

# Hampden *Highlights*

Quarterly Newsletter, Town of Hampden • Issue 24, April 2012

## *Countdown to Final Adoption Comprehensive Plan Update*

The Citizens Comprehensive Plan Committee has completed its charge in reviewing the 2010 Draft Comprehensive Plan. This Committee was appointed by the Town Council in mid 2011, in response to public concerns over the Draft 2010 Comprehensive Plan. It was created to review the previously completed plan and recommend suggested amendments to the plan.

After a series of public work sessions, the Committee, initially assisted by a facilitator Rich Rothe of Rothe Associates and then Dean Bennett, Director of Community and Economic Development, completed the plan; held a public hearing on the plan; and forwarded the plan on to the Town Council in completing its responsibilities. The plan, as submitted to the Town Council has been endorsed by the Committee.

In accordance with the Town Charter, the Town Council must forward the plan to the Planning Board for its review. After that review is completed, the Council will hold a public hearing on the final draft plan. Formal adoption will be considered by the Council after that public hearing.

The plan is designed to provide guidance to the community over a 10-15 year period, based on the circumstances and challenges known to the community at the time of its adoption. Despite the controversy that resulted in the formation of a second committee for its review, the plan seems to have found common ground among many concerned residents, as evidenced by the lack of opposition at the Committee's public hearing.

It is anticipated that the Town Council will hold its public hearing on the final plan by the end of May, 2012. The Town wishes to extend its thanks to all residents who have worked on this plan in some fashion over the past five years. ■



## **Hampden Academy Re-Development First Steps: Environmental Due-Diligence**

After several years of work, including community visioning sessions for the re-use of the Hampden Academy site, exploration of numerous opportunities and options for leasing all or part of the site, MSAD 22 offered the property to the Town of Hampden. According to State Statute, if school officials do not have an 'educational purpose' for the former academy site, the first option for acquisition goes to the community in which the school is located for its fair market value. If the Town does not decide to purchase/acquire the property, then the school has the option of selling the property outright. However, if that occurs, any funds realized from the sale must be turned over to the State of Maine for use in reducing the state indebtedness (not the local share) of the \$51,000,000 cost of the new high school. In the absence of a mutually agreed upon purchase/sale contract, state statutes require that MSAD 22 determine fair market value of the property and offer the property to the Town. Based on a land-only appraisal of the school property (\$1,000,000), minus the percentage of the land value already covered by the taxpayers in Hampden at 63% or (\$633,000), resulted in an asking price of \$367,000. Extensive negotiations between the MSAD 22 Board of Directors and the

## **Sign Up Now! For Government On The Go...**

Go to <http://www.hampdenmaine.gov> and register your email address so that you can receive the new bi-weekly update email from the Town of Hampden. Find out when Council and Committee meetings are, what is on the agendas, where there are Committee vacancies and much more about what is happening in YOUR local government. ■

<http://www.hampdenmaine.gov>

## Hampden Academy *from page 1*

Town Council proved to be cooperative and resulted in an agreement for the sale of property, thereby saving the taxpayers of the school district the costs of a market study to establish 'fair market value'.

The negotiations between SAD 22 officials and Town Council representatives were a collaborative effort to find solutions to several outstanding issues. These issues included not only what would happen to the old site, but how the School District would deal with the need to pay a substantial amount of money for wetland mitigation of 3 acres of disturbed wetland (\$320,000) — or provide acreage at a 15 to 1 ratio for permanent preservation as an offset related to the construction of the new high school.

The final negotiated settlement is a win for both the Town and the School District. As part of the 'purchase' of the former Hampden Academy site, the Town will turn over approximately 65 acres that it owns adjacent to the current school campus in the interior of the four-mile square. This land will be used to mitigate the wetlands impacted by construction of the new school and will 'save' the building budget from having to pay that \$320,000 fee in lieu. This land acquisition along with the payment by the Town of Hampden of a total of \$87,000 over a three year period became the agreed-upon 'price' for the transfer of the property.

While the final stages of the

purchase/sale agreement are being worked out between the Town Council and MSAD 22, protecting the public from liability and minimizing costs to the property taxpayer is of utmost concern.

If an entity purchases a property that contains hazardous materials, there are various State and Federal programs available and designed to assist in the clean-up of hazardous materials and restoration of the property. These programs are available ***IF and only IF, the property is evaluated for types and quantities of hazardous materials prior to purchase.***

The process of determining type and quantity of hazardous materials is referred to as environmental due-diligence. This process is the most effective way to minimize the exposure and subsequent costs to the taxpayer for the removal of hazardous materials. It also protects the purchaser and to some extent future buyer of the property from these potential costs. In the end, it makes the development of the property more attractive to a potential developer.

