#### BOARD OF SELECTMEN

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

### IT'S REVALUATION TIME IN HAMPTON FALLS by Karen Anderson, Town Administrator

Market value, assessed value, revaluations, statistical update.... these terms will all be heard frequently over the next several months in Hampton Falls. That is because Hampton Falls will be starting the first phase of the revaluation as required by the Department of Revenue. The town's assessed property values need to be between 90 – 110% of market value. Currently. Hampton Falls' property values are 77% of fair market value, based on the State's equalization study. The revaluation is not as simple as adding 23% to all of the property values because the values of different types of properties and neighborhoods (land, condos, commercial, etc.) have all changed by different percentages. Residential properties have increased in value at a greater percentage than the commercial properties over the past five years.

In New Hampshire, the assessed value of individual properties is not adjusted each year, values are only adjusted during periodic revaluations or when physical changes are made to the property. The technical steps taken in a revaluation are beyond the scope of this article, but understanding the basic process will be helpful to property owners in understanding new values. To determine the "market value", recent sales in the community and factors that affected the value of the property, such as the location, type of construction, size, etc are analyzed. The Assessor then evaluates supplemental data such as commercial reports on the cost of construction for the region, circumstances regarding particular sales and any other information that may impact property values. It is not a scientific, exact process. It is a logical process that uses the best information available at that time to determine the fair market value. It is important to recognize that "market value" is as of a certain point in time, April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2023 for this current process.

When people hear that their property value is increasing, it does not mean that a higher tax bill will occur. We know that Hampton Falls average values are lower than they should be, but one of the factors that the Department of Revenue also evaluates each year is how proportional the values are between the different sections of the town and types of properties. Hampton Falls continues to score well on the proportionality of the values, so we anticipate that the value changes on properties will be fairly even across the various neighborhoods and property types. When the value of property increases, the tax rate decreases, and the amount of taxes one pays remains approximately the same. The example below shows two different types of properties, with slightly different percentages of change. The market value of the bigger house did not increase by the same percentage as the smaller house, so one tax bill decreased slightly while the other increased slightly. This is what we expect will happen in Hampton Falls.

Property Values		Tax Rate	Tax Bill	
Before Revaluation				
Big House	\$500,000	\$21.12	\$10,560	
Little House	\$200,000	\$21.12	\$ 4,224	
After Revaluation				
Big House	\$565,000	\$18.50 (Example ONLY)	\$10,452	
Little House	\$235,000	\$18.50 (Example ONLY)	\$ 4,347	

As I write this article, a field representative from the Department of Revenue is reviewing several random properties in Hampton Falls to verify the accuracy of our data. Avitar will be starting their review of the property sales from April 1, 2022 forward and appointments will be made to view those properties. The statistical work

will be done through the Spring and then residents will receive a notice of their proposed new values. Informal reviews will be scheduled by telephone for residents with questions, prior to the final assessments being sent to the Department of Revenue for certification. The value you receive by mail is tentative and is not final until DRA confirms it. The final numbers will be used in conjunction with the budgets that get approved at the Town and School District Meetings in March, 2023 to determine the new tax rate.

This process is required by State law and not something that the Town can opt out of. It is an expense to the Town and we recognize that it can cause concern for residents. An important benefit to the Town of having an accurate valuation of properties is that many of the revenues that the School and Town receive from the State are based in part on the overall valuation of the Town. It is important that Hampton Falls receive the appropriate amount of State Aid which reduces the tax burdens on the community.

#### FALL HOUSEHOLD WASTE COLLECTION DAY

The Town's semi-annual waste collection day has been postponed due to State permitting requirements, with a date TBD. <u>Please watch for additional information as well as the date and timeframe.</u> Please contact Town Administrator Karen Anderson at 1-603-926-4618, x103, with questions.

### HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE COLLECTION DAY IN HAMPTON, NH

## Sept 17, 2022-8am-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 2022 collection is Saturday, September 17, from 8 a.m. to Noon, at the Hampton Transfer Station, 11 Hardardt's Way, Hampton, NH. There is a \$30 fee per vehicle, *prepaid* to the Hampton Falls Town Clerk/Tax Collector, with a limit of up to five (5) gallons or 20 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 <u>not</u> 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 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.

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

HHWC Day 2018 - For Website.pdf (hamptonnh.gov)

## TOWN CLERK/TAX COLLECTOR, Stephanie Grant

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

## \*\*EXCITING NEWS - Extended Town Clerk/Tax Collector Office Hours \*\*

Beginning September 6, 2022, the Town Clerk/Tax Collector's office will be open Monday – Wednesday 8 am to 3:30 pm and on Thursday from 8 am to 6 pm. We will remain open through the lunch hour.

### SEPTEMBER 13, 2022 PRIMARY AND NOVEMBER 6, 2022 GENERAL ELECTIONS

The State application for absentee ballots is available on the Town website. Absentee ballots for the September 13, 2022 Primary are now available for registered voters who qualify.

## **LATE 2022 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 <a href="www.hamptonfalls.org">www.hamptonfalls.org</a> to renew online. You may also renew your vehicle by dropping off a copy of your previous registration, copy of your license and a payment (please see above) and drop into the outside drop box. You can also call into 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 <u>notarized Power of Attorney</u> 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 or email <a href="mailto:townclerkcollect@hamptonfalls.org">townclerkcollect@hamptonfalls.org</a> 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 <a href="mailto:townclerkcollect@hamptonfalls.org">townclerkcollect@hamptonfalls.org</a>. The Birth, Death or Marriage must have taken place in NH. 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 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 <a href="www.hamptonfalls.org">www.hamptonfalls.org</a> and clicking on <a href="Property Taxes Review/Pay">Property Taxes Review/Pay</a> 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 5, 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.

#### TAX EXEMPTIONS AND TAX CREDITS by Karen Anderson, Town Administrator

Over the years, the Hampton Falls voters have recognized the importance of assisting our elderly and disabled residents with property tax exemptions and have honored our Veterans with generous Veteran's credits. The cost of the exemptions and tax credits that are granted to qualified property owners is shared by all of the other property tax payers, which is why any changes to the State's minimum requirements must be voted on at Town Meeting. Many of our property owners enjoy the benefits of these credits, exemptions, and deferrals, while there may be other residents who are not aware of these options that may be available to them. A <u>tax credit</u> is an amount of money that is deducted directly from the taxpayer's tax bill, and a <u>tax exemption</u> is the amount of money that is deducted from the assessed valuation of the real estate before the property tax is billed. The State of New Hampshire requires municipalities to provide some of these benefits, with the Town having the option to set limits and establish requirements that are more favorable than the State's minimums and offer additional exemptions that are not required.

#### **VETERANS TAX CREDIT**

The State of New Hampshire, through RSA 72:28, requires towns to provide a minimum tax credit to qualifying veterans of \$50, with the option for Towns to increase that tax credit up to \$750. Hampton Falls residents have voted to increase the Veteran's Credit to \$600. The requirements to qualify for a Veterans Credit are set by the State and require that: the property must be the principal residence of the Veteran, and, the Veteran must have lived in New Hampshire for one year preceding the April 1<sup>st</sup> that the credit begins. The voters also increased the Veteran's credit for those with a 100% service disability to \$2,800.

In 2016, the State Legislature added an Optional Veteran's Credit, that towns may adopt, that will extend the Veteran's Credit to all Honorably Discharged Veterans with 90-days of active service, regardless if they served during one of the armed conflicts previously required. Hampton Falls has adopted this provision and those veterans receive the same credit of \$600.

