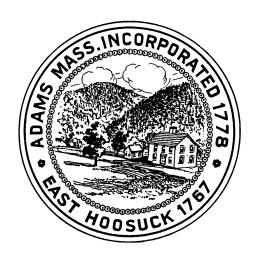


# TOWN REPORT 2010 Adams Massachusetts

# Town of ADAMS

MASSACHUSETTS

REPORT OF THE TOWN OFFICERS



# FOR THE YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2010

Compiled and Edited by the

#### PERMANENT TOWN REPORT COMMITTEE

As Authorized by the Special Town Meeting

June 24, 1963

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## **General Information**

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

Po	pul	latio	on:

Town Census 2010	9,414
Town Census 2009	9,657
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 2010	8,485
Federal Census 2000	8,809
Federal Census 1990	9,445
Federal Census 1980	10,385

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

Number of Registered Voters as of November, 2010

Tax Rate FY10 Residential & Open Space \$ 15.36 Commercial, Industrial & Personal \$ 20.22

Total Taxed Assessed \$7,957,839.68 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, 1st Berkshire District

DANIEL E. BOSLEY – North Adams

GAILANNE M. CARIDDI – Elected November 2, 2010, took office January 2011.

Governor's Councillor, 8th District

THOMAS T. MERRIGAN - Greenfield

**United States Senators:** 

SCOTT P. BROWN of Wrentham

JOHN F. KERRY of Boston

Representative in Congress, 1st 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, Pope John Paul the Great 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 and the future site of potential economic development. This location has many beautiful vistas of mountains, streams and fields.

## **Adams Industries**

5,663

ADAMS PLUMBING & HEATING, INC. ALADCO
ATLANTIS EQUIPMENT CO.
BROWN PACKAGING
BURKE CONSTRUCTION CO
HOLLAND CO., INC.
LANE CONSTRUCTION

MRA LABOTATORIES
MULLEN MOVERS
POWDER SHIELD TECHNOLOGIES
SHINE WIRE PRODUCTS, INC.
SOMMER ELECTRIC, INC.
SPECIALTY MINERALS, INC.
T & A TOOLS

# **DEDICATION**

# The Thunderbolt Ski Trail Mt. Greylock, Town of Adams

With downhill skiing becoming increasingly popular in the early half of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, the idea was conceived to create a world class ski trail on the slopes of Mt. Greylock. The concept, initiated by the Mount Greylock Ski Club, would become a reality under the direction of the Western Massachusetts Winter Sports Council. In addition, individuals such as Charles Parker, Dwight Francis and Arthur Larkin played key roles in designing the trail in conjunction with the input of numerous colleges and universities in Western Massachusetts.

During the fall and winter of 1934-1935, the Thunderbolt trail was cleared on Mt. Greylock's precipitous eastern slope at the hands of the 107th company of the Civilian Conservation Corps; however, the original finish line's sunny southeast exposure often caused problematic ski and race conditions particularly late in the season. The 107<sup>th</sup> of the CCC would be called upon again to reroute the lower third of the trail northeast in 1936. It was after skiing the rerouted trail that national downhill champion Joseph H. Duncan of Colorado exclaimed: "it's undoubtedly

the most thrilling wooded run yet built in the country, it beats anything in the Rockies."

With a vertical of 2,050 feet, a racing length of 1.6 miles and a grade of as much as 35 degrees the trail quickly acquired the title of "The Thunderbolt" due to its thrill ride feel similar to the Thunderbolt roller coaster at Revere Beach in Massachusetts. The United States Eastern Amateur Ski Association (USEASA, today known as the United States Ski and Snowboard Association) crowned the Thunderbolt as an Expert-Class A ski trail. It was this trail that would go on to be the location of local, collegiate, state, and Eastern championship races from 1935 until 1959, involving such notable racers as Olympian Dick Durrance and Ski Hall-of-Famer Toni Matt.

In addition to both state and national acclaim, the Thunderbolt was also the home to many local legends such as Rudy Konieczny, Maurice "Greeny" Guertin and Bill Linscott to name a few. Many of them native-born, factory-workers in Adams, these local athletes

would ascend the trail by foot, sometimes numerous times in a single morning, all prior to arriving at work for the day. Their local knowledge and commitment to training on the trail allowed them to contend with both national and international stars of the sport who came to compete right here in Adams.

Due to the mechanization of downhill skiing in the northeast, use of the Thunderbolt declined between the 1950s and 1990s.

However, in the past decade the sport has undergone a bit of a renaissance where many diehard skiers and snowboarders have opted to step off the fancy resorts and back into the rustic, authentic feeling of the backwoods. The Thunderbolt in the past decade has become a hotspot for backwoods enthusiasts, as well as masses of local athletes that place their loyalty in Mt. Greylock. Much of the credit for this renaissance should be afforded to the Thunderbolt Ski Runners, a local organization founded in 2008 with one goal in mind, providing the Thunderbolt the attention that it needs.



The Thunderbolt Ski Trail

In addition to trail clearing and maintenance, the Thunderbolt Ski Runners decided early on that 2010 was the 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the famous trail, and that a race in commemoration of the milestone was in order. After years of planning and the assistance of dozens of local agencies and organizations, the 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Thunderbolt Ski Race was held on March 13, 2010. Nearly 100 racers and thousands of spectators crowded the trail, despite challenging weather conditions, to watch the first downhill ski race in decades take place on Mt. Greylock.

The event had a magical feel, and brought the Northern Berkshire community together in celebration of our Mountain. The Town of Adams was reinvigorated with an energy and spirit that connected us back to the days of a larger, bustling community that was both a manufacturing and recreational hub for the region. The Thunderbolt Ski Trail has always been a part of Adams' mystique and rich history, as we move forward into the new century, it is exciting to have the trail once again at the forefront of our identity.

# In Memoriam



#### BEATRICE BOISVERT

Adams Free Library Librarian

#### **ARTHUR "NEWT" BOND**

Wastewater Treatment Plant Employee

#### WALTER KORDANA

Parks and Recreation Commissioner Town Meeting Member

#### WALTER KOZIK

Finance Committee Member Adams Housing Authority Member Personnel Board Member Town Meeting Member

#### ROMA LAZARCZYK

Council on Aging Employee

#### MARION LITTLE

Town Common Gazebo gifted by her family in her memory

#### **DORIS MARCIL**

ACRSD Cook

#### BERNARD J. NEVEU

Adams Housing Authority Member

#### A. MARIE ST. JOHN

Council on Aging Board of Directors Member Town of Adams Employee

#### GEORGE SCHWAB

ACRSD Accountant

#### RAYMOND TARSA

Town Meeting Member NBRVSD Member (McCann's)

# **Town Clerk**

# **Adams Town Election Results** May 3, 2010

MODERATOR for a	term of One Year	HOUSING AUTHORITY	for a term	of Five Years
JOSEPH R. DEAN, Jr., Eight hundred seventy se	ven 877*	MARY ROBERT, Ten		10*
Write In Votes, Seven	7	Write In Votes, Sixteen		16
Blanks, One hundred forty six	146	Blanks, One thousand four		1,004
Total	1,030	Total		1,030
SELECTMAN for a ter	m of Three Years	REDEVELOPMENT AUTHOR	ITY for a term	of Five Years
DONALD R. SOMMER, Four hundred thirty two		RYAN BIROS, Eight		8*
PAULA I. MELVILLE, Five hundred ninety two	592*	Write In Votes, Eleven		11
SCOTT F. NICHOLS, Seven hundred forty eight	748*	Blanks, One thousand eleven		1,011
Write In Votes, Three	3	Total		1,030
Blanks, Two hundred eighty five	285	NORTHERN BERKSHIRE REGIO	NAL VOCATION	
Total	2,060	DISTRICT COMMITTEE		f Three Years
TREASURER-COLLECTOR for a ter	m of Three Years	JOSEPH W. ALLARD, Seven hundr		767*
HOLLY M. DENAULT, Eight hundred eleven	811*	Blanks, Two hundred sixty three	•	263
Write In Vote, One	1	Total		1,030
Blanks, Two hundred eighteen	218			1,000
Total	1,030	Adams Cheshire Regional School ADAMS Representative		f Three Years
ASSESSOR for a ter	m of Three Years	PAUL K. BUTLER, Seven hundred s		768*
CHARLES J. WELCH, Eight hundred twenty thro	ee 823*	JOHN E. DUVAL, Seven hundred ei	ghty seven	787*
Write In Vote, One	1	Write In Vote, One		I 504
Blanks, Two hundred six	206	Blanks, Five hundred four		504
Total	1,030	Total		2,060
BOARD OF HEALTH for a ter	m of Three Years	Adams Cheshire Regional School CHESHIRE Representative		f Three Years
ROY J. THOMPSON, Eight hundred twenty two	822*	Gloria Lewis, Three	Tor a term o	3*
Write In Votes, One	1	Write In Votes, Five		5
Blanks, Two hundred seven	207	Blanks, One thousand twenty two		1,022
Total	1,030	Total		1,030
LIBRARY TRUSTEES for a ter	rm of Three Years	Results of the annual To	wn Elections he	ŕ
JULIETTE WILK-CHAFFEE, Eight hundred twe		the Adams-Cheshire Reg	gional School D	istrict
Write In Votes, Karen L. Kettles, Eighteen	18	ADAMS Adams Dannescontative		
Write In Votes, Eight	8	ADAMS - Adams Representative Three Year Term	e – Adams	Cheshire
Blanks, Twelve hundred ten	1,210			
Total	2,060	PAUL K. BUTLER	768 787	227
		JOHN E. DUVAL	787	225
PLANNING BOARD for a t	erm of Five Years	Write In Votes Blanks	1 504	6 242
MICHAEL P. O'BRIEN, Seven hundred ninety	790*			
Blanks, Two hundred forty	240	TOTAL	2,060	700
Total	1,030	CHESHIRE - Cheshire Represer Three Year Term	ntative – Adams	Cheshire
CEMETERY COMMISSIONER for a ter	rm of Three Years	GLORIA LEWIS	3	112
LAWRENCE A. CLAIRMONT, Eight hundred fit	fteen 815*	Write In Votes (other)	5	3
Blanks, Two hundred fifteen	215	Blanks	1,022	<u>235</u>
Emmo, 1110 Henrico Cu III Coll	413		, <u></u>	
Total	1,030	TOTAL	1,030	350

\*Elected Official

# **Elected Town Officers**

	Expires		Term Expires
Moderator		Cemetery Commission	
Joseph R. Dean, Jr.	2011	John J. Swistak, III	2011
		Robert J. Ciempa	2012
Town Clerk		Lawrence A. Clairmont	2013
Paul Hutchinson (Retired 07-31-2010)	2012		
Haley A. Meczywor (Apt. Interim 08-16-2010)	2011	Housing Authority	
Donna MacDonald (Temporary 08-01-08-15-2010)	2010	State Appointee Vacant	2009
		Carol A. Roberts	2011
Selectmen		Edward E. Roberts	2013
Michael G. Ouellette	2011	Mark Alan Covert	2014
Arthur W. Harrington	2012	Mary A. Robert	2015
Jason Hnatonko	2012		
Paula I. Melville	2013	Redevelopment Authority	
Scott F. Nichols	2013	Lawrence A. Clairmont (State Apt.)	2005
		Joseph W. Allard	2012
Treasurer-Collector		Steven M. Blanchard	2013
Holly M. Denault	2013	Jaymie L. Butler	2014
•		Ryan Biros	2015
Assessors	2011	N	
Lynn D. Avery	2011	Northern Berkshire Regional Vocational	
Donna Aitken MacDonald	2012	School Committee	2011
Charles J. Welch	2013	Daniel J. Maloney, Jr.	2011
D 10477 14		Aaron M. Dean	2012
Board Of Health	•044	Joseph W. Allard	2013
Richard E. Frost	2011		
Patricia A. Clairmont	2012	Adams-Cheshire Regional School District	Committee
Roy J. Thompson	2013	Elected At-Large	
I 11		(Adams)	2011
Library Trustees	2011	Jill A. Pompi (Resigned 7-7-2010)	2011
Joseph F. Greenbush	2011	Regina A. Hill (Apt 9-13-2010)	2011
David M. Strzepek	2011	Carol A. Corrigan	2012
James R. Loughman	2012	Paul K. Butler	2013
Eugene F. Michalenko	2012	John E. Duval	2013
Karen L. Kettles	2013	(61. 11.)	
Juliette Wilk-Chaffee	2013	(Cheshire)	2011
		Lynn T. Clairmont	2011
Park Commission	***	Darlene Rodowicz	2012
Wilfred R. Bourdon, III	2011	Gloria Lewis	2013
David Charon	2011		
Willard Bard	2012		
James J. Fassell	2012		
Aimee L. Sinopoli	2012		
Planning Board			
David B. Rhinemiller	2011		
Sandra H. Moderski	2011		
Martha J. Stohlmann	2012		
Barbara Ziemba	2013		
Michael P. O'Brien	2014		
Michael I. O Bilen	2013		

# **Appointed By Moderator**

# **Appointed Town Officials**

	Term Expires	May 2010
<b>Finance Committee</b>	•	J
Sandra D. Kleiner	2011	<b>Acting Right to Know Coordinator</b>
John Lawson	2011	Thomas A. Satko
Leon S. Parrott (Apt. 09-16-2010)	2011	
Joan Smigel	2011	AdHoc Committee on Solid Waste
Rachel Tomkowicz	2011	Joseph R. Dean Jr.
		Gregory DeBlois
Timothy R. Burdick	2012	John Swistak
Craig R. Corrigan	2012	Edward Driscoll
Paul S. Demastrie	2012	Leon Parrott Jr.
Fred S. Hobart	2012	
Gregory E. Tremblay	2012	Agricultural Commission
		Gary Alibozek
David Allen (Apt. 09-22-2010)	2013	Joseph Nowak
Matthew Cowie (Resigned 08-16-2010)	2010	Michael Ziemba
Edward J. Driscoll	2013	Peter Levesque
Charles H. Foster	2013	Tom Morin (Alternate)
Amy A. Giroux	2013	Sharyn Alibozek (Alternate)
Brian R. Johnson	2013	Terry Ziemba (Alternate)

#### **Town Report Committee**

Gayle Andrews Barbara Bennett Donna Cesan Cheryl Dabrowski Haley Meczywor Kelly Rice

#### **Adams Memorial Day Committee**

John Bordeau Paul Hutchinson Joseph Kus John J. Lennon Clement St. Hilaire Ralph Schwarzer David Smachetti

# Appointed At Annual Town Meeting

Fence Viewers	
Stanley J. Ziemba, Jr.	2011
Victor Ziemba	2011
Measurer Of Wood And Bark	
Donald Delmolino	2011
Walter Slosek	2011

#### **American with Disabilities Coordinator**

Jonathan W. Butler

#### **Animal Control Officer**

Terence E. Moran

#### **Animal Control Officer (Weekend)**

Daniel Lefebvre

#### **Berkshire County Regional Planning Commission**

Sandy Moderski

Michael G. Ouellette (Alternate)

#### **Berkshire Regional Transit Authority**

Jason Hnatonko

#### **Capital Improvement Planning Committee**

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

#### **Chief Procurement Officer**

Jonathan W. Butler

#### **Code Enforcement Officer**

Scott Koczela

#### **Community Development Director**

Donna E. Cesan

#### **Conservation Commission**

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

#### **Constables**

John J. Lennon Francis Wojtaszek Frederick Kurpiel Anthony P. McBride Thomas A. Satko Herman Bishop

#### **Council on Aging Director**

Barbara St. Pierre

#### **Council on Aging Board of Directors**

Rose Belisle
Eleanor Steadwell
Michelle Wellspeak
MaryEllen Cyrulik
Jackie Rhinemiller
Thomas Dubis
Ruth McBride
Bob Joppich
Kateri Rymarski

# Cultural Council of Northern Berkshire Adams Representatives:

Patricia Lyga Gracie Vincent

#### **Department of Public Works Director**

Thomas A. Satko

#### **Emergency Management Director**

Richard Kleiner

#### **Employee Insurance Advisory Group**

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

#### **Fair Housing Officer**

Donna E. Cesan

#### Forest Warden

Richard G. Kleiner

#### **Hazardous Waste Coordinator**

Joseph R. Dean, Jr.

#### **Historical Commission**

Jody Fijal

Bruce D. Dumochel Eugene Michalenko John R. Cowie, Jr.

Ryan Biros

#### **Housing & Building Inspector**

David J. Pelletier

#### **Information Technology Consultant**

Rob Wnuk

#### **Inspector of Gas Piping & Appliances**

Bruce LaPerle

#### **Inspector of Plumbing**

Bruce LaPerle

#### Mt. Greylock Advisory Board

Joseph R. Dean, Jr.

#### No. Berkshire Solid Waste Management District

**Edward Driscoll** 

#### Parks, Grounds and Recreation Superintendent

David Nuvallie

#### **Preservation Officer**

Eugene Michalenko

#### **Registrar of Voters**

Timothy Rowley John J. Nowicki Frances Meier Paul Hutchinson

#### **Retirement Board**

Francis Wojtaszek

#### **Safety Committee**

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

#### **Special Police Officers**

Allen Mendel Matthew Wright Curtis Crane

#### **Superintendent of Insect Control**

Thomas A. Satko

#### **Town Accountant**

Mary Beverly

#### **Town Counsel**

Edmund St. John, III

#### **Town Scholarship Committee**

Holly Denault

Alfred Skrocki

Paul Hutchinson

Paula Schrade

Bernard Pinsonneault

#### **Traffic Commission**

Scott McWhirt

Richard Tarsa

Keith McLear

Thomas Satko

Michael O'Brien

#### **Tree Board**

Thomas A. Satko

#### Tree Warden

Thomas A. Satko

#### Trench Board

Thomas A. Satko David Pelletier Scott Koczela

# Veterans Agent

Paul Hutchinson

#### **Wastewater Treatment Plant Superintendent**

Joseph Fijal

#### Weighers of All Commodities:

Hoosac Valley Coal & Grain Keith Hayden

#### **Mullen Movers**

Arnie Solis

Martin Mullen, Jr.

