



# **ANNUAL REPORT**

**OF THE  
TOWN OFFICERS  
OF**

**MASON, NEW HAMPSHIRE**

**For the Year Ending December 31**

**2015**

## **The 2015 Town Report is Dedicated to Anne “Nancy” Richards**

Nancy Richards has been active in our community for close to 40, years contributing her time, experience and knowledge in a variety of roles. A valued friend and mentor to many, she epitomizes small town rural character with her devotion to volunteering and community involvement.

Nancy grew up in Ashland, MA, and as a young girl, she dreamed of being a soldier and firefighter. While in sixth grade a Reader’s Digest article piqued her interest in becoming a physical therapist. Taking care of patients and advocating for them was her true calling that she pursued with passion.

Never one to be discouraged from achieving her dreams, Nancy became a soldier, achieving the rank of Army Colonel and serving over 38 years as an active and reserve service member. In 1973, she moved from Scituate, MA, to Mason with her family. In 1979, Nancy joined the Mason Volunteer Fire Department as one of the first ladies to be certified in Mason with full firefighter duties, including driving the fire truck and responding to fire calls. Now, 36 years later, Nancy is semi-retired, but continues to serve on the Fire Department in other ways. She is also involved with the Explorer Scouts.

Nancy has touched the lives of many young people in town with kindness, teaching them perseverance and encouraging them to go after their dreams. She was active with Brownies, Girl Scouts and started a Cub Scout Den when her grandson Robert wanted to join. She beams with pride when talking about teaching Scouts to tap trees, gather and boil maple sap, hike to Wolf Rock and maintain the Florence Roberts trail. Nancy continues to nurture young people in town on the second Thursday of each month at the Community Supper. Working with the kids at the dish station is pure joy for Nancy and it’s great to see how many kids want to work with her.

Nancy became a Selectman in 1990 and held the position for 23 years. After retiring in 2013, she was honored at Town Meeting by Mason’s delegation from the NH House & Senate and received a Proclamation by Governor Hassan. On a motion by Barbara Milkovits, the people voted to grant Nancy the title Selectman Emeritus. Nancy proudly remembers many accomplishments; most importantly listening to people, knowing the RSAs and being an independent voice.

Mason is lucky to be the beneficiary of the countless hours Nancy has dedicated to our town in four decades. Say thank you to Nancy and consider becoming a volunteer firefighter, first responder or volunteer to serve on a town board.

*Dedication written by Louise Lavoie*