

# Hillsborough, New Hampshire

## ***NEWS FROM THE TOWN***

Website: [www.town.hillsborough.nh.us](http://www.town.hillsborough.nh.us)

Phone: 603-464-3877

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### **From the Town Administrator**

Welcome to the first edition of our quarterly newsletter! We have been talking about starting a Town Newsletter for some time now but didn't quite have the staff time to get it done. With staffing changes and reorganization of duties, along with misinformation we have noticed circulating on social media, as well as the loss of one of our local newspapers, it's the perfect time to start this manner of communicating with the public.

I'd like to congratulate Iris Campbell and Meleny Nagy for being voted to continue to serve on the Selectboard. The Board has a lot of work to get done this year and it's nice to be able to hit the ground running with members who have been involved with some of these projects over the past year. They will be finalizing the parking regulations for the downtown area this year, continue work on the Sidewalk Project with our Engineers, and discuss what project/projects they will use the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds that were received to name a few. We realize it sometimes seems as if it takes a long time to see progress on a project that has been on the Board's long-term list for a couple of years but as you can imagine, there is quite a bit of work that needs to be done in the background prior to you seeing any earth being moved or policies being changed.

You may have noticed that a few buildings in the downtown area are currently being worked on. These buildings have recently been acquired by local investors who seem to be hitting the ground running at making repairs and updates. We're very excited that there is such interest in Hillsborough and there is more to come so stay tuned!

We still have some Town Reports available at the Town Office if you'd like to get up to date on the happenings during 2021. The report is also available on our website [Town.Hillsborough.nh.us](http://Town.Hillsborough.nh.us). On our site, you can sign up to get notifications emailed to you as they are posted. Simply select "Subscribe to News" on our homepage and from the checklist, select which news you would like to receive notifications on. While you're on the homepage, please consider also signing up for CodeRED. We use this to send out alerts with emergency information directly to individuals who sign up to receive them. We do not use this for general notifications, so you won't be inundated with text messages and emails.

We have openings on various committees including the Economic Development Committee, Parks Board, Conservation Commission, Kemp Park Committee, and the Planning and Zoning Boards (alternates). On Land Use Boards (Planning/Zoning), we recommend serving as an alternate first if you have no experience since that gives you the necessary training and education through exposure to the process as to how the law and our zoning is applied to cases that come before these Boards. If you have interest in serving on any of these, please attend a couple of meetings and contact me to let me know your interest.

We hope you enjoy this newsletter and find the information useful. The next issue will be coming out in July and if you would like a copy emailed to you directly, please email Mary at [Building\\_Sec@Hillsboroughnh.net](mailto:Building_Sec@Hillsboroughnh.net) and ask her to put you on the list.

Thank you!  
Laura Buono  
Town Administrator

### **Economic Development Committee**

The Economic Development Committee has recently submitted a grant application to T-Mobile in hopes to receive funding to beautify the Town's Riverwalk by Grimes Field. If approved, we will be adding benches and plantings throughout the walk as well as exercise stations at the beginning where the playground and ball fields are visible while you use them.

We are also looking for volunteers to serve on the Committee. If you are interested in learning more, please contact either the Town Administrator or Planning Director for information.

### **Camp Manahan**

Summer Camp is returning this year with a couple of changes. Families will need to sign up online through a new portal we are currently completing. Parents will be required to create an account and complete all the necessary information, as well as make payment either with a credit/debit card or using your checking account before being able to finalize the application and being signed up for Camp. Once you have an account, you will not need to create a new one each year, but you will be required to submit updated forms each year. Please follow our Facebook pages (Camp Manahan and/or Town of Hillsborough NH) in order to find out when the portal is open for you to register.

#### **Dates for camp this year are:**

Middle School Camp (Grades 5<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup>): June 27 - July 22

Elementary School Camp (Grades 1<sup>st</sup> – 4<sup>th</sup>): July 25 - August 19

Town Swim Lessons: June 27 - July 22.

The grade level is the grade they will be entering in September 2022.

We have various camp positions open (Lifeguards, Camp Counselors, and Swim Aids) and we will provide training and certifications. If you're interested in applying, please fill out an application which can either be found on our website under "Forms & Documents" under the Parks & Recreation section or you can pick one up at the Town Office.

