

**2014
Town of Heath · Massachusetts
Annual Report**



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Town of Heath Annual Report 2014
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2014 Annual Town Report Dedication

Francis Rollo Kinsman
(November 15, 1932 – October 14, 2014)



The passing of our native Heathan, Rollo, meant our Town had lost a great advocate. Rollo was the son of Francis and Anna (LeClaire) Kinsman. He married the former Alice Jackson in 1968 and was the father of Elizabeth and Nancy, and a grandfather to four.

After his schooling in Heath, Arms Academy, and Deerfield Academy, Rollo went on to study voice at Hartt College of Music until drafted into the United States Army. This was the beginning of an entertainment career for service personnel in the States and Abroad.

He served Heath as a Selectman from 1995-1998, and was always there to help decide what was best for this hill town.

Many of us remember, with great longing, Rollo's gift of song. Whether as a member of the choirs of the Colrain Baptist Church, or the Heath Union Church, or in a solo concert at the Heath Church, he could captivate the audience with a song from opera or a simple folk melody. Music in all forms was his forté. Every young girl who knew Rollo in his youth hoped they would be chosen to "do-si-do" in a square dance or twirl around the floor in a lively polka at Friday night square dances or at the Heath Fair dance at the Community Hall.

We will all miss Rollo and his captivating, friendly manner whether in a one-to-one conversation or in a large audience from the stage. As his daughter best stated in his obituary, "He was a true gentleman."

Ruth E. Johnson

TOWN OFFICERS 2014

	Term Expires
Selectmen (3)	
Sheila Litchfield, Chair	2015
Brian De Vriese	2017
Bill Lattrell	2016
Assessors (3)	
Alice Wozniak	2017
Richard Gallup	2015
Margo Newton	2016
Town Clerk (3)	
Hilma Sumner	2015
Moderator (3)	
Douglas Wilkins	2017
Constables (1)	
Steve Thane	2015
Robert Bourke	2015
School Committee (2)	
Ken Rocke	2015
Andrew Draxler	2015 (deceased)
Planning Board (5)	
Calvin Carr, Chair	2016
Robert Viarengo	2015
Douglas Mason	2018
Jo Travis	2019
Bill Gran	2017
Finance Committee (3)	
Donald Freeman, Chair	2017
Edwin Wolf	2015
Jeff Simmons	2016
Kathryn Inman	2015 (resigned 1/2015)
Gloria Fisher	2015
Library Trustees (3)	
Janis Carr, Chair	2016
Deborah Porter	2015
Kate Bailey	2017
Fence Viewer	
Assessors	2015
Tree Warden	
Alanson Nichols	2015

Town Officers (continued)	Term Expires
Measurers of Wood & Bark	
William Clark	2015
Alanson Nichols	2015
Field Drivers	
Christine O'Brien	2015
Michelle Howe	2015
David Freeman	2015
Jonathan Diamond	2015
Sexton	
Matthew Lively	2015
Burial Agent	
Hilma Sumner, Town Clerk	2015

Town Boards Appointed by Selectmen

Board of Health (3)

Rebecca Allen, Chair (appt. April 2009)	2015 (resigned 7/2014)
Karen Brooks	2017
John Doherty	2015
Michael Freeman (appt. 8/2014)	2018
Charlie Cornish	2016
Betsy Kovacs	2017

Zoning Board of Appeals (5)

Dennis Peters, Chair	2017
Robert Gruen	2018
Valerie Kaempfer	2017
Alanson Nichols	2015

Selectmen's Appointments

Select Board Chair	Sheila Litchfield
Select Board Secretary	Bill Lattrell
Town Coordinator	Kara Leistyna
Office Assistant	Lorena Loubisky
Treasurer	Kristi Nartowicz
Tax Collector	Elizabeth Nichols
Americans w/Disabilities Rep.	Vacant
Animal Inspector	Margo Newton (exp. April 30) (resigned 10/2014)
	Sarah Hettlinger (exp. April 30) (appt. 10/2014)

Building Maintenance Coordinator
Carl H. Nilman Scholarship Rep.
Chief of Police
Police Officers
Detail Officers
Animal Control Officer

Emergency Management Director
Emergency Management Dir. Alternate
E911 Coordinator
FRCOG Planning Board Rep.
FRCOG Alternate Planning Board Rep
FRCOG Regional Dog Kennel Rep.
FRCOG Regional Dog Kennel Alternate Rep.
Three-Town Landfill Comm. Rep.
FCCIP Representative
Fire Chief
Forest Fire Warden
FRCOG Representative
FRTA Representative
Franklin Cty. Solid Waste District Rep.
Highway Superintendent
Highway Crew

Highway Roadside Mower
Highway Department Liaison
Inspector of Buildings
Inspector, Electrical
Inspector, Plumbing & Gas
Licensing Board
Local Emergency Planning Committee

MTRSD Long-Range Planning Comm.

Post Office Manager
Asst. to Post Office Manager
Election Workers

Timothy Lively
Jonathan Diamond
Margo Newton
Lee Lively, Chris Mattson
Julie Shippee, Gordon Cutter
Edward Grinnell (Regional)
Sarah Hettlinger, Assistant ACO
Timothy Lively
Vacant
Budge Litchfield
Bill Gran
Brian DeVriese
Sarah Hettlinger
Vacant
Sheila Litchfield
Brian DeVriese
Michael Smith
Michael Smith
Bill Lattrell
Brian DeVriese
Kara Leistyna
Michael Smith
Dohn Sherman, Jason Lively,
Michael Shattuck
Steve Thane
Bill Lattrell
James Hawkins
Tom MacDonald
Andrew French
Sheila Litchfield
Sheila Litchfield
Timothy Lively
Margo Newton
Mike Smith
Jeff Simmons
Sheila Litchfield (resigned 7/14)
Don Freeman (appt. 9/14)
Charlene Reynolds
Margo Newton
Valerie Kaempfer
Eileen Tougas
Don Dekker
Margo Newton
Gloria Fisher
Nancy Thane
Jenna Day (Alternate)
Eileen McVay-Lively (Alternate)

Selectmen's Appointments (continued)

Select Board Correspondent to Heath Herald	Brian DeVriese
Senior Center Coordinator	Eileen McVay-Lively
Tax Title Attorney	Berenson & Bloom
Town Counsel	Kopelman & Paige P.C.
Town Nurse	Claire Rabbitt
Veterans Agent	Leo Parent, Jr./Mark Fitzpatrick
Veterans Graves Officer	Dennis Peters
Veterans Representative	Dennis Peters
Fred G. Wells Trustee	Dianne Grinnell

Town Committees Appointed by Selectmen

Agricultural Commission	David Freeman John Clark Leighton McCutchen Jeff Aho Doug Mason
Cemetery Commission	Claire Rabbitt Jerry Gilbert Eric Sumner
Community Hall Committee	Margo Newton Dolores Churchill Ruth Corey Don Dekker Tracy Schott
Conservation Commission	Dennis Peters Brian DeVriese Ellen Jenkins Bernard (Buck) Den Ouden Jessica Van Steensburg Bill Lattrell (Assistant/Consultant)
Council on Aging	Valerie Kaempfer Alli Thane-Stetson Teresa Peters Jane deLeeuw Eileen Tougas
Cultural Council	Lorena Loubsky Janis Steele Kara Leistyna Robert Gruen Susan Draxler Larry Sampson

FINANCIAL REPORTS



General Fund Revenue Report

as of: 06/30/2014

<u>Taxes and Excises</u>	Carryover	Original Budget	Budget Revisions	Total Budget	Revenues	Balance
Personal Property Taxes		120,568.52		120,568.52	120,568.53	-0.01
Real Estate Taxes		1,610,995.21		1,610,995.21	1,567,816.71	43,178.50
Allow. for Ates & Exempt		-17,859.08		-17,859.08		-17,859.08
Tax Liens Redeemed				0.00	28,808.12	-28,808.12
Sale of Tax Foreclosures				0.00	6,925.00	-6,925.00
Motor Vehicle Excise		59,000.00		59,000.00	76,330.60	-17,330.60
Post Abatement Excise Tax				0.00	147.11	-147.11
Penalties and int. taxes		20,500.00		20,500.00		20,500.00
Interest on Property Tax				0.00	13,634.64	-13,634.64
Interest on Motor Veh Ex				0.00	1,250.73	-1,250.73
Interest on Tax Titles				0.00	6,281.45	-6,281.45
Int. on Tax Fore. Sales				0.00	155.30	-155.30
Taxes and Excises Totals:		1,793,204.65		1,793,204.65	1,821,918.19	-28,713.54
<u>Charges for Services</u>	Carryover	Original Budget	Budget Revisions	Total Budget	Revenues	Balance
Transfer station stickers		15,500.00		15,500.00	21,495.00	-5,995.00
Charges for Services Totals:		15,500.00		15,500.00	21,495.00	-5,995.00

<u>Fees</u>	Carryover	Original Budget	Budget Revisions	Total Budget	Revenues	Balance
RMV Marking Fees		500.00		500.00	880.00	-380.00
Fees Totals:		500.00		500.00	880.00	-380.00
<u>Licenses and Permits</u>	Carryover	Original Budget	Budget Revisions	Total Budget	Revenues	Balance
Police gun Licenses		1,750.00		1,750.00	450.00	1,300.00
Raffle Permits				0.00	40.00	-40.00
Licenses and Permits Totals:		1,750.00		1,750.00	490.00	1,260.00
<u>Federal Revenue</u>	Carryover	Original Budget	Budget Revisions	Total Budget	Revenues	Balance
USPS Contract Revenue		20,500.00		20,500.00	20,642.04	-142.04
Federal Revenue Totals:		20,500.00		20,500.00	20,642.04	-142.04
<u>State Revenue</u>	Carryover	Original Budget	Budget Revisions	Total Budget	Revenues	Balance
State Owned Land		6,129.00		6,129.00	6,129.00	0.00
Abatements Veterans		15,096.00		15,096.00	12,612.00	2,484.00
Elderly Abatements		1,506.00		1,506.00	1,507.00	-1.00
Veterans Benefits				0.00	5,403.00	-5,403.00
Lottery		72,441.00		72,441.00	72,441.00	0.00
State Revenue Totals:		95,172.00		95,172.00	98,092.00	-2,920.00

<u>Other</u>							
<u>Intergovernmental Revenue</u>		Carryover	Original Budget	Budget Revisions	Total Budget	Revenues	Balance
	CMVI Fines				0.00	22.50	-22.50
	Fines-District Court				0.00	200.05	-200.05
	Library Fines		600.00		600.00		600.00
	Other Intergovernmental Revenue Totals:		600.00		600.00	222.55	377.45
<u>Miscellaneous Revenue</u>		Carryover	Original Budget	Budget Revisions	Total Budget	Revenues	Balance
	Interest on Investments		1,000.00		1,000.00	616.21	383.79
	Miscellaneous Revenue		1,000.00		1,000.00	150.00	850.00
	Excess Coll. on Tax Sales				0.00	3,242.40	-3,242.40
	Copier Receipts				0.00	137.82	-137.82
	Storm - FEMA/MEMA				0.00	11,740.32	-11,740.32
	Sale of Surplus Equipment				0.00	2,095.00	-2,095.00
	Various Small Adjustment				0.00	0.05	-0.05
	Tax Title Costs				0.00	7,405.61	-7,405.61
	Tax Possession Costs/Fees				0.00	125.00	-125.00
	Tax Auction Deposits				0.00	500.00	-500.00
	Worker's Comp. Reimbursements				0.00	3,000.00	-3,000.00
	Miscellaneous Revenue Totals:		2,000.00		2,000.00	29,012.41	-27,012.41

Other Financing Sources

	Carryover	Original Budget	Budget Revisions	Total Budget	Revenues	Balance
Transfer from Rev. Funds				0.00	1,530.94	-1,530.94
Trans. From Fund 39			57.00	57.00	57.00	0.00
Free Cash to Bal.Budget		50,000.00		50,000.00	50,000.00	0.00
Funded by Carryovers	53,226.04			53,226.04	53,226.04	0.00
Funded with "Free Cash"			100,000.00	100,000.00	100,000.00	0.00
Funded by Overlay Surplus			21,961.48	21,961.48	21,961.48	0.00
Other Financing Sources Totals:	53,226.04	50,000.00	122,018.48	225,244.52	226,775.46	-1,530.94
Grand Totals:	53,226.04	1,979,228.65	122,018.48	2,154,471.17	2,219,527.85	-65,056.48

General Fund Expenditure Report

as of: 06/30/2014

	Carryover	Original Budget	Budget Revisions	Total Budget	Expenditures	Balance
Moderator Stipend		100.00		100.00	100.00	0.00
Selectmen's Stipend-Membe		2,000.00		2,000.00	2,000.00	0.00
Selectmen's Stipend-Chair		1,500.00		1,500.00	1,500.00	0.00
Selectmen Oper. Expenses		4,600.00	-60.88	4,539.12	1,687.83	2,841.29
Salary Town Coordinator		35,999.03	91.37	36,090.40	36,070.70	19.70
Salary Office Assistant		1,131.30	-376.03	755.27	157.13	598.14

Office Supplies	1,500.00		1,500.00	1,474.54	25.46
Finance Committee Expense	200.00		200.00	129.00	71.00
Reserve Fund	5,000.00	-1,234.01	3,765.99		3,765.99
Salary Town Accountant	11,565.00		11,565.00	11,565.00	0.00
Town Accountant Expense	1,350.00		1,350.00	1,289.42	60.58
Accountant's Support	450.00	-5.85	444.15	440.50	3.65
Assessors Stipend-Chair	2,500.00		2,500.00	2,500.00	0.00
Assessors Stipend-Members	4,000.00		4,000.00	4,000.00	0.00
Assessor's Expenses	1,500.00		1,500.00	1,195.08	304.92
Assessor's Software	2,500.00		2,500.00	2,500.00	0.00
Assessor's Mapping	1,000.00		1,000.00	550.00	450.00
Salary Assessor's Assistant	4,992.00		4,992.00	4,992.00	0.00
Assessor's Consultant Exp	1,000.00		1,000.00	900.00	100.00
Treasurer's Salary	9,740.12		9,740.12	9,740.12	0.00
Treasurer's Expense	4,000.00		4,000.00	2,881.88	1,118.12
Treasurer's Surety Bond	158.00		158.00	158.00	0.00
Treas. Tax Taking & Coll	25,000.00		25,000.00	19,620.11	5,379.89
Salary Tax Collector	10,624.91		10,624.91	10,624.91	0.00
Tax Collector Surety Bond	250.00		250.00	210.00	40.00
Tax Collector Expense	3,895.00		3,895.00	3,638.30	256.70
Tax Taking/Liens	3,325.00		3,325.00	1,539.52	1,785.48

	Carryover	Original Budget	Budget Revisions	Total Budget	Expenditures	Balance
Legal Fees		7,000.00		7,000.00	4,078.18	2,921.82
Salary Post Office Manage		20,362.52		20,362.52	20,343.55	18.97
Post Office Oper. Expense		200.00		200.00	95.00	105.00
Salary Post Office Substi		1,425.00		1,425.00	902.88	522.12
Post Office Mgr. Surety		100.00		100.00	100.00	0.00
Salary Town Clerk		13,943.41		13,943.41	13,943.41	0.00
Town Clerk's Expense		3,000.00		3,000.00	2,868.48	131.52
Town Clerk Surety Bond		100.00		100.00	100.00	0.00
Election Workers Stipend		960.00		960.00	960.00	0.00
Conserv. Comm. Expense		350.00		350.00	122.00	228.00
Con. Comm. Consultant Exp.		1,500.00		1,500.00	1,102.50	397.50
Planning Board Expenses		650.00		650.00		650.00
Zoning Board Expense		200.00		200.00		200.00
Agriculture Commission Exp.		500.00		500.00	58.12	441.88
Heath Telecom Exp. (Wired		425.00		425.00	11.20	413.80
Technical Support Tn Hall		1,800.00		1,800.00	1,556.75	243.25
Build. Maint. Coor. Salary		12,332.25		12,332.25	11,166.77	1,165.48
Sawyer Hall-Maint./Util.		18,000.00		18,000.00	17,094.47	905.53
Town Garages-Maint./Util.		15,600.00	2,000.00	17,600.00	17,021.91	578.09
Town Buildings-Copier Sup		2,000.00	60.88	2,060.88	2,060.88	0.00

Comm. Hall-Maint./Util.	16,000.00	14,207.26	1,792.74
Lawn Mowing, Ctr. & Cemse.	4,500.00	3,000.00	1,500.00
MA Broadband Equip/Sawye	3,130.04	1,480.60	1,649.44
Sawyer Hall Internet	1,439.40	999.40	440.00
Highway/Fire Internet	650.00	599.40	50.60
Ins/Prop/Casualty/Workers	38,604.53	34,290.14	4,314.39
Town Report Printing	650.00	1,026.03	0.00
FRCOG Assessment	9,812.08	9,812.08	0.00
General Government Totals:	315,114.59	280,475.05	35,491.05

