits of recycling is its significant environmental impact. When manufacturers use recycled materials, it conserves natural resources (such as coal, wood and minerals), reduces air and water pollution and minimizes the overall impact on the planet. Hampton Falls' waste disposal vendors require that residents separate recyclables from general trash. If you have any questions regarding what can or cannot be recycled in Hampton Falls, please consult the town's website first at www.hamptonfalls.org, (under Departments, under Recycling & Solid Waste, under Curbside Trash and Recycling Guidelines), and then if you have additional questions, please feel free to contact either Jim Ziolkowski at jz@elmscape.com or Karen Anderson at townadministrator@hamptonfalls.org.

The markets for recyclable materials continue to improve slowly, and, overall, the costs to recycle are less than the costs to dispose of regular household trash. Regular trash loads that contain a certain percentage of recyclable materials currently subject the Town to fines both from the vendor and the Massachusetts DEP. Recycling rules for NH are increasing and **the following items** have been consistently found recently in the Town's Recycling loads and **are NOT recyclable**:

- Grocery store plastic bags, including bags of bags. They must be brought to collection boxes at the grocery stores, or put in the regular trash.
- Shrink wrap. The plastic wrap that is used on the cardboard trays of water or sports drink bottles is not recyclable and must be removed from the box and thrown in the regular trash.
- Padded envelopes. The white plastic mailers or other padded envelopes are not recyclable.
- Bubble wrap
- Waxed cardboard. The circular cardboard under a pizza is often waxed.
- Styrofoam
- Plastic straps
- Plastic or metal hangers

Please make sure that all glass, paper, metal cans and plastic bottles are recycled and not in your regular trash. Cardboard can be left at the curb flattened and bundled for pick-up or brought to the Brush Dump container for

TOWN & LIBRARY & SCHOOL NEWS

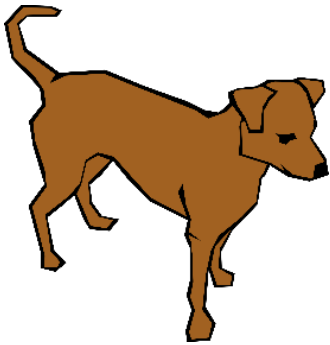
Hampton Falls, NH

September / October 2023

baling and recycling. Hampton Falls bales cardboard at the Brush Dump and the Town sells it, through a recycling vendor, to help offset the Town's recycling costs.

Regular trash day, on Thursdays, is for the collection of household waste only – the items listed above as well as food and regular household trash. The Town cannot continue to pick-up large items that are occasionally left at the curb. On the first Saturday of each month, from May through October, the town Brush Dump is open for the disposal of large items. A Brush Dump sticker is required (\$30 for 3 years); additional fees may apply for a load of items or specific items for which the Town incurs additional fees for disposal. Complete details are available on the Town's website at www.hamptonfalls.org under Departments, under Recycling & Solid Waste, under Brush Dump. Please help the Town remain in compliance with our vendors and avoid the fines that can be imposed.

PLEASE BE A RESPONSIBLE PET OWNER



Pet Waste is becoming a large problem in Hampton Falls – particularly at the Depot Landing and Raspberry Farm. When walking your dog, please clean up the waste and take it with you. We are seeing used dog waste bags that have been tossed into wooded areas along the sides of roads and in wetland areas. Dog waste is more than a nightmare for our shoes. Just like human sewage, untreated pet fecal matter is harmful to waterways. Rain washes dog waste and the associated disease-causing organisms, such as giardia and salmonella, into rivers and streams. Enough bacteria make water unsafe for swimming and contributes to shellfish bed closures. Please do not allow your dog(s) to run free in the woods of the Raspberry Farm or Depot Road area – you will not be able to find their waste to clean it up. It is a violation of the

town's leash law and the waste is causing problems for others.