## **The Building Inspectors “Code Enforcement Corner” The need for Permitting Swimming Pools**

Greetings from the Building Department. We want to take this opportunity to share the importance of getting a Building Permit before you install your pool. There are many related safety issues when it comes to swimming pools that many people are not aware of, and they all point to Injury or Death. It is my intention to educate those considering the purchase and installation of a swimming pool and why it is important to get a building permit and have your pool inspected before you use it this Summer. Many people drown or get electrocuted every year because of not following some simple safety rules or from a pool being improperly installed with faulty wiring.



First, it is the law to permit any pool that is greater than 24” deep. Kiddie pools do not require permits because they typically do not have electricity to run a pump to filter water. We have all heard a tragic story of a young unsupervised child falling into a pool and drowning, very sad situation. The smaller pools typically allow for even a small child to stand up in if they happen to slip and fall. When swimming pools get deeper than that there are requirements for fencing and gates that can only be accessed with the assistance of an adult, or an access ladder that locks in a position that a child cannot access the pool without adult supervision.

The electrical circuit used to power a pool must always be on a GFCI (ground fault circuit interrupter) circuit. This causes the power to the pool to shut off in a Milli-second should a short circuit occur due to a wiring problem. If you decide to get an inground pool installed, then there are requirements for all metal components to be bonded and grounded to avoid electrical shock. All this occurs during the construction of the pool and then typically gets covered up with concrete, tile, or metal cladding. The only opportunity for inspection is before these get covered up to ensure their done properly. At any point in time a lightning strike or power surge can affect your pool and you wouldn't even know it until it's too late.

There is a phenomenon known as “stray voltage” in water that can occur due to an electrical power source energizing the water. It can be a result of a faulty pool light or an unbonded water pump. Water electrocution is referred to as the Silent Killer since you can't see it or hear it. Often with stray voltage flowing through a pool it only takes a person grabbing a metal surface that may not be grounded properly and the person themselves becomes the missing link to ground, causing shock or electrocution. There is a device known as a Shock alert. It is battery operated device that floats in your pool, and it emits a flashing light, Green for good and Red for hazard.

It has been reported by the CDC that every day 10 people drown in swimming accidents, with children ages 1 to 4 years old as the highest number and that occurs in home pools. Please help your community and your own family when it comes to pool safety by making sure you do everything possible. Enjoying Summer fun in the pool and being as safe as possible is easy when we work together and do it right.

Thanks for reading, Mike Borden, Code Enforcement

### **Fuller Library Restores the Historic Ceiling** (Previously published in the NH Library Trustees Association)

Hillsborough's Gov. John Butler Smith Mansion, now the home of the Fuller Public Library, was built in 1891. The dining room was, by far, the most imposing and artistic room in the mansion. In fact,

Mrs. Smith came to refer to this room as “The Gem”. The ornately hand painted ceilings are 20 feet high, comprised of panels and arches exquisitely painted with cupids, flowers, and fruit, as well as a succession of hunting scenes.

In January 2020, the Fuller Library received a Cultural Conservation Grant to clean and restore the hand-painted ceilings and to repair the decorative frieze in the first-floor lobby and reading room. This past fall, the work was completed under the supervision of conservator Wenda Kochanowski. She and her assistant Gregg cleaned the ceilings, in-painted the areas where the paint was peeling, and filled holes left behind from repairs and light fixtures. They were careful to reattach flaking paint wherever possible. Areas where the original paint had been lost were repainted to match the existing patterns.

Once again, the room is the “The Gem” of the building and the library is grateful to the NH Council on the Arts, the Moose Plate Conservation License Plate Grant, and the Town of Hillsborough for helping to fund this project. The trustees and staff invite you to stop by for a tour of their historic building when you're in the area.

