



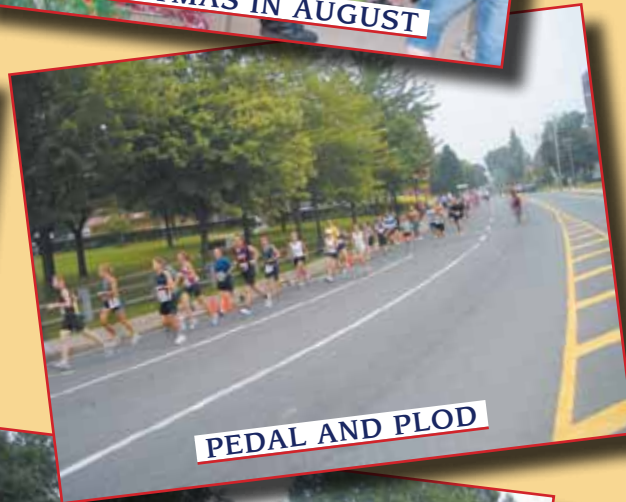
ADAMS AGRICULTURAL FAIR



CHRISTMAS IN AUGUST



MOVIE NIGHT



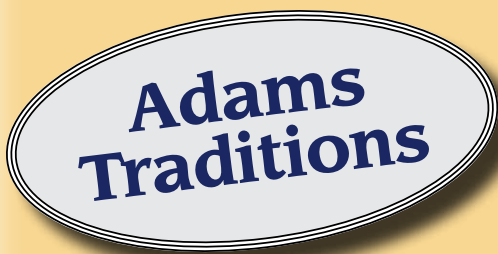
PEDAL AND PLOD



PARK STREET FAIR



SUMMER STREET FAIR



HOLLY DAYS

# 2008 Town Report

TOWN OF ADAMS, MASSACHUSETTS

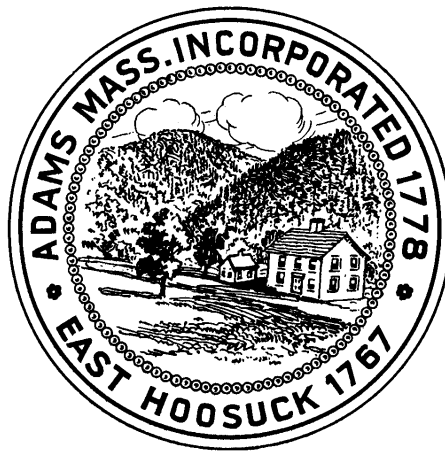


*Town of*  
**ADAMS**

MASSACHUSETTS

**REPORT OF THE**

**TOWN OFFICERS**



**FOR THE YEAR ENDING**

**DECEMBER 31, 2008**

*Compiled and Edited by the*

**PERMANENT TOWN REPORT COMMITTEE**

As Authorized by the Special Town Meeting

June 24, 1963

*Printed by Adams Specialty & Printing Co. • Adams, MA 01220*

## GENERAL INFORMATION

Incorporated in 1778 as the Town of Adams in honor of Samuel Adams.

### Population:

Town Census 2008	9,488
Town Census 2007	9,370
Town Census 2006	9,311
Town Census 2005	9,307
Town Census 2004	9,213
Town Census 2003	9,213
Town Census 2002	9,212
Town Census 2001	9,369
Federal Census 2000	8,809
Federal Census 1990	9,445
Federal Census 1980	10,385

Number of Registered Voters as of November 4, 2008 5,880

Area	23.02 square miles
Altitude	799 feet above sea level
Latitude	42° - 37"
Longitude	73° - 7"
Miles of State Road	2.73 miles
Miles of Town Road	57 miles

Tax Rate FY08	Residential & Open Space \$ 15.36
	Commercial, Industrial & Personal \$ 20.22

Total Taxed Assessed	\$ 7,957,839.69
Total Valuation	\$ 492,008,878.00

**Town Hall** open 8:30 am – 4:00 pm

**Selectmen's Meeting** – Every Wednesday – 7:00 pm

Adams Town Hall – 8 Park Street

**Town Election** – First Monday in May

**State Senator, Berkshire District**

BENJAMIN B. DOWNING. – Pittsfield

**State Representative**

**1<sup>st</sup> Berkshire District**

DANIEL E. BOSLEY – North Adams

**Governor's Councillor, 8<sup>th</sup> District**

PETER VICKERY – Amherst

**United States Senators**

EDWARD M. KENNEDY of Boston

JOHN F. KERRY of Boston

**Representative in Congress,**

**1<sup>st</sup> Congressional District**

JOHN W. OLVER of Amherst

## POINTS OF INTEREST

**Mount Greylock**, the highest point of land in Massachusetts overlooks Adams from the west and is part of the Taconic Range, a spur of the great Appalachian Mountain system. From Mount Greylock's 3,491 foot summit rises a ninety foot granite memorial beacon tower "erected by Massachusetts in grateful recognition of the loyalty and sacrifice of her sons and daughters in war".

The **Bellows Pipe**, a part of the gap between Mount Greylock and Ragged Mountain, often produces a roaring sound when whistling winds and storms blow through it from the north.

**Pecks Falls** is a cataract of wild natural beauty to be found on the upper reaches of Pecks Brook which flows toward Adams from Mount Greylock.

**Susan B. Anthony's Birthplace** is located on the East Road at Bowen's Corners. Miss Anthony (1820-1906) was a pioneer in advocating suffrage for women.

A **Quaker Meeting House**, preserved as closely to its original structure as possible, may be seen in the Maple Street Cemetery. The meeting house, built in 1784, is still used for an Annual Quaker Meeting on the last Sunday of August.

The **Birthplace of George N. Briggs**, an Adams native who served seven terms as governor of Massachusetts (1844-1851) still stands at 11 Weber Street.

The **Thunderbolt Ski Trail** which begins near the summit of Mount Greylock has a vertical drop of 2,150 feet and is 1.6 miles long. It is classified as an Expert Class A racing trail.

**McKinley Square** is the location of the Adams Free Library, Notre Dame Church, the Armory and the monument to President William McKinley. He visited Adams for several days on three occasions, once as Governor of Ohio and twice as President of the United States. His statue was created by Augustus Lukeman who also worked on Stone Mountain in Georgia.

**Greylock Glen** is the area at the base of Mt. Greylock which was formerly farm land the future site of potential economic development. This location has many beautiful vistas of mountains, streams and fields.

## ADAMS INDUSTRIES

ADAMS PLUMBING & HEATING, INC.

ALADCO

ATLANTIS EQUIPMENT CO.

BROWN PACKAGING

BURKE CONSTRUCTION CO.

HOLLAND CO., INC.

MULLEN MOVERS

LANE CONSTRUCTION

MINERALS TECHNOLOGY, INC.

MRA LABORATORIES

POWDER SHIELD TECHNOLOGIES

SHINE WIRE PRODUCTS, INC.

SOMMER ELECTRIC, INC.

T & A TOOLS



# DEDICATION



**George J. Haddad**

*"If you want something bad enough, you have to work for it." This maxim was often repeated throughout the Haddad home—a place where hard work and lessons of determination and self-worth have been the focus through the years. After all, nothing is handed to you on a silver platter.*

*George James Haddad lives by that maxim. Born on March 25, 1944 to James and Ida Haddad, George was the "prince" of his castle—a Lebanese boy who grew up working in the family business and helping at home in any way he could. He selflessly returned home from the Army when the need arose and began to establish himself as the business leader he is today. Husband, father of six, grandfather of three, and friend to many, George has and continues to dedicate his life to his family and his community—the town he has called home for most of his life.*

*George has served the town that he loves in many capacities. He served as a member of the Board of Selectmen for 18 years. George was well respected as a Selectman—he was always well prepared for meetings and he demonstrated a deep commitment to the demands and responsibilities of public office. The decision-making process for George has always been to listen to all sides of an issue and then undertake the best course of action for the community he served.*

*For more than two decades, he has represented his precinct as a Town Meeting member. George has served on many, many Town committees both while a Selectmen and after leaving that office. For years he has served on the Capital*

*Planning Committee, the Downtown Development Committee, and more recently he is Chair of the Greylock Glen Advisory Committee. Participating on many citizen advisory committees, his input has been invaluable for projects such as the new Town Hall / Police Station, reuse of Plunkett Hospital, construction of the Adams Visitors Center as the new headquarters of the Berkshire Visitors Bureau, construction of Armory Court, renovations to Renfrew Park, and the Jones Block Redevelopment Project.*

*In 2000, George established the outdoor film series, **Movies under the Stars**, which has become an increasingly popular staple of downtown events in the summer. George believed that free, family-oriented events would not only bring people to the downtown, but help foster a stronger sense of community. In addition to organizing the movies, George has continued to serve as an active member of the Adams Events Planning Committee since it was formally launched in 2003. Also, for the past several months, George has volunteered his time to serve as Interim Town Administrator, working collaboratively with the Selectmen.*

*Honesty, integrity, loyalty—these are just some of the attributes that describe the man to whom we dedicate this 2008 Town Report. For more than 24 years, George J. Haddad has played a vital role in the Adams community. Revitalizing the town and celebrating its history have always been a top priority for George as demonstrated in his strong and unwavering support of the Adams Visitors Center and the Ashuwillticook Rail Trail—two attractions that bring visitors from all over the Northeast and beyond to our community. We are honored to recognize this community leader. George, we look forward to the next 30 years!*



# In Memoriam



**Kathleen Aitken**

Adams Fire District Employee  
Adams Federal Credit Union Employee

**Ruth L. Mitchell**

Town Meeting Member

**Arline P. Bedard**

Adams Treasurer/Tax Collector's Office Employee

**Theodore Ostrobinski**

Adams Police Patrolman

**Bernard H. Bedard**

Personnel Board

**Adella Presnal**

Adams School Crossing Guard

**Frank Bernat**

Town Meeting Member

**Robert Reardon**

Adams School System Teacher

**William J. Charon Jr.**

Town Meeting Member

**Mary Remillard**

Adams School System Teacher  
Adams Council on Aging Volunteer  
Organized Golden Varsity Volunteers at  
C. T. Plunkett School

**Paul E. Drowne**

Adams School System Teacher

**Rosemarie Stachura**

Adams Finance Committee Chairman and Member

**Robert O. Krull**

Ad Hoc Solid Waste Advisory Committee Member

**Joseph Wing**

Town Meeting Member  
Northern Berkshire Regional  
Vocational School Committee Member  
Adams Taxpayer Association Member

**Arthur E. Lemieux**

Cemetery Department Employee

**John D. Maziarz**

Capital Improvement Planning Committee  
Town Meeting Member

**Edward S. Zelazo**

Moderator  
Adams School Committee Member

**Stanley F. Zelazo**

Assessor – Full and Part Time

# Town Clerk

## Adams Town Election Results May 5, 2008

### **MODERATOR** for a term of One Year

ANTHONY P. McBRIDE, Seven hundred seventy nine	779*
Write In Votes, Eighteen	18
Blanks, Two hundred thirty nine	239
Total	1,036

### **SELECTMAN** for a term of Three Years

JASON HNATONKO, Two hundred fourteen	214
MICHAEL G. OUELLETTE, Four hundred fifty	450*
MICHAEL PAUL TABER, Three hundred sixty one	361
Write In Votes, Two	2
Blanks, Nine	9
Total	1,036

### **ASSESSOR** for a term of Three Years

LYNN D. AVERY, Eight hundred fourteen	814*
Write In Votes, One	1
Blanks, Two hundred twenty one	221
Total	1,036

### **BOARD OF HEALTH** for a term of Three Years

RICHARD E. FROST, Fifty	50*
Write In Votes, Twenty four	24
Blanks, Nine hundred sixty two	962
Total	1,036

### **LIBRARY TRUSTEES** for a term of Three Years

DAVID M. STRZEPEK, Eight hundred twenty five	825*
JOSEPH F. GREENBUSH, Twenty seven	27*
Write In Votes, Eleven	11
Blanks, Twelve hundred nine	1,209
Total	2,072

### **PARK COMMISSIONER** for a term of Three Years

WILFRED R. BOURDON, III, Eight hundred seven	807*
DAVID CHARON, Seventeen	17*
Write In Votes, Fourteen	14
Blanks, Twelve hundred thirty four	1,234
Total	2,072

### **PLANNING BOARD** for a term of Five Years

MARTHA J. STOHLMANN, Seven hundred ninety one	791*
Write In Votes, Five	5
Blanks, Two hundred forty	240
Total	1,036

### **CEMETERY COMMISSIONER** for a term of Three Years

JOHN J. SWISTAK, III, Fourteen	14*
Write In Votes, Twenty six	26
Blanks, Nine hundred ninety six	996
Total	1,036

### **HOUSING AUTHORITY** for a term of Five Years

EDWARD E. ROBERTS, Seven hundred forty five	745*
Write In Votes, One	1
Blanks, Two hundred ninety	290
Total	1,036

### **REDEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY** for a term of Five Years

Blanks, STEVEN M. BLANCHARD, Nine	9*
Write In Votes, Seventeen	17
Blanks, One thousand ten	1,010
Total	1,036

### **NORTHERN BERKSHIRE REGIONAL VOCATIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT COMMITTEE** for a term of Three Years

DANIEL J. MALONEY, Eight hundred two	802*
Write In Votes, Two	2
Blanks, Two hundred thirty two	232
Total	1,036

### **ADAMS CHESHIRE REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT COMMITTEE**

#### **Adams Representative** for a term of Three Years

JILL A. POMPI, Seven hundred fifty	750*
Write In Vote, One	1
Blanks, Two hundred eighty five	285
Total	1,036

### **ADAMS CHESHIRE REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT COMMITTEE**

#### **Cheshire Representative** for a term of Three Years

LYNN T. CLAIRMONT, Seven hundred fifty eight	758*
Blanks, Two hundred seventy eight	278
Total	1,036

**Results of the Annual Town Elections held for the  
Adams - Cheshire Regional School District**

**ADAMS - Adams Representative  
– three year term**

	Adams	Cheshire
JILL A. POMPI	750	187
Write In Vote	1	0
Blanks	285	73
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1,036</b>	<b>260</b>

**CHESHIRE - Cheshire Representative  
– three year term**

	Adams	Cheshire
LYNN T. CLAIRMONT	758	203
Write In Votes	0	0
Blanks	278	57
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1,036</b>	<b>260</b>

## Elected Town Officers

	Term Expires		
<b>Moderator</b>		<b>Planning Board</b>	
Anthony P. McBride	2009	Barbara Ziemba	2009
		Michael P. O'Brien	2010
		David B. Rhinemiller	2011
<b>Town Clerk</b>		Sandra H. Moderski	2012
Paul Hutchinson	2009	Martha J. Stohlmann	2013
<b>Selectmen</b>		<b>Cemetery Commission</b>	
Edward MacDonald	2009	Robert J. Ciempa	2009
Joseph C. Solomon	2009	Lawrence A. Clairmont	2010
Joseph R. Dean, Jr.	2010	John J. Swistak, III	2011
Donald R. Sommer	2010		
Michael G. Ouellette	2011	<b>Housing Authority</b>	
<b>Treasurer-Collector</b>		State Appointee Vacant	2009
Holly M. Denault	2010	Mark Alan Covert	2009
		Mary A. Robert	2010
<b>Assessors</b>		Carol A. Roberts	2011
Donna Aitken MacDonald	2009	Edward E. Roberts	2013
Charles J. Welch	2010	<b>Redevelopment Authority</b>	
Lynn D. Avery	2011	Lawrence A. Clairmont (State Apt.)	2005
<b>Board Of Health</b>		Jaymie L. Butler	2009
Patricia A. Clairmont	2009	David Charon	2010
Roy J. Thompson	2010	Joseph W. Allard	2012
Richard E. Frost	2011	Steven M. Blanchard	2013
<b>Library Trustees</b>		<b>Northern Berkshire Regional Vocational School Committee</b>	
James R. Loughman	2009	Aaron M. Dean	2009
Eugene F. Michalenko	2009	Joseph W. Allard	2010
Karen L. Kettles	2010	Daniel J. Maloney, Jr.	2011
Juliette Wilk-Chaffee	2010		
Joseph F. Greenbush	2011	<b>Adams-Cheshire Regional School District Committee</b>	
David M. Strzepek	2011	<b>Elected At-Large</b>	
<b>Park Commission</b>		<b>(Adams)</b>	
Willard Bard	2009	Carol A. Corrigan	2009
James J. Fassell	2009	Paul K. Butler	2010
Lorraine C. Robinson	2009	John E. Duval	2010
Wilfred R. Bourdon, III	2011	Jill A. Pompi	2011
David Charon	2011	<b>(Cheshire)</b>	
		Darlene Rodowicz	2009
		Mary Ellen Baker	2010
		Lynn T. Clairmont	2011
	<b>Term Expires</b>		



## Appointed By Moderator

	Term Expires
<b>Finance Committee</b>	
Timothy R. Burdick	2009
Craig R. Corrigan	2009
Paul S. Demastrie	2009
Fred S. Hobart	2009
Gregory E. Tremblay	2009
Matthew Cowie	2010
Edward J. Driscoll	2010
Charles H. Foster	2010
Amy A. Giroux	2010
Brian R. Johnson	2010
Rosemarie Stachura (Dec'd. 9/18/08)	2010
Angelo Decensi	
Sandra D. Kleiner	2011
John Lawson	2011
Paula I. Melville	2011
Joan Smigel	2011
<b>Town Report Committee</b>	
Haley Meczywor	
Donna Cesan	
Cheryl Dabrowski	
Penelope Fehr	
<b>Adams Memorial Day Committee</b>	
John J. Lennon	
Clement St. Hilaire	
William Bradley	
Gary Gattuso	

## Appointed At Annual Town Meeting

	Term Expires
<b>Fence Viewers</b>	
Stanley J. Ziemba, Jr.	2009
Victor Ziemba	2009
<b>Measurer Of Wood And Bark</b>	
Donald Delmolino	2009
Walter Slosek	2009

## Appointed Town Officials

May 2008
<b>Sealer of Weights &amp; Measures</b>
William Greilich
<b>Forest Warden</b>
Richard G. Kleiner
<b>Department of Public Works Director</b>
Thomas A. Satko
<b>Constables</b>
John J. Lennon
Francis Wojtaszek
Frederick Kurpiel
Anthony P. McBride
Thomas A. Satko
Herman Bishop
<b>Town Counsel</b>
Edmund St. John, III
<b>Housing &amp; Building Inspector</b>
David J. Pelletier
<b>Community Development Director</b>
Donna E. Cesan
<b>Grants Manager</b>
Jay Levine (Appointed 6/30/08)
<b>Town Planner</b>
Penelope Fehr
<b>Inspector of Gas Piping &amp; Appliances</b>
Bruce LaPerle
<b>Weighers of All Commodities:</b>
<b>Hoosac Valley Coal &amp; Grain</b>
Keith Hayden
<b>Mullen Movers</b>
Kevin O'Niell
Martin Mullen, Jr.
Craig Raymond
Mark LaVigne
<b>Specialty Minerals, Inc.</b>
William Donovan
Richard Bua
Alan Giroux
John Bouley
James Alibozek
Jeffrey Bona
Tim Sutliff
Derek Masse
<b>Lane Construction</b>
Mark Schaffrick
Joe Catrambone

**Wastewater Treatment Plant Superintendent**

Joseph Fijal

**Parks, Grounds and Recreation Superintendent**

David Nuvalle

**Conservation Commission**

James Fassell  
Anthony McBride  
Thomas Robinson  
David Randall  
Jason Krzanowski  
Douglas C. Burnett, Jr.  
Joseph J. Nowak

**Cultural Council of Northern Berkshire****Adams Representative:**

Pat Lyga  
Gracie Vincent

**Capital Improvement Planning Committee**

Edward Capeless  
John Duval  
Michael Mach  
Donald Sommer  
Robert Belanger  
David Rhinemiller  
George Haddad  
Michael Ouellette

**Council on Aging Director**

Barbara St. Pierre

**Adams Chapter Council on Aging**

Mabel Sherman  
Rose Belisle  
Eleanor Steadwell  
Michelle Wellspeak  
Julia Janowski  
MaryEllen Cyrulik  
Jeanne Trimarchi  
Jackie Rhinemiller  
Thomas Dubis

**AdHoc Committee on Solid Waste**

Joseph R. Dean Jr.  
Gregory DeBlois  
John Swistak  
Edward Driscoll  
Robert Krull (Deceased 11/4/08)  
Leon Parrott Jr.

**No. Berkshire Solid Waste Management District**

Edward Driscoll

**Traffic Commission**

Scott McWhirt  
Richard Tarsa  
Keith McLear  
Thomas Satko  
Michael O'Brien

**Animal Control Officer**

Terence E. Moran

**Weekend Animal Control Officer**

Daniel Lefebvre

**Acting Right to Know Coordinator**

Thomas A. Satko

**Mt. Greylock Advisory Board**

Joseph R. Dean, Jr.

**Wire Inspector**

David Rhinemiller

**Assistant Wire Inspector**

Les Rhinemiller

**Veterans Agent**

William Bradley (Resigned 11/28/08)  
Paul Hutchinson (Appointed 01/21/09)

**Berkshire Regional Transit Authority**

Donald Sommer

**Chief Procurement Officer**

William F. Ketcham (Resigned 9/11/08)

**Adams Tree Board**

Thomas A. Satko  
Ken Gooch, Arborist

**Hazardous Waste Coordinator**

Joseph R. Dean, Jr.