TOWN CLERK/TAX COLLECTOR, Stephanie Grant

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

LATE 2023 DOG LICENSES:

ALL DOGS IN TOWN SHOULD HAVE BEEN LICENSED BY APRIL 30 as required by state RSA 466:1. If you no longer own a dog(s), call 1-603-926-4618, ext. 101, or e-mail us at townclerkcollect@hamptonfalls.org; and we will remove your name from the list. **Otherwise, please license your dog(s) ASAP either in person or on-line, please note the \$25 civil forfeiture fee has been now added on.** Rabies vaccination certificate(s) are only required if rabies expiration date has expired, please email, fax or drop-off (in the drop box) an updated rabies certificate, if needed.

VEHICLE REGISTRATION INFORMATION

We are 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)

We ask that you continue to renew both your vehicle registrations and dog licenses online. Please visit the Town Clerk's page on www.hamptonfalls.org to renew online. You may also renew your vehicle by dropping off

TOWN & LIBRARY & SCHOOL NEWS

Hampton Falls, NH

September / October 2023

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 over the phone, or come in and renew.

A government issued Photo I.D. is required for all motor vehicle transactions, per RSA 261:148.

-A notarized Power of Attorney is required when signing a title application for another person (even your spouse).

-Please allow time for processing your transactions by arriving as far in advance of our closing times as possible (at least 15 minutes before we close).

-A limit of 2 “regular” (renewals) vehicle transactions per person before close, please. Financial closeouts are required daily.

Please call the Town Clerk’s 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 30 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., Birth Certificates 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 online 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. The Birth, Death or Marriage must have taken place in NH.

Requests for self-cling, 3-year brush dump stickers (required for brush disposal and 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/ TAX COLLECTORS’S OFFICE IS CLOSED FRIDAYS:

A reminder that the Town Clerk/ Tax Collector’s office is closed on Fridays.

TAX COLLECTION

Please note that the July tax due date has passed and interest is now accruing. Please make sure you call or check online for the most current balance before sending in a check. Credit/Debit card payments and electronic checks are accepted online for property taxes. Please be aware there is a 2.95% charge for all credit/debit transactions and a \$1.95 charge for checks. This is a **bank processing fee** and it is **not** charged or retained by the Town of Hampton Falls. You can pay/view your tax bill by visiting the home page at www.hamptonfalls.org and clicking on Property Taxes Review/Pay online button. You can also view your property taxes online and access detailed payment and balance information 24-hours a day.

BUILDING INSPECTION, Mark Sikorski

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

BUILDING AND ASSOCIATED PERMITS

New construction, as well as many repair and maintenance items, require building permits. PLEASE work with the Building Department before undertaking these types of projects. Some existing decks are outside of safe building methods which could lead to a dangerous situation. Improper attachment to the house structure can lead to separation or collapse. Decks are considered structures and are also subject to property setback rules. Pools, both above and in-ground, are also considered structures and subject to building setbacks. Even with seasonal closures on the horizon it is still important to maintain safety barriers around pools to avoid accidents. If you are unsure, please call the office to inquire prior to start. Accessory Dwelling Units MUST be reviewed for septic

TOWN & LIBRARY & SCHOOL NEWS

Hampton Falls, NH

September / October 2023

system capability prior to permitting and construction. Do not attempt to create a second living unit as part of your home without working with the Building Department. Know your contractor. If they say a permit is not needed, there may be reason to check. At the completion of your project, be sure that final inspections are complete, and, if required, a Certificate of Occupancy has been issued *BEFORE* final payment is made to your contractor. It can save a lot of heartache down the road if work is not completed properly.

WARM UP THE GENERATOR

September is here. Shorter days of winter are not far behind. If you have a portable generator, make sure it has been run and serviced recently. If it has not run in a long time, the Ethanol-based gas (aging like cheap wine) in the tank and carburetor may have wreaked havoc. Better not to find out in the dark during a blizzard. After running a portable unit turn the fuel supply off and allow the unit to stop from lack of fuel. Then leave the fuel valve in the OFF position until ready to use again. This will assure that leftover fuel has cleared the carburetor preventing the gelling of ethanol-based products. Future startups will go much easier. If you have a permanent home standby generator, be sure it has been exercising and is ready to go. Check the maintenance schedule and, if you don't do it yourself, set up regular service with an established dealer. A well-maintained unit can provide years of reliable service. Remember....NEVER run a generator inside. Be safe!