Public Safety

	Original Budget	Budget Revisions	Total Budget	Expenditures	Balance
Salaries-Police Departmen	23,338.77		23,338.77	21,075.64	2,263.13
Constables Stipend	200.00		200.00	200.00	0.00
Police Vehicle Maint. Expens	2,000.00	1,000.00	3,000.00	2,351.45	648.55
Police Expenses	2,500.00	5.85	2,505.85	2,505.85	0.00
Fire Chief Stipend	4,266.00		4,266.00	4,266.00	0.00
Firemens Incentive Award	6,000.00		6,000.00	5,994.50	5.50
Fire Dept. Supp/Training	14,000.00		14,000.00	11,963.05	2,036.95
Turnout Gear Replacement	8,000.00		8,000.00	3,280.00	4,720.00
Emergency Medical Service	700.00		700.00	344.62	355.38

Carryover	Original Budget	Budget Revisions	Total Budget		
			Expenditures	Balance	
Building Inspector Expen.	3,500.00		3,500.00	0.00	
Em. Manage. Director Stip	1,000.00		1,000.00	0.00	
Emer. Mgmt. Expenses	400.00		400.00	211.49	
Alternate EMD Stipend	100.00		100.00	100.00	
Code RED	1,500.00		1,500.00	1,500.00	
An. Cont. Officer's Stipend	2,000.00	500.00	2,500.00	0.00	
AC Officer's Expenses	2,300.00	-500.00	1,800.00	1,637.79	
Reg. Dog Kennel Assess.	700.00		700.00	0.00	
Animal Inspector's Exp.	325.00		325.00	152.52	
Animal Inspector Stipend	500.00		500.00	0.00	
Wildlife Damage Control Ex	1,500.00		1,500.00	508.00	
Tree Removal Expense	1,700.00		1,700.00	1,700.00	
Public Safety Totals:	76,529.77	1,005.85	77,535.62	15,639.31	
Education	Original Budget	Budget Revisions	Total Budget	Expenditures	Balance
School Comm. Stipend	1,096.00		1,096.00	1,096.00	0.00
School Committee Expenses	500.00		500.00		500.00
MTRS Assessment	721,641.91		721,641.91		0.00
FCTS Assessment	19,943.00		19,943.00	19,943.00	0.00

MTRS Capital Project	11,554.02		11,554.02	11,554.02	0.00
Education Totals:	754,736.93		754,736.93	754,236.93	500.00
<u>Public Works and Facilities</u>	Original Budget	Budget Revisions	Total Budget	Expenditures	Balance
Salary Highway Dept. Wage	159,599.01	118.81	159,717.82	159,717.82	0.00
Highway Misc Expenses	1,900.00	1,234.01	3,134.01	3,043.56	90.45
Machinery Maint./Supplies	33,816.00	19,400.00	53,216.00	51,800.00	1,416.00
Vehicle Gas & Oil	40,000.00		40,000.00	36,631.72	3,368.28
Hired Equipment/Services	3,700.00	3,000.00	6,700.00	4,741.01	1,958.99
Highway Dept. Materials	24,000.00		24,000.00	16,650.80	7,349.20
Roadside Mowing	7,000.00	-3,167.75	3,832.25	3,832.25	0.00
Highway Dept. Mower	19,500.00		19,500.00	19,500.00	0.00
2011 J Deere Grader Repair	12,000.00		12,000.00	12,000.00	0.00
Salary Winter Hwy. Wages	19,493.90		19,493.90	16,521.72	2,972.18
Winter Equip. Maint/Repr	5,000.00	4,542.58	9,542.58	9,542.58	0.00
Winter Salt/Sand & Other	127,200.00	-10,917.58	116,282.42	110,469.97	5,812.45
Winter Hired Services	2,250.00	1,875.00	4,125.00	4,125.00	0.00
Salary Winter Temp. Help	1,309.00	1,000.00	2,309.00	2,203.67	105.33
Salary Summer Temp. Help	3,656.00		3,656.00		3,656.00
Street Lights	1,500.00		1,500.00	1,084.55	415.45

Carryover	Original Budget	Budget Revisions	Total Budget	Expenditures	Balance
Franklin Cty Solid Waste	1,916.00		1,916.00	1,916.00	0.00
Salary Refuse Disposal	9,143.93		9,143.93	9,042.40	101.53
Dump Transportation	16,279.00		16,279.00	13,279.08	2,999.92
Dump Tipping	20,000.00		20,000.00	18,221.11	1,778.89
Hazardous Waste Disposal	500.00	-131.00	369.00	295.60	73.40
Transfer Sta. Maint/Repr	500.00	131.00	631.00	631.00	0.00
Public Works and Facilities Totals:	510,262.84	17,085.07	527,347.91	495,249.84	32,098.07
<u>Human Services</u>					
Carryover	Original Budget	Budget Revisions	Total Budget	Expenditures	Balance
Bd of Health-Chair Stipend	844.00		844.00	844.00	0.00
Bd of Health-Mem. Stipend	1,688.00		1,688.00	1,622.00	66.00
Bd of Health Clerk Salary	3,000.00		3,000.00	2,518.08	481.92
FRCOG Health Agent	6,000.00		6,000.00	6,000.00	0.00
Bd of Health Expenses	1,500.00		1,500.00	147.40	1,352.60
Salary Town Nurse	9,393.00		9,393.00	7,682.90	1,710.10
Town Nurse's Expense	455.00		455.00	455.00	0.00
Senior Ctr. Coordinator Stipe	500.00		500.00	250.00	250.00
Senior Center Oper. Acct.	500.00		500.00	318.55	181.45

COA Expense	1,000.00		1,000.00	1,000.00	0.00
Veterans Service Center	1,405.00		1,405.00	1,405.00	0.00
Veterans Benefit	29,004.00	-26,000.31	3,003.69	1,043.00	1,960.69
Health Veterans Memorial Co	150.00		150.00	9.80	140.20
Human Services Totals:	55,439.00	-26,000.31	29,438.69	23,295.73	6,142.98
<u>Culture and Recreation</u>					
Salary Library Director	24,490.41	4.45	24,494.86	24,494.86	0.00
Salary Library Assistant	5,548.82		5,548.82	5,349.34	199.48
Salary Library Substitute	1,060.00		1,060.00	146.74	913.26
Library Operating Expense	6,625.00		6,625.00	6,625.00	0.00
CW Mars Library Annual	1,241.00		1,241.00	1,241.00	0.00
Historical Comm. Expense	2,000.00		2,000.00	1,960.00	40.00
Culture and Recreation Totals:	40,965.23	4.45	40,969.68	38,816.94	1,152.74
<u>Debt Service</u>					
Highway Garage Door Loan	4,000.00		4,000.00	4,000.00	0.00
Highway Garage Doors Inter	200.00		200.00	94.40	105.60
Chevy Trk Loan FY10	13,784.20		13,784.20	13,784.20	0.00
Chevy Trk Interest FY10	413.53		413.53	413.53	0.00

	Carryover	Original Budget	Budget Revisions	Total Budget	
				Expenditures	Balance
Bucket Loader 2011		16,246.00		16,246.00	0.00
Bucket Loader Interest 2011		1,705.83		1,705.83	0.00
3 Town Liability Waiver		10,634.00		10,630.00	4.00
3 Town Liability Waiver Int.		3,826.80		3,826.80	0.00
2011 Highway Truck Princip		22,000.00		22,000.00	0.00
2011 Hwy. Truck Interest		484.00		484.00	0.00
TS Irene Bond Interest		2,173.89		2,173.89	0.00
2013 Dump Body Prin.			10,000.00	10,000.00	0.00
2013 Dump Body Int.			800.00	800.00	0.00
Debt Service Totals:		75,466.25	10,800.00	86,266.25	109.60
<u>Intergovernmental Expenditures</u>	Carryover			Total Budget	Balance
St Assmnt Air Pollution		211.00		211.00	0.00
Reg Transit Authority Asm		22.00		22.00	0.00
RMV Non-Renewla Surcharg		820.00		820.00	80.00
Intergovernmental Expenditures Totals:		1,053.00		1,053.00	80.00

Miscellaneous

Carryover	Original Budget	Budget Revisions	Total Budget	Expenditures	Balance
Fran. Regional Retirement Sy	45,586.00	-214.63	45,381.37	44,748.00	633.37
Unemployment Compensation	1,000.00		1,000.00	539.34	460.66
Health Insurance	57,707.28		57,707.28	57,707.28	0.00
Life Insurance	300.00		300.00	227.11	72.89
FICA/Medicare Empl. Match	15,000.00		15,000.00	12,778.99	2,221.01
Trans.to Stabilization		100,000.00	100,000.00	100,000.00	0.00
Special Projects in 03	24,700.00	18,486.54	96,412.58		96,412.58
Overlay Deficit	5,353.76		5,353.76	5,353.76	0.00
Miscellaneous Totals:	149,657.04	118,271.91	321,154.99	221,354.48	99,800.51
Grand Totals:	53,226.04	122,018.48	2,154,471.17	1,963,256.93	191,214.24

Other Funds Expense Report

as of: 06/30/2014

Fund: 03		Carryover	Original Budget	Budget Revisions	Total Budget	Expenditures	Balance
Special Projects		2,953.55			2,953.55		2,953.55
Assessors' Deed Project Cons							
Comm. Hall Furnace Upgrad			3,400.00		3,400.00	3,329.00	71.00
Sawyer Hall Boiler 2014			8,300.00	-82.00	8,218.00	8,218.00	0.00
Feas. Study Mun. Complex		20,000.00			20,000.00	19,308.26	691.74
Feas. Study SH/CH		10,000.00			10,000.00		10,000.00
Sawyer Hall Upgrades 2012		9,947.65			9,947.65	8,126.73	1,820.92
Fire Dept. Sheetrock 2014			3,000.00		3,000.00		3,000.00
Pre School Support			10,000.00		10,000.00	10,000.00	0.00
Town Garage Restroom		1,372.46		-1,372.46	0.00		0.00
Highway Vehicle Replaceme				10,000.00	10,000.00	9,990.00	10.00
Hwy. Wing Plow Fy12		18.00		-18.00	0.00		0.00
Compactor Replacement 201				9,959.00	9,959.00	9,959.00	0.00
Dump Closing		8,934.38			8,934.38	3,262.20	5,672.18
Totals:		53,226.04	24,700.00	18,486.54	85,412.58	72,183.19	24,219.39

Fund: 21**Cultural Council**

	Carryover	Original Budget	Budget Revisions	Total Budget	Expenditures	Balance
Ravenwood Freedom Farm	200.00		-200.00	0.00		0.00
Molly Cantor-Class	20.00		-20.00	0.00		0.00
Mem. Hall Theater	90.00		-90.00	0.00		0.00
Mohawk Arts-Theater	200.00		-200.00	0.00		0.00
AIM/Colonial Arts	150.00			150.00	150.00	0.00
Franklin/Vernal Pools	80.00		-80.00	0.00		0.00
Miller/Remembrance of Past	150.00			150.00	150.00	0.00
DRWA Riverfest	100.00			100.00	100.00	0.00
Friends of RSW/Hilltown La	100.00			100.00	100.00	0.00
Heath Agr./Music	700.00			700.00	700.00	0.00
Heath Elem/Education	800.00			800.00		800.00
Heath Library/Summer	100.00			100.00	75.52	23.48
The Art Garden/Exhibit	50.00			50.00	50.00	0.00
AIM/MTRSD Arts		100.00		100.00		100.00
DRWA Riverfest		50.00		50.00		50.00
Heath Fair Music		870.00		870.00		870.00
Summer Reading/Crafts		100.00		100.00		100.00
Heath Herald		230.00		230.00		230.00
Heath Strings		500.00		500.00	500.00	0.00

	Carryover	Original Budget	Budget Revisions	Total Budget	Expenditures	Balance
Museum/Fiddle		100.00		100.00		100.00
Pioneer Valley Symphony		50.00		50.00	50.00	0.00
Pothole Pix		150.00		150.00	150.00	0.00
Art Garden		100.00		100.00		100.00
Collected Poets		100.00		100.00	100.00	0.00
Charlemont Forum		100.00		100.00		100.00
Life in a Wheelchair		100.00		100.00	100.00	0.00
Mem. Hall/Opera		100.00		100.00		100.00
Mohawk Trail Concerts		50.00		50.00		50.00
Hilltown Families		100.00		100.00		100.00
Pitt/To Bee		250.00		250.00		250.00
WINK/Heath PTP		450.00		450.00		450.00
Heath Elem/Watt		750.00		750.00		750.00
Available Local Funds	21.19		566.78	617.97		617.97
Totals:	2,761.19	4,250.00	6.78	7,017.97	2,226.52	4,791.45
Fund: 23						
Highway Grants						
Chapter 90 Expenses	9,834.27	212,453.00		222,287.27	47,473.41	174,813.86
Totals:	9,834.27	212,453.00		222,287.27	47,473.41	174,813.86

Fund: 26**Revolving Funds (44 53E.1/2)**

	Original Budget	Budget Revisions	Total Budget	Expenditures	Balance
ZBA Revolving	1,000.00	-585.98	947.86	182.80	765.26
Animal Control Officer Revo	2,000.00	-1,302.50	2,717.89	717.86	2,000.00
BOH Permitting/Insp.	5,000.00	-1,510.00	8,490.00	3,490.00	5,000.00
Senior Center Revolving	1,000.00	-924.00	1,011.85	11.65	1,000.00
Solid Waste/Recycling Rev.	10,000.00	2,367.96	12,367.96	4,036.35	8,321.61
Small Business Loans Avl.			1,071.67		1,071.67
Vaccine Program	3,500.00	-3,234.60	996.81	169.43	829.38
COA Meal Revolving	3,000.00	-1,849.75	1,350.25		1,350.25
Totals:	25,500.00	-6,848.87	28,946.08	8,607.91	20,338.17

Fund: 27**Available for Appropriation**

	Original Budget	Budget Revisions	Total Budget	Expenditures	Balance
Road Machinery Fund			83.76		83.76
Sale of Lots	3,750.00	300.00	4,050.00	467.77	3,582.23
Available Free Cash	185,621.00		185,621.00	150,000.00	35,621.00
Totals:	185,621.00	300.00	189,754.76	150,467.77	39,286.99

Fund: 29**Miscellaneous Special Revenue**

	Original Budget	Budget Revisions	Total Budget	Expenditures	Balance
Extended Polling Hours		1,428.00	1,428.00	1,428.00	0.00
Wetlands Protection	1,057.78		1,057.78		1,057.78
Community Hall Donations	25.00		25.00		25.00
Comm. Hall Committee Fund	2,813.09	662.00	3,475.09		3,475.09
MA Tech. Collab. Grt. 10	118.07		118.07	60.00	58.07
WRHSAC Train. Grant		120.00	120.00	120.00	0.00
2011 EMPG	-895.32	2,120.12	1,224.80	1,224.80	0.00
Ice Storm Donations 2008	428.59		428.59		428.59
EMPG 2014	1,790.00		1,790.00	1,787.93	2.07
Library Dog Fund	570.89		570.89	570.89	0.00
Heath Animal Fund gift	100.00		100.00		100.00
Mackie Memorial	390.00		390.00		390.00
Winter Rapid Recovery Road	31,799.00		31,799.00	21,686.74	10,112.26
MRIP Recycle Grant	6.82		6.82	6.82	0.00
DEP Small Scale Initiative Gr		499.20	499.20	499.20	0.00
Cemetery Donations	1,108.83	50.00	1,108.83		1,108.83
FCTIC Medication Mgmt. 08	443.03		443.03		443.03
Flu Clinic Donations	473.50		473.50		473.50
COA Grant		4,000.00	4,000.00	4,000.00	0.00

COA Grant		4,000.00	4,000.00	4,000.00	0.00
Senior Cntr donations	775.05	10.00	785.05		785.05
Health Veterans Memorial Fu		240.00	240.00		240.00
Library State Grant	4,031.71	1,946.50	5,978.21	283.54	5,714.67
Library Donations	4,025.35	478.09	4,503.44	357.89	4,145.55
Library Construction Gift	8,273.00		8,273.00		8,273.00
Recreation Fund	1,680.89	0.84	1,681.73		1,681.73
Totals:	24,803.39	11,554.75	70,518.03	32,005.81	38,512.22
Fund: 33					
<u>Tropical Storm Irene</u>					
TS Irene Exp 2011	-218,542.55	48,629.63	-168,912.92	500.00	-170,412.92
Totals:	-218,542.55	48,629.63	-168,912.92	500.00	-170,412.92
Fund: 39					
<u>Highway Capital Items</u>					
Dump Body 2003 Int. FY13	57.00	-57.00	0.00		0.00
Trans. To General Fund		57.00	57.00	57.00	0.00
Totals:	57.00	0.00	57.00	57.00	0.00