Craig Raymond

Mark LaVigne

#### Specialty Minerals, Inc.

William Donovan

Richard Bua

Alan Giroux

John Bouley

James Alibozek

Tim Sutliff

Derek Masse

Barbara Gomeau

Amy Krauss

#### **Lane Construction**

Mark Schaffrick Joe Catrambone

#### Wire Inspector

David Rhinemiller

#### **Assistant Wire Inspector**

Les Rhinemiller

#### **Zoning Board of Appeals**

Winthrop Peter Gutmann

Michael Mach

Joseph Allard

Anthony Donovan

Patricia Folino

Corinne Case (alternate)

# **Town Meeting Members – Annual Town Meetings**

Precinct 1	June 24	Oct. 19	Precinct 2	June 24	Oct. 19	Precinct 3	June 24	Oct. 19
Baker. Patricia A.	X	X	Biros. Richard	X		Aitken, Paul	E	
Baker, Starr D.	X	X	Biros, Ryan	X	Χ	Blanchard, Richard	X	Χ
Blanchard, Heather A.	X	X	Butler, Jaymie L.	X	X	Boccia, Theresa M.	X	X
Blanchard, Scott A.	X	X	Cardin, Bruce E.	X	X	Case. Corrine J		Х
Blanchard, Steven M.		X	Chittenden, Mark J.	X		Conroy-Shepley, Patricia	Х	X
Bush, James	Х	Χ	DeBlois, Gregory A	Х	Χ	Corrigan, Craig R.	Х	Χ
Clerc, Bruce	Χ	Χ	Delmolino, Donald L	Х	Χ	Cowie, John R. Jr.	Х	Χ
Daunais, James F.	Χ		Driscoll, Edward J.	Χ	Χ	Dumouchel, Bruce D.	Χ	Χ
Fijal, Jody A.	Χ	E	Duval, John E.	Χ	Χ	Frost, Richard E.	E	Χ
Jette, Richard A.	Χ	Χ	Gardner, Albert S.		Χ	Frost, Susan K.	Е	Χ
Kline, Sarah JP	Х	Χ	Grandchamp, Jeffrey P.	Χ	Χ	Heritage, David L.	Χ	
Kolis, David	Χ	Χ	Janik, Edward S.	Χ	Χ	Kalisz, Lorraine M.	Χ	Χ
Kolis, Patricia M.	Е	Χ	Kolis, Dolores J.	Χ	Χ	Keen, William E.	Χ	Χ
Kupiec, Anne E.	X	Χ	Kolis, Theodore J.	Χ	Χ	Kolis, Marilyn Phelps	Χ	
Kupiec, Neil	Χ	Χ	Kozik, Michael A.			Kopala, Stanley J.	Χ	Χ
Meczywor, Haley A.	X	Χ	Kurpiel, Frederick T.	E		Lawson, John L.	Χ	Χ
Meier, Frances O.	Χ	Χ	Lefebvre, Jeffrey M.	Χ	Χ	Mach, Michael J.	Χ	Χ
Morin, Norma P.		Χ	Lentine, Joseph A.	Χ	Χ	McBride, Anthony P.	Χ	Χ
Moyer, Christine A.	Χ	E	Loughman, James R.	Χ	Χ	Melville, Paula I.	Χ	Χ
Moyer, John D.	Χ	Χ	Meczywor, Paula	Χ	Χ	Moderski, Sandra H.	Χ	
Mucci, Erin	Χ	Χ	Merlini, Donald J.	Χ	Χ	Nichols, Scott F.	Χ	Χ
Nimmons, Jacqueline F.	Χ	Χ	Michalenko, Eugene F.	Χ	Χ	Paciorek, John S.	E	Χ
Nowak, James F.	Χ	Χ	Schutz, Norman K.	Χ	Χ	Parrott, Leon S. Jr.	Χ	Χ
Poirot, Dayne P.	Χ	Χ	Skrocki, Mary	Χ	Χ	Parrott, Nancy A.	Χ	Χ
Robinson, Brenda	Χ	Χ	Taber, Candice N.	Χ		Powers, Michael J.	Χ	Χ
Robinson, Thomas	Χ	Χ	Taber, Michael Paul	Χ		Shepley, Bruce Dale		Χ
Taylor, Judith L.	Χ	Χ	Turoczy, Lawrence	Х	Χ	Silvia, Veronica A.	Χ	Χ
Taylor, Marshall	Χ	Χ	Wilk-Chaffee, Juliette J.	E	Χ	Stohlmann, Martha J.	X	Ε
						St. Pierre, Barbara	E	Ε
						Ziemba, Barbara	Χ	Χ

Precinct 4	June 24	Oct. 19
Alibozek, Elizabeth	Х	Χ
Blanchard, William T.	Χ	Χ
Bosworth, Kathryn		Χ
Bourdon, Beth L.	Χ	Χ
Bourdon, Wilfred R. III	Χ	Χ
Clairmont, Lawrence A.	Χ	Χ
Davenport, Susan		Ε
Deeley, Susan	Χ	
Demastrie, Jacqueline M.	Χ	Χ
Demastrie, Paul S.	Χ	Χ
Denault, Ronald	Χ	
Halek, Jeremy C.	Χ	Χ
Hayer, Joseph P	Χ	Χ
Koscinski, Joseph P.	Χ	Χ
Lennon, John J.		
Lillie, Dolores	Χ	Χ
Meczywor, Leona	Χ	Χ
Mendel, Bruce W.	Χ	
Mendel, Lisa A.	Χ	Χ
Pedercini, Timothy J.	Χ	
Rymarski, Kateri A.	Χ	Χ
Schrade, Paula G.	Χ	Χ
Sommer, Donald R. Jr.		Χ
Sommer, Michael J.		
Strzepek, David M.	Χ	Χ
Swistak, John J.	Χ	Χ
Taylor, James	Χ	Ε
Taylor, Patricia	Χ	E
Wilk, Myra L.	Χ	Χ
Ziaja, Mark D.	Χ	Χ

Precinct 5	June 24	Oct. 19
Bassi, Michael E.	Χ	Χ
Berti, Katrina M.	Е	Ε
Burdick, Timothy R.	Χ	Χ
Case, Colleen M.	Χ	Χ
Corrigan, Carol A.	Χ	Χ
Corrigan, Thomas J.	Χ	
Cutillo, Dianne M.	Χ	Χ
Dean, Aaron M.	Χ	Χ
Dean, Joseph R. Jr.	Χ	Χ
Doyle, Ann Marie	Χ	Χ
Doyle, Joseph B.	Χ	Χ
Fassell, James J.	Χ	Χ
Gigliotti, Debra Lynn	Χ	
Haddad, George J.	Χ	Χ
Hellquist, C. Barre	Е	Χ
Hutchinson, Doris M.	Χ	Ε
Lennon, David J. Jr.		Χ
Levesque, John Joseph	Χ	Χ
Levesque, Lauryn B.	Χ	Χ
Levesque, Tami M.	Χ	Χ
MacDonald, Donna Aitken X	Χ	
MacDonald, Edward	Χ	Ε
MacDonald, Thomas	Χ	Χ
Meczywor, Donna	Χ	
Moran, Frederick D.	Χ	Χ
Moran, Marilyn A.	Χ	
Noyes, Nicholas G.		Χ
Pinsonnault, Bernard A.	Χ	Χ
Satko, Thomas A.	Χ	Ε
Whitman, Mary E.	Χ	Χ

# **Board of Selectmen/Town Administrator**

2010 was a year of planning and preparation in Adams. Many projects either broke ground or received preliminary funding, while several initiatives received key approvals and moved along in a positive direction. The Town also saw the election of two new Members to the Board of Selectmen, Paula Melville and Scott Nichols.

Among the key highlights for the community in 2010 was the running of the 75th anniversary Thunderbolt Ski Race, held on

March 13. This event was the first downhill ski race held on Mt. Greylock in decades, and went off with nearly 100 competitors whom had the privilege of being cheered on by thousands of residents that braved the weather in order to participate in the festivities. The event was run by a local organization, the Thunderbolt Ski Runners, with support from the Town as well as many local agencies and organizations.

As the year progressed, the Board of Selectmen and Town Administrator were challenged with putting together yet another annual budget during a tight economic crunch. The budget required shared responsi-

bility from numerous stakeholders, including the residents of Adams, whom saw significant operating reductions in the budget. However, in the end, the Town was able to maintain services while restoring several previously eliminated programs, such as the Seasonal Workers Program in the Department of Public Works. Also restored was the Summer Parks Program, which was done as a partnership with Youth Center Inc., and provided a structured summer camp that provided free lunch and was attended by nearly 100 local children.

The Town's premier development project, the Greylock Glen, took significant steps in 2010. In May, the project received an approved certificate from the Secretary of Energy and Environmental Affairs, indicating that the project would not require an Environmental Impact Report. This step was major in that it moved the Town through another potential obstacle, while providing clear permitting guidelines and restrictions for potential developers. At the Annual Town Meeting, the Town was provided

a \$100,000 authorization out of free cash for project management funds, securing the Town's ability to continue moving the project forward, while demonstrating the residents unwavering commitment to something happening at Greylock Glen.

In the fall of 2010 the community approved a debt-exclusion borrowing, allowing for a \$40.5 million renovation and reconstruction of the forty year old Hoosac Valley Regional High School. The project will consolidate the Middle and High Schools while

transforming the current site into a state-of-the-art 6-12 Middle and High School. Project is slated for completion in summer of 2012.

Once again, despite seeing costly reductions throughout the state and around Berkshire County, Adams was able to stay on the cutting edge of progress. Areconstruction of Summer Street was completed in the late fall of 2010, creating a more desirable downtown street for foot traffic and merchant activity. The Town continued working with the Massachusetts Department of Transportation on an extension of the Ashuwillticook Rail Trail to Lime Street, and also received a large Community

(l-r) Town Administrator Jonathan W. Butler, Selectmen Scott F. Nichols, Arthur W. Harrington, Jason Hnatonko, Michael G. Ouellette, Paula I. Melville.

Development Block Grant to begin design and engineering for a reconstruction of Park Street.

In addition to all of the positive steps mentioned above, Adams continued to express its historically strong community spirit through successful execution of events such as the Adams Agricultural Fair, the Summer Street Fair, the Street Fair on Park Street and the Susan B. Anthony Celebration. The Greylock Ramble and Bike Night were also well attended yet again, bringing in tourists from all over the region to participate in their annual traditions.

Adams has long been a community that prides itself on both history and identity. However, in 2010 Adams continued to prove that resiliency is a trait that the people also possess, as the community found ways to improve itself while becoming better situated to thrive in the near future.

## **Town Clerk**

#### SPORTING LICENSES ISSUED

Resident Fishing
Resident Fishing Minor8
Resident Fishing 65-69
Resident Fishing Over 7053
Non-Resident Fishing9
Non-Resident Fishing - 3-Day0
Non-Resident Fishing Minor0
Resident Fishing - 3 Day0
Resident Trapping1
Resident Trapping - Minor0
Resident Trapping - 65-690
Duplicate Fishing5
Resident Citizen Hunting34
Resident Hunting - 65-694
Resident Hunting Paraplegic0
Non-Resident Hunting, Big Game4
Non-Resident Hunting, Small Game0
Resident Citizen Minor Hunting0
Resident Sporting
Resident Sporting 65-69
Resident Citizen Sporting Over 7085
Resident Minor Sporting4
Duplicate Hunting0
Duplicate Sporting5
Archery Stamp97
Waterfowl Stamp12
Primitive Firearms Stamp
Total

#### **Payments**

To Division Of Fisheries And Wildlife\$16,0	547.25
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Total\$3	37,851.38
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**2008** - \$38,305.60 **2008** - \$39,120.90

Vital Statistics	2010	2009	2008
Births Reported	70	56	54
Marriages Reported	52	61	44
Deaths	106	113	115

#### **Gas Station Renewals** 11

#### **Number of Dog Licenses Issued**

Males	90
Neutered Males	303
Females	40
Spayed Females	373
4 Dogs Kennel Licenses	10
10 Dogs Kennel Licenses	1
25 Dogs Kennel Licenses	
Transfer Licenses	
Total	910

#### Town Census 9,414

#### **VOTER REGISTRATION**

#### Annual Town Election — January 19, 2010

				Green/	Lib.	Reform	Gree	n
Prec.	Dem.	Rep.	Unen	Rain J	L	$\mathbf{E}$	USA	G Totals
1	406	95	617	1	4	0	2	1,125
2	441	73	680	2	0	1	0	1,197
3	455	113	654	1	5	0	1	1,229
4	404	86	643	2	7	0	2	1,144
5	473	104	712	2	6	1	1	1,299
	2,179	471	3,306	8	22	2	6	5,994

#### **VOTER REGISTRATION**

#### Annual Town Election — May 3, 2010

				Green/	Lib.	Reform	Gree	n
Prec.	Dem.	Rep.	Unen	Rain J	L	E	USA	G Totals
1	383	84	574	1	4	0	2	1,048
2	435	70	666	2	1	1	0	1,175
3	439	109	640	1	6	0	1	1,196
4	398	84	626	2	5	0	1	1,116
5	452	104	681	1	5	1	1	1,245
	2,107	451	3,187	7	21	2	5	5,780

#### **VOTER REGISTRATION**

#### Annual Town Election — September 14, 2010

				Green/	Lib.	Reform	Gree	n
Prec.	Dem.	Rep.	Unen	Rain J	L	E	USA	G Totals
1	379	80	563	1	6	0	2	1,031
2	420	57	653	2	2	1	0	1,135
3	442	107	617	1	6	0	0	1,173
4	388	76	624	3	6	0	1	1,098
5	438	85	666	1	6	1	0	1,197
	2,067	405	3,123	8	26	2	3	5,634

#### **VOTER REGISTRATION**

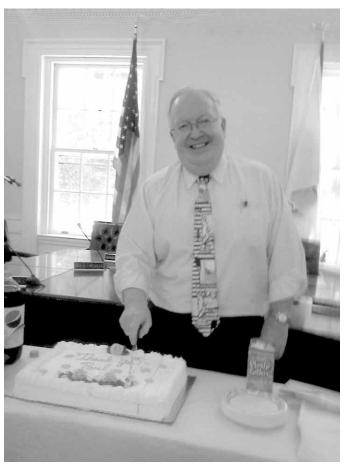
#### Annual Town Election — October 21, 2010

				Green/	Lib.	Reform	Gree	n
Prec.	Dem.	Rep.	Unen	Rain J	L	E	USA	G Totals
1	379	78	575	1	6	0	2	1,041
2	420	56	658	2	3	1	0	1,140
3	442	105	622	1	6	0	0	1,176
4	388	74	625	3	6	0	1	1,097
5	436	83	676	1	6	1	0	1,203
	2,065	396	3,156	8	27	2	3	5,657

#### VOTER REGISTRATION

#### Annual Town Election — November 2, 2010

				Green/	Lib.	Reform	Greer	1
Prec.	Dem.	Rep.	Unen	Rain J	L	E	USA (	7 Totals
1	378	78	577	1	7	0	2	1,043
2	418	56	662	2	3	1	0	1,142
3	443	105	623	1	6	0	0	1,178
4	386	73	627	3	6	0	1	1,096
5	436	83	677	1	6	1	0	1,204
	2,061	395	3,166	8	28	2	3	5,663



Retirement Reception for Town Clerk Paul Hutchinson

# **Adams Agricultural Fair**

The Adams Agricultural Fair took place August 6, 7, 8, 2010 at Bowe Field. The 36th Annual Fair took place with perfect weather and wonderful attendance. Fairgoers came from a radius of 150 miles. All the buildings were full of exhibits. Many agricultural activities took place on the grounds along with motor events and family entertainment.

Electrical upgrades were made to electrical boxes on the poles.

Users of Bowe Field were Gillette Shows for their annual carnival, Northern Berkshire Radio Club for their annual flea market, Hoosac Valley Motorcycle Club for a week-end event and Custom City Cycle who sponsored their annual Fall Run for charity.

# **Board of Health**

The Board of Health consists of three elected members: Chairman Dr. Richard E. Frost, Ed. D.; Vice Chairman Patricia Clairmont; and Member Roy Thompson. Each member serves for a three year term. Scott Koczela is the appointed Food Inspector and Code Enforcement Officer for the Adams Board of Health. The Board of Health conducted 12 regular business meetings in 2010.

Code Enforcement Officer Scott Koczela conducted 173 rental inspections as required by the Adams Town By-Law to ensure the dwelling units are in conformance with the Massachusetts State Sanitary Code and collected fees of \$4,325 for these inspections. Rental Inspection Correction Orders are issued for any unit that fails the inspection and re-inspections are conducted after repairs are made.

The Board conducted the following activities:

•	State Sanitary Code Orders Issued	41
•	Berkshire Housing Court Cases, (most requiring	
	multiple trips to court)	16
•	Soil Perc Tests Conducted	4
•	Septic System Installations	2
	Well Permits Issued	
•	Complaints Received and Acted Upon	150

•	Non-Criminal Disposition \$50 Citations Issued	28
The	following permits were issued:	
•	Food Service Establishments	42
•	Retail Food	
•	Catering	3
•	Frozen Desserts	7
•	Septic Hauler	
•	Commercial Hauler	9
•	Manufactured Housing	
•	Mobile Vendors	
•	Temporary Vendors	
•	Funeral Directors	
•	Body Art Practitioner	
•	Body Art Establishment	1
•	Motel	
•	Residential Kitchen	
•	Tanning Salon	
	Curinga	

Variance Requested......1

#### School Nursing

Nursing services at St. Stanislaus Kostka School are provideded 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, as needed.
- Vision and Hearing screenings are done for all students and referrals sent if further testing is indicated.
- Asthma Reports are done as 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.

# 2010 Public Health Nursing for Town of Adams VNA & Hospice of Northern Berkshire

#### **Community Blood Pressure Clinics: 4 sites**

Under age 65:	62
Over age 65:	131
Male:	49
Female:	_144
Total residents:	193

Seasonal flu vaccine administered: 316 doses

#### **Communicable Disease Investigation and Reporting:**

Cryptosporidium – 1 case Streptococcus pneumoniae – 1 case Haemophilus influenzae – 1 case Campylobacteriosis – 1 case

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

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

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Bednarz RN Clinical Supervisor

# **Inspector Reports**

# **Building Inspector**

The Building Inspector's Office issued 292 permits for construction, demolition, alterations, additions, repairs, change of use, woodstove/chimney installations, certificate of inspections and curb cut/driveway entrances during 2010. A total of \$24,586.66 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 Fire and Police Departments, Adams Housing Authority, Office of Transitional Assistance, and the Office of Mass. Small Cities Program. We also handled many citizen inquiries, requests and complaints. The Building Inspector addresses numerous zoning and building code violations with some resulting in additional court action. Periodic inspections are performed on restaurants, bars, clubs, food establishments, schools, bed & breakfast inns, motels, apartment houses, day care centers, condominiums and churches. The Building Inspector's Office also works with the Zoning and Planning Boards by reviewing applications and organizing meetings.