SCENIC ROAD ORDINANCE

Hampton Falls maintains a Scenic Road Ordinance as part of the Zoning Ordinance. It seeks to protect the beauty of Hampton Falls' many Scenic Roads. Disturbance or removal of stone walls or trees exceeding 15" in circumference within the Town Right-of-Way must be approved by the Planning Board. The following streets are listed as Scenic Roads:

Blakes Lane	Depot Road	King Street	Sanborn Road
Brimmer Lane	Dodge Road	Mill Lane	Stard Road
Brown Road	Drinkwater Road	Nason Road	Towle Farm Road
Crank Road	Frying Pan Lane	Old Stage Road	
Curtis Road	Goodwin Road	Parsonage Road	

Right-of-ways vary for these roads so please check with the Road Agent or Building Department before performing streetside work along these scenic roadways.

YARD SALE PERMIT REMINDER

Please allow at least one (1) week of advance time for approval of a yard sale application. Should you have questions, about yard sale permit processing, contact Building Inspector Mark Sikorski. Applications can be obtained at the Town Hall or from the Town's website.

The Town of Hampton Falls ordinance about yard sales (garage sales, barn sales, tent sales, moving sales) includes, but is not limited to, the following requirements that are verified by the Building Inspector at the time of application:

- A yard sale permit, at no charge, shall be issued for up to two (2) yard sales in a calendar year and must be held on the property owned by the applicant.
- The duration of the permit is for no more than two (2) successive days, with the time of start to be specified on the application, including rain date(s).
- Yard Sale signs must meet the Town's sign ordinance and shall be removed at the close of the yard sale.
- The yard sale shall be set-up at least 25-feet from the road or street.

TOWN & LIBRARY & SCHOOL NEWS

Hampton Falls, NH

September / October 2023

POLICE DEPARTMENT, Chief Ryan Veno

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

The Police Department is very much looking forward to the first annual **Family Field Day** on August 20th, from 2-6pm at Governor Weare Park. The Police Department will be there with fun activities and ready, again, with the Dunk Tank! Come win a chance to ride home from school in a police cruiser!

Welcome back to all the Lincoln Akerman students, teachers, and staff! Can't wait to see you all on your first day of school. Please be patient, kind, and safe when dropping off and picking up students.

The Police Department will be out celebrating Halloween Trick-or-Treat with everyone and will post the date on the Police Department's Facebook page as the date nears.

Happy Autumn from the Hampton Falls Police Department!
And as always...See Something? Say Something!



Chief Veno at Dunk Tank 2022

FIRE DEPARTMENT – Jay Lord, Fire Chief

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

Just a few quick thoughts...

- The Fire Department teaches various American Heart Association CPR classes for any size group, we can work on your schedule if interested.
- While it is not quite into the heating season yet, now is a good time to have your heating appliances (wood stoves, furnaces, etc.) checked so that you don't have a problem during the winter.
- If you haven't already, change your smoke detector and carbon monoxide detector batteries.
- Don't forget to get your Burning Permits for Fall clean-ups, clean wood (no paint), brush under 5" diameter – no leaf burning.
- There are numerous American Red Cross blood drives happening over the next couple of months, at both the Fire Department and at Town Hall - watch the Fire Department's Facebook page for more information.
- Call 1-603-926-5752 if you have a question or **9-1-1** for emergencies (no, you're NOT bothering us...it's what we are trained to do).



Water shuttle training in July 2023 with HFFD, Hampton, Kensington, East Kingston, S. Hampton, Stratham, Newfields fire departments

TOWN & LIBRARY & SCHOOL NEWS

Hampton Falls, NH

September / October 2023

RECREATION COMMISSION – Gisela Manna, Chairwoman

Meets the third Monday of each month at 7:00 pm at Town Hall.

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.

Current members of the Commission are: Gisela Manna, Chair; Colleen Farias, Vice Chair & Communications; Linda Savoy, Treasurer; Kara Dumont, Secretary, and members: Kathy Dittami, DeDe Kouloheras, and Karla Donatelli. Mark Lane is the Selectmen's Representative. Larry Smith is the Governor Weare Park liaison.



