

TOWN NEWS

Hampton Falls, NH

September / October 2021

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

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

THANK YOU TO LORI RUEST

On August 27, 2021, Lori Ruest left her position as Town Administrator and the Board of Selectmen wish her well in her future endeavors. Lori began working for the Town as a part-time Bookkeeper in 1992. Her skills were evident as she assisted then Town Administrator Eric Small as his Administrative Assistant and handled both the Planning Board and Zoning Board of Adjustment's administrative duties. It was only logical that when Eric retired, Lori was appointed as the Town Administrator in 2013. Lori's organizational skills are outstanding and she has left the office in excellent shape. The Board has appointed Karen Anderson as Interim Town Administrator while the process of a recruitment for Lori's replacement takes place.

PART-TIME MUNICIPAL BOOKKEEPER - Job Opening

The Town of Hampton Falls, NH (pop. 2,400) seeks a person to serve as a Part-Time Municipal Bookkeeper. This position requires a high school diploma, Associates Degree in Accounting, excellent communication and computer skills, 5-years in the field, or equivalent combination of education and experience (PR, AP, GL, other). A description of the job requirements for this position may be obtained by reviewing it on the Town's web site at www.hamptonfalls.org or requesting it from secretary@hamptonfalls.org. Submit a cover letter, application and resume, references and salary history to: "PT Bookkeeper Recruitment," Town Hall, 1 Drinkwater Road, Hampton Falls, NH 03844, no later than September 15, 2021. Job to remain open until the position is filled. EOE Please contact Interim Town Administrator Karen Anderson 1-603-926-4618, x103, or townadministrator@hamptonfalls.org with questions.

FALL HOUSEHOLD WASTE COLLECTION DAY

Please watch for additional information as well as the date and timeframe.

Arrangements are being made to have a compactor truck and driver available at the Brush Dump for a four-hour period of time for the purpose of disposing items directly into the compactor; no other disposal containers will be made available at the Fall collection. The \$10 per trip fee applies.

PLEASE NOTE that this Fall collection day provides for disposal of limited items as compared to the larger Spring collection day. Permitted White Goods are: appliances such as washing machines, hot water heaters, and clothes dryers. Bulky Items include large items, such as: sofas, chairs, and rugs.

The Fall collection will not provide for the disposal of items such as regularly collected at the Spring collection day. For example, those items that are separated from bulky household items for proper disposal include electronics, propane tanks, tires, appliances containing Freon, treated or painted wood and metals. Any of these items brought for disposal at the Fall collection, that are not permitted to be disposed in the compactor truck, will be sent away with you.

Please contact Interim Town Administrator Karen Anderson at 1-603-926-4618, x103, with questions.

HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE COLLECTION DAY

Sept 18, 2021-8am-noon-Hampton DPW Transfer Station; 1 Hardardt's Way; Hampton, NH

Hampton Falls residents have the opportunity to properly dispose of hazardous waste items by participating in the *Town of Hampton, NH*, collection day. The date of the Fall 2021 collection is **Saturday, September 18, 8 a.m. to Noon**, at the Hampton Transfer Station, 11 Hardardt's Way, Hampton, NH. There is a **\$29** fee per vehicle, *prepaid* to the Hampton Falls Town Clerk/Tax Collector, with a limit of up to five (5) gallons or 20

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pounds of waste or the combination of the two; this being a maximum amount allowed.

Please note that the completed Participation Authorization form (attached, see link below), signed and sealed by the Town Clerk, is needed for you to participate. Please present this form at the time of disposal. Please see the listing of acceptable items to bring (and take note of the items not to bring) as well as the ways to be safe in transporting materials.

The Board of Selectmen thanks the Hampton Board of Selectmen for this opportunity to assist Hampton Falls residents with the proper disposal of hazardous wastes.

Please contact the Interim Town Administrator Karen Anderson by calling 1-603-926-4618, extension 103, or by emailing townadministrator@hamptonfalls.org with questions.

Please see additional links, below, for more detailed information.