Prior to purchasing the former school property, the Town is hiring a firm to perform a Phase One Environmental Site Assessment. This consists of the identification of possible hazardous materials such as PCB's and asbestos often found in older schools. The next step would be to conduct Phase Two Environmental Site Assessment, involving the confirmation and quantification of those hazardous materials identified in Phase One.

These first steps in the re-

development process, are the means by which to ensure the eligibility of the Town of Hampden for potentially needed State and Federal funds, thereby protecting the taxpayers from costs and liability associated with future development of the site.

Once the environmental due-diligence is completed and clean-up process and costs identified, the Town will pursue available resources to put the site in the most marketable position possible.

The Council approved the transfer of this property at the Town Council meeting on March 5, 2012. The Planning and Development Committee of the Town Council meets the first and (sometimes) the third Wednesday of each month at the Town Office in Hampden. Progress on this transfer as well as discussions of recommendations for marketing of the site will be discussed at those meetings and all residents are welcome to attend.

The Town recognizes that of particular concern to residents is the potential cost to the taxpayer of maintaining the Hampden Academy site until it can be conveyed to a developer. The Town Council takes this matter very seriously and will be working diligently to minimize those costs in the interim between acquisition from SAD 22 and eventual sale to a developer. Updates on the Hampden Academy transfer will also be provided on the Town's website at <http://www.hampdenmaine.gov> and at each Town Council meeting. ■

## DOROTHEA DIX PARK NEWS

The Friends of Dorothea Dix Park have scheduled two work days: April 22, 1 – 4 p.m. and April 26 from 9 a.m. – noon. The April 26 work day coincides with Earth Day and the committee felt it would be a great day to prepare the park for the summer season. If you wish to participate, volunteers are asked to bring shovels, rakes, loppers,

gloves and wear closed toe shoes.

The Dix Park is approximately one mile south of the Hampden Academy behind the beautiful stone fence and archway. Three distinct habitat areas can be found in the park: a picnic/play area, wet lands and beautiful cathedral pines by the river. All areas are accessible from the parking lot with walking

trails which are moderate in difficulty with occasional weather damaged areas.

The Friends of Dorothea Dix Park meet in the Community Room, Town Hall, at 6 p.m. on the 4th Wednesday of the month and invite any Hampden resident who wishes to join the group.

If you have questions please contact Kurt Mathies at 862-6451. ■



Susan Lessard, Town Manager

## FROM THE DESK OF THE MANAGER

**Tax Due Date...just passed!** Second half of property taxes for 2011-2012 were due by April 4th to avoid interest.

**Hike for the Homeless**  
The Annual Hike for the Homeless from Hampden Academy to the Bangor Waterfront will be held on Saturday, April 28th. Information on the hike can be obtained by contacting Walt Cupples at

wkcupples@aol.com. Teams walk from a number of area communities and Hampden has always been distinguished as a community with very high participation rates. Let's keep up that effort!

### Route 1A Project

The Maine Department of Transportation will be rebuilding a section of Route 1A this summer from PDQ Door to Mountainview Drive. Improvements to this area will include underground drainage and continuation of the sidewalk from where the last project ended on Main Road North to Mountainview Drive. ■

## A HEARTFELT 'THANK YOU' TO DONORS TO THE EDYTHE DYER LIBRARY ANNUAL FUNDRAISER

The Trustees of the Edythe L. Dyer Community Library wish to thank all of the generous families, individuals, businesses and foundations who supported the 2011 Endowment Annual Appeal. The Fund provides a source of supplemental funding for programming, books, books-on-CD and periodicals. Your support really does make a difference!

Stephen and Lea Andrew  
Sally and William Arata  
The Beaugard Family  
David and Judy Beebe  
Norma and Albert Bishop  
Mary Ann Bjorn  
Mary R. Bowler  
Sandra and Ernest Boynton  
Karen J. Brooks  
Scott and Janice Browne  
Ann Calderwood  
Ernest and Barbara Caliendo  
Tami and Wayne Campbell  
The Casavant Family  
The Chase Family Foundation  
Katie Chirkova and Amrit Guptan  
Susan Clement  
Evelyn A. Clisham  
Hollis and Barbara Condon  
Virginia Coyle  
Ron and Rose Dennis  
Don and Nancy Desmarais  
Jan Dowd

Al and Annette Forget  
Thomas and Uiko Frey  
Cynthia and Edward Gardella  
Callie and Bob Gilberti  
Phyllis H. Grant  
David and Christine Greenier  
Eleanor S. Gulisano  
Hampden Redemption Center  
Earle and Calista Hannigan  
Mim O. Hart  
Jim and Val Herbert  
Marion and Carolyn Hopkins  
James and Corleen Iannazzi  
Richard and Merle Jenkins  
Julie Keene and Chris Eskesen  
Phyllis Kelley  
Marilyn and Jay Kemm  
The LaRochelle Family  
Rob and Amy Lorenzo  
Cynthia McGinnes  
Lynne McKee  
Carol and Edward McKeon  
Michael and Mary O'Brien