Fund: 82
Expendable Trusts

	Carryover	Original Budget	Budget Revisions	Total Budget	Expenditures	Balance
Realt/Carpenter Award	2,019.14		54.41	2,073.55	50.00	2,023.55
Cemetery	10,933.86		29.92	10,963.80		10,963.80
Hands X Heath-Nurse	6,844.67		13.08	6,857.75	197.40	6,660.35
Library Trust	8,441.30		15.77	8,457.07		8,457.07
Totals:	28,238.99		113.18	28,352.17	247.40	28,104.77

Fund: 83
Stabilization

	Carryover	Original Budget	Budget Revisions	Total Budget	Expenditures	Balance
Available Stabilization	193,813.58		552.02	194,365.60		194,365.60
School/Building Cap. Improv			30,007.57	30,007.57		30,007.57
Equip/Vehicle Stab. Fund			70,026.47	70,026.47		70,026.47
Totals:	193,813.58		100,586.06	294,399.64		294,399.64

Report Totals: 129,163.16 486,693.89 172,847.97 788,695.02 313,779.01 474,916.01

Other Funds Revenue Report

as of: 06/30/2014

Fund: 21

Cultural Council

	Carryover	Original Budget	Budget Revisions	Total Budget	Revenues	Balance
State Cultural Council rInterest		4,250.00	6.78	4,250.00	4,250.00	0.00
Funded by Carryovers	2,761.19			2,761.19	6.78	0.00
Totals:	2,761.19	4,250.00	6.78	7,017.97	4,256.78	2,761.19

Fund: 23

Highway Grants

	Carryover	Original Budget	Budget Revisions	Total Budget	Revenues	Balance
Chapter 90 Revenue		212,453.00		212,453.00	25,778.91	186,674.09
Funded by Carryovers	9,834.27			9,834.27		9,834.27
Totals:	9,834.27	212,453.00		222,287.27	25,778.91	196,508.36

Fund: 24

Septic Grants

	Carryover	Original Budget	Budget Revisions	Total Budget	Revenues	Balance
rSeptic Bank Interest						
Funded by Carryovers	20,842.54			20,842.54	19.90	0.00
Totals:	20,842.54			20,862.44	19.90	20,842.54

Fund: 26**Revolving Funds (44 53E1/2)**

	Original Budget	Budget Revisions	Total Budget	Revenues	Balance
rZBA Revolving		414.02	414.02	414.02	0.00
rAnimal Control Officer Rev.		697.50	697.50	697.50	0.00
rBOH Permitting/Insp.		3,490.00	3,490.00	3,490.00	0.00
Senior Center Revolving		76.00	76.00	76.00	0.00
rSolid Waste/Recycling Rev		12,357.96	12,357.96	12,357.96	0.00
rVaccine Pro		265.40	265.40	265.40	0.00
rCOA Meal Revolving		1,350.25	1,350.25	1,350.25	0.00
Funded by Carryovers	10,294.95		10,294.95		10,294.85
Totals:	10,294.95	18,651.13	28,946.08	18,651.13	10,294.85

Fund: 27**Available for Appropriation**

	Original Budget	Budget Revisions	Total Budget	Revenues	Balance
Sale of Lots		300.00	300.00	300.00	0.00
Offset to Free Cash	185,621.00		185,621.00	150,000.00	35,621.00
Funded by Carryovers	3,833.78		3,833.78		3,833.78
Totals:	185,621.00	300.00	189,754.78	150,300.00	39,454.78

Fund: 29**Miscellaneous Special Revenue**

	Original Budget	Budget Revisions	Total Budget	Revenues	Balance
extended polling hours		1,428.00	1,428.00	1,428.00	0.00
rCommunity Hall Functions		662.00	662.00	662.00	0.00
rWRHSAC Train. Grant		120.00	120.00	120.00	0.00
r2011EMPG		2,120.12	2,120.12	2,120.12	0.00
rEMPG 2014	1,780.00		1,780.00		1,780.00
rLibrary Dog Fund		570.89	570.89	570.89	0.00
rWinter Rapid Recovery Roa	31,789.00		31,789.00		31,789.00
DEP Small Scale Initiative G		489.20	489.20	489.20	0.00
rCemetery Donations		50.00	50.00	50.00	0.00
rCOA Grant		4,000.00	4,000.00	4,000.00	0.00
Senior Cntr/COA donations		10.00	10.00	10.00	0.00
rHealth Veterans Mem. Fund		240.00	240.00	240.00	0.00
rLibrary State Grant		1,946.50	1,946.50	1,946.50	0.00
Library Donations		478.09	478.09	478.09	0.00
Int. Recreation		0.84	0.84	0.84	0.00
Funded by Carryovers	24,803.39		24,803.39		24,803.39
Totals:	24,803.39	12,125.64	70,519.03	12,125.64	56,392.39

Fund: 33**Tropical Storm Irene**

	Original Budget	Carryover	Budget Revisions	Total Budget	Revenues	Balance
TS Irene Revenue			48,629.63	48,629.63	48,629.63	0.00
Funded by Carryovers		-218,542.55		-218,542.55		-218,542.55
Totals:		-218,542.55	48,629.63	-169,912.82	48,629.63	-218,542.55

Fund: 39**Highway Capital Items**

	Original Budget	Carryover	Budget Revisions	Total Budget	Revenues	Balance
Funded by carryovers		57.00		57.00		57.00
Totals:		57.00		57.00		57.00

Fund: 82**Expendable Trusts**

	Original Budget	Carryover	Budget Revisions	Total Budget	Revenues	Balance
rlnt.Read/Carpenter Award			54.41	54.41	54.41	0.00
rlnt.Cemetery			29.82	29.82	29.82	0.00
rlnt.Hands X Health-Nurse			13.08	13.08	13.08	0.00
rlnt.Library Trust			15.77	15.77	15.77	0.00
Funded by Carryovers		28,238.99		28,238.99		28,238.99
Totals:		28,238.99	113.18	28,352.17	113.18	28,238.99

Fund: 83**Stabilization**

	Carryover	Original Budget	Budget Revisions	Total Budget	Revenues	Balance
School/Building Cap. Improv			7.57	7.57	7.57	0.00
Equip/Vehicle Stab. Fund			26.47	26.47	26.47	0.00
Stabilization Interest			552.02	552.02	552.02	0.00
Trans.firm General Fund			100,000.00	100,000.00	100,000.00	0.00
Funded by Carryovers	193,813.58			193,813.58		193,813.58
Totals:	193,813.58		100,598.06	294,399.64	100,598.06	193,813.58
Report Totals:	75,837.12	435,913.00	180,432.32	692,282.44	390,461.23	331,821.21

Town of Heath Balance Sheet FY2014

ASSETS

	<u>General Fund</u>	<u>Special Revenues</u>	<u>Trust & Agency</u>	<u>Long-Term Debt</u>
Cash, Pooled	\$285,185.52	\$82,473.85	\$326,471.41	
2013 Personal Property	-			
2012 Personal Property	-			
2011 Personal Property	-			
2010 Personal Property	-			
Prior Years Personal Property	-			
Total Personal Property	-			
2014 Real Estate	45,589.21			
2013 Real Estate				
2012 Real Estate				
2011 Real Estate				
Prior Years Real Estate				
Total Real Estate	45,589.21			
2014 Allow. for Abate & Exempt.	(11,769.01)			
2013 Allow. for Abate & Exempt.	(10,134.19)			
2012 Allow. for Abate & Exempt.				
2011 Allow. for Abate & Exempt.				
Prior Years Allow. For Abate & Exempt.				
Total Allow. for Abate & Exempt.	(21,903.20)			
Tax Liens		233,252.76		
Tax Foreclosures		38,266.59		

2014 Motor Vehicle Excise	9,744.70	
2013 Motor Vehicle Excise	3,542.31	
2012 Motor Vehicle Excise	880.84	
2011 Motor Vehicle Excise	538.44	
Prior Years Motor Vehicle Ex.	302.50	
Total Motor Vehicle Excise	15,008.79	
Forest Products	-	
Small Business Loans Receivable	555.97	
Amnt. to be Provided-McCloud Prop		74,410.00
Amnt. to be Provided-Highway Doors		12,000.00
Amnt. To be Provided-Highway Loader 2011		32,482.00
Amnt. To Be Provided-Highway Trk/Plow 2012		66,000.00
Amnt. To Be Provided-Highway Dump Body		30,000.00
TOTAL ASSETS	595,399.67	\$83,029.82
		\$326,471.41
		\$214,902.00

LIABILITIES

	General Fund	Special Revenues	Trust & Agency	Long-Term Debt
Warrants Payable	\$0.00			
Payroll Withholdings Payable	-			
Def Rev. - Property & Real Estate Taxes	23,686.01			
Def Rev. Tax Liens	233,252.76			
Def Rev. Tax Foreclosures	38,266.59			
Def Rev. - Motor Vehicle Excise	15,008.79			
Def Rev. - Forest Products	-			
Def Rev. Small Business Loans	555.97			
Rev. Ant. Notes Payable		220,000.00		
Collector's Fees		3,870.00		
Deputy Collector's Fees				
Clerk's Fees		97.00		
Due to Fish & Wildlife		-		
Due to State - Firearms		-		
Perc. Inspections		-		
Due to County-Dogs				
Bonds Payable, McCloud Prop				74,410.00
Bonds Payable, Garage Doors				12,000.00
Bonds Payable, Highway Loader 2011				32,492.00
Bonds Payable, Highway Trk/Plow 2012				66,000.00
Bonds Payable, Highway Trk Body FY13				30,000.00
TOTAL LIABILITIES	310,214.15	220,555.97	3,967.00	214,902.00

FUND EQUITY**General Fund Special Revenues Trust & Agency Long-Term Debt**

Reserve for Encumbrances	2,560.95			
Free Cash to Balance Budget	50,000.00			
Overlay to Balance Budget	-			
Reserve for Carryovers	24,219.39			
Undesignated Fund Balance	208,405.17			
FB reserved for Approp. Deficits	-			
FB reserved for Overlay Deficit	-			
Cultural Council		4,791.45		
State Highway (Ch. 90)		(21,694.50)		
Septic Grant Repayments		20,704.42		
Planning Grant		158.02		
ZBA Revolving		765.25		
Dog Officer Revolving		2,000.00		
Small Business		1,071.67		
BOH Permitting		5,000.00		
Senior Center Revolving		1,000.00		
Solid Waste Revolving		8,321.61		
Vaccine Program Revolving		829.38		
COA Meal Revolving		1,350.25		
Machinery Earnings		83.76		
Sale of Lots		3,582.23		
Wetlands Protection		1,057.78		
Community Functions		3,475.09		
Comm. Hall Donations		25.00		
MA Tech. Collaborative Grant 2010		58.07		
EMPG 2014		(1,787.93)		
2008 Ice Storm Donations		428.89		

	General Fund	Special Revenues	Trust & Agency	Long-Term Debt
Mackie Memorial		390.00		
Health Animal Fund Gift		100.00		
WRRRP		(21,688.74)		
Cemetery Donations		1,108.83		
Medi Management 2008		443.03		
Flu Clinic Donations		473.50		
Sr. Center/COA donations		765.05		
Veteran's Memorial Fund		240.00		
Library State Grant		5,714.87		
Library Donations		4,145.55		
Library Building Donation		8,273.00		
Parks and Recreation		1,681.73		
TS Irene		(170,412.92)		
Stabilization		194,365.60		
School/Town Build Stab		30,007.57		
Equipment/Vehicle Stab		70,026.47		
Cemetery		10,963.60		
Read Carpenter		2,023.55		
Library Trust		8,457.07		
Hands Across Health		6,660.35		
TOTAL FUND EQUITY	285,185.52	(137,526.15)	322,504.41	-
TOTAL LIABILITIES & FUND EQUITY	\$595,399.67	\$83,029.82	\$326,471.41	\$214,902.00

TREASURER'S REPORT OF TRUSTS & OTHER FUNDS

Cemetery Trust

Sarah H. Symonds	50.00	The Whipples	250.00
Ellen N. Fiske	50.00	Elsom Elderidge	250.00
Chenery Fund	500.00	Nelle Porter	250.00
Lucy M. Gale	100.00	Jane Gribbin	100.00
Edwain Chapin	140.00	Barbara Wolf	250.00
Cliford J. Hager	100.00	Ralph Riddle	500.00
Walter S. Benson	200.00	Frances Malone	200.00
William Dickinson	200.00	Richard Hatch	50.00
George H. Gribbin	1,000.00	Michael Peters	250.00
Leon B. Stewart	25.00	Robert & Delores Viarengo	400.00
Ruth Whipple	250.00	Joan & Gerald Gilbert	200.00
Truman H. Safford	100.00	Johs Clausen	225.00
Joseph & Pamela Gilbert	200.00	Steven Wolf	250.00
Albert Burkhardt	200.00	Unknown	100.00
Charles Mackie	250.00		
Total Cemetary Bequests	7,040.00		

Trust CD's	6,365.95
Trust Checking	4,621.34
Balance 12/31/2010	10,987.29

Library Trust

Felicia Welsh	500.00	Ralph Riddle	165.00
Hugh Maxwell	500.00	Leon Stewart	100.00
Charles Miller	176.00	Helen Nichols	75.00
Elizabeth Wilson	350.00	Thelma Meadon	200.00
Cultural Council Grant	88.36	Harriet Read	702.37
Building Needs - Wilmeth	50.00	Building Needs - Stein	100.00
Mildred Burrington Memorial	50.00		
Total Library Bequests	3,056.73		

Money Market Account	8,463.46
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Other Funds

Cultural Council (Arts Lottery)	1,424.81
Hands Across Heath	6,666.44
Heath General Funds	234,755.67
Park & Recreation Department	1,682.16
Read Carpenter Scholarship	2,028.60
Septic Fund	20,709.64
Stabilization Funds	294,731.94
Tropical storm Irene	754.84

Total Other Funds 562,754.10

Total of All Funds 582,204.85

Tax Title Accounts

Account Balance	
1/1/2014	195,751.93
Taxes Added	66,160.72
Payments Received	23,538.80
Town Acquired	
Property	40,564.78
Remove Tax title error	
Account Balance	
12/31/2014	197,809.07

TAX COLLECTOR

REAL ESTATE	BALANCE ON BAL 6/19/13	COMMITTED AFTER 12/31/13	COLLECTED	ABATED	EXEMPTED	REFUNDED	TAX TAKINGS	OVER PAYMENT	PREV OVERPYMT BROUGHT FORWARD	CALCULATED
FY 2015	\$0.00	\$1,509,202.59	\$759,653.92	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,953.13	\$0.00	\$0.00		\$631,211.60
2014	\$476,333.56	\$0.00	\$409,573.81	\$2,115.07	\$3,975.00	\$7,161.06	\$46,900.95			\$72,926.82
2013	\$51,677.46	\$0.00	\$38,452.07	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$13,415.39			\$0.00
PERSONAL PROPERTY	BALANCE ON BAL 6/19/13	COMMITTED AFTER 12/31/13	COLLECTED	ABATED	EXEMPTED	REFUNDED	TAX TAKINGS	OVER PAYMENT	PRE PAYMENTS	CALCULATED
FY 2015	\$0.00	\$153,469.39	\$119,521.75	\$0.00						\$64,947.54
2014	\$67,143.82	\$0.00	\$67,143.82	\$0.00						\$0.00
MOTOR VEHICLE EX	BALANCE ON BAL 6/19/13	COMMITTED AFTER 12/31/13	COLLECTED	ABATED	EXEMPTED	REFUNDED	TAX TAKINGS	OVER PAYMENT	PRE PAYMENTS	CALCULATED
FY 2014	\$0.00	\$75,272.57	\$70,187.90	\$1,187.11			\$695.62			\$4,593.43
2013	\$7,695.96	\$149.59	\$5,156.44	\$62.33			\$38.51			\$2,681.69
2012	\$1,340.11	\$0.00	\$820.10	\$0.00			\$0.00			\$420.01
2011	\$640.94	\$0.00	\$254.17	\$0.00			\$0.00			\$376.77
2010	\$367.50	\$0.00	\$102.50	\$0.00			\$0.00			\$295.00
2009	\$317.82	\$0.00	\$161.67	\$166.15			\$0.00			\$0.00

**TOWN CLERK'S ANNUAL REPORT
2014 VITAL RECORDS**

Because of the number of fraudulent acts that have been done utilizing vital record lists, the Registry of Vital Records has issued a directive that these lists not be published. As a result, names will no longer be published in the Town Report, only the total number for the year.