Type of Permits:	# of Permits:
Single Family Dwelling	1
Residential additions, alterations, conversions,	
repairs, & insulation	257
Commercial/Business/Non-Residential	
additions, alterations, conversions, and repairs.	26
Sign Permits	4
Curb-cut/ Driveway entrance	4
TOTAL BUILDING PERMITS	292

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:

- New Construction
- Alterations & renovations
- 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 i.e.: exterior and interior Wood Stove, Pellet Stove & Coal Stove.
- Signs

- Awnings
- Fill
- Fences over six (6) feet in height.
- Trench Permits
- Insulation
- Demolition of any structure
- Curb cut & driveways
- Heating system appliances, i.e.: boilers, furnaces and water heaters
- · Hardwire smoke detectors

# **Gas Inspector**

Number of Gas Fitting Permits Issued 78

Revenue Generated \$3,710

# **Plumbing Inspector**

Number of Plumbing Permits Issued 49

Revenue Generated \$2,145

# **Electrical Inspector**

C
Commercial Rough-in
Final Inspections
Furnaces
Industrial Rough-in
Pools
Residential Rough-in
Services 100 Amp
Services 150 Amp
Services 200 Amp
Services 400 Amp
Services 600 Amp
Services 800 Amp
Services 1200 Amp
Services Reconnection on Old
Services Temporary5
Miscellaneous Inspections
Whiseenaneous hispections
Board of Health8
Building Inspector5
Complaints54
Fires4
Insurance Companies
Loan Agencies
Adams Housing Rehab Program11
Power Company21
State Inspectors Office
State Police
State Police Fire Marshal3
Inspections Completed786

Permits Granted 143

# **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 eight (8) public hearings at which it addressed three (3) Site Plan applications and five (5) Form A's (Approval Not Required for Subdivision Plans).

Specific applications reviewed included Site Plan approval for the following: Renfrew and Printworks Drive, 161 Spring Road, and 260 Columbia Street.

In addition, the Board approved four (4) Form A's (Approval Not Required for Subdivision Plan) for properties located at: 86 East Road, Renfrew and Printworks Drive, West Road, and Leonard 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 application 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 2010. This year eleven (11) Public Hearings were conducted involving fifteen (15) Special Permit requests; (2) two of which were "Home Occupations" and five (5) Variance requests. One (1) Special Permit and one (1) Variance were Withdrawn without Prejudice.

The Board of Appeals is comprised of five (5) members appointed by the Board of Selectman and three (3) alternate members who take the place of a member of the Board in case of a temporary vacancy, absence, inability to act, or conflict in interest.

During the calendar year the Adams Zoning Board of Appeals consisted of five permanent members and three alternate members. All members are appointed by the Board of Selectman. Current permanent members: W. Peter Gutmann, Chairman; Michael Mach, Vice-Chairman; Anthony Donovan, Patricia Folino and Joseph Allard. After the resignation of Member Joseph Allard to the Zoning Board of Appeals, Alternate Corinne Case took the position as permanent member to replace Mr. Allard. Newly appointed as alternates for the Zoning Board of Appeals were, Melissa Schaffrick, Peter West, and Brian Tenczar. The Board's recording secretary is Pamela Gerry. Michael Mach serves as the Board's delegate to the Capital Improvement Planning Committee.

## **Conservation Commission**

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

Seven business meetings were held in 2010. The Commission acted on five Requests for Determinations and one Notices of Intent.

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

 The Town of Adams for the proposed project involving the required maintenance for the Adams Flood Control Protection Works, specifically removal of deposited sediment and debris from within the flood control structures in the vicinity of the confluence of Tophet Brook and the Hoosic River.

#### Abbreviated Notice of Resource Area Delineation (ANRAD):

 The Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation for the proposed Greylock Glen Outdoor Recreation & Environmental Education Center project located on West Mountain, Gould and Thiel Roads. The filing is to confirm as accurate the depicted resource area boundaries as referenced in the ANRAD.

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

- MacDermid, LLC for the removal of 13,000 gallon underground storage tank within the Riverfront Area.
- 2. Specialty Minerals, Inc. for the installation of 22 groundwater extraction wells, associated piping, two small prefabricated structures and the construction of two narrow access roads to the wells.
- 3. New England Power for the confirmation of wetland resource boundaries located at 2 Zylonite Station Road. No work is proposed at this time.
- 4. Broadlawn Farms for the repair of cornfields damage from winter flooding located at East Road.
- Holland Company for the removal of a tank and leveling of fill in an area within the buffer zone located at 153 Howland Avenue.

#### **Certificate of Compliance**

- Thomas Tinney for completion of a single family home at 100 Walling Road.
- David Allen for the completion of a single family home at 7 Hoxie Brook Road.

# **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 following streets were scheduled to be chip sealed using Chapter 90 Funds in 2010, but were rescheduled to 2011 because of inclement weather.

# **Streets Chip Sealed:** (rescheduled to 2011)

5,351' Walling Road (2 coats) 4,300' Burlingame Hill (2 coats) 12,000' East Hoosac Street

#### Sidewalk Replacement:

Sidewalks were replaced on the following street to eliminate trip hazards and to comply with ADA regulations using Chapter 90 funds.

1,500' Bellevue Avenue

There are presently seven full-time employees in the Highway Division. Tasks performed by the Highway Division include:

- Street Sweeping
- Patching Streets
- · Scarifying and shaping unpaved roads
- Maintaining street 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
- Installing seven new sewer connections
- 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
- Mowing grass at the Cemeteries

# **Flood Control Project**

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) conducts an Annual Inspection of the Adams Flood Control Project every fall. The USACE has now created a more comprehensive and rigorous levee inspection process under its Levee Safety program that includes a Periodic Inspection every five years along with the Annual Inspection. A Periodic Inspection took place for several days during the month of May.

The Periodic Inspection consists of three key steps: 1) Collection of existing and available data on operation and maintenance, previous inspection reports, emergency action plans and flood

fighting records, 2) A field inspection, similar to an Annual Inspection, but with more detail, performed by a multidisciplinary team and led by a professional engineer, and 3) An inspection report that includes a rating for operation and maintenance, and may include additional recommendations of items to monitor, deficiencies to repair, or areas that need further evaluation.

Both Annual and Periodic Inspections incorporate an inspection checklist and will result in a levee system rating for operation and maintenance. This rating determines if a levee system is active in the USACE Rehabilitation and Inspection Program. Active levees are eligible for Federal rehabilitation funds (authorized by Public Law 84-99) for damages caused by a flood event. A levee system must maintain an acceptable or minimally acceptable rating to remain active.

The written assessment of the Flood Control's condition has not yet been received as of this writing. DPW employees performed the usual vegetation removal and also cleared trees along many portions of the system until winter conditions prohibited such work. The department of public works received permission from the local conservation committee to use liquid herbicides to eradicate unwanted vegetation along both sides of the flood control system. This spray application should minimize manual removal of vegetation the following year.

As a result of the 2009 Annual Inspection there were three areas in the Flood Control Project where shoals must be removed. The Town hired Stantec Consulting Services, Inc. to: 1) provide environmental and engineering services, 2) prepare a plan to determine the required environmental permitting applications, 3) complete all environmental permitting applications, and 4) 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.

Stantec has prepared a preliminary design for the removal of the shoals and obtained the proper permits to allow the project to move forward. The next step is the preparation of the bid documents.

## **Equipment and Maintenance Division**

There are presently two full time employees in the Equipment and Maintenance Division. This division is in charge of repairing and maintaining the entire Town owned vehicles and equipment which include: forty-eight equipment / vehicles for the DPW including Highway, Wastewater Treatment Plant, Forest Warden, Parks, Grounds and Cemetery Departments; nine vehicles for the Police Department; and two vans for the Council on Aging. Also maintained by this division are 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 daily.

This division also writes specifications for all equipment to be purchased. In 2010 no equipment purchases were made.

## **Cemetery Division**

#### **Maple Street Cemetery**

The damaged or dying trees that were identified in the 2009 town report have been removed. Town employees along with Water Department employees repaired the water leak that shut down most of the water supply last year. Two seasonal employees were hired this year to maintain all aspects of cemetery maintenance. Again, as in the past, the Berkshire County Sheriff's Office and the Berkshire County Trial Court supplied this division with free labor throughout the growing season for both cemeteries. The cemetery was in pristine condition for Memorial Day and the entire summer.

#### **Bellevue Cemetery**

The Town was able to hire four seasonal employees to assist one full time employee this season in maintaining all aspects of cemetery maintenance and assisting in funeral excavations. The department planted a twenty tree nursery of specialized American elm trees. They should be ready for sale in the spring of 2012 to interested citizens. There were no major water breaks or special projects this year. Due to budget constraints there were no major equipment purchases.

#### Parks & Grounds Division

#### PARKS AND ATHLETIC FIELDS

#### **Russell Field**

Several cubic yards of baseball mix was hauled to the field this year in preparation of the coming softball season. The field lighting system has begun showing its age once again. Several light fixtures have failed due to thirty years of use. The Town is currently devising a plan to repair or replace all of the existing fixtures during the playing season of 2011.

#### Valley Street Field

Due to budget cutbacks there have been no major projects planned for Valley Street Field. Hopefully the Town will be able to begin work on projects such as fence replacement, field house painting and related repairs. The parks staff edged the baseball diamond and hauled several cubic yards of baseball mix to the field.

#### **Reid Field**

As always Reid Feld was busy all season long. The field house was not painted in 2010 but arrangements have been made between the Town and Berkshire Trial Court to have the entire building exterior painted in July or August of 2011.

#### **Renfrew Field**

The Town once again began a rigorous fertilization and weed and feed program this year. The turf was thick and lush and in the best condition since the new facility was built. We experienced a major water break in a 2" water main that supplies water to the irrigation system. The problem was repaired and the system is now up and running.

#### **Town Common**

The parks staff repaired several of the wrought iron benches at the common. Several benches were brought to the cemetery garage and totally refurbished. They also decorated the entire common for the Holiday Season which included a 25 foot pine tree and all the small oak trees. The gazebo had lights and red bows displayed for the season. Approximately 110'feet of concrete pavers were removed due to major settling of the ground. All grades were re-established and new pavers installed. Several repairs were made to the gazebo.

#### **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.

# ADAMS WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT

In 2010 the Adams Wastewater Treatment Facility operated with no violations to the parameters and limits as described in the federal National Pollution Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit. The staffing levels have remained at seven full time employees over the past year. All wastewater personnel 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 duty, to comply with NPDES daily requirements, is rotated between the Operations Supervisor, Lab Technician, and two Operators. Weekend equipment and facility inspections, as required by Massachusetts General Law, 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 2010 is as follows:

#### **DEWATERING and CONVEYING EQUIPMENT**

- Motor replaced on polymer pump due to over heating problems.
- Motor starter contacts were cleaned on belt filter press water pressure boost pump.
- Belt filter press booster pump fuse block, fuses, heaters and motor were replaced.
- Water pressure gauges and control relays replaced on polymer blending machine.
- Float mechanism and tank level probes cleaned on polymer blending machine.
- Belt press water booster pump rebuilt with new impeller, gaskets and mechanical seal.
- Belt filter press electrical disconnects linkage repaired and adjusted.

# VALVES, PUMPS, MOTORS, CONTROLLERS and ASSOCIATED EQUIPMENT

- #2 Raw sewage pump was completely rebuilt with new bearings, gaskets and mechanical seal. Impeller cracks were welded and the impeller dynamically balanced, new solenoid valve and seal flush water line installed.
- #2 Raw Sewage Pump motor mounting floor plate's struts were replaced due to corrosion. Floor plate was repainted prior to installation.
- Check balls on dual piston sludge pump were cleaned and inspected for wear.
- Five of eight LMI chemical pumps (sodium bisulfite, sodium hypochlorite and alum) were completely rebuilt and new four way valves installed.
- New variable frequency drive to operate #1 plant water pump motor was purchased and installed
- Scum piston pump had new packing and new o-rings installed on check ball covers.
- #1 and #2 Clow sewage pumps at the Harmony Street pumping station were removed, completely rebuilt, painted and reinstalled.

- Reeves drive on scum pump was rebuilt with new sheaves, spring cartridge and belts.
- All eleven Variable Frequency Drives (VFD) were cleaned, wire lugs checked and air filters cleaned and reinstalled.
- AutoCon pump controller at the Industrial Pumping Station had a new phase loss protection relay installed.
- Larger size heaters were installed in electrical disconnects to #1 and #2 grit pumps

# MOBILE EQUIPMENT, STATIONARY EMERGENCY GENERATORS and VEHICLE MAINTENANCE

- 2001 Ford F 350, ¾ ton, 4X4 pick-up truck had new air and oil filters, crankcase oil, spark plugs, emergency brake cables, axle bearings / hub, wiper blades, hood latch cable, brake pads, brake rotors and new plow lights installed.
- Scag 48" mower had cutting blades, oil, oil & air filters, spark plug and new pull start rope installed. The scag's riding sulky was also refurbished.
- John Deere push mower had oil, spark plug, air filter, control cables and blade replaced.
- Starting batteries for the emergency generator at the Industrial Pumping Station were replaced.
- Forklift truck was serviced. New oil, oil and air filters were installed.
- Semi annual oil, oil filters and coolant filters were changed on two of the three emergency electrical generators.
- 680 gallons of diesel fuel for the emergency electrical generators (3) was purchased in spring of 2010.

#### OTHER EQUIPMENT

- Air Handling Unit air filters replaced.
- 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.
- Dissolved oxygen sensors for #4, #5 and #6 mechanical aerators were replaced with new sensor elements.
- New water pressure gauges installed on incoming potable water line.
- In November all outside chemical solution lines were drained and purged with compressed air to prevent freeze damage from cold weather.
- New PVC swing arm was fabricated for #6 dissolved oxygen sensor float ball.
- Newperistaltic(roller)pump was installed to replace diaphragm pump used for bleach metering and disinfection.
- Disassembly of #2 grit pump suction line for cleaning was necessary.
- Mechanical aerator gearboxes had new breather caps installed. Gearboxes and motors were greased and gear oil samples extracted and sent out for wear analysis.
- Thermostatic steam valve on facility's air handling unit was replaced.
- Lower pump room exhaust fan required new v-belts and pillow block bearings installed.

· Bag filter on bleach fill piping system was replaced.

#### **MISCELLANEOUS**

- Laboratory scales were cleaned and calibrated by All State Scale Company.
- Alarm system insurance certification performed by Lee Audio.
- Weekly algae removal and control on concrete tanks.
- Ground water removed from electrical manholes and chemical line manholes in the spring and fall.
- The Adams Highway Department used their street sweeping machine to clean the roadways at the wastewater treatment plant in the spring.
- Mimic screen on main console panel was reprogrammed to correct monthly report deficiencies.
- Florescent lamp ballasts replaced in console room
- Line transformer installed to correct low voltage supplied to bleach disinfection chemical pumps.
- Weather strip on garage rolling door was reinstalled.
- The cement block wall on the west side of the wastewater treatment plants main building was re-pointed and waterproofed.
- All cement sidewalks; pads, stairways and catwalks were waterproofed with sealer.
- CGFI electrical outlet on north clarifier was replaced.
- Lawn damage from snow plowing was repaired and reseeded.
- New facility sign was erected at main entrance gate.
- Influent composite sampler drain line was replaced with new piping.
- New pH probe was purchased for laboratory pH meter.
- Catch basin vacuum truck was rented to remove grit, debris and rags from the wet well at the Harmony Street pumping station.
- Highway Department backhoe was used to facilitate removal of debris from bottom of south clarifier tank.
- New energy saving LED lamps installed at chlorine contact channels to replace 500-watt halogen lamps.

#### **SUMMARY**

The wastewater treatment plant received a total of \$2,987 for our 2010 participation in EnerNoc's "demand response" program. If a demand response event is declared then the wastewater treatment plant will switch off from the electrical power grid and generate its own electricity by using our emergency electrical generator. By participating in this program we are doing our part to reduce the potential of electrical "brown-outs" in our area. The \$2,987 was forwarded to the Town Treasurer for deposit in the town's general fund.

The wastewater treatment employees attended various training seminars during 2010. These training courses are required for renewal of each employee's Massachusetts Wastewater Treatment Plant Operators license. In addition to wastewater training courses all wastewater employees were required to take the Massachusetts Ethics exam. All employees complied with this requirement and all passed their exams.

In the spring of 2010 EPA notified the town that the wastewater treatment plant's NPDES permit renewal application was submitted on time and submitted correctly. Currently we are waiting for the draft copy of our NPDES permit, which will begin the public comment period, which is part of the permitting process. Once the public comment period is over the formal permit will be issued to the town.

The laboratory technician passed all analytical parameters that were part of the EPA's annual Discharge Monitoring Report Quality Assurance Study 30. This performance study insures the data we submit in our monthly, quarterly and annual reports to the Federal and State regulatory agencies are verified as accurate.

A review of the 2010 facility's records and reports shows 632.71 million gallons of wastewater was treated and cleaned before being discharged to the Hoosic River. This was a decrease of 16.9% from last year's (2009) annual flow of 761.51 million gallons as reported in last year's annual town report. This decrease is a result of the Department of Public Works on going maintenance and rehabilitation program for the town's sewage collection system.

A total of 150.88 dry metric tons of dewatered sludge was processed and hauled to an incinerator in Waterbury, CT for final disposal in 2010. This was again a decrease of 6.97% from last year's (2009) sludge disposal total of 162.20 dry metric tons. The monthly averages for removal of Total Suspended Solids removal ranged between minimums of 89.5% to a maximum of 98.2% with an overall average for 2010 of 95.13%. Biochemical Oxygen Demand removals ranged from a minimum of 96.0% to a maximum of 98.1% with a twelve-month average for 2010 of 96.9%.

Over the past years the labor pool for the Department of Public Works has been severely reduced so now the personnel from the wastewater treatment plant are called upon to perform tasks, as directed by the DPW director. Wastewater Treatment Plant employees have been assigned to cut grass at the town's cemeteries from April through the end of May in preparation for memorial day observances. During the winter snow storms wastewater employees are assigned to plow town streets and roads and to shovel and clear sidewalks and stairs at all town buildings. Although this stretches the wastewater treatment plant staff very thin we are able to maintain compliance with our NPDES discharge permit parameters.

#### **CONCLUSION**

In 2010 the Operating Expense portion of our budget was again decreased by 5%. We now do more work using less money while providing the same quality service even when the cost for supplies, materials and parts increases. As stated in past annual town reports these achievements are the result of having a professional, knowledgeable, resourceful and dedicated staff. Their work and efforts provide the best possible wastewater treatment at the lowest cost to the town while insuring the water quality and environmental health for the Hoosic River ecosystem.