## **ELDERLY EXEMPTIONS**

All municipalities in New Hampshire are required to offer a <u>tax exemption</u> for elderly residents who are 65-years of age or older and who have lived in New Hampshire for three consecutive years. There are minimum financial requirements that are set by the State, and towns then have the ability to adjust those requirements through Town Meeting votes. To qualify, the property must be owned by the resident, jointly with a spouse, or in a trust with the qualifying person shown as a trustee. If the property is owned jointly, with someone <u>other than a spouse</u> who does not meet the age requirement, the exemption is prorated based on the percentage of ownership. Currently,

the financial requirements are that the tax payer must have a net income of not more than \$45,000 if single, or \$65,000 if married; and own assets not in excess of \$220,000 excluding the value of the person's residence. The exemption amount for residents who qualify between the ages of 65 and 74 is \$150,000; for residents between ages 75 – 79 the exemption amount is \$170,000 and for residents age 80 and over the exemption amount is \$190,000. The net income is defined as all monies received from any source, including social security and pensions, and then deducting proceeds from the sale of assets such as stocks. If the property is a duplex, the rental income is counted. The Town is required to certify that residents receiving the elderly exemption continue to qualify, and that is done periodically. During 2023, all recipients will be required to recertify as part of our State Certification process done by the Department of Revenue. All applications for elderly credits and exemptions are due by April 1<sup>st</sup> and must be approved by the Board of Selectmen.

### **TAX DEFERRALS**

Another option that is available to our elderly and disabled residents is a <u>tax deferral</u>. This is very different from the tax exemption because the property taxes that are assessed are paid by the Town, and a tax deferral lien is placed on file at the Registry of Deeds. At the time the property is sold or deeded to someone else, the taxes are then paid, with a 5% interest rate. This deferral is available to property owners if the tax liability causes an undue hardship or possible loss of the property. If there is a mortgage on the property, permission for this lien must be given by the mortgage company. There are other restrictions on this deferral and appointments can be made with the Town Administrator to explain them to any interested resident.

### **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. Recently a significant number of backyard deck expansions have been noticed without permitting. 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. Decks are considered structures and are subject to property setback rules. Pools, both above and in-ground, are also considered structures and subject to building setbacks. If you are unsure, please call the office to inquire prior to start. Accessory Dwelling Units MUST be reviewed for septic 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. 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!

#### SCENIC ROAD ORDINANCE

Hampton Falls maintains a Scenic Road Ordinance as part of our Zoning. It seeks to protect the beauty of our 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 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:

- The Fire Department teaches various <u>CPR classes</u> for any size group.
- While it is not quite into the heating season yet, now is a good time to have your <u>heating appliances (wood stoves, furnaces, etc.) checked</u> 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 no leaf burning.
- There are numerous <u>Blood Drives</u> happening over the next couple of months, at both the Fire Department and at Town Hall watch our Facebook page for more information
- The Fire Department is always looking for new members if you're interested in the medical side <u>FREE</u> <u>training class for EMR Emergency Medical Responder</u> (a step below EMT, but still work on ambulance) give us a call for more info.
- <u>Call 1-603-926-5752 if you have a question</u> or **9-1-1** for emergencies (no, you're NOT bothering us......it's what we are trained to do).

## **RECREATION COMMISSION – Lyn Stan, Chairwoman**

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

The Recreation Commission is comprised of: Chair Lyn Stan, Treasurer Karen Sabatini, Secretary Beth Forgione, and members Pam Fitzgerald, Phil Chura and Kathy Dittami, Selectmen's Representative Mark Lane, and Governor Weare Park (GWP) Liaison Larry Smith. The Hampton Falls Recreation Commission traditionally makes every effort to bring fun and offer quality programming and events for residents and the greater community.

It was a busy summer season at <u>Governor Weare Park</u>. Mark Lane and Mike Montville (NEB) continue to schedule the teams and leagues that use the fields. The Recreation Commission's participation in the Tricentennial week was the <u>Home Run Derby event at GWP</u>. The Home Run Derby was very well received with lots of positive feedback. The award winners' names were added to the trophies distributed the day of the event. T-shirts were given to participants and everyone was treated to Hot Dogs and Cracker Jacks thru out the game. The flyer describing the Home Run Derby will be included in the Time Capsule.

