

# 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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July - September 2022

### **From the Town Administrator**

It's hard to believe we are already halfway through Hillsborough's 250<sup>th</sup> Anniversary year. We have had some wonderful monthly events thanks to the 250<sup>th</sup> Committee, who has certainly gone above and beyond anything we could have ever imagined when we began planning last year. Check out their website at [Hillsboroughnh250.org](http://Hillsboroughnh250.org) for information on future events!

Let's talk social media. Social media is a wonderful place to swap ideas, get connected to services, ask/get free stuff, or even sell items, and of course to stay in touch with family and friends. There is also a lot of misinformation on social media between advertisements, false news articles, and the never-ending spirited debates on any number of subjects with participants who will do anything to convince you that their input is factual. It can also be a bit confusing when it comes to which pages are official, especially since in most communities several pages pop up with the name of town/city in their titles. Hillsborough's official informational Facebook page is under "Town of Hillsborough NH". Other official pages include Hillsboro NH Police Department; Hillsboro Fire/EMS; Hillsboro Emergency Management; Fuller Public Library; and Project Genesis & Youth Services-Hillsborough. There are also official HDSD Facebook as well, but since I'm not positive I know the names of all of them, I'll just stick with what I do know.

As far as the business of the town goes, there are always many irons in the fire and several meetings taking place. Our website ([town.hillsborough.nh.us](http://town.hillsborough.nh.us)) has a meeting calendar, agendas, and meeting minutes for our various committees. Meeting minutes are a perfect way to stay informed on what is being discussed and taking place. You can also sign up to have the minutes emailed directly to you by hitting the "Subscribe to News" button on the home page of our website and choosing what you're interested in hearing about.

Here are a few interesting updates:

The process of cleaning up the Woods Woolen Mill site continues; however, both the buildings have been removed and there are currently further soil samplings being taken to schedule/organizes the removal of any contaminated soil. The Selectboard will be discussing the future use of that property.

The sidewalk project which will extend from the Central Business District to the commercial area where Shaws is located is still moving forward. At the writing of this newsletter, we are working on the right-of-way and permitting part of the project. The goal is for construction to take place in 2023.

The Selectboard has been working on updating the parking regulations in an effort to better manage the municipal lots and on-street parking. Within the next several weeks, they will hold a public hearing on the changes which will be posted on our website [town.hillsborough.nh.us](http://town.hillsborough.nh.us), as well as in the local newspaper.

The Town has recently acquired the old Associated Electric property via tax deed and will be working with the Environmental Protection Agency, NH Dept. of Environmental Services, as well as representatives from Central NH Regional Planning Commission to conduct additional testing on the soils and putting a plan in place to mitigate any contamination in an effort to clean up the property. This is not something which can be done overnight but we have a great group of individuals assisting us.

We're awaiting the finalization of the Governor's InvestNH Housing Program regulations since we have our eyes on demolition funds and the \$10,000/affordable housing unit funds that are part of that program. Based on information from the Commissioner for the Department of Business and Economic Affairs who spoke at a conference in June that I attended, they expect them to be finalized sometime in July. The Selectboard will be discussing the possibility of removing 2 Bridge Street which is currently town-owned. Initially there were a couple of investors who showed interest in bringing this building back to life but upon further review, it wasn't financially feasible for them to do so. If we qualify, the demolition funds would assist in that endeavor. As far as the \$10,000/affordable housing unit is concerned, we currently have a developer coming before the Planning Board which would bring a mixed-use development to Hillsborough. As part of that development, there would be a 42-unit affordable housing building in the first phase, and another 42 unit building in the second phase. If these apartments qualify under this program, we will be applying for those funds as well.

We will begin the 2023 budget process around the end of September, although most Department Heads are already taking mental notes of the various areas of their budgets which may need adjustments in the new year. As with your personal budgets, we expect our various fuel and electricity line items to increase significantly in the coming year but will do what we can to continue to hold the town portion of the tax rate as level as possible.