Betty O'Connell  
Marguerite Peters  
The Plant Family  
Rachael Plourde  
Susan and Roger Plourde  
Anne Powelson  
Sandra and John Pyne  
Wayne and Karen Reilly  
David and Denise Rocker  
Gerald and Judith Rudman  
Ted and Mary Sherwood  
Wanda Prouty  
Rodney and Jerry Stanhope  
The George Stern and Sara Stern Foundation  
Ruth G. Stearns  
Brenda and Michael Steeves  
John and Cora Swalec  
Donna and George Thomas  
Jean Tibbetts and Richard Lenz  
Peter and Donna White  
Ruth and Ernest White  
Seventeen anonymous donors ■

**Hampden** *Highlights* is published quarterly by the Town of Hampden, and its success depends upon a community-wide effort. We ask you to please forward news, notes and tips about friends, neighbors, colleagues — or yourselves — by emailing [manager@hampdenmaine.gov](mailto:manager@hampdenmaine.gov), drop off at the Town Office, or mailing to *Hampden Highlights*, Town Office, 106 Western Avenue, Hampden, ME, 04444. You can find *Hampden Highlights* on the Web at [www.hampdenmaine.gov](http://www.hampdenmaine.gov). We welcome your feedback. Edited by Susan Lessard • Layout and design by Val Ireland

# 2012/2013 Budget Meeting Schedule

## TOWN OF HAMPDEN

(Meetings start at 6:00 p.m. and are held in the Council Chambers on non-council meeting dates. Budget discussions on Council meeting nights follow the regular agenda.)

**May 7, Tuesday** (Council Meeting)  
Public Safety  
Police  
Fire

**May 16, Wednesday** Reserves  
General Assistance  
Education  
Administration  
Elections  
County Tax  
Assessor/Planning  
Economic Development  
GIS/IT  
Communications

**May 21, Monday:** (Council Meeting)  
Library  
Recreation  
Lura Hoit Pool  
Debt Service

**May 23, Wednesday:** Public Works  
Municipal Garage  
Solid Waste  
Buildings & Grounds  
Marin  
Non-Departmental Utilities  
The Bus  
Revenues

**May 30, Wednesday:** Social Service Agency  
Requests  
Budget Review – (if necessary)

**June 4, Monday:** (Council Meeting)  
Budget Review – Post for  
Public Hearing

## CLUB PROFILE

**A**s a new feature in the newsletter, each quarter we will be doing a profile on a local club or organization. This quarter's profile is the Hampden Rifle & Pistol Club. Thanks to HRPC Executive Board Member Bernie Philbrick for providing the information for this article. Local non-profit clubs and civic organizations wishing to have a profile included should contact the Town Manager at the Town Office or Communication Committee Council members Chairman Kristen Hornbrook ([hornbrooktowncouncil@hampdenmaine.gov](mailto:hornbrooktowncouncil@hampdenmaine.gov)), Councilor Jeremy Williams ([williamstowncouncil@hampdenmaine.gov](mailto:williamstowncouncil@hampdenmaine.gov)), or Councilor Andre Cushing ([andre@andrecushing.com](mailto:andre@andrecushing.com))

**HAMPDEN RIFLE & PISTOL CLUB**  
286 Meadow Road  
Hampden, ME 04444

Contact info: [Bernie Philbrick elcobern@aol.com](mailto:Bernie.Philbrick@elcobern.aol.com)  
Club Website : <http://hampdenrpc.com/>

The Hampden Rifle & Pistol Club has been operated and managed 100% by volunteers since its inception in 1949. They strive to keep the sport interesting for all who may be interested in the sport of competitive shooting. Some of the disciplines or activities offered currently at HRPC are: Bulls Eye, NRA High Power Rifle (high power = long range shooting), Garand Rifle, Winter Postal's, USPSA Action Pistol, IDPA Pistol, 3-Gun, (new) Ruger Rimfire and last - and perhaps the most important to club members - is the Junior Shooting program. Along with the various activities offered, there is also the social aspect of the club which is just as much fun as showing up for a match! Those who show up for the Friday night socials can usually find some good food cooking on the grill (volunteers are always welcome for grill duty!) and a show and tell of something new or old in the club house area. Sometimes this even takes precedence over the shooting!

