

**2015  
Town of Heath • Massachusetts  
Annual Report**



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Town of Heath Annual Report 2015  
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## 2015 Annual Town Report Dedication



### Doug Wilkins

In many ways our last special town meeting on December 1, 2015 was much like all of our town meetings. Per usual, we were faced with a difficult decision, this time it was whether or not to purchase land for a safety complex. There were many strong opinions and differing views on the subject, which was also usual. And as always, thanks to the skill of our town moderator, Doug Wilkins, we were able to have a civil discussion with an equal airing of all sides. What made this town meeting

distinctive, though, was that toward the end of it, Doug announced that he would soon be stepping down as moderator.

Doug Wilkins has been our town moderator for over 30 years and has led the town expertly through many difficult and critical discussions and decisions. Doug has a great respect for the format of town meetings. As friend Eric Sumner noted, he has often heard Doug promote town meetings as democracy in its purest form.

Doug also has an incredible understanding of the Robert's Rules of Order. He distinguishes himself as a moderator by carefully explaining upfront the objectives and rules of the meeting. This, according to Art Schwenger, a former selectman, has allowed our town to have open and honest discussions about all of the hard issues a small town such as ours is faced with. Doug led the discussions about the many zoning law changes, the building of Heath Elementary School, the closing of the landfill, and the purchase of a new fire truck, to name just a few. Although he recently described his style in the Greenfield Recorder as "pretty relaxed", Doug ran a tight and efficient meeting that held us all to the notion that the best decisions are made when we take the time to hear each other out. For this reason, he was careful not to end a discussion too soon, and as another former Selectman Tom Lively stated, was "very fair" in calling on folks to speak.

Doug described town meetings as democracy in action. We, as a town, have been so fortunate to have someone like Doug safeguarding our way of governance. Luckily, we will all still be able to enjoy Doug's leadership at the Heath Fair, where he has called square dances for even longer than he has been a moderator. In a way, he calls the dances the same way he leads a meeting; everyone gets a turn.

—Deb Porter

## TOWN OFFICERS 2015

	Term Expires
<b>Selectmen (3)</b>	
Sheila Litchfield, Chair	2018
Brian De Vriese	2017
Bill Lattrell	2016
<b>Assessors (3)</b>	
Alice Wozniak	2017
Robyn Provost-Carlson	2018
Heidi Griswold	2016
<b>Town Clerk (3)</b>	
Hilma Sumner	2018
<b>Moderator (3)</b>	
Douglas Wilkins	2017
<b>Constables (1)</b>	
Robert Bourke	2016
Steve Thane	2016
<b>School Committee (2)</b>	
Ken Roche	2016
Budge Litchfield	2018
<b>Planning Board (5)</b>	
Calvin Carr, Chair	2016
Robert Viarengo	2020
Douglas Mason	2018
Jo Travis	2019
Bill Gran	2017
<b>Finance Committee (3)</b>	
Donald Freeman, Chair	2017
Edwin Wolf	2018
Jeff Simmons	2016
Gloria Fisher	2018
Janis Carr	2018
<b>Library Trustees (3)</b>	
Janis Carr, Chair	2016
Deborah Porter	2018
Kate Bailey	2017
<b>Animal Control Officer</b>	
Edward Grinnell, Regional ACO	2016
Kenneth Erho, Assistant ACO	2016
<b>Fence Viewer</b>	
Assessors	2016

<b>Town Officers</b> (continued)	<b>Term Expires</b>
<b>Tree Warden</b>	
Alanson Nichols	2016
<b>Measurers of Wood &amp; Bark</b>	
William Clark	2016
Alanson Nichols	2016
<b>Field Drivers</b>	
Christine O'Brien	2016
Michelle Howe	2016
David Freeman	2016
Jonathan Diamond	2016
<b>Sexton</b>	
Matthew Lively	2016
<b>Burial Agent</b>	
Hilma Sumner, Town Clerk	2016

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### Town Boards Appointed by Selectmen

<b>Board of Health (3)</b>	
Karen Brooks	2017
Michael Freeman	2018
Charlie Cornish	2016
Betsy Kovacs	2017
Armand Clavette	2018
<b>Zoning Board of Appeals (5)</b>	
Dennis Peters	2017
Robert Gruen	2018
Alanson Nichols	2020
Pam Porter	2019
Vacant	

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### Selectmen's Appointments

Chairman, Select Board	Sheila Litchfield
Secretary, Select Board	Bill Lattrell
Town Coordinator**	Kara Leistyna
Office Assistant**	Lorena Loubsky
Treasurer**	Kristi Nartowicz
Accountant**	Tracey Baronas (3 year term to 2016)
Tax Collector**	Elizabeth Nichols
Americans w/Disabilities Rep.	Maya Jalbert
Animal Inspector+	Ken Erho (exp. April 30, 2016)

Animal Inspector (Rabies)+	Ed Grinnell (exp. April 30, 2016)
Animal Control Officer (Regional)+	Ed Grinnell
Asst. Animal Control Officer+	Ken Erho
Building Maintenance Coordinator**	Timothy Lively
Carl H. Nilman Scholarship Representative	Eric Sumner
Chief of Police**	Margo Newton
Emergency Management Director+	Timothy Lively
E 911 Coordinator	Budge Litchfield
Emergency Management Director Alternate+	Vacant
FRCOG Representative	Bill Lattrell
FRCOG Planning Board Representative	David Travers
FRCOG Alternate Planning Board Representative	Brian DeVriese
FRCOG Regional Dog Kennel Representative.	Ken Erho
FRCOG Regional Dog Kennel Rep. Alternate	Ed Grinnell
Three-Town Landfill Committee Representative	Sheila Litchfield
FCCIP Representative	Brian DeVriese
Fire Chief+	Michael Smith (resigned 9/15)
	Kenneth Gilbert (9/15)
	Kenneth Gilbert
Forest Fire Warden	Brian DeVriese
Franklin Regional Transit Authority Representative	Kara Leistyna
Franklin County Solid Waste Mgmt Dist. Rep.	Michael Shattuck (9/15)
Highway Superintendent**	Bill Lattrell
Highway Department Liaison	James Cerone
Building Inspector	Tom McDonald
Inspector, Electrical	Andrew K. French
Inspector, Plumbing & Gas	Sheila Litchfield
Licensing Board	Sheila Litchfield
Local Emergency Planning Committee Rep.	
LEPC consists of: Fire Chief, Police Chief, Highway Supt.,	
Select Board Member, and Emergency Mgmt. Director	
Police Officers**	Lee Lively, Julie Shippee, Melinda Herzig
Detail Officers	Gordon Cutter, Julie Shippee, Melinda Herzig
Post Office Manager**	Charlene Reynolds
Assistant Post Office Manager**	Margo Newton, Art Schwenger
Election Workers+	Eileen Tougas
	Nancy Thane
	Don Dekker
	Margo Newton
	Gloria Fisher
	Eileen McVay-Lively
Alternate Election Workers+	Jenna Day, Tracy Schott
Senior Center Coordinator+	Eileen McVay-Lively
Select Board Correspondent to Heath Herald	Brian DeVriese
Tax Title Attorney	Berenson & Bloom, Esq.
Town Counsel	Kopelman & Paige P.C.
Town Nurse**	Claire Rabbitt

**Selectmen's Appointments** (continued)

Veterans' Agent	Brian Brooks
Veterans' Graves Officer	Dennis Peters
Veterans' Representative	Dennis Peters
Fred G. Wells Trustee	Dianne Grinnell
Transfer Station Attendant **	Ken Erho
Highway Personnel **	Dohn Sherman, Jason Lively Jeffrey Johnston

\*\*denotes hired  
+ Stipend

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**Town Committees Appointed by Selectmen**

<b>Agricultural Commission</b>	Doug Mason Jeff Aho (deceased) Jessica Van Steensburg (9/15) Nina Marshall (9/15) Walt Gleason (9/15)
<b>Cemetery Commission</b>	Claire Rabbitt Jerry Gilbert Eric Sumner
<b>Community Hall Committee</b>	Margo Newton Dolores Churchill Ruth Corey Don Dekker Tracy Schott
<b>Conservation Commission</b>	Dennis Peters Brian DeVriese Ellen Jenkins Buck (Bernard) Denouden Jessica Van Steensburg Bill Lattrell (Consultant)
<b>Council on Aging</b>	Eileen Tougas Alli Thane-Stetson Teresa Peters Jane deLeeuw Jean Lamothe
<b>Cultural Council</b>	Lorena Loubsky 2017 Kara Leistyna 2017 Robert Gruen 2018 Susan Draxler 2018 Larry Sampson 2018 Vacant

<b>Energy Advisory Committee</b>	Bill Gran Steve Thane Peter Row Steve Ryack Bob Schultz
<b>Historical Commission</b>	Margaret Freeman Vacant Vacant
<b>Municipal Complex Building Committee</b>	Bob Viarengo Bob Bourke (resigned 10/15) Ken Gilbert Brian DeVriese (Ex officio) Calvin Carr Jack Gougeon Vacant
<b>Parks and Recreation Commission</b>	Bob Bourke Robin Jenkins Susan Draxler Betsy Kovacs
<b>Recycling Committee</b>	Doug Mason Ken Erho Karen Brooks
<b>Heath Veteran's Memorial Committee</b>	David Howland Robert Bourke Jerry Gilbert Dennis Peters Peter Smith
<b>Mohawk Trail Woodlands Partnership Advisory Committee (FRCOG)</b>	Art Schwenger
<b>Community Economic Development Strategy Representative (FRCOG)</b>	Art Schwenger 2017

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**Committees Appointed by Moderator**

F. C. Technical School Rep.	Arthur Schwenger
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**Appointed by Library Trustees**

Library Director	Donald J. Purington
Assistant Library Director	Lyra Johnson

# Financial Reports



## General Fund Revenue Report

as of: 06/30/2015

	Carryover	Original Budget	Budget Revisions	Total Budget	Revenues	Balance
<b><u>Taxes and Excises</u></b>						
01-4-110-000 Personal Property Taxes		183,469.39		183,469.39	182,893.70	575.69
01-4-120-000 Real Estate Taxes		1,589,282.05		1,589,282.05	1,571,933.36	17,348.69
01-4-130-000 Allow. for Ates & Exempt		-27,884.99		-27,884.99		-27,884.99
01-4-142-000 Tax Liens Redeemed				0.00	31,179.19	-31,179.19
01-4-143-000 Sale of Tax Foreclosures				0.00	8,000.00	-8,000.00
01-4-146-000 Proforma Tax				0.00	180.36	-180.36
01-4-150-000 Motor Vehicle Excise		60,925.00		60,925.00	75,901.73	-14,976.73
01-4-170-000 Penalties and int. taxes		20,500.00		20,500.00		20,500.00
01-4-171-000 Interest on Property Tax				0.00	10,483.79	-10,483.79
01-4-172-000 Interest on Motor Veh Ex				0.00	977.29	-977.29
01-4-173-000 Interest on Tax Titles				0.00	6,509.65	-6,509.65
Taxes and Excises Totals:		1,826,291.45		1,826,291.45	1,888,059.07	-61,767.62
<b><u>Charges for Services</u></b>						
01-4-235-000 Transfer station stickers		15,500.00		15,500.00	18,350.00	-2,850.00
01-4-240-000 Planning Board Fees				0.00	60.00	-60.00
Charges for Services Totals:		15,500.00		15,500.00	18,410.00	-2,910.00

<b>Fees</b>	Carryover	Original Budget	Budget Revisions	Total Budget	Revenues	Balance
01-4-329-004 RMV Marking Fees		500.00		500.00	990.00	-480.00
01-4-329-000 Town Clerk Fees				0.00	13.00	-13.00
<b>Fees Totals:</b>		500.00		500.00	993.00	-493.00
<b>Licenses and Permits</b>	Carryover	Original Budget	Budget Revisions	Total Budget	Revenues	Balance
01-4-426-000 Police gun Licenses				0.00	900.00	-900.00
01-4-456-007 Raffle Permits				0.00	60.00	-60.00
01-4-459-000 Permits - Other		475.00		475.00		475.00
<b>Licenses and Permits Totals:</b>		475.00		475.00	960.00	-485.00
<b>Federal Revenue</b>	Carryover	Original Budget	Budget Revisions	Total Budget	Revenues	Balance
01-4-540-000 USPS Contract Revenue		20,500.00		20,500.00	20,642.04	-142.04
<b>Federal Revenue Totals:</b>		20,500.00		20,500.00	20,642.04	-142.04
<b>State Revenue</b>	Carryover	Original Budget	Budget Revisions	Total Budget	Revenues	Balance
01-4-611-000 State Owned Land		4,787.00		4,787.00	4,787.00	0.00
01-4-613-000 Abate/ments Veterans		1,338.00		1,338.00	3,986.00	-2,648.00
01-4-616-000 Elderly Abate/ments		3,281.00		3,281.00	3,281.00	0.00
01-4-667-000 Veterans Benefits				0.00	108.00	-108.00
01-4-671-000 Lottery		74,450.00		74,450.00	74,450.00	0.00
<b>State Revenue Totals:</b>		83,856.00		83,856.00	86,612.00	-2,756.00

<b>Other Intergovernmental Revenue</b>	Carryover	Original Budget	Budget Revisions	Total Budget	Revenues	Balance
01-4-770-001 CMVT Fines				0.00	290.00	-290.00
01-4-770-002 Fines-District Court				0.00	249.95	-249.95
01-4-770-003 Library Fines		200.00		200.00		200.00
<b>Other Intergovernmental Revenue Totals:</b>		200.00		200.00	539.95	-339.95
<b>Miscellaneous Revenue</b>	Carryover	Original Budget	Budget Revisions <td>Total Budget</td> <td>Revenues</td> <td>Balance</td>	Total Budget	Revenues	Balance
01-4-820-000 Interest on Investments		500.00		500.00	554.72	-54.72
01-4-840-000 Miscellaneous Revenue		1,250.00		1,250.00		1,250.00
01-4-840-005 Sale of Street Lists				0.00	30.00	-30.00
01-4-840-006 Copier Receipts				0.00	181.50	-181.50
01-4-841-000 Prior Year Refunds				0.00	338.39	-338.39
01-4-841-003 Sale of Surplus Equipment				0.00	5,091.00	-5,091.00
01-4-841-004 Various Small Adjustment				0.00	0.23	-0.23
01-4-841-006 Tax Title Costs				0.00	5,693.30	-5,693.30
01-4-841-007 Tax Possession Costs/Fees				0.00	231.60	-231.60
01-4-841-008 Tax Auction Deposits				0.00	500.00	-500.00
01-4-841-012 Worker's Comp. Reimburse				0.00	4,428.57	-4,428.57
<b>Miscellaneous Revenue Totals:</b>		1,750.00		1,750.00	17,049.31	-15,299.31

**Other Financing Sources**

	Carry-over	Original Budget	Budget Revisions	Total Budget	Revenues	Balance
01-4-960-206 Transfer from Rev. Funds				0.00	3,125.39	-3,125.39
01-4-999-900 Free Cash to Bal.Budget		50,000.00		50,000.00	50,000.00	0.00
01-4-999-901 Funded by Carryovers	24,219.39			24,219.39	24,219.39	0.00
01-4-999-902 Funded by Encumbrance	2,560.96			2,560.96	2,560.96	0.00
01-4-999-903 Funded with "Free Cash"			99,756.10	99,756.10	99,756.10	0.00
01-4-999-905 Funded by Overlay Surplus			10,134.19	10,134.19	10,134.19	0.00
Other Financing Sources Totals:	26,780.35	50,000.00	109,890.29	186,670.64	189,796.03	-3,125.39
Grand Totals:	26,780.35	1,999,072.45	109,890.29	2,135,743.09	2,223,061.40	-87,318.31

as of: 06/30/2015

**General Fund Expenditure Report****General Government**

	Carry-over	Original Budget	Budget Revisions	Total Budget	Expenditures	Balance
01-5-114-000 Moderator Stipend		100.00		100.00	100.00	0.00
01-5-122-000 Selectmen's Stipend-Membe		2,000.00		2,000.00	2,000.00	0.00
01-5-122-001 Selectmen's Stipend-Chair		1,500.00		1,500.00	1,500.00	0.00
01-5-122-003 Selectmen Oper. Expenses		4,860.00	-120.85	4,739.15	2,356.38	2,122.77
01-5-123-004 Salary Town Coordinator		44,158.59	120.85	44,279.44	44,279.44	0.00
01-5-123-005 Salary Office Assistant		729.06		729.06	339.41	389.65
01-5-124-000 Office Supplies		1,700.00		1,700.00	1,431.56	268.44
01-5-131-000 Finance Committee Expense		200.00		200.00	129.00	71.00