Please don't hesitate to contact me with questions, suggestions, or concerns. Wishing you all a safe and happy summer!

Laura Buono, Town Administrator  
[Laura@Hillsboroughnh.net](mailto:Laura@Hillsboroughnh.net)  
603-464-7970

## **Project Genesis Community Youth Center**

This Summer we have transitioned to providing programming for 8th-12th graders and have redesigned our current programs to better serve and mentor our older youth. Below is an example of some of the programs we will be focusing on to help our youth transition into young adulthood fully prepared and supported by their community. Project Genesis will primarily focus on community service, outreach and engagement.

Interested in volunteering with us? We have short or long term volunteer options available! Please call the Director, Chelsea Mather, at 603-464-7985 to discuss ways to get involved!

### **Cooking/M meal Planning:**

Learn the basics of cooking and how to meal plan around a budget and make the most of what you have in the pantry! Work with staff to shop for ingredients, follow recipes and prepare a "family style meal" for everyone! Free Dinner served every night at 5:00 pm.

### **First Job Preparation:**

Finally old enough to enter the work force? Need some extra spending money? We'll help you with your job search and the entire application process. Learn how to build a resume, ask for references and what to expect in an interview.

### **Budgeting 101:**

Learn the basics of budgeting and beginner finance management. Learn the difference between a checking and a savings account and how to choose a bank account that works for you. Work with staff on creating financial goals and learning about debt/credit/loans etc.

### **Mental Health and Wellness**

Learn about basic self-care and the importance of learning more about yourself and what you need to be healthy and happy. Learn coping skills to manage

stress, healthy relationships with others, conflict resolution, managing responsibilities and building upon pre-existing strengths. Spend time with our on-site therapy dog, Olive!

### **Goal Setting and Transitional Planning**

Work with staff to explore options following high school. Interested in attending college or trade school? Create short and long term plans with the support of staff and community connections.

### **Life Skills:**

Learn what it takes to live alone and take care of your own space! Learn how to effectively vacuum, clean dishes, clean and fold laundry, organize household items and complete other independent living skills.

### **Recreation and Socializing:**

Enjoy the aspect of a free drop-in center where you can spend time with peers, explore new interests and hobbies, get homework help, or simply relax after school with friends. Enjoy our pool table, foosball table, Nintendo Switch, PlayStation, Xbox, Wi-Fi, Karaoke Machine, fully stocked arts and crafts room and plenty of outside sports equipment. Want to try something new? Share and idea with us!

### **Outdoor Education Program:**

Interested in getting outside and learning more about New England living? Help us care for our beehives, learn to garden, harvest and can food for later use.

### **Community Service:**

Community service is a key requirement for all attendees. PG's goal is to complete weekly community service in Hillsborough and/or surrounding towns. We specialize in yard clean-up, managing our community wood bank, and helping other local groups with events!

## **Parks Committee**

The Parks Committee is currently working on beautification of Sawyer Bridge a/k/a Bridge to Nowhere. With the approval by the Board of Selectmen for the Committee to use up to \$1,200 from the Dana Crane Fund, they are currently working on annual and perennial plantings in that space. This area is a focal point in our active commercial zone which deserves some sprucing up. The Committee is taking a look at all of our parks and working on identifying short and long-term needs as well. We have openings on this committee so if you're interested, please email [Laura@Hillsboroughnh.net](mailto:Laura@Hillsboroughnh.net).

## From the Fire Department

Emergency Calls - Please remember to use 911 for all emergency calls. We do not dispatch from our fire station so calling our main number with an emergency will only delay help getting to you.

Fire Permits - The State of New Hampshire requires all persons to obtain a fire permit before starting ANY outside fires unless the ground is covered with snow. This must be done prior to starting the fire, rain or shine.

A brush fire permit allows the burning of brush up to 5 inches in diameter, clean, untreated lumber. NO painted, stained or pressure treated material may be burned. No plywood, cardboard or furniture may be burned. The pile should be of a size manageable to the individual burning it. It should be at least 50 feet from any building with a hose or some other means of fire control will need to be provided. Brush piles may only be burned between 5:00 PM and 9:00 AM or when it is raining. A permit is still required even if it is raining.