Births - 4 Marriages - 3 Deaths - 2

2014 DOG LICENSES SOLD

Male Dogs	14 @ \$10	\$140
Female Dogs	14 @ \$10	\$140
Neutered Male Dogs	\$71 @ \$5	\$355
Spayed Female Dogs	\$57 @ \$5	\$285
Service Dogs	1 @ no cost	

Total:	157 Single Licenses	\$920.00
	Less Fees Retained	-156.00
	Less License & Tag Expense	- 78.17
	Paid to Revolving Dog Fund	\$685.83

TOWN REPORTS



AGRICULTURAL COMMISSION

Year 2014 for the Heath Agricultural Commission was uneventful. No issues arose in town that were brought to the Agricultural Commission, and the members expressed no projects or concerns.

I had several phone conversations from agricultural commissions in nearby towns in Hawley, Ashfield, Gill and Montague, wanting to know how Heath had accomplished such issues as passing a "Right to Farm" Bylaw and road signage. I also had a conversation with Pete Westover (Mass DAR) urging Heath to join the state organization of agricultural commissions.

Other than attending the state-wide agricultural commission meetings, it has been a quiet year.

Respectfully submitted,
David Freeman

BOARD OF ASSESSORS

The New Year started out with the Assessors processing abatements for Fiscal Year 2014. As spring came, our office began conducting inspections of building permits, demolitions and properties on the town's cyclical inspection list. The Department of Revenue (DOR) requires the Assessors of Massachusetts to visit every property in each town once every nine years.

In the spring, Alice Wozniak ran unopposed for a third term as Assessor. In September, Alice went to a seminar on Personal Property, apportionments, etc. and one titled "What's New in Municipal Law" ran by DOR. Now that Alice is an Accredited Assessor for the state of Massachusetts, she is required to complete 45 hours of continuing education every 3 years to maintain her accreditation. Education is so important in the Assessing field as the laws under which we operate continually change and update. The Board of Assessors is the only elected board that is required within two years of taking office to successfully complete a 30 hour course and examination. Failure to do so jeopardizes the DOR approval of the town's tax rate.

In Fiscal Year 2014, the office granted 4 abatements totaling \$110,621 of value which translates into \$2,216.85 of tax dollars. There were no appeals filed at the Appellate Tax Board. As we inspect properties in town, our accuracy on the property record cards will improve as we track changes that have occurred since the last inspection. We encourage all residents to check the information on their property record cards periodically, especially after any building permit or demolition work has been completed.

With fall nearing, the office readied to set the Fiscal Year (FY) 2015 tax rate. This year was a revaluation year which went considerably better than the previous one in FY2011. By early December, the Town of Heath was the 193rd town in the Commonwealth to set their tax rate. This was 90 positions sooner than in 2014, a huge success considering being a Reval year.

The Heath tax rate for Fiscal Year 2015 was \$19.96/per \$1,000.00 of valuation. The Town of Heath's parcel count, total assessed values for each major class of properties and their percentage of the Levy Limit is as follows:

Classification	Valuation	%
Residential [932 parcels]	\$ 78,726,600	88.6409
Commercial [85 parcels]	\$ 771,949	0.8692
Industrial [1 parcel]	\$ 124,800	0.1405
Personal Property [7 accounts]	\$ 9,191,853	10.3494
Total amount of 2015 Property Tax Levy	\$ 88,815,202	100.00%

There are several property tax exemptions for the elderly varying in amounts from \$175 to \$500. Each exemption is based on income guidelines and as economic times become more difficult, we encourage the elderly to contact the office to see whether you may qualify. Any information that is provided to qualify for these exemptions is strictly confidential and is not available to the general public. Also available are exemptions for the blind and veterans. We want the general public to know that assessing is a very complicated field and the DOR sets forth very strict guidelines with which our office must comply.

Respectfully submitted,
 Alice Wozniak, MAA and Administrative Assistant
 Margo Newton, Chairman • Richard Gallup

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

The work of the Select Board is typically comprised of ensuring that ongoing operational activities effectively support town services, plus occasional new activities that impact the future of the Town. 2014 has seen its share of challenging operational activities and the emergence of several projects vital for the future of Heath. Notable activities in 2014 include the WiredWest fiber optic project, School District Long-Range Planning, changes in Ambulance Services, implementing Department of Revenue recommendations for Assessing and Collecting practices, STRAP Grant, Bylaws changes and the need for a new Highway/Public Safety Building.

The Select Board continued to meet weekly on Tuesday evenings throughout the majority of the year and every other week during the summer months. We continue to follow the guidance in the Town's budget planning calendar to ensure adequate time for review and discussion of budget requests and for collaboration on municipal financial management issues with the Finance Committee and Town Departments.

The day to day coordination and communication between the Select Board and all Town departments, committees, commissions, our citizens, and state and regional agencies falls into the capable hands of our Town Coordinator, Kara Leistyana. Kara handles this very difficult job with grace by being a clear communicator, treating everyone with respect, and going the extra mile whenever it is necessary. We deeply appreciate Kara's efforts on behalf of the Town.

Ambulance:

The Board was pleased to announce a new agreement with Colrain Volunteer Ambulance Service (CVAS) to provide EMS response to Heath residents. In addition to basic level EMT response, CVAS is preparing to include paramedic level service. It is our hope and expectation that Heath residents will find more consistent rapid response with the inclusion of CVAS in our Mutual Aid system.

Animal Control:

The unpleasant task of holding Dog Hearings and going to court to enforce dog by-laws compliance has improved with the able help of our Animal Control Officer, the Assistant Animal Control Officer, and the Heath Police Department. Animal Control and compliance with bylaws are important aspects of Public Safety. We all have important roles in ensuring Heath is a safe and comfortable community in which to live.

Road Maintenance:

Number 9 Road was resurfaced in 2014 using a “cold-in-place” method that grinds the road surface and reuses it mixed with some new asphalt. This process results in a road surface that will last longer than standard blacktop and does not create as much waste because it recycles materials. Heath’s capable Highway Department crew continues to work hard to maintain town roads and equipment and to keep abreast of new advances in road maintenance.

Heath was successful in our resubmittal for a Small Town Road Assistance Program (STRAP) grant for work on Route 8A. The “cold-in-place” road surface improvements through this grant will begin in 2015 and enable Heath to complete work on Route 8A from where the project left off to the Vermont line. There are significant challenges due to ledge and water on the southern end of 8A that require additional study that will not be addressed by this STRAP grant.

Personnel:

The Selectboard conducts annual employee performance review process as a part of the Town’s job classification system that ensures that the Town has a means to review job responsibilities and performance and remain competitive in seeking and retaining good employees. We are proud of the dedication, initiative and professionalism demonstrated by our Town employees.

Town Offices and Buildings:

The creation of a Building Maintenance Coordinator position that was approved at the 2013 ATM has proved to be a huge benefit to the Town in our ability to effect maintenance and repairs as well as to ensure clean public facilities. 2014 projects included elevator repairs; addressing frozen water lines at the Community Hall; the completion of the cupola painting at the Community Hall; the exploration of changes to the transfer station to replace an aging compactor and make other improvements; the repair of the cement steps at the Community Hall; and various other tasks that help to improve and keep the buildings properly maintained.

A big improvement completed in 2014 that will carry us well into the future is the installation of fiber optic internet at the Town Hall. Free, high speed Wi-Fi is available at the Town Hall. We continue to work hard to bring fiber optic cable to the rest of the Town Buildings and to residents.

WiredWest:

Throughout 2014 the WiredWest consortium, of which Heath is a member, made significant progress in the process to bring “last mile” fiber optic services to residents. During this period, residents with DSL have seen their service speeds decrease and new homeowners are unable to obtain DSL hook-up even though the previous home owner had DSL. We are already seeing property values decrease because of the lack of broadband service. With more and more utilization of the in-

ternet for business, school, and pleasure, it is apparent that fiber optic is critical to Heath's future. At the 2015 ATM voters will be asked to consider a WiredWest financing article.

Highway/Public Safety Building:

Over the past two years the Municipal Complex Building Committee successfully completed a feasibility study, brought proposals to voters for consideration, and reduced the proposed building footprint as a cost containment effort. Now we are celebrating the once-in-a-lifetime opportunity of a matching grant from the State, with thanks to the efforts of our Committee and Legislators. The proposed building will replace the aging and inadequate fire station, highway garage, and serve other municipal functions such as police and emergency management. At the 2015 ATM voters will be asked to consider a Highway/Public Safety Building financing article that will enable the Town to accept the matching funds grant of up to \$2 million dollars, for a building that will serve us well into the next 50 years.

DOR Technical Assistance:

During 2014 the Select Board has been implementing Department of Revenue recommendations from a requested review of Heath's Assessing and Collecting practices. Our objective is to ensure we have the appropriate level of support, resources and collaboration among Town departments relative to property assessment and tax collection. At the May 2015 ATM voters will be asked to consider establishing a new position called "Assistant Assessor," one important recommendation stemming from the DOR review. This position replaces the Assessors Administrative Assistant position.

Heath also enlisted in support from the DOR TAP (Taxpayer Assistance Program). This pilot program helped encourage Heath (and other towns in the Commonwealth) to get tax rate setting steps done sooner to prevent a December crunch. A meeting was held and the group worked to set a timeframe. DOR helped to monitor progress and offered support when needed.

Town Bylaws Project:

The 2013 and 2014 ATM vote to approve additional funds to the Town Clerk budget to fund a special project to organize all the Town bylaws into a readily available and searchable format is coming to conclusion. The outcome of this lengthy but worthy project will be brought to voters at the May 2015 ATM.

Schools:

Given that the school budget is our largest budget item, the Select Board has several ongoing means to keep a watchful eye on issues related to our schools. We are extremely proud that Heath Elementary School is a Level 1 School, the highest rating possible. And, we are proud that Heath voters have continued to support early childhood education. Heath's School Committee representatives to the Franklin County Technical School and Mohawk Trail regional School District (MTRSD) work long hours on our behalf. Heath was represented on the MTRSD Long-Range Planning Committee that diligently explored various aspects of district sustainability culminating in a final report to the School Committee early in 2015. With the Finance Committee, we attended school budget hearings and meetings related to school building maintenance.

Grants:

In addition to the STRAP grant, Heath is the lead town in a Community Development Block Grant through the Franklin Regional Housing & Redevelopment Authority (HRA) that will enable housing rehabilitation for eligible residents in the Towns of Heath, Charlemont, Hawley and Ashfield. Interested residents should contact the Heath Town Coordinator for more information.

Boards and Committees:

In February 2014 the Selectboard hosted our annual “All Boards and Committees” meeting at which time we heard of all the marvelous work that our committees are doing to benefit the Town. While there is always room for additional volunteers, the Selectboard is most thankful that Heath has so many people dedicated to ensuring quality life in our Town. Please let the Selectboard know if you’d like to get involved.

The Selectboard would like to remind residents that in the event of an emergency where a lot of Heath residents could be impacted, we activate our Emergency Operation Center located at the Fire Station. This is the place to go for assistance and information. If necessary we activate an emergency shelter at the Community Hall and as always emergency notices can be found on the Town web site (as long as power and internet are available).

Town Board/Committee open positions include: the Americans with Disabilities Representative, FRCOG Planning Board Rep., FRCOG Regional Dog Kennel Alternate Rep., and Historical Commission. Appointments are made in July of each year. If you are interested in serving on a Board or Committee, please contact Town Coordinator.

We would like to extend our gratitude and appreciation to all those named and unnamed who have given their time and talents over the past year as we work together creating and maintaining the town we love.

Respectfully,
Sheila M. Litchfield, Chair
Brian DeVriese • Bill Lattrell

BOARD OF HEALTH

This year, the Board of Health (BOH) saw many changes. We lost several wonderful members and would like to thank Rebecca Allen and Jenna Day for the work they have done for the Town, and also past member Elizabeth Nichols for helping with the transition. Without these fine folks, we could not have managed.

With the help of our Health Agent, Glen Ayers, we have implemented an online permitting process for perc tests, wells, septic installations, inspections and repairs, as well as permitting for food vendors and septic haulers and installers. This has been at times trying, but as more people get accustomed to the process, it should become easier. Our intention is to have the temporary occupancy permits online by January of 2016, which should help simplify the BOH clerk’s job. Our health agent continues to do a fine job using his expertise to keep us on track, handling housing issues and food and septic inspections, and keeping us aware of changing regulations.

The free Lyme tick-testing program has been successful and has been extended to the end of June, 2015. We also had another successful Clean Sweep Day, which we may end up calling the Heath Clean Sweep and Swap Day as so much of what came in also went back out to town residents.

The new, extended perc season schedule has also eased the strain on sellers and buyers, as well as on the health agent and Conservation Commission's agent, Bill Lattrell, who in the past needed to scramble to get things done the last week of the season.

We have continued to work on getting abandoned and derelict trailers out of town, with close to 50 trailers now having been removed, and we continue to work on town-wide cleanup with the help of our health agent.

We have new well regulations with less stringent well test requirements, and our septic regulations are now in line with those of other towns in our health district.

We are lucky to continue to have our own town nurse who is available twice a week in the Community Hall/Senior Center, double the time of what most towns have access to.

We are connected to other towns in our health district via the Oversight Board, and through this connection we are able to glean ideas that we can use to our benefit in solving problems as well as merging our needs to get services that were not available to us in the past.

We continue to look at new ways that we can help our residents meet the ever-changing requirements of the Commonwealth without losing touch with our rural and very unique nature as an independent town and we welcome suggestions and ideas on ways we can better meet the town's needs.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Brooks • Charlie Cornish • John Doherty • Betsy Kovacs • Mike Freeman

CEMETERY COMMISSION

At the ATM on May 10, 2014 Article 31 was passed. This authorized the BOS to acquire by gift, for cemetery purposes, the ownership of the private portion of the North Heath Cemetery. The transfer to the Town of this private portion of North Cemetery is still in process.

Two other articles pertaining to the Heath Cemetery Rules and Regulations were also passed at the May 10, 2014 ATM.

- Article 36 approved an amendment to **Section 8 Internments** of the Heath Cemetery Rules and Regulations. **8.4** explains how many and what kind of burials can be in one grave.

- Article 37 added new sections **8.13, 8.14 and 8.15 to Internments** of the Heath Cemetery Rules and Regulations. These three sections pertain to **green burials**.

For more information about sections **8.4, 8.13, 8.14, 8.15 and Cemetery Rules and Regulations** go to the Town of Heath web site at www.townofheath.org and click on Cemetery Commission.

North Cemetery – No new lots are being sold at this time until the transfer process is complete. Contact Claire Rabbitt for more information.

Center Cemetery – More lots have been laid out in the New Section. There was one work bee last fall with three stones reset. The cemetery is in pretty good shape but there is always work to do. Heath winters can be harsh on stone markers. Mike Smith was given a list of work that he will try to help us with. He has agreed to supply material to reset stones for the Center and South Cemeteries. Thanks Mike.

South Cemetery – More lots have been laid out in the New Section. Eric had a cleanup bee last spring and plans to repair and reset stones this summer but he does need help. There are a lot of stones fallen or broken. Anyone willing to help or lead a crew call Eric Sumner.

Any questions about burials or obtaining a lot call the **Sexton** Matthew Lively or one of the Cemetery Commissioners.

Respectfully submitted,
Claire Rabbitt - Chairman
Jerry Gilbert - Secretary • Eric Sumner

COMMUNITY HALL COMMITTEE

The Community Hall continues to have a lot of use. Many committees have reserved the hall for weekly or monthly dates as well as Senior Meals, Selectboard meetings, yoga classes and craft classes.

We had another Halloween Party at the hall this year. Hopefully it can become an annual event. The adults seem to enjoy it as much as the children. The craft fairs are still ongoing as is “Dining with History” for the Historical Society.

We are working on getting quotes for replacing or upgrading the windows and improving the insulation in the building.

To rent the hall please contact Margo Newton at 339-8580 or go on the Town website www.townofheath.org for a Community Hall Use Form. The forms can also be picked up at the Town Hall.

Respectfully submitted,
Margo Newton – Chair
Dolly Churchill • Tracy Schott • Don Dekker • Ruth Corey

CONSERVATION COMMISSION

The Conservation Commission (ConCom) has been meeting on an as needed basis over the past year. In 2014 the ConCom reviewed three Requests for Determination of Applicability (RFD) of the Massachusetts Wetlands Protection Act or of the Town of Heath Wetlands Protection Bylaw and one Notice of Intent (NOI). A number of building and septic system permit applications were reviewed for the presence of wetland or other resource areas. Bill Lattrell continues to serve as a consultant to the Commission and does most of the permit reviews for the FCCIP building inspection sign-off requirement. The FCCIP online permitting system allows

the Conservation Commission to access and sign off on permits online. Comments may also be posted on the permit application regarding the status of the ConCom review. This system has greatly reduced the turnaround time for signing off on permit applications. All other Town officials required to sign off are able to use the online system.