Check out the Recreation Commission's logo that symbolizes their goal of promoting unity within the Hampton Falls' community. Merchandise will soon be available with the new logo.

The Hampton Falls Recreation Commission along with the Police and Fire Departments is very excited to be hosting the **First Annual Hampton Falls Family Field Day**. This event will be held on Sunday, August 20, 2023 from 2-6pm at Governor Weare Park. This event will be kicked off by a Home Run Derby Contest from 2-3pm followed by fun filled family relay and challenges. Family events include inflatable obstacle courses for adults and kids, Tug a War, Hoop Head Basketball, Yard Pong, 4-Legged Race, Gellyball Blaster Battle, along with various Relay Races. You will also get the opportunity to Dunk Police Chief Ryan Venio. Stay cool while enjoying a Kona Ice treat. Following the Field Day fun events, between 5-6pm, enjoy a BBQ hosted by the Hampton Falls Fire Dept where you will be able to relax, have some delicious food, and enjoy music and ice cream. If you would like to volunteer for the event, please contact Gisela Manna at HamptonFallsRecreation@gmail.com.

Our Gellyball blasters have little to no pain! In fact many kids say it hurts even less than Nerf!



Thank you to the Hampton Falls Summer Camp Director, Stacey Bellen (Lincoln Akerman School Art Teacher), and Assistant Director, Michael Queenan (Lincoln Akerman School STEM Teacher), and all the

TOWN & LIBRARY & SCHOOL NEWS

Hampton Falls, NH

September / October 2023

student volunteers for running another successful Summer Camp. Over 30 kids participated in the 2023 camp. The Summer Camp continues to be a big hit for Hampton Falls children.

The Recreation Commission sincerely thanks Lyn Stan and Karen Sabatini for all their years of serving the Recreation Commission. They have put in countless hours providing programs and events that many Hampton Falls residents have enjoyed over the years. The Recreation Commission wishes them all the best in their other activities for the Hampton Falls community.

Thank you to Hampton Falls resident, Donna Onacki, for hosting the Summer Herbal Wellness Series. Participants learned about various herbs and their adaptogens to make their own unique blends to support their body wellness.

Save the date of December 16, 2023 for Wreaths Across America Day. What a great way to honor your Hampton Falls veterans by placing a wreath on their grave.

The Recreation Commission has been hard at work to plan 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 joining the Hampton Falls Recreation Commission. Attend a meeting in person, or view a meeting on www.TownHallStreams.com. Complete a Volunteer Application found on the Town's website at: www.HamptonFalls.org and submit it to the Town Administrator, Karen Anderson at townadministrator@hamptonfalls.org.



Join Us in Our Mission
Remember ★ Honor ★ Teach

★ **December 16, 2023** ★
National Wreaths Across America Day

Help Hampton Falls Recreation Commission honor local heroes!
Sponsor a wreath today to be placed on a veteran's grave this December at Hampton Falls, NH.
Scan the QR code to make a donation online or visit www.wreathscrossamerica.org/NH0041P

#ServeAndSucceed

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's mission is to preserve and protect the natural resources of the Town including its watersheds, forests, and other natural habitats, by maintaining and protecting the land from misuse, by cataloguing natural assets and educating the public. The Conservation Commission has been able to implement their mission for the last three (3) years by hiring student Summer Interns to help with the maintenance and cataloguing of natural assets. This year the Conservation Commission hired three (3) UNH Environmental Studies students, Jayden Mowery, Katelyn Ryan, and Erin Finken.

The Conservation Commission has updated their technology through the acquisition of a hand-held GPS unit. The GPS unit plugs into the computer, downloads the data, and then maps it in ArcGis. All three Interns previously had courses in GIS (Geographic Information Systems) and are excited to be applying what they previously learned in the UNH classroom. The Interns are mapping trails, invasive plant species, ditches and marsh/wetlands plants. Look for the new maps on the kiosks and Town website under Conservation Commission.



"I like this job!"