**Registrar of Voters**

Timothy Rowley  
John J. Nowicki  
Frances Meier  
Paul Hutchinson

**Superintendent of Insect Control**

Thomas A. Satko

**Zoning Board of Appeals**

Winthrop Peter Gutmann  
Michael Mach  
Joseph Allard  
Anthony Donovan  
Steven W. Martin  
Corinne Case (alternate)  
Patricia Folino (alternate)

**Historical Commission**

Jody Fijal  
Bruce D. Dumochel  
Eugene Michalenko  
John R. Cowie, Jr.  
Ryan Biros

**Employee Insurance Advisory Group**

Mary Beverly  
Beth Wojtaszek  
Keith McLearn  
Richard Biros  
Lorraine Kalisz  
Barbara St. Pierre  
Barbara Lewis  
Sharyn Klein

**Berkshire County Regional Planning Commission**

Sandy Moderski  
Edward MacDonald (alternate)

**Tree Warden**

Thomas A. Satko

**Emergency Management Director**

Richard Kleiner

**Safety Committee**

Scott McWhirt  
Scott Koczela  
Joseph Fijal  
Christopher Gelinas  
Barbara St. Pierre  
Thomas Satko  
James Taylor  
Donald Poirot  
Deborah Bruneau  
David Nuvallie

**Preservation Officer**

Eugene Michalenko

**Fair Housing Officer**

Donna E. Cesan

**Retirement Board**

Francis Wojtaszek

**Town Scholarship Committee**

Holly Denault  
Alfred Skrocki  
Paul Hutchinson  
Paula Schrade  
Bernard Pinsonneault

**Special Police Officers**

Allen Mendel  
Matthew Wright  
Justin Kruszyna (Resigned 6/5/08)  
Curtis Crane (Appointed 6/18/08)

**American with Disabilities Coordinator**

William F. Ketcham (Resigned 9/11/08)

**Information Technology Consultant**

Rob Wnuk

**Town Accountant**

Mary Beverly

**Code Enforcement Officer**

Scott Koczela

**Inspector of Plumbing**

Jeffrey Daignault

**Agricultural Commission**

Gary Alibozek  
Joseph Nowak  
Sonia McWhirt  
Michael Ziemba  
Peter Levesque  
Elaine Erdeski (Alternate)  
Tom Morin (Alternate)  
Sharyn Alibozek (Alternate)  
Terry Ziemba (Alternate)

**Trench Board**

Thomas A. Satko (Appointed 10/22/08)  
David Pelletier (Appointed 10/22/08)  
Scott Koczela (Appointed 10/22/08)

# Town Meeting Members – Annual Town Meetings

Precinct 1	June 16	Precinct 2	June 16	Precinct 3	June 16
Baker, Patricia A.	X	Biros, Richard	X	Aitken, Paul	X
Baker, Starr D.	X	Biros, Ryan	X	Boccia, Theresa M.	
Blanchard, Heather A.	X	Cardin, Bruce E.	X	Butler, Jaymie L.	X
Blanchard, Scott A.	X	Chittenden, Mark J.		Conroy-Shepley, Patricia	X
Blanchard, Steven M.	X	DeBlois, Gregory A.	X	Corrigan, Craig R.	X
Bush, James	E	Delmolino, Donald L.	X	Cowie, John R. Jr.	X
Fijal, Jody A.	E	Driscoll, Edward J.	X	Dumouchel, Bruce D.	X
Hagen, Eugene M.		Duval, John E.	X	Frost, Susan K.	X
Jette, Richard A.		Janik, Edward S.	X	Hanbery, Patrick S.	
Kline, Sarah JP	X	Kolis, Dolores J.	X	Keen, William E.	X
Kolis, David	E	Kolis, Theodore J.	X	Kopala, Stanley J.	X
Kolis, Patricia M.	E	Kozik, Michael A.		Lawson, John L.	
Kondel, Edward M.	X	Kurpiel, Frederick T.	X	Lukkarila, Sandra L.	
Kupiec, Anne E.	E	Lefebvre, Cynthia A.		Mach, Michael J.	X
Kupiec, Neil	E	Lefebvre, Jeffrey M.	X	McBride, Anthony P.	X
Meczywor, Haley A.	X	Lentine, Joseph A.	E	Moderski, Sandra H.	
Meier, Frances O.	X	Meczywor, Paula	X	Moran, David J.	X
Morin, Norma P.	X	Michalenko, Eugene F.	X	Nichols, Scott F.	X
Nimmons, Jacqueline F.	X	Schutz, Norman K.	X	Paciorek, John S.	
Nowak, James F.		Skrocki, Mary	X	Parrott, Leon S. Jr.	X
Revet, Richard E.		Taber, Candice N.	X	Parrott, Nancy A.	E
Robinson, Brenda	X	Taber, Michael Paul	X	Powers, Michael J.	X
Robinson, Lorraine C.	X	Thompson, Roy J.	X	Prokopowicz, Dawn M.	X
Robinson, Thomas	X	Turoczy, Lawrence	X	Shepley, Bruce Dale	X
Taylor, Judith L.	X	Wilk-Chaffee, Juliette J.	X	Silvia, Veronica A.	X
Taylor, Marshall	X	Wisniowski, Richard	X	Solomon, Joseph C.	
				Stohlmann, Martha J.	X
				St. Pierre, Barbara	X
				Ziembra, Barbara	X

Precinct 4	June 16
Blanchard, William T.	X
Bosworth, Kathryn	
Bourdon, Beth L.	X
Bourdon, Wilfred R. III	X
Charon, David	X
Clairmont, Lawrence A.	X
Dadak, Stephen J.	
Davenport, Susan	X
Deeley, Susan	X
Demastrie, Jacqueline M.	X
Demastrie, Paul S.	X
Denault, Ronald	X
Hayer, Joseph P	X
Lennon, John J.	E
Lillie, Dolores	
Mendel, Bruce W.	X
Mendel, Lisa A.	X
Porter, Raymond A.	X
Rymarski, Kateri A.	X
Schrade, Paula G.	E
Sommer, Michael J.	
Stachura, Rosemarie	X
Strzepek, David M.	X
Swistak, John J.	X
Taylor, James	X
Taylor, Patricia	X
Ziaja, Mark D.	X

Precinct 5	June 16
Bennett, Barbara	X
Berti, Katrina M.	X
Burdick, Timothy R.	X
Corrigan, Carol A.	X
Corrigan, Thomas J.	X
Cutillo, Dianne M.	X
Dean, Aaron M.	X
Dean, Joseph R. Jr.	X
Doyle, Ann Marie	X
Doyle, Joseph B.	X
Fassell, James J.	
Haddad, George J.	X
Hellquist, C. Barre	X
Hutchinson, Doris M.	X
Kustra, Donna Meczywor	
Lefebvre, Paul E.	
Levesque, John Joseph	X
Levesque, Lauryn B.	X
MacDonald, Donna Aitken	X
MacDonald, Edward	X
MacDonald, Thomas	X
Moran, Frederick D.	
Moran, Marilyn A.	
Morin, Thomas M.	X
Noyes, Nicholas G.	
Pinsonnault, Bernard A.	X
Satko, Thomas A.	X
Whitman, Mary E.	

## Board of Selectmen

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2008 was a year of challenges. Like many municipal officials, the Board of Selectmen became increasingly concerned with the astronomical rise in energy costs, particularly fuel costs. With fuel prices over \$4.00 per gallon by summer, Town officials made contingency plans for Town operations and to assist residents during the winter. Looking ahead, the Board realized that higher energy costs are probable well into the future. The Town sought energy audits with its electrical and natural gas providers in an effort to find ways to cut overall energy usage in the operation of Town buildings.

In April, a new employee union was established representing the Town's administrative, custodial, and police dispatch personnel. The new union is part of the AFSCME Local #204. The Selectmen had to hire legal counsel with specialized expertise in labor relations to represent the Town in the negotiations with the new union. The Board, aided by its specialized counsel, entered into negotiations with representatives of the new union to develop a contract. Those negotiations continue.

Also during the year, the Board was confronted by a difficult situation with concerns over the performance of the Town Administrator. The Selectmen determined that it would be in the best interests of the community if the Town Administrator's contract were terminated. After a formal solicitation by the Board, the Town was fortunate that a knowledgeable and capable resident stepped forward to serve, without pay, as the Interim Town Administrator. The Selectmen appointed a Search Committee and the interview process of suitable candidates for the Administrator position is expected to be completed early in 2009.

The Town, working with the state Department of Conservation & Recreation (DCR), continued to make good progress on the planning of the proposed Greylock Glen Outdoor Recreation & Environmental Education Center. A botanical survey was completed yielding welcome information that none of the proposed project elements would likely impact endangered or threatened species. An advisory committee was appointed to assist the Community Development Department in evaluating various issues related to the project and to provide feedback on the work of consultants hired by DCR and the Town.

The Town's downtown revitalization efforts continued with façade rehabilitation of additional commercial structures and progress on the redevelopment of the Jones Block building.



*(l-r) Michael G. Ouellette, Donald R. Sommer, Joseph C. Solomon (Chairman), Joseph R Dean, Jr. and Edward MacDonald*

The Town's agreement with the MA Department of Housing & Community Development was amended so that the \$1 million CDAG grant could apply to improvements on both the Jones Block and the Armory Block buildings. Construction plans and specifications were completed and passed muster with the Massachusetts Historic Commission and the U.S. Department of Interior, both reviews necessary prior to publicly bidding the project. Implementation of the Hinge Block Parking Project continued with final paving being completed in November. And the Town's Armory Court Park Project on Pleasant Street was initiated, which once finished will complete the Town's revitalization efforts in the Armory Court area.

A take charge attitude has been evident among the merchants of Summer Street who were active in their merchants association hosting the first Summer Street Fair in June. The event was a great success and the merchants have continued to be a strong advocacy group for projects like the Summer Street Improvement Project submitted for state funding by the Community Development Department.

With the progressively more negative state and national economic picture, the Town's finances sustained increasing pressures. The Board took prudent steps to prepare for 2010 budget season, with an eye toward maintaining essential services stabilizing the tax burden on Town residents.

# Town Clerk

## SPORTING LICENSES ISSUED

Resident Fishing .....	171
Resident Fishing Minor .....	14
Resident Fishing 65-69 .....	23
Resident Fishing Over 70 .....	52
Non-Resident Fishing .....	9
Non-Resident Fishing - 3-Day .....	3
Non-Resident Fishing Minor .....	0
Resident Fishing - 3 Day .....	1
Resident Trapping .....	0
Resident Trapping - Minor .....	0
Resident Trapping - 65-69 .....	0
Duplicate Fishing .....	2
Resident Citizen Hunting .....	43
Resident Hunting - 65-69 .....	3
Resident Hunting Paraplegic .....	0
Non-Resident Hunting, Big Game .....	3
Non-Resident Hunting, Small Game .....	0
Resident Citizen Minor Hunting .....	3
Resident Sporting .....	191
Resident Sporting 65-69 .....	26
Resident Citizen Sporting Over 70 .....	77
Duplicate Hunting .....	1
Duplicate Sporting .....	5
Archery Stamp .....	90
Waterfowl Stamp .....	7
Primitive Firearms Stamp .....	120

**Totals.....844**

## PAYMENTS

To Division Of Fisheries And Wildlife .....	
\$17,601.75	
To Town Treasurer-Collector For: Dog Licenses	
& Fees, Sporting Fees, Marriage Permits,	
Certified Copies, Gasoline Permits, Pole	
Locations, Cemetery Lot Deeds, Abstracts,	
Miscellaneous, (Includes Late Dog Fees),	
Raffle Permits, Application Fees-Zoning	
Board Of Appeals, Fines-Non-Criminal .....	
20,703.85	

**Total.....\$**  
**38,305.60**

2006 - \$40,586.20

2007 - \$43,878.98

Vital Statistics	2008	2007	2006
Births Reported	54	85	69
Marriages Reported	44	43	61
Deaths	115	118	104

## GAS STATION RENEWALS

11

## DOG LICENSES ISSUED

Number of Males .....	98
Number of Neutered Males .....	351
Number of Females .....	42
Number of Spayed Females .....	407
Number of 4 Dogs Kennel Lic. ....	13
Number of 10 Dogs Kennel Lic. ....	2
Number of 25 Dogs Kennel Lic. ....	0
Transfer Licenses .....	0

**Total .....913**

**Town Census 9,488**

## VOTER REGISTRATION

### State Presidential Primary Election — February 5, 2008

PREC.	DEM.	REP.	UNEN	GREEN/ RAIN J	WORK/ FAM Z	LIB. L	REFORM E	GREEN USA G	TOTALS
1	376	91	618	1	4	9	0	1	1,100
2	444	73	647	3	1	1	1	0	1,170
3	465	118	619	0	1	9	0	0	1,212
4	397	89	616	1	0	9	0	2	1,114
5	477	108	693	1	0	5	1	1	1,286
2,159		479	3,193	6	6	33	2	4	5,882

## VOTER REGISTRATION

### Annual Town Election — May 5, 2008

PREC.	DEM.	REP.	UNEN	GREEN/	WORK/	LIB.	REFORM	GREEN	TOTALS
				RAIN J	FAM Z	L	E	USA G	
1	384	90	604	1	4	7	0	1	1,091
2	450	72	654	3	1	1	1	0	1,182
3	459	117	628	1	1	6	0	0	1,212
4	393	85	629	1	0	9	0	2	1,119
5	476	102	707	2	0	5	1	1	1,294
2,162		466	3,222	8	6	28	2	4	5,898

## VOTER REGISTRATION

### State Primary Election — September 16, 2008

PREC.	DEM.	REP.	UNEN	GREEN/ RAIN J	WORK/ FAM Z	LIB. L	REFORM E	GREEN USA G	TOTALS
1	397	87	612	1	5	6	0	1	1,109
2	453	71	671	3	1	0	1	0	1,200
3	458	122	646	1	1	6	0	0	1,234
4	398	86	635	2	0	7	0	2	1,130
5	471	103	718	2	0	5	1	1	1,301
2,177		469	3,282	9	7	24	2	4	5,974

## VOTER REGISTRATION

### Mass Presidential Election — November 4, 2008

GREEN/ WORK/ LIB. REFORM GREEN									
PREC.	DEM.	REP.	UNEN	RAIN J	FAM Z	L	E	USA G	TOTALS
1	395	87	599	1	6	5	0	1	1,094
2	440	70	671	2	2	0	1	0	1,186
3	456	114	625	1	1	5	0	0	1,202
4	397	85	621	2	3	6	0	0	1,114
5	461	105	711	1	0	5	1	0	1,284
2,149		461	3,227	7	12	21	2	1	5,880



# Community Development Department

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The Adams Community Development Department continued to implement an intense work program in 2008, with the implementation of projects funded under the Massachusetts Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program. Staff work is focused on completing several individual projects for each year of funding, as well as developing the next year's grant application. Projects included continuation of the Downtown Façade & Signage Improvement Program and the Adams Housing Rehabilitation Program, and construction of the proposed Armory Court Park project, all three programs to be administered by Community Development staff. Community Development staff submitted the Town's FY08 CDBG application in February 2008, but unfortunately funds were not awarded to the Town. Administrative funds from CDBG cover the wages and benefits of the grants staff within the Community Development Department. Grants program staff include: Donna Cesan, Director; Penny Fehr, Community Development Planner; Jay Levine, Grants Manager, and Kelly Rice, Financial Assistant.

## Adams Downtown Revitalization Program

The Community Development Department continues to implement recommendations in the *Adams Downtown Development Plan* (adopted in 2003). Progress on several downtown projects was accomplished in 2008:

### Jones Block Redevelopment Project

A major effort in 2008 was ensuring continued progress on implementation of the Jones Block Redevelopment Project. Throughout 2008, CD staff worked with the developer, the developer's architects, and a Town-hired architect needed to review the proposed façade rehabilitation work on the Jones Block and Armory Block buildings to be funded under a Community Development Action Grant (CDAG) awarded to the Town. Early in the year, the developer (Samuel Adams Enterprises, LLC) contracted with a preservation consultant to begin the historic assessment work necessary to comply with the Part II application to the Massachusetts Historic Commission (MHC) and the U.S. Department of the Interior. Westall Architects, the developer's architects for the Jones Block, completed the draft construction drawings and specifications and submitted them to the Town and the Department of Housing & Community Development (DHCD) for review.

The Town issued the Request for Proposals for design review services for the Jones Block Historic Facades Project on July 16, 2008. The Town selected Russo Barr Associates, Inc. and entered into a contract with the firm on September 18, 2008. Andrew Barr, PE, a principal in the firm, immediately began work on the scope of services by reviewing Westall Architects construction plans and specifications for the Jones Block and Armory Block historic façade renovations. His review identified several areas where the scope of work needed clarification and greater specificity. In particular, he recommended that the extent of masonry restoration needed to be clearly defined on the plans and quantified in the specs in order to avoid a wide range of pricing based on differences of opinion of what is needed, and he recommended asking for unit prices. Mr. Barr also recommended

additional detail was needed for the windows. Final bid plans and specifications are expected to be completed in early 2009, at which time the façade project will be put out to bid.

In summer 2008, the developer determined it was necessary to proceed with an initial phase of work involving interior stabilization within the Jones Block, hiring Burke Construction, Inc. The stabilization work was much more involved than originally anticipated. Steel beams had to be integrated into the back and side walls to strengthen the existing brick walls. The second and third floors were constructed to properly tie in with the walls and the stabilization work, and the new stairways were built. Additionally, the developer completed necessary utility upgrades in both buildings (new water and sewer connecting lines for the Jones Block were installed by the developer, employing C & A Construction) and the electrical panels had to be upgraded in both buildings to receive the new underground service from the Town's parking project.

CD staff was also busy completing exhibits needed to prepare the amendment to the Town's CDAG agreement with DHCD. The completed exhibits were sent to DHCD and the final Deed of Facades Easement was signed by the Board of Selectmen and the developer, and recorded at the Northern Berkshire Registry of Deeds with a copy of the recorded easement sent to DHCD. The amendment is expected to be fully executed in January 2009.

### Hinge Block Parking Project

During 2008, work started on the Hinge Block Parking Project located behind the Jones Block building. An important element of the Town's downtown revitalization program, the Hinge Block project is part of the focus on improving the Armory Court area and the rear facades of downtown properties visible from the Ashuwillticook Rail Trail. In late 2007, the Town hired C & A Construction Company of Ludlow to construct the parking area. C & A initiated construction in early spring as soon as the ground thawed. Throughout the 2008 construction season, C & A continued to make progress on the construction project. All drainage and underground utilities, granite curbing, and the binder coat of pavement were completed by the contractor. Additional work accomplished during the year included the completion of a small retaining wall on the northern end of the parking area, 50% completion of the installation of decorative concrete pavers for walkways, installation of the lighting fixtures, and landscaping. The final top coat of pavement was completed in November just prior to the project being halted for winter conditions. Final punch list items will be completed during the 2009 construction season, with the project being closed out no later than June 30, 2009.

Once finished, the parking project, along with the proposed Armory Court Park, will complete the recommended revitalization projects for this part of the downtown, as identified in the *Downtown Development Plan*.

### Armory Court Project

CD staff continued efforts toward implementation of the

Armory Court Park Project located at 12 Pleasant Street. The vacant mobile home was tested for asbestos and lead, and later asbestos was carefully removed from the structure. Following the remediation, CD staff was able to obtain the requisite demolition permit from the Town's Building Commissioner. Town DPW staff completed the demo of the mobile home so that the site was free of any structures and debris. The Town's project designer completed the construction plans and specifications, and the project was put out to bid on September 25, 2008. Bids were due on October 17, 2008 with six bidders responding to the Town's invitation. Del-Rich, Inc. of Pittsfield was the low bidder with a bid of \$85,700. A Notice of Award was issued on October 31, 2008 and a Pre-Construction Meeting was held on November 6, 2008 with the contractor, DPW, and Community Development staff.

The contractor began work immediately by providing a schedule of values, staking out the project layout for approval by the designer, and ordering benches, tables & chairs, trash receptacles, and bike racks. The project is expected to be completed by summer 2009.

### **Adams Downtown Façade & Signage Improvement Program**

The Adams Downtown Façade & Signage Improvement Program continues to be a key downtown revitalization program within the Adams town center and serves as a catalyst for private investment. The program provides financial incentives in the form of grants and loans to Downtown property owners and businesses enabling them to undertake needed façade renovations. The Adams Downtown Façade & Signage Improvement Program works to eliminate blighting conditions in the Downtown target area, specifically decreasing the number of structures rated in "fair, poor, or severely dilapidated" condition. In 2008, Department staff worked to complete the final few projects funded by FY06 CDBG and worked with several business/building owners on façade improvement projects to be funded by FY07 CDBG, including a number of Summer Street building owners.

### **Greylock Glen Outdoor Recreation & Environmental Education Center Project**

Significant progress on the planning work for the Town's Greylock Glen project continued throughout 2008. Vanasse, Hangen & Brustlin (VHB – under contract w/the Town) completed a preliminary Site Master Plan incorporating the proposed footprints of the lodging and conference center, the environmental education/Nordic ski center, and the performing arts amphitheatre. The draft Master Plan will also incorporate the proposed campground layout and the trails layout connecting the above facilities. VHB also developed the proposed trail alignments within the 53-acre Development Area, which will connect the proposed facilities and link with the larger multi-use trails network on the Glen site and the State Reservation. During 2008, VHB evaluated various options for the location of the campground and determined that

locating the campground off Gould Road would allow it to be served by public utilities and by having it proximate to the other proposed facilities, automobile use will be reduced.

Dodson & Associates (hired by DCR) made significant progress in developing the alignments for the proposed multi-use trails system for the project. A meeting with local trails users and mountain biking enthusiasts was held in December to review the latest revisions. With input from the Town and DCR, Dodson significantly reduced the number of Class I trails, so these are by and large limited to the Development Area.

The botanical survey required by the Massachusetts Natural Heritage and Endangered Species Program (NHESP) was undertaken from May to September 2008. DCR hired Biodiversity, LLC of Amherst to conduct the survey. The consultant is an NHESP-approved contractor to perform the type of survey work needed for the Glen project. Once the field work was completed in fall 2008, Biodiversity prepared their initial findings, which indicated that the proposed facilities located within the Development Area (Environmental Education Center, Performing Arts Amphitheatre, and the Lodging and Conference Center) should not impact endangered species. They did note that some of the proposed stream crossings of the trails system will pose impacts. Dodson & Associates (under contract with DCR) began work on evaluating ways to reduce the number of crossings.

An initial meeting of the Town's Advisory Committee for the Glen project was held on May 9, 2008. The purpose of the Advisory Committee is to assist the Town in developing the Greylock Glen Outdoor Recreation and Environmental Education Center project in accordance with DCR's *Greylock Glen Amended Master Plan* dated April 2004 and the Town's September 14, 2004 proposal submitted in response to the Commonwealth's Request for Proposals for a project developer. The Advisory Committee is established to provide a small, focused group to guide the project and assist the Town, through its Community Development Department, in making project decisions. The Committee serves in an advisory capacity only, has no legal powers to put recommendations into action, nor does it have any liability that may result from consequences of actions taken by the Town of Adams.

Community Development and DCR staffs expect to begin meeting with various state agency personnel to introduce them to the project and gain their input in the early months of 2009. Given the preliminary results of the botanical survey, the Town should be in a position to file under the Massachusetts Environmental Policy Act (MEPA) by mid-2009.

# Inspectors

## Building Inspector

The Building Inspector's Office issued Three Hundred Seventy One (371) permits for construction, demolition, alterations and additions, change of use, woodstove/chimney installations, certificate of inspections and curb cut / driveway entrances during 2008. A total of Twenty Five Thousand Eight Hundred Forty and Fifty Five cents (\$25,840.55) in filing fees was collected during the year.

Numerous inspections were carried out on these new permits as well as those requested for single, multi family and assembly buildings or by the Adams Board of Health, Adams Housing Authority, Office of Transitional Assistance, and the office of Mass. Small Cities Program. We also handled many citizen inquiries, requests and complaints. Forty (40) Certificates of Inspection, inspections were done on restaurants, bars, clubs, food establishments, schools, and churches.

Three (3) permits were issued for new single-family dwellings. Twenty one (21) permits were filed for Commercial / Business / Non-Residential buildings.

Types of Permits:	# of Permits
Single Family Dwelling .....	3
Pools .....	4
Demolition.....	9
Res. additions, alterations, conversions, repairs.....	55
New Residential accessory structures i.e. sheds.....	2
New Residential Garages .....	2
Siding Residential .....	22
Roofing Residential .....	88
Windows / Replacement windows .....	31
Decks .....	39
Churches / Schools / Government Buildings .....	4
Commercial / Business / Non-Residential.....	21
Signs .....	8
Change-of-Use.....	2
Fill .....	0
Home Occupations .....	0
Woodstove / Pellet Stove / Coal Stove .....	53
Curb-cut / Driveway entrance .....	3
Certificate of Inspection .....	40
Adams Housing Rehab Program .....	7
<b>TOTAL BUILDING PERMITS .....</b>	<b>371</b>

**PLUMBING PERMITS .....**44

**GASFITTING PERMITS .....**105

In light of recent inquiries from Town residents pertaining to building permits, the Community Development staff decided to list common projects that would require a building permit, but not limited to the following.

### PERMITS REQUIRED:

- Sheds
- Garages
- Siding
- Roofing
- Replacement windows
- Doors
- Decks
- In-ground Pool
- Above-ground Pool (not applicable to pools less than twenty-four (24) inches deep, except where pools have water circulation systems)
- New Chimneys and Liners, fireplace insert, solid fuel ie: exterior and interior Wood Stove, Pellet Stove & Coal Stove
- Signs
- Awnings
- Fill
- Fences over Six (6) feet in height.
- Trench Permits

## Electrical Inspector

Commercial Rough-in.....	45
Final Inspections .....	138
Furnaces .....	12
Industrial Rough-in .....	26
Pools.....	4
Residential Rough-in .....	142
Services 100 Amp. ....	42
Services 150 Amp. ....	1
Services 200 Amp. ....	26
Services 400 Amp. ....	12
Services 600 Amp. ....	3
Services 800 Amp. ....	3
Services Reconnection on Old .....	6
Services Temporary .....	6

### Miscellaneous Inspections

Board of Health.....	8
Building Inspector .....	10
Complaints .....	36
Fires.....	4
Insurance Companies .....	14
Loan Agencies.....	12
Adams Housing Rehab Program.....	14
Power Company .....	18
State Inspectors Office .....	14
State Police.....	2
State Police Fire Marshal .....	2
Inspections Completed .....	600
Permits Granted .....	138

## Gas Inspector

A total of Four Thousand Three Hundred & Forty Five dollars (\$4,345.00) was collected for 2008 filing fees for Gasfitting Permits.

## Plumbing Inspector

A total of One Thousand Eight Hundred & Eighty Five dollars (\$1,885.00) was collected for 2008 in Plumbing fees.

## Sealer of Weights and Measures

Truck scales over 10,000 lbs. ....	14
Gasoline hoses .....	60
Scales under 10,000 lbs. ....	71
Market/Deli .....	7
Asphalt plant .....	1
Coal warehouse .....	1
Storage warehouse.....	1
Laundry .....	2
Lumber yard .....	1
Kerosene/diesel .....	2
Drugstores .....	2
Cement plant.....	1
Reverse vending .....	3
Farmers market.....	4
Ice Plant .....	1

Establishments Sealed and Certified .....35

Total monies collected for the calendar year 2008 for the Town of Adams was \$2,729.00.