Bob Dane resigned from the commission due to work schedule conflicts. We are grateful for his contributions. Jessica Van Steensburg was appointed to the commission to fill the vacancy.

Current members of the Commission are: Ellen Jenkins, Buck DenOuden, Jessica Van Steensburg, Dennis Peters, Brian De Vriese

Respectfully submitted,
Brian De Vriese - Chair

COUNCIL ON AGING

The Council on Aging continues overseeing our monthly senior meal. They are very well attended with nothing but praises. We hope we can continue serving these meals with the Town's help.

Respectfully submitted,
Val Kaempfer, Chair
Jane deLeeuw • Teresa Peters • Alli Thane-Stetson • Eileen Tougas

CULTURAL COUNCIL

During this year's grant cycle, the Heath Cultural Council received 28 applications. We were again able to fund a diverse array of arts and cultural projects with our \$4,300 allocation and an additional \$525 that was carried over from last FY. Heath programs that received funding this year include Heath Elementary School 'Our Changing Landscape: Forest & Farms, The Heath Herald, Heath Elementary School PTP WINK Journal & Literary Links, Heath Historical Society's Dining With History, Heath Agricultural Society's Heath Fair Music, Heath Free Public Library's Summer Crafts Program, and the Heath School Community Strings Program . Additionally, Mohawk Music Association and Mohawk Trail Regional Middle and High School Drama Program, as well as the Franklin County Technical School's Drama Program received support towards their exceptional music and theater programs. Other area applications we approved this year include: Piti Theatre Company -Endangered Species Residency/Performance, Friends of Robert Strong Woodward, Inc. - Hilltown Heritage Program, Mary Lyon Foundation, Inc. - Hilltowns History Conference and Fair, the Art Garden Community Exhibits, Hilltown Families, Inc. - Hilltown Families Suggests (website), The Collected Poets Series, RiverFest 2015, Pioneer Valley Symphony, Classical Symphonic Educational Program & Concert, Pothole Pictures Film Series, and Charlemont Forum - Immigration: Our Amazing Past, Our Present Dilemma .

The Council meets once or twice a year, and offers a place for creative collaboration and planning for Heath's cultural future. Proposals are reviewed each fall and awards are issued. This year we circulated a Cultural Council Community Survey

at the annual town meeting and at town hall to collect opinions in an effort to gauge what types of programming are desired within our community.

Those wishing more detail on both the Massachusetts Cultural Council and the Heath Cultural Council are invited to log onto <https://www.mass-culture.org> . Select “LCC Members” and go to LCC Public Web Pages and click “Cities/Towns G-K”; then select Heath. There you will be able to see the latest news about the Heath Cultural Council and a full list of our grants.

Respectfully submitted,
Kara Leistyna, Chair

Susan Draxler • Bob Gruen • Larry Sampson • Janis Steele • Lorena Loubisky

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

Below are some bulleted items of interest aside from regular meetings:

- Early in 2014 I received training on the newly revised WEBEOC (which is an online tool used during emergencies for communication reports and shows us as well as to what is going on around the state).
- Applied for and received an \$3,699.00 EMPG grant
- Finalized the Heath Hazardous mitigation plan — now waiting for FEMA’s approval.
- Luckily the only damage to the town this year (reported to MEMA), was a severe thunderstorm on June 30th which did some heavy road damage to four roads in the south part of town.
- The Thanksgiving Eve snowstorm (14”) was a huge mess and a few residents did lose some power, but the bulk of the damage was in the lower elevations.

Heath participated in the annual combined EDS drill/Flu clinic on November 1st. Residents from Charlemont, Hawley, Heath, Rowe and Monroe took advantage of this opportunity. It also gave the five- town EDS Team a chance to make alterations to the overall plan and make the plan a little more user friendly. I attended several regional and county EMD meetings which provide us updated information and the status of ongoing projects which benefit us in the long run.

Respectfully submitted,
Timothy Lively, Emergency Management Director

ENERGY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

The Energy Advisory Committee is restructured from the former Renewable Energy Advisory Group. Members are Jan Carr, Bill Gran, Rol Hesselbart, Peter Rowe, Steve Ryack, Rebecca Dorr Sampson and Bob Schultz. We did not meet in 2014 but we have met once in 2015 in order to review and discuss our commercial solar bylaws. Two solar developers have expressed interest in possible Heath projects. We will be addressing the Green Communities Initiative this upcoming year.

Respectfully submitted,
Jan Carr

FINANCE COMMITTEE

The Finance Committee continues to work with the Selectboard to monitor the Town's finances with the goal of having tax dollars used as wisely as possible. In May 2014 Don Freeman was elected to another 3-year term. The FinCom chose Don to continue as Chair and Ned Wolf as Secretary. In December we received with regrets Kathy Inman's resignation. The FinCom passed a motion expressing gratitude for Kathy's fine work.

The FinCom recommended the articles of the Warrant of the February 22, 2014 Special Town Meeting (STM). The first article was to transfer from lesser-used accounts a total of \$6,000 into the Highway Machinery Maintenance Account. The other three articles were to transfer smaller amounts into the following accounts: Highway Miscellaneous, Highway Salary Winter Temporary Help, and Winter Hired Services.

The Finance Committee worked with the Selectboard through the early months of 2014 to recommend a budget for Fiscal Year 2015 that was approved by voters at the Annual Town Meeting (ATM) on May 10, 2014. The FY 2015 tax rate of \$19.96, which was certified by the state in December, is \$1.04 higher than our estimate in May. Except for taxpayers whose properties were recently reassessed by the Assessors, tax bills should remain about the same. A large part of the \$1.04 difference was due to a drop in the total valuation from \$90,562,927 to \$88,815,202. When the valuation goes down, the tax rate goes up. The other part of the difference comes from our having budgeted \$175,000 for local receipts. For the first time we based this number on the average actual receipts for the past five years (\$173,204). But the state does not allow us in our estimate of local receipts to include things like non-recurring receipts. Thus our estimate was lowered without our knowledge or consent to \$120,350 — the same figure, it turns out, that has been used for each of the past six years. This is the source of about 60¢ of the rate increase. The Finance Committee favors a Town discussion of whether a state bureaucracy should require Heath taxpayers to pay that much extra as a form of insurance against incurring a deficit.

At the May ATM voters approved as the Finance Committee and Selectboard had recommended setting up two new stabilization funds: \$70,000 from Free Cash was used to start a stabilization fund for large equipment and vehicle replacement and another \$30,000 from Free Cash was used to start a stabilization fund for school and Town buildings' capital improvements. The total in our three stabilization funds is now \$294,200. Our goal is to limit gyrations in the tax rate due to costly items. ATM voters also approved using \$50,000 from Free Cash to lower the tax rate. We estimated the amount remaining in Free Cash to be \$35,651.

Voters at the ATM supported funding an estimated \$19,000 trash compactor/transfer station project by voting to transfer \$9,959 from the Overlay Surplus Account. The remaining funding for the project is coming from the revolving fund for the operation of the Town's solid waste and recycling programs. Another vote was in favor of transferring \$10,000 from the Assessors' Overlay Surplus Account for the purchase of a highway crew service vehicle and a highway superintendent's vehicle. Voters approved the borrowing over five years of \$35,805 to purchase a new police cruiser.

Voters approved the following education budget proposals: \$776,172 for the Mo-hawk Trail Regional School District Operating Assessment; \$41,533 for the Franklin County Technical School Operating Assessment, and \$88,500 (to be borrowed) for repair work over the next 5 years on the Heath Elementary School.

The operating budget (Article 3) was \$1,171,720, down 2% from FY 2014.

In September our Free Cash was certified to be \$186,502 which is \$150,881 higher than our May estimate of \$35,621. We've been informed that part of this difference was due to Town departments underspending their allocations by \$92,161. Most of the remaining part we think is due to the low estimate of local receipts used in the final tax rate calculation.

As 2014 came to a close the FinCom looked ahead to a new budget season. For more than 12 years the FinCom has used the services of Joseph Boudreau, our contact person with the DOR in Springfield. In 2014 we touched base with Matthew Andre who is Joe's replacement. Our concerns for the new year are the increasing costs of education including a first-ever capital request from Franklin Regional Technical School, the effect on the budget of becoming a "fiber optic town," and the budgetary effects of a severe winter. We look forward to the fiscal challenges of FY2016.

Respectfully submitted,
 Don Freeman, Chair
 Ned Wolf, Secretary

Kathy Inman (to 12/14) • Jeff Simmons • Gloria Fisher • Jan Carr (from 12/14)

FIRE DEPARTMENT

Incident Type	Total Incidents:
111 Building fire	4
114 Chimney or flue fire, confined to chimney or flue	3
141 Forest, woods or wildland fire	5
251 Excessive heat, scorch burns with no ignition	1
300 Rescue, emergency medical call (EMS) call, other	2
311 Medical assist, assist EMS crew	26
321 EMS call, excluding vehicle accident with injury	3
324 Motor vehicle accident with no injuries	1
412 Gas leak (natural gas or LPG)	1
444 Power line down	3
463 Vehicle accident, general cleanup	2
500 Service Call, other	1
531 Smoke or odor removal	2
571 Cover assignment, standby, moveup	3
700 False alarm or false call, other	1
733 Smoke detector activation due to malfunction	1
745 Alarm system sounded, no fire - unintentional	1

Total Number of Incidents: 17

Total Number of Incident Types: 60

In addition to the calls listed above the Department conducted regular training and inspections of properties and buildings in accordance of Mass General Laws.

Captain Gary Singley and Lieutenant Budge Litchfield both retired from the department in 2014 leaving a void that will not easily be filled. Both of these men provided years of excellent service to the Fire Department and they will be truly missed.

The Department meets twice a month and we always welcome new members. If you are looking for a place that you can volunteer your time to do some hard, dangerous work then we have a place for you. Come join the brotherhood. I can assure you it is like none other. Become one of us and you will be part of an amazing family. "Greater love has no one than this, that he lay down his life for his friends." Firefighters know this all too well. It is a serious commitment for serious people.

As always I would like to thank all the firefighters and EMT's for their commitment to protecting this Town. I also want to thank the families, each wife, husband, son and daughter who had had to wait at home while their loved ones left home to battle with the beast. Your support is priceless and often overlooked. From the bottom of my heart I thank each family member of our responders.

Respectfully submitted,
Chief Michael D. Smith

FDNY 9-11-01 ~ Forever remember the fallen

HEATH FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY

Library hours are Mondays from 3 PM to 7 PM, Wednesdays from Noon to 7 PM, and Saturdays from 9:30 AM to 1:30 PM. Come in and catch up on the news from your neighbors and friends while browsing our collection of books, audio books, DVDs, music CDs, and magazines. If we don't have what you are looking for we will request a copy from another library and have it delivered here, or show you how to do it yourself by signing in with your library card. The online library catalog, information about current library events, and links to online resources may be found at our website www.heathlibrary.org. There are also downloadable e-books, audio books and videos available to use with your tablet, e-reader, or smartphone. Go to <http://digitalbooks.cwmars.org> to learn more.

The library has a desktop computer, two laptop computers and a printer available for use by patrons. People may also bring their own laptops, tablets, or smartphones and use the Wi-Fi Internet access provided by the town from an antennae in Sawyer Hall. There was a big improvement in speed when the new fiber optic network became operational at Sawyer Hall in May 2014, with a download speed of 10 Mbps and upload speed of 5 Mbps. The library desktop computers were connected to the fiber optic system through our C/W MARS membership in August 2014 with 5 Mbps upload and download speed.

"Fizz! Boom! Read!" was the theme of the 2014 summer reading program. Twenty-six children signed up, and many turned in their reading logs at the end of the summer to receive a \$10 gift certificate to World Eye Bookshop and were entered into the raffle for t-shirts and other prizes. Twelve children participated in the four craft programs led by Lyra Johnson-Fuller at the Heath Fairgrounds. Thank

you to the Friends of the Library and the Heath Cultural Council for providing the program funding. The theme for the summer of 2015 is Heroes and the children's program slogan is "Every Hero Has A Story."

Preschool Story Hour meets two times per month from September through early June. Lyra Johnson-Fuller reads stories to the children, then works on a craft project with them. Thank-you to the Friends of the Library for funding preschool story hour this year.

Material circulation figures:

FY2014 – 16,602 * FY2013 – 18,198 * FY2012 – 18,396

Inter-library loans received from other libraries:

FY2014 – 3,378 * FY2013 – 3,589 * FY2012 – 3,543

Inter-library loans provided to other libraries:

FY2014 – 2,780 • FY2013 – 2,875 • FY2012 – 3,475

Patron visits averaged 104 per week. Nineteen children's programs were held.

I thank the Board of Library Trustees, library assistant Lyra Johnson-Fuller, the Friends of the Heath Free Public Library for their help and support this year.

Board of Library Trustees:

Kate Bailey, Secretary

Janis Carr, Treasurer

Deborah Porter, Chair

Term Expires:

2017

2016

2015

Respectfully submitted,
Donald J. Purington, Library Director

HEATH TELECOM - WiredWest

2014 saw the completion of the Massachusetts123 network which provides the second phase of a world class fiber optic network to 45 under served towns in Western Massachusetts.

This so called Middle Mile became operational this summer. Sawyer Hall and the Heath Elementary School are currently accessing the internet and phone through this fiber optic network.

As the Middle Mile was being constructed, the Massachusetts State Legislature approved a \$50 Million expenditure to stimulate a public, private partnership to complete the Final Mile and make fiber optic broadband available to homes and businesses in Heath and throughout western Massachusetts. As no private interests expressed a desire to participate, WiredWest, a municipal light plant cooperative serving 44 towns, is working with the Massachusetts Broadband Institute to make this a reality.

Heath Telecom is a member of WiredWest and holds a seat on the Board Of Directors. Monthly meetings are open and attendance by any citizen is welcome.

With the Middle Mile complete and operating we are looking forward to the final financing plan, the development of pre paid service contracts and approval of an

authorization to borrow to participate in the construction, completion and use of a fiber optic network for western Massachusetts. If construction begins, as planned, in 2015 Heath will be part of a network that will rival any telecommunications network worldwide. Estimates for service to towns range from two to four years.

Respectfully submitted,
Al Canali

HEATH VETERANS MEMORIAL COMMITTEE

The Heath Veterans Memorial Committee (HVMC) was re-constituted last July and met ten times since last year's Annual Report. The name-gathering phase of its task was essentially completed in late 2013 enabling it to focus on generating information about veteran memorials. Members visited surrounding towns and talked to people in that type of business and found that memorials ranged from modest grave-like stones with names either engraved on them or with bronze plaques to grand arrangements with lights and flags costing many thousands of dollars. We decided we needed help with designing a memorial appropriate for Heath and the land available for it. With that in mind we were fortunate to be able to engage The Conway School with its Graduate Program in Sustainable Landscape Planning and Design for the modest sum of \$450. The first few months for students are a learning-the-basics period with tasks like ours, which is the reason the cost is low. In September 2014 student Janice Schmidt was assigned to our project. She met with us to get a sense of what we had in mind, gathered engineering type information about the Town Green and talked to many people to get a sense of Heath's history. Members of the HVMC were invited and attended the presentation of her work to the School's Review Board in November. Copies of that presentation plus a comprehensive report about Heath Center's Green were given to the HVMC. It is excellent data for the Town records. We had further discussions with Janice about the memorial itself, the concept of which we have "generally" accepted, but in no way is considered final. The next step in the process will be to meet with the Board of Selectmen and hold public hearings to present the information developed to date, consider options and obtain feedback about its acceptability including estimated costs.

Early in the process the Parks and Recreation Committee, Chaired by Bob Bourke and who also is HVMC's Co-Chair, asked to participate in the landscape part of the program because of contiguous land in front of the Town Hall and to the west around the Community Hall. This was agreed to and the two Committees have shared the cost of the project. The Committee's fund raising efforts have realized a total of \$440 to date some of which has been used for the Conway School work and for other incidentals. The Town voted to support the Committee with \$150 for FY2015, which we have not used yet, but expect to soon for printing costs associated with the hearings. We requested \$500 from the Town for FY 2016 to develop a more sophisticated fundraising program to meet the cost of the planned Veterans Memorial.

Respectfully submitted,
Dave Howland and Bob Bourke – Co-Chairs • Jerry Gilbert – Secretary
Dennis Peters – Veterans Representative and Grave Officer • Peter Smith

HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT

The 2014 construction season brought some new road building technology to the Town of Heath. Number Nine Road was resurfaced using a technique called Hot-in-Place Recycling. First, the road surface was heated to a temperature of 300 degrees. Next, a scarification process was used to loosen the hot road surface followed by a rejuvenating agent being applied and a smooth screed process to lay the road back out. This all had to be covered with one inch of fresh black top to seal the road for what is anticipated to be a 10-15 year life span. The total amount of this project was \$255,674.74 all of which came from Chapter 90 funding.