# **Council on Aging**

The Council on Aging (CoA) is a town department authorized under Chapter 40 Section 8B of Massachusetts General Laws. The law states that a CoA 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 referrals, 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 promoting "healthy aging" through educational programs, cultural programs and activities.

#### **Transportation**

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

We currently have two full-time van drivers, Rita Clarke and Todd Casey, as well as two per diem van drivers, Vern Emerson and Chet Cyrulik. All four employees go above and beyond their duties to see that all seniors are transported as safely as possible.

Our priorities for transportation are always medical appointments, on a first-come first-serve basis. We continue to transport people to the Brien Center's Adult Day Health Program in North Adams, our Supportive Day Program, nutrition site at our Community Center, errands, banking, grocery shopping, Wal-Mart, Berkshire Mall, election polls, and many more.

#### **Supportive Day Program**

The Supportive Day Program has provided services in a group setting to assist participants in recovery and rehabilitation from acute illness or injury, as well as managing of chronic illness. Services include assessment and care planning, case management, therapeutic activates, and cognitive and large muscle activates, nutrition and transportation.

The program is offered in a half day (\$14) setting or a full day (\$28) setting. Funding for this program is paid privately or with the assistance of Elder Services for qualified individuals. We operate Monday through Friday.

The Supportive Day Program offers its participants socialization and enhancement of self-esteem with the intent to promote health aging and well-being. The program also offers respite for family members. We provide the service and transportation to this program for several different town residents, Adams, North Adams, Cheshire, Savoy, Williamstown and Clarksburg.

Participants have various degrees of needs such as isolation, frailty, Parkinson's disease, Alzheimer's disease, cognitive impairment, and multiple chronic medical conditions.

#### **Nutrition Program**

The Council on Aging offers a nutrition program Monday through Friday at 11:30 AM. All meals are provided by the Elder Service of Berkshire County, Inc.

Dee Dee O'Bryan, the Nutrition Program's Site Director, and her dedicated volunteers Ralph Farrar, Laura Sunn, Debbie Coody, Art & Margaret Theil and Sophie Buck always put on a friendly face and decorate the site beautifully for the holidays.

All seniors are invited to join us for lunch or to attend the special parties and events at different times of the year. Those wishing to join us should call two days in advance. Elder Service asks of a suggested donation of \$2 a meal for lunch. Transportation is available to the center for meals.

#### **Brown Bag Program**

The Brown Bag Program, through the Food Bank of Western Massachusetts is a program that the CoA will continue to sponsor.

This program is for Adams residents 55 years and older who meet the eligibility guidelines. The CoA of Cheshire and Lanesbourgh meet at the Adams site as well to bag and delivery their brown bags. People receive a 15 lb. bag of non-perishable groceries once a month for a donation of \$3. Volunteers are available to deliver bags to individuals who cannot get out of their homes independently.

#### **Homebound Grocery Shopping Program**

In cooperation with the Big Y Supermarket, the Adams CoA continues to shop for homebound seniors in Adams. We are very grateful to our volunteers Irene LeMarche and Bernice Trzcinski.

#### Senior Citizen Property Tax Work Off Program

This program was implemented in August 2008 and continues to be a success. Eligible senior homeowners have the opportunity to receive a real estate tax exemption. Program participants will be entitled to a reduction of \$500 for their real estate bill in exchange for performing 62 ½ hours of service at a rate of \$8/hour. For more information or eligibility requirements please contact Assessor Donna McDonald or CoA Director Erica Samson.

#### **Other Programs and Events**

The CoA continues to offer other events and support groups. Some are seasonal others are not:

- Foot Clinic
- VNA Health & Flu Clinics

- Educational speakers and special events
- Annual Lion Club Luncheon in October serving over 120 Adams residents.
- Monthly entertainment by the "Aladdins"
- Volunteer recognition dinner catered by Boston Seafood's Omar Ameen.
- Bingo, Card playing, Movement Group, Walking club, Wii bowling, karate, quilting, painting.
- SHINE (Serving Health Information Needs of Elders) counseling.

#### **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 as Human Service Workers are to serve the residents of Adams, youth and aging.

#### The staff and office volunteers of Adams CoA:

Erica Samson, Director
Sue Davenport, Administrative Assistant
Antoinette Alizio, Supportive Day Coordinator
Edward Ether, Supportive Day Assistant
Rita Clarke, Van Driver
Todd Casey, Van Driver
Vern Emerson, Per Diem Van Driver
Chet Cyrulik, Per Diem Van Driver
Gary Green, Custodian
Bob Joppich, Office Volunteer (with 778 hours of volunteer service in 2010)
Pauline Pytko, Senior Aid

#### **Board of Directors:**

Mary Ellen Cyrulik Rose Belisle Bob Joppich Ruth McBride Karen Mathews

## **Veterans Services**

It was a very busy year for the Adams Veterans' Services Department. Adams, North Adams, and Williamstown have combined resources for the Department and made a formal District out of it involving all three communities. The Veterans' Agent serves all three communities and its Veterans. The District allows the Town of Adams to save a portion of the Fiscal Year budget and cut down on expenses for the Department.

As always, the most important work of this department was continuing to support needy Veterans and their dependents under CMR (Massachusetts) 108 CMR, Ch. 115 Benefits. We also assisted many Veterans with applications for the Federal Veterans Administration.

The economy has also played a major role in the increased caseload since Chapter 115 provides a buffer to those Veterans who have lost a job and have no income.

Under Chapter 115, the Town is reimbursed 75% of the expense of providing financial assistance to needy Veterans and their dependents. The Commonwealth continues to monitor and update all Chapter 115 laws and regulations and audits all records maintained by the Town.



Memorial Day

# **Adams Police Department**

		Serving Since
Chief:	Donald A. Poirot	12-17-1981
Sergeants:	David M. Clark	04-01-1978
G	Richard W. Tarsa, Jr.	04-05-1987
	Shawn M. Briggs	04-05-1987
	Scott McWhirt	01-30-1989
Patrol Officers:	1. Lawrence Ordyna	08-11-1980
	2. Keith Erdeski	01-01-1984
	<ol><li>Keith McLear</li></ol>	01-30-1989
		Retired 01-01-2011
	4. Donna Malloy	09-20-1997
	5. David Dean	01-28-2002
	<ol><li>Gregory Charon</li></ol>	03-30-2005
	7. Michael Wandrei	03-30-2005
	8. Joshua Baker	04-17-2008
	9. Nicholas Dabrowsk	i 04-17-2008
	10. Thomas Cook	11-03-2008
	11. Matthew Wright	08-04-2010
Administrative A	ssistant:	
	Jessica Gero	02-08-10

	Jessica Gero	02-08-10	
Dispatchers:	Anthony Piscioneri	11-15-97	
-	John Pansecchi	08-19-99	
	Thomas Romaniak	02-01-01	

**Reserve Officers:** Curtis Crane

Travis Cunningham Robert Krzanik

Animal Control: Terence Moran

Daniel Lefebvre (weekend)

The Town of Adams Police Department has and will continue to be active in its role to provide public safety to the community. The strategic plan that has been developed for the town allows for fluctuation into future endeavors. In this ever changing fast paced society changes are made constantly and law enforcement is required to adjust and adapt to these changes.

Employees in the department are constantly taxed with staying abreast of new information while continuing to provide services to the public. With the ever changing world have come technological advancements that at times are overwhelming to law enforcement as the changes move forward constantly and are often difficult to keep in stride with. The members of the department have made tremendous strides in striving for personal and professional excellence, their dedication to duty and service to the public.

The prevention of crime and disorder through the use of problem solving tactics in a community oriented policing strategy emphasizing collaboration with other agencies has proven to be very effective in the enhancement of public safety services to our town. During these difficult times financially the department has worked to utilize the capabilities of our services by utilizing core values of integrity, professionalism and integrity. As a group we will continue to foster an environment of trust and mutual respect within the community toward positive change.

#### 2010 Yearly Activity Report

- Calls for Service 16020
- Ambulance Calls 1268
- Fire Department Calls 212
- Department of Public works 84
- Animal Control Calls 536

#### **Criminal and Custody Activity**

- Offenses Committed 1284
- Arrests 138
- Protective Custody 8
- Summons Served 229
- Building/House Checks 4547

#### **Motor Vehicle Activity**

- Written Warnings 774
- Civil Charges 311
- Arrests 89
- Criminal Complaints 141

#### **Motor Vehicle Charges**

- Number Investigated 202
- Fatalities 2
- Persons Injured 64

#### **Other Police Activity**

- Breaking & Entering and Larcenies 115
- Alarms Responded 233
- Restraining Orders 76
- Emergency 911 Calls 1136
- FID & License to Carry Issued 196
- Parking Tickets Issued 314

#### **Police Department Training 2010**

February's training began with Chief Donald Poirot and Deb Parkingston and Kelly Russell, from the Freeman Center, attending a Domestic Violence Training Conference which was held in Worcester.

For the month March, Chief Donald Poirot attending a conference on Policing a Diverse Society which was held in Holyoke. Sergeant Scott McWhirt, Sergeant David Clark, Sergeant Shawn Briggs, Sergeant Richard Tarsa, Jr., Officer Donna Malloy, Officer Michael Wandrei, Officer David Dean, Officer Keith Erdeski, Officer Nicholas Dabrowski, Officer Joshua Baker, Reserve Officer Curtis Crane, Reserve Officer Travis Cunningham, Reserve Officer Robert Krzanik attended an in service training in North Adams on March 16 – 18th. All of the Police Officers have been re-certified in there CPR and First Aid.

May training consisted of Sergeant David Clark attending a Response to School Shootings in regards to the Lancaster Police Department. This was held at UMASS in Shrewsbury with the Pennsylvania State Police attending. Sergeant David Clark also



(left) Norman Rockwell Painting (right) Mike Wandrei & Son

attended a presentation for the Beslan School Shooting which was held in Boston. Patrol Officer David Dean attended a Tazer Training which was held in North Adams. Detective Lawrence Ordyna attended a five day Narcotic Enforcement Officer Association conference held on Cape Cod.

In June Officer Nicholas Dabrowski attended a Bullying Class which was held at the District Attorney's Office in Pittsfield, MA. Officer Donna Malloy and Dispatcher Anthony Piscioneri attended training on Dealing with the Mentally Ill. Sergeant



Chief's Inauguration l-r: Jonathan Butler, Chief Donald Poirot, Selectman Michael Ouelette and District Attorney David F. Capeless

Richard Tarsa, Jr. attended a course in regards to Designated Office Control. June 1-3, 2010 Officer Keith McLear and Officer Gregory Charon attended an in service training.

In September, the Adams Police Department re-qualified their firearms which each Officer attended. Dispatcher John Pansecchi attended a 911 training in Northampton.

October training consisted of Sergeant David Clark attending a Bank Security Officers meeting which was located in Marlborough.

To end the training, Officer Nicholas Dabrowski attended a Bullying conference located at MCLA in December.

Officer Thomas Cook and Officer Matthew Wright attended a 21 week trained academy which was located in Springfield, MA. They graduated August 4, 2010.

# **Parking Tickets**

Revenue from Parking Meters	\$13,633.91
Revenue from Parking Violations	\$12,556.00
Total Revenue	\$26,189.91

# **Emergency Management**

The Emergency Management Director and his Deputy Director review and update the Town's Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan (CEMP) yearly. The plan provides a framework for the community to plan and perform respective emergency functions during a disaster or emergency situation on the local, state or national level. Updating the plan is a continuous effort: names, positions, telephone numbers and tactics change on a regular basis.

The CEMP combines four phases of emergency management:

- Mitigation Those activities which eliminate or reduce the probability of disaster;
- Preparedness Those activities which governments, organizations, and individuals develop to save lives and minimize damage;
- Response Those activities which prevent loss of lives and property and provide emergency assistance; and
- Recovery Those short and long term activities which return all systems to normal or improved standards.

The Town retains MEMA's A+ rating through the efforts made to update the CEMP.

The Chief Municipal Official is the ultimate authority in any declared state of emergency and is in command of the Town's resources.

The Emergency Management Director is responsible for coordinating all departments involved in an emergency situation including advising the Chairman of the Board of Selectmen on courses of action available for decision making.

Thanks to all Departments involved in the continued effort to provide for the safety and welfare of the citizens of the Town of Adams.

> Richard G. Kleiner Emergency Management Director

### **Forest Warden**

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.

#### Mt. Greylock Ramble:

The Forest Warden Deputies provided communications and safety on all trails as they have done for the past 39 years. Members of the Forest Warden Department volunteered to clear fallen trees and limbs from the Cheshire Harbor trail from the previous winter.

#### **Burning Permits Issued: 295**

#### **Calls and Events:**

- 11 Wildland Fires
- 29 Illegal Burns and Smoke Investigations
- 9 Mutual Aid Calls
- 1 Mutual Aid Drills
- 1 Search and Rescue Calls
- 9 Community Service Events

#### **Adams Agricultural Fair:**

Before the ATV races, Forest Warden Deputies were called to wet down the racetrack to control dust.

"GET YOUR SMOKEY ON..... ONLY **YOU** CAN PREVENT WILDLAND FIRES"

> Richard G. Kleiner Chief Forest Warden

# **Adams Free Library**

The Adams Free Library (AFL) worked diligently to maintain quality public library services during a very difficult year. Just as more and more residents make use of our services during these difficult economic times, our staffing was cut by 18% with the lay-off of two part-time employees over the summer. Both the remaining staff and our patrons dearly miss the capable, efficient and personable work of Library Aides Christa Sidway and Susan Szpila. This staffing cut forced a reduction in hours of operation from 44 to 37 per week beginning September 7th.

The interior renovation project was largely completed by the Spring with the former Children's Room returned to its original purpose as the Reading Room for adults. Throughout this project, the building's existing furnishings were retained as much as possible for re-use with some tables adapted to hold the Library's eight new public Internet computers. These new computers were made possible in part by grants from the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation with the second award of \$2,600 received in May. Some of the new upholstered furnishings for the new Reading Room were made possible through the use of donations to the Ronald H. Bishop Memorial Fund. As with the previous phase of the project, the remaining improvements were accomplished through the use of State Aid to Libraries funds designated for this purpose. Our patrons and visitors have commented on the beauty the building's interior and how the new floor plan is so warm and inviting for both adults and children.

Excellence in children's services remains a primary goal. Children's Librarian Holli Jayko and our part-time Children's Library Aide Susan Szpila (until her lay-off in July) achieved this goal splendidly by making our youngest patrons and their parents & caregivers feel so very welcome in the Children's Room. The following is Ms. Jayko's 2010 annual activities report:

The Children's department of the Adams Free Library offers a variety of programs throughout the year. We have a well-attended Summer Reading Program, a home school research group that meets monthly, weekly story times, book groups, special guest presentations and more.

Our Summer Reading program theme was "Go Green @ your Library." A total of 789 youngsters participated in the activities

during the summer. The library saw an increase in the number of children who registered for the program and an increase in the number of volunteers who offered their time and labor for the summer. We had 13 youth volunteers and 2 adults who gave over 107 hours to the library during the summer.

This summer saw a small decrease in overall attendance and fewer programs due to loss of staff, but overall we had a great summer and a good turnout for our events. The library sponsored events from 1) Julie Collier of Wingmasters and the live "North American Birds of Prey" program; 2) Berkshire Music Schools EverGreen musical group; and 3) Animal World Experience live animal program.

The following three summer reading programs were 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 first of these was "The Frog Prince" presented by the Pumpernickel Puppets. Secondly, musician David Polansky presented his "Go Green: It's more than a color" program. Thirdly, Musician Jay Mankita presented his multimedia program "The Lean Green Cleanup Machine." The Boston Museum of Science traveling program "Windmill Workshop" was made possible by a scholarship grant given to the library from the Boston Museum of Science. These grants saved the library \$1500.00

The Home School Research Group covered a variety of topics including the Dewey Decimal Classification System, library etiquette, and planning, organizing, and evaluating information for a research paper. Our attendance increased 20% over last year; we had an average of 17 people each month. This group continues to grow, and all home school families are welcome.

Our Story Times are still thriving. We were able to offer two pre-school age story time sessions per week from January to June and both programs were well attended. Due to loss of staffing we could only offer one story time through the summer and into December. We had an average weekly attendance of 24 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 read-



"The Frog Prince" presented by the Pumpernickel Puppets



David Polanski presents "Go Green: It's more than a color"



Musician Jay Mankita presents "The Lean Green Cleanup Machine" ing aloud to children. This is especially so during the preschool years," says the report Becoming a Nation of Readers.

The Children's Book Group read four books this year: <u>Maze of Bone</u>, <u>The Ruins of Gorlan</u>, <u>Meet Kaya: An American Girl</u>, and <u>Gregor the Overlander</u>. We met for several weeks for each book and our total attendance for these programs was 155 youth and adults.

In the Adult Department, the various activities offered included the highly popular book discussion groups which are very capably led by Interlibrary Loan Librarian & Administrative Assistant Lorraine Kalisz. The culmination of the Fall 2009 to Spring 2010 sessions ended in May with a talk by author Roland Merullo. In April, hand weaver and Adams native Sue McFarland held two very well-attended classes on "Painting with Wool: An Introduction to Felt Making": one for children and parents, and the second session for adults. Once again in May a pastel art workshop concentrating on the artistry of Vincent Van Gogh and presented by talented pastel artist Gregory Maichack, was an enormous success. Also in May, naturalist and educator John Root presented a well-received program called "Wildflowers of the Northeast". Both the wildflowers program and felt making workshops were made possible in part through a grant from the Cultural Council of Northern Berkshire, resulting in a savings to the Town of \$490. To kick off the "Go Green @Your Library" summer adult reading program in June, Northern Berkshire Solid Waste Management District Program Coordinator Sandy Totter gave a class on going green with recycling. In August, some members of the reading program attended a garden party at Belle's Victorian B & B celebrating the program's culmination.



Animal World Experience



Julie Collier and the live "North American Birds of Prey:

Clearly the most momentous event of the year was the establishment of the Friends of the Adams Free Library. A number of patrons have volunteered to work on fundraising efforts to support the services of their Library. Their most successful event was the annual book sale held in August. In November, the Friends held a party to thank all of the book sale volunteers. The group is working to set-up Officers and a Board of Directors in order to apply for recognition as a corporation by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. The Adams Free Library trustees and staff are most thankful to all of these patrons who have offered to work on this effort. The donations of books and other items in good condition are also very deeply appreciated. Specials thanks goes to the leadership talents of the first AFL Friends president, Ruth McBride.