The <u>Summer Camp program</u>, run by Lincoln Akerman's Art Teacher, Stacey Bellen from July 11<sup>th</sup> to August 5<sup>th</sup>, was well attended. The Recreation Commission has made a concerted effort to offer what is possible for programming, within the guidance provided by the State of New Hampshire.

A <u>Children's Craft Fair</u> was held on the Town Common on Saturday June 11<sup>th</sup>. The Children's Craft Fair allowed the children of Hampton Falls to gain experience making and selling their own crafts.

A <u>Seniors Organizing for Seniors event</u>, with the Deep Blue C Studio Orchestra concert (a 17-piece orchestra), August 9th was cancelled due to weather, and has been rescheduled on the Town Common Thursday September 8th from 5:00-7:00pm. A sandwich, chips, cookie, and drink will be offered for \$5 to Hampton Falls residents, age-65-or-over (with ID) for this event, subsidized by the Recreation Commission.

The <u>Farmers' Market</u> has been growing in leaps and bounds with more vendors and more shoppers, as well as an ice cream truck. The Farmer's Market is held on the Town Common, every Wednesday until October 5th from 2-6:00 pm. For information, please go to FB: *Hampton Falls Farmers Market* and like us.

The <u>2022 Summer Concerts on the Common and Cool Wheels</u> kicked off on Thursday, June 23<sup>rd</sup> with The Power of Love: Huey Lewis & The News Cover Band with Cool Wheels. Please see <u>www.HamptonFallsBandstand.com</u> or Facebook for the bands and updates.

Additionally, <u>Wayne from Maine</u> performed his children's program at the Town Common Bandstand on July 19<sup>th</sup> and the program was well attended by children in the community.

The Recreation Commission scheduled the return of the <u>Castleberry Fair</u> to the Town Common two more weekends this Fall 2022: September 17<sup>th</sup> &18<sup>th</sup> and Columbus Day weekend, October 8<sup>th</sup> & 9<sup>th</sup>. Mark your calendars.

Movie Night on the Town Common, organized by Becky Nolan and Alizza Mitchell (representing the Lincoln Ackerman PTO) was a great success and a fun time for families in the community. Everyone looks forward to more movies on the Town Common Summer 2023.

# TOWN NEWS

#### Hampton Falls, NH

## September / October 2022

The <u>Depot Road Sub-Committee</u> attended several meetings this Summer, most recently with the New Hampshire Rails-to-Trails project team. The Depot Road Sub-Committee agreed to become an "ad hoc" committee and meet at the call of the Chairman, as needed.

The <u>Wreaths Across America</u> program is being coordinated by Linda Savoy and Pam Fitzgerald, and the program has met the criteria needed to participate in 2022.

Discussion and planning is underway to organize a <u>"Trunk or Treat"</u> on the Town Common at the end of October, including community decoration of the Bandstand for the event. Stay tuned for exciting updates and how you will be able to participate in the Trunk or Treat and <u>Scarecrow Contest</u>.

The Recreation Commission thanks the Tricentennial Committee along with several members of the Recreation Commission who were instrumental with the installation of a self-watering system along with many beautiful perennials that will adorn the Bandstand and Town Common long into the future.

The Recreation Commission is always looking for people to join their team. Do you have a passion to build community spirit and/or have creative ideas and want to help encourage social bonds? If yes, please consider joining the Recreation Commission! Attend a meeting in person, or view a meeting on <a href="https://www.TownHallStreams.com">www.TownHallStreams.com</a>. Complete a Volunteer Application found on the Town's website at: <a href="https://www.TownOfHamptonFalls.org">www.TownOfHamptonFalls.org</a> and submit it to the Town Administrator, Karen Anderson at <a href="mailto:townadministrator@hamptonfalls.org">townadministrator@hamptonfalls.org</a>.