01-5-132-000 Reserve Fund		5,000.00	-549.34	4,450.66		4,450.66
01-5-135-000 Salary Town Accountant		11,738.48		11,738.48	11,738.48	0.00
01-5-135-005 Town Accountant Expense		1,350.00		1,350.00	1,254.87	95.13
01-5-135-013 Accountant's Support		450.00		450.00	233.71	216.29
01-5-141-000 Assessors Stipend-Chair		2,500.00	-20.12	2,479.88	2,291.74	188.14
01-5-141-001 Assessors Stipend-Members		4,000.00		4,000.00	4,000.00	0.00
01-5-141-002 Assessor's Expenses		1,500.00		1,500.00	652.53	847.47
01-5-141-003 Assessor's Software		2,500.00		2,500.00	2,500.00	0.00
01-5-141-004 Assessor's Mapping		1,100.00	550.00	1,650.00	1,650.00	0.00
01-5-141-006 Salary Assessor's Admin. Ass		5,866.88	20.12	5,887.00	5,887.00	0.00
01-5-141-007 Assessor's Consultant Exp		4,800.00		4,800.00	4,000.00	800.00
01-5-145-000 Treasurer's Salary		9,886.22		9,886.22	9,886.22	0.00
01-5-145-002 Treasurer's Expense		4,000.00		4,000.00	2,819.68	1,180.32
01-5-145-003 Treasurer's Surety Bond		158.00		158.00	150.00	8.00
01-5-145-004 Treas. Tax Taking & Coll		25,000.00	-4,672.50	20,327.50	16,960.74	3,366.76
01-5-146-000 Salary Tax Collector		10,784.28		10,784.28	10,784.28	0.00
01-5-146-002 Tax Collectr Surety Bond		210.00		210.00	210.00	0.00
01-5-146-003 Tax Collector Expense		3,885.00		3,885.00	3,294.31	600.69
01-5-146-004 Tax Taking/Liets		2,600.00		2,600.00	1,640.31	959.69
01-5-151-000 Legal Fees		7,000.00		7,000.00	3,263.16	3,736.84
01-5-157-001 Salary Post Office Manage		20,667.92		20,667.92	20,661.21	6.71
01-5-157-004 Post Office Oper. Expense		200.00		200.00	94.79	105.21

	Original Budget	Budget Revisions	Total Budget	Expenditures	Balance
01-5-157-005 Salary Post Office Subsci	1,425.00		1,425.00	941.49	483.51
01-5-157-006 Post Office Mgr. Surety	100.00		100.00	100.00	0.00
01-5-161-000 Salary Town Clerk	14,152.56		14,152.56	14,152.56	0.00
01-5-161-001 Town Clerk's Expense	3,000.00		3,000.00	2,723.29	276.71
01-5-161-003 Town Clerk Surety Bond	100.00		100.00	100.00	0.00
01-5-162-000 Election Workers Stipend	980.00		980.00	980.00	0.00
01-5-171-000 Conserv. Comm. Expense	350.00		350.00	126.00	224.00
01-5-171-001 Con. Comm. Consultant Exp.	1,500.00		1,500.00	1,175.00	325.00
01-5-175-001 Planning Board Expenses	650.00		650.00		650.00
01-5-176-000 Zoning Board Expense	200.00		200.00		200.00
01-5-180-000 Agriculture Commission Exp.	500.00		500.00	40.65	459.35
01-5-182-000 Health Telecom Exp. (Wired	425.00		425.00	246.85	178.15
01-5-183-000 Wired West Annual Asses.	1,000.00		1,000.00	1,000.00	0.00
01-5-191-000 Technical Support Tn Hall	1,800.00		1,800.00	1,543.25	256.75
01-5-192-000 Build. Maint. Coor. Salary	13,538.07		13,538.07	11,683.76	1,854.31
01-5-192-001 Sawyer Hall-Maint./Util.	18,000.00		18,000.00	16,865.55	1,134.45
01-5-192-002 Town Garages-Maint./Util.	15,600.00	4,549.34	20,149.34	19,525.65	623.69
01-5-192-004 Town Buildings-Copier Sup	2,200.00		2,200.00	1,449.12	750.88
01-5-192-005 Comm. Hall-Maint./Util.	16,000.00	3,821.80	19,821.80	18,508.49	1,313.31
01-5-192-006 Lawn Mowing, Ctr. & Cemec.	4,500.00		4,500.00	4,050.00	450.00
01-5-192-011 Sawyer Hall Internet	1,439.40		1,439.40	1,240.22	199.18

01-5-192-012 Highway/Fire Internet	650.00		650.00	569.40	50.60
01-5-193-000 Ins/Prop/Casualty/Workers	36,004.65		36,004.65	34,966.15	1,038.50
01-5-195-000 Town Report Printing	1,050.00		1,050.00	1,022.62	27.38
01-5-199-000 FRCOG Assessment	10,458.44		10,458.44	7,772.44	2,686.00
General Government Totals:	325,797.55	3,699.30	329,496.85	296,901.31	32,595.54
<b>Public Safety</b>					
01-5-210-000 Salaries-Police Department	23,688.60	783.50	24,472.10	24,464.29	7.81
01-5-210-001 Constables Stipend	200.00		200.00	200.00	0.00
01-5-210-004 Police Vehicle Maint. Expens	2,500.00	-783.50	1,716.50	1,451.95	264.55
01-5-210-005 Police Expenses	2,500.00		2,500.00	2,275.36	224.64
01-5-220-000 Fire Chief Stipend	4,266.00		4,266.00	4,266.00	0.00
01-5-220-001 Firemens Incentive Award	6,000.00		6,000.00	5,675.22	124.78
01-5-220-002 Fire Dept. Supp/Training	14,000.00		14,000.00	12,450.40	1,549.60
01-5-220-003 Turnout Gear Replacement	8,000.00		8,000.00	3,613.00	4,387.00
01-5-220-005 Emergency Medical Service	2,400.00		2,400.00	1,224.17	1,175.83
01-5-241-000 Building Inspector Expens.	3,500.00		3,500.00	3,500.00	0.00
01-5-291-000 Em. Manage. Director Stip	1,000.00		1,000.00	1,000.00	0.00
01-5-291-001 Emer. Mgmt. Expenses	400.00		400.00	216.94	183.06
01-5-291-002 Alternate EMD Stipend	100.00		100.00		100.00
01-5-291-003 Code RED	1,500.00	-1,500.00	0.00		0.00

	Carryover	Original Budget	Budget Revisions	Total Budget	Expenditures	Balance
01-5-292-000	An. Cont. Officer's Stipend	2,000.00	500.00	2,500.00	2,333.37	166.63
01-5-292-001	AC Officer's Expenses	2,000.00	-500.00	1,500.00	180.23	1,319.77
01-5-292-002	Reg. Dog Kennel/Assess.	700.00		700.00	350.00	350.00
01-5-292-003	Animal Inspector's Exp.	325.00		325.00		325.00
01-5-292-005	Animal Inspector Stipend	500.00		500.00	500.00	0.00
01-5-292-006	Wildlife Damage Control Ex	1,500.00	849.85	2,349.85	2,349.75	0.10
01-5-294-000	Tree Removal Expense	1,700.00		1,700.00		1,700.00
	Public Safety Totals:	78,779.60	-650.15	78,129.45	66,250.68	11,878.77
<b>Education</b>						
01-5-301-000	School Comm. Stipend	1,098.00		1,098.00	1,098.00	0.00
01-5-301-001	School Committee Expenses	500.00		500.00		500.00
01-5-303-000	MTRS Assessment	776,172.00		776,172.00	776,172.00	0.00
01-5-304-000	FCTS Assessment	41,533.00		41,533.00	41,533.00	0.00
01-5-306-000	MTRS Capital Project	8,675.00		8,675.00	8,675.00	0.00
	Education Totals:	827,978.00		827,978.00	827,478.00	500.00

	Carryover	Original Budget	Budget Revisions	Total Budget	Expenditures	Balance
<b>Public Works and Facilities</b>						
01-5-421-000	Salary Highway Dept. Wage	161,966.16	3,285.00	165,251.16	164,009.63	1,241.53
01-5-421-005	Highway Misc Expenses	2,390.00		2,390.00	1,610.27	779.73
01-5-422-000	Machinery Maint./Supplies	33,816.00	50,563.96	84,379.96	83,734.04	645.92
01-5-422-002	Vehicle Gas & Oil	40,000.00		40,000.00	39,772.76	227.24
01-5-422-003	Hired Equipment/Services	6,100.00	322.50	6,422.50	4,229.33	2,193.17
01-5-422-005	Highway Dept. Materials	24,000.00	-574.08	23,425.92	20,591.29	2,834.63
01-5-422-006	Roadside Mowing	5,000.00		5,000.00	4,947.88	52.12
01-5-422-008	Uniforms	1,540.00	574.08	2,114.08	2,102.01	12.07
01-5-423-000	Salary Winter Hwy. Wages	19,782.90	2,041.06	21,823.96	21,823.96	0.00
01-5-423-001	Winter Equip. Maint/Repr	8,000.00	12,642.14	20,642.14	20,530.55	111.59
01-5-423-002	Winter Salt/Sand & Other	127,200.00	6,450.86	133,650.86	133,650.86	0.00
01-5-423-003	Winter Hired Services	2,250.00	4,350.00	6,600.00	6,212.50	387.50
01-5-423-009	Salary Winter Temp. Help	1,309.00	1,321.16	2,630.16	2,630.16	0.00
01-5-423-010	Salary Summer Temp. Help	3,556.00	-47.11	3,608.89	2,950.94	657.95
01-5-424-000	Street Lights	1,500.00		1,500.00	1,191.64	308.36
01-5-430-000	Franklin Cty Solid Waste	2,129.00		2,129.00	2,129.00	0.00
01-5-431-000	Salary Refuse Disposal	9,229.24		9,229.24	8,945.66	283.58
01-5-433-000	Dump Transportation	14,420.00	4,993.33	19,413.33	19,413.33	0.00
01-5-433-001	Dump Tipping	14,319.00	-1,413.33	12,905.67	10,248.38	2,657.29

	Original Budget	Budget Revisions	Total Budget	Expenditures	Balance
01-5-433-003 Hazardous Waste Disposal	500.00		500.00	115.10	384.90
01-5-433-004 Transfer Sta. Maint/Repr	500.00		500.00	320.00	180.00
Public Works and Facilities Totals:	479,607.30	84,509.57	564,116.87	551,159.29	12,957.58
<b>Human Services</b>					
01-5-511-000 Bd of Health-Chair Stipnd	844.00		844.00	844.00	0.00
01-5-512-000 Bd of Health-Mem. Stipend	1,688.00		1,688.00	1,372.00	316.00
01-5-512-001 Bd of Health Clerk Salary	3,045.00		3,045.00	2,588.38	356.62
01-5-512-002 FRCKG Health Agent	6,930.00		6,930.00	6,930.00	0.00
01-5-513-000 Bd of Health Expenses	1,500.00	84.99	1,584.99	575.18	1,009.81
01-5-522-000 Salary Town Nurse	9,626.40		9,626.40	7,804.26	1,822.14
01-5-522-001 Town Nurse's Expense	455.00		455.00	427.38	27.62
01-5-541-000 Senior Ctr. Coordinator Stipe	500.00		500.00	500.00	0.00
01-5-541-001 Senior Center Oper. Acct.	500.00		500.00	500.00	0.00
01-5-542-000 CDA Expense	1,000.00		1,000.00	1,000.00	0.00
01-5-543-000 Veterans Service Center	1,461.91		1,461.91	1,461.91	0.00
01-5-544-000 Veterans Benefit	4,000.00		4,000.00	158.49	3,841.51
01-5-545-000 Health Veterans Memorial Co	150.00		150.00	30.04	119.96

	Original Budget	Budget Revisions	Total Budget	Expenditures	Balance
Human Services Totals:	31,700.31	84.99	31,785.30	24,291.64	7,493.66
<b>Culture and Recreation</b>					
01-5-610-000 Salary Library Director	24,955.50		24,955.50	24,841.21	114.29
01-5-610-001 Salary Library Assistant	5,632.64		5,632.64	5,544.63	88.01
01-5-610-002 Salary Library Substitute	1,060.00		1,060.00	125.25	934.75
01-5-611-000 Library Operating Expense	6,897.00		6,897.00	6,897.00	0.00
01-5-611-001 CW Mars Library Annual	1,456.00		1,456.00	1,456.00	0.00
01-5-690-000 Historical Comm. Expense	250.00		250.00		250.00
Culture and Recreation Totals:	40,251.14		40,251.14	38,864.09	1,387.05
<b>Debt Service</b>					
01-5-753-000 Highway Garage Door Loan	4,000.00		4,000.00	4,000.00	0.00
01-5-753-011 Highway Garage Doors Inter	94.40		94.40	66.18	28.22
01-5-757-000 Bucket Loader 2011	16,246.00		16,246.00	16,246.00	0.00
01-5-757-011 Bucket Loader Interest 2011	1,137.22		1,137.22	1,137.22	0.00
01-5-758-000 3 Town Liability Waiver	10,630.00		10,630.00	10,630.00	0.00
01-5-758-011 3 Town Liability Waiver Int.	3,346.45		3,346.45	3,346.45	0.00
01-5-759-000 2011 Highway Truck Princip	22,000.00		22,000.00	22,000.00	0.00
01-5-759-011 2011 Hwy. Truck Interest	429.00		429.00	429.00	0.00
01-5-760-011 TS Irene Bond Interest	1,537.56		1,537.56	1,496.00	41.56

	Carryover	Original Budget	Budget Revisions	Total Budget	Expenditures	Balance
01-5-761-000 2013 Dump Body Prin.		10,000.00		10,000.00	10,000.00	0.00
01-5-761-011 2013 Dump Body Int.		600.00		600.00	600.00	0.00
Debt Service Totals:		70,022.63		70,022.63	69,952.85	69.78
<b>Intergovernmental Expenditures</b>						
	Carryover	Original Budget	Budget Revisions	Total Budget	Expenditures	Balance
01-5-822-000 St Assmnt Air Pollution		210.00		210.00	212.00	-2.00
01-5-824-000 Reg Transit Authority Asm		22.00		22.00	20.00	2.00
01-5-827-000 RMV Non-Renewla Surcharg		740.00		740.00	740.00	0.00
Intergovernmental Expenditures Totals:		972.00		972.00	972.00	0.00
<b>Miscellaneous</b>						
	Carryover	Original Budget	Budget Revisions	Total Budget	Expenditures	Balance
01-5-911-000 Fran. Regional Retirement Sy		45,358.00		45,358.00	45,358.00	0.00
01-5-913-000 Unemployment Compensation		1,000.00		1,000.00	774.78	225.22
01-5-914-000 Health Insurance		62,305.92		62,305.92	62,305.92	0.00
01-5-915-000 Life Insurance		300.00		300.00	205.95	94.05
01-5-916-000 FICA/Medicare Empl. Match		15,000.00		15,000.00	13,374.91	1,625.09
01-5-996-966 Trans.to Stabilization			36,000.00	36,000.00	36,000.00	0.00

01-5-999-902 Encumb. Listed in 02	2,560.96			2,560.96	2,560.96	0.00
01-5-999-903 Special Projects in 03	24,219.39	20,000.00	-7,302.56	36,916.83	15,841.66	21,075.17
Miscellaneous Totals:	26,780.35	143,963.92	28,697.44	199,441.71	176,422.18	23,019.53
Grand Totals:	26,780.35	1,999,072.45	116,341.15	2,142,193.95	2,062,292.04	89,901.91

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**Other Funds Expense Report**

**Fund: 02**

**Encumbrances**

	Carryover	Original Budget	Budget Revisions	Total Budget	Expenditures	Balance
02-5-161-001 Encumb. Town Clerk Exp.	131.62			131.62	131.62	0.00
02-5-192-005 Encumb. MA Broadband Equ	1,849.44			1,849.44	1,849.44	0.00
02-5-192-006 Enc. Lawn Mowing	780.00			780.00	780.00	0.00
Totals:	2,560.99			2,560.99	2,560.99	0.00

**Fund: 03**

**Special Projects**

	Carryover	Original Budget	Budget Revisions	Total Budget	Expenditures	Balance
03-5-141-004 Assessors' Deed Project Coms	2,953.55			2,953.55		2,953.55
03-5-192-001 Comm. Hall Furnace Upgrad	71.00			71.00		71.00
03-5-192-014 Feas. Study Man. Complex	861.74		4,518.36	5,210.10	4,740.00	470.10
03-5-192-015 Feas. Study SII/CI	10,000.00		-10,000.00	0.00		0.00
03-5-192-212 Sawyer Hall Upgrades 2012	1,820.92		-1,820.92	0.00		0.00
03-5-192-220 SH/CH Gutter/Rail		10,000.00		10,000.00	635.00	9,365.00
03-5-220-040 Fire Dept. Sheetrock 2014	3,000.00			3,000.00		3,000.00
03-5-300-212 Pre School Support		10,000.00		10,000.00	10,000.00	0.00
03-5-420-230 Highway Vehicle Replaceme	10.00			10.00		10.00
03-5-439-000 Dump Closing	5,672.18			5,672.18	466.66	5,205.52
Totals:	24,219.39	20,000.00	-7,302.66	36,916.83	15,841.88	21,075.17

**Fund: 21**

**Cultural Council**

	Carryover	Original Budget	Budget Revisions	Total Budget	Expenditures	Balance
21-5-213-005 Health Elem/Education	800.00			800.00	800.00	0.00
21-5-213-007 Health Library/Summer	23.48			23.48		23.48
21-5-214-001 AIM/MTRSD Arts	100.00			100.00		100.00
21-5-214-002 DRWA Riverfest	50.00			50.00	50.00	0.00
21-5-214-003 Health Fair Music	870.00			870.00	870.00	0.00
21-5-214-004 Summer Reading/Crafts	100.00			100.00	69.62	30.38
21-5-214-005 Health Herald	230.00			230.00		230.00
21-5-214-007 Museum/Fiddle	100.00			100.00	100.00	0.00
21-5-214-010 Art Garden	100.00			100.00		100.00
21-5-214-012 Charlemont Forum	100.00			100.00	100.00	0.00
21-5-214-014 Mera. Hall/Opera	100.00			100.00		100.00
21-5-214-015 Mohawk Trail Concerts	50.00			50.00	50.00	0.00
21-5-214-016 Hilltown Families	100.00			100.00	100.00	0.00
21-5-214-017 Pitt/To Bee	250.00			250.00	250.00	0.00
21-5-214-018 WINK/Heath PTP	450.00			450.00	200.00	250.00
21-5-214-019 Health Elem/Wat	750.00			750.00	750.00	0.00
21-5-215-001 Health Elem/Landscape		1,000.00		1,000.00		1,000.00
21-5-215-002 Pitt Theatre/End. Species		400.00		400.00		400.00
21-5-215-003 Friends of RSW/Hilltown		50.00		50.00		50.00
21-5-215-004 Mohawk Music/Trip		150.00		150.00	150.00	0.00
21-5-215-005 Mary Lyon/History		200.00		200.00		200.00