## Planning Board

Section 125-9 of the Adams Zoning Bylaw establishes provisions for the review and approval of Site Plans. Subsection 125-19(E) identifies the uses that require Site Plan review by the Planning Board. Generally, any exterior modification of an existing non-residential building, other than signage and trash containers, also requires approved Site Plan.

The Planning Board convened for six (6) public hearings at which it addressed Three (3) Site Plan applications, Six (6) Form A (Approval Not Required for Subdivision Plans) and one (1) Subdivision Definitive Plan.

Specific applications reviewed included Site Plan approval for the following: 67 East Road, 9 Hoosac Street, and 43 Printworks Drive which was Dismissed Without Prejudice.

In addition, the Board approved Eight (8) Form A (Approval Not Required for Subdivision Plan) for properties located at: 90 Burlingame Hill Rd, 1 East Rd, 66 Notch Rd, West Maple St, East Orchard Terrace, Upper East Hoosac St., Overlook Terrace and Water St.

The Planning Board also reviewed and approved a Definitive Subdivision for property located off of Orchard Street.

Members of the Planning Board included: David Rhinemiller Chairman; Michael O'Brien, Vice-chairman; Martha Stohlmann, Barbara Ziemba, and Sandra Moderski.

Committees represented by the Board are: Traffic Commission, Michael O'Brien; Berkshire Regional Planning Commission, Sandra Moderski; and Capital Improvement Committee (CIP), David Rhinemiller.

## Zoning Board of Appeals

The Zoning Board of Appeals meets when required to hear an appeal from an applicant who has been denied some or all of his or her building application. Typically, an applicant seeking the right to develop or build on a property, who has received a negative decision of the Building Inspector or the Planning Board, may appeal that decision to the Zoning Board of Appeals. The Board also hears and issues decisions for Variance applications under MGL Chapter 40A Section 10, and Special Permit applications to expand or alter a pre-existing nonconforming structure or use under MGL Chapter 40A Section 6. The Board of Appeals plays a key role in determining Special Permit applications under the Adams Zoning Bylaw.

The responsibility of the Town of Adams Zoning Board of Appeals is to provide fair and impartial public hearings on zoning issues presented. On designated meeting nights, the Board meets to hear and decide applications for Special Permits, applications for Variances (including Variances for Use); to hear and decide other appeals, to issue permits and to issue withheld building permits.

This past year, applicants ranging from individual homeowners to new business owners and existing businesses appeared before the Board with the responsibility to show that the granting of their requested Special Permit or Variance would not compromise the reasoning behind the enactment of the bylaws. A broad range of interesting and difficult issues was presented to the Board. Working together, the Board tried to balance the need for economic development with the rules, regulations, and intent of the Zoning Bylaws.

Many issues came before the Board during 2008, this year Eight (8) Public Hearings were conducted involving Four (4) Special Permit requests and Four (4) Variance requests. One (1) Special Permit was Withdrawn Without Prejudice.

The Board of Appeals is comprised of Five (5) members appointed by the Selectman and Two (2) alternate members who take the place of a member of the Board in case of a temporary vacancy, absence, inability to act, or conflict of interest.

During the calendar year the Adams Zoning Board of Appeals consisted of the five permanent members one of which resigned, Steven Martin. Patricia Folino was appointed by the Board of Selectman. Current permanent members: W. Peter Gutmann, Chairman; Michael Mach, Vice-Chairman; Anthony Donovan,

Joseph Allard and Patricia Folino and alternate Corinne Case with the help of the recording secretary Melissa Schaffrick. Michael Mach serves as the Board's delegate to the Capital Improvement Planning Committee.

## **Conservation Commission**

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The Conservation Commission has seven (7) members. Jason Krzanowski serves as Chairman, James Fassell, is Vice Chairman. The members are Thomas Robinson, Anthony McBride, Douglas Burnett, Joseph Nowak and David Randall.

Twelve (12) business meetings were held in 2008. The Commission Acted on four (4) Requests for Determinations and four (4) Notices of Intent.

### **Notices of Intent were filed and the Commission issued Order of Conditions for the following projects:**

1. Carol Crossed for improvements to the Single family home known as the Anthony House located at 67 East Road;
2. GZA Geo Environmental, Inc. for Hall Brook Dam LLC for the removal of the unsafe Hall Brook Dam located on Gilead Street;
3. Paul Trova for construction of an on site gravel parking area located at 9 Hoosac Street; and
4. David Allen for construction of a single family home located at Hoxie Brook Road.

### **Determinations of Applicability were issued for the following:**

1. Mass Highway for roadway resurfacing of Route 116, driveway approach work and replacement of a masonry wall;
2. John Burke for construction of a storage garage located at 6 Renfrew Street;
3. Maxwell Fiske for work to broaden and repair an existing driveway; and
4. Holland Company for the removal of a tank and leveling of fill areas located at 153 Howland Avenue.

### **Continuation of an Order of Conditions was issued for the following:**

1. The Department of Conservation and Recreation for the Greylock Historic Parkway Rehabilitation Project.

### **Abbreviated Notice of Resource Area Delineation issued for the following:**

1. Keith Randall for property located at 90 Burlingame Hill Road.

### **Emergency Certifications – 3 Issued**

## **Adams Agricultural Fair Bowe Field**

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The 34<sup>th</sup> annual Adams Agricultural Fair was held on Bowe Field. Approximately 4,000 people attended the three day event despite the rain.

The field was used by the Northern Berkshire Radio Club for their annual flea market. Custom City Cycle sponsored their annual charity Fall Run beginning at Bowe Field and the Berkshire Kings from the New England Football League used the field for practice.

An upgrade to the main electrical box was completed through a grant from the William J. and Margery S. Barrett Fund of the Taconic Community Foundation.

## **Agricultural Commission**

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The Commission was formed to enhance and promote the farming interests of Adams. The Commission put forth a Right to Farm By-law which was enacted by a vote of the Town Meeting members. The By-law protects the rights of farmers of Adams. Three signs recognizing the Towns Right to Farm By-law were erected and placed on the highways as you enter the Town.

The Commission has started an access cable television show highlighting farm related topics. We have entertained programs at our schools, hoping to educate students on the importance of maintaining our existing farms. A community garden has been started and the Commission members have assisted special needs students by planting flowers, hoping to brighten their spirits. Members have attended conferences in order to keep abreast of the many laws, programs, and farming needs of agricultural pursuits throughout the Commonwealth. The Adams Agricultural Commission members have also lobbied officials letting them know of the needs of our Town farmers. In short, we are proud of our many accomplishments.

# Board of Health

The Town's Code Enforcement Officer conducted 192 apartment inspections, generating \$4,275 in fee revenue.

## Public Health Nursing

### Community Blood Pressure Clinics: 4 sites

Under Age 65:	72
Over Age 65:	284
Male:	76
Female:	280

Total Residents: 356

Flu Vaccinations administered: 561

### Communicable Disease Investigation and Reporting:

Streptococcus pneumoniae:	2
Lyme Disease:	2
Salmonellosis:	1
Haemophilus Influenzae:	1
Viral Meningitis:	1
Group A Streptococcus:	1

All reports were completed and forwarded to the Massachusetts Department of Public Health for recording.

Adams residents also attended walk-in clinics held on Tuesdays and Thursdays at the VNA office for blood pressure checks, medication reviews, TB skin testing and blood sugar checks. Health promotion information is offered at these clinics also.

## School Nursing

Nursing services at St. Stanislaus Kostka School are provided by contract with School Nurse Jean King, RN. Monthly reports for this program are submitted to the School Principal and the Adams Board of Health.

## Services Provided

- Registration of Pre-Kindergarten, and Kindergarten as well as transferring students are accepted but only with strict adherence to state-mandated immunization and physical exam laws.
- Immunization surveys for Kindergarten and Grade 7 are required and sent to Boston yearly.
- Physical examinations must be done and documented for school entrance and every three years thereafter.
- A Confidential List of student medical information is given to each teacher at the start of school.
- Tetanus Boosters, required by State Law, are needed for entry into Seventh Grade.
- Strict adherence to State Medication Administration Law is followed for all medication given in school. A written Doctor's Order along with written Parent Permission must be received before any medication can be given, including over-the-counter medication.
- All students are screened for Pediculosis (head lice) in September and throughout the year if necessary.
- Vision and Hearing screenings are done for all students and referrals sent if further testing is indicated.
- New this year, Asthma Reports will now be a yearly requirement of Boston DPH.
- Heights, Weights and Body Mass Index Calculations are done for every student.
- Scoliosis (Postural) screenings are done for all students Grades 5 through 8. Parents are notified ahead of time and referrals are sent if indicated. Boston DPH requires a yearly report.
- The Nurse is present in the school everyday during recess and all day during gym day for the administration of First Aid.
- Classroom teaching topics include Illness Prevention, Dental Hygiene, Personal Hygiene/Sex Education (with written parent permission) and Prevention of Head Lice Transmission.
- Staff is given yearly up-to-date recommendations provided by the Center for Disease Control (CDC).
- Close communications with parents, staff and physicians are a major part of total nursing responsibilities.



# Department of Public Works

## Highway Division

### Street Resurfacing:

The Town has been diligent in following its Pavement Management Plan. This allowed the resurfacing of streets to be put on hold for one year. The Chapter 90 funds that have been traditionally used to resurface streets were used to purchase a new loader for the Department of Public Works. Resurfacing of streets will resume in 2009.

### Sidewalk Replacement:

Sidewalks that were scheduled to be replaced in 2008 will be done in the spring of 2009. The contractor had to do some emergency work for the Massachusetts Highway Department and could not replace the sidewalks before winter weather was upon us.

### Guardrails were replaced on the following streets:

950'	East Hoosac Street
100'	Phillips Hill

### A total of 19 new trees were planted throughout the town:

Bob's Hill	Melrose Street	Summit Avenue
Columbia Street	Morningside Avenue	Thompson Street
East Road	North Summer Street	Woods Drive
Gilead Street	Renfrew Field	Harmony Street
Summer Street		

There are presently nine full-time employees in the Highway Division. Other tasks performed by the Highway Division were the following:

- Street Sweeping
- Patching Streets
- Scarifying and shaping unpaved roads
- Maintaining guardrails, culverts and surface drains
- Maintaining parking meters and regulatory signs
- Painting all crosswalks, parking spaces and center lines
- Sanding, snow plowing and snow removal
- Repairing and rebuilding catch basins and sewer manholes
- Repairing sidewalks
- Inspecting new sewer connections (4)
- Planting new trees
- Chipping brush on the sides of roads
- Chipping brush at the Recycling Center
- Sanding and snow plowing Hoosac Valley High School, Adams Memorial Middle School and C.T. Plunkett Elementary School

### Bridge Replacement:

The replacement of two bridges in Town that were funded and overseen by the Massachusetts Highway Department were completed in 2008. The River Street Bridge began in October 2007 and was finished in June by J.H. Maxymillian, Inc. The Leonard Street Bridge began in April and was completed in November by the Petricca Construction Company.

## Flood Control Project

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers conducts an annual inspection of the Adams Flood Control Project. As a result of the inspection there are three areas in the flood control project where shoals must be removed and areas where the concrete walls or floors need minor repair. The Town has hired Stantec Consulting Services, Inc. to provide environmental and engineering services and prepare a plan to determine the required environmental permitting applications and to complete all environmental permitting applications. Stantec Consulting Services will provide permitting, construction layout and design, preparation of bid documents, assistance in the bid process, and construction supervision for the removal of the shoals and concrete repairs.

## Equipment and Maintenance Division

There are presently two full time employees in the Equipment and Maintenance Division, which is in charge of repairing and maintaining all of the Town-owned vehicles and equipment, which include: 48 equipment / vehicles for the DPW including Highway, Waste Water Treatment Plant, Forest Warden's, Parks and Grounds, and Cemetery Departments; nine vehicles for the Police Department; two vans for the Council on Aging. This Division also maintains lawn mowers, chain saws, water pumps, generators, snow blowers, air compressors, etc.

The maintenance shop does all of its own fabrication and welding to plows, plow frames, dump bodies, and loader buckets. The shop also changes all tires, including loader tires and large truck tires. Numerous repairs are performed each day.

This division also writes specifications for all equipment to be purchased.



DPW Loader



*DPW Truck - F450 Ford Dump Truck 4x4 w/plow*



*DPW Truck - F350 Ford Pickup 4x4 w/plow*

In 2008 the Town, through the Equipment and Maintenance Division, purchased the following equipment:

- 2008 – F450 Ford Dump Truck 4X4 w/ plow
- 2008 – Zwack 6 YD Sanding Body
- 2008 – (2) F350 Ford Pickups 4X4 w/ plow
- 2009 – 544K John Deere Loader

## **Parks & Grounds Division**

### **CEMETERIES**

#### **Maple Street Cemetery**

Two large maple trees were removed and several more have been identified for removal in the near future. Damage from woodpeckers has been extensive this year due to rotting wood infested with insects. Five maple trees were planted along Center Road. Activity was as usual with no major projects or repairs performed.

#### **Bellevue Cemetery**

As usual cemetery employees repaired underground pipes and loamed and seeded winter burials in the spring. The cemetery was in spectacular condition for Memorial Day. Section LL New was expanded again this year. An additional 500 grave sites were created along the south east portion of the cemetery.

### **FLOOD CONTROL**

The joint inspection of the flood control system with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers was conducted in September 2008. All of the issues mentioned in the 2007 report were addressed and corrected. This year the maintenance was performed jointly between the Highway and Parks and Cemetery Divisions. As mandated by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, all trees over 2 inches in diameter and within the 10 foot boundary were removed

by town employees. The entire work schedule this year lasted well over five weeks due to the extra work load. DPW employees performed the usual vegetation removal and also cleared trees along many portions of the system until winter conditions prohibited such work.

## **Parks And Athletic Fields**

#### **Russell Field**

The breached stream repairs held up well and no further work will be required. The tennis courts had a major, and much needed repair performed this fall. The entire courts were entirely repainted and relined along with the north to south crack being filled and repaired. The department also installed new tennis nets.

#### **Valley Street Field**

The roof was identified as needing several thousand dollars in repairs in 2007 and all such repairs have been completed. Many other repairs were performed on the field house including replacement wood trim and replacement of T11 along the front of the structure. A new fence was installed at the north end of the soccer fields. The north entrance that had a gravel walkway was finally paved along with a new walk through gate.

#### **Reid Field**

The stream along the east border overflowed again this year. The softball season had a very large turn out and all leagues seem to be enjoying the new facility that was constructed four years ago. The entire skinned diamond was refurbished including new baseball mix.

#### **Renfrew Field**

This is Renfrew's first full year of operations. Everything seemed to run smoothly. The irrigation system proved to be an excellent addition to the facility along with the high tech field

lighting system. As usual the skateboard park and basketball courts had record participation throughout the summer into late fall. The Adams Police Department installed ultra high tech security cameras on the building which were successful in recording vandalism to the building.

### **Town Common**

The parks employees repaired several of the wrought iron benches at the common again this year. Several benches were brought to the cemetery garage and totally refurbished. They also decorated the entire common for winter holidays which included a 25 foot pine tree and all the small oak trees. The gazebo had lights and red bows displayed for the season. The department identified maintenance issues with the gazebo that will be addressed next year.

### **Memorial Park**

Memorial Park had a new solar powered lighting system installed this year. The American flag is now illuminated with the latest in solar powered panels and lights.

### **OTHER DUTIES**

Parks & Grounds staff maintains lighting on Park Street, Armory Court and all of Memorial Park. Staff also maintains several miles of the flood control system which spans from Lime Street to Reeves Street. The division keeps all bridges, walkways and street crossing ramps clear of snow, assists the Highway Division with all public plowing and performs town-wide trash removal, which includes many public buildings, athletic fields, playgrounds, cemeteries, and downtown street receptacles. Each year staff also decorates Park Street, Hoosac Street and Summer Street light poles with holiday decorations.

## **USTA Summer Tennis Program**

Encouraging play and having fun while learning the basics are the main objectives of the summer tennis program. The residents of the Town of Adams are utilizing the courts more each year so schedules were adjusted to assist this program. A great deal of thanks needs to go to the Town of Adams employees who arranged to have the courts resurfaced in the Fall of 2008.

The youth program ran twice a week for 5 weeks. The improving skill level of all participants was very obvious. Many of the participants were repeat students so their tennis abilities greatly improved. Some of the players participated in a tournament in North Adams sponsored by the Northern Berkshire Community Tennis Association (NBCTA) who I am also working with as a Board member and instructor. Our own Sarah Mikutowicz took First Place in her age division. I anticipate more cooperative activities in the future. Late next summer the NBCTA is having their first USTA Sanctioned Junior Tournament.

Parent involvement was extremely positive. The number of participants this year was 50 including ages 5-14. The program ended with a graduation ceremony. The Adams Youth Tennis Program has become popular. Volunteers are stepping forward to assist. If you are willing to join us, you are more than welcome.

Interest in competition remains a possibility. The NBCTA program is also supporting this idea. We would like to add mini tennis tournaments in Adams on Sunday afternoons during the summer program. The 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday will kick off with a family day. We are encouraging parents and their youngsters to join other Adams families for a day of Fun Tennis. Tennis experience not required. More plans will be shared later.

Special thanks for all the help and continued support that has been extended to this program. I am always looking for new ideas that will further strengthen this program. If anyone has anything to offer, please contact me. A special, special thanks to the youth of Adams. You are indeed a credit to your parents, schools, and town. I look forward to working with you once again in the very near future.

John T. Clarno, Professional  
Tennis Registry #363  
Director of Programs, HCTA

# Adams Wastewater Treatment Plant

The Adams Wastewater Treatment Facility was in continuous operation for the year 2008 and had no excursions with regards to the parameters and limits set forth in the federal National Pollution Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit allowing the discharge of treated wastewater to the Hoosic River. The facility is staffed with seven full time employees who all possess a Massachusetts Wastewater Treatment Plant Operators license of a Grade 4 level or higher. Hours of operation are 7 AM – 3 PM, Monday through Friday. Weekend laboratory staffing is rotated between the Operations Supervisor, Lab Technician, and two Operators. Weekend equipment and facility inspections of three pumping stations and the wastewater treatment plant are alternated every week between the two licensed mechanics.

A summary of the work and projects accomplished in 2008 is as follows:

## Dewatering and Conveying Equipment:

- Lower processing belt replaced on filter belt press (F.B.P.).
- Leak on Belt Press spray box repaired.

## Valves, Pumps, Motors, Controllers and Associated Equipment:

- New pump inspection plate gaskets made and installed on all three Return Activated Sludge Pumps.
- Raw Sewage pipes painted light grey.
- Return Activated Sludge Pumps, stands and bases painted dark grey.
- New pressure gauge and diaphragm on plant water booster pump.
- Tow motors and pumps replaced on the boiler make-up water tank.
- All five LMI chemical pumps were completely rebuilt.
- Float and switch to pumps on condensate return tanks replaced.
- Boiler water float assembly replaced.
- Oiler lines on Dual Piston pump replaced.
- Chemical supply tubing on Waterchamp Mixer replaced.
- All eleven Variable Frequency Drives (VFD) were cleaned, wire lugs checked and air filters cleaned and reinstalled.
- #5 and #6 Aerator dissolved oxygen sensors and transducer heads replaced and recalibrated.
- Roof fan motor, V-belt and pulleys replaced on exhaust fan above bleach room.



*Wastewater Treatment Plant Building  
North Clarifier in foreground*

- Solenoid and valve on boiler make-up water tank replaced.
- Motorola unit on Air Handling Unit louvers replaced.
- #2 Raw Sewage Pump size 4 mechanical contactor assemblies replaced.

## Mobile Equipment, Stationary Emergency Generators and Vehicle Maintenance:

- New back-up lights, west coast mirrors, 12 volt battery, windshield wiper blades, brakes and brake lines, exhaust pipe hangers installed on 1996 Ford F 350, one ton dump truck.
- New 12 volt battery, side marker and license plate lights and wiper blades installed on 2001 Ford F 350, 1/4 ton, 4X4 pick-up truck.
- Scag 48" mower had drive belts, cutting blades, oil, oil & air filters, idler springs, fuel tank shut-off valve and (2) idler pulley replaced.
- John Deere push mower had oil, spark plug, air filter and blade replaced.
- Coolant heater / thermostat and starting batteries for diesel emergency electrical generator at industrial pumping station replaced.
- Fuel Transfer Pump and Engine Block Heater was replaced and Fuel Injector Pump was completely rebuilt to correct a fuel/lubricating oil contamination problem on the Olympian Caterpillar Generator at the Harmony St. Pumping Station.
- Green Machine Brush Cutter's carburetor was rebuilt and primer bulb, clutch shoes and spark plug were replaced.
- Semi annual oil, oil filters and coolant filters were performed on all three emergency electrical generators and forklift truck.

## Other Equipment:

- Air Handling Unit air filters replaced.
- New Hour Meter installed on Ingersol Rand compressor in pump room.
- All aerator and clarifier motors and gearboxes greased and gearbox oil samples taken and sent out for analysis.
- New wet well level display unit installed in pump for reference when running Raw Sewage pumps in manual control.
- Influent pH probe relocated in wet well.
- Two YSI dissolved oxygen probes sent out for factory cleaning and calibration.
- Ingersol Rand compressor head completely rebuilt.
- Hydraulic lifting cylinder on mobile hoist replaced.
- Electrical Heater installed in maintenance shop.
- Three emergency lighting units replaced in main hallway, stairwell and pump room.
- High pressure sodium light replaced on northwest yard light pole.
- Three Scott Air-paks and air tanks sent out for service, testing and inspection at an authorized repair facility.
- All fire extinguishers at the wastewater treatment plant and the three pumping stations were tested and inspected.
- Five Magnetic Flow Meters were cleaned, calibrated and certified as accurate.
- Routine tank cleaning for algae removal and control.
- Line Conditioners installed on Alum and Bleach pumps to correct erratic operation due to electrical power fluctuations.
- Polymer chemical pipe hangers were re-anchored to wall.



### Miscellaneous:

- In late autumn chlorine analyzers and all chemical solution lines were drained and purged with compressed air to prevent freeze damage from cold weather.
- Laboratory scales were cleaned and calibrated by a scale service company.
- Tree limbs removed near electrical wires on facility property.
- Leak repaired on membrane roof above stairway to polymer storage area.
- Concrete sealer applied to sidewalks, stairs, catwalks and cement pads to protect them from cold weather and salt damage.
- Facility's 20-year-old alarm system, which monitors equipment failures and unauthorized entry to facility, was replaced because repair parts were no longer available.
- Natural gas supply line to facility was severely corroded and required replacement and relocation to prevent future corrosion issues.
- Accusine Harmonic Filter required new power supply provided under warranty covering the unit.
- North aeration basins cleaned of sludge and vegetation.
- Hoist system for water-champ mixer was re-lagged to tank structure.
- Instrument service cleaned and calibrated laboratory equipment i.e. dissolved oxygen meters, incubators, refrigerator, thermometers and pH meters.
- Isco stationary composite samplers were relocated which required influent and effluent piping to be reconfigured to supply representative samples to both the Isco stationary samplers and to the old Sonford stationary sampler.
- Ground water removed from electrical manholes and chemical line manholes in the spring and fall.
- The Adams Highway Department assisted the Wastewater Treatment Plant mechanics with the removal and installation of the Channel Monster grinder cutter box. Cutter box was shipped to the manufacturers repair facility to be refurbished.
- The Adams Highway Department used their street sweeping machine to clean the roadways at the wastewater treatment plant in the spring.

### Summary:

The wastewater treatment plant has entered into an agreement with a company named EnerNOC who will pay the town \$3,625 per year to be on-call to transfer from National Grid power to electricity generated by this facility's emergency electrical generator. This is referred to as a "demand response event" which may be declared during high power utilization during the hot days in the summer or extreme cold days in the winter. By participating in this program we are doing our part to reduce the potential of power "brown-outs." If no demand response event is declared the town will still receive the full disbursement of \$3,625 per year.

The wastewater treatment plant hosted two groups for facility tours in 2008. The first group was in April for the cub scouts and the older scouts of Troop 38. The second tour was for the engineering students at the Massachusetts College of Liberal Arts in Mr. Rob Maloney's class. Both groups were interested in viewing the wastewater treatment processes and equipment used in the wastewater treatment operation.

The wastewater treatment employees attended various training seminars during 2008. The courses are selected by the employees and are used to obtain training contact hours that are required for the renewal of each employee's Massachusetts Wastewater Treatment Plant Operators license.