CONSERVATION COMMISSION – Mary Ann Hill, Chair <u>ConservationChair@hamptonfalls.org</u>. Meets the second Tuesday of the month at 6:30 pm at Town Hall.

Thanks are extended to the crew from the Rockingham County Conservation District (RCCD) who helped the Conservation Commission by applying herbicides to the invasive plants at the edge of the field at the <u>Raspberry Farm</u>. Second, a hearty thanks to the two young men who worked as Interns for the Conservation Commission this Summer, Colin Brown and Owen Barry, and did they ever work! Both are college students and town residents. The two goals this Summer for the Interns were to raise their awareness of the physical world we live in, and to manage the invasive plants threatening the balance of nature on some of the Town's properties. Work began at the <u>Depot Landing</u> parking area where Bittersweet had covered everything. It was a dense thicket of dead branches covered in a blanket of vigorous Bittersweet. This area was very difficult in which to work because the branches had grown very dense making it hard to move around; additionally, hidden under the blanket of Bittersweet was a collection of beer cans, liquor bottles and fast-food containers.

Cutting down the invasive species Autumn Olive at the Raspberry Farm was the next challenge, to enable RCCD to apply herbicides to the stumps; however, there was so much Bittersweet in the trees that the Autumn Olive could not fall down after being cut, it just hung there. On an interesting note, one of the people from RCCD who did the spraying was the Conservation Commission's Summer Intern from 2021, Taylor Foley. While the herbicide was working at the Raspberry Farm, the next project for the Summer Interns was the Marsh Lane Preserve, where a trail was cleared and more invasive plants were removed around the Trail Head.

Returning to the Raspberry Farm, the projects completed were removing the Bittersweet and Autumn Olive from both the top of the field and the forest edge leading down to the pond. Clearing the invasive plants at the Raspberry Farm revealed the rock wall that hadn't been seen for years.



Before invasive plant clearing at Raspberry Farm.



After invasive plant clearing, revealed rock wall.



Also spotted was this arboreal creature at the Raspberry Farm. **Owen Barry in tree.** 

The Conservation Commission has been consulting this Summer on a few proposed building projects that impact wetlands in Town, namely; 5 Kensington Rd., 12 Lafayette Rd, 39 Marsh Lane and 51 Depot Road. The rule of thumb for landowners is: *Before you decide to build anything on your property, make sure you are not encroaching on a wetland or wetland buffer.* It is always better to ask the Building Inspector and/or the Conservation Commission first, to avoid unnecessary expense and disappointment. If you are located close to a wetland or wetland buffer, then a permit from either the Town or NH DES or both is always needed.

## **HISTORICAL SOCIETY - Tracy Healey-Beattie, President**

Yes, the Historical Society's celebration of our Town's Tricentennial week was a great success! Special thanks

to the Trustees who have worked tirelessly on museum renovation efforts for over two years. The three major exhibits: Warren Brown Family, Salt Marsh Farming and the John Starvish Pewter study generated much interest and enthusiasm. Especially meaningful were the many adults who spent their childhood years in the former library and stood in awe of the transformation to the present museum.

The Historical Society presented Tricentennial events honoring the Town's history and community. These soldout events included "In Vino Veritas" with Mary Ann Esposito, host of "Ciao Italia" on PBS, who provided fascinating insight on Italian cuisine, wine tasting and, along with her husband and Joe Comforti, historical facts, and much laughter. Another evening, "The Great Uncasking" was the second sold out event with



Photo above: John Starvish, Jr.

Mark Chag, a beer historian and the Czar's Brewery founder, Henry Hankovich.

A limited edition of the 300th Anniversary Hampton Falls beer was uncasked, receiving rave reviews! The third ongoing event was "If This House Could Talk." This self-directed audio tour of the Town's most historic homes was met with enthusiasm from townspeople and tourists. Much credit to Wendy Harrington for her technology work; Judy Wilson for her interviewing and narrative creations, and Elaine Winn for her original study of these homes.