	Carryover	Original Budget	Budget Revisions	Total Budget	Expenditures	Balance
21-5-215-006 Art Garden/Exhibit		100.00		100.00	100.00	0.00
21-5-215-007 Hilltown Families		50.00		50.00	50.00	50.00
21-5-215-008 Health Herald/Paper		230.00		230.00	230.00	0.00
21-5-215-009 Collected Poets/Season		50.00		50.00	50.00	50.00
21-5-215-010 DRWA/Riverfest		50.00		50.00	50.00	50.00
21-5-215-011 MTRS/Oklahoma!		200.00		200.00	200.00	200.00
21-5-215-012 Health Elem/WINK		50.00		50.00	50.00	50.00
21-5-215-013 Health Historic/Dining		300.00		300.00	50.00	250.00
21-5-215-014 Pioneer Valley Symphony		45.00		45.00	45.00	0.00
21-5-215-015 Health Ag. Society Music		700.00		700.00	700.00	700.00
21-5-215-016 Health Library/Crafts		150.00		150.00	150.00	150.00
21-5-215-017 Potheole Pix/Films		150.00		150.00	150.00	0.00
21-5-215-018 Charlemont Forum/Inn.		100.00		100.00	100.00	100.00
21-5-215-019 MTCconcerts/Windows		50.00		50.00	50.00	50.00
21-5-215-020 Health School/Strings		500.00		500.00	500.00	0.00
21-5-215-021 Praso/FCTS Drama		300.00		300.00	267.50	32.50
21-5-300-000 Available Local Funds	617.87		-516.85	101.02		101.02
Totals:	4,781.45	4,825.00	-516.95	9,068.50	4,862.12	4,237.38

**Fund: 23**

**Highway Grants**

23-5-422-090 Chapter 90 Expenses

Totals:

Carryover	Original Budget	Budget Revisions	Total Budget	Expenditures	Balance
174,813.86	211,998.00	105,998.00	492,807.86	256,989.39	235,818.47
174,813.86	211,998.00	105,998.00	492,807.86	258,989.39	235,818.47

**Fund: 24**

**Septic Grants**

24-5-173-000 Planning-Visioning Grant

24-5-440-002 Available for Septic Loan

Totals:

Carryover	Original Budget	Budget Revisions	Total Budget	Expenditures	Balance
158.02			158.02		158.02
20,704.42		10.35	20,714.77		20,714.77
20,862.44		10.35	20,872.79		20,872.79

**Fund: 26**

**Revolving Funds (44 53E1/2)**

26-5-176-000 Hearings Deposit Revolving

26-5-292-000 Animal Control Revol.

26-5-293-000 BOH Revolving

26-5-294-000 Senior Center Revolving

26-5-433-000 Recycling Program Revolving

26-5-480-000 Small Business Loans Avl.

26-5-522-000 Vaccine Program Revolving

26-5-541-000 COA Meals Revolving

Totals:

Carryover	Original Budget	Budget Revisions	Total Budget	Expenditures	Balance
765.26	1,000.00	-737.50	1,027.76	113.40	914.36
2,000.00	2,000.00	-1,138.00	2,862.00	892.26	1,969.74
5,000.00	5,000.00	7,081.50	17,081.50	12,081.50	5,000.00
1,000.00	1,000.00	-1,000.00	1,000.00		1,000.00
8,321.61	10,000.00	-8,020.14	12,292.47	65.00	12,227.47
1,071.67	3,600.00	-2,985.48	1,071.67		1,071.67
629.38	3,000.00	-1,744.06	1,843.90	24.99	1,818.91
1,350.25	3,000.00	-1,744.06	2,606.19	319.52	2,286.67
20,338.17	25,500.00	-6,252.68	39,585.49	13,496.67	25,088.82

**Fund: 27****Available for Appropriation**

	Carryover	Original Budget	Budget Revisions	Total Budget	Expenditures	Balance
27-5-420-000 Road Machinery Fund	83.76			83.76		83.76
27-5-461-000 Sale of Lots	3,682.23		300.00	3,882.23	2,000.00	1,882.23
27-5-999-000 Available Free Cash		186,502.00		186,502.00	148,756.10	36,745.90
<b>Totals:</b>	<b>3,655.99</b>	<b>186,502.00</b>	<b>300.00</b>	<b>190,457.99</b>	<b>151,756.10</b>	<b>38,711.89</b>

**Fund: 29****Miscellaneous Special Revenue**

	Carryover	Original Budget	Budget Revisions	Total Budget	Expenditures	Balance
29-5-161-000 Extended Polling Hours	1,057.78		612.00	612.00		612.00
29-5-171-000 Wetlands Protection	25.00			1,057.78		1,057.78
29-5-192-001 Community Hall Donations	25.00			25.00		25.00
29-5-192-002 Comm. Hall Committee Func	3,475.06		600.65	4,165.74		4,165.74
29-5-192-006 MA Tech. Collab. Grt. 10	56.07			56.07		56.07
29-5-291-210 FFY2013-2014 EM/PG	428.59	3,698.00		3,698.00	2,598.08	1,128.82
29-5-291-211 Ice Storm Donations 2008	428.59			428.59		428.59
29-5-292-000 Library Dog Fund	100.00	814.09		814.09	814.09	0.00
29-5-293-000 Heath Animal Fund gift	380.00			100.00		100.00
29-5-301-000 Mackie Memorial		610.83		380.00		380.00
29-5-303-000 FCTS Special Election				610.83	610.83	0.00
29-5-421-000 Winstar Rapid Recovery Road	10,112.26			10,112.26	10,112.26	0.00
29-5-422-000 Winstar Recovery Assis. Prog.		31,786.00		31,786.00	31,786.00	0.00
29-5-434-000 DEP Small Scale Initiative Gr		482.62		482.62	482.62	0.00

29-5-491-000 North Cemetery Maint.		2,000.00		2,000.00	1,200.00	800.00
29-5-491-001 Cemetery Donations	1,106.63		50.00	1,158.83	40.00	1,118.83
29-5-541-135 FCHC Medication Mgmt. 08	443.03			443.03	443.03	0.00
29-5-541-136 Flu Clinic Donations	473.50		66.00	539.50		539.50
29-5-541-789 COA Grant			4,000.00	4,000.00	4,000.00	0.00
29-5-541-782 Senior Cntr donations	785.06		80.00	865.06		865.06
29-5-541-783 FCHC Foot Care Grant		1,500.00		1,500.00	1,500.00	0.00
29-5-541-784 Foot Care Clinic Donations			405.00	405.00	278.86	126.14
29-5-545-000 Heath Veterans Memorial Fu	240.00		200.00	440.00	234.80	205.20
29-5-610-000 Library State Grant	5,714.87		2,326.61	8,041.28	457.82	7,583.46
29-5-610-001 Library Donations	4,145.55		368.00	4,533.55	412.63	4,120.82
29-5-610-004 Library Construction Gift	8,273.00			8,273.00		8,273.00
29-5-630-000 Recreation Fund	1,881.73		0.81	1,882.54	225.00	1,457.54
<b>Totals:</b>	<b>38,510.15</b>	<b>40,905.54</b>	<b>8,819.07</b>	<b>86,234.76</b>	<b>55,180.02</b>	<b>33,054.74</b>

**Fund: 33****Tropical Storm Irene**

	Carryover	Original Budget	Budget Revisions	Total Budget	Expenditures	Balance
33-5-433-000 TS Irene Exp 2011	-170,412.92			-170,412.92		-170,412.92
<b>Totals:</b>	<b>-170,412.92</b>			<b>-170,412.92</b>		<b>-170,412.92</b>

**Fund: 39****Large Capital Items**

	Carryover	Original Budget	Budget Revisions	Total Budget	Expenditures	Balance
39-5-192-000 Broadband Network		1,450,000.00		1,450,000.00		1,450,000.00
39-5-210-215 Police Cruiser FY15		35,805.00		35,805.00	35,805.00	0.00
Totals:		1,485,805.00		1,485,805.00	35,805.00	1,450,000.00

**Fund: 82****Expendable Trusts**

	Carryover	Original Budget	Budget Revisions	Total Budget	Expenditures	Balance
82-5-300-000 Road/Carpenter Award	2,023.55		58.65	2,082.20	50.00	2,032.20
82-5-491-000 Cemetery	10,963.80		24.63	10,988.43		10,988.43
82-5-510-000 Hands X Health-Nurse	6,660.35		13.26	6,673.61	509.98	6,163.63
82-5-610-000 Library Trust	8,457.07		12.88	8,469.95		8,469.95
Totals:	26,104.77		110.23	26,215.00	559.98	27,655.02

**Fund: 83****Stabilization**

	Carryover	Original Budget	Budget Revisions	Total Budget	Expenditures	Balance
83-5-000-000 Available Stabilization	194,365.60		389.08	194,754.68		194,754.68
83-5-135-000 Audit Stabilization		4,000.31		4,000.31		4,000.31
83-5-192-000 School/Building Cap. Improv	30,007.57	15,061.31		45,068.88		45,068.88
83-5-422-000 Equip/Vehicle Stab. Fund	70,026.47		15,211.87	85,238.34		85,238.34
83-5-630-000 Parks & Recreation Stabilizat		2,000.15		2,000.15		2,000.15
Totals:	294,399.64		36,662.33	331,062.47		331,062.47

Report Totals: 525,533.64 1,597,828.29 2,555,215.73 537,051.90 2,019,163.83

**Other Funds Revenue Report**

as of: 06/30/2015

**Fund: 21****Cultural Council**

	Carryover	Original Budget	Budget Revisions	Total Budget	Revenues	Balance
21-4-680-000 State Cultural Council		4,300.00		4,300.00	4,300.00	0.00
21-4-820-000 Interest			8.05	8.05	8.05	0.00
21-4-990-901 Funded by Carryovers	4,791.45			4,791.45		4,791.45
Totals:	4,791.45	4,300.00	8.05	9,069.50	4,308.05	4,791.45

**Fund: 23****Highway Grants**

	Carryover	Original Budget	Budget Revisions	Total Budget	Revenues	Balance
23-4-422-000 Chapter 90 Revenue		211,886.00	105,998.00	317,884.00	277,369.24	40,514.76
23-4-990-901 Funded by Carryovers	174,813.86			174,813.86		174,813.86
Totals:	174,813.86	211,886.00	105,998.00	492,807.86	277,369.24	215,438.62

**Fund: 24****Septic Grants**

	Carryover	Original Budget	Budget Revisions	Total Budget	Revenues	Balance
24-4-820-000 rSeptic Bank Interest			10.35	10.35	10.35	0.00
24-4-990-901 Funded by Carryovers	20,862.44			20,862.44		20,862.44
Totals:	20,862.44		10.35	20,872.79	10.35	20,862.44

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

	Original Budget	Carryover	Budget Revisions	Total Budget	Revenues	Balance
26-4-176-000 rHearings Deposit Revolving			262.50	262.50	262.50	0.00
26-4-292-000 rAnimal Control r Rev.			862.00	862.00	862.00	0.00
26-4-293-000 rBOH Revolving			12,061.50	12,061.50	12,061.50	0.00
26-4-433-000 rRecycling Program Revolving			3,970.86	3,970.86	3,970.86	0.00
26-4-522-000 rVaccine Program			814.52	814.52	814.52	0.00
26-4-541-000 rCOA Meals Revolving			1,255.94	1,255.94	1,255.94	0.00
26-4-999-901 Funded by Carryovers		20,338.17		20,338.17		20,338.17
Totals:		20,338.17	19,247.32	39,585.49	19,247.32	20,338.17

**Fund: 27****Available for Appropriation**

	Original Budget	Carryover	Budget Revisions	Total Budget	Revenues	Balance
27-4-491-000 Sale of Lots			300.00	300.00	300.00	0.00
27-4-999-000 Offset to Free Cash	195,502.00			195,502.00	149,766.10	36,745.90
27-4-999-901 Funded by Carryovers		3,685.99		3,685.99		3,685.99
Totals:	195,502.00	3,685.99	300.00	199,487.99	150,056.10	40,411.89

**Fund: 29****Miscellaneous Special Revenue**

	Original Budget	Carryover	Budget Revisions	Total Budget	Revenues	Balance
29-4-161-000 extended polling hours			612.00	612.00	612.00	0.00
29-4-192-002 rCommunity Hall Functions			690.65	690.65	690.65	0.00
29-4-291-210 rFFY 2013-2014 EMPG	3,699.00			3,699.00		3,699.00

## 29-4-291-214 rEMPG 2014

29-4-292-000 rLibrary Dog Fund			814.09	814.09	814.09	0.00
29-4-303-000 rFCTS Special Election	610.83			610.83		610.83
29-4-421-000 rWinter Rapid Recovery Roa				0.00	31,799.00	-31,799.00
29-4-422-000 Winter Recovery Assist. Prog	31,799.00			31,799.00		31,799.00
29-4-434-000 DEP Small Scale Initiative G	482.62			482.62		482.62
29-4-491-000 rNorth Cemetery Maint.			2,000.00	2,000.00	2,000.00	0.00
29-4-491-001 rCemetery Donations			50.00	50.00	50.00	0.00
29-4-541-136 Flu Clinic Donations Rev.			66.00	66.00	66.00	0.00
29-4-541-780 rCOA Grant			4,000.00	4,000.00	4,000.00	0.00
29-4-541-782 Senior Cntr/COA donations			80.00	80.00	80.00	0.00
29-4-541-783 rFCHC Foot Care Grant	1,500.00			1,500.00	425.00	1,075.00
29-4-541-784 rFoot Care Clinic Donations			405.00	405.00	405.00	0.00
29-4-545-000 rHealth Veterans Mem. Fund			200.00	200.00	200.00	0.00
29-4-610-000 rLibrary State Grant			2,326.61	2,326.61	2,326.61	0.00
29-4-610-001 Library Donations			388.00	388.00	388.00	0.00
29-4-630-820 Int. Recreation			0.81	0.81	0.81	0.00
29-4-099-901 Funded by Carryovers		38,510.15		38,510.15		38,510.15
Totals:	38,091.45	38,510.15	11,633.16	66,234.76	46,645.09	42,589.67

**Fund: 33****Tropical Storm Irene**

33-4-999-901	Funded by Carryovers	Original Budget	Budget Revisions	Total Budget	Revenues	Balance
				-170,412.92		-170,412.92
Totals:						
				-170,412.92		-170,412.92

**Fund: 39****Large Capital Items**

39-4-192-000	rBond Proceeds Broadband	Original Budget	Budget Revisions	Total Budget	Revenues	Balance
39-4-210-215	rPolice Cruiser FY15	35,805.00		35,805.00	35,805.00	0.00
Totals:						
		35,805.00	1,450,000.00	1,485,805.00	36,806.00	1,450,000.00

**Fund: 82****Expendable Trusts**

82-4-500-820	rInt. Read/ Carpenter Award	Original Budget	Budget Revisions	Total Budget	Revenues	Balance
82-4-491-820	rInt Cemetery		59.65	59.65	59.65	0.00
82-4-510-820	rInt. Hands X Health-Nurse		24.83	24.83	24.83	0.00
82-4-610-820	rInt. Library Trust		13.26	13.26	13.26	0.00
82-4-999-901	Funded by Carryovers		12.89	12.89	12.89	0.00
Totals:						
			110.23	28,104.77	110.23	28,104.77

**Fund: 83****Stabilization**

83-4-192-000	School/Building Cap. Improv	Original Budget	Budget Revisions	Total Budget	Revenues	Balance
83-4-422-000	Equip/Vehicle Stab. Fund		50.03	50.03	50.03	0.00
83-4-820-000	Stabilization Interest		175.17	175.17	175.17	0.00
83-4-820-001	Capital Town Vehicle Interest		389.09	389.09	389.09	0.00
83-4-820-002	Town Building Stab Interest		36.80	36.80	36.80	0.00
83-4-820-003	Parks & Rec Stab Interest		11.28	11.28	11.28	0.00
83-4-820-004	Audit Stabilization Interest		0.15	0.15	0.15	0.00
83-4-991-000	Trans. frn General Fund		0.31	0.31	0.31	0.00
83-4-991-002	Trans. Frm GF/Vehic'e		2,000.00	2,000.00	2,000.00	0.00
83-4-999-001	Trans. Frm GF/Building		15,000.00	15,000.00	15,000.00	0.00
83-4-999-004	Trns. From GF/Audit		15,000.00	15,000.00	15,000.00	0.00
83-4-999-901	Funded by Carryovers		4,000.00	4,000.00	4,000.00	0.00
83-4-999-902	Funded by Carryforwards-Ba		194,355.60	194,355.60		194,355.60
83-4-999-903	Funded by Carryforwards-Eq		30,007.57	30,007.57		30,007.57
Totals:						
			36,662.83	331,062.47	36,662.83	294,399.64
Report Totals: 415,073.55						
		476,694.45	1,823,966.64	2,515,737.94	589,214.21	1,946,523.73