### **Here are some events happening at the library!**

**April 5** - 6:30 pm: Bee Workshop

**April 9** - 11-12pm: Children's story and seed planting (250th Event)

**May 3** - How To's Day (first Tuesday of the month, learn something new!)

**May 3** - 6:30pm: Hillsborough Village Talk - The Center

**May 7** - 10 am -12 noon: NH/Local Author Book Signing on the library lawn

**May 10** - 6:30pm: Hillsborough Village Talk - Upper and Lower Villages

**May 14** - 10 am -11am: Reading of the War Lists and Patriotic Music (250th Event)

**May 17** - 6:30pm: Hillsborough Village Talk - The Bridge Village

**June 20** - Sign up for Summer Reading - prizes, events, and fun all summer!

### **Department of Land Use and Economic Development**

The Planning Board will be working on several projects over the coming year which include the establishment of a Gateway Zone and the development of a Dark Skies Ordinance.

A Gateway Zone is an area of high quality relatively dense mixed-use development. It is intended to be an attractive and vibrant entrance to the town.

The Dark Skies Ordinance is intended to protect one of our most valuable natural resources, the beauty of the night sky. This is done by finding ways of directing light in an efficient way that will provide safety and security while protecting the night sky from unnecessary light pollution.

The Planning Board welcomes Steve Livingston as the newest member of the Planning Board and Adam Charrette is re-joining the Board for another term.

In their first year as an elected board, the Zoning Board of Adjustment needed to fill three seats but due to the timing of the official resignation of the third member, only two seats were on the March ballot. Since there were three qualified people who had run for the positions, the third seat was filled with the candidate who was left after the two seats on the ballot were filled. The Zoning Board of Adjustment welcomes John Segedy to the Board and congratulates Lucy Pivonka on her successful campaign. Meg Curtis who came in third in the election was appointed by the ZBA to fill the third open seat.

The Planning Board and Zoning Board of Adjustment are in need of

great way to learn how the Planning Board and Zoning Board of Adjustment works. As an alternate you will be able to participate on projects and participate in the land use application process. If you are interested in learning more about being an alternate, please contact Planning Director, Robyn Payson at [robyn@hillsboroughnh.net](mailto:robyn@hillsboroughnh.net) with your questions or to submit a letter of interest.

## Water & Sewer Commission

### WATER QUALITY

The Town of Hillsborough Water and Sewer Commission's (HWSC) water quality and sampling is regulated by the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services (NHDES). In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) prescribes additional regulations which limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems.

To comply with the required regulations, HWSC tests for various contaminants, including inorganic contaminants (salts, metals), organic chemical contaminants (synthetic and volatile chemicals), and radioactive contaminants as well as some additional unregulated contaminants/chemicals. Water analyses and treatments are performed as required and directed by the EPA's Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA) and the NHDES Drinking Water and Ground-water Bureau (DWGB).

All water tests are performed by an independent laboratory that is accredited in accordance with the National Environmental Laboratory Accreditation Program (NELAP) & the New Hampshire Environmental Laboratory Accreditation Program (NHELAP).

All testing is reported to and monitored by the NHDES. Results from these tests are provided on HWSC's Annual CCR (Water Quality Report) You can view a copy of the 2022 Water Quality report at the following web address: <http://tiny.cc/Hillsborough2022CCRreport>

**\*\*PLEASE NOTE THE URL IS CASE SENSITIVE.** If you would like a paper copy of the report mailed to you, please contact the HWSC office at 603-464-7982.

Below is information regarding the most common concerns/questions from HWSC's water customers.

#### APPEARANCE - Cloudy/"Milky"

Cloudy or "milky" water is caused by air which is harmless. As the water sits, the air will dissipate and the water will clear. The most frequent reasons of air in the water mains and/or service lines are from the following:

- Outages
- Pressure Fluctuations
- High Usage (ex. water main flushing or excessive seasonal usage)
- Water Main/Service Line Breaks
- Plumbing Disturbances (ex. repairs damage/leaks)
- Temperature – cold water holds more air than warm water.

#### Brown/Orange

Brown or orange colored water is typically from sediment, such as naturally occurring iron, that accumulates in the water mains located in the street and in the service lines connected to the water. While discolored "brown" water is not aesthetically pleasing it is not unsafe\*. Sediment is normally settled in the mains and service lines, however it can be "stirred up" causing it to dislodge and subsequently discolor the water. The most frequent reasons for the water to be "stirred up" are from the following:

- Outages
- Pressure Fluctuations
- Repairs/Construction

High Usage (ex. water main flushing or excessive seasonal usage)

Water Main/Service Line Breaks

Plumbing Disturbances (ex. repairs damage/leaks)

In order to reduce discolored water, HWSC personnel implement a directional hydrant flushing program twice a year, in the spring and fall. By turning on and off various water gates on the mains, water is pushed in different directions through the water mains and out through the hydrants to remove sediment that has built up over time.