TOWN & LIBRARY & SCHOOL NEWS

Hampton Falls, NH

September / October 2023

Summer 2023 work with the Interns started with reseeding of burned patches left from Summer 2022 invasive plant removal at the Raspberry Farm, followed by the planting of two (2) tiny Spruce trees. Next, the Summer Interns had a crash course in plant identification, specifically non-native invasive species, followed by field



Getting to the root of the problem.

work removing Bittersweet, Autumn Olive, Honeysuckle, Multiflora Rose and Black Swallow Wort from different sites. By working with these plants in different locations the Interns became familiar with the different variations in leaf structure and appearance that the plants exhibit with age and growth conditions. The Interns surveyed the Town roads for “hot spots” of invasive plants, and mapped the locations of those plants.

There is a project being proposed by NH DES to fill-in the saltmarsh ditches. It hasn't been decided yet what to use to fill the saltmarsh ditches, but a lot of fill will be needed. The Conservation Commission thought that perhaps two issues could be addressed simultaneously by using dead Phragmites (without seed heads) to fill the ditches. The Conservation Commission conducted an experiment in between periods of plant control.

Young Phragmite shoots were cut and formed into two bundles. One bundle was submersed in sea water in a big tub, and the second bundle was allowed to dry. After ten days the wet bundle was beginning to sprout roots, and next step was to destroy the sprouting batch by burning it. The second bundle was nice and dry, and the next step for the dry bundle was to put the batch into the tub of sea water to see if it could sprout after drying. The second batch has not yet sprouted after a month in the sea water. NH DES isn't convinced yet.

To determine how much fill will be needed (quantity or volume of material) for the salt marsh ditches, the



This marsh ditch will be filled with what?

Interns measured the ditches on the Hampton Falls-owned marsh properties. The ditches do not have straight sides, and vary in both width and depth, so the measurement calculations have been challenging. In the process of measuring ditches what seemed to be a homogeneous swath of Spartina was found to be anything but.

During the Phragmites experiment waiting periods the Interns learned to use a chain saw and they cut-up several trees that had fallen across the trails at the Marsh Lane preserve, and a couple of leaners at the Raspberry Farm. Trails at both locations were mapped by the Interns using the GPS unit.

The Interns compiled a booklet of plant photos for plant identification purposes of plants commonly known to grow in wetlands. The Interns began to map the occurrence of the different wetland plant species on wetland parcels. The Interns are learning a lot and having fun.

In a different vein, the subject of dogs on Town properties must be revisited. The Conservation Commission is not the sole regulator of dog leashes and dog waste, merely a conduit for complaints and suggestions. The Board of Selectmen have the final say on signs and rules. It should also be recognized that the Raspberry Farm is not a dog park. The Conservation easement on the Raspberry Farm is agricultural, as it is a hay farm. The Conservation Commission urges all dog owners to be respectful and pick-up after their dogs, be it biological waste or dog toys. Hay bales should not contain stuffed animals or tennis balls. Thank you.

TOWN & LIBRARY & SCHOOL NEWS

Hampton Falls, NH

September / October 2023

The Conservation Commission is looking for new members to share the joy of protecting Hampton Falls' special natural environments. The Conservation Commission meets the second Tuesday of each month at 6:30 PM. Feel free to attend a meeting and to share your concerns and/or requests.

HISTORICAL SOCIETY – Tracy Healey-Beattie, President

Anne Sanborn Coombs, a revered octogenarian and Hampton Falls Historical Society Trustee, grew up in the Nathan Brown House at 189 Exeter Road. The year was 1943, a time of quiet pastoral living. Compared to today's Town population of 2,429, Anne's infancy years boasted a population of 500 residents!

Ann's childhood home, built in 1798, was a large stately farmhouse with a "new" barn built around 1870. Considered exceptionally well built, it passed through several generations of homeowners. J. Elmer Sanborn and Margaret Winifred, Anne's parents, bought the farm. It remained an active dairy farm until one of their daughters developed a serious fever and milk had to be discarded. No longer able to farm, Elmer Emmons Sanborn sold the extensive acreage to his neighbor George Brown, excluding five acres that encompassed their homestead.