New member meetings are on the second Thursday of each month starting at 6:00 PM. This part of the process takes about an hour and includes an introduction to the history and physical layout of the facility. The majority of the new member meeting covers range procedures and the safety of yourself and others around you while at the range. In their 60 plus years of existence, they have had no safety related injuries with firearms. There is no compromise when gun handling safety is concerned and club members take that very seriously.

The next step to becoming an official member is composed of 3 separate visits to the club. At each visit the prospect is required to obtain a signature from a member in good standing that the individual attended, and "shot responsible and safe". Friday nights at the club are a good time for a new member to visit and meet this membership requirement. Once this is done all the new member has to do is show up at the next new member meeting a little before 6:00 PM to turn in the paperwork, and it is official. A person would have 1 year to complete this process before being required to re-attend the safety meeting.

# HAMPDEN TRANSFER STATION

## WOOD & DEMO COLLECTION SCHEDULE

### 2012-2013

<b>MONTH/YEAR</b>	<b>2nd Weekend</b>	<b>4th Weekend</b>
<b>JULY 2012</b>	<b>14 – 15</b>	<b>28 – 29</b>
<b>AUGUST 2012</b>	<b>11 – 12</b>	<b>25 – 26</b>
<b>SEPTEMBER 2012</b>	<b>8 – 9</b>	<b>22 – 23</b>
<b>OCTOBER 2012</b>	<b>13 – 14</b>	<b>27 – 28</b>
<b>NOVEMBER 2012</b>	<b>10 – 11</b>	<b>24 – 25</b>
<b>DECEMBER 2012</b>	<b>8 – 9</b>	<b>22 – 23</b>
<b>JANUARY 2013</b>	<b>12 – 13</b>	<b>26 – 27</b>
<b>FEBRUARY 2013</b>	<b>9 – 10</b>	<b>23 – 24</b>
<b>MARCH 2013</b>	<b>9 – 10</b>	<b>23 – 24</b>
<b>APRIL 2013</b>	<b>13 – 14</b>	<b>27 – 28</b>
<b>MAY 2013</b>	<b>11 – 12</b>	<b>25 – 26</b>
<b>JUNE 2013</b>	<b>8 – 9</b>	<b>22 – 23</b>

#### **REFRIGERANT DISPOSAL FEE –**

There is a \$15 fee for the disposal of any appliance with refrigerant (refrigerators, freezers, some air conditioners). A permit for the disposal of such items must be picked up at the Town Office prior to disposal, and these items can only be taken to the transfer station on the second and fourth weekends of each month.

## **Transfer Station Regulations**

The Hampden Transfer Station is available for use by Hampden residents who reside in single family homes or in apartment complexes of four or less units. Commercial and business entities cannot use the facility, nor can those who reside in complexes or developments that are required by local zoning to have dumpsters or commercial trash collection. Users are required to obtain an annual decal from the Town Office by providing the vehicle registration on which the decal will be placed. The cost of the decal is \$5.

**Per Town Council policy, no vehicle will be allowed entry to the Transfer Station after February 1st of each year without a current decal.**

A one-day permit is available for a resident to obtain in order to use a borrowed vehicle. To acquire this, bring the number of your existing permit to the Town Office and ask for a Temporary Vehicle Permit. The permit is available at no charge and is valid for one day only. You must accompany the vehicle for which you obtained the permit and the vehicle cannot be a commercial or contractor vehicle or larger than a full-sized pick up.



## Recycling

The Town has an active recycling program. The following items are currently recycled at the Transfer Station. Separate, marked areas are located at the Transfer Station for each type:

- Newspapers/Magazines – Please do not bundle newspapers with string or twine, and newspaper inserts are acceptable as recyclables as well as telephone books.
- Corrugated Cardboard – Please flatten cardboard boxes, remove excess tape, and do not deposit wet cardboard in the cardboard area.
- Tin Cans – Please rinse cans before depositing them at the Transfer Station and if possible, flatten them prior to disposal to save space. Cans are easier to flatten if both ends are removed.
- Glass Jars and Bottles – Please do not include window glass, mirrors, or light bulbs in the glass disposal area. Lids should be removed, and the glass containers should be rinsed, but labels do not have to be removed.
- #2 Plastic (milk & water jugs, detergent bottles, etc.) – These items should be flattened and placed in the labeled bin(s) at the Transfer Station.

## Other items

The Town also accepts the following items at designated areas of the transfer station. Disposal of these items is at no charge:

- Computers and monitors
- Televisions
- Sharps (used needles)

## Not Allowed

*The Town does not provide for disposal of the following items:*

- AUTOMOTIVE PARTS include batteries, fenders, doors, body and frame parts, engines, transmissions, etc. These items should be disposed of in a salvage yard.
- STUMPS will not be accepted.
- HAZARDOUS WASTE will not be accepted. This includes paint thinners, cleaners, poisons, asbestos, chemicals, and petroleum products such as gas, oil and kerosene. (The Town participates in an annual regional collection program for these items in the fall of each year and residents may obtain permits to participate in that activity from the Town Office)

Clip and Save!