</home/files/participation-authorization-form-household-hazardous-waste-disposal-hampton-nh-09182021>

</home/files/09182021-hhhw-hampton-flyer>

<https://www.hamptonnh.gov/297/Hazardous-Waste>

TOWN CLERK/TAX COLLECTOR, Stephanie Grant

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

LATE 2021 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 DURING COVID-19

VEHICLE REGISTRATION INFORMATION

We are back open to the public for walk-in service, but we are still offering the drop box service. Please see the below procedure if you wish to use 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 at our outside window.

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)

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- Blank check (once filled in we will copy and send back to you)
- Contact information (email, phone # and address)

Please put this information in an envelope and utilize our drop box outside, to the left 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 come in and renew.

Please show photo I.D. for all motor vehicle transactions.

- Transfers require the original, current registration(s) RSA 261:168 (copies are to be kept in your vehicle(s)).
- 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 our office at 1-603-926-4618 ext. 101 (we are returning voicemails as soon as possible) or email townclerkcollect@hamptonfalls.org (email is being monitored all week) 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 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. 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/ TAX COLLECTORS'S OFFICE 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 is past and interest is now accruing. Please make sure you call or check online for the most current balance before sending a check in. 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

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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.

Just a reminder that when you send in your payment after the due date of July 1, the payment is considered late and interest will begin to accrue daily. Please call, email or visit the new tax kiosk on our website for an updated payoff amount.

BUILDING INSPECTION, Mark Sikorski

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

BUILDING AND ASSOCIATED PERMITS

New construction, as well as some repair and maintenance items, require building permits. If you are unsure, please call the office to inquire on the need. 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.

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 hasn't 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. If you have a permanent home standby generator, be sure it has been exercising and is ready to go. Remember...NEVER run a generator inside. Be safe!

YARD SALE PERMIT REMINDER

Please allow at least one week of advance time for approval of a yard sale application. Should you have questions, with regard to 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 with regard to 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 not approach to less than 25 feet from any road or street.

FIRE DEPARTMENT – Jay Lord, Fire Chief

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

Just a few quick thoughts:

- We do teach the new “hands only” CPR if you are interested.
- While we are not into the heating season yet, now is a good time to have your heating appliances (wood stoves, furnaces, etc.) checked so you don't have a problem during the winter.

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- Don't forget to get your burning permits for fall clean-ups – no leaf burning.
- We are on Facebook at Hampton Falls Fire Department.
- 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).

PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION – Lyn Stan, Chairwoman

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

The Parks and Recreation Commission continues to meet on the 3rd Monday of each month at 6:00 PM at Town Hall. Hampton Falls Parks and Recreation traditionally brings fun to our community, by offering quality programming and events for our residents and greater community.

It was a busy summer 2021 season at Governor Weare Park. Mark Lane and Mike Montville (NEB) continue to schedule the teams and leagues who use the field. The proposal to purchase and install a new sign at Governor Weare Park failed on the town's ballot this year. The sign is in desperate need of repair. Volunteers are needed to refurbish, rebuild or repair the sign.

The Seniors Organizing for Seniors group still hopes to be a hub for the seniors in our town. Their mission is to complement existing services and foster ongoing community engagement by providing programs, activities and services to support independent living. This program is having a hard time getting off the ground, as many seniors are still very uneasy with venturing out. The group is working on a questionnaire mailer to see where they can best service our age-65 and older residents.

The Summer Camp program, ran by Lincoln Akerman's Art Teacher, Stacey Bellen, from July 5 to July 30th, was well attended. The Parks and Recreation Commission has made a concerted effort to offer programs within the guidance provided by the State of New Hampshire.

The Parks and Recreation Commission coordinated the return of the Castleberry Fair the weekend of July 4th-5th, and the Fair will return two more weekends this Fall, on September 18th-19th and October 9th -10th.