Childhood memories are easily and enthusiastically recalled by Anne. She and her two sisters, Kit and Peggy, could safely roam the Town to play with friends, usually on horseback, later on bicycles. No thought of parents driving them for "playdates!" Children made their own fun without any distractions from technology. The clang of a gong was the alert to send them home for supper. A large pond on the Sanborn property provided ice skating and bonfires for surrounding youth. A significant event was the Maypole on the Common with its colorful streamers. Children made Mayboxes filled with flowers to drop at neighbor's doors. Reading was always encouraged. Stretched out on an open field, there are memories of studying the stars on a silent night. Despite World War Two, Anne acknowledged her childhood years as happy and uncomplicated.



The first grade was at Deerfield Academy in Seabrook awaiting the completion of Lincoln Akerman School. Anne returned to the new three-room classes, two grades to a room with ten in the class. Lunches were carried from home and Merrill's General store (located where the Post Office now sits) was quite a draw for penny candy!

Anne found her days at Exeter Academy a difficult adjustment as she was coming from a smaller community and school. Time found her at Mt Ida College followed by further intellectual stimulation with time spent in Europe. Later, brief stays in New York, Indiana and Chicago culminating with a return to her family farm with her three children. Active in school events and politics, Anne had progressed in her positions at the Portsmouth Paper Company to become a manager. She eventually bought her mother's home in Exeter where the family lived for twenty-eight years.



Anne Sanborn Coombs joined the Hampton Falls Historical Society during the presidency of Sheila Kennedy. One day she accompanied Sheila to the Town Hall. To Anne it was a stunning revelation.....the stage was missing! Once used so regularly for plays, Town meetings and such vital events was gone!! The hall was now enlarged but a piece of history was lost. Anne continues to be a pillar of the Historical Society. Intelligent and so resourceful on Town History, not to mention her creative thoughts. She

TOWN & LIBRARY & SCHOOL NEWS

Hampton Falls, NH

September / October 2023

has immersed herself in the Museum restoration and contributes much to the identification and care of our valuable assets. Thank you, Anne !

The Historical Society Trustees are pleased with the great progress on the Museum's Archival Room which should be completed very shortly. The hope is to start storing the Historical Society's valuable archival material and open to the public in August. Should someone have interest or need to visit sooner, this can be done by appointment by calling 603-770-5097.

The Historical Society is especially grateful to the Baptist Church Youth group who worked hard and diligently to clear the Museum's gardens and to sand and paint the bulletin board. Their efforts provide renewed energy to revive our gardens. Shelley Parish's colorful display is now a standout! Thank you all for volunteering your efforts and energy on these endeavors.

CEMETERY TRUSTEES – Jonathan Bohn, Chairman; Tracy Healey-Beattie; Wendy Harrington
Meets the first Thursday of the month at 1:00 pm at Town Hall

OCTOBER CEMETERY PROGRAM: Rubbing Old New England Gravestones



On October 18th, the Cemetery Trustees and the Hampton Falls Free Library will cohost a free and open program featuring Brenda Sullivan from The Gravestone Girls.

During the Tricentennial Celebration Summer 2022, Brenda's presentation on the art, history and symbolism of New England Cemeteries drew a large, enthusiastic crowd. The Cemetery Trustees are delighted to have Brenda return. The Gravestone Girls say "cemeteries are unique and interesting places full of folk art and history found only in New England! The images on old gravestones are considered the first graphic art of the New World and communicated messages to individuals and the

community about virtues, ethics and standards of behavior."

Brenda's interactive presentation, *RUBBING OLD NEW ENGLAND GRAVESTONES*, will examine the many misconceptions about doing gravestone rubbing. She will bust those myths, teaching the proper techniques and educating attendees about these fascinating historical markers. Tissue paper and hard crayons are out! You will learn the safest methods for creating a rubbing while ensuring the safety and preservation of the old gravestones. You might even take a flashlight walk in one of our historic cemeteries!

For more details, watch the [Hampton Falls Free Library website](http://www.hamptonfalls.org) and newsletter.