Hydrant flushing is sometimes done more frequently in areas where discolored water complaints are received from users. We urge all users to contact the commission if they experience discolored water.

In conjunction with the HWSC hydrant flushing program, residential/commercial users should flush their service lines. Flushing service lines allows a larger than normal quantity of water to flow through the service line which helps clear out the sediment.

Note: the discoloration can return after the water has sat in the lines for a period of time, such as overnight or during the day if it's not being used – this is to be expected. When the water is not used for a longer period of time the sediment settles, when water is turned on it is agitated and the discoloration returns. If this happens you may repeat the flushing process. If your water is discolored, we recommend avoiding the use of hot water until the cold water is clear. If you are noticing discoloration in the hot water, the water heater may need to be flushed – refer to the manufacturer's manual for additional information or contact a licensed plumber.

#### "Sandy"

What appears as "sand" is actually a derivative of calcium carbonate, a naturally occurring compound. Sand" happens when your hot water heater temperatures are set too high – refer to the manufacturer's manual for additional information or contact a licensed plumber.

#### TASTE/SMELL - Chlorine/Bleach

Chlorine is a highly efficient disinfectant. HWSC uses chlorine to neutralize bacteria, parasites, viruses, and assorted harmful microorganisms before it enters the distribution system and is used by customers. The EPA mandates that a certain level of chlorine be present in public water supplies which is known as a "residual." The maximum residual is 4 mg/l. HWSC's levels are typically lower than 1 mg/l which is well below the maximum and therefore the presence of chlorine is typically unnoticed. The strength of chlorine scent/taste can depend on the distance of your property to the treatment source (the further away the property is, the more the chlorine dissipates) as well as the time of year. For example, chlorine dissipates more quickly in warm weather so treatment levels may be increased in order to compensate for the dissipation. Additionally, the strength of the taste/smell is different for each person – some people are more sensitive to chlorinated water than others. While a chlorine smell is certainly unpleasant, over time, chlorinated water will naturally lose its smell, but if preferred using a filtration system will eliminate the odor immediately.

Should you have additional questions please feel free to contact:

Town of Hillsborough Water Commission's Water Quality Specialist, Cody Boisvert at 603-464-7984 or [water-sewer@hillsboroughnh.net](mailto:water-sewer@hillsboroughnh.net)

\*Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. These people should seek advice from their health care providers.



April 1, 2022

Dear Customer,

In order to keep up with the rising cost to operate the water system and increase in debt repayment, the Town of Hillsborough Water and Sewer Commissioners voted Thursday, March 10, 2022, to raise water rates by three percent (3%) for all users, beginning with the May 2022 billing.

Since the last water rate increase in 2017, the cost of producing the water has increased and the Commissioners must now adjust for those increases. A large portion of the commission's water budget - \$754,630 - is composed of debt service from past improvement projects, including the 1996 construction of the slow sand filtration plant at Loon Pond and subsequent improvements to the water transmission line, instrumentation upgrades at the Loon Pond plant, improvements at the Bible Hill storage tank, and the water system disinfection process upgrade.

The bulk of these improvements were aimed at resolving the level of disinfection byproducts (DBP) in the community's water which was successfully achieved with the new chloramines and UV system that went online in July 2014.

As a result, the water bill for the base user - one who consumes up to 7,500 gallons per quarter - will increase from \$71.40 per quarter to \$73.50 per quarter. The complete listing of new rates is as follows:

<u>Gallons Used</u>	<u>Cost</u>
0 - 7,500	Included in Flat fee of \$73.50
7,501 - 22,500	\$11.34 per 1,000 gallons
22,501 - 37,500	\$12.68 per 1,000 gallons
37,501 and over	\$14.01 per 1,000 gallons

Town of Hillsborough Water & Sewer Commissioners,  
Peter Mellen, Chairman  
Chris Sieg  
David Lewis