Interlibrary loan service continues to be important to our patrons with 2,141 items borrowed for our patrons and 494 items loaned to other libraries in Fiscal Year 2010. This service is efficiently and capably handled by Interlibrary Loan Librarian Lorraine Kalisz through our Online Affiliate membership to the Central / Western Massachusetts Automated Resource Sharing (C/W MARS) System. A number of our patrons directly order items through C/W MARS with the use of Patron Placed Holds. These items are brought to Adams via the delivery services of the Massachusetts Library System (MLS). All items must be checked in as received in Adams, then the patrons are notified that their materials are in Adams and ready for them to pick up. This process is then reversed to return these items through delivery.

Our membership in MLS allows the Library staff to attend free continuing educations classes and participate in roundtables.



Book Sale Setup



Adult Summer Reading Garden Party

The ability to share ideas and to learn new methods is vitally important to improving and strengthening public library services here in Adams. It is also through our MLS membership that we have access to cooperative purchasing of materials and supplies at greatly reduced prices. This membership privilege garners enormous savings to the Town of Adams.

In addition to the many library-sponsored programs, once again the Memorial Library Building has been a community focal point for meetings and classes. Many local groups, including the neighborhood crime-watch, political caucuses, senior ladies' exercise group, and the Big Brothers-Big Sisters board, make use of the facility's three meeting rooms throughout the year.

Adult Services Librarian Lyn Wilson capably oversees the operation of the main desk and also enters all new materials for adults and teens into the Library's Follett® Destiny software program. Children's Librarian Holli Jayko withdraws all outdated and worn juvenile titles, and catalogs & classifies all new items for the Children's Room. Installed in June, the Destiny program allows remote access via the Internet to AFL's entire collection. To explore our holdings, please visit:

http://library.town.adams.ma.us

Library Page Dorothy Rice does an excellent job of accurately shelving returned materials. Dorothy also applies ownership plaques, installs book jacket covers and affixes spine labels to prepare new materials for circulation. As well, Miss Rice packs discarded materials for storage for the annual book sale and maintains the periodical storage in the basement. Due to the lay-off of two part-time staff members, Dorothy's coverage hours at the main desk have more than doubled. Miss Rice sets a fine and admirable example of politeness and courtesy to all our patrons.

Library Custodian Mike Rinaldi continues a superb job of maintaining the historic building. His diligent repairs and oversight of this 113-year-old facility have saved the Town of Adams thousands of dollars annually. The chronic leak in the northwest corner of the newly renovated Children's Room defies repair. It is believed to be caused by the deterioration of the



Adult Pastel Art Workshop with Gretory Maichack

bricks and mortar that is allowing water infiltration. The Town and the AFL Trustees are seeking funding to re-point and seal the building's exterior. Likewise, the garden walls at the building's main entrance are rapidly worsening. Although just refurbished in 1999, the poor construction methods used have resulted in rapid deterioration.

In October, Library Director Deborah Bruneau assumed the presidency of the Friends of the Western Massachusetts Regional System (WMRLS). WMRLS was declared dormant in June with huge budget cuts on the state level that forced the end to the long-standing six-region state library support system. Since the creation of MLS in July, the WMRLS Friends group has merged with the historic Western Massachusetts Library Club to form the Western Massachusetts Library Advocates (WMLA). The mission of WMLA is to advocate for the unique needs of all Western Massachusetts libraries and to provide a strong voice to the state legislature.

The Adams Free Library is once again honored to be the recipient of many monetary donations. In June the Library received a large bequest. In his will, Henry Kratz of Tennessee gave \$43,000 to the Adams Free Library for the purpose of purchasing materials in memory of his late wife, Marjorie Thiel Kratz. Mrs. Kratz grew up in Adams and graduated from Adams High School in 1944. Both she and Mr. Kratz are buried in the Maple Street Cemetery. Also in June, the family of Eileen Bedard made a donation of \$200 to purchase books in memory of Ms. Bedard. In December, the Library was also honored to receive \$200 from the Estate of Raymond E. Fasce upon the death of his wife Mary Fasce.

Finally, we note with sadness the passing of long-time former AFL employee Beatrice Boisvert. Beatrice came to work here in 1964 and retired in 2006. Bea was a very dedicated, hard-working member of the Library staff for decades. We have missed her presence so very much in the daily operations of the library services since her retirement and we deeply miss her as a faithful friend and patron of the public library where she so conscientiously served for 42 years.

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

# **Library Fiscal 2010 Statistics**

Total Number of Volumes as of June 30, 2010:	41,435
Newspaper subscriptions:	7
Periodical subscriptions (including gifts):	60
renouted subscriptions (including girts).	00
Registered borrowers:	7,767
Number of borrowers who are Adams residents:	5,890
Circulation:	
Adult print	33,163
Juvenile print	17,727
Video Cassettes/music CDs/DVDs, misc.	14,042
Audio Books	2,764
TOTAL	67,696
TREASURER'S REPORT	
Returned to Revolving Fund via Town Treasurer:	
Fines for Overdue Materials	2,730.07
Used Items Sale Receipts	2,607.25
Microfilm Printer Receipts	21.95
Internet Printer Receipts	220.39
Damaged or Lost Items Replacement Fees	940.57
Miscellaneous	53.40
Photocopier Receipts	729.25
TOTAL CASH RECEIPTS	\$ 7,302.88
OTHER INCOME	
Gifts, Memorial Donations	\$ 585.72
Grants: Bill & Melinda Gates Fdn., No. Berkshire Cultural Council	\$ 4,915.00
State Aid to Public Libraries awards	\$ 12,204.55

TRUST FUNDS DIVIDEND INCOME	BALANCE 7/01/09	RECEIPTS	EXPENSES	BALANCE 6/30/10
W.T. Adams	3,677.47	1,994.59	2,408.38	3,263.68
C.N. Miller	3,137.22	152.58	1,081.07	2,208.73
Plunkett / Saunders	1,212.10	44.01	587.02	669.09
H. Tiedemann	4,332.68	2,117.92	2,591.20	3,859.40
TOTALS	12,359.47	4,309.10	6,667.67	\$ 10,000.90
	Book Funds* s Henry Kratz beques		Total as of 12/31/10	\$ 93,286.53
Memorial I	Book Fund Investmer	nts T	Total as of 12/31/10	\$ 58.545.42

# **Community Development Department**

The Adams Community Development Department continued to implement an intense work program for 2010, with the implementation of a broad range of projects including those funded under the Massachusetts Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program. Staff work is focused on completing several individual projects for each year of CDBG funding, as well as developing the next year's grant application. Community Development staff submitted the Town's FY2010 CDBG application in February 2010 and the Town's FY 2011 CDBG application in early December 2010. In August, the Town was awarded \$940,687 in FY2010 CDBG funding for continuation of the Adams Downtown Façade & Signage Improvement Program and the Adams Housing Rehabilitation Program. Individual projects under the façade program and the housing rehab program will be a staff priority for the grant cycle. The Department will also be undertaking the Park Street Infrastructure Design Project. Administrative funds from CDBG cover the wages and benefits of the grants staff within the Community Development Department.

#### **Adams Downtown Revitalization Program**

The Community Development Department continues to implement recommendations in the *Adams Downtown Development Plan* (adopted in 2003). Significant progress on several downtown projects was accomplished in 2010:

#### **Summer Street Reconstruction Project**

The Town was awarded \$884,801 in FY2009 CDBG funding for the Summer Street Reconstruction Project along with a small amount of funding for façade improvements. Bid plans and specifications were prepared by the Town's project designer/ engineer (Guntlow & Associates, Inc.) and developed into a public bidding package. After many months of work, the Town's "Summer Street Reconstruction Project" was advertised in March 2010. The Town received bids from five contractors on the April 22, 2010 bid due date. The lowest bidder was Waterman Excavating, Inc. with a bid total of \$597,440. The agreement



Summer Street Reconstruction

with Waterman Excavating, Inc. was executed on May 21, 2010 and work began following the Memorial Day holiday. Project construction continued through the summer and fall of 2010. Community Development staff held two meetings with Summer Street stakeholders: one at the beginning of construction on June 7, 2010 and one following substantial completion of the project on November 4, 2010.

Work associated with the Summer Street Reconstruction Project included removal of the existing paving, curbing, and sidewalks and installation of new curbing, paving, concrete sidewalks, and decorative pavers. The project also involved handicapped accessible ramps, utility upgrades, electrical work (including decorative lighting), and tree plantings. Most of the project work was successfully completed by the end of December 2010. The Town hopes to continue undertaking improvements to the Summer Street neighborhood over the next few years.





Summer Street Reconstruction

#### 82 Summer Street (Former "Sweet Shoppe") Demolition

The former "Sweet Shoppe" building on Summer Street became increasingly dilapidated over the past several years and the property owners were without the resources to repair /renovate the building. Condemnation orders were issued by the Adams Board of Health and the Town's Building Commissioner in June 2010. Given the dangerous condition of the building (large portions of the roof failed and were open to the elements making the second floor unsafe), the Town appropriated \$50,000 for the demolition of the building at Town Meeting in June 2010. In October 2010, the Town's Community Development Department issued an Invitation for Bids for the project, with bids due on November 10, 2010. The Town received six (6) bids with a low bid of \$52,200. Work began on the project later in November beginning with the hazardous materials remediation. The project is expected to be completed early in 2011. The Town will place a lien on the property for the expense of the demolition and associated costs.

#### Adams Downtown Façade & Signage Improvement Program

The Adams Downtown Façade & Signage Improvement Program continues to be a key revitalization program within the 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 2010, Department staff worked to complete the final few projects funded by FY09 CDBG and initiate work on several projects to be funded under the FY2010 CDBG program.

#### **Adams Housing Rehabilitation Program**

The Adams Housing Rehabilitation Program (HRP) continues to be a popular and important on-going program managed by the Community Development Department. The goal of the program is to improve housing units that are either owner occupied or investor owned with at least 51% of the tenants/occupants of low to moderate income. Projects typically chosen to participate in the program would have all code violations addressed which can include upgraded electrical systems, lead paint remediation, replacement windows and doors, roofing, structural improvements, modernization of kitchens and bathrooms, etc. The HRP has a waiting list and, for the past several years, the Town has been successful in obtaining grant funding to complete approximately 10-12 units per year, typically managing projects under different grant cycles. The HRP received \$397,500 in FY2010 CDBG funding with a goal of rehabilitating 15 housing units.

#### 65 Park Street Façade Restoration Project

In 2008, the Town hired Sebesta Blomberg, Inc. to conduct an assessment of Town facilities and identify the most urgent renovations needed. Their study determined the former town hall building at 65 Park Street to be one of the highest priorities, with urgent needs for exterior improvements. The historic masonry/stone building currently houses the Northern Berkshire Registry of Deeds on the first floor. The two-story building was constructed in 1890 with several subsequent additions. The most recent addition was completed in 1996 to provide the Adams Police Department with their communications center and jail cells (new addition), and providing their offices on the second floor of the building

The June 2010 Town Meeting provided \$250,000 in funds to undertake an initial phase of renovations to the building. In October 2010, the Town solicited proposals from qualified architectural firms to provide design and construction supervision services for the 65 Park Street Façade Restoration Project. Eight (8) architectural firms responded to the Town's RFP and five firms were interviewed. Following the interviews, the Town selected **EDM Architects**, a full service architectural and engineering firm in Pittsfield. Once under contract, EDM worked to prepare an assessment of needed renovations, define the scope of work for the proposed renovation project, and will later develop construction plans, specifications, bidding documents and cost estimates for the renovation project. The project will be put out to bid early in 2011 and the façade restoration work is expected to begin and be completed during the 2011 construction season.

#### Park Street Infrastructure Design Project

The proposed design project for Park Street, funded under the Town's 2010 CDBG program, will carefully assess the condition of Park Street, including sidewalks, curbing, pavement, drainage, utilities, and street furnishings. The Town will conduct a selection process to hire a project designer/engineer to work with a steering committee of downtown stakeholders to prepare a concept design and then final construction plans and specifications. The designer will prepare a detailed budget for a future construction project. The goal of the project is to eliminate blighting conditions along Park Street and to create a pedestrian environment that is safe and free from barriers. It is anticipated the final design will involve such improvements as new curbing, new sidewalks, handicapped ramps and tactile warning pads, street trees, and new street furnishings to include enches, trash receptacles, and decorative lighting.

#### **Greylock Glen Outdoor Recreation & Environmental Educa**tion Center Project

The Town accomplished a major milestone of its proposed development project at Greylock Glen with the successful completion of formal review under the Massachusetts Environmental Policy Act (MEPA). The Town and the Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR) jointly filed the project Environmental Notification Form (ENF) with the MEPA office on Wednesday, March 31, 2010. The ENF was published in the Environmental Monitor on April 7, kicking off a 20-day comment period. During the public comment period, the MEPA office held a public meeting at Town Hall and later a site visit. On May 7, 2010, the Certificate of the Secretary of the Executive Office of Environmental and Energy Affairs was issued on the Town's Greylock Glen project. Importantly, the project was approved as proposed.

In mid-December 2010, DCR filed the **Abbreviated Notice** of **Resource Area Delineation** (ANRAD) with the Adams Conservation Commission. A Commission meeting was held on December 30, 2010, at which DCR requested an extension to January 2011 and the Commission voted to secure the services of Bill Lattrell to provide peer review of the ANRAD. DCR and Community Development staff have also been working with staff of the US Army Corps of Engineers in their review of the project and whether a Corps permit will be required A meeting with the Corps was held late in 2010 and it appears that with minor adjustments to the design of certain stream crossings for the proposed trails system, a Corps permit can be avoided.

Once final permitting is completed, the Town will begin the process of formally soliciting for private developer partners to undertake certain components of the Glen resort project, including the 170-room lodge and conference center and the campground.

#### **Adams Open Space & Recreation Plan**

In late 2009, Community Development staff began the process of updating the Town's "Open Space & Recreation Plan." The plan assists Town leadership in establishing priorities for improvements to community recreational facilities and open spaces. The plan is also a required component for state and federal grant applications related to the acquisition, development, and maintenance of Town parks and open space. In updating the plan, it is necessary to obtain formal input from Town residents. To this end, the Department conducted a random survey of 600 Town households in March 2010 on their preferences regarding active and passive recreation and open space. Some 231 surveys were returned to Community Development demonstrating a strong 39% response rate.

Department staff will complete a final draft of the Open Space & Recreation plan in 2011. After formal review by the Board of Selectmen, the Parks Commission, Conservation Commission, and the Planning Board, the plan will be finalized and forwarded to the State for approval.

#### **ADA Transition Plan**

The Town has undertaken an activity to review and evaluate all Town-owned buildings and facilities for compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). During the review, a survey was conducted of each building, facility and park. The resulting "ADA Self Evaluation & Transition Plan" will be used by the Town as a guide in prioritizing accessibility upgrades to existing facilities and properties. The current draft plan is a revision of the original "504 Self Evaluation" (1984) and the "Accessibility Inspection and Implementation Plan" (1993) which were both required under ADA.

During the review, a survey was conducted of each building, facility and park. The surveys were then used to create a comprehensive transition plan to address accessibility barriers. The plan is being updated collaboratively with the Special Services Department of the Adams-Cheshire Regional School District. The plan revision is slated to be completed in the Spring 2011.

Once public approval has been obtained the revised plan will be submitted as a required part of the Town's "Open Space and Recreation Plan" (OSRP) and moving forward will be utilized as a supplement for a myriad of grant applications.



The Sweet Shoppe Demolition at 82 Summer Street in December 2010

## **Historical Commission**

The Susan B. Anthony Birthplace Museum was officially opened with a ribbon-cutting ceremony held one day before Susan B. Anthony's 190th Birthday on February 14, 2010. State Senator, Marion Walsh (D) of Rosindale cut the ribbon at the museum on East Road. Due to winter weather, the speeches at the Birthplace were short but the ceremony continued in the Memorial Hall above the Adams Free Library on Park Street.

Since 1910, there had been intentions of opening a museum in the birthplace of Susan B. Anthony. The first group was the Adams Society of Friends Descendants who purchased the property and established a small museum operating it from the 1930s until 1947. From that time, the house was a private residence until the 1980s. The birthplace had two owners since then who had plans to make the home a permanent museum but never came to completion. Carol Crossed, of Rochester, N.Y., purchased the property at auction in 2006 and within less than 4 years has opened a museum that pays tribute to Adams' most famous daughter.

The museum is open for visitors year round on the weekends. There are five rooms of exhibits: the kitchen-hearth, the birthing room, Daniel Anthony's store, a room detailing the history of the women's struggle for suffrage and a room for the history of the house and its restoration. A gift shop/museum entrance was established in the remodeled former garage.

A Quaker Meeting House Advocacy Committee made up of Commission and Historical Society members have been seeing to the proper maintenance of the town-owned property.

The Historical Commission in conjunction with the Adams Historical Society still opens the Quaker Meeting House every Sunday in the summer. The schedule was changed in that it is open the first Sunday after July 4th and stays open until Columbus Day weekend.

Members of the Historical Commission sit on the Design Review Board that comments on rehabilitation projects funded by the Community Development Block Grant program. Two of the projects reviewed were the new signage at the Pizza House on Hoosac St. and the Baer's Den on East Hoosac St.

The former churches in town are still a concern. The two closed Roman Catholic churches are safe for now. A charity center is actively operating in the basement of The St. Thomas Aquinas Church. The around-the-clock vigil at The St. Stanislaus Kostka Church continues. Nearly 200 people participate in taking watch of the building. The vigilers help maintain the building and grounds.



Alicia Loughman dressed as young 19th century Quaker sits in front of the reconstructed hearth at the Susan B. Anthon Birthplace Museum.

### **Financial Reports**

### **Board of Assessors**

The Board of Assessors continues to update property record cards to assure accurate assessment values. Interim revaluations (yearly) have been mandated by the State – which means that values will fluctuate annually according to the market.

Assessors are required by Massachusetts law to assess all real and personal property at its fair cash value as of January 1<sup>st</sup> each year. Fair cash value means fair market value, which is the price a willing buyer and a willing seller would settle upon in an open market transaction.

Exemptions are available for *qualifying* senior citizens, *qualifying* widows and widowers, *qualifying* veterans and for those residents certified to be blind. Residents are encouraged to visit the office for more information.

Our Board and office staff would like to thank the residents of Adams for their continued cooperation and support.