TOWN & LIBRARY & SCHOOL NEWS

Hampton Falls, NH

September / October 2023



CEMETERY LOTS AVAILABLE

In recent years, cemetery lots have been available for purchase only in Oak Lawn Cemetery on Nason Road. After extensive research, the Cemetery Trustees have recently made a limited number of lots available for sale in Westview Cemetery, across from Oak Lawn. If you are interested in purchasing any available lots in Westview or Oak Lawn, please see Stephanie Grant at the Town Clerk's office. There may be more lots in Westview available in the future.

HAMPTON FALLS FREE LIBRARY – Joanna Meighan, Director



Greetings from the Hampton Falls Library! With Fall fast approaching, the following activities are planned at the Library:

Cookbook Club – Summer Harvest; Sat., September 9th at noon

It's that time of year where the harvest is plentiful and some creative inspiration will be necessary for using up the abundance. September's Cookbook Club will be using the new cook book *Love & Lemons: Simple, Feel Good Food* for inspiration. Copies of the cookbook will be available at the Library for members to check out starting in August. Call the library or see the Library's website for information to sign up to attend.



Pollinator Pathways – Creating Greenways for Butterflies; Wed., September 13th at 6:30pm

A speaker from Pollinator Pathways will explain the dos and don'ts for planting for native species, encouraging beneficial bugs and butterflies, and creating a pollinator pathway. Co-hosted with the Conservation Commission.

Library Book & Bake Sale – Sat., September 23rd at 10am - 2 pm

From August 1st - September 16th, the Library will be accepting donations of new and gently-used books, audio books and DVDs for the Library's annual Book Sale. Volunteers needed to help sort books and to make treats for the bake sale. Check out the 23rd to stock up on great book titles for your fall and winter reading! Take home something sweet from the Boy Scouts' bake sale and make a home for the *Treasures from the Library's Attic*. Cash or check only. Can't make it Saturday? Remainders will be on sale through September 30th during Library operating hours.

TOWN & LIBRARY & SCHOOL NEWS

Hampton Falls, NH

September / October 2023

Rubbing Old New England Gravestones – By Brenda Sullivan of The Gravestone Girls; Wed., October 18th at 6:30pm

Brenda Sullivan of *The Gravestone Girls* will present an interactive presentation to examine the many misconceptions of gravestone rubbing. She will teach proper techniques and educate attendees about these fascinating historical markers. Tissue paper and hard crayons are out! You will learn the safest methods for creating a rubbing while ensuring the safety and preservation of old gravestones. You might even take a flashlight walk in one of Hampton Falls' historic cemeteries! Co-hosted with the Hampton Falls Cemetery Trustees.



Youth Programming – Book, Art, and Lego Clubs; After-School Story Times

Sign-ups begin Tues., September 5th There is a great Fall line-up planned. Come to the Library in the Fall when after-school programming resumes. Sign up for the Library's newsletter or check the Library's website for current information.

All Together Now – Community Read; Wed. - July 19, 2023 Thank you to all who picked up a book, came to a program and helped plan and execute the Community Read ambitious day of programming. A lot of great conversations and information were shared. If you enjoyed participating in the book discussion, click [here](#) to sign-up for more information about the Library's Adult Book Club.



To obtain the Library's most current information. [Sign up here](#) for the monthly newsletter.

TOWN & LIBRARY & SCHOOL NEWS

Hampton Falls, NH

September / October 2023

HERITAGE COMMISSION – Beverly Mutrie, Chair; hfnhheritage@gmail.com

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

Recently, the Chair of the Heritage Commission was asked *if protecting a single historic building could be done in Hampton Falls, as there is no Local Historic District, nor Neighborhood Heritage District?* Both of those types of districts protect the exterior of a building from non-compatible changes; and yet, in Hampton Falls, historic building owners are currently free to modify or renovate their historic building, provided they get a building permit. A Preservation Easement will save a historic building from demolition or unsympathetic renovations, for those who want to protect their historic building's façade and perhaps some original interior features.

The following text is from the NH Preservation Alliance's "What is a Historic Preservation Easement?"