Sponsored by the Historical Society, under the committed direction of Trustee Ward Dilmore, The Michigan Clydesdales came to Hampton Falls! An impressive sight as these magnificent horses captured the final day of the Tricentennial events as they proudly paraded past the Town Hall. The crowds were in awe of their presence. A most successful parade for all to remember.

Grateful for community support, the Historical Society encourages membership and involvement on many levels. Have your children been mesmerized by the Warren Brown Dollhouse? Have the older youth considered watching how salt marsh haying saved the farmers two-hundred-years ago? Our Collections Director, Linda Hladik continues to document historical artifacts for you to experience. Interested

in learning more about genealogy and the history of Hampton Falls? Come visit the Historical Society Museum. We are open on Saturdays from 10am to 1pm, and monthly on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday from 6pm to 8pm. Hunter Stetz will share the fascination of the Old South Schoolhouse located at 7-R Drinkwater Rd. twice monthly on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday, from 10am to 1pm. Thank you for your continued interest and support!

## September / October 2022



Historical Society Trustees: Pictured L to R:

Beverly Mutrie, Vice-President;

Tracy Healey- Beattie, President; Czar's Brewery founder Henry Hankovich;

Ward Dilmore, Trustee;

Hunter Stetz, Trustee;

Wendy Harrington, Treasurer;

Seated L-R: Anne Coombs, Secretary; and

Linda Hladik, Trustee.

Not pictured: Mark Thompson; Carolyn Petit; and

Karen Sabatini.

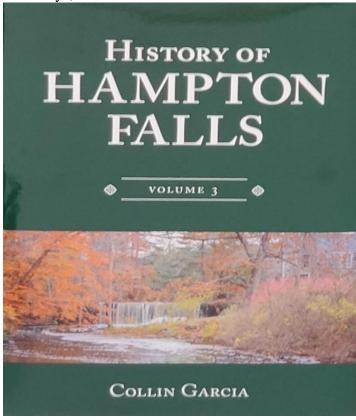
Tricentennial merchandise is available! Holiday medallions, ball caps, beanie hats, and long-sleeve tee shirts are available in a variety of sizes (see photos below). Please contact committee member Weezie Vance at weezievance@gmail.com to purchase items and make arrangements for pick-up.





#### THEY'RE HERE! HISTORY BOOKS FOR SALE!

<u>HISTORY OF HAMPTON FALLS</u>, (volume 3, 1917-2020); by Collin Garcia (Peter E. Randall Publisher, 2022), 323 pages, Hardcover. Non-fiction/US History \$40.00. Available for purchase by cash or check (payable to Town of Hampton Falls) at Hampton Falls Town Hall, 1 Drinkwater Road, Town Clerk, Mondays through Thursdays, 8AM to 3PM.



## From the book flap:

"Three centuries have passed since the establishment of Hampton Falls, New Hampshire, in 1722, but it's the most recent hundred years that have put the town through its most significant changes. Humble, sparsely populated, and mostly agricultural through the early  $20^{th}$  century, Hampton Falls enters its tercentenary as one of the most desirable places to live on the New Hampshire seacoast.

History of Hampton Falls, Volume 3, 1917-2020, picks up where the first two volumes of Hampton Falls history, written by the Hon. Warren Brown, left off in 1917. The events which have led to the town's transformation from a farm town to a primarily residential area since then are investigated in detail, including the construction of Interstate 95 and the decline of the dairy and apple industries which were once nearly synonymous with the community. The evolutions of local businesses such as Applecrest Farm, Merrill's Store, and Marston Farm are traced, along with the stories of the colorful characters who have made their homes within this town along the way.

## **CEMETERY TRUSTEES – Jonathan Bohn, Chairman**

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

The Cemetery Trustees are delighted to welcome the *Wreaths Across America* program to the Hampton Falls cemeteries. This national program, implemented by enthusiastic local

graves in time for the winter holiday season.