Also in the 2014 construction season we were able to secure a successful STRAP grant. Albeit on paper for 2014, it will translate to a paved roadway for 2015. Soon after July 1st of 2015, Route 8A will undergo a Cold-In-Place Recycling process. This is the same process that was used two years ago on a portion of the southern end of Route 8A. This new project will be approximately 4.5 miles long and reach from the end of the 2012 CIP to the Vermont border.

The 2014/2015 winter was one of the snowiest and coldest winters on record. Snow removal is one of the largest expenses that the Town of Heath faces with regard to highway maintenance. The staff at the highway department is committed to providing the best possible snow and ice removal. We continuously attend educational classes about it. Every year new technology and ideas come up and we apply the ones that work for us. In the later part of 2015 we were able to reduce salt usage by using some ideas that are not in the mainstream. Typically pre-treating is a must to prevent hard pack and is the most cost effective use of salt. However at extremely cold temperatures salt can become ineffective. During January and February of 2015 several storms came when temps were in the single digits or below zero. During these storms the use of salt was suspended and that coupled with the new plow blades that we have been using allowed us maintain mostly clear roads without the use of salt. Once temps came back up to the low teen's salt was applied and the roads were melted off. This has saved many tons of salt. One other technique we have tried was to apply an additional amount of melting liquid to out salt during extreme cold. This also has been very successful. The use of the liquid melting agent has allowed us to reduce overall salt consumption and is something that will be looked at more closely in coming years.

Respectfully submitted,
Michael Smith

HISTORICAL COMMISSION

The Heath Historical Commissioners continued our efforts to incorporate the Seth Temple House (55 South Road), the Samuel Hunt Home (59 South Road), the Stephen Barker House (44 West Hosmer Road), and the Fairgrounds into the Heath Historic District by providing additional information to the Massachusetts Historical Commission. We were aided in this task by the home owners and Pam Porter, who provided valuable information about the Fairground buildings. This information was sent to MHC on February 24. We understand that the process of MHC's submission of our application to the National Historic Register is a lengthy one, but we hope to receive confirmation of registration in 2015.

In early Spring, we received a request from MHC's GIS Data Entry Supervisor to provide photographs and locations of certain sites in Heath that could not be verified according to aerial photography and assessor's parcel data. These included *HEA.20 Intersection of Brunelle Road and Jacksonville Stage Road/Rte 8A North*, *HEA.902 Whittemore Spring*, *HEA.903-906 Gravestones at Heath Center Cemetery*, and *HEA.909 Old Heath Fairgrounds Historic Marker*. Art Schwenger and Howard Dickinson filled us in on several details about the town properties, and Alice Wozniak provided the assessor maps required for each location. The emended information with attached photographs was sent to MHC on April 4. Meanwhile, at MHC's request, Christine Luis-Schultz sent a digital image of our Historic District sign for inclusion on the MHC website.

The Commissioners met at the Town Hall offices on Monday, March 17 to go through the materials stored temporarily at Myrifiield, removing duplicates and consolidating materials in the HHC files. During the summer, we worked in the renovated Town Hall office where we now have more cabinet space to sort through our archival materials and make them accessible to the Heath community. We still have one box to sift through.

The Commissioners voted at their April meeting to coordinate and administer a program for homeowners who would like to purchase historic plaques for their buildings. The offer will be made to the entire town with plaque information as follows: three lines indicating name of original owner/builder and date plus "National Register of Historic Places" within the Historic District and "Heath Historical Commission" for the rest. The plaques will be white with dark green borders and lettering, hopefully replicating the style of our Historic District signs. Once we have a contract with a sign company, we will then create an application form and advertise it throughout the town, including a notice in the *Heath Herald*.

The Commonwealth recommends a local Commission of seven members. Please consider joining us in continuing our work to record and document Heath's history.

Respectfully submitted,
Margaret Freeman (Chair)
Kara Leistyna • Christine Luis-Schultz • Bob Schultz

MUNICIPAL COMPLEX BUILDING COMMITTEE PUBLIC SAFETY / HIGHWAY BUILDING

This was a busy third year for the committee. The engineering study performed by Reinhardt Associates was finished and the results were briefly presented at Annual Town Meeting in May by John MacMillian, the principal engineer involved with this project.

An informational meeting followed by a question and answer session at the Community Hall was held July 22nd. John MacMillian again presented the findings of the engineering study. It was well attended and many questions and concerns were put forth by the voters to the committee. The two main issues of concern were the building's cost, being too high at \$4.1 million, and its size, being too large, at over 16000 square feet.

The committee spent the rest of the year redesigning a smaller building that still provided the basic services required. The building would still contain the Highway, Fire, Police, and Emergency Operations. It also aggressively researched funding options the Town could utilize.

The committee was successful in both reducing the size and cost. The Public Safety Building was reduced in size by approximately twenty-five percent. This reduced the overall cost by \$1 million. With the help of our legislators, both Sen. Downing and Rep. Mark, along with input from Governor Patrick, the Town received a generous \$2million matching construction grant which, coupled with the smaller building design, reduced the Town's initial costs from \$4.1 million to \$1.5 million.

The site chosen for the building is across from the Heath Fairgrounds. This is a central location providing a wide woodland buffer to minimize the visual impact. Access to the site will be from Bray Rd.

The old vacated buildings would initially be used for non-heated storage. The use of space vacated in Sawyer Hall has yet to be decided.

At annual Town Meeting, the voters need to agree to borrow \$2 million to match the state grant. As costs are incurred and paid, the Town receives reimbursement from the State. The Town only spends half of the full cost of construction. The State pays the other half. With the total cost estimated at \$3million, this would mean \$1.5 million spent from the \$2million allocated at Town Meeting.

The Town is eligible for a USDA Loan currently at a 3.75% interest rate.

If funding is approved at Town Meeting, it is anticipated the Public Safety Building would be completed by middle of 2017.

Respectfully submitted,
Bob Bourke, Chair
Bob Viarengo • Calvin Carr • Ken Gilbert • Mike Smith
Jeff Simmons • Brian DeVriese

PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE

This year we added two new members, Sue Draxler and Betsy Kovacs. The committee prior to this addition of members lacked a quorum.

There were two items of interest this year. One was the addition of Yoga classes in Town. They are held Monday evenings from 5:30 to 7:00 pm at the Community Hall. It is open to everyone for a \$13 contribution or \$70 for six weeks. The current certified yoga instructor, Andrea Chesnes, takes everyone's limitations and capabilities into consideration.

The second was the hiring of the Conway School of Landscape Design, in conjunction with the Heath Veteran's Memorial Committee, to develop four possible scenarios for the Town Common area. The designs, developed by Janice Schmidt, were presented at a professional review at the Conway School in November. They were quite extensive covering such areas as: context and history, existing conditions, circulation and access, slopes and drainage, and vegetation.

There were four design possibilities presented from basic to increasingly complex. The plans will soon be available for viewing. This project offers a variety of possibilities to make the Town Center more welcoming and usable by the public.

As always the committee welcomes additional members and ideas.

Respectfully submitted,
Bob Bourke, Chair
Robin Jenkins • Sue Draxler • Betsy Kovacs

PLANNING BOARD

It was a fine year to be a Planning Board member. We totally reformatted the Zoning Bylaws which have been cobbled together by so many different programs that it was impossible to amend them without tearing out the little hair most of us have left. We met with several citizens about special permits ranging from home additions to solar farms. We are ready to face 2015 with a clean slate and as always welcome your suggestions.

Respectfully submitted,
Calvin Carr, Chair
Bob Viarengo • Doug Mason • Bill Gran • Jo Travis

POLICE DEPARTMENT

By now I'm sure just about everyone has seen the new Police Cruiser. The Police Department really appreciates having a reliable and safe vehicle to drive. Not to mention that it is outfitted with everything we could want.

Total calls in 2014 for the Heath Police Department were 143, up from last year.

Abandoned 911 call 4	Disturbance 5	Motor Vehicle stops 10
Assist other agencies 3	Disabled MV 3	MV Violations 16
911 call 7	Domestic ... 2	Officer wanted 9
911 hang up 4	Investigation 2	Safety hazard 6
911 misdial 2	Larceny 1	Shots fired 1
Alarms 13	Medical Emergency 25	Suspicious activity 4
Animal complaints 3	Missing Person 1	Traffic hazard 1
Breaking and enter 1	MV accident 7	Unwanted person 2
Check welfare 8	MV complaint 2	vandalism ... 1

Some of the calls were covered by the State Police and not all medical calls were attended by the Police Department.

The Heath Police Department does appreciate the calls from concerned residents. If you have questions or are concerned about something you heard or saw please feel free to call. Office hours: Tuesday 6:00 to 8:00 or by appointment, Emergencies: Dial 9-1-1.

Respectfully submitted,
Chief Margo Newton

SENIOR CENTER

The Heath senior center has experienced a fresh outlook this past year. With new opportunities for all to enjoy!

The senior meal and brown bag lunch is ongoing. Reorganization of the kitchen and center was done for a fresh update.

Many state, county, and local meetings have been attended. Good information has been learned and brought back to the community.

File for Life was available at the 2014 annual meeting and always available at the senior center. It is, a small red pouch to hold vital information about YOU in case of emergency. Sponsored through the sheriff's dept. TRAIID division.

Chair vote from the seniors. We had three examples of new seats for the center. The seniors made their vote. Now we work on making new chairs happen.

Open "studio" time at the Heath senior center on Wednesday afternoons painting and sewing alternative weeks. At painting all materials are supplied and a still life is set up. All you need to do is to show up! Guidance is offered upon request. At sewing it's about the space to work. Bring your project and any questions, we're here to help (bring lunch too).

There was an art display at the Heath fair and Heath library from the art work done at the senior center. Another show will happen at the library again.

Mike Smith, Heaths fire chief came to a senior meal and spoke to us about fire extinguishers and good ways to use them. It was very informative.

We have had 2 meals and more to come at the Heath elementary school. The students and staff have been welcoming to Heath seniors.

A grant, Title 111 D, Elders aging in place was written for the town. This grant is federally funded and available to all Heath seniors 60 years and older. It is a foot care clinic once a month, free. A specialized nurse comes to the senior center the 3rd Tuesday of each month to check feet/toes, clip and massage. Appointments are needed, just call for appointment.

Respectfully submitted,
Eileen Lively

TOWN NURSE

On average monthly, in the office and home visits I saw 13 people, not including flu clinics. I made 6 home visits, some scheduled, some when called for a problem, I averaged INR checks 3 times a month, 2-3 B12 injections, and varying numbers of sharps brought in and new containers given.

Last spring I learned of new requirements of the State vaccine program for refrigerator thermometers and purchased a digital thermometer with memory to ensure proper vaccine storage. Funds from the vaccine administration reimbursement were used for the purchase.

We received 70 doses of State supplied vaccine this season and 60 doses were administered. It is uncertain if there will be any State supplied vaccine next season, but there will be funds from the vaccine administration reimbursement program to purchase vaccine for the Town if necessary. I held two flu clinics in October, as well as giving flu vaccine at Senior Luncheon and during my office hours.

I continue as a member of the Franklin County Medical Reserve Corps and Community Emergency Response Team and was able to take recertification courses in CPR and First Aid through them. My nursing license has also been renewed.

In June, with funds from The Council on Aging grant, I purchased a wheelchair with extending leg rests that can be loaned to Heath residents.

I continue to lead the Osteoporosis Prevention exercise class on Tuesdays from 11-12 and Thursday's from 10-11. It is a free federally funded program to help prevent falls and fractures in the elderly and is open to anyone 55 and over.

My office hours continue to be Tuesday's 12-1 and Thursday's 11-1, but usually there beyond those times and are also available by appointment. The office phone is 337-4847. Messages may be left at 337-4934 extension 109, or at 337-8309.

Respectfully submitted,
Claire Rabbitt, RN

SCHOOL REPORTS



2014 Annual Report of the Principal Heath Elementary School

In June of 2014 the Heath School completed its 17th year. Our enrollment is currently at 58 students which includes preschool through Grade 6.

We are pleased to announce that the following students graduated from the Heath School in June 15, 2014: **Gabriel Bird, James Freeman, Jaden LeBreux, Isis Moon, Cedar Noonan, Logan Platek, and Hunter Wozniak.**

I am currently in my fourth year as the principal of Heath School. The classroom assignments for the 2013-2014 school year are as follows: Preschool/Kindergarten Sarah Forbes, First/Second Virginia Gary, Third/Fourth Scott Sarich, Fifth/Sixth Jamie Jackman, Title I Math/Reading Marilyn O'Brien and Sue Guy-Greene, and Special Education Valerie Lively.

We have six paraprofessionals who provide additional support in the classrooms and resource room. We have a part-time secretary, custodian, nurse and kitchen manager. We enjoy a part-time library manager who works with small groups or entire classes two days a week. The Heath Elementary School is fortunate to have many, many parent and community volunteers. These dedicated parents and community members make it possible for Heath School to be able to accomplish many of the enrichment programs that we offer here: a violin program, after school enrichments, and ski club just to name a few.

The staff at Heath School believes in providing our students with a well rounded education. For the past three school years, we have been fortunate enough to receive a \$5,000 grant from the Massachusetts Cultural Council. The grant has allowed us to partner with the Hitchcock Center and to bring naturalist Ted Watt to our school. Ted is an amazing teacher and we are fortunate to have him working with our students.

Our spring MCAS scores continue to display student growth in the areas of mathematics and English language. However, there is still a lot of work to be done. Our school's Local Educational Council, which is comprised of two parents, two teachers, one community representative and me, approved a school improvement plan that focused on the following areas: Effective Instruction, Tiered Instruction and Adequate Learning Time, Student Assessment, and Family/School Engagement. Our teachers and staff have been engaged in a variety of professional development this year. The staff is adapting to a new educator evaluation system. We are currently in our second year of implementation. Staff created SMART goals, wrote educator plans with specific benchmarks, and were evaluated regularly.

I would like to acknowledge Heath School Committee Representative, Andrew Draxler, who passed away in November. Not only was Andrew a dedicated member of the School Committee, but he was also a parent of twin boys in the Heath 6th grade. Andy and his wife are two of the most dedicated parents at the Heath School. They are involved in several after school activities, including sports, strings, and science enrichment. As a retired Marine Biologist, Andy understood the importance of a well-rounded education. He was passionate about curriculum and tried to ensure that not only his children, but ALL children received the most rigorous

course of study possible. Andrew's presence on the School Committee, in the Heath Elementary School, and in the community will undoubtedly be missed.

The staff at Heath School encourages students to participate in extra-curricular activities, to respect themselves and others, appreciate their school community as well as the larger community, and most importantly to enjoy learning! Once again, I would like to thank the teachers, staff, parents, students, and community members for all of their hard work and dedication to making this a great school! I look forward to 2015 and all that it holds for our school.

Respectfully submitted,
Eric Glazier, Principal

2014 Annual Report of the Principal Mohawk Trail Regional High School

We are pleased to announce that the following students graduated from the Heath School in June 15, 2014: **Lillian Boyd, Kesheal Henderson, Tucker Jenkins, Tyler Osman, Joshua Rode, Eduardo Sachez, and Abigail Yezierski**

Mohawk graduates returned to our school in many ways this past year. The commencement speaker for the Class of 2014 was Elizabeth McGowan (Class of 1979); in 2013 she and two of her colleagues at *InsideClimate News* were awarded the Pulitzer Prize for distinguished reporting on national affairs, and at the graduation ceremony she spoke about her journey from Mohawk into the world of environmental journalism. Nearly 400 alumni and guests gathered for the "10+2 Reunion" for Mohawk classes 1968 – 1979 on the weekend of August 30-31, reminiscing and reconnecting with classmates. Mohawk graduate Jesse Porter-Henry, Class of 1999, joined our faculty as Assistant Principal this year. He brings a focus on restorative justice approaches to school culture and discipline. More than a dozen recent graduates participated in a round-table discussion about the transition to college in late December, sharing their experiences with current students.

This year Mohawk began to welcome tuition-paying students from overseas, beginning with two students from China. During the summer our school hosted two groups of Chinese students for short sessions and we look forward to continuing to expand our international programming.

We've added several new course offerings this year, including Economics, Latin, and Horticulture and Sustainable Agriculture. Our music program continues to thrive, with high school students studying Music Theory, Strings, Rock Band, and Electronic Music, in addition to more traditional music offerings. The Mohawk Music Association provides generous support for our music programs. Over the course of the year students presented three major theatrical productions: the all-school musical "The Wizard of Oz" in March that also featured elementary school performers, the spring "Two Roads" production, and Shakespeare's "A Midsummer Night's Dream" in December.

Our athletic programs, with the generous support of the Mohawk Athletic Association, continue to provide students with diverse and enriching opportunities. During

the fall season, more than 45% of our students were engaged in afterschool athletic programs. Mohawk student-athletes had a successful year: the girls alpine skiing team won their league, the girls track team won the Western Massachusetts championships, the boys track team won their league, and the girls cross-country team won their league, finishing third at Western Massachusetts. Mohawk retained the Frontier/Mohawk football trophy for the second year in a row.

