

TOWN NEWS

NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 2018

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

James Ziolkowski, Chairman, Larry Smith, Vice Chairman, Edward Beattie, Selectman



Happy Holiday wishes are extended to all as well as sincere thanks to the employees, board members, committee members, and volunteers, and those residents who make a unique and positive difference, for their dedication throughout the year(s).

FIVE NEW STAFF JOIN TOWN OF HAMPTON FALLS

The Board of Selectmen wishes to WELCOME Liz Riordan, Treasurer, Erin Sneiderman, Parks and Recreation Commission Secretary, Lacey Kelly, Police Department Secretary, Grant Fotheringham, Part-Time Police Officer, and Justin Doty, Part Time Police Officer, to the Town.

PARKING BAN AND SNOW REMOVAL

Townspople are reminded that effective December 15, no overnight parking (6 p.m. to 6 a.m.) 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.

JAY M. LORD, FIRE CHIEF FIRE DEPT. CHRISTMAS TREE SALE

The Fire Department will conduct its annual fundraiser of selling Christmas trees on the Common. We will start the Friday after Thanksgiving and be there Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays until the trees are gone. Remember to keep your trees/presents a good distance away from any heat source and water all live trees daily during the holidays.

BRUSH DUMP / CHRISTMAS TREE DISPOSAL

The Town Brush Dump will close for the winter months effective November 24 and will remain closed until April 6. However, for the convenience of those in need of disposing of Christmas trees, the dump will be open on Saturday, January 5th from 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. for trees only.

HOLLY E. KNOWLES, TOWN CLERK townclerk@hamptonfalls.org - 926-4618, Ext. 1

NOVEMBER 6 GENERAL ELECTION

The State application for absentee ballots is available on the Town website or at the Town Clerk's office. Absentee ballots for the November 6 General Election are now available for registered voters who qualify. Polls will be open at the Town Hall from 8 a.m. – 8 p.m. on Election Day.

VEHICLE REGISTRATION INFORMATION

Please show photo I.D. for all motor vehicle transactions (for your insurance fraud protection).

To possibly save time waiting in lines, we recommend coming in on Tuesdays which have historically been less busy than Mondays and Thursdays.

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-Renewals and 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 of noon and 3:30 p.m. as possible (by 11:45 a.m. or 3:15 p.m. at the very latest).

-A limit of 2 “regular” (renewals) vehicle transactions per person after 3:15 p.m. please. Financial closeouts are required daily at 3:30 p.m. Credit/debit card transactions are closed at 3:15 p.m.

-All transactions may be done through the mail if you can’t get in to our office (call 926-4618, Ext. 1 or E-mail us (townclerk@hamptonfalls.org) for instructions.

-Only ONE check is required payable to “Town of Hampton Falls” which now includes town and state fees for your vehicle registration(s).

-All Major Credit/Debit Cards are accepted for payment. An additional credit/debit card fee (percentage of your total amount) applies to all card transactions.

Cash payments should be as close to the amount due as possible -- no large bills please (we keep limited cash).

INTERNET VEHICLE RENEWALS

We recommend completing your vehicle renewal(s) over the internet (E-Reg). Click on the Town Clerk’s web page (www.hamptonfalls.org), motor vehicles, plate link for instructions, and you will receive your registration(s) and decal(s) through the mail. Renewals over 3 months late and residents wanting to make changes, complete transfers or obtain new plates will still need to come in to the office.

FILING FOR A MARRIAGE LICENSE

Please call ahead to schedule an early afternoon appointment when coming in to apply for a new marriage license. Limited staff prevents us from being able to process a license “on the spot.” The cost is \$50 and requires both persons’ I.D.s 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 which will take you to EB2Gov for processing. Limited staff prevents us from being able to produce certified copies “on the spot.” Requests for self-cling, 3-year brush dump stickers are available on-line or from the Town Clerk’s office at a cost of \$30 each.

BUILDING INSPECTION/HEALTH OFFICER - Mark Sikorski

With winter upon us, it is time to get ready for the cold, snow and ice. Please consider the following suggestions. Some residents have issues with ice dams. Now is the time to address that issue before it gets too cold to attach heating cables to the roof possibly causing more damage. An electrical outlet needs to be installed close to the element as extension cords are only for limited temporary use. This outlet must be GFI protected. If the outlet is outdoors it must also have a weatherproof cover installed.

Does your home have a standby power generator? Check over your equipment for proper operation. There is nothing worse than trying to start the generator after the power goes out without success. Review the area set aside for generator operation. Is it free of flammable debris? Is it far enough away from your home's windows and doors to allow fumes to safely dissipate?