Town of Heath Balance Sheet FY2015

ASSETS	GENERAL	SPECIAL	TRUST &	LONG-TERM
	FUND	REVENUES	AGENCY	DEBT
Cash, Pooled	\$279,967.07	\$47,238.62	\$460,141.49	
2015 Personal Property	183.07			-
2014 Personal Property	-			
2013 Personal Property	-			
2012 Personal Property	-			
Prior Years Personal Property	-			
Total Personal Property	183.07			
2015 Real Estate	35,577.24			
2014 Real Estate	-			
2013 Real Estate	-			
2012 Real Estate	-			
Prior Years Real Estate	-			
Total Real Estate	35,577.24			
2015 Allow. for Abate & Exempt.	(21,181.64)			
2014 Allow. for Abate & Exempt.	(11,503.11)			
2013 Allow. for Abate & Exempt.				
2012 Allow. for Abate & Exempt.				
Prior Years Allow. For Abate & Exempt.				
Total Allow. for Abate & Exempt.	(32,684.75)			
Tax Liens	220,556.86			
Tax Foreclosures	49,794.62			
2015 Motor Vehicle Excise	8,779.38			

2014 Motor Vehicle Excise	2,879.86			
2013 Motor Vehicle Excise	2,120.33			
2012 Motor Vehicle Excise	349.58			
Prior Years Motor Vehicle Ex.	239.58			
Total Motor Vehicle Excise	14,367.74			
Forest Products	-			
Small Business Loans Receivable		555.97		
BIA Regional Broadband Network				1,450,000.00
Amnt. to be Provided-McCloud Proj				63,780.00
Amnt. to be Provided-Highway Doors				8,000.00
Amnt. To be Provided-Highway Loader 2011				16,246.00
Amnt. To Be Provided-Highway Trip/Plow 2012				44,000.00
Amnt. To Be Provided-Highway Dump Body				20,000.00
Amnt. To Be Provided-Police Cruiser				35,605.00
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>567,761.87</b>	<b>\$47,794.59</b>	<b>\$460,141.49</b>	<b>\$1,637,831.00</b>

LIABILITIES	GENERAL	SPECIAL	TRUST &	LONG-TERM
	FUND	REVENUES	AGENCY	DEBT
Warrants Payable	\$0.00			
Tailings	\$4,231.97			
Payroll Withholdings Payable	-			

	GENERAL		SPECIAL REVENUES	TRUST & AGENCY		LONG-TERM DEBT
	FUND			AGENCY		
<b>LIABILITIES</b>						
Def Rev - Property & Real Estate Taxes	3,075.56					
Def Rev Tax Liens	220,566.88					
Def Rev Tax Foreclosures	49,794.62					
Def Rev - Motor Vehicle Excise	14,367.74			740.00		
Def Rev - Forest Products	-		555.97			
Def Rev Small Business Loans			170,412.92			
Rev Ant. Notes Payable						
Collector's Fees						
Deputy Collector's Fees						
Clerk's Fees				59.00		
Off Duty Police				(200.00)		
Due to State - Firearms				825.00		
Perc Inspections						
CDBG Pass Through				100,000.00		
Unissued Regional Broadband Network						1,450,000.00
Bonds Payable, McCloud Prop						63,780.00
Bonds Payable, Garage Doors						8,000.00
Bonds Payable, Highway Loader 2011						16,246.00
Bonds Payable, Highway Trk/Plow 2012						44,000.00
Bonds Payable, Highway Trk Body FY13						20,000.00
Bonds Payable, Police Cruiser						35,805.00
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES</b>	<b>292,026.77</b>		<b>170,968.89</b>	<b>101,424.00</b>		<b>1,637,831.00</b>

	GENERAL		SPECIAL REVENUES	TRUST & AGENCY		LONG-TERM DEBT
	FUND			AGENCY		
<b>FUND EQUITY</b>						
Reserve for Encumbrances	647.82					
Free Cash to Balance Budget	50,000.00					
Overlay to Balance Budget	-					
Reserve for Carryovers	21,075.17					
Undesignated Fund Balance	204,012.11					
FB reserved for Approp. Deficits	-					
FB reserved for Overlay Deficit	-					
Cultural Council			4,237.38			
State Highway (Ch. 90)			(1,314.65)			
Septic Grant Repayments			20,714.77			
Planning Grant			158.02			
ZBA Revolving			914.36			
Dog Officer Revolving			1,969.74			
Small Business			1,071.67			
BOH Permitting			5,000.00			
Senior Center Revolving			1,000.00			
Solid Waste Revolving			12,227.47			
Vaccine Program Revolving			1,618.91			
COA Msal Revolving			2,286.67			
Machinery Earnings			83.76			
Sale of Lots			1,882.23			
Extended Polling			612.00			
Weiland's Protection			1,057.78			

General Fund	Special Revenues	Trust & Agency	Long-Term Debt
Comm. Hall Donations	25.00		
MA Tech. Collaborative Grant 2010	56.07		
EMPG 2014	(2,569.08)		
2008 Ice Storm Donations	426.59		
Mackie Memorial	390.00		
Heath Animal Fund Gift	100.00		
FCTS Special Election	(610.83)		
WRRRP	(31,799.00)		
DEP Small Scale Initiative	(482.52)		
Cemetery Donations	1,118.83		
North Elementary Maint	800.00		
Flu Clinic Donations	539.50		
Sr. Center/COA donations	865.05		
COA Foot Care Grant	(1,075.00)		
COA Foot Care Donations	126.14		
Veteran's Memorial Fund	205.20		
Library State Grant	7,593.46		
Library Donations	4,120.92		
Library Building Donation	8,273.00		
Parks and Recreation	1,457.54		
TS Irene	(170,412.92)		
Stabilization		194,754.69	
School/Town Build Stab		45,068.88	
Equipment/Vehicle Stab		85,239.44	
Audit Stabilization		4,000.31	
Parks and Rec Stab		2,000.15	
Cemetery		10,968.43	
Road Carpenter		2,033.20	

Library Trust						8,469.76	
Hands Across Health						6,163.63	
B/A Regional Broadband Network							(1,450,000.00)
Unissued Regional Broadband Network							1,450,000.00
TOTAL FUND EQUITY		275,735.10	(123,174.30)			359,717.49	-
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES &amp; FUND EQUITY</b>		<b>\$567,761.87</b>	<b>\$47,794.59</b>			<b>\$460,141.49</b>	<b>\$1,637,831.00</b>

**TAX COLLECTOR'S REPORT January 1 - December 31, 2015**

	BALANCE ON	COMMITTED	COLLECTED	ABATED	EXEMPTED	REFUNDED	TAX	BALANCE
REAL ESTATE	BAL 01/01/15	AFTER 12/31/14					TAKINGS	
FY 2016	\$0.00	\$1,638,326.21	\$729,213.07	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,530.95	\$2,405.82	\$908,240.27
FY 2015	\$831,211.80	\$0.00	\$774,867.68	\$1,739.50	\$4,475.00	\$5,105.61	\$34,705.45	\$20,528.76
2014	\$22,929.82	\$0.00	\$17,352.07	\$265.90	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$5,311.85	\$0.00
<b>PERSONAL PROPERTY</b>								
FY 2016	\$0.00	\$218,216.25	\$91,518.66	\$0.00			\$0.00	\$126,697.59
FY 2015	\$64,947.64	\$0.00	\$64,570.24	\$488.85			\$294.52	\$183.07
<b>MOTOR VEHICLE EXCISE</b>								
FY 2015	\$0.00	\$78,474.02	\$73,801.99	\$2,480.34			\$2,258.75	\$4,650.44
2014	\$4,593.48	\$782.80	\$3,844.84	\$64.11			\$264.13	\$1,731.46
2013	\$2,661.69	\$0.00	\$1,228.87	\$0.00			\$0.00	\$1,432.82
2012	\$420.01	\$0.00	\$257.12	\$0.00			\$186.70	\$349.59
2011	\$376.77	\$0.00	\$205.94	\$0.00			\$0.00	\$170.83
2010	\$265.00	\$0.00	\$37.50	\$227.50			\$0.00	\$0.00

## 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	
Ruth Whipple	250.00	Viarengo	400.00
Truman H. Safford	100.00	Joan & Gerald Gilbert	200.00
Joseph & Pamela Gilbert	200.00	Johs Clausen	225.00
Albert Burkhardt	200.00	Steven Wolf	250.00
Charles Mackie	250.00	Unknown	100.00
<b>Total Cemetary Bequests</b>	<b>7,040.00</b>		

Trust CD's	6,365.95
Trust Checking	4,645.97
Balance 12/31/2010	<b>11,011.92</b>

### 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		
<b>Total Library Bequests</b>	<b>3,056.73</b>		

Money Market Account	<b>8,476.17</b>
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### Other Funds

Cultural Council (Arts Lottery)	2,916.37
Hands Across Heath	6,172.63
Heath General Funds	1,357,939.67
Park & Recreation Department	1,457.91
Read Carpenter Scholarship	2,037.32
Septic Fund	20,719.99
Stabilization Funds	331,442.03
Tropical storm Irene	755.98

**Total Other Funds 1,723,441.90**

**Total of All Funds 1,742,929.99**

## TOWN CLERK'S ANNUAL REPORT

### 2015 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 - 3    Marriages - 6    Deaths - 9**

### 2015 DOG LICENSES SOLD

Male Dogs	18 @ \$10	\$180
Female Dogs	17 @ \$10	\$170
Neutered Male Dogs	76 @ \$5	\$380
Spayed Female Dogs	54 @ \$5	\$270
Service Dogs	1 @ no cost	

Total:	157 Single Licenses	\$1,000.00
	Less Fees Retained	-165.00
	Less License & Tag Expense	- 101.49
	Paid to Revolving Dog Fund	<u>\$733.51</u>



# Town Reports



## AGRICULTURAL COMMISSION

The Heath Agricultural Commission saw much change in 2015. We took on new members and said farewell to others. New to the Commission are the following: Jessica Van Steensburg, Nina Marshall, Walter Gleason and Sean Neill. We said good-bye to long-time member Dave Freeman. The Commission would like to thank him for his years of dedicated service. We bid a fond farewell to our dear friend Jeff Aho, who passed away this fall. The Commission has met and discussed focal areas for the upcoming year. We would like to coordinate more with the Heath Agricultural Society to work on programs together. We are also excited to be working with the FRCOG on a food assessment project which will be supported through the technical assistance funding we were awarded for 2016. Stay Tuned.

Doug Mason, Jessica Van Steensburg,  
Nina Marshall, Walter Gleason, Sean Neill

## BOARD OF ASSESSORS

The New Year started out with the Assessors processing abatements for Fiscal Year 2015. 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.

The year of 2015 brought much change to the Assessors Office. In the spring, Richard Gallup retired as Assessor. We would like to thank Richard for his wealth of knowledge of the building industry and his 10+ years of service. In mid May, Margo Newton resigned from her second time as Assessor. Margo had historical knowledge of many town aspects which was a true benefit to our office. Late spring was super busy with only Alice Wozniak in the office but with 8+ years of Assessing experience, she held the department together. When no one ran for Assessor it left two seats open following annual elections and Robyn Provost-Carlson stepped into one of the positions. She quickly hit the ground running and has been a tremendous asset to the office. Her knowledge of business and construction make her well suited for the job. In early September, Heidi Griswold was appointed to the 3rd seat on the Board. Heidi brings a true dedication for her community unmatched by most. We are so glad to have her and hope she will run for a three year term in the spring. With new staff in the office comes a large learning curve and Alice, a MAA (Massachusetts Accredited Assessor) took the opportunity to share her knowledge with the incoming Assessors.

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 2015, the office granted three abatements totaling \$92,900 of value which translates into \$1,854.29 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 continues to 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) 2016 tax rate. This year was an interim year which requires less prep work than a revaluation year. By early December, the Town of Heath was the 257th town in the Commonwealth to set their tax rate.

The Heath tax rate for Fiscal Year 2016 was \$20.51/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 [946 parcels]	\$ 78,939,100	87.2073
Commercial [80 parcels]	\$ 816,845	0.9024
Industrial [1 parcel]	\$ 123,500	0.1364
Personal Property [7 accounts]	\$ 10,639,505	11.7539
<b>Total amount of 2016 Property Tax Levy</b>	<b>\$ 90,518,950</b>	<b>100.00%</b>

Our new Board is working on the Directives from DOR for certification in Fiscal Year 2018. While this seems a long way out, it really is only next year and several items will take multiple years to complete. The biggest challenge our office faces is getting our maps renumbered, updated and compatible with GIS (geographic information system) which our emergency services use. A second part of that project will be getting our property card information online. Many communities have this already and it is helpful for property owners, realtors, etc. especially since our office is open only one day a week.

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. With that said, our office is open to the public for any questions Mondays 10:00-4:00 p.m. and our board meets on the 1st and 3rd Monday of every month at 5:00 p.m. in the Assessor's office (unless otherwise posted). If you would like to set up an appointment to meet with the Board, please call the office at 337-4934 Ext. 3.

Respectfully submitted,  
 Alice Wozniak, MAA & Administrative Assistant  
 Robyn Provost-Carlson, Chair  
 Heidi Griswold

## BOARD OF HEALTH

In 2015, the Heath Board of Health had another productive year. We created a new Home Burial Policy and Guideline, with the help of Rol Hesselbart, designed to give guidance to those wanting to have family plot on their own property. We created a new, local food policy for the very active Heath Farmers Market. We also created a guideline for open burns of structures to assist homeowners in knowing the steps to follow to comply with state regulations.

John Doherty left the Board, and we gained a new member, Armand Clavette. We would like to thank John for his years of service and the input he had on the Board, and look forward to working with Armand. We have also been extremely lucky to have Gloria Fisher as our Board of Health clerk, particularly in light of her knowledge of town government and finances, and her attention to detail.

The town continues to reap the benefits of being a member of the FRCOG and CPHS. Their report is included separately in the Annual Report but we can say that Glen Ayers is a huge help in supporting us as he has a wealth of knowledge of current law and regulations, and his careful handling of difficult situations has been instrumental in our being able to do our job well.

This summer we did our first "Clean Sweep and Swap Day", as our Clean Sweep Day in the past had been so successful. Again, it was a success, and we intend to continue this program as long as it helps our community clean up, this year including even more summer residents who otherwise might be tempted to litter our roads. The swap portion of our day helped many Heath residents get "new" used tires and computers, furniture and other miscellaneous household items. Our thanks go to Margo Newton, Charlie Cornish, Steve Thane, Karen Brooks and Ken Erho. and the Franklin County Solid Waste District for their assistance.

One of the issues we face in Heath is the growing number of dilapidated homes that are becoming dangerous to residents. We helped initiate a Brownfield's Grant Phase I investigation of a property on Ledges Rd to look into ground contamination. The results from this initial study are in and the recommendation is to go on with a Phase II study. As we progress through this, we will be learning how to handle more properties.

We also have continued to help in the clean-up and removal of derelict trailers in town as well as the clean up of abandoned properties. Currently, the funds for clean-up rest with the property owners but we have a list of vendors who help with the process.

This year we have mostly seen Title V's be performed for properties for sale, septic repairs, and very little new construction. We work with the Conservation Commission's agent, Bill Lattrell, and our open perc season has helped sellers and buyers, as has our online processing of applications but there are still glitches. Food vendor applications are all online now, as are all septic and well permits.

We did a massive filing project which has taken many months and is still not completely finished, to purge the old files and organize all the septic and well information by street address, something which should help immensely in the retrieval of documents. We are still dealing with the difficulties of historical road-name changes

and the need to have all properties use the 911 numbering system to be consistent. Our hope is to have all addresses deciphered by the summer, and to have all these important documents stored in 2 fireproof filing cabinets so that all residents can easily have access.

We continue to subsidize Lyme tick analysis as necessary, and have posted signs provided by FRCOG at public walkways and buildings with suggested Lyme disease prevention information. Lyme disease continues to be a threat, and new information is available on the website: [http://www.tickencounter.org/faq/tick\\_bites](http://www.tickencounter.org/faq/tick_bites) and also at <http://www.ilads.org/> where you can download some very helpful brochures.

We continue to be grateful for our Town Nurse, Claire Rabbitt, who has done so much for our town both in caring for our homebound residents and in keeping her office open at the Community Hall and also providing a great exercise program there.

Through the FRCOG Oversight Board, we are able to be a part of a larger whole, and get insight into the similarities and differences between our member towns and their particular issues. Karen Brooks is our representative to the Oversight Board with Betsy Kovacs serving as the alternate.

We look forward to another year of serving our town in what seems to be an ever-increasing complexity of issues, especially in light of our aging population and the needs that creates.

Respectfully submitted,  
Karen Brooks, Chair  
Armand Clavette, Charlie Cornish,  
Mike Freeman, Betsy Kovacs

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## BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Significant work was accomplished throughout the year to ensure ongoing support in services to residents and the continuation of various infrastructure improvements. Some highlights follow:

### **Broadband**

Town meeting authorization for borrowing \$1.45 million for the construction of a fiber-optic broadband network in Heath was approved by voters in a ballot vote that received an 87% approval rate. Throughout the year Heath's Broadband representatives and Select Board continued to work with the WiredWest consortium and our legislators on this critical infrastructure issue that seems to become more needed and yet more complicated each day.