At the midpoint of the 2014-2015 school year, enrollment in grades 7-12 is 464. There are 69 students in the seventh grade and 94 students in the the eighth grade. There are 73 students in the ninth grade, 60 in the tenth grade, 74 students in the junior class, and 88 students in the senior class. Six students are enrolled in our post-graduate program.

Respectfully submitted,
Lynn R. Dole, Principal

2014 Annual Report of the Superintendent Mohawk Trail Regional School District

The quality of education within the Mohawk Trail Regional School District (MTRSD) continued to rise during 2014. According to the Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education accountability and assessment system, the MTRSD is classified as a Level 2 district with all of its schools classified as Level 1 or Level 2. There are five classification levels within the Commonwealth's system with Level 1 being the highest rating. The MTRSD is striving to become one of the higher performing school districts in Massachusetts by achieving a Level 1 classification, which requires all of its schools to be Level 1. 2014 marked a significant step toward the MTRSD realizing this ambitious goal.

Mohawk District Highlights: Level 2

Mohawk students made gains in all three major content areas. Our English Language Arts (ELA) composite performance index (CPI) improved to 90.7; our mathematics CPI improved to 81.7; and our science CPI improved to 80.4.

Mohawk Middle School-High School Highlights: Level 2

The Mohawk Class of 2014 boasted a graduation rate of 84.1% with approximately 75% of the graduates attending a 4-year or a 2-year college. For the past two years, 92% of Mohawk 10th graders scored at the proficient or advanced level in ELA. Over this same two-year period, 67% of Mohawk 10th graders scored at the advanced level in math compared to a 53% state-wide average. 75% of our HS Biology students scored at the proficient or advanced level with 40% scoring advanced, compared to a 30% state-wide average. The 8th grade students made significant gains in ELA, improving to 79% proficient or advanced. The 7th grade Student Growth Percentile (SGP) in math was a remarkable 79 compared to a state median of 50.

The Mohawk MS-HS athletic program flourished during 2014 with 37 teams and 19 sports. 311 students participated in at least one sport (62% of the student pop-

ulation). 144 students participated in multiple sports (29% of the student population). The Mohawk MS-HS music program was also vibrant with 109 students participating (23% of the student population). The Mohawk MS-HS Theater Program continued to grow with 74 students (16% of the student population) performing three productions including the Wizard of Oz. Espousing a global view, Mohawk received its first international tuition-paying student from China in 2014.

Buckland-Shelburne Elementary School: Level 1

BSE did not just have a good year, the school had a great year! The cumulative progress and performance index (CPPI) for all students increased 11 points to 88. CPPI for high needs students increased 19 points to 92! BSE's ELA CPI improved 2.0 points to 90, and its math CPI improved 4.9 points to 83.3. Beyond this incredible growth, it is important to note that many best practices are being developed within BSE that are being shared with our other schools.

Sanderson Academy. Level 2

Sanderson remains a very high performing school. With a 2014 CPPI of 69, Sanderson is just 6 points shy of Level 1 classification. Sanderson's ELA CPI improved 6.8 points to an impressive 95, which is the highest among the elementary schools within the District. Sanderson's math CPI improved 2.3 points to 87.7, also the highest in the District. Sanderson's science CPI improved 8.0 points to 90.5, again the highest in the District.

Colrain Central School. Level 2

Colrain Central took a giant step in a positive direction with a solid 17-point improvement in CPPI. This improvement was led by significant gains in ELA. Colrain's ELA CPI improved 11.6 points to 83.8.

Heath Elementary School. Level 1

Heath Elementary achieved its second consecutive year of Level 1 classification with a strong CPPI of 94. Beyond the classroom, 95% of Heath students participated in one of the schools many enrichment programs.

MTRSD student achievement during 2014 reflected very well on our students and our educational team. Our District continued to develop and implement fundamental educator support systems that generated positive learning outcomes for our students. The MTRSD operated at the forefront of educational innovation including Professional Learning Communities (PLCs), Learning Walk-throughs and Expanded Learning Opportunities (ELO). While there is certainly more work to be done, we have much to be proud of! On behalf of our students, I thank our entire school community for your dedicated support of our children's education. THANK YOU!

Respectfully submitted,
Michael A. Buoniconti, Superintendent of Schools

2014 Annual Report

Franklin County Technical School District

We are pleased to announce that the following students graduated from Franklin County Technical School in June 15, 2014: **Corbin Thane** and **Tyler Sheridan**.

Total enrollment as of October 1, 2014 was 519 students with town breakouts as follows:

Bernardston	21	Erving	31	Montague	70	Sunderland	10
Buckland	10	Gill	5	New Salem	7	Warwick	8
Colrain	23	Greenfield	113	Northfield	39	Wendell	9
Conway	5	Heath	7	Orange	78	Whately	8
Deerfield	15	Leyden	12	Shelburne	5	Non-District	43

Franklin County Technical School awarded 113 diplomas to our seniors in June of 2014. Massachusetts students are required to pass the MCAS in order to receive a high school diploma and once again our students were very successful in meeting this high academic standard. FCTS has maintained level 2 Accountability status from last year. Our overall PPI moved from 17% in 2012 (level III) to 21% in 2013 (level II) to 31% in 2014 (level II).

We were 1% point away from level I Accountability Status. The graduates also earned their vocational certificate along with their diploma. 41% of our graduates planned to go on to either a two or four year college, 36% joined the area work force, 6% planned to join the military, 4% went on to a post-secondary trade/technical school, and 13% were unsure as to which of the above options they would pursue. We are proud of the accomplishments of the Class of 2014.

The teachers and students have been busy with projects that are used as learning opportunities during this latest school year. These authentic work projects are critical in developing the skills of the students, inspiring and motivating the students, developing empathy and social commitment and, of course, are beneficial to our sending communities.

As learning activities, these projects are not treated as production work that would be done by commercial entities. Project work is treated as learning activities, with guidance and direction of instructors. With alternating weeks of shop time, that increases the duration of a project. But, with that said, costs associated with a project are less than those conducted by a commercial company, resulting in towns and students benefiting in the end.

The electrical program has been active in a number of communities throughout Franklin County. Electrical work and networking work has been done in Charlemont with the Hawlemont school barn and greenhouse built; at the Warwick Community School with an LED lighting conversion; repairs to the Bernardston Elementary School parking lot lighting, and also at the Bernardston police department. Electrical students have worked in Buckland with police department lighting retro-fits and exterior security. The Shelburne Falls Trolley Museum has benefited from student electrical work at that facility, with future work projects in the plans. Another Shelburne activity was the fall clean-up of Hill Cemetery by the landscaping program.

In Wendell, the Town Hall emergency kitchen has had the electrical shop, carpentry shop, and primarily the plumbing shop, busy with renovations to their facilities. Due to new regulations imposed by the State Plumbing Board, this project was held up for nearly a year, but through persistence on our end, the approvals were finally authorized and the work is nearly complete. Changes in the State Plumbing Board regulations will continue to have a negative impact on plumbing programs in all vocational schools throughout the state, but we will develop methods to work within the restrictive guidelines.

The community of Deerfield saw the completion of a pavilion at the elementary school. Further activities will take place for landscaping of the pavilion area in the spring – at this point it is being discussed. The pavilion was built by the carpentry program students and instructors. Along with that work, carpentry is beginning work on the Regional Animal Shelter that will serve the town of Orange, along with other communities. By the time the project is completed, the electrical and plumbing programs will also be heavily involved in the expansion of the building. The Greenfield Town Hall is having bookcases built by the underclassmen carpentry students. This learning activity is just beginning and students are looking forward to the planning and production of the bookcases/shelving. Greenfield also received the services of the landscaping program with the sodding of Vets fields, a great learning opportunity for the students. In the spring of 2015, carpentry students will be building a Community Garden shed in New Salem, and in Leyden the Town Hall will have a rear portico built. Carpentry students will pre-fab the walls for the portico in the shop, and work will follow in the spring by the Leyden DPW, with construction taking place. Also for the town of Leyden, the Collision and Repair program is doing work on a Crown Vic for the Leyden Police Department. Another community receiving Collision and Repair work is a vehicle for the Colrain fire department.

The Welding program is doing work for two communities, Northfield and Shelburne – both library box drops. A new book drop is being built for Northfield and repair of a book drop for Shelburne.

Our relationship with area communities is important to FCTS. We try and focus primarily on municipal and non-profit organizations for our educational projects. Human Services organizations that service multiple communities, such as the Greenfield YMCA, have had Cosmetology and Culinary Arts students participate in special events, and the Soup and Game night hosted by Hope & Olive in Greenfield, receives soup and bread freshly made by the Culinary Arts program. Even school wide activities such as our food drives for area food pantries, collecting winter clothing for area needs, pet supplies for Dakin and area shelters, all feed into our strong partnership with Franklin County communities.

The District has been selected to participate in a renovation project for new windows and doors through the Massachusetts School Building Authority (MSBA). We are currently in the design and cost analysis stage and should have an estimate on costs at your town meeting. As with all projects selected by MSBA the State will reimburse the District a portion of the cost based upon several factors; our projected reimbursement rate is just a little more than 73% of costs.

In addition the District is in need of other major renovations that were either not selected by MSBA, (a roof repair) and/or would not qualify for funding, (repaving of our drive and parking areas, and possible repair and upgrade of our track.)

This will be the first time since the inception of the District in 1974 that we will be asking the towns to grant the District the authority to borrow monies to upgrade our infrastructure. The approval process as outlined in our regional agreement calls for a district wide election which falls outside of the annual town meeting approval process. As we define the scope of the projects/costs and work with the governing body in each of our member community's additional information will be made available on both the cost and the process.

Respectfully submitted,
Mr. Richard J. Kuklewicz, School Committee Chairman
Mr. James M. Lavery, Superintendent-Director

Special Education and Pupil Services

The districts continue to support and provide students with an identified disability an Individual Education Plan (IEP) or a Section 504 Plan. An IEP provides direct service with accommodations and modifications. A 504 Plan provides accommodations that allow a student access to the general curriculum. The district continues to increase the use of Response to Intervention (RTI). This model enables schools to provide support to students based on regular assessment and data aimed at targeting more specific areas of concern or need. A student does not require an IEP or a 504 to benefit. Data has suggested that all students, especially those with an identified disability benefit from an RTI model.

Districts are required to support a Parent Advisory Committee (PAC). A PAC is an advisory committee to the Director of Special Education. Both Mohawk Trail Regional and Hawlemont Regional School Districts were cited for not having an active PAC. The Director of Pupil Services asked for and was granted a waiver to allow the two districts to form one PAC. Although we continue to solicit more members and support, there is currently an active group meeting monthly.

Differentiation is the practice of modifying and adapting instruction, materials, content, student projects and products, and assessment to meet the learning needs of individual students. Over the course of the year, we have provided professional development to regular and special education teachers on differentiation, on the Wednesday professional learning days. This method allows the districts to provide the least restrictive environment, as required by law, while at the same time providing the necessary supports to all students.

Respectfully Submitted,
Leann Loomis
Director of Pupil Personnel Services

Carl H. Nilman Scholarship Fund

The fund was established under the provisions of the will of Carl H. Nilman for the purpose of providing scholarships. Recipients shall reside in the School District and be graduates of the Mohawk Trail Regional High School who desire and are deemed worthy of post high school education or training and who are in need of financial assistance.

This year the Awards subcommittee read 70 applications, 30 were from seniors and 40 were from previous graduates of Mohawk. \$33,300.00 was using 30% for seniors and 70% for graduates. The Committee feels that seniors have multiple scholarship opportunities from other sources while graduates have far fewer resources. 25 scholarships totaling \$9,800.00 were awarded to seniors (84% of applicants). 38 scholarships totaling \$23,500.00 were given to graduates (95% of applicants).

From 1991 -2014 a total of \$843,425.00 has been awarded in scholarships. Mohawk seniors have received \$260,375.00 and \$583,050 has been awarded to Mohawk graduates.

The application is once again available on line to the graduates. Seniors can pick their applications up at Mohawk. There are 15 members on the Carl H. Nilman Scholarship Committee. One from each of the nine member towns in the district, three at large members appointed by the School Committee, plus a past School Committee member, current School Committee member and the chairman of the School Committee. Membership is Sheila Graves (Ashfield), Marion Scott (Buckland), Marge Porrovecchio (Charlemont), Michelle Hillman (Colrain), Jonathan Diamond (Heath), Alice Parker (Hawley), Allen Irvine (Plainfield), Marion Taylor (Shelburne) and Rowe (open).

Officers are Marge Porrovecchio and Robin Hartnett, Co-Chair and Marion Scott, Secretary. Subcommittees: Finance, Marion Taylor, Robin Hartnett, David Engle/Eric Sumner. Scholarship: Marge Porrovecchio, Sheila Graves, Michelle Hillman, Marion Scott and Allen Irvine.

The Mohawk community owes a debt of gratitude to Mr. Nillman for his foresight in supporting higher education for the students of the Mohawk Trail Regional High School. The committee members are honored to bring the wishes of his will to fruition.

Students of any age who are graduates of Mohawk (and were living in the nine town area at the time of graduation) are encouraged to apply for scholarships to help meet their continuing education needs. Call the Guidance Office at Mohawk for information regarding requirements and deadlines.

Respectfully submitted,
Marion E. Scott, Secretary

Mary Lyon Foundation

Mary Lyon said, "Take care of your reading, writing and singing."

Since 1990 the Mary Lyon Foundation has been providing innovative support for local education to the schools and communities in West County. We are grateful for the incredible generosity which makes it possible for us to not only sustain a myriad of programs and services, but expand and strengthen them. We especially appreciate the continuing financial support of the Myrtle Atkinson Foundation, Cleveland Dodge Foundation, The Recorder, Bristol Myers Squibb, the Harper Gerry family and the many other generous donors who provide support for local education.

The 9th annual community spelling bee held on November 13 raised over \$7,000 for the Mini-Grant program for innovative, educational grants for local schools. The Grand Champions this year were the Spelling Beans (Curtis Rich, David Henry and Erin Morrisey) sponsored by Shelburne Falls Coffee Roasters. The winners of the best dressed costume award were The Artful Spellers (Nancy Baker, Nina Coler, and Denny Baker) sponsored by the Shelburne Falls Arts Co-Op, and the Queen Bee sponsor of the event was the Greenfield Savings Bank. It is a tribute to strong community spirit that teams from private and public educational, religious, political and civic organizations come together for this unique fundraiser.

Our annual spring Lyonnaise, a celebration of excellence in local education, was held in May at the Shelburne-Buckland Community Center and featured a powerful presentation by the 2014 Massachusetts Teacher of the Year, Anne Marie Osheyack. A special tribute was paid to the very first Massachusetts Teacher of the Year, Roy Frude, who taught science at Arms Academy. John Sloan received the Pat Kerrins Career Award; Kevin Hollister was honored as the Outstanding Mohawk Graduate; Leslie and Ed Grinnell received the Jim Boulger Spirit of Adventure Award sponsored by The Textile Company, and Berkshire East was the Business Award recipient.

The Mary Lyon Foundation sponsors scholarships and a wide variety of projects, programs and services including, for example, an annual Gift Catalog or wish list of requested school supplies, a Children's Literature Festival in August for grades K-6 and the Harper Gerry Student Assistance Fund which provides warm clothing, eyeglasses, food and other basic necessities for children.

The Board of Directors was Marion Taylor, Past President; Stefan Kostka, President; Hugh Knox, Vice President; Sharon Hudson, Corresponding Secretary; Suzanne Conway Lagreze, Recording Secretary; Karen Fairbrother, Treasurer, Beth Bandy, Larry Wells, Robin Morgan Huntley, Sylvia Orcutt, Susan Schuman and Amy Love. Gina Sieber is the Business Manager, and Bruce Willard, past president, is an Honorary Lifetime Member. We remain grateful to the school district for a classroom at the Buckland-Shelburne Elementary School where our office is located. Thank you also to the many generous donors and volunteers who continue to help us make a positive difference for local education initiatives.

Respectfully submitted,
Susan Samoriski, Ed.D., Executive Director

REGIONAL REPORTS



FRANKLIN COUNTY COOPERATIVE BUILDING INSPECTION PROGRAM

Dear Residents of Heath:

As you know, your town receives building, plumbing, gas, and wiring inspection and zoning enforcement services through the Franklin County Cooperative Inspection Program (FCCIP), a thirty-nine year old shared service housed at the Franklin Regional Council of Governments (FRCOG). We thank your town for your continued participation in the FCCIP, which allows small towns to have access to professional staff and state-of-the-art technology.