Time to get your heating appliances serviced to avoid failure causing pipes to burst and expensive damage to your home.

It is important to keep wood and pellet stoves clean. Good dry hardwood along with keeping creosote to a minimum is essential to a safe warm wood stove fire. Pellet stoves are easy to keep clean. One part that is critical to safe operation is the auger. It is important to clean out any stuck pellets and dust. If you have questions or concerns, you can check with stove dealers that can help answer questions or make repairs.

Now that all of these winter appliances are ready to run, take a walk around the home and check out your smoke alarm system. If you don't already have one, make it a point to purchase and install a reliable carbon monoxide detector. If your home already contains interconnected smoke alarms you may update the system and add carbon monoxide units into the mix. The units should be located just outside the sleeping areas to alert occupants of this odorless killer. Additional CO detectors on all levels will increase your protection. Winter well and be safe.

Gutters need to be cleaned. Please keep safety in mind when using ladders. Another item to keep in mind before the ground freezes is to have your septic tank pumped and checked.

Reminder: Hampton Falls has adopted a Historic Demolition Delay ordinance that affects any structure 75 years and older. The ordinance can be viewed in its entirety on line at hamptonfalls.org. It is in the Building Code, page 2, Section 4.

TAX COLLECTOR - Stephanie Grant

The tax rate has been set at \$19.90 for 2018. Tax bills will be mailed and will be due thirty days from the date on which the bills are mailed. Please look for the due date on the bill. Please keep the top portion of the bill for your records and detach the bottom portion to return with your payment. Please note that the Tax Office will be closed on Thursday, December 27th.

Tax bills can also be viewed/printed and paid online at www.hamptonfalls.org, on the right side of the home page. **Please be aware there is a 2.95% charge for credit/debit transactions and a \$0.95 for ACH transactions.** This is a bank processing fee and is not retained or charged by the Town of Hampton Falls. Please let us know if you have moved, changed your name, or are now using a PO Box so that we can get your tax bill to you in a timely fashion.

Read your tax bill thoroughly as it contains important information such as the hours that the tax office is open, the tax bill due date, the interest rate on late payments, your assessment, and exemption and/or tax credit information. **The tax office hours are Monday, Tuesday and Thursday from 8 a.m. to 12 p.m. and 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. Please note that if you pay after 3 p.m. on the due date, your payment is considered late.**

When using on-line bill pay through your bank- please select a 'pay date' that is earlier than the due date. Some institutions do not cut the check until the 'pay date,' so if you use the due date as the 'pay date' we won't receive the payment on time and you will be charged interest. Please make sure your

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payment is not post-dated, the Tax Office is not allowed by law to hold tax payments. If you send in a postdated check, it will be returned and could result in a late fee. Whether you pay your taxes by mail or leave it in the drop box to the left of the outside door and would like a receipt, please include a self-addressed, stamped envelope. We now have a drop box to the right of the Tax Collector's window too, for your convenience. Again, we require a self-addressed, stamped envelope if you would like a receipt. Checks cannot be post-dated or they will be returned. *Thank you.*

HISTORICAL SOCIETY – Anne Coombs, Secretary

The Historical Society is teaming up with the Tercentennial Committee for the writing of the book updating the history of Hampton Falls starting in 1917 where Warren Brown left off. The Society has appropriated \$15,000 as seed money to get the project underway. Collin Garcia, a young man with excellent credentials and skills, will be doing the writing and layout.

The Historical Society Annual Meeting was held Tuesday, October 16, 2018. We had a nice turn out of attendees for our meeting and program “10,000 Years in Hampton Falls.” Jacob Tumelaire, Archeologist was our guest speaker. Jake is with a local Archeological Consulting firm, and has been researching our collection of Indian artifacts found in the growing fields behind the old Edgerly Farm homestead along Depot Road. The collection dates back 10,000 years to the Paleo-Indian period. Jake was a great speaker and very enthusiastic about the collection which is still a work in progress. Our gracious thanks are extended to Jake and his partner Mark Greenly, who is a former President of the New Hampshire Archeological Society, for their work and efforts with this project.

During the Board meeting, Tracy Healy-Beattie and David French were voted onto the Board of Trustees of the Society. They are both former members, and we welcome them back. Officers of the Board will be voted in at the next Society meeting on November 13th in the Museum at 6:45 p.m. All are welcome to attend.

