

Town Manager Report for July 13, 2020

The Hamilton Police Department has teamed up with Cherry Farm Creamery of Danvers in a “Good Citizenship” program. When a Hamilton Officer observes a young adult doing something good, such as wearing a bike helmet, using a crosswalk, helping others etc., they will receive a coupon for a free Chocolate or Vanilla soft serve ice cream. Recipients of a coupon only have to go to the Public Safety Building to receive their prepackaged ice cream along with their individually wrapped spoon. We also have sorbet for those who prefer something without dairy. As in past years, this program is being done to show our appreciation for our youth in town. I would also like to thank Steven Jones of Cherry Street Creamery for his partnership in this program.

The Hamilton Health Agent has reported that the town has received confirmation of a Harmful Algal Bloom at Centennial Grove, Chebacco Lake, Essex from the Massachusetts Department of Public Health’s Environmental Toxicology Program. We ask the public to be vigilant before entering the water at Chebacco Lake, or any fresh water body. Please notify the Board of Health if an algal bloom is suspected. If possible, please take pictures and email to: lwhelan@hamiltonma.gov

Health concerns associated with CyanoHABs vary depending on the type of cyanobacteria, the route of exposure, and the amount of cyanotoxins present. Ingestion is the primary concern since ingesting small amounts of cyanobacteria or cyanotoxin can cause gastrointestinal symptoms while larger amounts may cause liver or neurological damage. Contact with cyanobacteria can cause skin or eye irritation. Inhaling water spray containing cyanobacteria can cause asthma-like symptoms. Small children and pets are more susceptible to the effects of cyanotoxins than adults. For more information please visit: <https://www.mass.gov/doc/harmful-algae-blooms-in-fresh-water-bodies-english-0/download>

I am pleased to announce that Susan Bateman of the Treasurer’s office has been promoted to Assistant Treasurer-Collector and will be taking on added responsibilities in the department. Susan has been with the town a little less than a year and has been a wonderful addition to that office. We are very confident that she is a great fit for the new role.

On the other side of the employee news, we had two of Hamilton’s veteran police officers retire from the force in July, with Sergeant Karen Wallace and Officer Brian Shaw each completing 31 years of service to the town and our residents. We wish them both the best in their well-deserved retirements. There are retirement parties being for each, and details of those can be learned by contacting Lieutenant Scott Janes at the HPD.

Patton Homestead Director Kaleigh Paré has been working with the owner of Inc.ubate co-working spaces to develop a plan to allow Inc.ubate members to utilize the second and third floor spaces at Patton homestead as co-working office spaces in a public-private partnership arrangement with the town. The next steps will be for Inc.ubate President and owner Michael Lucerto to meet with the Finance and Advisory Committee at an upcoming meeting and to organize the basic components of the public-private partnership into a license agreement. I will have more to come on that in the weeks ahead.