A campfire or cook fire permit allows the kindling of a small fire in an enclosure for the purposes of cooking a meal or recreation. A campfire or cook fire requires a proper fire pit to be built. It must be constructed on mineral earth or a sand bed. A ring of stone, firebrick, or metal must be provided to keep the fire contained. Combustible material should be removed from an area 5 feet in diameter from the fire pit. Check the right sidebar of our website for the day's report to see whether you are allowed to burn that day.

There are two types of seasonal permits – a category 1 permit is for burning wood less than 24 inches in length, and these fire pits must be at least 25 feet from any structure and can be burned any time throughout the day (assuming the day's fire danger level is 2 or lower) Category 2 permits are for wood up to 48 inches in length, and these fire pits must be at least 50 feet from any structure. (Category 2 fires can only be burned from 5PM to 9AM on days where the fire danger is 2 or lower). Please call the station if you have any questions.

Seasonal Permits may be requested for campfire pits. This permit is good for the entire burning season. Seasonal permits cannot be obtained for the burning of brush, only for camp or cook fires.

A couple of other notes... The State Division of Forests and Lands and the State Fire Marshal's Office have determined that chimneys and other portable pottery or metal fireplaces constitute open burning and require a campfire permit. Gas and charcoal grills do not require permits, however cooking with charcoal in a dug pit does. If you have any questions, please call us at the station: 603-464-3477. You can obtain a permit by stopping by the station from 8-4 Monday through Friday. Seasonal permits can also be obtained online for \$5.50.

## From the Planning Office

The Planning Board's busy year has showed no signs of slowing down. Following the update of the Site Plan Regulations, the Board is working on the development of a Dark Skies ordinance that will protect one of our greatest resources, the clear night sky. Adam Charrette is leading the subcommittee comprised of dedicated individuals whose goal it is to make Hillsborough NH the first Dark Skies community in the northeast. Dark Skies is not about dimming light. It is much more focused on finding ways to direct it, so it works more efficiently. There will be more information coming. We want the public to be informed and understand completely what this ordinance will and will not regulate. (For example, holiday lights are exempt from this ordinance.) There are also some very simple and small things that a person can do that will protect the night sky and help save money on energy bills.

Upcoming projects include an application for an 84-unit workforce housing development to be located next to Sylvania. The project is on the Planning Board agenda for the first time on July 20 and will remain on all agendas as the application completes the Planning Board Site Plan Review process. This project will draw people to town and really revitalize the community.

We would also like to welcome Dana Clow and Kim Opperman to the Planning Board as our most recent alternates. Anyone interested in an alternate position on the Planning Board, or the Zoning Board of Adjustment should send a letter of interest to my office, and I will pass it along to the appropriate board for consideration. Being an alternate is an excellent way to learn how your elected boards work and participate in the process.

The Gateway Zone project is something else that the Planning Board is energized about. The current location being considered is the Antrim Road/Route 202 entrance into town. A Gateway Zone allows for more opportunities for diverse development. The area is in our Commercial Zone and will provide flexibility toward mixed use and residential development. The goal is to make the entrance to town vital, attractive, and inviting.

Planning Board meetings are held on the first and third Wednesdays of the month. With everything going on, it would be great to see members of the public attend.

The Zoning Board of Adjustment is working hard holding hearings for Variances and Special Exceptions, and on revising their Rules of Procedure. Their meetings are held on the second Monday of the month (unless posted otherwise). It would be great to see members of the public attend the meetings so they can see how the quasi-judicial process works in town.

The Economic Development Commission is working

hard on a presentation that will highlight the many reasons why bringing business and moving to Hillsborough is a great idea. The EDC is constantly looking for projects to work on for the town to highlight Hillsborough's many fine qualities.