The Museum is now closed for the season but can be opened by appointment. The Board will continue to work on cataloging the collection and improving the interior during the off season. We meet the second Tuesday of each month in the Museum at 6:45 p.m. and all are welcome to join us. New members of the Society are always needed to help with the constant “work in progress.” Those of you who are interested, please visit a meeting and see what we are all about.

By now, you will have received your Annual Appeal card in the mail. We are a 501(c)(3) non-profit entity and receive no tax based revenue to support our operational costs. Your donations and dues will help cover the cost of the funds appropriated to the Tercentennial Committee for the book writing. The 300th Anniversary in 2022 will be an exciting time for us all, and we certainly want the book to be amazing! Thanking you in advance for your generosity.

Please like us on Facebook and visit us at www.hamptonfallshs.org.

Tricentennial Committee – Judy Haskell, Secretary

Great News for Hampton Falls!

The Hampton Falls Tricentennial Committee has joined forces with the Hampton Falls Historical Society to update and publish a continuation of The History of Hampton Falls which will include an oral history. More information will be provided after details are finalized.

The Tricentennial Committee has been meeting regularly to raise awareness of the Tricentennial in 2022 and has ordered commemorative pewter Christmas ornaments to sell. This year's ornament features the Old Stage Road covered bridge on one side and the Town Common on the other side. Several local business owners and Lincoln Akerman School will have the ornaments available to purchase.

Library News for November-December 2018

Successful Book Sale

Once again, I would like to thank the Hampton Falls community for supporting our annual book sale. The community support was truly uplifting. The Library is indeed fortunate to have so many people who donated books, sorted books, bought books, set up tables, set up displays, priced the books, baked for the bake sale, sold baked goods, bought baked goods, counted money, bought yard sale items, and donated coffee. We would like to extend a special thanks to the Cub Scouts and their families who worked so hard at the bake sale.

Programs

The Library is pleased to present Katy Kramer, author of Portsmouth Naval Prison. Ms. Kramer will show many rarely seen photographs, recount the actual history, dispel myths, and answer questions about this iconic landmark Portsmouth Harbor. The program will take place on **Tuesday, November 13 at 6:30 p.m.**

On **Saturday, December 8 at 1:00 p.m.**, Ramblin' Richard will return to the Hampton Falls Free Library with a holiday concert. Come enjoy some holiday music and cookies with your neighbors.

Both programs are sponsored by the Friends of the Hampton Falls Free Library.

Closings

The Library will close at 5:00 p.m. on **Wednesday, November 21** and close all day **Thursday, November 22** for Thanksgiving Day.

Ho-Ho-Ho!

A holiday tradition for many years, we are looking forward to our annual Santa Party at the Library on Saturday **December 1** from 10:00-12:00. There will be an opportunity to visit with Santa and tell him what you're hoping to find under the tree, have your picture taken with him, and enjoy all kinds of festive snacks while visiting with neighbors and friends. It's a guaranteed good time! If you would like to provide a little deliciousness for the treat table, please call us at 926-3682 or sign up at the Library.

What we are Reading

On **Tuesday, November 27 at 7:00 p.m.**, our Adult Book Group will discuss The Stranger in the Woods: the Extraordinary Story of the Last True Hermit by Michael Finkel. This riveting narrative is the true story of Christopher Knight who disappeared into the Maine woods for nearly three decades.

On **December 18 at 7:00 p.m.**, the group will once again revisit a classic. In honor of the 150th anniversary of publication, the group will discuss Louisa May Alcott's iconic tale of growing up Little Women. Who can forget the lines on the opening page, "'Christmas won't be Christmas without any presents, grumbled Jo.'" Books are available at the Library and new members are always welcome.

"Far away there in the sunshine are my highest aspirations. I may not reach them but I can look up and see their beauty, believe in them and try to follow them." Louisa May Alcott
Best wishes always,

Barbara Tosiano
Library Director

LIBRARY YOUTH SERVICES

I would like to thank the Hampton Falls Cub Scouts and their families for the outstanding bake sale they held to raise money for our Summer Reading Program. Great job! Your hard work and dedication to the Library is very much appreciated! I also want to thank our many patrons who donated delicious baked goods for the sale. The proceeds from the sale will be used to sponsor one of our Summer Reading Wednesday evening programs.

In case of inclement weather, please call the Library to check if we will be holding programs that day. If schools are closed, the Library may or may not be open but programs will be cancelled.

STORY TIMES AND BOOK GROUP

The Baby-Toddler Story Time is designed for newborns through the 2's. There is a lot of activity! It is held Tuesdays from 10:30 – 11ish AM. This session will run through December 4th. It is currently full but you can sign up for the wait list.