The town's Sewer User bylaws were updated and approved at the town's annual town meeting on June 16, 2008. These updates were to address new regulations instituted by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). In August the EPA conducted an audit of the town's Industrial Pretreatment Program which oversees and monitors the discharge from the four industries that discharge industrial wastewater into the town's sewage collection system. The EPA's audit found no major issues with the Industrial Pretreatment Program and only requested some minor language changes to one Industrial Discharge Permit.

A review of the 2008 facility's records and reports shows 823.75 million gallons of wastewater was treated and cleaned before being discharged to the Hoosic River. This was an increase of 16.2% from last year's (2007) annual flow of 709.16 million gallons as reported in last years' town report. This increase in flow was most likely due to the high amount of rain we received in 2008.

A total of 171.77 dry metric of dewatered sludge was processed and hauled to an incinerator in Waterbury, CT for final disposal in 2008. Again there was a small decrease of 3.37% from last year's (2007) sludge disposal total of 177.76 dry metric tons. The monthly averages for removal of Total Suspended Solids between a minimum of 85.1 to a maximum of 97.7 with an overall average for 2008 of 92.44 %. Biochemical Oxygen Demand removals ranged from a minimum of 91.0% to a maximum of 98.4% with a twelve-month average for 2008 of 94.93%.

### Conclusion:

The operating expense portion of the Adams Wastewater Treatment Plant's operating budget has been level funded since fiscal year 2007. We have been successful in providing the same quality service while fuel, electricity, natural gas, chemicals, lubricants, supplies and repair parts increase in cost. These achievements are a result of having a professional and knowledgeable staff which continues to endeavor to provide the best possible wastewater treatment at the lowest possible cost to the town and still insure that the water quality of the Hoosic River be preserved for all to enjoy.



*Channel Grinder located in influent wet well*

# Council on Aging

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The Council on Aging (CoA) is a town department authorized under Chapter 40 Section 8B of Massachusetts General Laws. The law states that a Council on Aging may be established for the purpose of coordinating or carrying out programs designed to meet the needs of the aging in conjunction with programs of the Office of Elder Affairs.

## **Our CoA's mission is:**

- To advocate on behalf of seniors in Adams sixty years of age and over.
- To provide information and referral, working with other Town departments and area agencies.
- To identify unmet needs in the community and network with other social service agencies to address those needs.
- To enhance the quality of life for seniors and the whole community by providing educational, and cultural programs and activities.

## **Transportation**

Our two-handicap/wheelchair accessible vans, contracted with BRTA to meet the transportation needs of Adams seniors, continued to transport clients to various destinations.

Our priority for transportation is always medical appointments on a first come first serve basis. We continued to transport people to the Adult Day Program in North Adams, our Supportive Day Program, to the nutrition site at the Community Center, errands, banking, to the Big Y, Wal-Mart and to nursing homes and the hospital for visits as often as possible. Town Clerk Paul Hutchinson and the CoA Director have been coordinating transportation on election days.

## **Supportive Day Program**

For twenty-four years, the Supportive Day Program has provided support services in a group setting to assist participants recover and rehabilitate from an acute illness or injury, or to manage a chronic illness. The services include assessments and care planning, health related services, case management, social services, therapeutic activities, nutrition, and transportation. These services focus on the participant's strengths and abilities while maintaining their connection to the community and assisting them to retain their daily skills.

The interactions of the physical and human environment combine to create a homelike setting. The physical environment and the program design provide safety and structure for participants. The program staff builds relationships and creates a culture that supports, involves, and validates the participant. This setting then forms the framework in which therapeutic activities, health monitoring, and all the services offered by the program occur. All therapeutic components of adult day services (meals, activities, interactions with staff and peers, and health services) are reinforced by the warm, caring, affective tone of the program atmosphere.

The Adams Council on Aging Supportive Day Program continues to provide quality services to Adams seniors and their families. The services provided through this adult day care model are intended to promote well being, enhance self-esteem, maintain independence, maximize functioning and honor individuality; while encouraging friendship; assisting with meaningful activities and supporting an atmosphere of purpose. Family members and caregivers are provided respite knowing their loved one is being cared for by a professional and dedicated staff. Participants have varying degrees of needs, such as isolation, frailty, Parkinson's Disease, Alzheimer's Disease, cognitive impairments, and multiple chronic medical conditions. The program is designed to provide friendship, socialization, failure-free activities and non-medical supervised care for seniors in a safe, nurturing, home away from home atmosphere. Supportive Day participants have a nutritious lunch from the Elder Services of Berkshire County, Inc. congregate nutrition site, a light breakfast and an afternoon snack. The program operates Monday through Friday. Elder Services of Berkshire County may cover the fee if the participant is eligible. An alternative would be to pay privately for services.

We are forever grateful to our volunteers: Veronica Sobon, Bob Joppich, Sandy Totter, Mary-Ann and Barry Emery and Irene and Bernie Bator. MANY THANKS!

## **Nutrition Program**

We invite all seniors to join us Monday through Friday at 11:30 a.m. for a nutritious, balanced meal at the Elder Services of Berkshire County, Inc. nutrition program that we sponsor in the main hall of the Community Center.

Dee Dee O'Bryan is the Nutrition Program Site Director. Dedicated volunteers are Ralph Farrar, Bea Grillone, Margaret Comeau, and Debbie Coody. We thank them for all their hard work!

All seniors are invited to join us for lunch or to attend the special parties and events at different times during the year. All are welcome to come early to join in a fun game of cards. Those wishing to reserve a meal are asked to call the CoA two days in advance. Transportation is available with the Council on Aging wheelchair accessible van upon request.

## **Brown Bag Program**

The Brown Bag Program, through the Food Bank of Western Massachusetts, is a program that the Adams Council on Aging continues to sponsor.

The program is for residents of Adams and Cheshire 55 years old and over who meet the USDA eligibility guidelines. People receive 15 pounds of groceries monthly for a three-dollar donation. This is a great program that we wish more people would become involved in.



## Homebound Grocery Shopping Program

In cooperation with Big Y Supermarket, the Adams Council on Aging continued to shop for homebound seniors in Adams. We are very grateful to our volunteers Irene LeMarche and Henriette Lepicier.

## Senior Citizen Property Tax Work Off Program

This year the Senior Citizen Property Tax Work Off Program was implemented. Eligible senior homeowners will have the opportunity to receive a real estate tax exemption under this program. Program participants will be entitled to a reduction of \$500 from their real estate bill in exchange for performing 62½ hours of service at a rate of \$8 per hour. For more information or eligibility requirements please contact Assessor Donna MacDonald or CoA Director Barbara St. Pierre.

## Other Programs and Events

The Council on Aging continues to offer support programs. Some of these programs were:

- The Foot Clinic with Kip Lyons Moeller, R.N.
- VNA Health Clinics
- Line Dancing
- Educational Speakers
- SHINE (Serving Health Information Needs of Elders) Counseling
- Monthly entertainment provided by "The Aladdins"
- Volunteer Recognition Brunch
- Annual Lions Club Luncheon
- REACH Community Garden

## Director/Staff Accomplishments of 2008

Continuing education and network opportunities by staff and director are as follows:

- New Formula Grant
- COA Supportive Day Working Group
- WMCOA quarterly meetings



*Supportive Day Ladies  
(back l-r) Olive Powers, Gladys Robert, Isabela Rodowicz  
(front L-R) Jeannette Kupiec, Rita Cardinal*

- Annual COA Conference in October
- Van Driver training by MARTA
- Annual Western Massachusetts Elder Care Conference

## Community Center

The Community Center is a town building that houses the Council on Aging, the Northern Berkshire Solid Waste District and the Youth Center as well as other groups listed in this report. Our jobs in human services are about people: seniors, families, and consumers in need of our time, talents and services. Our goals are incorporated in our mission statement and the strategic plan for the town.

## The staff and volunteers of the Adams Council on Aging:

Barbara St. Pierre, Director  
Antoinette M. Alizio, B.S.W.,  
Coordinator, Supportive Day Program  
Edward Ethier, Assistant, Supportive Day Program  
Melanie Bushey, Administrative Assistant  
Michelle Alcombright, Administrative Assistant  
Rita Clarke, Van Driver  
Todd Casey, Van Driver  
Vern Emerson, Substitute Van Driver  
Gary Green, Custodian

## "Senior Aides" Program:

Linda Becker

## Board of Directors:

Mabel Sherman, Chairperson  
Rose Belisle  
Eleanor Steadwell  
Julia Janowski  
Mary Ellen Cyrulik  
Michelle Wellspeak  
Tom Dubis  
Jackie Rhinemiller  
Jean Trimarchi

## Veterans Services

It was a busy year for the Adams Veterans Services Department. As usual, activities focused on the observance of Memorial Day and the celebration of Veterans Day. But the most important work of this department was continuing to support needy Veterans under Massachusetts Chapter 115 and helping Veterans with applications for the Federal Veterans Administration.

The Department was also faced with the departure of the Director William Bradley who resigned on November 28, 2009. He was replaced by Paul Hutchinson.

# Adams Police Department

## Serving Since

<b>Chief:</b>	Donald A. Poirot	12-17-81
<b>Sergeants:</b>	David M. Clark	04-01-78
	Richard W. Tarsa, Jr.	04-05-87
	Shawn M. Briggs	04-05-87
	Scott McWhirt	01-30-89
<b>Patrol Officers:</b>	1. Lawrence Ordyna	08-11-80
	2. Keith Erdeski	01-01-84
	3. Paul Keating	03-17-84
	4. Keith McLearn	01-30-89
	5. Timothy Carpenter	01-30-89
	<i>Retired July 21, 2008</i>	
	6. Alan Vigiard	09-30-89
	7. Donna Malloy	09-20-97
	8. David Dean	01-28-02
	9. Gregory Charon	03-30-05
	10. Michael Wandrei	03-30-05
	11. Joshua Baker	04-17-08
	12. Nicholas Dabrowski	04-17-08
	13. Thomas Cook	11-03-08
<b>Administrative Assistant:</b>		
	Cheryl Dabrowski	01-28-02
<b>Dispatchers:</b>	Anthony Piscioneri	11-15-97
	John Pansecchi	08-19-99
	Thomas Romaniak	02-01-01
	Travis Cunningham	06-13-08
<b>Reserve Officers:</b>	Robert Krzanik	
<b>Special Police:</b>	Matthew Wright	
	Curtis Crane	
<b>Animal Control:</b>	Terry Moran	
	Daniel Lefebvre (weekend)	

## Police Department Training 2008

February's training began with Sgt. Shawn Briggs and Dispatcher John Pansecchi attending LEAPS training which was held in Palmer. The District Attorney's office held training on Underage Alcohol and DNA collection which Sgt. David Clark, and Officers Keith Erdeski and Michael Wandrei attended. All officers of the Adams Police Department participated in Active Shooter training that was held at the Adams Memorial Middle School and was conducted by the Special Tactics and Operation team of the Massachusetts State Police. To conclude the training for February, Sgt. Shawn Briggs and Sgt. Richard Tarsa attended Terrorism Awareness held at MCLA.

For the month of April, Officers Thomas Cook and Matthew Wright were certified in radar that was held at the Dalton Police Department.

May training consisted of Reserve Officer Rob Krzanik attending two days of 911 training in Springfield and Detective Lawrence Ordyna attended a five day Narcotic Enforcement Officer Association conference held on Cape Cod.

In June Officer Michael Wandrei attended Sexual Assault training in Springfield and Officer David Dean spent two days in Greenfield to be re-certified as a Tazer Instructor.

August training consisted of Sgt. Clark attending Haz Mat training at Berkshire Community College.

Detective Ordyna attended Berkshire County Drug Task Force training in Foxborough for three days in September.

October's training consisted of Sgt. Clark, Sgt. Tarsa, Officer Dean, Officer Dabrowski, Officer Charon and Officer Baker all participated in Phase II of the Active Shooter training that was conducted at the Adams Memorial Middle School.

Conclusion of the years training for December included Dispatchers John Pansecchi and Anthony Piscioneri attending a training for Fire Dispatcher that was held in Springfield and Officer Dabrowski attended a week long School Resource Training that was held in Plymouth.



Officer Joshua Baker



Officer Alan Vigiard reading to the children at St. Stanislaus School

## 2008 Yearly Activity Report

A. Calls for Service.....	19547
B. Ambulance Calls.....	1336
C. Fire Department Calls.....	375
D. DPW.....	89
E. Animal Control Calls.....	648

### Criminal and Custody Activity

A. Offenses Committed.....	1427
B. Arrests.....	337
1) Adults.....	307
2) Juveniles.....	30
C. Protective Custody.....	11
D. Summons Served.....	287

### Motor Vehicle Activity

A. Motor Vehicle Charges	
1) Written Warnings.....	628
2) Civil Charges.....	364
3) Arrests.....	103
4) Criminal Complaints.....	64
B. Motor Vehicle Accidents	
1) Number Investigated.....	254
2) Fatalities.....	1
3) Persons Injured.....	77

### Other Police Activity

Breaking & Entering and Larcenies.....	274
Alarms Responded To.....	13
Restraining Orders Served.....	89
E9-1-1 Calls.....	1302
Parking Tickets Issued.....	628
FID & License to Carry Issued.....	130
Building/House Checks.....	5012

### General Remarks

During the past year, the Adams Police Department has been faced with a lot of challenges. Two full time officers attended the academy for 21 weeks and with any loss of personnel in an



*Dispatcher Anthony Piscioneri in the new dispatch center*

agency, officers are requested to pick up the work load and continue to provide the community with exemplary public safety. Officer Joshua Baker and Officer Nicholas Dabrowski graduated from the State Police Municipal Academy on October 26, 2008 and they are a welcome addition to the department.

As society progresses, law enforcement is constantly required to adapt and employ methods to enforce and assist in directing citizens in corrective measures. The citizens of this community have always supported the police department as the primary emergency responding agency. The Department not only provides police personnel as first responders to reported incidents, but also depends on the dispatchers as they are relied upon heavily to handle communications and provide a valuable service to the community. All calls handled by the Department are routed through the dispatch to include mutual aid responses to neighboring communities.

Technology has allowed for advancement in the Department and challenges have grown with expectations. Cruisers equipped with mobile computers allow officers to gather a multitude of information directly from state and federal agencies, as well as, communicate locally with other police officers and the dispatch center. This equipment was purchased through the utilization of grant funding and has certainly enhanced officer's capabilities while enhancing their safety as well.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the citizens of the Town of Adams for providing an atmosphere that allows the personnel of the Adams Police Department to continue to provide public safety services. It is our hope and intention that together we provide a quality of life that the citizens of the community have been accustomed to.



*Officer Nicholas Dabrowski with student Michael Cook*

## Parking Clerk

Revenue from Parking Meters	\$12,906.86
Revenue from Parking Violations	\$18,826.00
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>\$31,732.86</b>

# Emergency Management

The Emergency Management Team is composed of trained volunteers prepared to assist the residents of Adams in the event of a disaster, natural or man-made.

The Chairman of the Board of Selectmen is the ultimate authority in any declared State of Emergency and is in command of the Town's resources.

The Emergency Operations Center [EOC], located in the Police Station, has the ability to communicate with both local and state agencies. The EOC would be fully staffed and functional in the event of an emergency.

## Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency [MEMA]

In an effort to retain MEMA'S A+ rating for the Town of Adams, the Emergency Management Director with the assistance of his Deputy spent countless hours revising and up-dating the Town's municipal Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan. MEMA sponsors many meetings, conferences and workshops in the field of emergency management and public safety. The Town of Adams was represented by the Director and/or the Deputy at many of the events.

## Storm

On December 12, 2008 a State of Emergency was declared by Governor Patrick. The storm produced high winds, heavy rains, icing conditions, widespread power outages and debris-removal challenges. Chief Ordyna of the Savoy Fire Department requested assistance of The Forest Warden Department (part of the Emergency Management team). Help was needed to open roads that were closed by fallen trees caused by heavy ice. Savoy had no electric power.

From December 12, 2008 through December 18, 2008, six to eight Forest Warden volunteers responded on a daily basis to Savoy. They brought their own chain saws, a donated wood chipper from a business that one of the members worked for, and personal vehicles for transportation. In the course of five days, the volunteers donated a total of fifty hours in an effort to help the Town of Savoy.

MEMA requires live updates to the Town of Adams Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan [CEMP]. The effort to comply requires a lot of time and manpower. The collection of information is a work in progress.....

Richard G. Kleiner  
Emergency Management  
Director

# Forest Warden

## *"ONLY YOU CAN PREVENT WILDLAND FIRES"*

The Town of Adams Forest Warden is charged with:

- Prevention and suppression of all outdoor fires within the boundaries of the Town of Adams;
- Enforcement of the outdoor burning regulations as stated in Chapter 48 of the Massachusetts General Laws and 527 CMR Section 10:22; and
- Issuance of outdoor burning permits as stated in Chapter 48 of the Massachusetts General Laws.

The Deputies of the Adams Forest Warden Department are volunteers who respond to wildland fires, mutual aid requests and wildland search & rescue. All members, over the past few years, have taken the Basic Wildland Fire Fighting course administered by the State Department of Conservation and Recreation.

On July 27, 2008, at the request of Caroline Scully, nine members of the Forest Warden Department participated in burning two large piles of Japanese Knot Weed. The weed is a very invasive species and was cut and deposited in the Meehan parking lot located off of Hoosac Street to dry and eventually burned. During the Snow Emergency of December 19, 2008, seven volunteers from the Forest Warden Department, at the request of the DPW Director, volunteered their time for two days to shovel sidewalks and entrance ways to six Town Buildings.

The Forest Warden Department Headquarters continues to provide a place for the youth sport's bottle drives, Rabies Clinic and the Postal Food drive.

The Forest Warden Department responded to the following calls in 2008:

- 6 – Wildland Fires
- 38 – Illegal Burns and Smoke Investigations
- 4 – Mutual Aid Calls
- 2 – Mutual Aid Drills
- 1 – Basic Wildland Firefighting Course

Burning Permits Issued: 279

The Forest Warden Department participated in the following Civic events:

- The George Coope Road Race (providing road safety)
- Pedal & Plod Race (providing road safety)
- Summer Street Fair
- Susan B. Anthony Celebration
- Community Night at the Town Common
- Fall Foliage Parade

## *"REMEMBER, SMOKEY IS COUNTING ON YOU!"*

Richard G. Kleiner  
Forest Warden



# Adams Free Library

During these difficult economic times, our patrons have embraced the free services of their public library with enthusiasm. Circulation figures jumped by nearly nine percent over the prior fiscal year with a total of 70,089 items borrowed! Attendance at our many programs and other events has also increased, and use of the building by local civic and non-profit groups has grown as well. Based on calculations of current costs to purchase some of the services used and items borrowed from the Adams Free Library in FY2008, the taxpayers' appropriation of \$290,415 realized a return in value of \$1,090,778!

We continue to emphasize the importance of making our youngest residents comfortable and eager to visit their public library. Children's Librarian Holli Jayko and part-time Children's Library Aide Susan Szpila have succeeded admirably. The following is Ms. Jayko's 2008 annual activities report:

The Children's department of the Adams Free Library offers a variety of programs. We have a home school research group that meets monthly, seasonal reading programs, day and evening story times, book groups, special guest presentations and more.

The home school research group covered a variety of topics from the Dewey Decimal Classification System to planning, organizing, and evaluating information for a research paper. Our average attendance was 11 people each month. This group continues to grow, and all home school families are welcome.

The Children's Book to Movie Reading Group read two books this year. In March we read **Prince Caspian** by C.S. Lewis. Our total attendance was 66 youth and adults. In October we read **The Tale of Despereaux** by Kate DiCamillo and our total attendance was 78 youth and adults. These two groups coincided with the movie release of Walt Disney's "Chronicles of Narnia: Prince Caspian" and Universal Pictures "The Tale of Despereaux."

One of our year round programs is our Story Time. We offered two story time sessions per week and both programs have

been well attended. We had an average weekly attendance of 19 people. We believe in the importance of reading aloud to children. Experts suggest, "the single most important activity for building the knowledge required for eventual success in reading is reading aloud to children. This is especially so during the preschool years," says the report Becoming a Nation of Readers.

The Library sponsored Farmer Minor and Daisy during April School vacation. Farmer Minor told stories about Daisy's formative years with Farmer & Mrs. Minor. The children heard "Daisy" noises, gave Daisy treats, and learned about Daisy's pampered porcine life and about how she became the most famous pig. Daisy has presented programs in all 48 contiguous states and has been on 3 National Tours! On her first tour Daisy became the first pig ever invited inside the U.S. Capitol.

We worked with Richard Herdman from the Pittsfield Chess Club to offer two chess programs. One for first timers who wanted to learn to play the game, and one for those who have played but would like to learn more. Richard has been teaching chess to elementary and middle school players for over 10 years.

The Library hosted Jerry Schneider's program on bats in October. His presentation introduced the audience to the wonderful world of bats. Via interactive dialogue, children and adults moved beyond old stereotypes, to understand bats as pollinators, and as natural controllers of mosquitoes and other insects. We learned about bats in our attics, vampire bats, bat eyesight, migration and hibernation, and bat echolocation.

Our Summer Reading program theme was "Wild Reads @ Your Library." A total of 870 youngsters participated in the activities during the summer; this is an increase of 7% over last year. The library saw another 7% increase in the number of children who worked on a reading log and a 16% increase in the number of children who completed the program over last year. This summer we had 4 youth volunteers who gave over 53 hours to the library during the summer.



*Book to Movie Reading Group - "The Tale of Despereaux"  
November 2008*



*Farmer Minor and Daisy Children's Program  
April 2008*

The kick off event for summer reading was with Julie Collier of Wingmasters. She presented the North American Birds of Prey program, with live birds. We had two other live animal programs 1) The Zoo on the Go from the Zoo in Forest Park and 2) The Wolf Talk Educational Program presented by Michael LeBlanc. We also held a “Wild with Dinosaurs Story time” presented by the Adams Free Library Staff. Jay Mankita presented The Day the Library Went Wild - “Wild” songs and “natural” stories, this program was supported in part by a grant from the Cultural Council of Northern Berkshire, a local agency that is supported by the Massachusetts Cultural Council, a state agency. The Boston Museum of Science traveling program “Super-cold Science” was made possible by a scholarship grant given to the library from the Boston Museum of Science. These two grants saved the library, and the town, over \$620.00.

One of the most successful programs for adults was “The History of Fashion” presented by local businesswoman Lynda Meyer in July. Ms. Meyer, the proprietress of “Lynda’s Antique Clothing Loft” on Park Street presented a free lecture on fashions from 1806 to 1956, displaying examples from her extensive collection. Live models also modeled some of Ms. Meyer’s special pieces. The program was held in the building’s elegant Grand Army of the Republic Memorial Hall and more than 80 people attended.

Other adult programs included a return engagement in May of the jazz/folk music duo “Too Human” and another successful pastel art workshop led by award-winning artist Gregory Maichack in June. Along with her many other duties, full-time Administrative Assistant Lorraine Kalisz planned and conducted the adult summer reading program, the knitting group, and the book discussion group. A highlight of the book discussion group was a meeting with local author Karen Shepard in May. Ms. Kalisz also organized a talk on travel in Central America. The Library’s annual book sale was held at the end of August and proved very successful. In October Dana and Susan Robinson performed their beautiful folk music before an enthusiastic audience.

With new energy-efficient windows provided through Town appropriation, the Trustees began work on the interior reorganization and beautification project. Funded almost entirely

through State Aid to Libraries Award monies, grants and trust funds, the project began with installation of window shades and window treatments for all of the windows on the main level. New carpeting has replaced the very old rug in the upper Miller Annex. Carpentry students at the Charles H. McCann Vocational Technical High School in North Adams, under the tutelage of Teacher Nancy Cook, then installed in this area two beautiful freestanding bookcases that they had constructed. This is the future home of the Library’s new children’s section and will include soon a designated area for teens. Building Maintenance Trustee David Strzepek continues to very capably coordinate this important project. Other Board of Library Trustees members are Chairman James Loughman, Treasurer Juliette Wilk-Chaffee, Eugene Michalenko and Karen Kettles.

We see many of our patrons almost daily and they become like family. We dearly miss one of our most active patrons. Doreen Kozik [who died in February 2009] was one of our most voracious readers. Doreen did not begin actively using our services until the late 1990s, but by the time illness forced her to stop in December 2008, she had borrowed nearly 3,000 books. The Trustees hope to establish an annual award to the most active Adams Free Library patron or family in memory of Mrs. Kozik.

