



A Message from the desk of the Plymouth Town Manager

May 2020

As you all must be aware by now the long awaited Market Basket has finally opened. It is a beautiful store and I hope you have all been taking advantage of shopping there.

Unfortunately, because of COVID19 Market Basket couldn't have the Grand Opening they and you deserved. We are hoping that once the world is back to normal or as close to normal as possible we can celebrate in style.

Because of COVID19 gathering restrictions the Memorial Day Parade has been canceled. However, I have been trying to think outside the box to find a way to honor our Veterans and have come up with some ideas that I hope, while it doesn't follow the traditional ceremony, will give some peace and a little joy to know that you are appreciated and we honor those who have gone before us while serving this great country.

Because we can't have social gatherings at this time, the following will be recorded and put together for the public's viewing on Pemi Baker TV Facebook page, on the town's website at plymouth-nh.org and on channel 1301

**MEMORIAL DAY CEREMONY 2020
PLYMOUTH, NH
Monday, May 25, 2020
10:30 AM**

In front of the Town Hall

1. Opening Remarks from Chair Bill Bolton of Plymouth Select Board
2. Bill Bolton reading of explanation "The meaning of the Honor Bell's Seven Tolls" *see below
3. Ringing of the Bells – Brian Murphy
4. Placement of the wreath by Boy Scout
5. Lowering of the Flag by Dave Moorhead
6. Playing of Taps – On Trumpet – John Urlicson
Echo on Trombone – Hunter Macleod

Pre-recorded at Pemi Baker TV

7. The Prayer by Pastor Dennis Simmons, Gateway Alliance Church
8. Reading of a poem – Kate Donahue
9. Remarks by John Boyle
10. Song "Hallelujah" for Veterans – Hannah Gove from Dorchester, NH

The Meaning of the Honor Bell's Seven Tolls

At each funeral or memorial service for a veteran, the Bell Guard tolls the Honor Bell seven times, with seven seconds between each toll. These tolls represent the many stages in a veteran's life. Each toll has a specific meaning:

Toll One: The Choice to Serve

This toll represents the veteran's willingness to sacrifice their life for their country; a dedication to which few are called.

Toll Two: Camaraderie

The second toll represents the friendships, family, and unity that bond all service members together.

Toll Three: Patriotism

The third toll represents the veteran's pride in their country, a duty to protect it, and the joy in celebrating the freedoms enshrined in our Constitution.

Toll Four: Respect

The fourth toll represents the respect given to a veteran by their community, earned by them and owed by us, for their service.

Toll Five: Dignity

The fifth toll represents the dignity with which a veteran's community treats their fallen hero.

Toll Six: Honor

The sixth toll represents the honor that is due to a veteran when they have died, given by their fellow service members and community.

Toll Seven: The Value of Life

The seventh toll represents the ultimate sacrifice that the veteran has made. Whether killed in action, or after long years of quiet service, the value of a veteran cannot be adequately described by words alone.

The Select Board continues to hold their meetings by Zoom. We can't wait to get back to meeting in the conference room at the big table where we can be face to face and look at plans together.

We have recently been working with the Plymouth Village Water and Sewer Department to obtain grants to work on some of the roads in Plymouth that have water and sewer lines that need to be upgraded as we simultaneously upgrade town roads. Working together should lessen the expense and get more work done.

We are also working with Plymouth State University to develop a plan to bring students back in the Fall in a safe and healthy fashion. If you have any questions or concerns you would like to see addressed please email me at klowe@plymouth-nh.org and I will present them on your behalf.

- Continuing to follow the Governor's orders, Town offices remain closed to the public until the end of the month at which point we will be opening on a limited public access basis. According to the plan, we will be open to the public Wednesday, Thursday and Friday from 10AM to 2PM. We ask the public to make appointments if you need to come in during those days and times. Walk ins are welcome with the following guidelines: You will be required to wear a mask and only one person at a time will be permitted in each office. There will be requirements posted. Please help us by following the rules and remember that this is all temporary. The more we follow the rules the less time we will have to live under these circumstances. We apologize for the inconvenience but this is for your protection as well as ours. We are still available by phone or by email Monday through Friday.

And as always, please feel free to contact us anytime by email at townhall@plymouth-nh.org or by telephone at 536-1731. Our professional, friendly staff is readily available to take your calls or emails.

Be Happy, Be Healthy

Kathryn Lowe