## NOTICE

**Throughout April and May  
The Hillsborough Water Department will be flushing water  
mains via fire hydrants  
Weekdays between the hours of 8am and 3pm**



**BE ADVISED THAT YOU MAY EXPERIENCE POSSIBLE  
SERVICE INTERRUPTIONS AND/OR TEMPORARY WATER  
DISCOLORATION!**

**If you have any questions, feel free to contact their office at  
603-464-7982**

## From the Town Clerk/Tax Collector



Dogs 3 months and older must be licensed by April 30<sup>th</sup>. New licenses must be done at the Town Clerk's Office (bring your rabies certificate), but renewals can be done either at the office or online. License cost is \$6.50 for altered dogs and \$9.00 for unaltered dogs.

If you have outstanding property taxes, liens will be placed on properties as of June 14<sup>th</sup>.

As a reminder, tax bills go out twice a year usually in July and December. If you notice you have not received your tax bill, make sure you contact us (603-464-3877 ext. 225 or 224) to prevent interest and penalties from being assessed for nonpayment by the due date.

## Solid Waste Advisory Board Highlights



### Annual Earth Day Home Compost Bin Sale

For the second year in a row, SWAB is proud to offer these quality big black plastic bins. They are made from recycled content and cost \$70 each. To complement the backyard unit, there are also 2-gallon capacity kitchen pails for \$15 each. Your table scraps (minus meat products) and yard waste can be turned into great compost for your garden beds. As a bonus you will go through fewer garbage bags by keeping things like coffee grinds, eggshells, banana peels and other vegetable debris out of your garbage. When cleaning up the yard, don't forget that dried leaves, chipped wood, and lawn clippings are also great additions to the compost mix. We will have more information about the many benefits of composting for interested parties at the Transfer Station.

You can download an order form from the Hillsborough & Deering town office websites or go into the Transfer station office during regular business hours to order your compost bin or compost pail! While we will hope to have some extras for sale after the April 22 order deadline, The Solid Waste Advisory Board encourages anyone who is interested to pre-order one so that we know roughly how many to purchase. Your items will be ready for pick up at the Transfer Station on or after May 22. You can get more information at the Transfer Station or by contacting Town Administrator, Laura Buono at [laura@hillsboroughnh.net](mailto:laura@hillsboroughnh.net).



In case you missed it: Since we got the new, larger baler into operation to deal with increased cardboard volume, the old baler has been re-purposed for aluminum recycling. Already, the new aluminum bales have proven to be a hot commodity in the metal recycling market and it is evident that this change in the recycling will save our communities thousands of dollars in trucking costs.

**See you at SummerFest July 7-10th!**

As we have done in the past, SWAB will have a table set up to provide free water at our “Hydration Station” so bring your re-useable water bottles and keep cool while you make the rounds. We love to talk about trash and answer questions about local transfer station topics.



**Household Hazardous Waste Day**

The Transfer Station will be hosting the Annual Household Hazardous Waste Day at the Transfer Station on Sunday May 1<sup>st</sup> from 8:30 am – 12:30 pm.

Proof of residency required. For further information please call the Transfer Station at 603-464-7987

**Transfer Station**

Effective April 1<sup>st</sup>, only brush which is 6” in diameter or less will be accepted in our brush area and we no longer accept anything that is not “natural” such as plywood, pallets, 2x4’s etc. Those items can be disposed of in our construction debris area.

**Office of Youth Services and Project Genesis**

Here at OYS and PG we are gearing up for a busy and long-awaited Spring! We have seen a spike in outside temperatures as well as our attendance numbers! We like to contribute our jump in numbers to the fantastic dinners we’ve been preparing with our youth, all thanks to our partnership with Whole Foods Grocers. Twice a month we are given hundreds of dollars’ worth of fresh food to support our Life Skills program and free meals and snacks. Along with Whole Foods, we continue to receive donations of snack bags from our local churches.

In addition to having some “good eats” we are looking forward to bouncing back into our Outdoor Education Program! This program includes taking care of our beehives, planning and planting our community garden, and getting outside as much as possible. This also includes our monthly community service events where we assist local community members in need with their yard cleanup projects. We also take this time to rotate our cord wood in our Community Wood Bank and collect any good burning wood around town to be split and stacked. We are always looking for any projects around town that our youth can assist with, so give us a call to chat and set up a service project! You can call the youth center directly at **603-464-4145** or email us at [youthservicespa@hillsboroughnh.net](mailto:youthservicespa@hillsboroughnh.net).