Requests for local history and genealogy information continue to increase both via mail and email. Both Mrs. Kalisz and Library Director Deborah Bruneau have responded to these requests. Some unusual questions handled by Mrs. Bruneau included researching the history of the library’s ownership of early editions of Mark Twain’s “The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn” for a master’s degree candidate, connecting an inquiry to local author Paul Clermont, and research the date and architect of three Town churches. Mrs. Bruneau also proctored a number of college final exams that students had to take online.

Part-time Maintenance Custodian A. Michael Rinaldi has once again saved the Town thousands of dollars by performing many repairs and much preventative maintenance to the magnificent 109-year-old building. Part-time Library Page Dorothy Rice continues to keep the Library very organized and perform highly detailed materials processing work with extreme efficiency.



*WingMasters - North American Birds of Prey for Children’s Summer Reading Program, June 2008*



*“Wild” about Dinosaurs Story Time July 2008*



Part-time Library Aide Christa Sidway provides a warm, bright smile and professional attitude as she assists full-time Adult Circulation Services Librarian and Cataloger Lyn Wilson. Along with assisting in adult programming, Mrs. Kalisz also provides exemplary support with payroll and billing processes, and spends many hours each week managing the very complicated, and very popular, interlibrary loan (ILL) services. Borrowing increased nearly 19% to 2,135 items while loans to other libraries increased nearly 27% in 2008!

We are again blessed with a wonderful group of volunteers who have helped us enormously with special projects such as the annual book sale, publicizing our events and baking (!!!!) for our program refreshments. All this helps us to make the public feel even more welcome in your public library, and for this we are especially thankful. We are also grateful for many donations of high quality, gently used items to add to our collection or to place in the book sale. We are thankful, as well, for the many thoughtful monetary donations that are received, often in memory of loved ones, to be used to purchase new materials.

The cooperation among various Town Departments continues to help us enormously. We are especially grateful to Department of Public Works Director Tom Satko for providing DPW workers to move heavy furniture twice while new carpet was installed. Thanks, too, to Town Custodian Gary Green and DPW helpers for maintaining the lawn and providing snow removal in order to keep the building accessible and presentable. Our membership in the Western Massachusetts Regional Library System remains invaluable in providing continuing education for the Director and staff as well as technical and professional support, and especially ILL delivery service. All of this support enables us to provide the best there is in library and information services to the citizens of Adams.

James R. Loughman, Chairman  
Board of Library Trustees  
Deborah G. Bruneau, Director



*“Wild” Reading Area in the Children’s Room  
Summer 2008*



*WolfTalk Educational Children’s Program  
July 2008*

# Library Fiscal 2008 Statistics

Total Number of Volumes as of 6/30/08	43,995
Newspaper subscriptions:	8
Periodical subscriptions (including gifts):	66

**Registered borrowers:**

Adult	6,351
Juvenile	1,882
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>8,233</b>

**Circulation:**

Adult print	35,349
Juvenile print	16,788
Video Cassettes/music discs/DVDs, misc.	15,182
Audio Books	2,770
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>70,089</b>

**TREASURER'S REPORT**

Returned to Revolving Fund via Town Treasurer:	
Fines for Overdue Materials	2,670.59
Used Items Sale Receipts	2,184.40
Microfilm Printer Receipts	78.55
Damaged or Lost Items Replacement Fees	394.30
Miscellaneous	134.40
Photocopier Receipts	761.95
<b>TOTAL CASH RECEIPTS</b>	<b>\$ 6,224.19</b>

**INCOME**

<b>Gifts, Memorial Donations</b>	<b>\$ 1,412.91</b>
State Aid to Public Libraries awards	<b>\$ 18,107.62</b>

<b>TRUST FUNDS DIVIDEND INCOME</b>	<b>BALANCE 7/01/07</b>	<b>RECEIPTS</b>	<b>EXPEND- ITURES</b>	<b>BALANCE 6/30/08</b>
W.T. Adams	3,710.93	2,466.07	3,005.93	3,171.07
C.N. Miller	4,513.12	7,384.27	6,744.76	5,152.63
Plunkett / Saunders	1,201.87	1,202.78	1,192.55	1,212.10
H. Tiedemann	1,578.07	2,118.33	1,201.35	2,495.05
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>11,003.99</b>	<b>13,171.45</b>	<b>12,144.59</b>	<b>\$ 12,030.85</b>

<b>MEMORIAL BOOK FUNDS</b>	<b>Total as of 12/31/08</b>	<b>\$ 49,987.35</b>
<b>Memorial Book Funds Investments</b>	<b>Total as of 12/31/08</b>	<b>\$ 43,358.25</b>

# Adams Historical Commission

In the past year, there was no loss or major damage to a historic property in Adams but some of the properties which were threatened in the past year have not moved into a better position.

The Old Stone Mill on the corner of Grove and Leonard Streets is still vacant and on the market for sale. It is the only mill building constructed of native stone. Some say it is stone taken from the excavation of the Hoosac Tunnel in North Adams but that has not been substantiated.

Two other mill buildings are unoccupied and have been in that state for several years: the Harmony Street plant last occupied by MacDermid Graphics in 2000 and the Howland Avenue paper mill last occupied by Curtis Papers in 2002. Although they lack architectural qualities, they are part of the industrial heritage that is an important characteristic of our town.

Other buildings that are still a concern to the Historical Commission are the former Armory on Park Street and Albert's Hardware building on Summer Street. They occupy prominent places in the streetscape of downtown and are suffering from disrepair.

It is becoming alarmingly evident that the historic structures in most jeopardy are the major churches that were built at the end of the 19th Century and beginning of the 20th Century. On August 10, 2008, the Bishop of Springfield, Timothy McDonnell announced the closing of St. Thomas Aquinas and St. Stanislaus Kostka churches. The abandonment of these two buildings has serious implications. The possible deterioration and possible demolition of these historic religious structures would be a great loss to our community. The parishioners of St. Stanislaus Kostka Church have appealed the decision to governing bodies higher in the Roman Catholic hierarchy but no resolution has yet been reached.

At the same time, the other churches and the buildings that were former churches in Adams have been stressed by age and the lack of money to maintain them in proper repair. The Baptist Church, the Elks Lodge (former Universalist Church), the Masonic Temple (former Methodist Church) and even St. Mark's Episcopal will have an increasingly difficult time in the future to keep these magnificent expressions of human faith intact.

The bright spots in historic preservation shine at the Jones Block on Park Street and the Susan B. Anthony Birthplace Museum on East Road. Both projects made gains in the past year.

The sills of the Susan B. Anthony Birthplace were replaced and the house now sits better on its foundation. Historically inappropriate items were replaced and the house's architectural integrity is being restored. A projected opening date has been set for the summer of 2009.

Drawings and specifications for the work on the Jones Block have been completed and will go out to bid in the Spring of 2009.

The members of the commission along with members of the Adams Historical Society have opened the Quaker Meeting House for tours. It is open on Sundays between Independence Day and Columbus Day.



*St. Stanislaus Kostka Church*



*St. Thomas Aquinas Church*



*The Baptist Church*



*St. Mark's Episcopal Church*



# Financial Reports

## Board of Assessors

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### TAX RATE SUMMARY

a. Total amount to be raised	\$14,158,695.69
b. Total estimated receipts and other Revenue sources	- 6,200,856.00
c. Tax levy	<u>\$ 7,957,839.69</u>

Class	Certified Full and Fair Cash Value Assessments	Percentage Full Value Shares of Total Tax Levy
1. Residential	409,584,325	79.0591%
2. Open Space	0	0.0000%
3. Commercial	34,224,465	8.6952%
4. Industrial	26,966,300	6.8511%
5. Personal Property	21,233,788	5.3946%
Totals	492,008,878	100.0000%

# TAX COLLECTOR

**July 01, 2007- June 30, 2008**

<b>Tax</b>	<b>Outstanding JULY 1, 2007</b>	<b>Committed</b>	<b>Payments other credits</b>	<b>Outstanding June 30, 2008</b>
2008 Real Estate		7,180,653.53	6,847,755.53	332,898.00
2008 Personal Property		342,376.51	335,685.27	6,691.24
2007 Real Estate	241,952.76		141,474.24	100,478.52
2007 Personal Property	6,537.66		3,017.63	3,520.03
2006 Real Estate	152,106.93		53,314.36	98,792.57
2006 Personal Property	3,592.83		1,924.36	1,668.47
2005 Real Estate	92,874.44		7,869.12	85,005.32
2005 Personal Property	1,380.53			1,380.53
2004 Real Estate	87,475.98		3,646.00	83,829.98
2004 Personal Property	836.19			836.19
Prior years RL	107,913.45		660.31	107,253.14
Prior years Personal	3,146.12			3,146.12
 Prior Years	 27,360.47		 1,573.74	 25,786.73
2004 Motor Vehicle Excise	5,390.87		1,170.64	4,220.23
2005 Motor Vehicle Excise	4,363.54	3,467.60	5,585.32	2,245.82
2006 Motor Vehicle Excise	26,312.74	16,373.08	28,713.81	13,972.01
2007 Motor Vehicle Excise	158,788.26	130,702.15	269,233.89	20,256.52
2008 Motor Vehicle Excise		704,920.26	627,671.40	77,248.86
 Tax Title Accounts	 236,622.13			 236,622.13
<b>TOTALS:</b>	<b>908,164.48</b>	<b>855,463.09</b>	<b>1,145,854.82</b>	<b>617,772.75</b>

## TOWN OF ADAMS TOWN TREASURER

### Indebtedness AS OF JUNE 30, 2008

<b>Issued</b>	<b>To Whom Payable</b>	<b>Purpose</b>	<b>Rate</b>	<b>Maturity</b>	<b>Payable How</b>	<b>Outstanding</b>
JULY 15, 2003	QUICK & REILLY, INC.	Town Hall	2.000%	JUNE 30, 2028	Taxes/Stabilization Fund	\$2,090,000
Nov. 23, 2004	Water Abatement Trust	Waste Water	2.000%	Aug. 1, 2024	Taxes/Stabilization Fund	\$2,617,437
Nov. 30, 2004	Citizens Bank	Various Projects	3.680%	May 15, 2010	Taxes/Stabilization Fund	\$ 419,913
<b>TOTALS:</b>						<b>\$5,127,350</b>

# Treasurer

## Revenue Cash Investments Fiscal Year 2008

End of year Balance	8,449,016.93
Year to date Interest	142,839.10
Balance June 30, 2008	<u>8,591,856.03</u>

### Stabilization Fund

End of year Balance	1,586,276.94
Interest	67,368.72
TRANSFERS ATM (521,566.00)	
Balance as of June 30, 2008	<u>1,132,079.66</u>

## Trust Funds

*(IN CUSTODY OF THE TOWN TREASURER)*

## Fiscal Year 2008

### Stephen Low Arnold Hall School Trust Fund

End of year Balance	43,594.14
Interest	1,626.16
Subtotal:	45,220.30
Balance as of June 30 2008	<u>45,220.30</u>

### Walter A. & Velma Harrington Kruszyna Adams High School Trust Fund

End of year Balance	18,937.38
Capital Gains/(Losses)	(3,356.52)
Dividends/Interest	2,111.17
Withdrawals - Paid to School District	(1,219.19)
Balance as of June 30, 2008	<u>17,893.47</u>

### C.T. Plunkett Library Fund

End of year Balance	23,084.15
Interest	869.55
Withdrawals - Paid to Library	(988.21)
Balance as of June 30, 2008	<u>22,965.49</u>

### Frank H. Saunders Library Fund

End of year Balance	4,997.97
Interest	188.87
Withdrawals - Paid to Library	(214.57)
Balance as of June 30 2008	<u>4,972.27</u>

### Cemetery Investment Fund

End of year Balance	235,983.76
Interest	8,838.88
Sale of Lots	1,500.00
Expenses	(20,108.00)
Balance June 30, 2008	<u>226,214.64</u>

### Cemetery Maintenance Fund

End of year Balance	10,694.95
Interest	398.96
Transfers out	(300.00)
Transfers in	
Subtotal:	10,793.91
Maintenance Accounts Bal. July 01, 2008	8,717.11
Transfers out	
Transfers in	
Interest	325.16
Balance as of June 30, 2008	<u>19,836.18</u>

### Cemetery Perpetual Care Bequests

End of year Balance	405,479.87
Interest	8,555.51
Bequests	925.00
Subtotal:	414,960.38
Transfers to General Fund	(1,741.50)
Balance as of June 30 2008	<u>413,218.88</u>

### Bellevue Cemetery Endowed Lots Henry L. Harrinton Fund

End of year Balance	13,924.74
Interest	556.21
Transfer to Cemetery Investment Fund	
Balance as of June 30, 2008	<u>14,480.95</u>

### Maple Street Cemetery Endowed Lots Margaret H. Hall Fund

End of year Balance	6,209.59
Interest	309.76
Expenses	(2,123.00)
Balance as of June 30, 2008	<u>4,396.35</u>

### Town of Adams Scholarship Fund

End of year Balance	10,468.29
Contributions	718.62
Interest	403.60
Subtotal:	11,590.51
Expenses	(2,000.00)
Balance as of June 30, 2008	<u>9,590.51</u>

### Quaker Meeting House Endowment Fund

End of year Balance	15,436.51
Interest	576.43
Transfer to General Fund	(20.00)
Balance as of June 30, 2007	<u>15,992.94</u>

**Town of Adams, Massachusetts**  
**Statement of Operating Revenues**  
**Budgetary and Actual - General Fund**  
(AUDITED)  
**for the year ended June 30, 2008**

	Original Budget	Actual Revenue	Surplus/ (Deficit)
<b>LOCAL RECEIPTS:</b>			
REAL ESTATE TAXES	7,149,021	7,019,828	(129,193)
PERSONAL PROPERTY TAXES	353,971	339,588	(14,383)
MOTOR VEHICLE EXCISES	750,000	895,808	145,808
PAYMENTS IN LIEU OF & OTHER TAXES	100,000	135,948	35,948
INVESTMENT INCOME	130,000	142,839	12,839
FEES	48,000	83,822	35,822
LICENSES & PERMITS	65,000	63,087	(1,913)
PEN & INT ON TAXES & EXCISE	42,500	55,946	13,446
SEWERAGE CHARGES	25,000	12,829	(12,171)
OTHER DEPARTMENTAL REVENUE	34,000	46,817	12,817
FINES & FORFEITURES	23,000	40,274	17,274
ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES	19,000	16,332	(2,668)
FINES - PARKING	10,000	20,912	10,912
OTHER EXCISE TAXES	8,000	9,196	1,196
MISC REVENUE - NON-RECURRING	-	112,132	112,132
<b>STATE RECEIPTS:</b>			
LOTTERY, BEANO, CHARITY	2,477,382	2,477,382	-
POLICE CAREER INCENTIVE	40,520	40,520	-
ABATEMENT TO VETS, ELDER, BLIND	55,673	57,474	1,801
ADDITIONAL ASSISTANCE	35,042	35,042	-
STATE OWNED LAND	45,663	45,663	-
VETERAN BENEFITS		3,620	3,620
URBAN REDEVELOPMENT		85,081	85,081
TOTAL REVENUE	11,411,772	11,740,140	
<b>OTHER AVAILABLE FUNDS APPROPRIATED:</b>			
OPERATING TRANSFERS IN	610,156	610,156	-
REVENUE APPROPRIATION	650,000	650,000	-
- REVENUE CHAPTER 90	219,000	200,423	(18,577)
TOTAL GENERAL FUND	12,890,928	13,200,719	309,791

**Town of Adams, Massachusetts**  
**Statement of Operating Expenditures**  
(AUDITED)  
**Budgetary to Actual - General Fund**  
**for the year ended June 30, 2008**

	Budget as Revised	Actual Expended	Surplus/ (Deficit)
SELECTMEN	15,743	14,319	1,424
EMPLOYEE/RETIREE BENEFITS	1,151,607	1,038,301	113,306
MODERATOR	575	304	271
TOWN ADMINISTRATOR	187,010	186,803	206
FINANCE COMMITTEE	97,275	97,067	208
ACCOUNTANT	169,675	154,661	15,014
ASSESSORS	156,091	154,166	1,925
TREASURER	145,882	140,039	5,843
TOWN COUNSEL	41,850	39,363	2,487
TECHNOLOGY	77,001	67,504	9,497
TOWN CLERK	153,204	139,772	13,432
ELECTIONS	15,955	14,165	1,790
REGISTRATIONS	2,007	1,999	8
PROPERTY INSURANCE	68,363	63,375	4,988



**Town of Adams, Massachusetts**  
**Statement of Operating Expenditures**  
(AUDITED)  
**Budgetary to Actual - General Fund**  
**for the year ended June 30, 2008**

	Budget as Revised	Actual Expended	Surplus/ (Deficit)
TOWN REPORT	2,600	2,290	310
DEBT SERVICE	693,316	611,613	81,703
LIABILITY INSURANCE	45,540	45,540	-
CONSERVATION COMMISSION	2,772	1,147	1,625
PLANNING BOARD	8,976	2,565	6,411
ZONING BOARD	7,205	4,742	2,463
SMALL CITIES	129,717	75,695	54,022
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT	138,274	124,604	13,670
BUILDING INSPECTOR	154,958	143,802	11,156
GAS INSPECTOR	3,792	3,774	18
PLUMBING INSPECTOR	1,973	1,901	72
WEIGHTS AND MEASURES	2,537	2,432	105
ELECTRICAL INSPECTOR	10,793	10,627	166
HISTORICAL COMMISSION	638	629	9
POLICE STATION	51,400	44,317	7,083
REGISTRY OF DEEDS	7,585	7,336	249
POLICE	1,633,744	1,482,064	151,680
EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT	1,717	1,293	424
ANIMAL CONTROL OFFICER	70,925	67,628	3,297
FOREST WARDEN	10,650	8,399	2,251
HAZARDOUS WASTE	225	78	147
PARKING TICKET CLERK	6,250	6,197	53
COUNCIL ON AGING	174,109	171,002	3,107
VETERAN SERVICES	30,066	26,556	3,510
SOCIAL DAY CARE	98,509	98,254	255
LIBRARY	296,725	290,415	6,310
CELEBRATIONS - VETERAN	1,200	500	700
TOWN HALL	98,164	88,337	9,826
QUAKER MEETING HOUSE	20	-	20
COMMUNITY CENTER	47,049	35,872	11,177
TREE WARDEN	27,320	12,585	14,735
DPW ADMINISTRATION	124,703	121,860	2,843
HIGHWAYS	614,388	561,285	53,102
SNOW & ICE CONTROL	237,364	227,726	9,638
FLOOD CONTROL	8,042	8,042	-
EQUIPMENT MAINTENANCE	431,743	397,690	34,054
LANDFILL	51,199	39,954	11,245
WASTEWATER TREATMENT	931,352	807,020	124,332
WASTEWATER COLLECTION	55,000	3,462	51,538
CEM, PARKS & GROUNDS	113,760	108,684	5,077
RECREATION	22,705	16,163	6,542
PARKS	279,477	279,130	347
CELEBRATIONS - SEASONAL	4,397	2,809	1,588
VISITOR'S CENTER	4,965	4,195	770
BOARD OF HEALTH	56,996	54,807	2,189
ADAMS-CHESHIRE REGIONAL	3,417,064	3,376,233	40,831
MCCANN VOCATIONAL REGIONAL	496,786	496,786	-
GRAND TOTAL	12,890,928	12,039,878	851,049

# Town of Adams, Massachusetts

## Consolidated Balance Sheet

### as of June 30, 2008

(AUDITED)

ASSETS	General Fund	Special Revenue	Capital Projects	Trusts Funds	Agency Funds	Long-term Debt Group	Total Memo only as of 06/30/2008
<u>Cash</u>							
Petty Cash	380						380
Cash in Savings and Money Market Account	4,727,984	2,118,292	993	572,874	39,241		7,459,384
Investments				1,227,000			1,227,000
<u>Accounts Receivable</u>							
Personal Property Taxes	18,645						18,645
Real Estate Taxes	883,836						883,836
Allowance for Abatements & Exemptions	-488,817						-488,817
Motor Vehicle Excise	146,173						146,173
Tax Titles and Possessions	273,357						273,357
Departmental - PD Off Duty - due from Vendors							12,385
Departmental - Industry Sewer	25,511						25,511
Departmental - Sewer/Water Liens AFD	1,409						1,409
Checks returned - ISF	95						95
Special Assessment - Demolition Lien	5,385						5,385
Special Assessment - Sewer/Water Liens	3,228						3,228
<u>Amounts to be Provided for</u>						5,127,350	5,127,350
Payment of Bond							
Total Assets	5,597,186	2,118,292	993	1,799,874	51,626	5,127,350	14,695,321

LIABILITIES and FUND BALANCES	General Fund	Special Revenue	Capital Projects	Trusts Funds	Agency Funds	Long-term Debt Group	Total Memo only as of 06/30/2008
<u>Current Liabilities</u>							
Warrants Payable	110,569						110,569
Payroll Payable	77,366						77,366
Accrued Payroll	14,816						14,816
Health Insurance Withheld	126,327						126,327
Workmans Comp/PD Accident Payable							
Taxes Withheld/Payable	3,600						3,600
Unemployment Payable	5,238						5,238
Misc Withheld	7,052						7,052
Retirement Withheld	558						558
Contract Retainage	5,531						5,531

**Town of Adams, Massachusetts**  
**Consolidated Balance Sheet**  
**as of June 30, 2008**  
(AUDITED)

<b>LIABILITIES and FUND BALANCES</b> (Continued)	<b>General Fund</b>	<b>Special Revenue</b>	<b>Capital Projects</b>	<b>Trusts Funds</b>	<b>Agency Funds</b>	<b>Long-term Debt Group</b>	<b>Total Memo only as of 06/30/2008</b>
<u><b>Current Liabilities (Continued)</b></u>							
Miscellaneous					4,957		4,957
Due to Deputy Collector					31,607		31,607
Off-Duty Work							
<u><b>Due to Other Governments</b></u>							
Commonwealth of Massachusetts					2,678		2,678
<u><b>Deferred Revenues</b></u>							
Real Estate & Personal Property Tax	413,664						413,664
Motor Vehicle Excise	146,173						146,173
Tax Liens & Foreclosures	273,357						273,357
Departmental	35,532						47,917
					12,385		
<u><b>Unreserved Fund Balances</b></u>	2,605,294						2,605,294
<u><b>Fund Balances Reserved for Encumbrances</b></u>	426,453						426,453
<u><b>Fund Balances Reserved for Compensated Absences</b></u>	319,114						319,114
<u><b>Fund Balances Reserved for Trust Funds</b></u>							
Restricted Trust Funds				1,791,920			1,791,920
Unrestricted Trust Funds				7,954			7,954
<u><b>Fund Balances Reserved for Fed/State Grants</b></u>		1,383,577					1,383,577
<u><b>Fund Balances Reserved for Appropriation</b></u>	750,000	615,259					1,365,259
<u><b>Fund Balances Reserved for Gifts/Bequests/Revolving</b></u>		119,455					119,455
<u><b>Fund Balances Reserved for Special Purposes</b></u>							
Reserved for Expenditure	276,540		993				277,533
<u><b>Bonds Authorized and Unissued</b></u>							
Inside Debt Limit							
<u><b>Bonds Payable</b></u>							
Inside Debt Limit - Town Hall/PD Station						2,090,000	2,090,000
Inside Debt Limit - Multiple Projects						419,913	419,913
Inside Debt Limit - MWPAI						2,617,437	2,617,437
<b>Total Liabilities and Fund Balances</b>	<b>5,597,186</b>	<b>2,118,292</b>	<b>993</b>	<b>1,799,874</b>	<b>51,626</b>	<b>5,127,350</b>	<b>14,695,321</b>

# Town of Adams, Massachusetts

## Combining Statement of Revenues and Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balances - Special Revenue for the year ended June 30, 2008 (AUDITED)