### **TAX RATE SUMMARY FOR FY 2011**

a. Total amount to be raised
b. Total estimated receipts and other
Revenue sources
c. Tax levy

\$13,437,737.30

-5,239,771.00

\$8,197,966.30

Class	Certified Full and Fair Cash Value Assessments	Percentage Full Value Shares of Total Tax Levy
1. Residential	413,526,388.00	80.7050%
2. Open Space	0	0.0000%
3. Commercial	34,167,659.00	7.9076%
4. Industrial	27,573,900.00	6.3816%
5. Personal Property	21,629,242.00	5.0058%
Totals	496,897,198.00	100.0000%

### TAX COLLECTOR

July 01, 2009 - June 30, 2010

Tax	July 1, 2009	Outstanding Committed	Payments other credits	Outstanding June 30, 2010
2010 Real Estate		7,419,018.36	7,098,328.33	320,690.03
2010 Personal Property		397,971.45	392,921.97	5,049.48
2009 Real Estate	356,318.46		114,443.41	241,875.05
2009 Personal Property	11,306.13		8,937.26	2,368.87
2008 Real Estate	185,716.23		67,716.54	117,999.69
2008 Personal Property	6,036.48		4,058.51	1,977.97
2007 Real Estate	121,070.00		51,447.96	69,622.04
2007 Personal Property	3,245.40		1,562.31	1,683.09
Prior Years RL	342,548.49		82,044.28	260,504.21
Prior Years Personal	7,003.25		526.20	6,477.05
Prior Years	23,774.55		1,538.45	22,236.10
2005 Motor Vehicle Excise	5,123.68		659.79	4,463.89
2006 Motor Vehicle Excise	8,977.42		1,520.00	7,457.42
2007 Motor Vehicle Excise	9,541.31		2,678.90	6,862.41
2008 Motor Vehicle Excise	18,729.09	1,671.05	12,048.17	8,351.97
2009 Motor Vehicle Excise	35,612.11	114,571.71	132,645.81	17,538.01
2010 Motor Vehicle Excise		683,383.52	639,141.77	44,241.75
Tax Title Accounts	236,622.13			236,622.13
TOTALS:	1,371,624.73	799,626.28	1,120,969.36	1,050,281.65

### TOWN OF ADAMS TOWN TREASURER

### Indebtedness AS OF JUNE 30, 2007

Issued	To Whom Payable	Purpose	Rate	Maturity	Payable How	Outstanding
JULY 15, 2003	QUICK & REILLY, INC	. Town Hall	2.000%	JUNE 30, 2028	Taxes/Stabilization Fund	\$1,870,000
Nov. 23, 2004	Water Abatement Trust	Waste Water	2.000%	Aug 1, 2024	Taxes/Stabilization Fund	\$2,358,321
Nov. 30, 2004	Citizens Bank	Various Projects	3.680%	May 15, 2010	Taxes/Stabilization Fund	\$0
					TOTALS:	<b>\$4,228,32</b> 1

### Treasurer

Revenue Cash Investmen	nts	<b>Cemetery Maintenance Fund</b>	
Fiscal Year 2010		End of year Balance	10,967.74
End of year Balance	6,391,688.75	Interest transfers out	78.47 .00
Year to date Interest	25,741.06	transfers out transfers in	.00.
Balance June 30, 2010	6,417,429.81	Subtotal:	11,046.21
		Plunkett Maintenance	9,187.08
C4-1:1:4: E J		transfers out	.00
Stabilization Fund	012 042 40	transfers in Interest	.00 56.46
End of year Balance Interest	912,943.49 25,842.89		
TRANSFERS ATM	(354,893.71)	Balance as of June 30, 2010	20,289.75
Balance as of June 30, 2009	583,892.67		
		Cemetery Perpetual Care Bequests	120 277 16
m 45 1		End of year Balance Interest	430,275.46 4,750.36
Trust Funds	CLIDED)	Bequests	.00
(IN CUSTODY OF THE TOWN TREA Fiscal Year 2010	SUREK)	•	435,025.82
I isedi Tedi 2010		Subtotal: Transfers to General Fund	(18,106.50)
<b>Stephen Low Arnold Hall School Trust Fund</b>		Balance as of June 30 2010	416,919.32
End of year Balance	45,944.38	Balance as of valle 50 2010	
Interest	245.23		
Subtotal:	46,189.61	Bellevue Cemetery Endowed Lots Henry L. Harrinton Fund	
Balance as of June 30 2010	46,189.61	End of year Balance	14,712.82
		Interest	107.44
Walter A. & Velma Harrington Kruszyna		Transfer to Cemetery Investment Fund	.00.
<b>Adams High School Trust Fund</b>		Balance as of June 30, 2010	14,820.26
End of year Balance	14,708.12		
Capital Gains/(Losses) Dividends/Interest	496.49 82.72	Maple Street Cemetery Endowed Lots	
		Margaret H. Hall Fund	
Balance as of June 30, 2010	15,287.33	End of year Balance	4,466.45
		Interest	26.86
C.T. Plunkett Library Fund		Expenses	(220.00)
End of year Balance	23,335.40	Balance as of June 30, 2010	4,273.31
Interest Withdrawals Roid to Library	173.33 (387.82)		
Withdrawals- Paid to Library		Town of Adams Scholarship Fund	
Balance as of June 30, 2010	23,120.91	End of year Balance	9,756.39
		Interest	24.24
Frank H. Saunders Library Fund		Subtotal:	9,780.63
End of year Balance	5,052.36	Expenses	(1,973.09)
Interest Withdrawala Paid to Library	31.23	Balance as of June 30, 2010	7,807.54
Withdrawals - Paid to Library	(79.70)		
Balance as of June 30 2010	5,003.89	Quaker Meeting House Endowment Fund	
		End of year Balance	16,239.37
<b>Cemetery Investment Fund</b>		Interest	120.63
End of year Balance	237,043.00	Transfer to general fund	(20.00)
Interest	2,274.27	Balance as of June 30, 2010	16,340.00
Sale of Lots Expenses	(35,047.91)		
Balance June 30, 2010	204,269.36		
Datanec June 30, 2010			

### Town of Adams, Massachusetts Statement of Operating Revenues Budget and Actual - General Fund

for the year ended June 30, 2010

	Budget per Recap	Actual
OCAL RECEIPTS:		
Taxes:		
Real Estate Taxes	7,415,728	7,346,009
Personal Property Taxes	396,873	407,394
Motor Vehicle Excise Taxes	700,000	764,086
Payments In Lieu of and Other Taxes	110,000	154,480
Penalties and Interest	42,000	84,637
Sewerage Charges	25,000	47,143
Other Departmental Revenue	111,000	117,267
Licenses and Permits	50,000	62,136
Alcoholic Beverages	20,000	22,580
Fines & Forfeitures	34,000	43,282
Investment Income	35,000	25,741
Miscellaneous Revenues	0	57,105
State Receipts:		
Unrestricted General Government Aid	2,062,686	2,062,686
Police Career Incentive (Quinn Bill)	8,924	6,754
Abatements To Vets, Elderly/Blind	57,460	55,23
State Owned Land	44,107	44,107
Veteran's Benefits	6,462	11,574
Chapter 70	8,958	8,958
Urban Redevelopment Excise		88,898
TOTAL REVENUES	11,128,198	11,410,070
THER AVAILABLE FUNDS APPROPRIATED:		
Operating Transfers and Other Financing Sources	946,638	732,066
TOTAL GENERAL FUND	12,074,836	12,142,136

### Town of Adams, Massachusetts Statement of Operating Expenditures, Budgetary and Actual - General Fund for the year ended June 30, 2010

	Budget as Revised	Actual Expended	Surplus/ (Deficit)
Selectmen	16,121	14,744	1,377
Employee/Retiree Benefits	1,079,154	1,015,908	63,246
Moderator	410	324	86
Town Administrator	233,144	219,016	14,128
Finance Committee Accountant	2,853 158,974	1,810 157,214	1,043 1,760
Assessors	141,269	136,156	5,113
Treasurer	143,985	143.682	303
Town Counsel	125,405	124,846	559
Technology	99,393	91,529	7,864
Town Clerk	110,187	109,093	1,094
Elections	17,871	17,541	330
Registrations	2,004	1,999	5
Codification Property Joseph 22	2,500 55,900	1,688 53,513	812 2,387
Property Insurance Town Report	2,600	2,404	196
Debt Service	661,030	600,663	60,367
Liability Insurance	51,500	51,500	0
Conservation Commission	3,714	1,703	2,011
Planning Board	12,397	7,454	4,943
Zoning Board	9,414	5,205	4,209
Small Cities	80,854	80,854	0
Community Development	170,850	144,512	26,338
Building Inspector	149,303	143,359	5,944 764
Gas Inspector Plumbing Inspector	3,807 2,543	3,043 1,826	704 717
Weights And Measures	5,700	3,500	2,200
Electrical Inspector	6,998	6,772	226
Historical Commission	557	94	464
Agricultural Commission	900	899	1
Police Station	53,152	38,631	14,521
Registry of Deeds	1,800	602	1,198
Police	1,481,237	1,439,433	41,804
Police Grant Position	33,583	33,583	(0)
Emergency Management Animal Control Officer	1,650 67,507	692 62,203	958 5,304
Forest Warden	11,024	8,844	2,180
Hazardous Waste	150	78	72
Parking Ticket Dept	6,750	5,682	1,068
Council On Aging	162,125	154,481	7,644
Veteran Services	53,910	43,204	10,707
Social Day Care	103,183	102,239	944
Library	312,296	302,628	9,668
Celebrations - Veteran Town Hall	900 138,346	615	285 26,024
Quaker Meeting House	7,341	112,322 7,341	0
Community Center	43,414	27,626	15,788
Tree Warden	20,285	19,509	776
DPW Administration	124,263	122,169	2,095
Highways	756,225	700,334	55,891
Snow & Ice Control	250,000	163,280	86,720
Flood Control	41,450	30,455	10,996
Equipment Maintenance	268,964	198,258	70,706
Landfill Waterwater Treatment	55,305 728,405	35,892	19,413
Wastewater Treatment Wastewater Collection	738,495 9,280	673,475 8,125	65,020 1,154
Cemetery, Parks & Grounds	297,102	292,670	4,432
Visitor's Center	5,910	4,264	1,646
Board of Health	59,866	50,729	9,137
Adams-Cheshire Regional School	3,661,364	3,661,364	0
Northern Berkshire Regional Tech	574,779	574,779	0
State Assessments	44,304	46,724	(2,420)
OTHER FINANCING SOURCES/TRANSFERS	54,354	54,354	0
GRAND TOTAL	12,791,650	12,119,433	672,217

# Town of Adams, Massachusetts Consolidated Balance Sheet as of June 30, 2010 (AUDITED)

ASSETS	General Fund	Special Revenue	Capital Projects	Trusts Funds	Agency Funds	Long-term Debt Group	Total Memo only as of 06/30/2010
Cash Petty Cash Cash in Savings and Money Market Account Investments	440 4,354,025	803,256		851,625 349,000	19,750		440 6,028,656 349,000
Accounts Receivable Personal Property Taxes Real Estate Taxes Allowance for Abatements & Exemptions Motor Vehicle Excise	17,261 951,474 -636,717 115,585						17,261 951,474 -636,717 115,585
Tax Titles and Possessions Departmental - PD Off Duty - due from Vendors Departmental - Industry Sewer Departmental - Sewer/Water Liens AFD Departmental - Veterans Services Checks returned - ISF	9,215 13,251 18,029 -195				13,370		257,737 13,370 9,215 13,251 18,029 -195
Amounts to be Provided for Payment of Bond Debt Authorized & Unissued TOTAL ASSETS	5,100,105	803,256	0	1,200,625	33,120	4,252,642 815,000 <b>5,067,642</b>	4,252,642 815,000 12,204,748
LIABILITIES and FUND BALANCES	General	Special Revenue	Capital Projects	Trusts	Agency Funds	Long-term Debt Group	Total Memo only as of 06/30/2010
Current Liabilities Warrants Payable Payroll Payable Health Insurance Withheld Workmans Comp/PD Accident Payable Taxes Withheld/Payable Unemployment Payable Misc. Withheld Retirement Withheld Contract Retainage	108,582 70,416 107,138 13,100 1,837 970 8,889 558 5,531						108,582 70,416 107,138 13,100 1,837 970 8,889 558 5,531

## Town of Adams, Massachusetts Consolidated Balance Sheet as of June 30, 2010 (AUDITED)

LIABILITIES and FUND BALANCES (Continued)	General	Special Revenue	Capital Projects	Trusts Funds	Agency Funds	Long-term Debt Group	Total Memo only as of 06/30/2010
Current Liabilities (Continued) Miscellaneous Off-Duty Work					2,834		2,834
Deferred Revenues Real Estate & Personal Property Tax Motor Vehicle Excise Tax Liens & Foreclosures Departmental Special Assessments	332,018 115,585 257,737 27,243 13,251				13,370		332,018 115,585 257,737 40,613 13,251
Unreserved Fund Balances	2,263,583						2,263,583
Fund Balances Reserved for Encumbrances	159,551						159,551
Fund Balances Reserved for Compensated Absences	364,114						364,114
Fund Balances Reserved for Trust Funds Restricted Trust Funds Unrestricted Trust Funds				1,192,100 8,525			1,192,100 8,525
Fund Balances Reserved for Fed/State Grants		233,828					233,828
Fund Balances Reserved for Appropriation	1,100,000	478,265					1,578,265
Fund Balances Reserved for Gifts/Bequests/Revolving		91,163					91,163
Fund Balances Reserved for Special Purposes Reserved for Expenditure	150,000						150,000
Bonds Payable Inside Debt Limit - Town Hall/PD Station Inside Debt Limit - Multiple Projects Inside Debt Limit - MWPAT						1,870,000 0 2,382,642	1,870,000 0 2,382,642
Bonds Authorized & Unissued						815,000	815,000
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCES	5,100,105	803,256	0	1,200,625	33,120	5,067,642	12,204,748

# Combining Statement of Revenues and Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balances - Special Revenue for the year ended June 30, 2010 (AUDITED) Town of Adams, Massachusetts

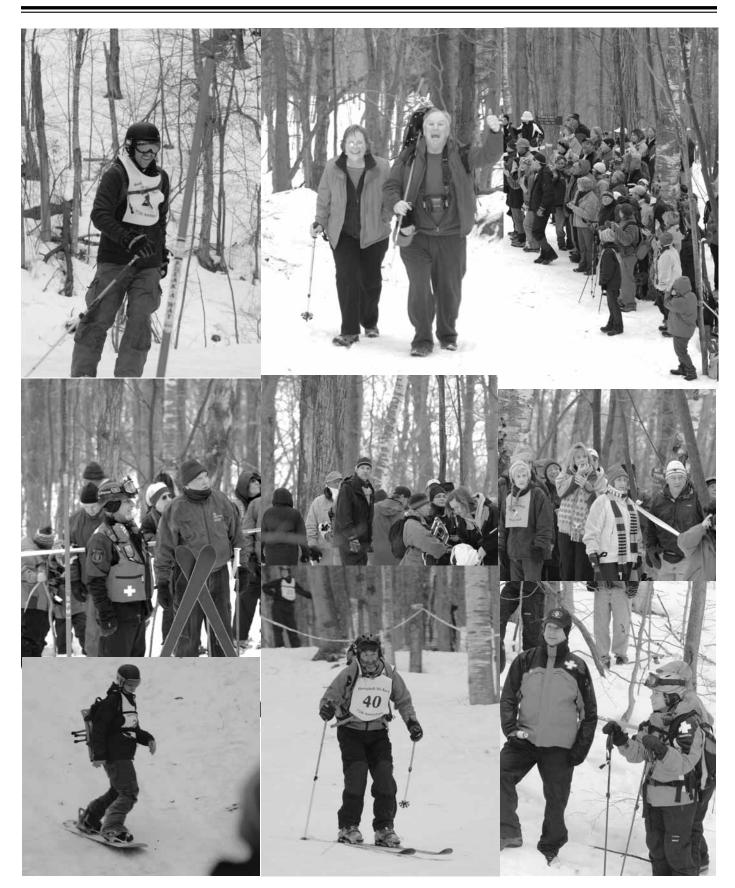
Fund Balance 06/30/10	90,474.00 0.00 27,563.00	118,037.00	37,456.00 (29,952.60) 42,645.00 1.00 31,047.58 5,391.00 25.00 2,343.00 1,017.00 5,550.00 20,267.00 115,789.98 95,912.00 36,066.00 36,066.00	569,428.00 803,254.98
Operating Transfer Out	(60,086.00)	(91,800.00)	(11,702.00) (11,702.00) (15,000.00) (9,500.00)	(24,500.00)
Operating Transfer In		0.00	000	0.00
Excess (Deficiency) of Revenue over Expenditure	119,262.00 31,714.00 27,563.00	178,539.00	101,076.00 (1,068,864.60) (31,255.00) 0.00 (76,763.42) 2,625.00 0.00 (4,515.00) 99.00 0.00 4,646.00 (1,072,952.02) 11,815.00 (58,369.00) 22,631.00 (6,191.00) (31,394.00)	(44,470.00) (938,883.02)
Expenditure	(201,278.00)	(201,278.00)	(1,068,864.60) (31,255.00) (15,444.00) (91,282.97) (4,515.00) (161.00) (1,300,409.57) (103,183.00) (6,191.00) (43,743.00)	(185,488.00) (1,687,175.57)
Revenue	320,540.00 31,714.00 27,563.00	379,817.00	101,076.00 15,444.00 14,519.55 2,625.00 260.00 93,533.00 93,533.00 227,457.55 11,815.00 44,814.00 22,631.00	141,018.00
Fund Balance 06/30/09	31,298.00 0.00 0.00	31,298.00	(63,620.00) 1,038,912.00 73,900.00 107,811.00 2,766.00 2,343.00 4,515.00 918.00 5,550.00 2,343.00 4,515.00 918.00 5,550.00 2,343.00 1,200,444.00	638,398.00
PORT 2010	FEDERAL GRANTS Public Safety Federal Community Develop Block Grant Massachusetts Small Cities Program Federal ARRA - Public Safety Grants Federal ARRA - Public Works Grant	TOTAL FEDERAL GRANTS	Public Works Economic Development Public Works Economic Development - CDAG 43D Grant - Greylock Glen Elderly State Aid to Libraries Energy Conservation MEMA Condiut Grant Right to Know Board of Health - Local Prep Grant Municipal Incentive - Riverways Public Safety  TOTAL STATE GRANTS OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS Parking Meter Council on Aging Technology Fund Bond Proceeds Cemetery Sale of Lots	TOTAL SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS TOTAL SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS

# Combining Statement of Revenues and Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balances - Trust Funds for the year ended June 30, 2010