This Spring we will also be adjusting our programming to better accommodate our high school aged youth. Once the school year has ended, Project Genesis will be open for youth in grades 8-12<sup>th</sup> only. We recognize how sad this makes our 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> graders — but rest assured—we will increase our community events and welcome them back with wide open arms the Summer before entering their 8<sup>th</sup> grade year. Project Genesis will be focusing on young adult skillsets that include basic finance, post-high school education and career paths, mental health, healthy relationships, job searching and interviewing, and much, much more! For several years we were successful in meshing 6<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grade but the time has come to focus our programming in on the specific needs of our older youth and serve as a successful launching pad for their early adulthood.

Don’t forget to take a look at our Facebook page: Project Genesis Community Youth Center for updates, posts, pictures and new programs being offered!

Respectfully submitted,  
Chelsea Mather - Director of Youth Services

**Kemp Park**

The Kemp Park Committee has been meeting and discussing improvements to be made to the Park. This year, the park will be receiving a Reeds Ferry gazebo/bandstand compliments of the Masons. We expect the work will be done during the month of May once the ground is dry enough to have the necessary site work needed as part of the construction.

We have also been working on getting estimates to do minor repair work, as well as re-side our small Hanson House and Cider Mill. If you have these skills and are interested in submitting an estimate, please contact the Town Administrator for details.

**Hillsboro Police Department is proud  
to be a  
Project Lifesaver Member**

**MEET THE TEAM**

**HOW DOES THE PROJECT LIFESAVER PROGRAM WORK?**

**WHAT IS PROJECT LIFESAVER?**



Project Lifesaver is a 501 (C)(3) community based, public safety, non-profit organization that provides law enforcement, fire/rescue, and caregivers with a program designed to protect and, when necessary, quickly locate individuals with cognitive disorders who are prone to the life-threatening behavior of wandering. The organization was founded in 1999 in Chesapeake, Virginia. The necessity of this program was determined through the correlation between cognitive conditions and the act of wandering. With the dramatic increase of cognitive conditions since the inception of the organization, the program has grown from a localized program to a program recognized internationally as a proven and effective method of **“bringing loved ones home.”**

Project Lifesaver was the first to apply such locating techniques to aid in the search and rescue of individuals and is the most widely used and proven most effective program in the nation that is specifically designed to protect the **“At-Risk”** populations in our communities. The program was structured in a way that strategically combined state-of-the-art locating technologies, innovative search and rescue methods, and community policing courses that educated first responders about cognitive conditions. The search times for certified Project Lifesaver agencies have been reduced from hours, potentially days, down to minutes. Recovery times for Project Lifesaver agencies average 30 minutes, which is 95% less time than standard operations without Project Lifesaver.



The Project Lifesaver Program is run at a municipality level by public safety agencies. When an agency decides to implement the program, Project Lifesaver International will equip them with the necessary technologies and provide training to those involved. The training includes the use of the equipment, the implementation of the strategic methods specifically designed for the program, and also community policing courses that provide a basic understanding of cognitive conditions to better comprehend the behaviors of an individual with said condition. Also included during training is the use of the PLS Database, which is a useful resource provided to member agencies at no cost. Completion of training is required for certification. Once an agency has become certified, they may begin acquiring clients for their local program.

The method relies on proven radio technology and specially trained search and rescue teams. Citizens enrolled in Project Lifesaver wear a small transmitter on the wrist or ankle that emits an individualized frequency signal. If an enrolled client goes missing, the caregiver notifies their local Project Lifesaver agency, and a trained emergency team responds to the wanderer's area. The first responders will then use the client's individualized frequency to locate the position of the individual. The knowledge given from the community policing courses is best applied in this situation because the first responders will know how to best approach the client once found, and allow them to be brought back to safety.

For further information, contact Chief David Roarick at 603-464-5512 or [Droarick@HillsboroPD.com](mailto:Droarick@HillsboroPD.com)