The Trustees want to express our thanks to the citizens who initiated this program and their very cooperative efforts in addressing the logistical concerns of the Cemetery Trustees. Just as we commemorate veterans with the American flags on their graves at Memorial Day, everyone can look forward to the splendor of the beautiful decorations that will celebrate our heroes as a holiday reminder of all that Veterans have given.

volunteers, will honor our 180-veterans by placing wreaths on their



## HAMPTON FALLS FREE LIBRARY - Joanna Meighan, Director

#### Announcing the new Hampton Falls Library Director, Joanna Meighan



With great pleasure the Hampton Falls Library announces its new Library Director, Joanna Meighan! Joanna has been on staff for five-years and most of you know her as one of the smiling faces behind the circulation desk. Behind the scenes, she has applied her marketing experience, enthusiastically promoting the Library's collection and services. She has also been the creative genius behind the Library's social media, website and newsletter. Joanna looks forward to continuing to serve the Hampton Falls community in this new role while helping the library adapt and grow its services to better serve the needs of the future.

There will be a "Meet the Director" reception for Joanna on Wednesday, October 12 at 6:30 p.m. Please stop in and chat with the staff and share your thoughts and goals for the Library.

#### **Book, Bake and Yard Sale:**

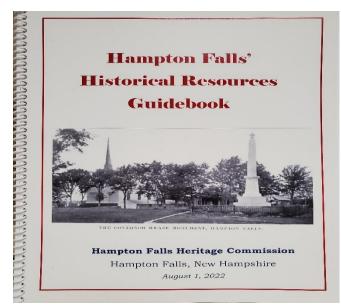
Saturday September 24<sup>th</sup> 10am-2pm Join us for this community event! Featuring:

- A wide variety of hardcover and paperback books for adults and children, audio books, and DVDs.
- A Yard Sale with "Treasures from the Library's "Attic."

# **HERITAGE COMMISSION - Beverly Mutrie, Chair**

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

The Heritage Commission hopes those who partook in the Tricentennial activities in early August, enjoyed Ed Beattie's Trolley Tour of Hampton Falls' historic places. It was a great way to get an understanding of Hampton Falls' development. To complement the trolley tour, the Commission recently published a 44-page booklet, "Hampton Falls' Historical Resources Guidebook" for the Town's Tricentennial 300<sup>th</sup> anniversary. The guidebook concentrates on structures that are more than 75-years-old and a few other structures now gone that were/are important to the history of Hampton Falls.



The guidebook has modern photos in color (by Chura's Photography), with some comparison historic photos, in addition to information about man-made structures such as houses, barns, bridges, schools, windmills etc. The guidebook also includes a copy of the 1892 map of historic residences/owners in Hampton Falls and a chronological list of dates of the historic properties. The Heritage Commission hopes you find the guidebook informative.

The booklet is available for sale (\$20.00) at the Library, the Town Hall, and the Historical Society (Saturdays 10-1 and 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday nights). You can also contact the Heritage Commission at <a href="https://hfhhheritage@gmail.com">hfhhheritage@gmail.com</a> to request a copy. If you have any corrections or additional information, please get in touch.

The Heritage Commission could really use a fifth person on our 'team' who has an interest in historic buildings and their conservation. Please complete and submit the Volunteer Application found on the town's website at <a href="https://www.hamptonfalls.org">www.hamptonfalls.org</a> or come to a meeting, which is usually held on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday morning of the month. The Heritage Commission's current Commissioners are Beverly Mutrie, Phil Chura, Mary Ann Hill and Selectmen's Representative Lou Gargiulo. The Heritage Commission will be glad to have you!

Open Hours for purchasing the "Hampton Falls' Historical Resources Guidebook":

Library: Tuesdays, Thursdays, Fridays 10am-5pm; Wednesdays 1pm-8pm; Saturdays 10am-2pm.

Town Hall: Mondays-Wednesdays 8am-3:30pm; Thursdays 8am-6pm; Fridays closed.

Historical Society: Saturdays 10am-1pm; & 3rd Thursdays 6pm-8pm