### **Roadways**

As of this writing the entire length of Route 8A (aka Jacksonville Stage Road) has been repaved using a cold-in-place recycling and resurfacing method funded by a \$983,102 STRAP (Small Town Road Assistance Program) grant initiated by former Highway Superintendent Mike Smith, and ably followed through to completion by new Highway Superintendent, Michael Shattuck.

Progress with the State Dept. of Transportation continue for replacement of bridges on Route 8A in Dell and by Branch School building. Public Hearings will be held in 2016.

### **Ambulance Service**

Efforts to improve ambulance service to Heath residents resulted in the Select Board signing a new agreement with Colrain Ambulance Service on December 30, 2014. The Select Board and town EMS personnel met with members of the Colrain Ambulance Services upon the completion of the first year of the contract and learned that during the year they responded to 42 calls in Heath; were on the road with a crew within an average of 7 min. from the call-out; and spend an average of 24 min. per response. Including Heath EMT's who are now members of Colrain Ambulance Service, there are currently there are seven medic level and 18 basic EMTs for a total of 25 qualified. Colrain Ambulance plans to operate on medic level in April, 2016 which will improve the response time for this higher level of EMS care. In addition to improved response time, Heath has benefitted in the new relationship with Colrain Ambulance through First Responder training and by their presence at Heath Fair. In addition, the Select Board expressed interest in having Community CPR course held in town.

### **Fiscal Management**

Ongoing financial management activities, in addition to overseeing the Town's budget, included the drafting of a Capital Improvement Plan, regular meetings with the Finance Committee, and seeking various grant opportunities. One grant to be implemented in 2016 will assist in completion of a comprehensive Financial Management Guideline.

2015 saw the continued implementation of recommendations from a Department of Revenue review for improvements to Assessing and Collecting practices. A summary of the recommendations follows:

1. Use the standard Map-Block-lot practice for parcel ID
2. Use one deed-one bill practice
3. Update property tax maps
4. Update property record cards with deed block and page references (already in process by the Assessors)
5. Appoint an "Assistant Assessor" rather than have an Assessors Clerk position appointed from within the Assessors.
6. Develop a cyclical re-inspection program for all property to ensure inspection at least once in every 9-year cycle.
7. Place property record database online.
8. Ensure Collecting software remains updated
9. Hold periodic Financial Team meetings to include BOS and FinCom chair, Town Coordinator, Tax Collector, Treasurer, Accountant, Asst. Assessor.
10. Conduct regular financial audits
11. Delegate performance reviews and conduct them in closed session

### **Public Safety Building Project**

Progress on another critical infrastructure project, the Public Safety Building Project, has been a roller coaster ride. Following Town Meeting approval to accept a state matching grant for the project, we were disappointed when the new governor, Charlie Baker, cancelled the contract, removing state funding for the project. The

grant would have matched dollar for dollar our expenditures on the project up to \$4 million. The Town's share was expected to be about \$1.8 million. The Select Board and Municipal Safety Building Committee members have been in touch with our elected representatives Sen. Ben Downing and Rep. Paul Mark to try to restore the funding. We have made the argument that the Town did its part in voting to approve the project and appropriating the funding. The Board signed a contract with the state for the matching grant. The committee had reviewed resumes and was about to conduct interviews for a project manager.

The need for the project remains and the Board intends to keep working with representatives of the Baker Administration to honor the commitment made to the Town. Members of the Building Committee will also persist. At this time the Town is pursuing a land purchase for the Safety Building and selling a Town-owned parcel on Bray Rd. to offset the land purchase costs.

### **Three-Town Landfill**

Heath, Charlemont and Hawley remain jointly responsible for maintaining the closed landfill off of Burrington Hill Road, in accordance with Massachusetts DEP requirements. This has included mowing, sampling of monitoring wells, and conducting inspections. As lead town, we are working with a consulting engineer to seek a reduction in landfill sampling frequency.

### **Annual All Boards Meeting**

The Select Board's annual "All Boards and Committees Meeting" held in March continues to be a great opportunity for Boards and Committees to hear brief reports on projects and activities on behalf of the Town. We are blessed to have so many dedicated residents willing to share their talents.

### **Farewell to Mike Smith and Tom Flynn**

Mike Smith resigned his Highway Superintendent and Fire Chief positions to take a new position with the state. While this is a great opportunity for Mike and we wished him well, his 19 years of experience with the Highway Department and 34 years with the Fire Department, including serving as Chief, will be missed. Our sincerest thanks to Mike Smith for all he has done for the Town over the years.

Tom Flynn stepped down as Transfer Station operator, leaving behind a legacy of friendly service with a smile. We greatly appreciate Tommy's many years of service to the Town.

The Select Board appointed Mike Shattuck to replace Mike Smith and Ken Erho to replace Tom Flynn.

### **Fire Department Evaluation**

With a change in the Fire Chief position and with an eye to concerns about recruitment and retention, the Select Board initiated a process for evaluating the recruitment and retention difficulties in the fire department and a list of recommendations were presented to the Selectboard and members of the department. The evaluation of the Heath Fire Department was conducted by Hormidas (Andy) Lively, a 40-year veteran and former Chief of the Greenfield Fire Department. Hormidas grew up in Heath and has a summer residence here. We are grateful to him for his efforts on behalf of the Town. Hormidas contacted virtually every current member of the department, and many past members, in formulating his evaluation and recommendations. The Fire Department and Select Board are working through implementation of the recommendations.

### **Transfer Station Renovations**

The Selectboard has contacted a civil engineering firm to design the renovations to the transfer station that will be required to install the new compactor that we have purchased and have in storage. The funds were appropriated at previous Town Meetings. The DEP regulations for transfer station construction have become more stringent since the first compactor was installed. We will be assisted in this project by Huntley Associates of Northampton and by the Franklin County Solid Waste District. We were hoping to complete the project before this winter but for various reasons the project will resume in the spring.

### **Heath Elementary School/Regional Agreement**

The challenges presented by declining school enrollment and rising costs of education have led the Mohawk Trail Regional School Committee to ask towns to approve changes to the Regional Agreement to enable towns to send their elementary students to other schools within the district. In Heath, the Select Board appointed a task force to explore our options to ensure quality education for Heath students that is also affordable. Public meetings on this subject will be held leading up to the May 2016 Annual Town Meeting.

### **Heath Online**

Take some time to visit the Town's Web site at [www.townofheath.org](http://www.townofheath.org). You'll find Selectboard meeting minutes, school information, and much more. You may contact the Board at [BOS@townofheath.org](mailto:BOS@townofheath.org). Send messages to any board or individual via the e-mail address, or visit the Heath Web site.

Heath Selectboard  
Sheila Litchfield, Chair  
Bill Lattrell  
Brian DeVriese

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## **CEMETERY COMMISSION**

The Town Cemetery Rules and Regulations have been incorporated in the Town Bylaws as of last Annual Town Meeting. They may be found on the Heath website.

The transfer of the North Cemetery to the Town was completed last summer and lots may now be purchased.

Any questions regarding burials or to purchase 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 is still in demand for many events. Along with many committees that have reserved the hall for weekly or monthly meetings, we still host the Senior Meals , several craft classes, weekly Yoga class and the Foot Clinic. The hall is also available for private parties. The dining room has new, comfortable chairs. They are an improvement to the folding, metal chairs and also look so much nicer! We are making improvements to the hall by replacing some windows downstairs with more efficient ones. We also are making some other energy efficient repairs. We are getting estimates for insulation and hopefully this will be approved at our annual town meeting.

If you would like to rent the hall please contact Margo Newton @ 413-339-8580. You can go on the Town website [www.townofheath.org](http://www.townofheath.org) for a Community Hall Use Form. The forms can also be picked up at the town hall.

Margo Newton, Chair  
Dolly Churchill, Tracy Schott,  
Don Dekker, Ruth Corey

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## CONSERVATION COMMISSION

The Conservation Commission has been meeting on an as needed basis over the past year. In 2015 the ConCom reviewed 3 Requests for Determination of Applicability (RFD) of the Massachusetts Wetlands Protection Act or of the Town of Heath Wetlands Protection Bylaw and 1 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 permit online. The 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.

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

Respectfully submitted,  
Brian De Vriese, Chair

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## COUNCIL ON AGING

We would like to express our sadness at the loss of Council on Aging Chair, Val Kaempfer, who passed away on July 3, 2015. Val had a vision for the Senior Center and she strived to make it the success that it is today.

Attendance at our "home cooked" Senior Meals continues grow with an average of 40 diners per meal. This remarkable attendance is the result of the delicious meals provided by our wonderful chef, Sharon Call.

The Council on Aging was able to purchase 50 new banquet chairs for the Senior

Center with funding provided from the following accounts; Community Hall Committee Functions, Community Hall Maintenance, and Senior Center Donations Accounts (Val Kaempfer Memorial Fund). The new chairs are attractive, fully functional, and very comfortable.

The COA would like to offer other functions for our Senior Citizens and are looking into possibly providing movies, and or bingo for entertainment. We encourage you to share your ideas and suggestions with us, and also ask that you consider volunteering your time and talents to help us in our endeavors.

Respectfully submitted,  
Eileen A. Tougas, Chair  
Alli Thane Stetson, Jane deLeeuw  
Teresa Peters, Jean Lamothe

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## CULTURAL COUNCIL

During this year's grant cycle, the Heath Cultural Council received 26 applications. With our allocation of \$4,400 and an additional \$220.49 that was carried over from last FY, we were able to fund 21 local arts and cultural projects . Heath programs that received funding this year include Summer Crafts at the Heath Library, Ed the Wizard: Reading is Magic at the Heath School, Heath Fair Music, the Heath Herald, Heath School Community Strings Program, and the Heath Artist's Exhibit. We were also able to include full or partial funding for an assortment of other local projects including Pothole Pictures Film Series, Franklin Land Trust's A Day on the River, and Winter Tracking Workshop, Hilltown Families, Inc., Mohawk Trail Concerts, Inc. Summer Festival, Memorial Hall Assoc., Dixie Swim Club, Pioneer Valley Symphony Education Concert, Charlemont Forum, The Art Garden, Collected Poets Series, and Hilltown Youth Theatre Summer Workshop. A few school related programs were also funded including It's Your Story – Tell It!, Mohawk Music Association Annapolis Exhibition Music Festival for students, and the Franklin County Tech School Drama Program. The Council voted to extend grant funding for Piti Theater Co. for an endangered species program in the amount of \$400 until June 30, 2016 to allow them to do a full residency that includes developing a new play script specifically for the endangered species theme focused on the story of the Bald Eagle in the Northeast over the last few decades.

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. We always appreciate input from folks so that the Council has an informed idea on 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 offered,  
Kara Leistyna, Chair  
Susan Draxler, Bob Gruen,  
Larry Sampson, Lorena Loubsky

## EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

In January, Heath's Hazardous Mitigation plan was accepted and approved by FEMA. This plan has to be updated and approved every five years. By having an updated plan, it makes the town of Heath eligible to apply for FEMA mitigation grants. Once again Heath participated in the annual combined EDS drill/Flu clinic on October 31st, although this year with a twist. The CERT team set up a rabies clinic as well, so they could test their capability to set up a mobile animal sheltering area if needed in the event of an emergency. Residents from Charlemont, Hawley, Heath, Rowe, Monroe and a couple from Wendell took advantage of both opportunities. 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 provides us updated information and the status of ongoing projects which benefit us in the long run. I participated in two drills this year: one held in May on terrorism and the other was a state-wide WEBEOC drill in November.

Again a \$2,220.00 EMPG grant was applied for as well as work done to finish up the second half of the past grant. Some items that have been bought with these EMPG grants were:

- Paying for the Code Red reverse 911 system (annually)
- Hand Held GPS unit (for documentation of damage areas)
- LCD Projector w/Screen (for training etc...)
- Fans, dehumidifier and other supplies (to help run the shelter)
- EOC office supplies
- Communication equipment

Respectfully submitted,  
Timothy Lively , Emergency Management Director

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## 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 of 2015 Jan Carr, Gloria Fisher, and Ned Wolf were elected to three year terms. The FinCom chose Don Freeman to continue as Chair and Ned Wolf as Secretary.

The FinCom recommended the passage of the Articles on the Warrant of the February 24, 2015 Special Town Meeting (STM). The voters passed all nine articles including one that authorized the transfer of \$2,321.80 from the Overlay Surplus Account for unforeseen repairs to the Community Hall. These included painting, fixing the phone/alarm system disabled in an electrical storm, and fixing frozen pipes. Another article authorized the transfer of \$19,500 from Free Cash to the Highway Machinery Maintenance/Supplies Account. The unexpected repairs included major work on the front end of the small truck and repairing a hydraulic leak. The front end of the grader also required major work. Finally, an article replenished the amount paid to Steve Thane who was Acting Superintendent during Mike Smith's absence.

The Finance Committee worked with the Selectboard through the early months of 2015 to recommend a budget for the 2016 fiscal year that was approved by voters

at the Annual Town Meeting (ATM) on May 9, 2015. The FY2016 tax rate of \$20.51, which was certified by the state in December 2015, is \$0.41 lower than our estimate in May. The FY2016 rate of \$20.51 is a 2.8% increase over the FY2015 rate of \$19.96. Voters approved by a two-thirds vote the borrowing of up to \$4 million for a new safety complex to house the police, fire, and highway departments as well as an emergency operations center. The actual amount to be borrowed would be \$1.8 million. A critical part of the project was a matching grant of \$2 million from the state. The estimated cost of the building including contingencies was \$3.6 million. For a project that meets its budget that would mean a \$1.8 million contribution from the state.

On July 24, 2015 the Town received a letter of Termination from the administration of Governor Charlie Baker stating that the grant for the safety complex had been terminated because of a lack of funds. The Selectboard and the Finance Committee met and have contacted state officials in a continuing effort to restore the funding.

The chosen site for the safety complex is on 6.40 acres of wooded land several hundred feet southwest of the intersection of Bray and Colrain Stage Roads with access planned to Bray Road. At an STM on December 1 voters authorized by a two-thirds majority borrowing \$55,000 to purchase this land.

The terms of borrowing for the safety complex project were not complete in 2015. It is likely the Town would borrow \$1.8 million from the US Department of Agriculture at 3.75% for 30 years. These terms could mean an annual payment from the Town of \$104,094 with an increase in the tax rate of \$1.17.

The Town has a Financial Advisor, Clark Rowell. The Finance Committee has chosen Don Freeman to oversee financial aspects of the safety project and report to the Selectboard.

Article 3 on the ATM Warrant was the Town's operating budget. The Highway Machinery Maintenance/Supplies Account was increased by \$10,000 to keep up with the needs of aging vehicles. A new line 'Preventive Maintenance' was added and funded at \$20,000 for pro-active maintenance to extend the life of equipment including automatic lubrication systems, sandblasting and painting dump bodies and plows etc. The goal is to reduce the dependence on STM's. The FinCom will monitor this line for possible adjustments.

Voters approved a salary of \$11,039.60 for the position of Assistant Assessor, a position recommended by the Department of Revenue. The funding authorized at the ATM was for the first half of FY2016; an article passed at the December 1, 2015 STM provided funding for the second half of FY2016.

Article 3 contained a line for \$10K for certain winter related Special Projects: storm windows and fixing frozen pipes at the Community Hall, and water pipes at the Highway Garage.

There was a cluster of articles for stabilization accounts. By two-thirds majorities voters approved the transfers from Free Cash as follows: \$2,000 for establishing a Parks and Recreation Stabilization Account, \$4,000 to establish an Audit Stabilization Account, \$15,000 to the School and Town Buildings Stabilization Account, and \$15,000 to the Large Equipment/Vehicle Replacement Stabilization Account.

There were six revolving funds each with a FY2016 spending limit set up by the passage of Article 27. The FinCom will monitor those limits keeping in mind that in FY2015 unspent appropriations amounted to \$62,000.

Voters at the ATM authorized the Town to borrow \$65,940 for the Trash Compactor Project. At the end of 2015 this borrowing had not yet occurred.

Turning to the schools, voters at the ATM chose to amend the Regional Agreement of the Mohawk Trail Regional School District by permitting under certain conditions the educating of a student who resides in a District town in a District school other than that of the town in which he or she lives. The Mohawk District budget contained for the first time a line for \$200,000 to fund Pre-School throughout the District. The volume of the enrollment in Pre-School in the fall of 2015 was one of several factors leading to a deficit in the District budget of \$600,000. At the Heath School grades 4, 5, and 6 were combined. A Heath Education Initiative Task Force was formed to examine District-wide problems as they relate to Heath and evaluate options. The Finance Committee is represented on the task force by Gloria Fisher. At the June 30, 2015 STM voters approved an article authorizing the Selectboard to borrow \$1.45 million for Heath's portion of the funds needed to bring fiber optic to the Wired West towns. This article does not commit Heath to give money to Wired West. It is only after a later agreement between Heath and Wired West that the Town would commit to giving money to Wired West. In year one and year two following the borrowing, the maximum increase on the tax rate would be about \$0.09. In subsequent years the increase on the tax rate could be as great as \$1.05 but that ignores the likelihood according to the Wired West business plan that income from subscribers' monthly payments will cover our borrowing costs and the effect on the tax rate after year one and year two will be minimal to zero.