2014 was a busy year for the program. We issued 2,643 permits, including a significant number of insulation upgrade, solar array and wood/pellet stove permits. The number of permits was higher in 2014 than in the previous year, although the fees collected were slightly lower. A total of 33 new dwelling units were constructed in our 15 member towns.

Our new online permitting program went live on July 1, 2011 and has issued 9,501 building, electrical & plumbing/gas permits since then. The program allows you to apply, pay for, and track the progress of any permit online, saving you time and visits to our office in Greenfield. The program has 3,046 registered users. You can find it at www.frcog.org under the Franklin County Cooperative Inspection Program. Our website also includes helpful information on inspection requirements, permit costs, and contractor licensing.

In 2014, the FCCIP processed the following permits for Heath:

Residential Building Permits	50
Commercial Building Permits	0
Sheet Metal/Duct Permits	0
Electrical Permits	24
Plumbing Permits	4
Gas Permits	9
Certificates of Inspection	5

We would like to remind all residents of the importance of applying for permits for work done. Building, Electrical and Plumbing/Gas permits are required by law and are an essential step in ensuring the safety of our communities. Please feel free to call our office with any building or zoning questions at 774-3167, extension 2.

James D. Hawkins - Building Commissioner, jhawkins@frcog.org

James Cerone - Building Inspector, jcerone@frcog.org

Tom McDonald - Electrical Inspector, electric@frcog.org

Andy French - Plumbing/Gas Inspector, plumbing@frcog.org

FRANKLIN COUNTY COOPERATIVE PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE• SERVICES TO HEATH

The Town is a member of the CPHS, a health district based at the Franklin Regional Council of Governments. CPHS activities in Heath during 2014 included:

The Regional Health Agent conducted 21 Title-5 (septic) related activities including Soil Evaluations for on-lot septic systems, septic system plan reviews including site visits, issuing Local Upgrade Approvals and DSCP (septic) permits, completing inspections of septic system installations, and preparing Certificates of Compliance. Heath residents received 15 free tick tests in 2014 through a district grant, a savings of \$750. 35% of ticks tested in member towns carried the Lyme pathogen, and an additional 6% tested positive for either Anaplasmosis or Babesiosis.

The district released its first Community Health Needs Assessment, including a comprehensive look at the health status and needs of Heath residents. Staff assisted town officials, contractors, and residents with implementation of Web-based, digital on-line permitting system and trained BOH members on how to use the system and issue annual permits.

The Regional Health Agent assisted with 21 retail and temporary food inspections or re-inspections and continued to assist Heath residents and businesses with compliance with the Food Code.

The Regional Public Health Nurse coordinated vaccine and supplies for a Hawlemont Region Emergency Dispensing Site drill, assisting town officials from Charlemont, Hawley, Rowe, Heath and Monroe. 46 area residents, including 6 Heath residents were vaccinated for flu with the help of community staff and volunteers.

The Regional Health Agent conducted 4 housing inspections or re-inspections. The Regional Public Health Nurse provided coordinated vaccine and supplies for a Charlemont Council on Aging Senior Center Flu Clinic serving 57 area residents, including 3 Heath residents, with the help of community volunteers.

The Regional Health Agent provided technical assistance to the Board of Health with the implementation of their septic and private well regulations, including encouraging and assisting homeowners to test their well water at the time of property transfer.

The Regional Health Agent responded to requests for program and regulatory information from the Board of Health and other Town officials and attended 11 regular Board of Health meetings or hearings.

The Regional Public Health Nurse collaborated with Heath's Town Nurse to hold a gathering of local Town Nurses for the purpose of sharing information, and provided back-up communicable disease monitoring while Town Nurse was on vacation.

Heath's representatives to the CPHS Oversight Board are Karen Brooks, Board of Health member, and Gloria Fisher, Board of Health Clerk. For more information about the Board or the district, visit www.frcog.org Franklin County

FRANKLIN COUNTY REGIONAL HOUSING & REDEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

I am writing to provide you with an annual report on activity in the Town's Community Development Block Grant Housing Rehabilitation Revolving Loan Fund (HRRLF) managed by HRA during the time period of January 1, 2014 through December 31, 2014.

Under the terms of HRA's agreement with the Town of Heath, HRA deposits proceeds repaid from CDBG housing rehabilitation loans into a revolving loan fund and lends these funds at no interest to low and moderate income homeowners in Heath for the purpose of making health and safety improvements to their homes.

The following provides a summary of activity in the Heath Housing Rehabilitation Revolving Loan Fund account between January 1, 2014 and December 31, 2014:

- A - Balance of funds in account as of December 31, 2013 ... \$31,570.35
- B - Deposits – Interest ... \$4.12
- C - Withdrawals – loan funds expended (Line H) ... \$21,875.00
- D - Withdrawals – fees paid (Line N) ... \$5,453.12
- E - Balance of funds in account as of December 31, 2014 ... \$4,246.35

The following provides information on housing rehabilitation projects completed or in progress in Heath between January 1, 2014 and December 31, 2014:

- F - Number of new loans closed from the HRRLF ... 1
- G - Total amount of new loan funds committed \$21,875.00
- H - Total loan funds expended ... \$21,875.00
 - I - Loan funds committed during this time period and remaining to expend as of 12/31/14 ... \$0
- J - Balance of funds in account available for new loans as of 12/31/14 ... \$4,246.35

HRA administers the Housing Rehabilitation Revolving Loan Fund for the town on a fee-for-service basis. HRA charges two types of fees: a program administration fee at the time that loans are initiated, and a loan servicing fee deducted at the time that loans are repaid. The fee structure, per the signed contract dated August 30, 2012, provides for a 24 percent program administration fee and a two percent loan servicing fee. The Massachusetts Department of Housing and Community Development also requires the town to pay a two percent fee on funds deposited in the revolving loan fund during the preceding calendar year.

The following provides a summary of fees paid between January 1, 2014 and December 31, 2014.

- K - HRA program administration fees ... \$5,250.00
- L - HRA loan servicing fees ... \$0
- M - DHCD program fees ... \$203.12
- N - Total fees ... \$5,453.12

The balance of all outstanding housing rehabilitation mortgages in the Town of Heath as of December 31, 2014 was \$659,731.72.

The Town of Heath received funds for housing rehabilitation loans from a 2014 regional Community Development Block Grant. One household has completed a rehabilitation project with funds from this grant and HRA is currently working with four additional households. If the funds in the grant are not sufficient to address the needs of eligible households on the waiting list, the HRRLF will be used to supplement the grant.

HRA appreciates the opportunity to assist residents of Heath through the Housing Rehabilitation Revolving Loan Fund program. If you know of any residents who could benefit from this program, please refer them to us.

Regards,
MJ Adams, Director of Community Development

FRANKLIN COUNTY REGIONAL RETIREMENT SYSTEM

The Franklin Regional Retirement System is a government agency that serves the 487 retirees, 42 beneficiaries, 946 active employees, and 561 inactive members of the towns and agencies in Franklin County. We are organized under Chapter 34b, and subject to the provisions of Chapter 32 of the Massachusetts General Laws. We receive oversight on the state level from the Public Employee Retirement Administration Commission (PERAC), which audits our operations and financial records every three years. We are also audited by independent auditors in the two intervening years, as well as a complete actuarial valuation every two years.

The retirement benefit we provide replaces participation in the Social Security system and is described as a “defined benefit”, which means that we pay monthly retirement benefits based on the age, salary, and number of years worked at the time a member of our system retires. To be a member, an employee in one of our government units must be working in a permanent position scheduled at 20 hours or more per week and earning \$5,000 or greater annually. Funding of these benefits begins with deductions from the member, and, combined with matching funds from the employing unit, are invested in a mix of stocks, bonds, and indexed funds. Investment earnings are a large part of the funding of retirement benefits, and the allocation of those funds are spread to a variety of sectors to take advantage of positive activity as it occurs in each sector. Please make note of our investment performance percentages in the chart on the next page.

Up until 1988, we were a “pay-as-you-go” system. In 1988 it was legislated that we begin saving to become “fully funded” over the ensuing 40 years. Fully funded means we have enough in reserves to pay for all the current and future potential benefits of our present membership. At the end of 2013, we are 84% funded at 25 years (63%) into the 40 year mandate.

Our fiscal year is the calendar year, therefore our annual report is not filed until May of the subsequent year, and as a consequence the information provided herein will be a year old by the time you read this. Current reports and information can be found on our website: www.FRRSMA.com.

FRANKLIN COUNTY SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

The Solid Waste District was formed in 1989 to help Franklin County towns manage all aspects of their solid waste – recyclables, organics, hazardous waste, wastewater treatment sludge, and trash. We continue to provide assistance to twenty-two member towns through administrative support, professional consultation, trainings, and outreach to residents and businesses.

A review of recycling tonnage for 2014 shows almost an identical amount compared to 2013. District residents recycled over 1,700 tons of paper and over 1,100 tons of mixed containers, which were processed at the Springfield Materials Recycling Facility. Although market prices for recyclables remained low all year, District towns received a total of \$66,000 in revenue for their recyclables.

In 2013, the District sponsored spring and fall “Clean Sweep” collections for bulky items, electronics, tires, appliances, and anything too big to fit into a trash bag. Over 63 tons of material was recycled or disposed of from the two collections. A total of 560 households participated in these collection events.

We held our annual household hazardous waste collection in September 2014. This event allows residents to properly dispose of toxic cleaners, automotive products, pesticides, and other toxic products. A total of 325 households participated in this event. 42% of participants were using the collection for the first time.

We received a \$60,000 grant from the State to set up a recycling collection for wood pellet bags and for plastic waste generated at agricultural operations. We also helped member towns implement \$12,000 worth of small-scale initiative grants from MassDEP.

We continue to manage the recycling and composting program at the Franklin County Fair and to assist other events with waste reduction efforts. We continue to work in each school system helping with waste management bids and with fostering sustainable waste reduction programs.

If you have questions about District programs, call us at 413-772-2438 (MA Relay for the hearing impaired: 711 or 1-800-439-2370 TTY/TDD), visit our website at www.franklincountywastedistrict.org or visit us at 50 Miles Street in Greenfield.

Jan Ameen - Executive Director
Jonathan Lagreze, Colrain - Chair
Chris Boutwell, Montague - Vice-Chair
MA Swedlund, Deerfield - Treasurer

THE FRANKLIN REGIONAL COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

The Franklin Regional Council of Governments is pleased to present its 2014 Top Ten Accomplishments and Services to the towns, residents and region of Franklin County.

1 - Legislation passed that transferred FRCOG employees from Franklin Regional Retirement System to the Massachusetts State Retirement System.

The FRCOG will no longer pay a share of the retirement system's unfunded liability, saving approximately \$240,000/year. In FY16, towns will see a considerable reduction to their membership assessments.

2 - Passenger Rail returns to Franklin County. As a long-time goal, the FRCOG helped to: ensure that the region's intermodal center was built next to train tracks; secured funding for what is now the John W. Olver Transit Center; assisted in securing ARRA funds for upgrading of the rail lines; and is now working to bring commuter rail to Greenfield in 2016.

3 - Regional Preparedness Program expands disaster response network. In times of disaster or emergency, religious and human service organizations are often closest to the people in need. The FRCOG worked with 92 of these entities in western MA to ensure that they are prepared to collaborate to efficiently and effectively support emergency response and recovery.

4 - Purchasing Program introduces new cooperative purchases, saving towns money! 15-30% savings on prices of fire hose in our cooperative bid for fire depts. 50% off traffic signs by buying in bulk as part of a new initiative in our Highway Products & Services program.

5 - Connecticut River Tri-State Bike Map created. Working with our regional partners in NH and VT, a continuous bicycling route connecting Greenfield, Keene and Brattleboro was created. Hard copy and on-line maps identify the route and resources, such as bike shops, water locations, parking and restrooms. Look for trail-blazing signs in Spring of 2015.

6 - Promoting and protecting the economic value of forest land. The FRCOG and BRPC are working with 20 communities to study how the federal and state government can help private landowners conserve forests and promote the value of forest products leading to a grant from the USDA to Massachusetts to increase forest resiliency and develop economic opportunities for forest products and a grant to study how to increase energy efficient renewable wood heat.

7 - FRCOG's Partnership for Youth Presents at the White House. Representing the Communities That Care Coalition, FRCOG staff presented successful approaches in preventing youth substance abuse and promoting academic success. The Coalition received high praise for its efforts and outcomes from the acting Drug Czar and from the Director of the Center for Substance Abuse Services.

8 - Out ahead of Lyme Disease – CPHS tick testing. FRCOG’s Cooperative Public Health Service partnered with UMass to implement a Lyme Disease Awareness Program that included billboards, outreach, trail signs and tick testing. Residents are now able to send ticks found on them for lab analysis and get early treatment for potential debilitating diseases.

9 - Regional Brownfield Program Continues – The FRCOG was awarded \$300,000 from the EPA to continue its Brownfield Program to assess properties potentially impacted by hazardous materials or petroleum products leading to their clean-up and reuse.

10 - Aiding in the effort to reduce opioid and heroin addiction. The FRCOG led the Franklin County Opioid Task Force Healthcare Committee, working with area physicians and pharmacists to develop the Safe Prescriber Pledge that asks prescribers to adopt practices that ensure safe prescribing practices of potentially addictive medications.

For more information about these projects and more, please refer to:

The FRCOG Annual Report

Our web site, www.frcog.org

Visit us on Facebook, www.facebook.com/FranklinRegionalCouncilofGovernments

Follow us on Twitter: @FranklinCOG

THE FRED WELLS TRUSTEES

Funds available for the fiscal year 2014/15 are \$227,342 (which includes unused scholarship money from 2012/2013 that was reallocated to the Scholarship Fund.)

EDUCATION: The Trustees received 268 applications and approved 258 students to receive \$198,282. This amount includes the two \$1,000 scholarships in memory of Ralph and Hilda Haskins. The Trustee spent many hours on the selection process to ensure that as many students as possible could receive scholarship aid.

HEALTH: Five (5) programs were approved totaling \$17,600:

Community Action –WIC Program	\$ 5,000.00
Community Health Center	\$ 3,200.00
Franklin County Home Care	\$ 5,000.00
Hospice of Franklin County	\$ 2,000.00
NELCWIT	<u>\$ 2,400.00</u>
	\$17,600.00

AGRICULTURE: An amount of \$11,367 was allowed by the Trustees for payment:

Franklin County Agricultural Society	\$ 7,173.00
Heath Agricultural Society	\$ 3,160.00
Shelburne Grange Fair	<u>\$ 1,034.00</u>
	\$11,367.00

VETERANS SERVICES

The Central Franklin County District was formed in 1940 and provides Veterans Services for twenty three towns within Franklin County. Currently we are providing support for 76 veterans who reside in your district

The mission of the Department of Veterans' Services (DVS) is to be the chief advocate for the nearly half-million veterans of the Commonwealth and their families.

Under Chapter 115 of Massachusetts General Laws (M.G.L. ch. 115), the Commonwealth provides a uniform program of financial and medical assistance for income eligible veterans and their dependents. Qualifying veterans and their dependents receive financial assistance for food, shelter, clothing, housing supplies, and medical care in accordance with a formula which takes into account the number of dependants and income from all sources. Eligible dependents of deceased veterans are provided with the same benefits as they would were the veteran still living.

Leo and Mark held our first annual Job Fair for Veterans at the French King Bowling Center with great success; as well as, a Veterans Administration Health Fair.

November 13th 2014 most member towns voted to dissolve this district and become a member of the new regional veteran's district, Upper Pioneer Veterans Services District 294 Main Street, Greenfield, Mass 01301.

The new phone number is 4132-772-1571.

Many Veterans have been calling looking for the VA Web Sites here are a few for you.

Educational Benefits: www.gibill.va.gov
Home Loan Guaranty: www.homeloans.va.gov
Federal Jobs: www.usajobs.opm.gov
Returning Veterans: www.seamlessstranston.va.gov
VA Home Page: www.va.gov
Government Jobs: www.usajobs.gov/opm

Massachusetts State Veterans Services:
MassVets Advisor
Leo J. Parent, Director
Mark Fitzpatrick, VSO

**MASSACHUSETTS LEGISLATORS
REPRESENTING HEATH**

Senator Benjamin B. Downing

Benjamin.Downing@state.ma.us

Boston Address:
State House, Room 413-F
Boston, MA 02133
617-722-1625
FAX 617-722-1523

District Address:
7 North Street, Suite 307
Pittsfield, MA 01201
413-442-4008
FAX 413-442-4077

Representative Paul W. Mark

paul.mark@mahouse.gov

Boston Address:
State House, Room 472
Boston, MA 02133
617-722-2013

District Address:
P.O. Box 1223
Greenfield, MA 01302
413-464-5635
Local District Hours: Thurs., 9-12
at Charlemont Town Hall

**To download the
Town of Heath Annual Report 2014
visit our website at www.townofheath.org**