The 2021 Summer Concerts on the Common and Cool Wheels kicked off on Thursday, June 17st with an Aerosmith Tribute band and on June 24th an Allman Brothers Tribute band with Cool Wheels. Due to the many weather challenges, 3 events had to be rescheduled. The rescheduled dates are: September, 10th, 11th and 12th. Please see www.HamptonFallsBandstand.com or Facebook for the bands and updates!

Additionally, Wayne from Maine performed his children's program at the Bandstand on July 20th, and was well attended by children in the community.

The Parks and Recreation Commission is excited to be organizing a Scarecrow event this October with the school. Details of the Scarecrow event and a flyer will be shared shortly. This event will be a prelude to the upcoming 300th Celebrations of our town, and a history lesson for our children and residents. Stay tuned for exciting updates and how you will be able to participate. This will be a true community event!

The Parks and Recreation Commission is always looking for people to join our team. Do you have a passion to build community spirit or have creative ideas and want to help encourage social bonds? If yes, please consider joining the Parks and Recreation Commission, and attend one of our meetings!

CONSERVATION COMMISSION – Mary Ann Hill, Chair

Meets the second Tuesday of the month at 6:30 pm at Town Hall.

The Summer of 2021 has been very productive. We hired a summer intern, a Senior at UNH in environmental studies to help us with some of our projects. His name is Taylor Foley, he's from Hampton, and he was interested in learning about conservation stewardship.

After a quick tour of Town properties, and a crash course in invasive plant identification and mechanical control methods, Taylor dug right in and was an excellent worker. He attacked the Bittersweet that was taking over the parking area for the Marsh Lane Preserve. We now have room for four cars instead of two. At the Raspberry Farm he started clearing the invasive plants around the entrance to the parking area and along the length of the field including the poison ivy that was on the stone walls. Some of the Bittersweet vines were the size of a person's wrist. There is another stone wall at the top of the Raspberry Farm field that had been totally engulfed by: Bittersweet, Autumn Olive, Grape and, yes, Poison Ivy, and which we had wanted to turn into a pollinator garden. Taylor attacked that area as well and we can now see the stone wall again. It still needs some more work before we can plant, but at least we made big progress there.

When Taylor wasn't ripping out Bittersweet, he and I took a driving tour of the town surveying areas with heavy concentrations of invasive plants along the roads. All that greenery hanging off of trees and utility poles and wires is a hazard. Other invasives, like Japanese Knotweed, can extend into the roads and impair visibility at intersections. Then after collecting data and photos of the most congested areas, Taylor created a map showing the distribution of Bittersweet, Knotweed, Multiflora Rose and other invasive plants throughout the Town. We will be posting the map on the Town's website. It is the Conservation Commission's intent to generate interest in getting control of these invasive plants. Management needs to be a Town-wide effort between residents, the Road Agent and the Conservation Commission. A big thank you to Taylor for his part in getting us moving in that direction.

We had the good fortune to rescue a Red-Tailed Hawk at the Marsh Lane Preserve. We were walking the trail, with representatives from SELT, and came across a rain soaked, bedraggled bird sitting on the ground. We took the bird to "On the Wing" in Epping where it was identified as a two-year-old Red Tail. We are hoping he can be rehabilitated and returned to the Marsh Lane Preserve.

On a sad note, we lost one of our members, Glenn Schrempf, to cancer in August. Glen monitored activity at the Depot Road landing and the Raspberry Farm. He also tended the Raspberry Farm field, fertilizing and liming as necessary and haying. At the service for Glen, his sister recounted how Glen, even knowing how sick he was, still hoped to hay that field one last time. He will be missed.

HISTORICAL SOCIETY – Tracy Healey-Beattie, President**"YOUR FUTURE IS A PRESENT FROM THE PAST"**

The question is being asked all over Town "what's going on at the Museum?" Lots!! Contractors coming and going; a steady stream of dedicated Historical Society Trustees working on the wonderful artifacts of Hampton Falls, and a fresh design of the interior of the building. Memories reflective of the beloved Library will return to many, but the Society's current endeavor is to give the community a vibrant and informative journey on the history of Hampton Falls. With this approach, the Hampton Falls Historical Society gives acknowledgment to the past, as preparing to embrace the three-hundredth anniversary of Hampton Falls in 2022.