As 2015 came to a close the FinCom looked ahead to a new budget season. A former employee of the Department of Revenue, Joe Markarian, who now works for the FRCOG, is a new resource for dealing with the financial complexities of large projects and education initiatives. We look forward to the fiscal challenges of FY2017.

The Heath Finance Committee  
 Don Freeman, Chair — Ned Wolf, Secretary  
 Jeff Simmons, Gloria Fisher, Jan Carr

## FIRE DEPARTMENT

The Department has been actively recruiting in attempt to building a strong team of dedicated volunteers. We meet the third Tuesday of each month at 6:00 P.M. for active fire training and again on the first Thursday of each month following our monthly Association meeting. If you are interested in becoming part of our team serving your community, experience the comradery, plus add a little excitement and challenge to your lives, please contact us.

We especially invite the youth of Heath to join the department, and encourage anyone to become a member of the association. You do not need to be a member of the department to be an association member. All are welcome.

Our community is constantly challenged with budget short-falls and the department has been exploring ways to fill in the void, such as writing grants for a new fire truck and firefighting equipment, and doing self-help projects to make much needed improvements to the existing building. We are exploring ways of managing and purchasing outdated equipment, perhaps on a rotation schedule with financial requests put forth in a manner to lessen the burden on our tax payers.

We must do our best to provide a safe and workable environment for our volunteers serving Heath and in doing so enhance the service to the town and adjacent communities.

Lastly, but certainly not least, I want to thank all of the members (firefighters and EMTs) for their contributions in helping to keep the Fire Department functioning and ready to respond to emergencies to help those in need!

Respectfully submitted,  
 Ken Gilbert

Incident Type	Total Incidents:
Building fires	3
Chimney fires	3
Fire in mobile home	1
Mobile property (vehicle) fire, other	1
Natural vegetation fire	2
Forest, woods or wildland fires	3
Brush, or brush and grass mixture fire	1
Rescue, emergency medical calls	1
Medical assist, assist EMS crews	36
Vehicle accident with injuries	1
Vehicle accident without injuries	1
Hazardous conditions, other	2
Heat from short circuit wiring	1
Power lines down	3
Vehicle accident, general cleanup	1
Assist invalid	1
Cover assignment, other fire stations	3
Dispatched & cancelled enroute	2
False alarm	2
Smoke detector activation malfunction	1
Smoke detector act, no fire – unintentional	2
Lightning strike (no fire)	1
Citizen complaint	1
<b>Total number of incidents</b>	<b>73</b>

## 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](http://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. Also, please remember we have museum passes for the Clark Art Institute, MASS MoCA, and the Brattleboro Art Museum, as well as a parking pass valid at many of the Massachusetts State Parks.

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 a wireless router in Sawyer Hall.

“Every Hero Has A Story” was the theme of the 2015 summer reading program. Twenty 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. The library also offered four craft programs at the Heath Fairgrounds, led by Lyra Johnson-Fuller. Thank you to the Friends of the Library and the Heath Cultural Council for providing the program funding. The theme for the summer of 2016 is Wellness, Fitness, and Sports and the children's program slogan is "On Your Mark, Get Set, Read."

Preschool Story Hour meets two or three 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.

The library hosted two well attended programs for adults which were funded by the Friends of the Library: Home Funerals, and Green Burials. Interesting presentations, followed by thoughtful questions and discussion.

Material circulation figures: FY2015 – 16,403, FY2014 – 16,602, FY2013 – 18,198. Inter-library loans received from other libraries: FY2015 – 3,100, FY2014 3,378, FY2013 – 3589. Inter-library loans provided to other libraries: FY2015 – 2,585, FY2014 – 2,780, FY2013 – 2875. Patron visits averaged 106 per week. Fifteen children's programs and two adult 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:

Deborah Porter, Chair - Kate Bailey, Secretary - Janis Carr

Respectfully submitted,  
Donald J. Purington, Library Director

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## HEATH TELECOM - WiredWest

At a special town meeting June 30, 2015 the Town of Heath voted to authorize the borrowing of \$1.4 Million as Heath's share to participate in building a fiber optic network throughout western Massachusetts to deliver broadband to every home and business that wants it. The article needed a 2/3 majority of voters present to pass. The State Of Massachusetts appropriated \$40 Million to assist the towns in building the network. The Massachusetts Broadband Institute (MBI) is the state's administrator of the \$40 Million appropriation.

The article expressed a choice by the citizens of Heath to participate in a regional network. The WiredWest cooperative was set up to design, build, maintain and operate the network within participating towns. Heath is a charter member of WiredWest. After extensive review, town officials and interested citizens with professional expertise in finance and planning of similar projects supported the article, the WiredWest business plan and financial models. Their positive recommendation helped pass the article.

Though the option to build an exclusive fiber optic network in Heath is available, the town continues to favor the cooperative approach based on cost-sharing and management model. Our choice was to continue as part of WiredWest.

A new operating agreement was then prepared by WiredWest to transition from an organizational entity to a Limited Liability Corporation (LLC) to build, operate and own the network.

WiredWest had been working with MBI to move the project forward throughout the summer and fall but shortly before the new operating agreement was to be presented to towns in January 2016, MBI suddenly issued a statement that it did not support WiredWest's financial plan or the WiredWest Operating Agreement citing an MBI commissioned study. At the core of the MBI statement was their policy that assets of the network be owned by individual towns. Towns that approved cooperative ownership through WiredWest protested this policy. WiredWest cited its own independent study that showed the project as viable.

Negotiations began between WiredWest and MBI regarding the asset ownership issue and other points in the proposed WiredWest Operating Agreement. As of this writing (February 23, 2016) the Baker administration is in the process of reviewing the project. The project is now on pause while under state review.

Respectfully submitted,  
Al Canali, Art Schwenger

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## HEATH VETERANS MEMORIAL COMMITTEE

During the year of 2015 the Heath Veterans Memorial Committee (HVMC) met twelve (12) times to further the work of creating a Veterans Memorial for the Town of Heath. It held seven (7) regular meetings in the Town Library, two (2) informal sessions to survey and plan the Memorial site on the Town Common and to physically locate appropriate stones for the Memorial and three (3) times on other occasions: once at the All Town Committee meeting to report on its work; once with the Board of Selectmen (BOS) to present their proposal for a Memorial; and once at the Special Town Meeting (STM) on December 1, 2015 where a power point presentation was made to Heath citizens. The responses by the BOS and of those at the STM were very supportive of the proposed project. The HVMC now plans to proceed with the construction of the Memorial during the spring and summer of 2016 and in the interim raise needed funds estimated to be in the amount of \$10,000. About two thirds of the funds are necessary for the bronze plaques with names of over 200 Heath veterans and the masonry work for benches located between the large stones with plaques on them. We hope to replace the current flag pole as well. Two oversized notebooks with all the details are available in the Town Hall for all to see.

Briefly, the first few months of 2015 was devoted to conceptualizing the Memorial based on its review of types of memorials, discussions with local citizens, the work of the Conway School of Landscaping Design and costs. By mid-summer it was ready to ask Larry Sampson to prepare a drawing to go with a comprehensive proposal to the Town. By October the Committee was ready to go public with the proposal. Larry again helped us with the design of a Fund Raising Display put together by Bob Bourke that now stands on the Town green across from Sawyer Hall.

Already there have been expressions of volunteerism with regard to the types of stones needed and for site work. We note that the Heath Agricultural Society has donated the large white quartz-type stone at the corner of the Solomon Temple Barn Museum on the Fair Grounds to be the center piece of the Memorial.

Dave Howland and Bob Bourke, Co-chairs  
Jerry Gilbert, Secretary  
Dennis Peters, Veterans Agent/Graves Officer  
Peter Smith

## HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT

In 2015, I was hired as the new highway superintendent taking over from Mike Smith who served since 1997. This position has been quite challenging for me taking on some above normal projects for the Town of Heath. Accepting a new position left my old spot open for hire. I found the hiring process a whole new experience in and of itself; a process not an easy one to execute. I hired Jeffrey Johnston to fill the position. Jeff is a fast learner and will be a great asset for the town.

The 2015 construction session was a big one with four miles of cold in place recycling and paving of Route 8A. Just over a mile of full depth reclamation on Dell Road was a new process of road work for the town of Heath. To get these projects prepped, the crew put in 300 feet of curtain drain and about 200 feet of open face ditching along Dell Road. On the south end of Rt. 8A we worked with the Sheriffs' Dept. to complete brush cutting from the Charlemont line to Dell Rd. and Rt. 8A intersection.

We also installed an automatic greaser on the loader which will start saving the town some funds. With this system the loader can grease itself while it is in use which will result in less down time due to greasing, and down time causes loss of productivity with the loader, and employee. With the auto greaser calculating the right amount of grease for each pin, this will also avoid over-greasing. Getting the right amount of grease all the time will extend the life of the loader.

With winter taking a break this year we have been busy doing preventive maintenance. We have stripped down snow plows and painted the under coating on the trucks. We've also done some brush chipping to stay active during this slow winter. For this upcoming construction session we need to finish the Dell project by putting the HMA (top coat) on and finish with the shouldering. With the new land purchased and being developed on Royer Road, a lot of work on the top part will need to be done as this is a public road. It will involve placements of culverts, cutting of trees and building up of the road and making a new turn around for town vehicles in the winter. The project length will be about 400 feet. Other projects include getting the new transfer station re-designed and compactor installed, the Dell Rd. and 8A Bridge replacement project, and the standard summer operations of roadwork.

Sincerely,  
Michael Shattuck

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## MUNICIPAL COMPLEX BUILDING COMMITTEE

On January 13th the BOS signed a contract with the Commonwealth of MA providing a \$2 million 50% matching grant for the construction of a Municipal Safety Complex.

In March we met with John MacMillan of Reinhardt Associates who provided us with updated capital costs reflecting cost changes, primarily inflation, since the original estimate provided last year. Current cost was \$3.6 million including \$400,000 of contingencies. Net cost of \$1.8 million is a little under \$1 per/thousand of assessed home value. John also provided a revised building layout reflecting the 25% reduction in square footage.

The Committee developed information and drafted site criteria for the Municipal Safety Complex. These were included in an RFP being prepared by FRCOG. Following approval of bond funding for the Town portion of the project via a positive vote at Annual Town Meeting on May 9th, the Committee reviewed proposals for a Project Manager and set up meetings with two applicants.

On July 29th, we received a letter stating that our contract with the Commonwealth was cancelled due to unavailability of sufficient funds for the Commonwealth to fulfill its obligations under the contract.

In the following months we pursued other funding options with our elected representatives without success. In September we agreed to hire a public relations firm, Janey Bischoff & Associates to help us navigate the political process and "go public" if required.

On December 1st, a Special Town Meeting authorized the purchase of land on the corner of Colrain Stage and Bray Roads for a future Municipal Safety Complex.

In December 9th, we met with Ryan Chamberland, Director of the Western Massachusetts Governor's Office, brought him up to date, and looked for him to make our case to the Baker Administration.

Bob Bourke, Committee Chair has resigned yet remains active. Bob provided outstanding leadership and commitment to the project over a four year period, for which the Committee is profoundly grateful. Jack Gougeon has joined the Committee.

Respectfully submitted,  
Bob Viarengo, Secretary

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## PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE

The yoga classes in the Community Hall are ongoing and well attended. Information on times and days can be found on the Town website.

The department also worked with the Heath Veteran's Memorial Committee regarding the planned memorial on the Town Common. Once the veteran component is completed, the department hopes to add to its appeal through plantings and other possible amenities, with ideas from residents.

We also provide yearly upkeep to the basketball court, sweeping away debris, repainting the lines, replacing the nets, and keeping the storage bench stocked with various recreational items.

Thoughts for 2016 include whether to refurbish the existing playground next to the Community Hall, remove the old structures and replace with new equipment, or remove the structures and not replace them.

As the playground would be utilized primarily by kids, the input from parents with school-aged children on the need for, or design of a playground would be appreciated.

Ideas, comments, and volunteers for this committee are always welcomed.

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

## PLANNING BOARD

This year the Planning Board began studying our bylaws for attached apartments to see if they should be updated. We also had the usual discussions about property division and disputes.

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

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## POLICE DEPARTMENT

Total calls that required a Heath Police Officer to respond or take some type of action were 93. While these numbers are from our dispatch, it does not include the calls to my home or the calls taken by the State Police.

Total calls in 2015 for the Heath Police Department down from last year.

Abandoned 911 call .....	4	Motor Vehicle violation ...	6	Larceny .....	1
Car vs. deer .....	1	Alarm burglar or holdup ....	8	Safety hazard .....	2
Motor Vehicle accident ...	3	Fire, other .....	1	Breaking and entering ...	1
911 call .....	5	Officer wanted .....	2	Line down .....	2
Disturbance .....	2	Fire alarm .....	2	Service call .....	1
Motor Vehicle complaint ...	2	Fireworks .....	5	Building check .....	1
911 hang up .....	2	Paperwork service .....	1	Medical Emergency .....	2
Disabled MV .....	3	Animal complaint .....	6	Suspicious Activity .....	3
Motor Vehicle stop .....	11	Investigation .....	2	Check welfare .....	2
911 misdial .....	2	Rolling 9 .....	1	Missing person .....	2
Structure Fire .....	1	Assault .....	1	Threat .....	1
				Traffic hazard .....	4

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 911.

Respectfully submitted,  
Chief Margo Newton

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## RECYCLING COMMITTEE

This year, we welcomed new member Ken Erho who is already proving to be a great asset. We want to thank Jeff Simmons for his past efforts, and Tommy Flynn for his years of service and wish him well.

This year, with the help of the Board of Health, we procured a Salvation Army box for the Transfer Station, which is saving the town revenue by keeping salvageable materials out of the compactor. Any stained or ripped fabric, clothing and shoes

are welcome, as well as books and tapes and CD's and DVD's and small toys as long as they are in closed bags.

Ken and Karen assisted with the Clean Sweep and Swap Day, which was again a success, and Ken has been doing a great job keeping the recycling in order as well as keeping the entire property tidy. The Gilberts continue to collect returnables for cancer, and the Transfer Station has a new container to help with this.

Ken Erho has brought it to our attention that many residents are still not in compliance with the state-mandated recycling and we have been discussing how to best serve the town and the residents in this issue.

One thing is clear: the more we recycle, the more money we save on the cost of the transfer station and ultimately our property taxes. It is a win-win situation. We not only save money, but we also help save our planet.

Blue recycle bins have been re-ordered and will be available at the Transfer Station. These should help keep plastic bags out of the large recycle bin. Also, we want to stress the need to cut or break down cardboard boxes before you arrive, and to note that all boxes that contained refrigerated or frozen items (including beer boxes or holders) are NOT recyclable as they contain plastic fibers to keep them from breaking down. Your cooperation will be greatly appreciated.

At the Clean Sweep Day, several residents brought old oil and other items that we cannot recycle in Heath and we want to let residents know that Franklin County Solid Waste District operates several supersites where they accept hazardous waste year round. Our closest one is the Colrain Transfer Station and is open on Saturdays from 8am-4pm. See the following link for what is acceptable:  
<http://www.franklincountywastedistrict.org/supersites.html>.

Respectfully submitted,  
Karen Brooks, Chair  
Doug Mason  
Ken Erho

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## SENIOR CENTER

Heath's Senior Center has been full of exciting events. With our ongoing foot clinic each month (3rd Tuesdays) we serve over 20 Heath seniors. The open art painting group has had a new level of town support through an art reception at the library. Each artist was present with glee viewing their work hanging on the walls and in nooks and crannies! Refreshments were enjoyed by everyone, most of all by library goers. How wonderful it is to have such talent in our community. Classes are free, and open to all seniors. We had a nice small group of sewers at open sew time. A big round of Thanks to all our seniors that helped make pillowcases for the Mary Lyon Foundation. 18 pillowcases were made for the local elementary schools.

Senior meals have been popular at the Heath Elementary school. Principal Glazier encourages these gatherings and we are happy to support our school. Grants are a great opportunity for our Senior Center for more activities. I will continue to explore possibilities through Title 111 Elders Aging in Place and other sources. Life Path

(formally FCHCC) is very helpful to find ways to meet our town needs. The 'Celebrate You' chair exercise class (Mondays 10AM) has recently grown in attendance. It is a nice compliment to the other exercise options in town and is free and open to all. Many Thanks to everyone who supports our senior center through participation, donation, and general overall support.

Eileen Lively  
Senior Center Coordinator

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## TOWN NURSE

In 2015 there was a little increase of total people seen at the nurse's office and home visits to average 21 per month, not including the 28 who came to the October flu clinic and 11 who received flu vaccine at the October Senior Luncheon. There was an average of 3 INR checks and 3 B12 injections given per month. We continue to have sharps boxes available and a container to accept full ones.

This was the first season that State supplied flu vaccine was not available to local Boards of Health except for people 18 and under, so we purchased vaccine with funds received for vaccine administration reimbursement. I was also able to purchase an epi pen, needed in case of an allergic reaction, with those funds. This season I am able to request reimbursement for the purchase of the flu vaccine as well as the administration and will use the funds from that account to purchase vaccine for the next season and hope to continue free flu clinics for the Town.

The exercise class, now called, Healthy Bones and Balance, continues on Tuesdays from 11-12 and Thursdays from 10-11. It is a free federally funded program to help prevent falls and fractures, for anyone 55 and over.

I have recently started a Healthy Lifestyle Support Group to assist with weight loss and better health. It is held on Thursdays at 11, right after the exercise class. All are welcome.