	Fund Balance 06/30/07	Revenue	Expenditure	Excess (Deficiency) of Revenue over Expenditure	Operating Transfer In	Operating Transfer Out	Fund Balance 06/30/08
<b>FEDERAL GRANTS</b>							
Public Safety							
Federal Community Develop Block Grant	7,967.00	473,315.00	(294,664.00)	178,651.00		(140,907.00)	45,711.00
Massachusetts Small Cities Program							
Total Federal Grants	7,967.00	473,315.00	(294,664.00)	178,651.00	0.00	(140,907.00)	45,711.00
<b>STATE GRANTS</b>							
Public Works Economic Development	(22,473.00)	23,687.00	(16,807.00)	6,880.00			(15,593.00)
Public Works Economic Development - CDAG	1,010,005.00	21,017.00		21,017.00			1,031,022.00
43D Grant - Greylock Glen	0.00	147,500.00		147,500.00			147,500.00
Elderly	1,092.00	17,478.00	(16,719.00)	759.00			1,851.00
State Aid to Libraries	112,359.00	18,108.00	(10,321.00)	7,787.00			120,146.00
Energy Conservation	2,758.00			0.00	8.00		2,766.00
Culture & Recreation	32,022.00		(32,022.00)	(32,022.00)			0.00
MEMA	25.00			0.00			25.00
Recycling	250.00		(250.00)	(250.00)			0.00
Right to Know	4,087.00			0.00			4,087.00
Board of Health - Local Prep Grant	0.00	1,000.00	(82.00)	918.00	428.00		4,515.00
Berkshire Health Grant - Wellness Program	0.00	2,000.00	(643.00)	1,357.00			918.00
Growth Policy	200.00		(200.00)	(200.00)			0.00
Municipal Incentive	5,550.00			0.00			5,550.00
Public Safety	21,654.00	44,085.00	(27,907.00)	16,178.00		(23.00)	37,809.00
Total State Grants	1,167,529.00	274,875.00	(104,951.00)	169,924.00	436.00	(23.00)	1,337,866.00
<b>OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS</b>							
Parking Meter	98,872.00	16,121.00		16,121.00		(16,300.00)	98,693.00
Council on Aging	216,942.00	83,638.00		83,638.00		(60,000.00)	240,580.00
Technology Fund	33,339.00	21,042.00		21,042.00		(10,800.00)	43,581.00
Landfill	0.00			0.00			0.00
County Dog Fund	0.00			0.00			0.00
Bond Proceeds	6,191.00			0.00			6,191.00
Cemetery Sale of Lots	235,984.00	16,039.00	(25,808.00)	(9,769.00)			226,215.00
Other Special Revenue & Gifts & Donations	129,458.00	53,736.00	(56,467.00)	(2,731.00)		(7,272.00)	119,455.00
Total Other Special Revenue Funds	720,786.00	190,576.00	(82,275.00)	108,301.00	0.00	(94,372.00)	734,715.00
<b>TOTAL SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS</b>	1,896,282.00	938,766.00	(481,890.00)	456,876.00	436.00	(235,302.00)	2,118,292.00

**Town of Adams, Massachusetts**  
**Combining Statement of Revenues and Expenditures**  
**and Changes in Fund Balances - Trust Funds**  
**for the year ended June 30, 2008**

(AUDITED)

	Fund Balance 06/30/07	Revenue	Expenditure	Excess (Deficiency) of Revenue over Expenditure	Operating Transfer In	Operating Transfer Out	Fund Balance 06/30/08
<b>NONEXPENDABLE TRUST FUNDS</b>							
Scholarship - Hall/Low	43,594	1,626		1,626			45,220
Cemetery Perpetual Care	367,966	4,184		4,184			372,150
Total Nonexpendable Trust	411,560	5,810		5,810	0	0	417,369
<b>EXPENDABLE TRUST FUNDS</b>							
Cemetery Endowed Lots - Harrington/Hall/Plunkett	28,851	1,191	(2,123)	(932)			27,919
Cemetery Perpetual Care	37,514	8,576		8,576		(5,000)	41,090
Cemetery Maintenance	10,695	399	(300)	99			10,794
Library - Plunkett & Saunders Funds	28,079	1,062	(1,203)	(141)			27,938
Stabilization	1,586,277	65,102		65,102	93,509	(521,566)	1,223,322
Scholarship - Town / Kruszyna	28,686	2,018	(3,221)	(1,203)			27,483
Historical Preservation	15,447	576		576		(20)	16,003
Conservation Trust	7,515	1,913	(1,473)	439			7,954
Total Expendable Trust	1,743,064	80,837	(8,320)	72,517	93,509	(526,586)	1,382,504
<b>TOTAL TRUST FUNDS</b>	<b>2,154,624</b>	<b>86,646</b>	<b>(8,320)</b>	<b>78,326</b>	<b>93,509</b>	<b>(526,586)</b>	<b>1,799,873</b>



**ANNUAL REPORTS  
OF THE  
ADAMS-CHESHIRE REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
CHESHIRE, MASSACHUSETTS 01225**



**FOR THE FISCAL YEAR  
July 1, 2007 - June 30, 2008**



*Adams-Cheshire School Committee*

(l-r) Jill Pompei, Vice-Chair Darlene Rodowicz, Chairman Paul Butler, Mary Ellen Baker and Lynn Clairmont  
Missing from photo: School Committee Members Carol Corrigan, John Duval  
and Superintendent of Schools Alfred Skrocki

# Report of the Chairman

## Adams-Cheshire Regional School District

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Paul K. Butler, Chairman	(Adams, appointed 9/00, elected 5/01, re-elected 5/04, 5/07)
Darlene Rodowicz, Vice-Chair	(Cheshire, appointed 10/04, elected 5/06)
Lynn Clairmont	(Cheshire, elected 5/96, re-elected 5/97, 5/00, 5/03, appt'd: 8/06, elected 05/08)
John E. Duval	(Adams, elected 5/95, re-elected 5/98, 5/01, 5/04, 5/07)
Mary Ellen Baker	(Cheshire, elected 5/98, re-elected 5/01, 5/04, 5/07)
Carol Corrigan	(Adams, elected 5/06)
Jill Pompei	(Adams, elected 5/08)

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The Adams-Cheshire Regional School Committee has been very busy over the past year dealing with many issues, some positive and some not so positive. We have done so in the shadow of very difficult and challenging financial times. This year we welcome our newest school committee member Jill Pompei of Adams. She was elected in May of 2008. We look forward to her input and ideas over the course of her tenure.

Perhaps the single biggest issue that the school district has had to deal with has been the impact on the school operations of the loss of revenue caused by budget shortfalls at the federal, state, and local levels combined with the ever increasing fixed costs associated with district operations. The effects of the economic recession that has hit the entire globe are being felt by every community and every school across Massachusetts and indeed across the nation. As a result, the budget process for FY2010 has been much more complicated and difficult than in previous years. In order to have kept the same level of service in our programs that we currently have the school district was looking at approximately a \$1.4 million deficit. On May 23, 2009 the school committee passed its budget for fiscal year 2010. This budget represents a reduction of \$752,451 over FY09. Assessments to the towns of Adams and Cheshire combined for no increase over last year. Unfortunately a reduced budget does have a cost, personnel. The district has had to reduce staff by 28 positions including teachers, paraprofessionals, custodians, a nurse and others. Another casualty of the budget reductions is the middle school building. At the end of the current school year the school district will vacate the building on Columbia Street that currently houses the middle school. Beginning in the fall of 2009 Adams 6<sup>th</sup> grade students will be attending school at C.T. Plunkett Elementary School. The 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade students from Adams and Cheshire will be housed at Hoosac Valley High School. All pre-school children will go to Cheshire Elementary School. I would like to emphasize that this budget is far from ideal and it certainly does not represent the direction that the school committee would like to take the district in. However, considering the constraints of the economic realities that we are all dealing with, we believe that this budget still represents good overall value to the two member towns and more importantly still delivers a well rounded and quality education for the students of the district.

Many of you are well aware that the Adams-Cheshire Regional School District has been in the process of securing state funding for a building project due to the condition of the aging middle school building that will be vacated next fall. The building committee has selected a project manager which is a requirement of the state for school building projects. We are currently in the process of a feasibility study that will determine the direction of

the project. In the not so distant future, the voters of the towns will be asked to financially support this project. It cannot be emphasized strongly enough how important it is to secure state funding for this project. There are hundreds of schools with projects that are on the list for consideration by the state. Our school district has been selected early on due to the high level of need specifically at the middle school. While it may be too early at this time to determine the level of state funding available, it is typical of these types of projects to have a 65-75 percent reimbursement rate. If the towns were to pass on this project now, it may be a long time before we would qualify again and the taxpayers simply could not afford to pick up the full cost of a building project of this magnitude.

Projects in our building are not standing idle, however. At long last the heating system at C.T. Plunkett Elementary School has been replaced with a modern set of gas fired boilers and new control systems have been installed. The new system should not only make the building a much more inhabitable one but also help to control the ever escalating costs of energy.

I am proud to report on the current state of technology throughout the buildings in the district. The school committee has long been supportive of integrating technology into the classroom as well as offering as many technology based elective classes as possible. Over the past couple of years the towns of Adams and Cheshire have borrowed money as a capital improvement for the school district in the technology area. A great deal of hardware, software and peripheral support equipment has been purchased and is currently in use district wide. The use of technology in the classroom helps improve the learning environment both for students and teachers alike. The result will be that students will be better prepared to enter a world of increasing dependence on technology in the workplace. The committee would like to thank the taxpayers and the towns for proceeding with this capital improvement as it is such an important asset to the schools.

Just about every year the school district sees a turnover in personnel because of retirements. While we are always thankful for the years of service and dedication that everyone gives to the students of this district, it would be difficult to offer acknowledgement to each of them in this report. However, this year we say goodbye to our longtime principal of Cheshire Elementary School, Pam St. John, who retires at the end of this school year. We all wish to thank Mrs. St. John for all that she did for the children of this school district. As a result of her leadership, Cheshire Elementary has been a wonderful, warm and nurturing environment for young minds to flourish in. We wish you the very best that retirement has to offer. You will be missed. I would



also like to extend my sincere appreciation and best wishes to all of our staff members who are retiring this year. It has been your time, effort, and enthusiasm that have helped to make the Adams-Cheshire Regional School District the excellent school system that it is today. Thanks to all of you and good luck in all that you do.

The Adams-Cheshire Regional School District and the Adams Teacher's Association (ACTA) are currently in negotiations for a new contract. The teachers are in the last year of their existing agreement. Last year, many of the other bargaining groups in the district, such as the paraprofessionals, custodians, and cafeteria workers have completed negotiations for new contracts of their own.

The chairman's report would not be complete without a few words about our students. The members of the school committee are all parents and most of us have children who attend school here in this district. We are naturally concerned and proud not only of our own children but of all the students in the district as well. There are always so many exciting things happening in our schools that it would be impossible to list them all. Without overshadowing the reports of the Superintendent and the Athletic Director, I just wish to give acknowledgment to the Eye of the Hurricane staff who recently won 7 awards for journalism. The Hoosac Valley High School band is currently fundraising for next year's trip to Disney World in Florida where they will represent their school and communities as they march down Main Street U.S.A. playing for the world to hear. I would encourage anyone who has yet to attend a presentation by the concert or jazz band to do so. It certainly is a great evening of entertainment. Where do I begin with school sports? Boys and girls soccer went to Western Mass. Varsity Football was in the playoffs. Girl's basketball went

to Western Mass. Boys J.V. basketball had an undefeated season. And of course who will forget the Boys varsity basketball team who went all the way to the state finals in division II before being defeated by Milton. Great job to all of our players and coaches!

Finally, as chairman of the Adams Cheshire Regional School Committee, I would like to thank everyone in the community for their continued support for the school district and for the children who attend class here every day. We are very proud to represent this school district. The people of the towns of Adams and Cheshire are fortunate to have the dedicated group of administrators, teachers, and staff that we have. Members of the school committee are involved in long range planning as to the future of the school district. We try to have some vision of what we want the district to look like next year or five or ten years from now. Due to the budget constraints we have had to make some very difficult and unpopular decisions, decisions that none of us wanted to make. Despite all of the bad news on the economy and our budget, there are still a lot of good things happening in our schools. Time and time again, everyone in the district puts forth the effort and ingenuity to create a positive educational environment. The reason is simple; we are all here for one purpose; the education of all of our children. Whether you watch them on the playing field, or on the stage performing a play or musical, or perhaps you see them performing service for the people in their communities, or marching in a parade, it is always our students who inspire us to do what we do.

Paul K. Butler, Chairman  
Adams-Cheshire Regional  
School District



*Showing support for the HVHS Boys' Basketball Team*

# Superintendent of Schools

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## ANNUAL REPORT - 2008

In compliance with policy of the Adams-Cheshire Regional School District, I respectfully submit the school district annual report for the year 2008. The school district continues to be driven by the goals of our Strategic Plan. This report will focus on activity and progress in the areas of academics, technology, communication/community relations, facilities and safety. The mission of our plan and our school district is *"...to create a partnership of our school and communities that develops all of our students into educated, responsible and productive citizens."* This mission has helped to provide a continued focus and collaboration of all stakeholders of the school system to recognize and meet the needs of all students.

### ACADEMICS AND INSTRUCTION

The school year began with four days of training for teachers and staff prior to the first day for students. Training included work on district curriculum in meeting the established state frameworks, regulations and procedures to meet the needs of all students, including homeless and non-English speaking and the use of various technology software. The staffs of both the middle school and high school worked on the development of a school-wide systemic behavior program, with formal training at the middle school provided by James Levine Associates. The high school continues to meet its goals in regard to adequate yearly progress (AYP), while the middle school has made changes to provide sixty minutes of instruction in all academic areas to meet AYP needs. Curriculum guides in the major subject areas have been reviewed and revised to ensure that students are provided with instruction that meets all state frameworks in each grade. Teachers have been provided with the opportunity to share "best practices" with their colleagues in an effort to provide consistency and success for all students. Principals have also collaborated to provide programs and activities for students to make a smooth transition from the elementary to the middle school and from the middle school to the high school.

Finally, I would like to recognize the retirement of Cheshire Elementary School Principal Pamela St. John. Pam served the district for thirty-four (34) years as a teacher and principal with a genuine interest in students and commitment to the community of Cheshire and the Adams-Cheshire Regional School District.

### TECHNOLOGY

The school district continues to follow goals of the three-year technology plan as required by the Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education. In 2008, the district was provided with a second capital outlay from the towns to finish the required upgrade of hardware. All classrooms throughout the district are provided with one laptop for both teacher and students use. Students at the middle school and high school were provided with portable computer lab carts that are used to enhance curriculum and instruction through technology. Team leaders at the high school and one at the elementary schools have been assigned to help teachers with this process. The district is in the process of increasing band-width to provide internet speed to meet the increasing use of technology throughout the district. In addition

wireless access has been provided in areas of three of the four district buildings. Students are provided with computer labs in each building, a technology exploratory course at the middle school, a computer course requirement at the high school and electives in areas including robotics, film and media, animation, digital photography and using data bases.

### COMMUNICATION/COMMUNITY RELATIONS

The Adams-Cheshire Educational Foundation (ACE) continues to provide support for creative district initiatives in the four schools. Started as a result of the district's first strategic plan in 2002, the executive committee is currently chaired by Bernard Pinsonnault. The foundation has a balance of over \$300,000 in charitable contributions and has provided financial support to over forty proposals since its inception. The district web site, [www.acrsd.net](http://www.acrsd.net) includes a variety of information for parents, students and the public on academics, policy, events & activities and the accomplishments of our current strategic plan. The district is currently providing training for teachers and staff on software to increase schools communication with parents on information about the progress of their children in school. A number of public forums were held during the year to inform the public on the school budget, capital & facility needs and various programs that are part of the district's operations. The district developed an on-line survey of high school graduates to gather data in determining the effectiveness and needs of the district. Approximately, one hundred graduates responded to the survey. Each of the schools have continued to promote an emphasis on community service that has involved students with programs, activities and fund raising that have impacted the Louison House, Council on Aging, senior citizens and the needy in the communities of Adams and Cheshire.

### FACILITIES

The school district continues to work on plans to address the needs of its facilities. A five-year plan was reviewed and revised by the school committee, identifying and prioritizing needs, establishing costs and a timeline to meet the capital budget. The district continues to pursue building project proposals with the School Building Authority (SBA). A building committee was formed, led by co-chairmen Scott Nichols of Adams and Francis Waterman of Cheshire. Other members include selectmen Donald Sommer of Adams and Daniel Delorey of Cheshire, John Duval and Lynn Clairmont of the school committee, Al Skrocki and David Hinkell of the school district, Paul Demastrie of the Adams Finance Committee, Gary Herzog, Howard Wineberg, Principals Henry Duval and Kim Morandi, and Tim Luczynski, district facilities manager. The building committee conducted a search for a project manager to begin the process of completing a feasibility study to find a solution to the district's facility needs. Five companies submitted proposals for the work and URS from Boston was selected by the building committee and school committee to be recommended to the School Building Authority for approval. The district also secured approval from Adams to replace the heating/ventilation (HVAC) system and controls of the Plunkett Elementary School. This was completed in October of 2008.

## **SAFETY**

The school district has a comprehensive crisis manual to provide direction to staff in dealing with safety issues involving the schools. This plan was reviewed the district in conjunction with town police, fire and emergency personnel, as well as the state police. State and local law enforcement also provided training for staff in the areas of lock-downs and bomb threats. The district, with the help of Adams Police and Dufour Bus Company produced a video on bus safety that will be shown on public access television at various times during the next school year.

Finally, I would like to recognize the retirement of Cheshire Elementary School Principal Pamela St. John. Pam served the district for thirty-four (34) years.

Alfred W. Skrocki  
Superintendent of Schools



*HVHS Boys Basketball Team*



# Hoosac Valley High School

*“Strive for Academic Excellence by Emphasizing Student Responsibility  
in a Climate of Mutual Respect”*

## ANNUAL REPORT

The year 2008 was one of continuity and change at Hoosac Valley High School. While continuing to honor the school's time-honored traditions, the students and staff of HVHS also spent the year focusing on the future direction of the school and its curriculum.

The year began with a focus on the arts in January with the Class of 2008's hilarious production of Neil Simon's *California Suite*, under the direction of Mr. Timothy Rougeau and our annual winter concert, featuring the stage and jazz band, under the direction of Jacob Keplinger, the chorus, led by Mr. Rougeau, and our choreography class, under the guidance of Ms. Kate Frissell. Also in January our winter semiformal dance, the Student Council's annual "Snow Ball" was once again held at the Bounti Fare in Adams with over 200 students in attendance. A successful semiformal spring dance was also held in March by the yearbook staff to the delight of many students.

Spring brought more events featuring the talents of our students, such as a jazz night in March, featuring the HVHS jazz band and two well received performances of the musical *Grease*, under the direction of Ms. Frissell and Mr. Keplinger. Our spring concert followed in May, as well as the ninety-third annual Junior Prize Speaking contest, which was won by Johanna Sutliff for her rendition of David Lubar's "A Boy and his Frog". Our annual "Career Day" was also held in May, with over 60 professions and professionals on display for our students. The Hoosac Valley Leo Club continued its fundraising and charitable efforts during the year carrying a membership of over 200 students into 2008 and closed out the spring by holding a fun fair at Hoosac Valley as a fundraiser for the Boston Children's Hospital.

As June arrived, the series of end of the year activities ushered in. The senior class members of the National Honor Society were honored at an annual banquet sponsored once again by the Adams Lions' Club at the Bounti-Fare. The prom was held for the second year in a row at the ITAM in Pittsfield. The theme this year was "*Diamonds are Forever*" and over 240 students attended. Class Night and Graduation also were held in early June. On Class Night, more than \$90,000 was presented to graduating students as scholarships. Eighty six graduates were honored at graduation, with Courtney Hart as the Valedictorian and Jonathon Raftery as the Salutatorian. A parent sponsored all-night party was held as an after graduation event and was well received by the graduating seniors. 47% of the Class of 2008 graduates went on to attend four year colleges this fall, with 42% entering two year schools, for a total of 89% of Hoosac graduates moving on to higher education.

The fall also brought more of our traditional Hoosac events, such as the Freshmen Reception, where our seniors host a dance for the incoming ninth grade students and our fall pep rallies organized by the fantastic Hoosac cheerleaders. The Susan B.

Anthony Chapter of the National Honor Society induction dinner and ceremony was held in November. Massachusetts State Senator Benjamin Downing was the keynote speaker. The Art Hathaway Senior Dinner, sponsored by the HVHS Student Council and held in early December, was once again well attended and received and the Leo Club, still over 200 strong, sponsored a successful Create A Dream program at our school for the seventh consecutive year, expanding our school's participation in order to sponsor even more local families.

Hoosac Valley's partnership with the volunteer fire departments of Cheshire and Savoy through the SAFER Grant has continued into 2008. Both fire departments organized a series of field days in the fall, during which all of our students participated in an obstacle course based on fire fighter training methods. Also, Hoosac Valley has been able to offer five First Responder courses this school year through the SAFER grant.

Hoosac Valley students continue to perform well on the MCAS tests and our state "report card" indicated that we continue to exceed our goals for AYP in both English and Math. Our students also continue to score well on Advanced Placement exams and the SATs.

The staff of Hoosac Valley High School continues to be devoted to the academic, social and behavioral development of the young men and women of Adams and Cheshire. They are a group of highly trained professionals who are committed to preparing our children for the future.



# Adams Memorial Middle School

## Individual Growth, A Sense of Belonging, Through Cooperation and Mutual Respect

Each year, the Town Report allows for a nostalgic look at the accomplishments and challenges we faced as a building. This year, writing it fills me with an array of emotions as we close the door on one chapter of the middle school and prepare to open another. Leaving the building behind means the abandonment of property; not of the central beliefs, values, and curriculum that make the middle school what it is. However, there is a sense of sadness in not being within the walls that have offered so much in the way of laughter, community, support, and, at times, tears. This is the right time for it, all of us know that, as the challenges the building faces are too great to continue here in an optimum environment. So we will move the physical location of the operation, but not the academic/social/emotional aspects that make the middle school experience what it is our children have come to expect.

Change, however, is not a bad thing. With this move comes opportunity for academic advancement, social expansion, and new approaches to educating our children that are being created with much thought and care. We will work through the challenges as the Adams Cheshire Regional School District always does: together and from a child-focused point of view. Countless hours have been spent reviewing and planning for the merge of grades 7 – 12 and the return of grade 6 to Plunkett Elementary so that when the time actually arrives to operate the buildings in an adjusted format, our children will feel minimal impact. The middle schoolers will continue to experience their core class schedule with two exploratory classes per day. Teachers will continue to approach their students from a “whole child” point of view. Support, both academic and social will remain in place, and with the increase in technology resources, they will find themselves immersed more in their electronic world.

There were several changes again implemented at the middle school to address student needs. Last year’s schedule was reviewed and revised to provide more adequate time on learning in social studies and science, which had been reduced the prior year due to the need to expand time in English/language arts and math. Through a revised schedule all students now have equal time

in all four core subjects and have maintained two exploratory classes. This has allowed students to continue to meet framework requirements. However, MCAS testing scores did not reach the level of achievement required to be considered as making adequate progress. This places the middle school grades into the “restructuring: year one” category, mandating adjustments to the academic approach. Over the fall and winter months a committee worked through the designing of a restructured program, anticipating its implementation for the fall, 2009. This program will follow the students to Hoosac Valley where they are prepared to operate under the directives of the restructuring plan.

In addition to academic needs, our students’ social/emotional needs were addressed through ever-expanding counseling services. The adjustment/guidance counselor’s office added group programming and learning experiences designed specifically for the middle school age. Classes were taught in the areas of respect, understanding others, navigating adolescence and developing strong sense of self-worth. Additionally, outside resources were utilized as guest speakers were arranged to provide students with information on school beyond grade 12 and career exploration. To further support student social adjustments, the mentoring program continued under the direction of Victoria Moyer, Carrie Crews, and Jacquie Betti. Mentors offer support for students who are new to the school in order to assist with their academic adjustment, bringing them to classes until they are used to their schedule. Mentors are also a friendly face in the lunchroom and hallways. This approach, used for the past three years, assists in bridging the gap between elementary and middle school and gives students who enter an immediate connection.

The Memorial Building Committee and District continued the work on the proposed building project which would either renovate Adams Memorial or renovate/add on to Hoosac Valley High School to create a 7 – 12 campus. The state has approved of our proposal and the District is in the process of securing a project manager. Over the next 18 months the Town and District will continue the development of renovation plans and involve the public on a larger scale.



We are extremely pleased and proud to have added 27 new computers to our computer lab along with software that will allow our students to access the full expectations of the technology frameworks. In addition, we were able to add a portable laptop cart, again with advanced software, to enhance teaching and learning for any and all subjects. There is excitement amongst the staff and students to utilize technology that supports the engaging pedagogy already present in our classrooms. Teachers also received laptops to support their craft. In addition to having portable classrooms via the laptops and projectors the faculty also has the means to extend their planning by having the laptops with them off campus. These purchases were all made possible through technology monies allocated by the Town of Adams and we are grateful.