# Hampden Public Safety



**Police - Fire - EMS**  
106 Western Avenue  
Hampden, Maine 04444  
Phone 207-862-4000 • Fax: 207-862-4588



## PUBLIC SAFETY CORNER

*Sgt. Christian Bailey*

**H**ampden, along with other communities, has experienced incidents in which residents have had their vehicles entered and items stolen. The crime for this act is Burglary of a Motor Vehicle. A person charged and convicted of this crime can face fines and/or time in jail.

The items stolen from these incidents range from small amounts of change to expensive items such as computers, iPods, GPS units and firearms. Recently, a group of Criminal Justice students at Husson University requested to do a community crime project. They analyzed reported burglary of motor vehicle complaints in Hampden during 2010. They found Hampden to be below the national average in these types of thefts. They also made a significant conclusion; all vehicles entered were left unlocked.

The students felt community education was the best method to decrease the number of burglary of motor vehicle incidents. The following recommendations were made:

- Lock your car doors. This should occur anytime your vehicle is left outside, i.e. home, the mall, at the grocery store etc. If a window has to be broken to burglarize the vehicle, the perpetrator is more likely to walk away. It is also important to set the anti-theft system if it is available.
- Do not leave valuables and/or bags in plain view. The chances of someone actually breaking into your vehicle are higher if there is an item of value lying in plain view.
- Utilize outside lights. If you are not at home, try to park in areas that are well lit and busy with people. If you leave your vehicle outside at home, leave an outside light on.

## CRIME ALERT....

**R**ecently, we have been receiving complaints about text message scams. The two we have seen thus far are from a celebrity gossip site and a site called wmart. They have been designed to make the receiver think the message is from Walmart. The celebrity gossip message thanks you for subscribing, then at the bottom tells you to reply with the word "Stop" if you no longer wish to receive messages from them. If you do so, you will be charged \$9.99. The Walmart scam indicates the receiver has won a \$1000 gift card and must respond to claim it. It also has the message at the bottom about replying with "Stop" to end the messages. We have also heard of a similar scam involving Best Buy.

DO NOT reply to any of these messages. Don't text them to stop, don't click the links, just simply delete it. These people are able to charge you when you contact them, so by responding in any way, they have enough to charge your account. This is nothing more than spam email via text message. ■

## EXTRA, EXTRA READ ALL ABOUT IT...

### The Weatherbee DI Team is going to the 2012 DI Global Finals!

The George B. Weatherbee School 5th grade Destination ImagiNation Team (Nate Bailey, Mary Batsie, Ellie Dacey, Kaelan Dinwiddie, Ellie Prescott, Molly Swalec and Cara Whitmore ) won the DI State Competition at UMaine on March 31st. They will represent the State of Maine at the DI Global Finals in Knoxville, Tennessee on May 23-26, 2012. Their team manager, Cora Swalec, has managed eleven DI teams for Weatherbee and Reeds Brook Middle School students (with four of those teams competing in DI Global Finals).

DI is a non-profit international creative problem solving competition for Kindergarten students through college seniors. Teams of up to seven students select one of five “Central Challenges,” the solution to which requires lots of imagination, teamwork and tenacity. The teams must also use lots of creative brainstorming to solve “Instant Challenges” that are kept secret until the teams enter the competition rooms.

The Weatherbee DI Team chose the “News to Me” Improvisational Central Challenge. They spent months researching news stories and developing their improvisational skills. They brought six news stories to States. As they entered the competition room, the team randomly selected one of its six news stories and one news story headline supplied by the DI tournament organizers. The team had four minutes to create a skit showing a “Cause and Effect” relationship between the two unrelated news stories. Instead of scenery and props made with materials, two or more team members worked together to collectively become “Cooperative

Human Scenery and Props.” The team had an additional minute to integrate a “One-Minute Glitch.” The team then had five minutes in which to set up and perform their skit. All of this occurred under the watchful eyes of five adult Appraisers and a room full of audience members (family, friends and other DI competitors) at 8:20 am on Saturday, March 31st.



Now the team is facing a problem that they cannot solve by themselves. They need to raise \$10,000 for registration and transportation expenses. As a team, they are working hard to raise the necessary funds through various efforts such as redemption drives, a yard sale, rubbish and recycling assistance, bake sales, a quilt raffle, a road race and restaurant-sponsored fund-raising dinners. They are also hoping to enlist financial support from Hampden businesses, civic organizations and individuals who would like to support this team of 5th grade Weatherbee students in representing our school, our community and our state in this prestigious global competition. You can help make this trip happen by making a tax-deductible donation to the team. Please make checks payable to “Weatherbee DI” and mail them to George B. Weatherbee School, 22 Main Road North, Hampden, ME 04444.