My office hours continue to be Tuesdays 12-1 and Thursdays 11-1, but usually there longer and available by appointment at other times. The office phone is 337-4847. Messages may be left at 337-4934 extension 109, or at 337-8309.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Claire Rabbitt, RN

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## Zoning Board of Appeals

The Zoning Board of Appeals met three times on one issue in 2015. No other items were filed.

Respectfully submitted,  
Dennis Peters, Chair and Clerk  
Bob Gruen, Alan Nichols,  
Pam Porter, Vacancy

# School Reports



## Heath Elementary School - Principal's Report

In June of 2015 the Heath School completed its 19th year. Our enrollment is currently at 50 students which includes preschool through Grade 6.

We are pleased to announce that the following students graduated from the Heath School in June of 2015: Austin Sumner, Sienna Boyle, Maggie Charlton, Keeman Ramirez, Haley Sheridan, Muiris Loubisky-Lonergan, Alec Draxler, Will Draxler, Kassidy Weber, Patrick Waldron, Alexis Williams, and Magrady Crossman.

I am currently in my fifth year as the principal of Heath School. The classroom assignments for the 2015-2016 school year are as follows: Preschool/Kindergarten Sarah Forbes, First/Second Virginia Gary, Third/Fourth Scott Sarich, Fifth/Sixth Jennifer Lagoy, Title I Math/Reading Brittani Sprague and Lillian Whitsett, and Special Education Valerie Lively.

We have four paraprofessionals who provide additional support in the classrooms and resource room. We have a part-time secretary, custodian, nurse and cafeteria 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 four school years, we have been fortunate enough to receive a \$5,000 grant from the Massachusetts Cultural Council. This year, we changed cultural partners and had a wonderful experience working with the Southern Vermont Natural History Museum.

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 topics this year. We are currently in our third year of implementation of the new educator evaluation system. Staff created SMART goals, wrote educator plans with specific benchmarks, and were evaluated regularly.

I would like to mention that our Heath School suffered a significant loss this fall. In October, our violin teacher of 10+ years, David Tasgal, passed away in a terrible accident. David had been a strings teacher for many years and had taught countless students while with us. The loss of our friend David hit our students, staff and parents hard, but we are optimistic and hopeful that our strings program can continue in David's honor. It will not be easy finding a teacher as dedicated, thoughtful, and talented as David, but we will do everything we can to continue this wonderful program at the Heath School!

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 2016 and all that it holds for our school.

Respectfully submitted,  
Eric Glazier, Principal

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## Mohawk Trail Regional High School - Principal's Report

Of the 83 members of the Class of 2015, 60% went on to a four-year college and 25% went on to a two-year college. Collaboration, creative problem-solving, and community-building are important to the classroom and extracurricular learning experiences students have at Mohawk.

Reflecting our commitment to enhancing Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) learning opportunities, our middle school Project-Based Learning (PBL) courses are now STEM courses, with a continued emphasis on project-based, cooperative, and interdisciplinary learning but with increased focus on problem-solving and collaboration with science, technology, engineering, and math applications. These middle school courses provide students with hands-on learning experiences with local and global connections, as 7th grade students produced maple syrup from over 30 gallons of sap harvested from trees on campus, and 8th grade students created 3-dimensional playhouses designed to fold to fit into a 9" x 12" mailing envelope that was delivered to children in Haiti, for instance. In the high school we introduced a Robotics course this year, where students develop computer programming skills through robotics applications. Many of our math teachers are using Inquiry-Based Learning approaches to math instruction, where students are engaged in problem-solving inquiry facilitated by their teachers.

Our school has embraced the use of community-building circles and restorative practices. Restorative Justice, often referred to as Restorative Practices, allows students to resolve conflicts and repair harm that has occurred within a community, through communication, reflection, and making changes in practice. Schools in this area and across the country have been transitioning to this evidence-based approach over the past few years. This year we established the Restorative Justice Classroom (RJC) to support students with this process and our faculty have begun using community-building circles in various settings.

Alumni connections continue to enrich the Mohawk experience. This year's commencement speaker was Northampton Mayor David Narkewicz, Mohawk Class of 1984. Recent graduates returned to school to share their experience with the transition to college and alumni have participated in an occasional speaker series to discuss their career paths.

Mohawk's Student Council has taken on an increasing role in promoting an inclusive and supportive learning environment for all students. This year's Booster Week activities and Bullying Prevention Week events reflected student initiative and commitment to creating a caring and compassionate school culture.

The role of our faculty and staff in school-wide leadership initiatives has grown as we have expanded the use of Professional Learning Communities and established

an Instructional Leadership Team composed of staff, both teachers and paraprofessionals, who work with the Principal, Assistant Principal, and Curriculum Director to plan professional development and facilitate school-wide planning. Mohawk Arts Education Council, comprised of educators dedicated to enhancing the role of the arts at Mohawk, has taken on an increasing role, with vibrant programming evident in the visual arts displays within our school, diverse music programs with many public performances, and a wide variety of theatrical productions, including a student-directed adaptation of “The Breakfast Club” in addition to the annual musical and fall and late spring dramatic performances.

At the midpoint of the 2015-2016 school year, enrollment in grades 7-12 is 450. The seventh grade has 95 students and the eighth grade has 68. There are 75 students in the ninth grade, 71 in the tenth grade, 60 students in the junior class, and 81 students in the senior class. Four students are enrolled in our post-graduate program.

Respectfully submitted,  
Lynn R. Dole, Principal

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## Mohawk Trail Regional School District - Superintendent

With the introduction of a half-day, district-wide preschool program, Mohawk experienced an enrollment increase of 50 students in 2015. Continuing a 3-year positive trend, the quality of education within the Mohawk Trail Regional School District (MTRSD) rose considerably. According to the Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education, 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 our schools to be Level 1. With all Mohawk schools improving significantly in 2015, the year marked another significant step toward the MTRSD realizing this ambitious goal.

### Mohawk District Highlights: Level 2

The percentage of Mohawk students achieving a rating of proficient or higher in English Language Arts (ELA) improved to 76%, reflecting a 9% improvement over the past four years. Mohawk students made gains in all three major content areas. Our ELA composite performance index (CPI) improved to 91.6; our mathematics CPI improved to 82.6; and our science CPI improved to 81.1. In both ELA and math, Mohawk’s student growth percentile exceeded the state median of 50.

### Mohawk Middle School-High School Highlights: Level 2 (School Percentile 46)

Mohawk’s graduation rate rose to 86.5%, marking an 11% increase over the past five years. Of the graduates, approximately 80% plan to attend a 4-year or a 2-year college. On the SAT college entrance exams, Mohawk students outperformed the state average in reading, writing and math.

Mohawk MS-HS achieved a school percentile ranking of 46, which is a 19-point improvement over the past three years. 90% of Mohawk 10th graders scored at the proficient or advanced level in ELA. 62% of Mohawk 10th graders scored at the advanced level in math compared to a 53% state-wide average. Mohawk 10th graders also outperformed the state-wide average in science and technology/ engineering. Mohawk’s 7th graders achieved student growth percentiles of 63 in ELA and 67 in math, far higher than the state median of 50.

The Mohawk MS-HS athletic program continued to flourish during 2015 with 38 teams and 20 sports, including the introduction of wrestling. Approximately 50% of the students participated in at least one sport, and 44% participated in multiple sports. The Mohawk MS-HS music and theater programs were also vibrant with impressive levels of student participation.

### Buckland-Shelburne Elementary School: Level 1 (School Percentile 56)

BSE continued to perform at a very high level in 2015, achieving a second consecutive classification as a Level 1 school. Additionally, BSE’s school percentile improved a whopping fourteen points to the 56th percentile. Over the past five years, BSE has improved from a Level 3 classification to Level 1 and tripled its school percentile ranking! In tandem with this educational success, BSE’s enrollment has increased 32% from 197 to 259.

### Sanderson Academy. Level 2 (School Percentile 58)

Sanderson remained a very high performing school with a percentile ranking of 58. For the first time in the school’s history, Sanderson offered preschool. The community response was compelling with approximately forty 3-year old and 4-year old students enrolling, which more than doubled the District’s forecast. As a result, we needed to add a second preschool class to accommodate the demand, and Sanderson’s enrollment increased 17% to 149 students!

### Colrain Central School. Level 2 (School Percentile 35)

Colrain students performed very well for the second consecutive year, which improved the school percentile ranking five points to 35. 72% of the students scored proficient or higher in ELA, which is a 39 point improvement over the past two years. Similarly, 67% of the students scored proficient or higher in math, which is a 23 point improvement over the same time frame. Both Colrain’s ELA and math proficiency rates exceeded the state-wide average.

### Heath Elementary School. Level 1 (School Percentile 59)

Heath Elementary achieved its third consecutive year of Level 1 classification, which is the best in the district. 73% of the students scored proficient or higher in ELA, which is a fifteen point improvement over the prior year. 67% of the students scored proficient or higher in math. Both Heath’s ELA and math proficiency rates also exceeded the state-wide average.

In 2015 the introduction of a half-day, district-wide preschool program reversed a long term trend of declining enrollment in the MTRSD. Additionally, all of our district schools improved significantly, resulting in classifications of Level 1 or Level 2 and several percentile rankings approaching 60, which is unprecedented. Our students, staff, families, administrators and school committee deserve a great deal of credit for this continued high level of educational success. Our townspeople and town officials also deserve a great deal of credit for their ongoing support of our schools, which is essential to the MTRSD’s continued success.

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

## Franklin County Technical School District

We submit this annual report for 2015 on behalf of the Franklin County Technical School District and its administration, faculty, staff and students.

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

Bernardston	20	Erving	32	Montague	56	Sunderland	6
Buckland	10	Gill	10	New Salem	3	Warwick	4
Colrain	24	Greenfield	115	Northfield	42	Wendell	9
Conway	8	Heath	11	Orange	74	Whately	7
Deerfield	14	Leyden	9	Shelburne	7	Non-District	46

Franklin County Technical School awarded 117 diplomas to our seniors in June of 2015. 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 for the last three years. Our overall Progress and Performance Index (PPI) moved from 17% in 2012 (Level III) to 21% in 2013 (Level II), 31% in 2014 and 30% in 2015 (Level II). Additionally, the district met the goals set by the Department of Education for passing rates of students at risk and with disabilities.

Having earned their vocational certificate, 38% of our graduates plan to go on to either a two or four year college, 37% joined the regional work force, 5% planned to join the military, 9% went on to a post-secondary trade/technical school, and 11% were unsure as to which of the above options they would pursue. We are proud of the accomplishments of the Class of 2015.

Franklin County Technical School's technical programs have been busy with community-based projects that are used as learning opportunities. This year, as in the past, students embrace the authentic work that is done in the communities and truly engage in building their skills while out on work sites. As learning activities, these projects are not treated as production work that would be done by commercial entities. Project work is treated as an immersive activity, with guidance and professional direction by instructors. Alternating weeks of shop time increase the duration of a project but costs associated with a project are less than those conducted by a commercial company; this service-learning work is coupled with a benefit to our towns. Within the walls of FCTS, students from Electrical, Plumbing, Carpentry, Landscaping/Horticulture, Auto Technology, Welding and Collision Repair are involved in repair and upgrading activities that save the school costs associated with hiring contractors.

What follows are some examples of the ways in which we serve our communities: Electrical students and instructors have been involved in the Shelburne Trolley Museum's car barn; the retrofitting of LED units throughout the Greenfield Community College campus; rewiring of the South Deerfield Town Common; work on the library in the Town of Bernardston; continued work on the Hawlemont School barn; on-going work at the Colrain Fire Department; and work on the Warwick Police Department. Landscaping students and instructors have helped with the reconstruction of Greenfield's Minor League fields; grading and sod installation at the Veteran's Memorial field; trimming and pruning of plants and trees on the South Deerfield Common; prepping of the baseball fields at Pratt Field in Bernardston for the upcoming year;

construction of raised beds along the Nature Trail in Charlemont; tree and brush chipping for the Hawlemont school; and involvement is underway in the Town of Montague's tree planting program. Carpentry instructors and students will be involved in the building of a new cabin at Camp Keewanee in the spring, as well as the planned building of the Greenfield High School Field House; construction of the South Deerfield Town Common structure; installation of a roof over the handicap ramp at the Bernardston Veterans building; construction of a new addition to the Athol regional animal shelter with ground pipes installed by the Plumbing department.

Our Health Technology program has been involved in clinical work throughout the county and Cosmetology students have provided personal care to elders throughout the area, as well. The Culinary Arts program continues to host the annual Chamber of Commerce breakfast; donates food and labor to community non-profit organizations, and hosts nursing homes and senior groups from throughout Franklin County. The Franklin County Technical School's Pre-Employment Program continues to contribute pet supplies and money to area animal shelters, as well as contributions to the Ronald McDonald House. The FCTS drum line members and chaperones volunteer their time to participate in many parades throughout the county. School-wide faculty, staff and student involvement have resulted in the collection of food and winter clothing for area needs; fundraising for cancer awareness; set-up and serving of meals at the annual Triad dinner put on by the Franklin County Sheriff's Department; and participation in a 24 hour relay to raise money for the food pantry. The school continues to provide its track, facilities and personnel support of the annual Franklin County Home Care Meals on Wheels Walk-a-Thon.

There are numerous pending projects in many communities that are in discussion or in a queue for scheduling. FCTS programs consider projects based on their curriculum alignment, timing and appropriateness for students. Our partnerships with our communities are important for our programs, and we thank those who allow our students the opportunity to practice their trades out in the field.

On June 23, 2015 Franklin County Technical School held a district wide election to allow FCTS the authority to borrow monies to upgrade our infrastructure for three distinct facility projects. FCTS received approval for a \$2.1 million project from the Massachusetts School Building Authority (MSBA) for new exterior windows and doors at a reimbursement rate of 73.89%. This project is on schedule to begin in the spring of 2016 and conclude in the summer. Our second project for a new roof coating system was approved for \$975,000. We are on schedule to begin this project late spring into early summer of 2016. The final facilities project approved for \$925,000 is for new paving of our parking lot and track areas, which are original to the school in 1976. We are in the process of receiving bids and setting up a construction schedule to start this project in the summer of 2016.

Respectfully submitted,  
 Mr. Richard J. Kuklewicz, School Committee Chairman  
 Mr. Richard J. Martin, Superintendent-Director

### Franklin County Technical School District Committee 2015-2016

Bernardston-Lloyd J. Szulborski; Buckland-Laura J. Earl; Colrain-Nicole Slowinski; Conway-Brian Kuzmeskus; Deerfield-Katherine James; Erving-Robert F. Bitzer; Gill-Clifford C. Hatch; Greenfield-Paul R. Doran, Christopher L. Joseph, Mark Leonard, Mark M. Maloney; Heath-Arthur A. Schwenger; Leyden-Gerald N. Levine; Montague-Richard J. Kuklewicz, Chairperson; Dennis L. Grader; New Salem-Angela Fournier; Northfield-Scott Milton; Orange-Clifford J. Fournier, Secretary; Linda R. Chapman; Shelburne-Angus Dun, Vice-Chairperson; Sunderland-James Bernotas; Warwick-A. George Day, Jr.; Wendell-Richard E. Drohen; Whately-Donald C. Sluter

## 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 from RTI. The most recent MCAS data indicated that our students in the high needs population showed growth in their progress this year. This is a direct result of the support and direct instruction via an IEP, 504 and tiered instruction.

For many years the district has supported several substantially separate programs for students requiring a higher level of instruction and support. Historically, a student requiring this level of education may be placed in an out of district school at a high cost to the district. Research suggests that each time a student is placed outside of their home district, it decreases their investment in their education. Out of district placements are made only when all other options have been explored and assessed. The district currently has the following programs:

**MSC (Mohawk Supported Classrooms):** Classrooms are located in the Middle School and in the High School. Each class has a special education teacher providing direct instruction for core academic courses. The program provides academic and emotional support to students with a social emotional disability and has one Clinician providing group and individual therapy as well as on going case management. Both programs are staffed with additional paraprofessionals as needed.

**MVP (Mohawk Vocational Program):** Program supports students with severe special needs. The program has a special education teacher a vocational coordinator and additional para professionals as required. The program runs a self-sustaining daily coffee shop for school staff.

The Middle School has a similar program for students with severe special needs, supported by a special educator and paraprofessionals.

Starting with the 2015 School Year, we added a program at BSE for students ages Pre-School -2nd grade. The program is run by a behaviorist with support from special education teachers and paraprofessionals. This program has enabled students on the autism spectrum and with behavioral challenges to access their general education classroom with varying levels of support.

Each of these programs is designed to maximize the amount of time in the general education classroom while at the same time provide a direct well designed individual program for each student. There is not a set amount of time in or out of the program. It is dictated by the student's level of need. Please do not hesitate to call with questions regarding special education or civil rights.

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 76 applications, 38 were from seniors and 38 from previous graduates of Mohawk. \$33,200.00 is to be awarded 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. 30 scholarships totaling \$10,400.00 were awarded to seniors (79% of applicants). 32 scholarships totaling \$22,800.00 were given to graduates (84% of applicants).

From 1991 – 2015 a total of \$876,625.00 has been awarded in scholarships, Mohawk seniors have received \$270,775.00 and \$605,850.00 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 High School.

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. Members from the nine towns are: 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. Nilman 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**  
*Innovative Support for Local Education*

This year the Mary Lyon Foundation is celebrating its 25th anniversary of providing innovative support for local education. Established in 1990 and incorporated in 1991, 2016 will be a year to reflect on past accomplishments and future challenges. Stay tuned for news of an upcoming celebration!