The Town is hopping, there is a lot going on and it is fantastic to see the direction we are traveling in. It is exciting to see new businesses locating in our downtown and to have fresh new owners in some of our downtown buildings. This is a marvelous time for Hillsborough and it's a great time to get involved!

Robyn Payson,  
Planning Director  
603-464-7971  
robyn@hillsboroughnh.net

### **From the Fuller Public Library**

#### **An Ocean of Possibilities**

Summer Reading has begun! Children aged 0-12 agree to read books all summer and will pick from the Treasure Box midway and when they complete their goal. Teens and Adults will be entered into our weekly raffle for a \$5 gift card to a local business, one ticket for each book read.

We have lots of programs planned for all ages.  
Registration is required for all events.

#### **Schedule of Events:**

**July 5:** How To's Day: 6:30 pm - Learn How to Use Your Cricut

**July 5:** 7:00 pm - Town Band Concert on the lawn

**July 7, 14, 21, 28:** 10:00 am - Kid's Summer Reading themed projects

**July 8:** 1:00 pm What's Cooking? Teen cooking program,

**July 12:** 6:30 pm - Candlepin Bowling Program with Mike Morin

**August 2:** 1:00 pm & 6:30 pm - How To's Day: Adult Coloring in the Air Conditioning,

**August 9:** 6:30 pm - Adult Paint Night

**August 12:** 1:00 pm - What's Cooking? Teen cooking program

**August 16:** 4:00 pm - Whales & Seals Program

#### **Book Groups**

Fuller has 4 book groups, anyone can join, call the library for more information. 603-464-3595:

Popular Fiction - First Thursday 6:30pm

Military History - 2nd Monday at 2pm

Mystery - 3rd Tuesday at 6:30pm

Cookbook - 3rd Tuesday at 12:30pm

## **Kemp Park**

Things are moving along in Kemp Park. The Hanson House is currently being sided using the remainder of the siding from the building of the garage. We are in the process of obtaining an approval for a shoreland protection permit in order to complete both the parking area as well as install the gazebo/bandstand which was generously donated by the Masons. Initially we thought we could move the structure far enough away from the water so that we wouldn't need to obtain a permit, but we have since found out that area has a 250' shoreland protection zone. The WWII spotters hut will be photographed and dismantled since it's not safe to leave where it is. While dismantling it, we will decide whether or not we can put it back together using the same boards or if we will need to rebuild a replica. The condition of the wood will be the deciding factor. Although the Park won't have everything completed by the time History Alive holds their function in August, we are happy to bring more attention to the beautiful location. We are planning on having the cider mill sided and repaired this fall since we don't want to start it if it can't be completed before the History Alive event. We also have plans to place a fence delineating the boundary line between the park and abutting property, as well as planting grass, shrubs, and flowers in the spring!

### **From the Police Department**

#### **School Resource Officer**

The Police Department is also pleased to announce that Officer Danielle Normand will be the SRO for the upcoming school year. Officer Normand has been a police officer with the town of Hillsboro for the last 10 years. She received a BA in Criminal Justice from Plymouth State University and a Masters in Criminal Justice from Suffolk University in Boston. She is a Firearms Instructor, an Active Shooter Instructor and is also SWAT certified. Officer Normand will attend Basic SRO Training in July.

JULY 13th 2022  
5:30 pm

HILLSBORO POLICE  
PRESENTS

# Trending Scams

With Officer  
Mike DeTurris



## TOPIC

Each year, residents are swindled out of money under false claims leading to bank accounts being emptied. Ofc. DeTurris will discuss current scams being reported and how to keep the money in your wallet.

LOCATION: Hillsboro Police  
Headquarters - Training Room.  
22 Municipal Drive, Hillsboro

**OPEN TO THE PUBLIC**



**HILLSBORO  
FIRE DEPARTMENT**



# CPR TRAINING

**June 22nd, 5-8pm**

**August 20th, 9-12pm**

**October 22nd, 9-12pm**

**December 10th, 9-12pm**




LIMITED SEATING \$25  
PER PERSON

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RESERVE YOUR SPOT!](#)



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