If you have any questions about DI, or would like further information about DI and/or the Weatherbee DI Team, please contact Cora Swalec at WeatherbeeDI@gmail.com or follow them on facebook.com/WeatherbeeDI . The 5th grade Weatherbee DI Team thanks you for any help you can give them!

#### Weatherbee DI Team Fundraisers

- Now thru Mon., May 21, ongoing sale of raffle tickets for DI quilt. (\$1 per ticket or \$5 per 6 tickets.)
- Now thru Thurs., May 31, ongoing Bottle Drive at Hampden Redemption Center (274 Western Ave.) Space available for donations to both 8th & 5th grade teams.
- Thurs., April 12th, 4 – 8 p.m., Texas Roadhouse Fundraiser. Coupons needed. Call 942-7789.
- Sun., April 15th, 9 a.m.–2 p.m., Weatherbee DI Dump Day at Hampden Transfer Station. Let us help you unload your vehicles!
- Wed., April 18th, all day Uno’s Fundraiser. Coupons needed. Call 942-7789.
- Sat., May 5th, 8 a.m.–2 p.m., Yard Sale at Weatherbee School (combined with 8th Grade DI Team).
- Wed., May 9th, 4 –8 p.m., Angler’s Fundraiser.
- Mon., May 14th, 6 – 8 p.m., Ground Round Fundraiser. Coupons needed. Call 942-7789.
- Sun., May 20th, 9 a.m., Road Race at Weatherbee School. 5K race, 1K race, relays for kids, childcare.
- Mon., May 21st, all day Chili’s Fundraiser. Coupons needed. Call 942-7789. ■



# The Glue Crew Goes Global!

**This Destination Imagination team from Hampden has qualified for the third year in a row to represent Maine at the Global Finals in Knoxville, TN.**



**D**estination ImagiNation, Inc. (commonly referred to as “DI“), is a non-profit organization which provides educational opportunities for students in the United States and more than 30 foreign countries. Teams of students meet after school to use teamwork, creativity, imagination, and problem solving skills to devise a unique solution to their chosen, long-term “central challenge”. The same skills are used to develop solutions to “instant challenges” which are kept confidential until the team walks into a competition room at the regional and state competitions. They only have a few minutes to create a solution, which requires quick thinking and excellent teamwork. Just like the central challenges, some instant challenges are performance-based, some are task-based, and some are a hybrid of the two. While there are team managers who volunteer to oversee the team, all solutions to the problems must come solely from the team members.

The challenge this year was to build a structure out of wood and glue which could not only support weight from above but golf balls within. Their structure weighed only 28.8 grams, yet it easily held 585 pounds without breaking. The Glue Crew was the only team in the state to successfully deliver all 24 golf balls during competition, and they achieved the highest weight held ratio of all teams competing. Their team-created skit about astronauts stranded on the moon after asteroids damage their lunar landing module beyond repair also received the highest scores of any middle school team in every category. They were also the only team at the state competition to be honored with a prestigious Renaissance Award for exceptional skill in their performance. In the words of the appraisers, "This group's teamwork was incredible. Every element was integrated, their execution was immaculate, and their design was ingenious. This group's planning and performance embody the definition of outstanding."

The next challenge for the team is to raise the money needed for the trip. With two teams going from Hampden – it is going to be extra challenging this year to meet our goal!

The Glue Crew is now fundraising to defray the costs associated with the Global Finals competition. The following are some of our planned fundraisers:

- The Hampden Redemption Center has a bin to support both local DI teams,
- Both teams are holding a yard sale at Weatherbee School on May 5th, (7:45 a.m. – 2 p.m.)
- Look for The Glue Crew on April 14th at the transfer station
- Join us at Angler's Restaurant on April 26th 4-8 (eat in or take out)
- Golf Tournament: May 5th at Rocky Knoll Country Club, Orrington, time approx. 8:00 am

This is a great opportunity for the Hampden community to support the achievements of their students. Tax deductible donations made to "SAD 22 Destination Imagination - The Glue Crew" can be sent to Reeds Brook Middle School, 28A Main Road South, Hampden, 04444. You can follow The Glue Crew on Facebook where we will post the team's schedule, progress, sponsors, and photos. You may also contact team managers Cheryl Fasse and Karrie Spaulding via email at [TheGlueCrew@tds.net](mailto:TheGlueCrew@tds.net). ■