We are grateful for the many generous gifts of time, talent, and treasure by individuals, businesses, and organizations which make our work possible. We were pleased to be awarded \$15,000 for the Mini-Grant Program and Student Assistance Fund by the United Way of Franklin County, greatly expanding our capacity to support the needs of students, families, and teachers throughout West County. We especially appreciate the continuing financial support of the Myrtle Atkinson Foundation, the Cleveland Dodge Foundation, Bristol Myers Squibb, and the Harper Gerry family. We are also indebted to the Staples Foundation and the Community Foundation of Western Massachusetts for grants to purchase new equipment.

The Annual Lyonnaise in May showcased excellence in education with a presentation by Massachusetts Teacher of the Year Dr. Jeffrey Shea, student performances, a display of Mini-Grant projects, and presentations of the following awards: the George Needham Business Award to Baker Pharmacy, Jim Boulger Spirit of Adventure Award to Gabe Coler, Outstanding Mohawk Alumni Award to Brendan Lattrell, and Pat Kerrins Career Award to Melinda Gougeon, Ed.D.

In August, the Annual Children's Literature Festival once again explored local history with literature, crafts, and visits to nearby sites. In September, with support from the Pioneer Valley History Network, MassHumanities, the Buckland, Colrain, Heath and Shelburne councils of the Massachusetts Cultural Council, and a number of sponsors, the lively Hilltowns History Fair and Conference held at Mohawk Trail Regional School brought history to life for all generations.

Through the generosity of sponsors and raffle donors, an enthusiastic audience, many volunteers, and our 25 teams of intrepid spellers, the 10th Annual Mary Lyon Foundation Community Spelling Bee raised more money than ever before—approximately \$8,000—for educational projects. This spirited annual event is a testament to the community's strong commitment to excellence in education! Grand champions were once again the Spelling Beans sponsored by Shelburne Falls Coffee Roasters

In May, Founder and Executive Director, Sue Samoriski, welcomed Sheila Damkoehler to serve as Co-Executive Director. Our part-time staff includes Business Manager Gina Sieber, volunteer Office Manager Sandy Gilbert, and Student Intern Sequoia LeBreux. Members of our Board of Directors are Sylvia Orcutt, President; Marion Taylor, Past President; Hugh Knox, Vice President; Karen Fairbrother, Treasurer; Sharon Hudson, Corresponding Secretary; Suzanne Conway Legreze, Recording Secretary; Susan Schuman, Larry Wells, Robin Huntley and Mohawk students Emma Guyette, Lilly Wells and Eli Shearer. We are very grateful for their time and commitment!

Susan Samoriski and Sheila Damkoehler, Co-Executive Directors

# Regional Reports



## COLRAIN VOLUNTEER AMBULANCE ASSOCIATION

Change and collaboration continue to drive the progressive and positive growth of your ambulance service. Our ongoing partnership with the Towns of Colrain and Heath and their prospective EMS agencies has garnered the development of a strong multi-faceted educational environment that will ensure that we continue to provide optimum, up to date care to our patient population.

As the country continues to explore better, more efficient ways to provide and support medical care we stand ready to grow as a true full service volunteer organization.

Our current membership stands at 23, with 7 Paramedics and 16 EMT's providing around the clock care. Of particular interest was the addition of Samira Haddad, who represents the third generation of Colrain EMT's starting with Donna (Peters) Sumner in 1974. Many of our members have a second generation volunteering as well. We expect to continue to slowly expand the current membership to maintain a steady number of volunteers. We also anticipate adding an "affiliate" designation to our membership rolls to encourage community participation in the association for those that have expertise in business leadership, accounting, grant writing, fundraising and other business related duties that need a helping hand. We welcome any ideas you may have that would help.

For calendar year 2015 the service saw an 11.5% increase in total calls with 272, which was close to its all-time record of 292 calls set in 2013. Calls that resulted in a transport totaled 183, a 1% increase from the year prior. 9 additional calls required mutual aid response from another ambulance service with all but one being because the ambulance was on another call. The one remaining call resulted in the end of a streak of 1421 calls answered without a miss. We have, as of the date this was written, responded to 133 further calls without a miss totaling 1554 calls out of 1555. This represents a call answered ratio of 99.993% since 2008.

The year also saw our own Matt Wolkenbreit, Director of Education and Training, receiving the EMS World 2015 EMS Educator of the Year Award. Matt's dedication, knowledge and professionalism continues to wow the EMS world. As our Director of Education and Training Matt brings expertise, motivation and a steady course of exciting content to our growing brood.

2016 will mark the beginning of a coordinated fundraising drive as we prepare to upgrade major pieces of equipment the least being our current EKG equipment, a mandated medication pump to allow for expanded medication delivery and in fiscal year 2018 a new ambulance meeting significant new guidelines of safety, performance and patient care. Our efforts will also focus on the continued improvement of EMS training and community education.

We would like to thank everyone for the support and trust you have granted us and for the Town of Colrain for continuing to host our ambulance. Special thanks goes to the Colrain Fire Department with Chief Nick Anzuoni at its helm for their continued partnership and collaboration on the many things we work together to do better!

Gary W. Ponce, Paramedic  
CEO/Director  
Colrain Volunteer Ambulance Association, Inc.

## FRANKLIN COUNTY COOPERATIVE BUILDING INSPECTION PROGRAM

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.

2015 was a busy year, permit wise, for the program. We issued 2,741 permits, including a significant number of insulation upgrade, solar array and wood/pellet stove permits. The number of permits was higher in 2015 than in the previous year, the fees collected were also slightly higher. A total of 24 new dwelling units were constructed in our 15 member towns.

Our new online permitting program went live on July 1, 2011 and has issued 10,735 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 3,573 registered users. You can find it at [www.frcog.org](http://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 2015, the FCCIP processed the following permits for Heath:

Residential Building Permits	47
Commercial Building Permits	0
Sheet Metal/Duct Permits	0
Electrical Permits	27
Plumbing Permits	10
Gas Permits	17
Certificates of Inspection	4

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](mailto:jhawkins@frcog.org)  
James Cerone - Building Inspector, [jcerone@frcog.org](mailto:jcerone@frcog.org)  
Tom McDonald - Electrical Inspector, [electric@frcog.org](mailto:electric@frcog.org)  
Andy French - Plumbing/Gas Inspector, [plumbing@frcog.org](mailto:plumbing@frcog.org)

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## 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 2015 included:

- The Regional Health Agent conducted 28 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 11 free and low-cost tick tests in 2015 through a district grant and local Board of Health support, a savings of \$550. 35% of ticks tested in member towns carried the Lyme pathogen, and an additional 6% tested positive for either Anaplasmosis or Babesiosis.
- The Regional Health Agent conducted 3 housing inspections and re-inspections.
- The CPHS Public Health Nurse coordinated vaccine and supplies assisting town officials from Charlemont, Hawley, Rowe, Heath and Monroe to implement a Hawlemont Region Emergency Dispensing Site drill flu clinic and animal rabies clinic. A total of 54 area residents were served with the help of GCC nursing students and community volunteers, and 21 rabies vaccinations were administered to pets.
- 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 14 regular Board of Health meetings or hearings.
- Staff assisted town officials, contractors, and residents with implementation of digital on-line permitting system and trained BOH members on how to use the system and issue annual permits.
- The district received a new FDA Food Safety Grant that will improve food inspection and data collection, and offer training to town residents and employees.
- 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.
- Due to significant reduction in state supplied vaccine, the CPHS Vaccine Program was substantially restructured to implement vaccine reimbursement in order to continue this valued public service.
- The district provided Highway, Fire, and Police departments with portable sharps collection containers for picking up syringes found in the community.

***Heath's representatives to the CPHS Oversight Board are Karen Brooks and Betsy Kovacs, Board of Health members. For more information about the Board or the district, visit [www.frcog.org](http://www.frcog.org)***

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## **FRANKLIN COUNTY REGIONAL HOUSING & REDEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY**

The Franklin County Regional Housing and Redevelopment Authority is a public body politic and corporate, created by the Massachusetts legislature in 1973 to serve the residents and communities of Franklin County. HRA has all of the powers and responsibilities of a local housing authority and a redevelopment authority in all 26 communities of Franklin County. Our services include housing education; development, ownership and management of affordable rental housing; administration of housing subsidies; programs for homeless families; homeownership and foreclosure prevention education and services; and Community Development Block Grant application and administration for Franklin County towns.

### **CDBG-funded Housing Rehabilitation Projects FY2015**

In FY 2015, CDBG-funded housing rehabilitation programs loaned approximately \$895,588 to help Franklin County households comply with building and sanitary codes. The average loan was \$20,354. All the work is done by local contractors selected by private property owners. In Heath, 6 units were funded for a total of \$183,224

**Rental Assistance • Housing Development • Housing Management  
Community Development • Municipal Assistance • Rehab Financing Home  
Ownership • Public Infrastructure • Equal Housing Opportunity**

***For the complete Housing & Redevelopment Authority Report and activity in the Heath Housing Rehabilitation Revolving Loan Fund account in 2013 visit our website at [www.townofheath.org](http://www.townofheath.org)***

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## **FRANKLIN COUNTY REGIONAL RETIREMENT SYSTEM**

The Franklin Regional Retirement System is a government agency that serves the 492 retirees, 49 beneficiaries, 921 active employees, and 557 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.

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 2014, we are 79% funded at 26 years (65%) 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](http://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 2015 shows almost an identical amount compared to 2014. 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 \$40,000 in revenue for their recyclables.

In 2015, 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 66 tons of material was recycled or disposed of from the two collections. A total of 590 households participated in these collection events.

We held our annual household hazardous waste collection in October 2015. This event allows residents to properly dispose of toxic cleaners, automotive products, pesticides, and other toxic products. A total of 347 households participated in this event. 48% of participants were using the collection for the first time.

We received a \$20,000 grant from the State to set up food waste diversion programs in area schools. We also helped member towns implement \$12,000 worth of small-scale initiative grants from the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection.

We baled over 10 tons of wood pellet bags and agricultural plastic in our first year of this new recycling program. 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](http://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

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## THE FRANKLIN REGIONAL COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

The FRCOG is a governmental body that serves and assists the municipalities of Franklin County as effectively and efficiently as possible. We provide regional and municipal services to our member towns using a diversity of funding sources and strategies. To learn about the FRCOG and the projects, products and services that we provide to the greater Franklin County region, please go to our web site, [www.frcog.org](http://www.frcog.org), or refer to our Annual Report which can be found on the Publications page of our website. Over the course of the year we also provide specific services to every town. In 2015, the FRCOG provided the following individualized services to your town:

### Administration and Special Projects

- FRCOG municipal finance expert met with local officials in February and June to discuss municipal financing of the last mile broadband project. This work included analyzing the potential cost of bond payments for the municipality; reviewing the implications of Proposition 2 1/2 and estimating tax bill impacts for property owners.

### Cooperative Bidding & Purchasing Program

- Heath participated in the cooperative bids and contracts for Heating Oil, Diesel, and Gasoline
- Heath contracted with the FRCOG to receive cooperative bid pricing for up to 24 different Highway Products and Services. Total estimated Highway contracts for FY16 are \$1,358,584.
- The Town participated in the Dog Licenses & Tags Program.
- Heath continues to participate in the Elevator Maintenance contract.
- The Heath Elementary School participates in the Fire Alarm Testing cooperative contract.
- Staff attended the monthly Franklin County School Business Managers working group.
- The Town is eligible to participate in the Rental Equipment contracts and to purchase Hose and Testing Services as part of the Fire Service cooperative bids.
- Procurement assistance for Owners Project Manager services and procurement of Land was provided for the planned Municipal Complex.

### Cooperative Public Health Service Health District

The Town is a member of the CPHS, a health district based at the Franklin Regional Council of Governments. CPHS activities in Heath during 2015 included:

- Staff conducted 28 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 11 free and low-cost tick tests in 2015 through a district grant and local Board of Health support, a savings of \$550. 35% of ticks tested in member towns carried the Lyme pathogen, and an additional 6% tested positive for either Anaplasmosis or Babesios.
- Staff conducted 3 housing inspections and re-inspections.
- Staff coordinated vaccine and supplies assisting town officials from Charlemont, Hawley, Rowe, Heath and Monroe to implement a Hawlemont Region Emergency Dispensing Site drill flu clinic and animal rabies clinic. A total of 54 area residents were served with the help of GCC nursing students and community volunteers, and 21 rabies vaccinations were administered to pets.
- Staff 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.
- Staff responded to requests for program and regulatory information from the Board of Health and other town officials and attended 14 regular Board of Health meetings or hearings.
- Staff assisted town officials, contractors, and residents with implementation of

digital on-line permitting system and trained BOH members on how to use the system and issue annual permits.

- The district received a new FDA Food Safety Grant that will improve food inspection and data collection, and offer training to town residents and employees.
- Staff 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 district provided Highway, Fire, and Police departments with portable sharps collection containers for picking up syringes found in the community.

**Franklin County Cooperative Inspection Program**

Staff issued 47 building permits, 27 electrical permits & 27 plumbing/gas permits for Heath in 2015. Four (4) Certificates of Inspection were issued.

**Partnership for Youth**

- Staff conducted a Teen Health Survey to assess teen attitudes and behavior among middle and high school students. Staff reported to Mohawk Trail Regional School administrators on results from 172 Mohawk students, representing 72% of the 8th, 10th, and 12th grade classes. Survey data meets federal No Child Left Behind requirements for the school, enables the school to receive Safe and Drug Free Schools funding, and is valuable for grant-writing and program planning.
- One staff member from Mohawk Trail Regional High School/Middle School was trained to deliver the LifeSkills program and is currently incorporating the program into the school curriculum.

**Planning and Development Department**

- Staff secured Brownfields funding to complete a Phase I Environmental Site Assessment for the 5 Ledges Road site (\$4,082).
- Staff completed a Plan for the Mohawk Trail Woodlands Partnership Project for 11 West County towns including Heath with specific recommendations and projects to support Natural Resource Based Economic Development, Forest Conservation & Municipal Financial Sustainability.
- Staff conducted one traffic count.

**Regional Preparedness Program**

- Staff conducted a review and an update of the Hawlemont Emergency Dispensing Site Plan and ran quarterly contact drills and a site notification drill to test the Plan.
- With FRCOG assistance, the Board of Health, the emergency management director, as well as other officials from neighboring communities planned and executed a novel, combined rabies/flu clinic at Hawlemont Elementary School. The event also served as a drill for the Hawlemont Emergency Dispensing Site Plan, which guided the personnel using the Integrated Command System. A total of 54 area residents were vaccinated for influenza and 21 animals were vaccinated for rabies.
- Through a state Community Innovation Challenge grant, FRCOG provided the fire department with a mobile data terminal to improve data collection during fire responses.
- The emergency management director attended REPC meetings.

**Workshops & Training**

The following list represents the FRCOG workshops and training sessions Heath public officials, staff, and residents attended and the number in attendance:

**Cooperative Public Health Service**

- Annual Dinner/Training Meeting — 6

**Western Regional Homeland Security Advisory Council**

- Anti Terror Exercise Series — 2

**Selectboard Essentials**

- You are the Boss: Personnel Legal Guidance for SB's — 1
- Performance Measurement for Small Towns — 1
- Big Ticket Projects: From Concept to Town Meeting Approval — 1
- Abandoned and Derelict Properties and Your Town — 1
- Managing Conflict on Town Boards — 1

**Emergency Preparedness**

- Citizen Corps All Members Meeting Series (5) — 9

**Planning, Conservation, and Development**

- Baystate Roads: Pavement Management Bootcamp — 1

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**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	\$ 2,400.00
	\$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	\$ 1,034.00
	\$11,367.00

## UPPER PIONEER VALLEY VETERANS SERVICES

Fiscal year 2016 saw the creation of the UPVSD. By member count and by square miles this is the largest veterans' district in Massachusetts. We have strived to provide expanded services through increased satellite office hours, and a mobile office for home visits. Below are just some of the programs and services we help veterans' and their dependents with:

- M.G.L. Ch 115 benefit – Needs based program of financial and medical assistance to eligible veterans and their dependents
- Assistance to veterans and dependents to help file for health care, pensions, and service-connected disabilities
- Homeless prevention assistance to veterans and their families
- Employment help with job searches, resumes, and job interview skills
- Burial assistance to include government markers, flag holders, internment, and VA burial reimbursement
- Massachusetts annuities and tax abatement assistance
- Veterans records retrieval and storage
- Referral to other public and private agencies to include housing, fuel assistance, employment, training, education
- Attend area outreach events(fairs, festivals, health care expos)
- District passed certification for VSOs as required by MA state law

District filed for and helped veterans and eligible dependents be awarded over \$440,000 in VA payments in the district for this year alone. Overall the district has over \$3,040,000 in VA awards flowing into our towns on a monthly basis.

Our office has conducted a thorough review of all MGL CH 115 cases in our district. The net result is a large reduction in monies being paid out by the member towns. This was accomplished by helping clients file for alternative sources of income, and revalidating clients' current situations to ensure eligibility.

For the coming year we will continue to assist veterans, attend more outreach events, and educate both the public and the member towns officials.

Timothy Niejadlik, Director

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## 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

**Local District Hours: Thurs., 9-12 at Charlemont Town Hall**

**Boston Address:**

State House, Room 166  
Boston, MA 02133  
617-722-2692

**District Address:**

P.O. Box 1223  
Greenfield, MA 01302  
413-464-5635