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	Fund			Excess (Deficiency) of Revenue	Operating	Operating	Fund
	<b>Balance</b> 06/30/09	Revenue	Expenditure	over Expenditure	Transfer In	Transfer Out	Balance 06/30/10
NONEXPENDABLE TRUST FUNDS							
Scholarship - Hall/Low Cemetery Perpetual Care	45,944 378,216	245 5,850		245 5,850		(15,000)	31,189
TOTAL NONEXPENDABLE TRUST	424,160	900'9		6,095	0	-15,000	415,255
EXPENDABLE TRUST FUNDS							
Cemetery Endowed Lots - Harrington/Hall/Plunkett	28.147	190	(220)	(30)			28.117
Cemetery Perpetual Care	51,885	4,750		4,750		(26,348)	30,287
Cemetery Maintenance	10,968	79	(01)	79			11,047
Library - Plunkett & Saunders Funds Stabilization	27,965 1 008 100	200 26 115	(40)	161 26 115	54 354	(450 000)	28,126 638 569
Scholarship - Town / Kruszyna	23,528	2,232	(1,400)	832			24,360
Historical Preservation	16,239	121		121		(20)	16,340
Conservation Trust	8,827		(301)	(301)			8,526
TOTAL EXPENDABLE TRUST	1,175,659	33,686	(1,961)	31,725	54,354	(476,368)	785,370
TOTAL TRUST FUNDS	1,599,819	39,781	(1,961)	37,820	54,354	(491,368)	1,200,626

### The Thunderbolt Ski Race Photos 2010



### **ANNUAL REPORTS**

**OF THE** 

### ADAMS-CHESHIRE REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

CHESHIRE, MA 01225



### FOR THE FISCAL YEAR

July 1, 2009 - June 30, 2010



Adams-Cheshire School Committee (l-r rear) Lynn Clairmont; Superintendent Al Skrocki; Regina Hill; Vice Chair Darlene Rodowicz

(l-r front) Gloria Lewis, Chairman Paul Butler, Carol Corrigan (missing John Duval)

### Report of the Chairman Adams-Cheshire Regional School District

Paul K. Butler, Chairman (Adams, appointed 9/00, elected 5/01, re-elected 5/04, 5/07, 5/10)

Darlene Rodowicz, Vice-Chair (Cheshire, appointed 09/04, elected 5/06, re-elected 5/09)

Lynn Clairmont (Cheshire, elected 5/96, re-elected 5/97, 5/00, 5/03, appt'd: 5/06, elected 05/08)

John E. Duval (Adams, elected 5/95, re-elected 5/98, 5/01, 5/04, 5/07, 5/10)

Carol Corrigan (Adams, elected 5/06, re-elected 5/09)

Gloria Lewis (Cheshire, elected 5/10) Regina Hill (Adams, appointed 9/10)

The Adams-Cheshire Regional School Committee has been focused primarily with the changes coming to the district with the building project set to start at the end of school in June of 2011. It is certainly an exciting time for everyone at the schools as well as for the citizens of the member towns of Adams and Cheshire. The school committee welcomed two new members this past year. Gloria Lewis of Cheshire was elected in May of 2010 to replace outgoing longtime member Mary Ellen Baker. We certainly wish Mrs. Baker all the best and thank her for her many years of service and her tireless voice of support for our students. Regina Hill of Adams was appointed in September of 2010 to replace outgoing member Jill Pompi who stepped down last year. We look forward to the energy and insight that these two new members will bring to the school district.

At long last the building project is getting set to get underway at the Hoosac Valley High School campus that will completely renovate the building along with some small additions to create a state of the art educational facility designed to meet the needs of the students in grades 6 through 12 in the district for many years to come. The result around the district will be a K thru 5 elementary school in Adams and the same in Cheshire. This will alleviate the overcrowding condition at C.T. Plunkett Elementary School while having some impact on future renovation needs at Cheshire elementary. The newly renovated campus at Hoosac Valley will house students in grades 6 thru 12 and will continue to operate as a distinctly separate middle and high school in terms of educational philosophy. At this time we anticipate that the high school will be ready for the fall semester in 2012. Perhaps the single biggest challenges will be the upcoming move of the high school classrooms to the currently unoccupied Adams Memorial Middle School building along with the move of the middle school classrooms to the school facilities on the property of Pope John Paul the Great Parish in Adams. These moves are necessary due to the complete renovation taking place during the school year for 2011/2012. While obviously not the most desirable situation, it is only temporary for one year and the results will be more than worth the sacrifice. Many people had concerns about having middle school and high school students under one roof. As you perhaps know, we are in the second year of having moved the middle school students up to the high school campus due to the condition of the Memorial Middle School building. Students like being at the high school and actually report feeling safer in the new environment. They have access to superior technologies, classroom facilities, and athletic fields. They are able to take part in high school level activities and non-contact sports. This move was well thought out and executed and as a result the long term benefits to the students are already being seen. This certainly has given us some insight into how specific design elements of the building project can be tailored to meet the needs of these students as well as how well the students will flourish in the newly renovated environment. Certainly a word of thanks is in order for the two co-chairmen of the building committee, Mr. Francis Waterman and Mr. Howard Weinberg. Together with the entire building committee these two individuals displayed the foresight, knowledge, and passion necessary to bring this project to fruition and secure the needed votes in the two member towns. Great job gentlemen!

Perhaps the biggest ongoing 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. While there are some positive economic signs looking forward, we are still dealing with the effects of the economic recession that has affected every community and every school across Massachusetts and indeed across the nation. As a result, the budget process for FY2012 has once again been a very difficult one. As of this writing the school committee has not finished the process leading up to the vote to approve the budget for FY2012. Trying to get preliminary figures from the state regarding chapter 70 state funding reimbursement is often times more of an educated guess. However, the school district must, by law, approve its budget long before the state finalizes the amounts of chapter 70 funding that each school district will receive. It is quite possible that once again we will be looking at cuts and reductions in our operating budget. I would like to emphasize that we will, in all likelihood, be approving a budget that 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 and remaining sensitive to our taxpayers, 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.

Maintenance and technology continue to improve throughout the district. The new gas fired heating system at C.T. Plunkett has proven to be a more efficient way to heat the building. Meanwhile, a boiler in the Cheshire Elementary building failed this winter and had to be replaced. Due to the age of the unit, it was unfortunately not able to be repaired. The capital improvements in technology in our district have helped to further integrate technology into the classroom. New hardware, software and peripheral support equipment has been in use by students in every grade level. The use of technology in the classroom helps improve the learning environment both for students and teachers alike. Many of you

know that the district instituted on-line grade books last year and it has been instrumental in allowing parents and students to track their grades from home over the internet. Rather than waiting until progress report time, families are able to see exactly how their child is doing with respect to their school grades in each class. The result of all this increased technology 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 supporting capital improvement in this area as it is such an important asset to the schools and to the students and their families.

The Adams-Cheshire Regional School District and the Adams Teacher's Association (ACTA) are currently in negotiations for a new contract. The teachers are working under the conditions of an expired contract until such time as an agreement can be reached. All of the other bargaining groups in the district, such as the paraprofessionals, custodians, and cafeteria workers have also entered into negotiations with the school committee.

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, Sports programs have always been a life blood for our district and a great source of pride. Many of us enjoy watching a Hurricane soccer or football game on a crisp fall afternoon or taking in a basketball game after a stirring National Anthem by Hank Tomkowicz. Hoosac softball, baseball and track round out the spring season. Other sports such as cross country, swimming, golf, and Nordic Skiing may be lesser know but are equally as exciting. Get a sports schedule and attend an event; you just may find you had a great time.

Sports are certainly not the only activities that our students find themselves involved in. Arts are all around us in the district. Visit an art show at the elementary grade schools. See some of the beautiful murals painted on the walls at Hoosac Valley High School by our students. Attend a performance put on by our students in the senior class play and the spring musical. If you like live entertainment, you will be amazed at the level of acting ability by our young people. The musical actually employs live music in their pit band made up of Hoosac band students. And speaking of the band, the marching unit won a first prize

trophy in the 2010 Fall Foliage Parade in North Adams. You can show your support for these students by attending one of several concert and jazz band performances throughout the year. And it's cheaper than going to Tanglewood.

February school vacation brought a very special opportunity for the students in the Hoosac Valley High School Marching Band. Many of you know that the band was selected to march in a parade down Main Street U.S.A. in the Magic Kingdom at Walt Disney World in Florida. As the district chairman, the father of 3 students who marched at Disney, and a chaperone on the trip as well, I am extremely proud not only of our band students for their performance on Main Street, but of the responsible manner in which they behaved the entire time in Florida. They certainly represented their school, their communities, their families, and themselves in a very respectful way. Literally thousands of people from all over the world gathered to watch as our young men and women performed in what will be one of the highlights of their lives. Of course a trip like this would not happen if it were not for the family support, the constant fund raising, and for the hard work and desire of the band director, Mr. Jacob Keplinger. If all goes well, perhaps a return trip in 4 years may be possible. Great job to all involved.

Finally, as chairman of the Adams Cheshire Regional School Committee, I would once again 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. Sure, times are tough right now. Due to the budget constraints we continue to make some very difficult and unpopular decisions. 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. After all, they represent the future for all of us.

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

### **Superintendent of Schools**

### **ANNUAL REPORT - 2010**

In compliance with policy of the Adams-Cheshire Regional School District, I respectfully submit the school district annual report for the year 2010. This year completes the fourth year of the current five-year strategic plan of the district. 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 continues to provide a focus and collaboration of all stakeholders of the school system to recognize and meet the needs of all students.

### ACADEMICS AND INSTRUCTION

The Adams-Cheshire Regional School District hosted North County Schools in a county-wide in-service day to introduce teachers to strategies in effective assessment and progress monitoring of students. Teachers were then provided the opportunity to establish and work in professional learning communities, integrating teachers throughout North County by grade or subject area to share best practices and collectively address needs. These groups continued to meet throughout the year. The district also filed a proposal to participate in the national "Race to the Top" initiative. The district is receiving funds and support through the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) to pursue projects in the district related to teacher and administrator evaluation, aligning curriculum to common core standards, strengthening school climate and culture and increasing the percentage of graduates completing MassCore. The Superintendent continues to serve as a member of the Berkshire Compact, a county-wide initiative through MCLA to recognize and meet the needs of Berkshire County students in a collaborative manner.

### **TECHNOLOGY**

The School District revised the membership of the technology committee to begin the review of the current three-year technology plan and begin the process to develop a new three-year plan for June of 2011, mandated by the state. Staff and the principal at the middle / high school adopted a new 7th and 8th grade textbook series and program in math and Language Arts that integrates technology into the curriculum, including appropriate interventions to meet the needs of all students. Plans are also underway to coordinate the transition of students to Notre Dame and AMMS during the renovation and construction of Hoosac Valley High School in regard to providing appropriate technology to meet the needs our programs in those two buildings. Plans also include provisions for technology at the Cheshire Elementary School to accommodate the new location of the District Offices.

### COMMUNICATION/COMMUNITY RELATIONS

District officials and the Building Committee spent a great deal of time in 2010 organizing meetings with small groups and individuals in the communities of Adams and Cheshire to provide information and seek input on the proposed building project at the high school. Public Forums were also held at Hoosac Valley

High School, C.T. Plunkett Elementary School and Cheshire Elementary School, with the Hoosac Valley High School forum filmed on public access television for citizens who couldn't make the meetings. Communication of the district budget continues to include public meetings on each section of the budget with the School Committee and presentations to the Selectmen and Finance Committees of both towns. Communication was also provided by the District web site and a separate site created by members of the community to provide day-to-day information. The Adams-Cheshire Educational Foundation (ACE) continues to succeed in providing annual grants to the district in a variety of areas based on proposals from staff and administration. The Foundation has maintained a healthy fund of over \$300,000 in charitable contributions and has provided financial support to close to sixty projects since its inception in 2002.

### **FACILITIES**

The District recognizes the hard work and strong support of the voters in both communities in approving the building project at the high school. The project will result in a permanent consolidation of the district from four buildings to three with a renovation and addition to the current high school to create a district 6-12 facility. Approximately 78% of the eligible costs of the project will be paid for by the Massachusetts School Building Authority. Construction will begin in June of 2011 with an anticipated completion date of July 2012. Students in grades 7 and 8 will be housed at the Notre Dame School and grades 9-12 at the AMMS during construction. The Maintenance sub-committee of the School Committee has also completed assessments of the two elementary buildings to identify needs and priorities in developing a five-year maintenance plan.

### **SAFETY**

The school district conducted its annual review and revision of the crisis manual with local police, fire and emergency response personnel, in October of 2010. State and local police and fire provided comprehensive support in conducting lock-down, fire and evacuation drills for all staff and students of the district. Cheshire installed a new phone system with the financial support of the PTG to ensure communication throughout the building during emergencies. The School Committee adopted a district bullying policy as developed by the building principals as well as procedures to prevent incidents in the three district buildings.

Alfred W. Skrocki Superintendent of Schools

### **Hoosac Valley High School**

"Strive for Academic Excellence by Emphasizing Student Responsibility in a Climate of Mutual Respect"

### ANNUAL REPORT

The year 2010 was one of great change at Hoosac Valley High School. The seventh and eighth grades, after being relocated to Hoosac with the temporary closing of Adams Memorial Middle School in the summer of 2009, have continued to become part of the Hoosac Valley culture, with a number of middle school students participating in athletics and school performances. Moreover, the approval of the building project to renovate and expand Hoosac Valley has set the wheels in motion of an exciting period in our school's history

The year began with a focus on the arts in January with our annual winter concert, featuring the stage and jazz bands, as well as the chorus, under the direction of Jacob Keplinger, and our choreography class, under the guidance of Ms. Kate Frissell. Also in January our winter semi-formal dance, the Student Council's annual "Snow Ball" was once again held at the Bounti-Fare in Adams with over 200 students in attendance.

Spring brought more events featuring the talents of our students, such as two well received and well attended performances of Disney's High School Musical, under the direction of Ms. Frissell and Mr. Keplinger. Our spring concert followed in May, as well as the ninety-fifth annual Junior Prize Speaking contest, which was won by Jessica Bailot with the rendition of Anna Quindlen's "Commencement Speech at Barnard College". The 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 170 students into 2010.

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 at the Williams Inn for the second time in as manner years. The theme this year was "Masquerade" and over 200 students attended.

Class Night and Graduation also were held in early June. On Class Night, more than \$106,000 was presented to graduating students as scholarships, and an additional \$1,000,000 dollars was granted as financial aid. Ninety six students were honored at graduation, with Megan Bantle and Carla Duval as Hoosac's first ever co-Valedictorians. Graduate Luke Demers delivered the class speech, highlighting the previous four years at Hoosac Valley for the Class of 2010. A parent sponsored and cruise ship themed all-night party was held as an after graduation event and was well received by the graduating seniors. 57% of the Class of 2009 graduates went on to attend four year colleges this fall, with 31% entering two year schools, for a total of 88% of Hoosac graduates moving on to higher education.

The beginning of the 2010-2011 school year in September brought news of significant achievement by all of our students in regards to the math and English language arts MCAS exams. The tenth grade results showed Hoosac students once again achieving Adequate Yearly Progress in both areas, as Hoosac tenth grade students have done since the inception of the exams. Seventh and eighth grade students demonstrated significant improvement in all areas of the exams, suggesting the increase in English and math offerings at the middle school level has paid off.

With the addition of these two new grades, the fall brought a mixture of the traditional and the new to Hoosac Valley. Our long standing events like the Freshmen Reception, where our seniors host a dance for the incoming freshmen, and the fall pep rally organized by the fantastic Hoosac cheerleaders kicked off the year. The Susan B. Anthony Chapter of the National Honor Society induction dinner and ceremony was held in November. Northern Berkshire County Magistrate, and Hoosac Valley graduate, Timothy Morey 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. The Leo Club sponsored a successful Create A Dream program at









our school for the eighth consecutive year, expanding our school's participation in order to sponsor even more local families.

Seventh and eighth grade students have continued to take to the new building. A number of middle school students participated in the fall and winter sports seasons by joining the Cross Country, Swimming and Nordic Ski teams. Also, two well-attended dances were held and a tutoring program was established between high school students and those in seventh and eighth grades. Seventh grade students celebrated the end of the school year with a field day at Hoosac Valley. In regards to the eighth grade, Hoosac Valley has continued the tradition of a formal promotion ceremony, with an added twist in 2010 of a semi-formal dinner/dance in the students' honor. The eighth grade students also ended their year with a field day at The Range in North Adams.

Hoosac Valley's partnership with the volunteer fire departments of Cheshire and Savoy through the SAFER Grant has continued into 2010. Hoosac Valley has been able to increase the number of First Responder courses this school year offered through the SAFER grant.

The approval by the towns of Adams and Cheshire of the building project for Hoosac Valley Middle and High School helped to end 2010 on a positive and exciting note. Several students participated in meetings with the architects, providing input on classroom design, technology and athletic fields. We are all looking forward to the beginning of the construction project in the spring of 2011.

The staff of Hoosac Valley Middle and 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.