## IT'S PINK PERENNIAL TIME AGAIN!

Spring has sprung and it is time to think of gardening again! We have had a tremendously positive reaction to the Pink Garden in front of the Town Office and we will be expanding on it this year. Do you have any extra Pink Perennials to donate? If so, you can drop them off at the Town Office. The Garden has been constructed entirely from donations of money and plants – a big THANK YOU to all who have been part of its creation. ■



### Hampden Food Cupboard Needs Your Help!

The Hampden Food Cupboard, located at the Congregational Church on Main Road North needs your help! Non-perishable foods, cleaning supplies, paper products, personal care products, and disposable diapers all are needed for distribution to local families experiencing difficult times. You can donate at the Church, or the Town Office also has a collection box in the lobby. ■



## Garden Club News

The coming of spring marks the beginning of the busy season for the Hampden Garden Club. Members are celebrating the completion of the first phase of the ongoing restoration of their club building, historic Harmony Hall. The foundation has been stabilized, and the six large Gothic windows and three smaller belfry windows are restored and gleaming. The hall will be the venue for a number of exciting community events this spring and summer. The first will be a talk by Ms. Happy Dickey on ticks and Lyme disease. The anticipated increase in the tick population makes this a subject of particular concern, and the public is cordially invited to attend the presentation at the April 24 Garden Club meeting at 7:00 p.m. at Harmony Hall, 24 Kennebec Road. On a more cheerful note, the ever-popular perennial plant and pie sale will take place at the hall on Saturday, May 19 from 8:00 am until noon, and the daylily sale will be on Saturday, June 2 from 9:00-noon. Both sales will offer hundreds of plants at reasonable prices, and proceeds will go to the next phase of hall restoration.

The club will sponsor three Farmers Markets in Harmony Hall on July 22, August 11, and September 8 from 9:00 am—noon. A number of vendors will offer fresh, locally grown produce, plants, eggs, handmade foods, and baked goods.

Harmony Hall is available to the public as a venue for parties, weddings, club meetings, etc. The club also warmly welcomes new members. Our group of women and men is diverse in age and gardening abilities, learning more as we work and play. FMI call co-presidents Pat Kerfoot, 862-3909 or Anne Bennett, 862-3467. ■

## MARK YOUR CALENDAR! ANNUAL COMMUNITY CLEAN-UP SATURDAY, MAY 5TH

The Town of Hampden will be conducting its annual community clean up on Saturday, May 5th. This effort was begun a number of years ago as a Stream Clean-up where volunteers collected trash that was dumped along Sucker Brook here in Hampden. Over the years, the project has expanded to include roadside clean up in different areas of the community as well.

All interested 'helpers' are encouraged to meet at the Town Office at 9 a.m. on Saturday, May 5th. The Town will provide trash bags and teams will be assigned to different areas of the community. An after-clean up barbecue will be held at the Town Office as a thank you to participants. ■

# Spare time? Want to Help? Looking to Join a New Group?

## Area Volunteer Opportunities, Clubs, and Civic Groups Abound!

### TOWN BOARDS & COMMITTEES:

The following is a list of Town Committees that are in need of members:

1. Board of Assessment Review – 3 regular 2 associate – This committee hears appeals of property valuations made by residents.
2. Conservation Commission – 4 regular – This Commission is governed by the Town's Conservation Commission Ordinance which can be found under the Town Ordinances section of the website at <http://www.hampdenmaine.gov>
3. Historic Preservation – 2 associate – This Committee is charged with reviewing applications for conformance with the Town's Historic Preservation standards for the Historic Preservation district of the Community
4. Personnel Appeals Board – 1 regular – This Board hears appeals of management actions by aggrieved employees.
5. Recreation – 4 regular – This Committee serves as an advisory committee to the Recreation Department for programming.
6. Board of Appeals – 3 regular, 2 associate – This Board is governed by the Appeals Board Ordinance and hears appeals of licensing decisions by the CEO et al, as well as hears requests for variances of zoning regulations.
7. Tree Board – 4 regular – This Board is created pursuant to the Town's Tree ordinance for the oversight of the care, planning, and planting of public trees on Town land. It is a requirement of our designation as a Tree City USA community.

### CLUBS & CIVIC ORGANIZATIONS

The area also has many clubs and civic organizations that are always looking for new members. These include the following:

- Whitcomb-Baker VFW No. 4633 - Canoe Club Road, Hampden. All veterans are welcome. Call 862-2553 for more information.
- Kiwanis – Meets on Thursday evenings at Kiwanis Hall on Main Road South next to the gas Station. Membership information can be obtained by calling Vivian Gresser at 862-3676.
- Mystic Lodge A.F & A.M. #65 – For information on this Masonic Lodge, contact Ron Francis at 862-6271, or Herb Frost at 862-3299
- Hampden Business Association – Contact Ken White at FA Peabody at 990-2500 for more information.
- Hampden Children's Day Committee – Contact Vivian Gresser at 862-3676 for more information
- Special Olympics – Contact the Special Education

Supervisor at Hampden Academy at 862-3255 to find out what volunteer opportunities exist!