The current sessions of Pre-School Story Times will run through December 5th and 6th respectively. They are scheduled for 1:30 – 2 PM on Wednesdays and 10:30 – 11 AM on Thursdays. There is still space in the Wednesday 1:30 PM session so please call or stop in the Library to sign up. **There will be no Story Time on November 21st and 22nd.**

Kindergarten Club! This program is held on Wednesdays from 3 – 3:45 PM and is currently full. It will run through December 5th. **There will be no Kindergarten Club on November 21st.**

The After School Story Time is also full. This Story Time will also run through December 4th.

Sign up for the next Story Time session will begin at 10 AM on Thursday, January 10th at 10 AM with sessions beginning the following week. Please phone or drop in to sign up.

The Novel Ideas 5th – 8th Grade Book Discussion Group "usually" meets on the third Wednesday of the month. Mark your calendars for **Wednesday, November 28th from 6:30 –**

7:15 PM (one week later than usual) and Wednesday December 19th from 6:30 – 7:15 PM.
New members are always welcome.

SPECIAL PROGRAMS

Yoga!

Yoga for ages 2 – 5 with a parent/caregiver is scheduled for Fridays from 10:30 – 11 AM on November 16th, November 30th, December 7th, and December 21st. Please sign up in advance as space is limited.

Yoga for K – 4th grade is scheduled for Thursday, November 15th and Thursday, December 6th from 4 – 4:45 PM. Please sign up in advance for each session individually.

Yoga for 5th – 8th grade is scheduled for Wednesday, November 14th and Wednesday, December 5th from 6:30 – 7:30 PM. Please sign up for each session individually.

Santa Claus contacted us from the North Pole to let us know he will be coming to the Library on **Saturday, December 1st from 10 AM – Noon.** Our Santa Party is always a wonderful event!

Lego Club! Thursday, November 29th and December 13th from 4 – 4:45 PM for children in Kindergarten on up. The Legos will be provided (but stay in the Library so we'll have them for the next program!). Come ready to use your imagination! Please sign up for each program individually in advance. **Please note, this is not a program that children should take the bus to the Library.**

Polar Express Pajama Story Time We will be having a special Story Time on **Wednesday, December 12th at 6:30 PM.** Children are welcome to come in their PJs and bring a favorite snuggly stuffed animal to listen to The Polar Express. This has been great fun! Please sign up in advance.

Puppet Show! Carol and Crew will hold a puppet show at the Library on **Tuesday, December 18th from 3:30 – 4:15 PM.** No sign up is required.

See you at the Library!

Carol Sanborn
Head of Youth Services

Hampton Falls School District News

2018-2019 School Year

November/December 2018

School Board News

Construction has begun on the school addition. The fencing is in place and the foundation installation has started. The building committee continues to meet to make sure the project is on track. Stop by and check out the progress!

The School Board will be working on the budget for the 2019-2020 school year. The focus, as always, is to offer the best possible education for our students while endeavoring to keep the taxpayers in mind.

Happenings at Lincoln Akerman

The school is in full swing after the first two months of the year. There is information readily available on the LAS website. There are a many programs and initiatives going on not only at Lincoln Akerman but across the SAU to bring our districts together.

A few events that may be of interest are:

LAS Yard Sale

Tiger Trot

Holiday Concert

Community members are welcome and encouraged to attend.

Current Hampton Falls School Board Members

Mark Lane, Chair

Greg Parish, Vice Chair

Pamela Miller

John Bailly

Greg Marrow

mlane@sau21.org

gparish@sau21.org

pmiller@sau21.org

jbailly@sau21.org

gmarrow@sau21.org

The Hampton Falls School Board usually meets once a month for regular meetings on the second Thursday of each month. Hampton Falls residents are encouraged to attend meetings. Or, you can watch us on the internet, as we are streaming our monthly meetings live (you can also watch them later in the archive form as well). The online meeting video library can be accessed on the LAS home page (www.sau21.org/las). Information about meeting dates and times, agendas and minutes are available on line at www.sau21.org.

Current Hampton Falls Representative to the Winnacunnet School Board

David Gandt

dgandt@sau21.org

Winnacunnet School Board meetings are usually scheduled on the 3rd Wednesday of the month. Meeting agendas, minutes and videos are available on line at www.sau21.org.

November brings voting to WHS (no school for students) as well as many fall sport banquets. The Fall Play, class fundraisers, holiday concert. On a more serious note, SAT and ACT exams will be held in November and December respectively.

Check the school website for more details. www.winnacunnet.org