With a **historic preservation easement**, the right that an owner gives to the second party is the right to protect and preserve the historic character of the property. It is a legally enforceable agreement that allows the owner of the property to retain ownership, use and possession while granting to someone else the authority to protect the historic and architectural features of the property. The owner retains all of the usual rights to the property except the right to substantially alter or fail to maintain the historic character of the property.

The easement document contains a legal description of the property and clearly describes the features to be protected. The description includes the primary building(s) on the property and often other historic structures, such as outbuildings, as well. If the easement covers interior features, they must also be clearly described. Archaeological sites, historic landscape features, and adjacent open space may also be protected. The easement will define and prohibit any incompatible activities, such as alteration, demolition, commercial development, subdivision, or other actions that are determined to be inappropriate.

The holder of the easement or grantee may be a governmental unit or a non-profit organization, which is qualified to enter into property agreements and have the resources to enforce the agreement. It is important that the easement holder have no interest in the property other than the preservation of its historic character. The easement will clearly describe an inspection and maintenance schedule for the property. It will also provide details about how the grantee will monitor the property and how often.

Preservation easements must contain binding and enforceable covenants that "run with the property" and obligate the owner and all subsequent owners to refrain from actions that are incompatible with the preservation of the property. As a legal document, the easement is filed in the county Registry of Deeds along with all other legal documents relating to the property so that all future owners and lenders will learn about the restrictions when they obtain title reports.

An easement can be written so that it lasts forever. This is known as a perpetual easement or an easement in perpetuity. An easement written for a specified period of time is known as a term easement. For federal tax purposes, only gifts of perpetual easements allow a donor to claim income and estate tax benefits.

Just as land protected by conservation easements still sells, so do buildings protected by historic preservation easements. They are most attractive to those individuals who are actively looking for stable, historic properties and who want to take advantage of a preservation partnership with the easement holder to gain on-going technical help and assistance.

Please consider establishing a Preservation Easement for your historic building before leaving your property to the vagaries of contractors, developers or unsympathetic future owners. Hampton Falls is a historic town with

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a beautiful Town Common and many historic buildings throughout. As such, it would behoove the residents to consider the consequences of losing the historic 'bones' of the town, and to try to preserve those historic gems instead.

If you have any questions or would like to discuss other ways to save old homes and buildings, please join the Heritage Commission on the second Wednesdays of the month at 9 am at Town Hall or contact the Chair through the Town Clerk or at hfnhheritage@gmail.com.

Beverly Mutrie, Chair

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

Hampton Falls School Board (HFSB) updates

Summer is a quiet time for the HFSB and it is hoped you find this brief update useful.

Legislative Update: In each HFSB meeting a brief update is provided on legislation that may impact education. To find information on a specific bill, view current bills, hearing times, or to submit testimony, visit:

<http://www.gencourt.state.nh.us/>

No-Cost Resources for Families to Support Behavioral and Mental Health: SAU21 has partnered with the *Cook Center for Human Connections* to help students, staff, families with children's mental health needs. Resources available on the SAU21 website include over 60 free courses designed to make it easy for parents to tackle difficult topics they may feel uncomfortable discussing with their children.

New phone system installed: The vendor (Connectivity Point Design & Installation) began to install wiring in July throughout Lincoln Akerman School as the first step in updating the phone system. The project is scheduled for full installation in mid-August, with testing and user training for administrative and office staff following installation. This is a key step to enhance safety and communications throughout the building.

The pre-K program has filled up! The HFSB is excited about this offering and the positive responses received. This will be the inaugural year of the Tiger Club preschool.

Coordination with the BOS: Representatives from the HFSB plan to attend monthly meetings to offer any updates on activities.

School Board related updates, visit: www.sau21.org/school-boards

Upcoming dates:

- HFSB meeting: Aug 15@ 6:30 pm
- Back to school: Aug 29
- HFSB meeting: Sept 12@ 6:30 pm
- HFSB meeting: Oct 10@ 6:30 pm
- SAU21 Joint SB meeting: Oct 25@ 6 pm

These updates were provided on behalf of the HFSB: Jason Farias (Chair), Barbara Goodman (Vice-chair), Anthony Lang, Renee Palm, and Jill Swasey.