- Goodwill Riders Snowmobile Club – contact Trailmaster Steve Eyles at 862-2884 for more information
- Eastern Star Grange – contact 862-2014 for more information.
- Hampden Garden Club – Contact the club at [pres@hampdengardenclub.org](mailto:pres@hampdengardenclub.org) for more information
- Hampden Historical Society – contact Vivian Gresser at 862-3676 for more information
- Hampden Rifle & Pistol Club – contact Bernie Philbrick at [elcobern@aol.com](mailto:elcobern@aol.com) for more information or visit the club website at <http://hampdenrpc.com/>
- Hampden Senior Citizen's Club – contact Kurt Mathies at 862-6451, Hampden Recreation Department, for more information
- Hammond Street Senior Center – Call 262-5532 for more information

### ANNUAL EVENT VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

The following are area events that welcome volunteer assistance:

- Annual Hike for the Homeless – April 28, 2012 – contact Walt Cupples at 862-6136 or via email at [wkcupples@aol.com](mailto:wkcupples@aol.com)
- Annual Susan G. Komen Race for the Cure – September 16, 2012., Bangor Waterfront. <http://www.komenmaine.org/komen-race-for-the-cure/volunteer/>
- American Cancer Society – Relay for Life - Greater Bangor Bark for Life – Hollywood Casino - June 9, 2012 Contact [zappsmall8@gmail.com](mailto:zappsmall8@gmail.com) for more information
- Muscular Dystrophy - <http://www.mda.org/help/>
- American Folk Festival – 8/24 – 8/26/2012 - Bangor waterfront– Contact 992-2360 or go to <http://www.americanfolkfestival.com/> for more information

### OPPORTUNITIES FOR HELP & DONATIONS

The area also has many worthwhile 'causes' that are always looking for donations of goods or funds. These include:

- Hampden Food Cupboard – donations of non-perishable food, paper goods, cleaning supplies, personal supplies, diapers, etc. are accepted at their location at the Hampden Congregational Church or in the donation box at the Hampden Town Office.

*continued on page 12*

TOWN OF HAMPDEN  
106 WESTERN AVENUE  
HAMPDEN, ME 04444

PRESORT STD  
US POSTAGE  
PAID  
HAMPDEN, ME  
PERMIT NO. 201

ECRWSS

POSTAL CUSTOMER  
HAMPDEN, ME 04444

## ————— *Spring Book Sale* —————

April 21, 2012, from 9 a.m. – 2 p.m. • The Friends of the Edythe Dyer Library  
269 Main Road North, Hampden, ME • Due to location, the Bookshop is not handicapped accessible.

### **Spare time? Want to Help? Looking to Join a New Group?** *continued from page 11*

#### **OPPORTUNITIES FOR HELP & DONATIONS** *continued*

- Help For Hampden – This fund is maintained at the Hampden Congregational Church but is a non-denominational fund to assist residents who are struggling with rent or heating costs. Persons interested in helping can call 862-5248, or send donations to Help for Hampden, 101 Main Road North, Hampden, ME 04444.
- Bangor Homeless Shelter – Contact the Shelter at 947-0092 for more information on how you can volunteer to help the organization, or log on to their website at <http://www.bangorareashelter.org> for information on making a donation. Organizations such as the Bangor Homeless Shelter provide services for the entire region.
- Community Health & Counseling – Information on this organization and how to make a donation can be found at [http://www.chcs-me.org/index.php?id=33&sub\\_id=66](http://www.chcs-me.org/index.php?id=33&sub_id=66)
- Eastern Area Agency on Aging – Information on this organization and how to make a donation can be found at <http://eaaa.org/>
- Hammond Street Senior Center – Information on this organization and how to make a donation can be obtained by calling 262-5532 or online at <http://www.hammondstreet.org/fundraising>
- Penquis CAP – Information on this organization and how to make a donation can be obtained by calling 1-800-215-4942 or online at <http://www.penquis.org>
- Spruce Run – Information on this organization and how to make a donation or volunteer can be obtained by calling 945-5102 or online at <http://www.sprucerun.net/you-can-help/volunteer/>
- UCP – Information on this organization and how to make a donation or volunteer can be obtained by calling 1-877-603-0030 or online at <http://ucpofmaine.org/>
- American Red Cross – Information on this organization and how to make a donation or volunteer can be obtained by calling 941-2903 ■