On another very positive note, sixth graders continued their tradition of community outreach projects, providing a connection between the school and our Housing Authority residents next door. Halloween, holiday, and end-of-the-year activities bridged the generational gap!

The March musical, “Willy Wonka and the Chocolate Factory” provided some much-needed relief to the winter doldrums. 50 students rehearsed, designed, and readied the technical support for the four performances (two dress rehearsals, two public performances) under the directorial debuts of Ms. Ashley Contois and Mrs. Nancy Pedercini-Acquista. All of the practice paid off as we were reminded of the talents our children have and we celebrated their successes with them. Congratulations to the directors, actors, stagehands, lighting/sound crew, and to the staff who supported the musical!

Congratulations also to the band who, under the continued direction of Mr. Aaron Dean, entertained a packed house with the holiday and spring celebrations. In addition to the usual performances, the middle school expanded its outreach, forming a jazz band and combining with the high school in March for another exceptional evening.

Our school basketball teams continued to be a source of pride, putting forth their best efforts and having it really pay off. The boys and girls teams worked extremely hard both on and off the court and put forth winning seasons. Equally important was the level of cohesiveness demonstrated by both teams. The 27 students involved embraced the concept of team work and I cannot express how proud the school was to have these students represent us while playing throughout the county as well as on Cape Cod and in Vermont.

I am pleased to say that the Town’s use of the building for voting purposes went exceptionally smoothly. The strong turnout for the national election presented some challenges, but careful planning between Town Clerk Paul Hutchinson, public safety, and the school allowed for voters and students to remain basically separate, with the integrity of the voting process as well as the educational process intact. Mr. Hutchinson met with the students as they rotated through social studies class and allowed them to tour part of the polling area, giving our children a first-hand look at the voting process.

The community’s use of the building continued this year with programming often running seven days a week. Basketball, indoor soccer, Cub Scouts, softball, spaghetti suppers, pancake breakfasts, and adult basic education classes ran when school was not in session. The use of the building provides the youth and adult groups with a sense of an expanded community center and it was our pleasure to offer areas for safe, organized events.

As always, I am proud of the successes of our students and staff. So while it is with a heavy heart that I bid farewell to the building, I am very optimistic about the opportunity that will be afforded to our students as they transition to a different building. It is not the building that is the character of our school but rather, the dynamics of the people who work inside of it each day.

Kimberly Roberts-Morandi,  
Principal





# C.T. Plunkett Elementary School

C.T. Plunkett Elementary School practices the beliefs and values of the Adams-Cheshire Regional School District on a daily basis. The staff, students and parents are continuously exposed to the beliefs and values and continue to demonstrate all of these regularly.

1. All children are capable of learning.
2. All students deserve the best instruction.
3. High expectations for teachers and students increase student learning.
4. A safe and organized school environment is essential to teaching and learning.
5. Mutual respect creates the optimum climate for learning.
6. Learning is a shared responsibility.
7. There is more than one way to accomplish something.
8. When administrators, teachers, students and parents are accountable, students will learn.
9. Families and schools who communicate and cooperate with each other will have more successful students.
10. If it is not working, it shouldn't be continued.

C.T. Plunkett Elementary School has the largest enrollment of students in the Adams-Cheshire Regional School District. The school is located on Commercial Street in downtown Adams housing six grade levels with approximately one hundred students in each. The original building was constructed in 1923 and served as the town's junior high school for almost fifty years. It was then converted to an intermediate elementary school and served as an instructional facility for students in fourth through sixth grades until it underwent a complete renovation. The school reopened as an elementary school with a fourteen-classroom addition constructed on the south side of the building for students in pre-kindergarten through grade five in September 1994 and remains the same today.

The information included in this report highlights some of our special accomplishments, provides statistical information on enrollment and staffing, reviews some school-wide projects and initiatives, and tells about some significant changes.

## Enrollment Comparisons

Grade:	00-01	01-02	02-03	03-04	04-05	05-06	06-07	07-08	08-09
<b>Pre-K</b>				24	26	28	28	29	30
<b>Kind.</b>	89	99	97	90	82	84	96	84	71
<b>Grade 1</b>	112	92	96	100	93	83	83	98	84
<b>Grade 2</b>	110	103	91	98	93	85	82	80	90
<b>Grade 3</b>	95	103	107	104	97	101	91	90	80
<b>Grade 4</b>	107	100	103	101	100	95	94	94	93
<b>Grade 5</b>	112	113	104	102	103	100	91	104	89
<b>Totals</b>	625	610	598	619	594	576	563	579	537

## Staffing

The following people help to provide a supportive learning environment for the students at our school.

### Pre-kindergarten

Kelly Reichers, Kathy Malloy and Stacia Peterson

### Kindergarten

Amy Anderson, Jennifer Mach, Barbara Mallett, Chris Nimmmons, Rosamond Pietras, Roberta Urquhart, Mary Whitman and Mara Woolley

### Grade 1

Kristy Bachli, Susan Biros, Kathy Bradbury, Stephanie Friedman, Sandra Hughes, Claire Love, Lisa Waltermire, Barbara Wohl and Adrienne Covert

### Grade 2

Elizabeth Alibozek, Laurie Gamari, Dawn Bombardier, Donna LaBonte, Kelly Ryan, Mary Tanner, Aimee Tanner and Susan Knapp

### Grade 3

Jennifer Allard, Beth Bourdon, Patricia Lafrance, Donna Mullaney, Donna Novak, Anne Prudhomme and Sarah Sookey

### Grade 4

Dawn Bishop, Mary Murray, Kimberly Trimarchi, Cynthia Vадnais, and Noella Wotkowicz, Penny Tarsa and Jennifer Kline

### Grade 5

Barbara Czerwinski, Jeanne Garofano, Christine King, Susan Martel, Kathleen McGrath, Nancy Parrott and Jessica Trenholm

### School-Wide

Patricia Alibozek, Diane Arduini, Ann Atwell, Susan Barthe, Judy Bender, Lisa Bresett, Amy Briggs, Kimberly Briggs, Francis Cariddi, Chad Carpenter, Terri Cooper, Melissa Torres, Heather DiSanti, Jackie Fortier, Laurie Gavazzi, Sharon Girard, Kristen Gordon, Paul Goyette, Deanna Guettler, Marianne Hall, Suzanne Harnick, Frances Jamros, Shelley Jenkins, Joann Kingsbury, Wendy Lambertson, Karen Levesque, Nicole Lafleur, Deborah Langner, Geeta Lipinski, Laurie Malloy, David McGrath, Paula Meczywor, Sue Modena, Kim Muhs, Angela Poulimenos, Jennie Pierce, Timothy Rougeau, Edward Rysz, Marlene Salvi, Kale Skrocki, Gina Simoneau, Ellen Smachetti and Paul Sneziek.



*Apple Picking*



## Library

The C.T. Plunkett Library houses over 13,500 books, videos and magazines. The automated circulation and cataloging system makes it possible for students and staff to access the electronic card catalog. More than 13,000 items were checked out during the school year. Students visit the library once per week and have the opportunity to borrow a variety of books, including picture books, fiction, biographies and non-fiction.

The C.T. Plunkett Library Committee was established on March 26, 1998 for the purpose of raising funds to enrich our school library services and provide books for the children. Various activities such as raffles and school-wide fundraisers have raised approximately \$50,000. Reference materials, fiction books, nonfiction books, magazine subscriptions, Accelerated Reader discs, academic videos and the automated cataloging/circulation system have been purchased and supported through this committee. The Library Committee is one of the financial supporters of the RIF program which enables each student in the school to choose a free book three times a year. For the past five years the committee has also sponsored a Literacy Fair which has been extremely successful.

## Parent Group

The C.T. Plunkett Parent Group provides extensive support to the children of our school throughout the year. The group meets monthly to discuss ongoing support to the children. Their efforts support the C.T. Plunkett community in a variety of ways.

## Arts Enrichment:

- Monthly performances in music, drama, science, history and dance, both in-house and off-site
- Sponsoring a children's author
- Mass MOCA events
- Musician and songwriter

## Family-Focused Events

- Bingo Nights
- Harlem Wizards
- Square Dancing Night paired with the Nutrition Committee's promotion of healthy snacking



*Firehouse Visit*

## Activities

- Field trips for students at all grade levels
- Give-a-Gift to promote the spirit of holiday giving and donating, from children to children, for programs such as the Leo's Create-a-Dream.
- C.T. Plunkett Yearbook creation
- Participation in programs that support the school's Nutrition Committee and works with the committee to write grants for programs through the REACH foundation to promote healthy lifestyles

## Appreciation Days

- Staff Appreciation Day in May
- Sundae Party for all students and staff to recognize fundraising efforts
- Classroom Pizza Party to award top sellers in fundraiser

## School Improvements/Equipment Maintenance:

- Curtain in Auditorium
- Purchase of Kiln
- Bulletin boards
- Snow shoe maintenance/replacement

## Nutrition Committee

On June 30, 2004, Congress passed Section 204 of Public Law 108-265, of the Child Nutrition and WIC Reauthorization Act of 2004. This law requires local education agencies to develop a policy that addresses the growing problem of childhood obesity. At C.T. Plunkett we recognize the need to assist our students by encouraging healthy eating and physical activity. The Nutrition Committee, a subcommittee of the PTG, meets throughout the year to plan and implement activities to promote healthy eating and living for our children.

## School Council

A School Council is a representative, school building-based committee composed of the principal, parents, teachers and community members. The major areas of responsibility for councils include the following. School councils are to assist principals in:

1. Adopting educational goals for the school that are consistent with local educational policies and statewide student performance standards
2. Identifying the educational needs of students attending the school
3. Reviewing the annual school building budget
4. Formulating a school improvement plan

The Council meets throughout the school year. Any person can attend school council meetings.

## Programs/Activities/ Events

- Pre-K and Kindergarten classes have participated in a self-study in preparation for accredited as an NAEYC (National Association for the Education of Young Children) program. Accreditation will distinguish our program and help to secure early childhood funding through state and federal grants.
- MCAS study programs conducted throughout the year help students to prepare for the exams given in March, April and May. These programs provide students in fourth and fifth grades with a variety of activities designed to improve reading, writing, and math skills.

- Homework assistance program for students in fourth and fifth grade takes place three days per week in an effort to assist students with homework.
- Our Title One program supports a school-wide literacy initiative for all students. Instructional assistants in all grade levels work under the guidance of the classroom teacher to reinforce literacy programs. Several informational meetings, inservice activities for staff members, and workshops for parents are held throughout the year. A newsletter, The Parent Connection, is distributed several times throughout the year to all families with tips to introduce quality reading activities at home.
- Our MCAS Nights are great nights for parents and students. Parents are updated on the strategies given to students to solve math problems as well as writing rubric expectations. These nights have been sponsored by CTP, Title 1 and 21<sup>st</sup> Century.
- We all celebrate Dr. Seuss's birthday and Read Across America during the month of March. Guest readers from the community are invited to read a story or picture book and talk about the importance of reading with our students.
- The C.T. Plunkett Literacy Fair is conducted during the month of May. Projects created by every student to represent a wide range of literature are displayed in the gymnasium for families and friends who come to view them.
- Fifth graders make their annual journey to Nature's Classroom in Ivoryton, Connecticut. The weeklong event at the end of February-beginning of March is one of the highlights of the fifth grade experience at C.T. Plunkett.
- Project Snowshoe is supported by a grant from the REACH Foundation of the Northern Berkshire Health Systems. The three thousand dollar grant was used to purchase thirty pairs of snowshoes for use with fourth and fifth grade students during physical education classes.
- Nicole LaFleur, our School Adjustment Counselor implements an Anti-Bullying Program as well as a Good Apple Award program which is school-wide and promotes positive behavior.
- Curl Up and Read have been extremely successful nights at CTP. Students wear their pajamas and listen to stories.
- The fifth grade promotion ceremony, coordinated by fifth grade teachers, features reflections, video presentations, songs, and readings from the students for parents and family members.
- Daycare program before and after school as well as summer assists working parents with a safe, familiar daycare setting. Activities in the daycare program are centered on the individual needs of the students and fun activities are planned on a regular basis.
- The new computer lab and computers are very exciting additions to C.T. Plunkett. The students are currently working on the Lexia program and learning a great deal! Laptops are in each classroom so that students can carryover in the classroom.
- C.T. Plunkett was awarded a large grant from the United Way for a project called ECHO. It is an Early Childhood Outcome Initiative. We are working with a large group of stakeholders from the community to look at students coming into school "ready to learn." Through this initiative, we have created a wonderful "Adams Village," going along with the quote, "It Takes a Village to Raise a Child."

## **Title I**

Title I is an entitlement grant that supports a school-wide literacy initiative for all Plunkett students. Instructional assistants in kindergarten through fifth grade work under the guidance of classroom teachers to reinforce literacy elements through small group differentiated instruction. Students receive remedial intervention in the elements of reading and writing guided by the Massachusetts Frameworks along with supplemental math assistance. Title I also supports extended day academic activities including a morning writing program for fourth graders. Every fourth and fifth grade student is eligible for after school Homework Help three afternoons per week.

Increased family involvement in school activities to meet parents' needs and support effective communication between home and school translates into higher student achievement. A monthly newsletter, The Parent Connection, along with helpful tips for home activities and homework help are dispensed, informational meetings and workshops are planned around appropriate topics, and evening programs such as Curl Up & Read are offered to families and staff throughout the school year.

## **Reading Is Fundamental**

This federally funded program helps to purchase books for all of our students. Three times during the school year students are given the opportunity to select a novel or picture book to keep as their own. Prior to the day of distribution, the entire student population is involved in motivational activities. The activities include reading aloud by the teacher, art projects, and writing projects, all focused on a theme. In the past these themes have included harvest, spiders, snowflakes and the beach. These motivational activities culminate on distribution day when students choose their books. The grant covers seventy-five percent of the cost of the books and the Library Committee contributes the other twenty-five percent.

## **Music Program**

Tim Rougeau teaches general music at CT Plunkett. In music classes, students learn to read musical notation, learn musical terminology, identify the instruments of the orchestra by both sight and sound, and become familiar with major composers of several different stylistic periods. 4th graders learn to play the recorder which prepares them to begin learning orchestral instruments in 5th grade. Students in grades 1-5 have a unit with



*Making Pumpkins*

keyboards and learn the basics of playing the piano. Students in grades 4 and 5 also may participate in the school chorus which meets once a week after school. Concerts are held in December and June in the CT Plunkett auditorium.

Aaron Dean directs the instrumental music program at Plunkett School. Students in 5th grade start on one of four basic instruments, which include flute, clarinet, trumpet, and trombone. There are also opportunities for students to learn percussion instruments in grade 5. These students build upon what they bring in general music class and perform with the Middle School band in their annual Spring Concert.

### Technology

This year CTP received new hardware and software to enhance our programming. Thirty desktop computers were purchased for the computer lab and library. Students receive weekly technology instruction in the computer lab. All students have access to the Internet and are provided instruction in its effective use, online safety and etiquette. All students have access to appropriate web-based learning sites that support our reading and math initiatives, providing additional practice for skill building. New black & white and color laser printers were purchased so that teachers can quickly print and visually display student work with quality. Each classroom has access to a new laptop with Vista operating systems. The teachers can work from home with this new portable tool. In class, students can access the Internet and complete practice, keyboarding, and word-processing software.

New ELA software was purchased called Lexia. This software is for grades PreK-8 and reinforces all areas of phonics, vocabulary, fluency, comprehension, and spelling. Each student is assigned a level and completes a variety of educational tasks that are researched-based to improve ELA skills. Teachers can monitor progress and print reports for differentiating instruction to each student level. Office software was also purchased for grades two and up in word processing, presentation, and graphing. Students will be receiving instruction in these tools to access the curriculum and share information with others. PreK-Grade 2 word-processing, presentation, and graphing software are currently being investigated.



*Sunflower Faces*

A new technology integration specialist was hired to assist teachers in creating instructional materials and accessing tech tools. This position works hand-in-hand with the Technology Team leader who connects technology with the curriculum and helps to set up meaningful professional development.

The district's web site ([www.acrsd.net](http://www.acrsd.net)) provides connections for information about our school and the Adams-Cheshire Regional School District. An improved format with a variety of new features has been designed to be more user-friendly and visually appealing. The district's technology plan has been updated and posted on each school's website.

An email system is in place for parents to communicate with staff as well as staff to communicate with other staff.

**Lexia** has been upgraded to an internet based program and families can download the software from home to continue the reinforcement of ELA skills.

**AR** (Accelerated Reader) has also been upgraded to an internet based program and can easily be accessed from home. Students read books and take a short test in AR to measure comprehension and vocabulary skills.

**MMS** (the school's biographical tracking and reporting system) has added an internet based component which allows teachers to log on at school or home to retrieve student contact information as well as student attendance.

**Sylvan Books** has awarded us a grant allowing access to 40 online books in English and Spanish for the 2008-09 school years.

**Spellingcity.com** is a free spelling tool being used by several teachers in the computer lab. Spelling lists are enhanced with online spelling games, spelling reviews, and spelling quizzes.

**SurveyMonkey.com** is being used to assess the faculty in technology skills gained and still needed and has also been used to survey students on school climate and safety.

**Google Apps** are being used by faculty to share and update curriculum standards across grades. Our school online calendars have been converted to Google Calendars making them easy to update from any location. It is also becoming a tool for those wishing to create a classroom website.

Several teachers are taking a class in **Windows Movie Maker** and have begun creating slide shows and movies to be shown during special events.

### 21st Century After School Program

The 21st Century Grant currently operating in its fifth year is sponsored by the Massachusetts Department of Education and the Adams-Cheshire Regional School District. The program offers children in grades one through five the opportunity to be involved in after school activities that begin at the end of the school day and run until 4:30 P.M. four days per week. Students take the bus home at the end of the program. Fifteen students are assigned to multiage classes consisting of two grade level spans with a two staff members and often Leo club support.



A total of forty-five students attend classes on a Monday/Wednesday schedule and an additional group of forty-five attend classes on a Tuesday/Thursday schedule. Project based instructional activities focusing on a variety of academic topics are designed to improve student performance in reading comprehension, written expression, mathematics and study skills.

### **Community Connections**

We continue to maintain excellent working relationships with a number of agencies throughout our neighboring communities as well as those in the town of Adams. We also work closely with the following organizations:

- The Berkshire Humane Society (pet care/classroom lessons)
- The Pittsfield Red Cross Unit (classroom lessons)
- The Counseling Center of the Berkshires (counseling)
- The Department of Social Services (family support)
- Barrett House (story hour for kindergarten students)
- The Massachusetts Audubon Society (classroom lessons)
- Adams Police Department (DARE/school resource officer)
- The Berkshire Museum
- Adams Library, Fire Department, and local banks (educational programs)
- Junior Achievement (Curl Up and Read)
- Hoosac Valley High School (Leo Club)
- Berkshire Community College (nursing interns)
- Adams Youth Center (Big Brother/Big Sister Program)

- Adams Visitor Center-Joe Novak (Presentations and visits)
- Massachusetts College of Liberal Arts (practicum students and administrative interns)
- The Police Athletic League who use our gymnasium for basketball games
- Town Hall Coordination of Red Sox Trophy
- REACH Foundation
- The South Adams Savings Bank provides our school with a generous donation of one thousand dollars each year.
- The Golden Varsity volunteers continue working in the library, health room, and classrooms in our school on a regular basis.
- Parent volunteers regularly work in classrooms, library and chaperone field trips.

### **Transitions**

Karen Koehler and Carol Roberts retired after teaching in the Adams-Cheshire Regional School District for many years. We appreciate their contribution to the children of this community and wish them well in their retirement.

Submitted by:  
Kristen Gordon, Principal



# Cheshire Elementary School

## ANNUAL REPORT – 2008

The staff of Cheshire Elementary School continues to be committed to the beliefs and values of the Adams-Cheshire Regional School District. The following beliefs and values are utilized daily.

1. All children are capable of learning.
2. All students deserve the best instruction.
3. High expectations for teachers and students increase student learning.
4. A safe and organized school environment is essential to teaching and learning.
5. Mutual respect creates the optimum climate for learning.
6. Learning is a shared responsibility.
7. There is more than one way to accomplish something.
8. When administrators, teachers, students and parents are accountable, students will learn.
9. Families and schools who communicate and cooperate with each other will have more successful students.
10. If it is not working, it shouldn't be continued.

Cheshire Elementary School had an enrollment of 252 students this year. The following staff members help to provide a supportive educational environment for all of our students:

**School-wide** - Linda Biros, Nancy Chaput, Debi Ciempa, Stash Cote, Aaron Dean, Karen Drain, Cindy Gajda, Judy Gaylord, Linda Giroux, Sherry Goodrich, Marianne Hall, Wavelyn Hine, Noreen Hoag, Chris LeVardi, Bonnie McLaughlin, Denise Moncecchi, Cindy Rancourt, Sue Randall, Susan Reynolds, Dave Richards, Pam St. John, Jason Sniezek, Cheryl Sykes, Jen Taylor and Donna Virgilio.

**Pre-Kindergarten** - Laura Ziemba, Shannon Briggs

**Kindergarten** - Carleen Butler, Robin Poirot, Clara Wilusz

**Grade 1** - Heather Emerson, Katie Bishop

**Grade 2** - Eric Brown, Glen Chamberlin, Donna Murdock

**Grade 3** - Woody Boillat, Danielle Taylor, Sue Burzimat

**Grade 4** - Lynda Bianchi, Michelle Gajda

**Grade 5** - Dawn Prokopowicz, Stephanie McCarthy, Linda Bonnivier

**Grade 6** - Tom Prokopowicz, Jan Charbonneau

### Curriculum

Each student at Cheshire Elementary School receives an education based on our state frameworks. Four main content areas are covered: Language Arts, Math, Science and Social Studies. Student schedules also include library; art, music, physical education and technology.

### Library

Cheshire School's library houses approximately 8,000 books and professional development publications. Students enjoy one 45 minute library period per week.

### Art

Each student at Cheshire School grades K-6, attends two 45 minute art classes per week. Cheryl Sykes, our art teacher, instructs students in a variety of art techniques. These lessons include: use of mixed media, painting and pottery.

### Music

Classroom music is taught by Wavelyn Hine. Our K-6 students attend classes two periods per week, 45 minutes each. In addition to singing, our students march to the beat, play rhythm instruments, recorders, hand chimes, acoustic guitars and keyboards. Aaron Dean teaches instrumental music, on a part time basis, to students in grades 5 and 6.

### Physical Education

K-6 students attend physical education classes for two 45 minute periods per week. Our program is taught by Jason Sniezek and includes a wide range of activities that promote wellness concepts that can be utilized throughout life as opposed to strictly competitive sports. Some examples of classes would be: soccer activities, football activities, use of hula hoops, ball handling skills, basketball activities, cross-country skiing, parachute games, net games,



*Apples*



*Humane*

volleyball, scooters, hockey skills, jump rope activities, tumbling, baseball, Frisbee, track and field activities, badminton, cooperative games such as bowling and dance.

### Technology

Our computer lab reopened this year in the East Wing. Students receive technology instruction from their classroom teachers for 90 minutes per week. Teachers are assisted by Marianne Hall, our technology coordinator. All students in grades K-6 have access to the Internet and are monitored closely for appropriate use. They also utilize web sites that support our language arts and math programs. A reading practice program, Accelerated Reader, is used consistently. Teachers are also using a software program called Lexia. This program is useful for reinforcing skills in Language Arts. Teachers and parents have increased their use of email as a means of communication. I would encourage everyone to visit our district website, [www.acrsd.net](http://www.acrsd.net) for more detailed information about all four schools in our district.

### Parent Group

Our PTG continues to support our student body in a variety of ways. The group meets once per month to make decisions about events and fundraising. They provide funding for various cultural arts programs as well as providing activities for children. Some examples would be Breakfast with Santa, local field trips, Christmas gift shop, yearbooks and field day volunteers.

### School Advisory Council

School Council is a committee composed of the principal, school staff members, parents and community members. School Councils assist the principal with reviewing educational goals that are consistent with district policy and state standards. They also review the annual school building budget and develop our school improvement plan.