To achieve this mission, the Historical Society is initiating a FUNDRAISING DRIVE this Fall. The first notice you will receive is an effort to identify new e-mail addresses, and, to encourage people to register to win a stainless-steel Family Time Capsule. This is not a membership drive. Going forward, more details on the

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Historical Society's monetary goal, and how you can help to achieve this much needed number, will be in your mail. It is always uncomfortable to ask for money but, in weeks to come, the Historical Society does need this gift in order to be successful.

The Hampton Falls' Historical Society was formed in a humble 1753 Keeping Room, down the road from you. Together, from children to elders, help give this gift to the community. It will take a committed effort from all to achieve this exciting challenge ...THANK YOU!

Tracy Healey- Beattie, President; Beverly Mutrie, Vice-President;
Wendy Harrington, Treasurer; Anne Coombs, Secretary;
Ward Dilmore; Linda Hladik; Carolyn Petit; Karen Sabatini; Hunter Stetz; Mark Thompson, Trustees

HERITAGE COMMISSION - Beverly Mutrie, Chair

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

The Commission members: Beverly Mutrie, Mary Ann Hill, Phil Chura and Selectman Lou Gargiulo, have been meeting throughout the summer as there are several ongoing projects.

Phil was taking drone and still photographs of historic buildings (with owner's permission) until the leaves popped this past Spring, and he will resume again after leaf drop this Fall. There are only about 20 properties remaining to do. The Heritage Commission is still hunting for the Warren Brown Boulder, at the corner of Old Stage and Brown Roads (South side). Please help! Work progresses on getting all historic resources in town inventoried and surveyed, with the data included in an approximately 48-page survey booklet, that the Heritage Commission plans to publish in 2022.

Along with the booklet, the Heritage Commission hopes to upload pictures to the web to be used for the ARC-GIS mapping software that would put all of the historic property data on a map with a photo and a short summary, so that viewers can find information about a specific property.

Please consider volunteering to become a Heritage Commission commissioner, to serve for a three-year term. The Heritage Commission has some regulatory authority over the Demolition Delay Ordinance, but the purpose is primarily documenting and advising. Complete the Town's Volunteer Application on the Town of Hampton Falls' website at www.TownofHamptonFalls.org, or attend a Heritage Commission public meeting, scheduled on the first Tuesday of the month at 9 am (subject to change). Interested historians, or those with restoration experience, are encouraged to lend their expertise and give the Heritage Commission a hand.

TRICENTENNIAL COMMITTEE – Judy Haskell, Secretary

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

It's only a year away!

The Hampton Falls Tricentennial Celebration will take place from **Sunday, July 31st, through Saturday, August 6th, 2022** and our growing team of Committee members has been generating and beginning to plan a full week of activities and programs that will delight residents of all ages. Many of Hampton Falls' organizations and committees have demonstrated interest in partnering with the Tricentennial Committee to guarantee a memorable and fun-filled celebration.

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In the meantime, an updated History of Hampton Falls has been in the works and will be available for pre-sale in the coming months. Tricentennial merchandise is being refreshed and replenished! Holiday medallions, ball caps, beanie hats, and long-sleeve tee shirts are available in a variety of sizes (see photos below). Please contact committee member Weezie Vance at weezievance@gmail.com to purchase items and make arrangements for pick-up, or visit Weezie Vance's "store" at the final Band Concert on the Town Common on Thursday evening September 12!



If you'd like to get involved in the planning, or, participate in the success of the Tricentennial Celebration, volunteers are welcome to join the Tricentennial Committee. If you'd like to join, please fill out a volunteer application form that can be found on the Town of Hampton Falls web site [VOLUNTEER APPLICATION \(hamptonfalls.org\)](http://hamptonfalls.org) and submit it to Interim Town Administrator, Karen Anderson at TownAdministrator@Hamptonfalls.org.