### Activities/Events/Programs

Caught You Being Good  
Before and After School Child Care Program  
Father/Daughter Valentine Dance  
Full week Summer Child Care Program  
Grade 6 graduation/promotion ceremony  
Greenhouse Project  
Harry Potter Book Club  
Kindergarten/Grade 6 Buddy Program

Mexican Fiesta  
Nature's Classroom  
O Ambassadors Program  
Relax and Read  
School Newspaper  
Theater Arts

### Community Connections

We continue to maintain excellent relationships with a number of agencies and cultural venues. Our partner in education, Office of the Sheriff and Berkshire County Deputies, continues to support us both financially and with manpower hours for various events. We also work with: Town of Cheshire – Town Hall and Library, Fire Department, Police Department, Recreation Committee, Adams Police Department, Adams Youth Center, Bass Water Grill, Bedard Brothers, Berkshire Community College, Berkshire County District Attorney's Office, Berkshire Taconic Foundation, Berkshire Theater Festival, The Berkshire Humane Society, The Berkshire Museum, Cal Ripkin League, Cheshire Youth Football, Clark Art, The Colonial Theater, Department of Children and Families, Lassie League, Leo Club, Local banks, Louison House, Mass MoCA, Massachusetts College of Liberal Arts, Massachusetts State Police, Norman Rockwell Museum, Northern Berkshire Community Television Corporation, Police Athletic League, Red Cross, Upton Lodge of Masons, Various Berkshire County counseling agencies, and Our many parent volunteers.

This is my final report as principal of Cheshire Elementary School. I will retire at the end of this school year. I have enjoyed a long and rewarding career as a teacher and administrator in Cheshire. Thirty-five years have flown by and it is time for me to move on to other endeavors. I am very grateful to the community of Cheshire for its generous and unwavering support of the children of our school, especially during the very difficult financial times that we have endured and that we now live in. I cannot say enough about the good work our staff does on a daily basis. It is my hope that the high quality of education our students receive will continue for generations to come. Thank you for everything.

Pamela St. John



Lab



Kindergarten



# Athletic Report

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The 2008 athletic program had over 400 students participate in 26 varsity and sub-varsity programs that compete in the Berkshire County League. We also have collaborative teams with Drury in ice hockey, Mt. Greylock, Drury, and McCann Technical in swimming, Drury in alpine skiing, cross-country skiing, and tennis, and Mt. Greylock, Drury and McCann in wrestling.

In the fall, the boy's football team had a very good season, playing under the direction of head Coach John Duval. The football team finished 8-4, losing in the final playoff game to Wahconah Regional H.S. for the Berkshire County Championship. The girl's soccer team was Co- Champs of the Berkshire county southern division under the direction of first year coach Blair Mahar and came on strong making the Western- Mass tournament once again before falling in the first round. The boy's soccer won the Berkshire county southern division and qualified for the Western-Mass tournament and lost a heart breaker in overtime to penalty kicks... The boy's cross-country running team did very well this past fall and the girl's cross-country team also did very well this fall... The golf team now participates in the fall and had a great season falling just short of qualifying for the Western Mass tournament.

In the winter season, the boy's and girl's Nordic Ski (cross-country), along with a new group of student-athletes finished near the top in State competition. The girl's swim team had a successful season in league action and competed in Western Mass Division I, and in the Div. I State meet. The boy's swim team competed in both Western Mass and States as well. Both the boy's and girl's basketball teams qualified for Western Mass tournament play, with the Boys winning the Berkshire county northern division , along with Western Mass and Central Mass. before fallen to Milton High School in the state finals.

In the spring, the boy's baseball team won Western Mass only to get beat in the semi-finals of state play. Girl's softball just missed qualifying for Western Mass. The boy's and girl's track teams, qualified for Western-Mass and State meets. The tennis team, who co-ops with Drury also qualified for Western Mass.

In all, the students, coaches, administrators, and parent booster groups worked very hard to maintain a quality sports program which serves the best intent of our school community.

Daniel L. Caritey,  
Athletic Director



*More HVHS Basketball Supporters*



## Director of Food Services

The Adams-Cheshire Regional School District, in 2008, has continued to participate in the National School Lunch and School Breakfast Programs as well as the Special Milk, After School Snack Programs and USDA Commodity Distribution Program. Berkshire Head Start continues to participate in our programs with breakfasts and lunches being satellite from Plunkett Elementary School to their Howland avenue classroom. The Food Service Department continues to participate in the Berkshire County Food Service Purchasing Cooperative. Through this coop bread, dairy and paper products are put out to bid on a county wide basis.

The Food Service Department essentially broke even for the 2007-2008 school year with an operating profit of \$639 on revenues of \$653,930. Government subsidies in the form of reimbursements for meals served have become an increasingly important revenue source. The percentage of students who qualify for free/reduced meals, 40% at the end of 2008, is steadily increasing with the global economic crisis but reimbursement rates have increased accordingly resulting in a 9% increase in government subsidies to the department in 2008. In light of continuing declines in enrollment strict cost control as well as ongoing evaluation of staffing needs will be necessary in order to ensure the ongoing solvency of our programs.

The new point of sale hardware and software that was installed in September 2007 is proving to be a useful technological upgrade enhancing the department's report writing and data collection capabilities. Most importantly, the elimination of overt identification of free/reduced students has increased their participation as well as the government reimbursements that ensue. The system has also been successful in allowing for advanced payments, tracking student accounts electronically as well as storing all F/R application data, participant data, reimbursement claim data and a full range of sales and financial reports.

The Food Service Department functions at minimal staffing levels and relies on a high volume of a la carte sales as well as multiple choices of reimbursable meals at HVHS and AMMS to maximize revenue. The cafeteria staff currently consists of 18 permanent positions at 104 labor hours per day plus a director and a clerk. There were no personnel changes made in 2008.

Government subsidies in the form of reimbursements for meals served totaled \$299,149 in 2008, as previously mentioned this is a 9% increase from 2007 and represents 46% of total revenue to the department. This level of government support is a significant change from the 40% figure that has been the historical norm. USDA commodities valued at \$52,635 were received in 2008, up from \$46,901 the previous year.

Prices for the 2008-2009 school year have remained constant from the previous year and are as follows:

Paid Student Lunch (CES & CTP)	1.75
Paid Student Lunch (HVHS & AMMS)	2.00
Paid Student Breakfast	1.00
Reduced Student Lunch	.40
Reduced Student Breakfast	.30
Paid Adult Lunch	3.00

Participation in the reimbursable School Lunch Program remained stable in 2008 at 74.9% as compared to 73.6% in 2007, 74.5% in 2006 and 74.9% in 2005. Breakfast participation in 2008 was 18.4% as compared to 17.4% in 2007, 16.7% in 2006 and 14.6% in 2005. The number and type of reimbursable meals served in 2008 are as follows:

Paid Student Lunch	102,856
Free Student Lunch	65,418
Reduced Student Lunch	22,065
Total Student Breakfasts	47,247
Adult Lunches	14,380

Spencer N. Chaffee  
Food Service Director



*HVHS Junior Prize Seeking Contestants*

# Director of Special Services

## 2008 ANNUAL REPORT

The Special Services Department continues to support and develop programs to best meet the needs of our students. It is the Mission of the Special Education Department to provide an appropriate public education to students in the least restrictive setting. Furthermore, it is our vision to be able to support all students in community-based programs. In order to accomplish this goal, we continue working as a department to develop in-district programs that can successfully support all our students, especially those students with diverse needs. In that regard, we are continually exploring new projects and modifying those in place to become more effective. These initiatives are designed to serve all students who can benefit from the programs whether or not they require specialized instruction. These efforts are in keeping with the Beliefs and Values of the Adams-Cheshire Regional District; specifically that all children are capable of learning and that all students deserve the best instruction.

Based on the success of the Exceptional Program for at-risk high school students, a new program was initiated at the middle school. The programs provide students with a small group instructional model for academic courses and also incorporate therapeutic components. The programs allow the district to provide supports for students in a way that was previously only available by tuition to out-of-district placements. A key element for success is the out-reach contact to students and their parents that takes place beyond the regular school hours.

Other specialized district programs include a Life Skills Program to support high school aged students. Pre-vocational and daily living activities are important components to the “hands-on” learning experience. There is also a behavioral support program at C. T. Plunkett Elementary which provides assistance to students both within a substantially separate classroom as well as in classes with their peers. A variety of supports are available for children who fall under the umbrella of Autism Spectrum Disorders. The collaboration extends to teachers and parents through our Autism Specialist and Special Education Teachers. Aside from the direct benefits to students and their families, the district has been able to see considerable savings in consultant fees and training costs for services that no longer need to come from outside agencies. Academic support programs in direct, systematic reading instruction and remediation in math are part of the resource room and inclusion instruction that some students receive during the school day. Related services for students are provided by speech and language pathologists as well as speech assistants. The district also contracts to provide occupational and physical therapy for students who are in need of these supports in order to make progress in their educational programs.

Child Find is an important component of the Special Services Department. We work cooperatively with community agencies and health care providers to help identify students in need of services at an early age. Our preschool programs at both C. T. Plunkett Elementary and Cheshire Elementary welcome students with special needs who have turned three with specially designed curriculums to meet their individual needs in a side-by-side program with their typical peers.

Extended year programs are available during the summer months to help children at risk of substantial regression to continue to make progress academically and socially. A program for our younger students balances academic growth with fun activities. We also partner with the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Summer Program based at C. T. Plunkett to provide a program for the older elementary students that combines academics with projects and special community outings. The summer program for older students combines academic support, pre-vocational skill training and community and recreational outings.

Despite the variety of program offerings and recent innovations, the needs of some children require appropriate placements in both private and public out-of-district programs. The district is responsible for a student who is enrolled at Berkshire Meadows. We are also responsible for the educational component for two students who have been placed in residential facilities by the Department of Mental Health (DMH). The district has transitioned all private day placement students back to the public schools.

Recognizing the important role that they play in the lives of all students, we strive to reach out and encourage parents to become active members on the Parents Advisory Council (PAC). The Steering Committee of the PAC has developed and adopted by-laws for their organization and has sponsored several informational sessions of interest to parents of all school-aged children.

The district is proud of its successes in the area of special education. We continue to move forward to fulfill the beliefs and values that serve as the foundation of our vision for the Adams-Cheshire Regional School District and its mission to create a partnership of our schools and communities that develops all of our students into educated, responsible and productive citizens.

Respectfully submitted,

Juliette J. Wilk-Chaffee  
Director of Special Services

# ADAMS-CHESHIRE REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

## Combined Balance Sheet June 30, 2008

	General Fund	Revolving Funds	Grants	Trust	Agency	Capital Projects	LITAG (Memo Only)	Totals
<b>ASSETS</b>								
Cash	1,886,566.48	805,279.00	23,623.00	455,928.00	177,417.00	550,000.00	-	3,898,813.48
Petty Cash	100.00	400.00	-	-	-	-	-	500.00
Due From Federal/State Grant	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Due From State								
- SBAB Reimb Prin	1,875,773.00	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,875,773.00
Due From State	44,218.96	-	-	-	-	-	-	44,218.96
Inventory	-	33,287.00	-	-	-	-	-	33,287.00
Prepaid Expenditure	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Accounts Receivable	136,338.95	94,063.00	170,757.00	-	-	-	-	401,158.95
Amount To Be Provided	-	-	-	-	-	-	2,071,182.00	2,071,182.00
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>3,942,997.39</b>	<b>933,029.00</b>	<b>194,380.00</b>	<b>455,928.00</b>	<b>177,417.00</b>	<b>550,000.00</b>	<b>2,071,182.00</b>	<b>8,324,933.39</b>
<b>LIABILITIES</b>								
Accounts Payable	153,064.07	71,874.00	-	-	-	-	-	224,938.07
Accrued Teachers Payroll	1,054,927.65	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,054,927.65
Def Revenue								
- SBAB Reimb Prin	1,875,773.00	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,875,773.00
Other Liabilites	53,454.00	-	-	-	-	-	-	53,454.00
Employee Withholding Payable	104,284.93	-	-	-	-	-	-	104,284.93
Bond Anticipation Notes Payable	-	-	-	-	-	650,000.00	-	650,000.00
Bonds Payable	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,475,000.00	1,475,000.00
Capital Leases	-	-	-	-	-	-	69,384.00	69,384.00
Early Retirement Incentive	-	-	-	-	-	-	63,029.00	63,029.00
Compensated Absences	-	-	-	-	-	-	463,769.00	463,769.00
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES</b>	<b>3,241,503.65</b>	<b>71,874.00</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>650,000.00</b>	<b>2,071,182.00</b>	<b>6,034,559.65</b>
<b>FUND BALANCE</b>								
Designated	-	825,319.00	194,130.00	455,928.00	177,417.00	(100,000.00)	-	1,552,794.00
Undesignated/Unreserved	162,655.00	-	-	-	-	-	-	162,655.00
Res For Encumbrances	13,838.74	2,149.00	250.00	-	-	-	-	16,237.74
Res For Inventory	-	33,287.00	-	-	-	-	-	33,287.00
Res For Petty Cash	-	400.00	-	-	-	-	-	400.00
Res For Capital Projects	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Res For Expenditures (E & D)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Res To Reduce Town Assess (E & D)	525,000.00	-	-	-	-	-	-	525,000.00
<b>Total Equity</b>	<b>701,493.74</b>	<b>861,155.00</b>	<b>194,380.00</b>	<b>455,928.00</b>	<b>177,417.00</b>	<b>(100,000.00)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>2,290,373.74</b>
<b>Total Liabilities And Equity</b>	<b>3,942,997.39</b>	<b>933,029.00</b>	<b>194,380.00</b>	<b>455,928.00</b>	<b>177,417.00</b>	<b>550,000.00</b>	<b>2,071,182.00</b>	<b>8,324,933.39</b>

C: 08 Balance Sheet All Funds

**ADAMS CHESHIRE REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT**  
**SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS**  
**Combining Schedule of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balances**  
**June 30, 2008**

<b>Description</b>	<b>Revenues</b>	<b>Expenditures</b>	<b>Transfers</b>	<b>Surplus Deficiency</b>	<b>7-1-07 Balance</b>	<b>6-30-08 Balance</b>
Pl 94-142 (More)	-	35,696	-	(35,696)	35,696	-
Title I	-	65,976	-	(65,976)	65,976	-
Title V	-	3,196	-	(3,196)	3,196	-
Drug Free	5,499	10,999	-	(5,500)	5,500	-
21st Century Grant	-	10,939	-	(10,939)	10,939	-
Title I Dist.	-	1,635	-	(1,635)	1,635	-
Title IIA	-	3,281	-	(3,281)	5,615	2,334
Sped Prof Dev	7,338	7,446	-	(108)	108	-
Title IID Enh. Ed.	-	4,418	-	(4,418)	4,418	-
Sped Corr. Action	-	1,084	-	(1,084)	1,084	-
Pl 94-142 (More)	422,491	294,012	-	128,479	-	128,479
Title I	395,978	372,673	-	23,305	-	23,305
Title V	3,226	3,226	-	-	-	-
Early Childhood	22,952	22,952	-	-	-	-
Drug Free	9,686	-	-	9,686	-	9,686
21st Century Grant	55,000	52,853	-	2,147	-	2,147
Title IIA	94,262	92,807	-	1,455	-	1,455
Sped Prof Dev	9,884	8,164	-	1,720	-	1,720
Title IID Enh. Ed.	4,053	4,053	-	-	-	-
Quality Kindergarten	92,532	92,532	-	-	-	-
Academic Support	7,400	7,400	-	-	-	-
Bay State Readers	92,970	91,770	-	1,200	-	1,200
Planned Exp Learning	7,780	7,780	-	-	-	-
Cheshire Computer	-	-	-	-	1,246	1,246
Surtleff Fund	-	-	-	-	2,748	2,748
Riverside	-	-	518	(518)	518	0
BCREB	2,250	2,408	-	(158)	2,100	1,942
SASBSpanish Club	-	-	-	-	1,000	1,000
Ace-Myroads	1,354	586	-	767	1,901	2,668
Cheshire PTO	-	-	-	-	723	723
Library 1953	-	-	-	-	1,000	1,000
Walmart Grant	-	636	-	(636)	636	-
SASB HVHS Tech	-	250	-	(250)	250	-
NB Com Part Child	2,564	-	-	2,564	8,572	11,136
Low And Hall Trust	-	-	-	-	-	-
S.A.F.E.R. GRANT	10,981	9,390	-	1,591	-	1,591
Ace Genomics/Biotech	2,027	2,027	-	-	-	-
Food Services	653,919	647,601	-	6,318	107,148	113,467
Athletic User Fee	27,142	-	29,000	(1,858)	43,830	41,972
Gate Receipts	35,477	5,897	20,000	9,580	75,075	84,655
School Choice	331,610	325,148	-	6,462	294,158	300,620
Plunkett Child Care	143,006	133,747	6,500	2,759	27,985	30,744
Cheshire Child Care	78,322	64,768	5,500	8,054	29,691	37,745
HVHS Pool	-	-	-	-	1,967	1,967
Pool Fund	-	-	-	-	11,761	11,761
HVHS Sound	-	-	-	-	10,504	10,504
Riverside	-	-	(518)	518	2,944	3,462
Stabilization Fund	772	-	-	772	24,547	25,319
Circuit Breaker	261,193	242,000	-	19,193	179,746	198,939
Fy2008 Tech Budget	-	100,000	-	(100,000)	-	(100,000)
HVHS Pool Project	-	4,500	-	(4,500)	4,500	-
CTP HVAC Project	-	3,500	-	(3,500)	3,500	-
FY2009 TECH BUDGET	-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>TOTAL SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS</b>	<b>2,781,668</b>	<b>2,737,351</b>	<b>61,000</b>	<b>(16,682)</b>	<b>972,217</b>	<b>955,535</b>

# Northern Berkshire Vocational Regional School District

## FINANCIAL STATEMENT - July 1, 2007 - June 30, 2008



### TOTAL RECEIPTS

2007 Balance	\$1,479,680.33
Receipts 2007-2008	12,679,745.73
Private	
Scholarship Accounts	139,194.37

### TOTAL PAYMENTS

Payments 2007-2008	13,152,146.75
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**Cash balance**  
as of June 30, 2008 **\$1,146,473.68**

### REVOLVING ACCOUNTS

#### Payroll Deductions

FY07 balance	20,588.53
07-08 receipts	1,668,210.20
07-08 expenditures	1,674,971.81
Balance 6/30/08	<b>13,826.92</b>

#### Health Programs - Post Secondary

FY07 balance	3,246.51
07-08 receipts	44,250.29
07-08 expenditures	41,230.77
Balance 6/30/08	<b>6,536.03</b>

#### School Lunch

FY07 balance	-12,277.18
07-08 receipts	247,434.78
07-08 expenditures	249,281.28
Balance 6/30/08	<b>-14,123.68</b>

#### Scholarships/Special & Class Gifts/Olmsted Awards

FY07 balance	16,125.02
07-08 receipts	30,923.00
07-08 expenditures	33,884.42
Balance 6/30/08	<b>13,163.60</b>

#### Adult Continung Education

FY07 balance	1,247.36
07-08 receipts	37,788.57
07-08 expenditures	19,851.42
Balance 6/30/08	<b>19,182.51</b>

#### Athletic Game Receipts

FY07 balance	264.47
07-08 receipts	6,883.25
07-08 expenditures	4,384.00
Balance 6/30/08	<b>2,763.72</b>

#### Cosmetology Kits

FY07 balance	1,084.97
07-08 receipts	11,547.00
07-08 expenditures	12,304.10
Balance 6/30/08	<b>327.77</b>

#### Misc. Purchases

FY07 balance	228.60
07-08 receipts	2,643.00
07-08 expenditures	2,199.78
Balance 6/30/08	<b>671.82</b>

#### Sales & Meal Taxes

FY07 balance	13.66
07-08 receipts	713.30
07-08 expenditures	569.85
Balance 6/30/08	<b>157.11</b>

#### Claims Trust Fund

FY07 balance	30,432.59
07-08 receipts	919,258.28
07-08 expenditures	948,487.67
Balance 6/30/08	<b>1,203.20</b>

#### RANS PAYABLE

07-08 receipts	1,250,000.00
07-08 expenditures	1,250,000.00
Balance 6/30/08	<b>0.00</b>

#### Capital Improvement Project

FY07 balance	439,879.66
07-08 receipts	0.00
07-08 expenditures	439,879.66
Balance 6/30/08	<b>0.00</b>

#### Student Activity Account

FY07 balance	16,846.42
07-08 receipts	46,929.39
07-08 expenditures	44,390.33
Balance 6/30/08	<b>19,385.08</b>

#### Pell Grant

07-08 receipts	77,577.00
07-08 expenditures	77,577.00
Balance 6/30/08	<b>0.00</b>

#### Tailings

FY07 balance	478.76
07-08 receipts	0.00
07-08 expenditures	0.00
Balance 6/30/08	<b>478.76</b>

**Post-Secondary 37F Tuition Account**

07-08 receipts	164,878.00	
07-08 expenditures	<u>142,465.74</u>	
Balance 6/30/08		<b>22,412.26</b>

**Adult Post-Secondary Perkins Grant**

FY07 balance	-1,727.31	
07-08 receipts	9,623.69	
07-08 expenditures	<u>7,864.51</u>	
Balance 6/30/08		<b>31.87</b>

**FY08 -FG - Title 1 - 191**

07-08 receipts	98,149.00	
07-08 expenditures	<u>92,998.32</u>	
Balance 6/30/08		<b>5,150.68</b>

**FG - Sped Entitlement - 166**

FY07 balance	2,701.80	
07-08 receipts	0.00	
07-08 expenditures	<u>0.00</u>	
Balance 6/30/08		<b>2,701.80</b>

**FY08 - FG - Perkins - 192**

07-08 receipts	85,651.00	
07-08 expenditures	<u>76,143.80</u>	
Balance 6/30/08		<b>9,507.20</b>

**Tech Prep Grant**

FY07 balance	4,286.00	
07-08 receipts	1,000.00	
07-08 expenditures	<u>4,100.50</u>	
Balance 6/30/08		<b>2,185.50</b>

**FY08 - FG - Teacher Quality Title II - 195**

07-08 receipts	16,455.00	
07-08 expenditures	<u>22,680.71</u>	
Balance 6/30/08		<b>-6,225.71</b>

**FG - Sped Entitlement - 178**

FY07 balance	524.15	
07-08 receipts	0.00	
07-08 expenditures	<u>524.15</u>	
Balance 6/30/08		<b>0.00</b>

**FG - Title V -Drug/Free Schools - 184**

FY07 balance	2,705.95	
07-08 receipts	0.00	
07-08 expenditures	<u>2,705.95</u>	
Balance 6/30/08		<b>0.00</b>

**FY08 - FG - Academic Support - 198**

07-08 receipts	8,145.00	
07-08 expenditures	<u>10,106.41</u>	
Balance 6/30/08		<b>-1,967.41</b>

**FG - Title I - 179**

FY07 balance	5,673.51	
07-08 receipts	0.00	
07-08 expenditures	<u>5,673.51</u>	
Balance 6/30/08		<b>0.00</b>

**FG - Perkins -185**

FY07 balance	9,089.83	
07-08 receipts	0.00	
07-08 expenditures	<u>9,089.03</u>	
Balance 6/30/08		<b>0.00</b>

**FG - Title II - Tea. Quality Part A - 180**

FY07 balance	416.00	
07-08 receipts	0.00	
07-08 expenditures	<u>416.00</u>	
Balance 6/30/08		<b>0.00</b>

**FY08- FG - New Technology - 199**

07-08 receipts	10,000.00	
07-08 expenditures	<u>0.00</u>	
Balance 6/30/08		<b>10,000.00</b>

**FY08- FG - Title IV - Drug/Free Schools - 193**

07-08 receipts	3,094.00	
07-08 expenditures	<u>3,005.73</u>	
Balance 6/30/08		<b>88.27</b>

**BHG Wellness Program**

07-08 receipts	2,000.00	
07-08 expenditures	<u>0.00</u>	
Balance 6/30/08		<b>2,000.00</b>

**FY08-BCREB/Conn. Act. -163-08**

07-08 receipts	5,000.00	
07-08 expenditures	<u>5,182.50</u>	
Balance 6/30/08		<b>-182.50</b>

**FY08 - FG - Sped -190**

07-08 receipts	96,777.00	
07-08 expenditures	<u>108,585.87</u>	
Balance 6/30/08		<b>-11,808.87</b>

**Total Revolving Accounts** **97,466.33**

**Total Revolving Accounts** **\$ 97,466.33**

2007 E & D Account Balance 438,279.44\*

2008 Estimated Receipts 471,533.54\*

Private Scholarship Accounts 139,194.37

**Total cash balance 6/30/08** **\$1,146,473.68**

\*Includes FY08 encumbered payroll and purchase orders

## Notes

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