### **Hoosac Valley High School Sports**



Boys Cross Country



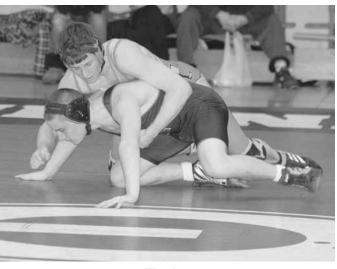
Girls Cross Country



Golf



Football



Wrestling

### 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.
- 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.
- 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 any elementary school in Berkshire County. The transition of the sixth grade into C.T. Plunkett has been exceptional. The school is located on Commercial Street in downtown Adams housing seven 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:	03-04	04-05	05-06	06-07	07-08	08-09	09-10	10-11
Kind.	90	82	84	96	84	71	97	67
Grade 1	93	83	83	98	84	84	80	94
Grade 2	98	93	85	82	80	90	78	81
Grade 3	104	97	101	91	90	80	91	71
Grade 4	101	100	95	94	94	93	85	85
Grade 5	102	103	100	91	104	89	90	85
Grade 6							77	81
Total	619	594	576	563	579	537	598	564

### Staffing

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

### Kindergarten

Kristy Bachli, Deanna Guettler, Jennifer Kline, Barbara Mal-

lett, Chris Nimmons, Roberta Urquhart, Mary Whitman, and Mara Woolley

### Grade 1

Ann Atwell, Susan Biros, Melissa Davis, Mary Tanner, Lisa Waltermire, Laurie Gamari and Stacia Peterson

### Grade 2

Elizabeth Alibozek, Amy Anderson, Dawn Bombardier, Kelly Ryan, Barbara Steuer, Aimee Kelly, Heather Todd, Donna Novak

### Grade 3

Beth Bourdon, Jennifer Downey, Donna Mullaney, Anne Prudhomme, and Sarah Sookey

### Grade 4

Dawn Bishop, Mary Murray, Cynthia Vadnais, and Noella Wotkowicz, and Laurie Canterella

### Grade 5

Barbara Czerwinski, Susan Martel, Kathleen McGrath, Nancy Parrot, Jill Pompi, Kale Skrocki and Donna Labonte

### Grade 6

Rebecca Koczela, Kathryn Little, Brenda Robinson, Lynne Robinson

### School-Wide

Cathy Abbott, Patricia Alibozek, Diane Arduini, Susan Barth, Judy Bender, Kim Biagini, Kathy Bradbury, Lisa Bresett, Susan Burzamati, Carol Carlow, Ann Conroy, Aaron Dean, Amy Garner, Kimberly Briggs, Francis Cariddi, Chad Carpenter, Deborah Ciempa, Terri Cooper, Dawn Daniels, Heather DiSanti, Theresa Duprey, Jackie Fortier, Laurie Gavazzi, Sharon Girard, Kristen Gordon, Suzanne Harnick, Frances Jamros, Shelley Jenkins, Christine King, Joann Kingsbury, Susan Knapp, Geoff Kondel, Patty Lafrance Wendy Lamberton, Karen Levesque, Deborah Langner, Geeta Lipinski, Laurie Malloy, Paula Meczywor, Patty Misiuk, Sue Modena, Rick Noel, Jennie Pierce, Travis Poirot, Edward Rysz, Marlene Salvi, Miriam Serrano, Nicole Seyerlein, Deb Silverio, Gina Simoneau, Jay Sniezek, Paul Sneziek, Penny Tarsa, Jennifer Taylor

### Library

The C.T. Plunkett Library houses over 14,900 books, videos and magazines. The automated circulation and cataloging system makes it possible for students and staff to access the electronic card catalog. Approximately 12,000 items were checked out during the school year. Students visit the library once a week and have the opportunity to listen to stories and 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, book fairs and school-wide fundraisers have raised more than \$58,000. 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 seven years the committee has also sponsored a Literacy Fair which has been extremely successful.

### **Anti-Bullying Commitment**

In the Adams Cheshire Regional School District we have created and adopted an Anti Bullying policy. This policy includes and addresses all of the state requirements and regulations. We have also created an anti bullying committee and plan to meet regularly to discuss our ongoing efforts to enforce our anti bullying policies. You can find this policy on our website, www.acrsd.net

### **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
- MassMOCA events
- · Musician and songwriter

### **Family-Focused Events**

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

### 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 within the PTG and School Council 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
- 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 selfstudy 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, fifth and sixth 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, in-service 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 21st 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.
- Curl Up and Read have been extremely successful nights at CTP. Students wear their pajamas and listen to stories.
- 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. We also added a laptop cart this year at C.T. Plunkett.



### Title I

Title I is an entitlement grant supporting school-wide academic support for all Plunkett students. Instructional assistants work under the guidance of classroom teachers to reinforce instruction through small group differentiated instruction. Students receive remedial intervention in the elements of reading, writing, and math guided by the Massachusetts Frameworks. Title I also supports extended day academic activities through Homework Help and early morning computer based practice sessions. 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 available both as a newsletter and on the district website. A yearly survey invites parents to report on their impressions of school climate, academic preparation, communication, and family concerns. A school wide assessment informs the budget process by prioritizing demonstrated needs. Informational meetings and workshops are planned to address topics suggested by parents and staff and evening programs such as Curl Up & Read, MCAS workshops, and game nights are offered to families to promote literacy, reading, and math support at home.

### **Reading Is Fundamental**

RIF is a federally funded program whose goal is to give children access to books and discover the joys and value of reading. C.T. Plunkett qualifies for this grant due to the percentage of free and reduced lunch students attending. Additional funding is provided by the C.T. Plunkett Library Fund. Three times a year each student at C.T. Plunkett can choose a book from a wide selection of books, based on their own interests. The book distributions are enhanced by fun reading-motivational activities. Past themes have included "Get on Board with Reading" (trains). "Warm up with a Good Book" (winter). And "Books on the Beach" (summer reading). Volunteers are a big part of RIF, helping make bookmarks, stamp and inventory books, and helping on distribution day by reading with students, stocking books, and even handing out hot chocolate and cookies. This program is vital for children who have no books in their homes, have limited access to bookstores, and who, without RIF would not experience the thrill of owning their own books.

### **Music Program**

Aaron Dean teaches general music at CT Plunkett. In music classes students are introduced to musical notation, musical terminology, families of instruments, and major composers. Students in grades K-2 focus on singing and movement activities, while students in grades 3-6 have the opportunity to learn the basics of guitar and keyboard. The music program also utilizes 24 iMacs that were donated by Williams College for digital recording and music composition.

### **Technology**

We have been making steady progress with technology at CTP. The school district has shown its commitment to technology with the hiring of Mr. Richard Noel, a certified computer teacher. Mr. Noel had previously worked as the computer teacher at Memorial Middle School since 1994. We are currently developing a computer literacy curriculum that will meet the Massachusetts Instructional Technology requirements, as adopted by the Massachusetts Department of Education.

With the addition of our certified computer teacher, our students are learning to use the computer as a tool that can be beneficial in other classes. We are providing extensive instruction in grades five and six in the use of Microsoft Word. Students in grades 2 through 6 are beginning to use the word processor when completing writing assignments. Grade six students are learning basic computer programming as part of their regular computer class instruction. Grade five students have learned more efficient ways to take notes when using online resources. As the school year progresses, we will continue developing our K-6 technology curriculum.

Two years ago, desktop computers were purchased for the computer lab and library. Students receive weekly technology instruction in the school's computer lab. All students utilize Internet resources and are provided instruction in its effective use, online safety and etiquette. All computer instruction is supplemented with age appropriate websites that support our reading and math initiatives, by providing additional practice for skill building. Our students also have access to websites that provide additional learning support in science, social studies, design, problem-solving, and keyboarding.

Each teacher is provided with a laptop with Windows Vista, Microsoft Office, and the Adobe Creative Suite. Teachers can work both at home and in the classroom. In class, students can use the laptop to access the Internet and complete practice, keyboarding, and word-processing software. Each floor is equipped with black & white and color laser printers that are networked so that students and teachers can print directly from their classrooms.

Our school focuses on developing critical 21st Century skills for all students in Kindergarten through grade 6. We are continuing to be proactive with our selection of quality online instruction to meet both present and future educational needs of our students. We currently use the following Internet-based resources for our students: Lexia Reading, Type to Learn Keyboarding, Accelerated Reader, and FASTT Math.

We recently purchased a major upgrade for our Lexia, our Internet-based reading software. This software is used by grades K-8, and is designed to reinforce all areas of phonics, vocabulary, fluency, comprehension, and spelling. Each student is given a computerized assessment that places the student at the appropriate instructional level. Lexia then provides the student with a series of tasks that are chosen to meet their specific instructional needs. Lexia provides individualized, researched-based lessons to improve ELA skills. Teachers can monitor student progress and print reports to allow for differentiated instruction to reinforce any problem areas. The school district also purchased a component to allow parents to install the program on their home computer, thus allowing students to use the program as part of their home studies.

We just began implementing an Internet-based keyboarding program from Sunburst Software, called Type to Learn. This program was developed using a proven, research-based keyboarding curriculum of touch-typing instruction. The program focuses on review, demonstration, practice, and assessment. Initially, Type to Learn will require each student to take a keyboarding test to assess their strengths and weaknesses. The program emphasizes

both accuracy and words per minute speed, and provides each student with individualized instruction and remediation to ensure continued success.

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 Accelerated Reader to measure comprehension and vocabulary skills. Accelerated Reader makes essential reading practice more effective for every student by providing personalize reading practice to each student at their current level. The program will assess students' reading with four types of quizzes: **Reading Practice**, **Vocabulary Practice**, **Literacy Skills**, and Textbook Quizzes.

The FASTT Math intervention program uses the research-validated FASTT system (Fluency and Automaticity through Systematic Teaching with Technology) to help all students develop fluency with basic math facts. The program will assess students to uncover fluency gaps and to establish a baseline of fluency for each student. Then, FASTT Math automatically differentiates instruction in customized, 10-minute daily sessions.

We are pleased to announce the addition of a computer learning lab in the music room. During October, we received a generous donation of iMac computers from Williams College, thanks to the efforts of Mr. Noel and Mr. Dean. Mr. Aaron Dean was hired to teach music classes here at CTP. Previously, Mr. Dean was the instrumental teacher at Memorial Middle School. Mr. Dean has been utilizing the computers as tools to teach both music theory and principles of music composition.

The district's web site (www.acrsd.net) provides 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. A district-wide E-Mail system is in place to foster communication between staff and parents, in addition to communication among all staff.

### 21st Century After School Program

The 21st Century Grant currently operating in its eighth year is sponsored by the Massachusetts Department of Education and the Adams-Cheshire Regional School District. The Exemplary grant-funded program offers children in grades one through six the opportunity to be involved in project-based after school activities that begin at the end of the school day and run until 4:45 P.M. four days per week. Parents pick up their children and have frequent contact with staff. There are three classrooms of fifteen students. Classes consist of two grade level spans with a certified teacher and paraprofessional support staff. The program is free and provides snack, choice time, homework help, and multimodal indoor/outdoor activities. Adams Youth Center Inc. and Girls Inc. also provide staff once a week to do group projects that are science and fitness-based.

A total of forty-five students attend classes Monday through Thursday. 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. This year a FitMath program was added which incorporated math standards and fitness. Lego robotic materials were also purchased through the Adams-Cheshire Educational Partnership Fund of the Berkshire Taconic Community Foundation.

### **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.

C.T. Plunkett is a wonderful place for children to learn, to feel safe and to feel loved. Community support is extremely important and we would like to thank everyone for their commitment to education and support. "It takes a village to raise a child." Thank you!

Submitted by: Kristen Gordon, Principal

### **Cheshire Elementary School**

It has been a pleasure to be the principal of Cheshire Elementary School for a second year. We are currently at an enrollment of 266 students in grades pre-K through 6th grade. Time really does fly and it is hard to believe that we are near the end of another school year. Just when I think I have an idea of what a day in the life of a principal is, something happens to change that!! One thing is for sure, no two days are the same and I am never bored!! This has been a very busy year for Cheshire School both with our building and the people in it. In January, during the coldest part of the winter, the 51 year old boiler in the western end of the school decided it was all done. After some scrambling and only one broken pipe, we were using a temporary boiler and the process began to replace the old boiler with a new one. Actually, two new ones since it was highly recommended that we put in two smaller units instead of one huge one. This plan provides an in-house back up in case of any problem. The system is computerized so that the use will be balanced between the two and we should see great savings in fuel with the use of these very efficient burners.

During the course of the year, we have worked hard to help our students make the best progress possible. We have instituted a Response to Intervention (RtI) model to help students make faster progress in areas of weakness. We are still in the development phase of this, but it is going well so far and staff, students and parents have been supportive. It is somewhat difficult since the only time we have to provide this added service to the children is during the recess time. We will continue to work and plan to make this a stronger program that can provide that needed "extra" for students.

Fortunately, our staff has remained stable for this year after several changes last year. We are still operating our library with some very dedicated volunteers. This has allowed us to continue to schedule a library time for each class during the week and the children are able to check out books weekly. It will be a welcome addition if the budget ever allows us to hire a librarian again so that there will be a more formal library program for the children.

The Cheshire School circle in front of the building was terribly overgrown and Mrs. Michelle Fancesconi was brave enough to take it on. She, and a few other hard working volunteers, worked very hard to clear it out and get it ready for spring planting. We can't wait to see the final product. Thanks to the generosity of the police association, we have two beautiful planters beside the

front entrance to the school. They really help to warm up the entry and give visitors a welcome feeling.

The Cheshire Parent Teacher Group (PTG) meets monthly to provide financial support to programs for the children and to plan events throughout the year. Any parent is welcome to join this organization. They meet on the second Monday of each month alternating times at either 3:30 or 6:30 p.m. Please feel free to call the school to find out more.

Several teachers contributed the following paragraphs to this report in order to give you a little snapshot of what happens at Cheshire Elementary School. I hope you find them informative and feel free to come visit us sometime if you would like to see the school and learn more about what we do to educate the children in our community.

### PRE-SCHOOL

As always our preschool has been busy learning shapes, colors, numbers and the alphabet along with other seasonal activities throughout the year. Some of our favorites include our fall field trip to Lakeview Orchard which concluded our apples and pumpkins unit. This year we were also able to walk to the Cheshire Post Office to learn how a letter is processed through the mail and mail some homemade Valentines to our families. In March we welcomed guest readers to our classrooms as part of the school wide celebration of Dr. Seuss birthday and Read Across America. We were lucky have this opportunity to include community members in our learning environment.

We are excited as spring approaches to explore the planting and growing season as well as study the life cycle of chickens. We will soon be taking a field trip to a local dairy farm as conclusion of this unit. Our year will end with a family celebration where we will perform themed songs showcasing the children's accomplishments throughout this Preschool year.

Teachers: Kelly Riechers & Laura Ziemba

### KINDERGARTEN

Cheshire Kindergarten classes have been very busy learning about our community by taking several walking field trips. Our walks took us to the Town Hall, the Fire Department, the Police Station, the Library, and the Transfer Station. At the Transfer Station Andrew Kachel showed us around and talked about



Pre-School

recycling. Pete LeFebvre, head of the Highway Dept allowed us to visit the garage and the site. Mike Biagini showed us the various pieces of equipment that the town has to care for our roads. Bill Lewis gave us a tour of the facilities and allowed us to view equipment while he taught us important key safety tips. Firefighter Corey Swistak dressed in fire gear complete with an oxygen tank. When we went to the Library, Town Hall and Senior Center, Christine Emerson, our Town Clerk walked the children through the voting process, as they observed people voting, including their teachers. When we went to the Town Hall, Postmaster Goodrich brought us behind the scenes to see where the mail goes. The students created books titled, "A Walk Around Town" which depicted actual photographs of the places.

In the fall, we went to Ioka Farm and learned about nutrition, identifying seeds and the life cycle of a plant. The baby animals were available for petting and feeding.

Along with the entire school, we collected items for the local soldiers serving overseas. Jacob Gaylord came to our class to thank us for sending him pictures and letters over the holidays. Specialist Gaylord said that the contributions from friends, family and townspeople were an overwhelming comfort to the Cheshire residents who received them. Thanks to all for your help!

We had a steady stream of parents; friends and relatives visit our class as "Secret Readers" sharing favorite books with us throughout the year!

Classes also attended the Colonial Theatre for two different performances this year. Thanks to the P.T.G, we were able to see Eric Carle's Rainbow Fish. We also went to the Williams College Museum of Art for a presentation on colors. It was very enlightening and informative challenging the children to look at the world in an artistic manner.

Our thanks to the Broadlawn Farm in Cheshire! In keeping with the letters of the week, Wendy Warner and Stephanie Martin brought a lamb to school during the letter "L" week and a goat during the study of the letter "G". The children asked questions and were able to pet the baby animals up close and personal.

In the spring, we will continue learn about time and money along with practicing our addition and subtraction facts.

Children will continue to learn Spanish as we incorporate language, map skills, art projects, writing, performance and projects. We will culminate with a Family Fiesta where children will show their language acquisition while singing and dancing!

Respectfully Submitted by: Teachers: Mrs. Robin Poirot & Mrs. Heather Emerson

### FIRST GRADE

The first graders have had many educational and fun experiences. We began the year by studying Monarch butterflies and watching the butterfly life cycle unfold before our eyes! Around Thanksgiving we wrote a book about the Pilgrims and the Native Americans. We spent the month of December creating a 2011 calendar. We did projects with our fifth grade buddies that focused on December holidays as well as February holidays. For science, we studied nutrition and the food pyramid.

Last year the first grade studied the U.S. Presidents, mapping skills, continents and oceans, American symbols, and folktales. These academic units will be carried out annually in the spring.

Teachers: Mrs. Katie Chenail & Mrs. Melissa Rusek

### SECOND GRADE

The second grade is the only single class grade level in the school. There are 24 children in the class and the students are working hard to become strong readers. They are developing their writing skills as part of the reading and writing connection. Math facts and the mastery of addition and subtraction is a major focus. The second grade class worked collaboratively with the fifth graders last spring in a greenhouse gardening project. They grew green beans, marigolds and sunflowers during their shared time together. Learning good character traits and developing respectful social skills is also a key part of a second graders education. Our second graders are working hard to be prepared for third grade.

Teacher: Mrs. Kim Trimarchi

### THIRD GRADE

A look at third grade!

This year in third grade we have been having a blast! It is going by so fast. We have been learning about our town and our state. We read about the people who contribute to our local community. The children even had an opportunity to make salt maps of Massachusetts. It was a lot of fun measuring and mixing colors. The best part was "smooshing" the salt goo all over the maps. This spring we will be talking about the three sisters and planting our own classroom garden. This will lead to the beginning of our nature journaling. Cheshire offers an amazing amount of natural beauty through the Ashuwillticook Trail. We take several field trips and admire our surroundings through drawing and describing the plant and animal life. This will be very helpful in our study of life cycles. In Language Arts we have been enjoying various chapter books through our book club. Some of our favorites were Stuart Little, Charlotte's Web, and Frecklejuice. We look forward to some of our upcoming ones! We also had a chance to go to the Colonial to watch a play based on Little House on the Prairie. Our favorite part was when Laura tricked the nasty Nellie Olson into a satchel. Bedard Brothers was very generous this year and gave every child in third grade two books through the Operation Outreach. Thank you so much! Math is exponentially enjoyable in third grade because we are starting multiplication. Thanks to Bev Favreau for helping us to pilot a new method of learning our facts. It's both entertaining and effective! Geometry has been captivating. The kids are using their new found knowledge of area and perimeter to build themselves an imaginary dream playground. We love seeing our students thrive in all the challenging, creative & stimulating environments we have the privilege of introducing to them throughout the year.

Teachers: Ms Danielle Taylor & Ms Stephanie McCarthy

### FOURTH GRADE

The fourth grade classes have been busy this year! In November, we took our annual field trip to Howe Caverns to see first-hand what the earth looks like underground as part of our science and social studies lessons. It was great to actually see things we had been talking about in class such as stalactites and stalagmites and the layers of sedimentary rock. The students had to fund-raise for the field trip and they certainly raised enough money at a Saturday car wash held at the school in October.

Mr. Brown's class has been writing, editing and publishing a school wide newspaper during the year and it is amazing how many budding journalists we have in our fourth grade. The entire student body at Cheshire Elementary School enjoys reading the seasonal editions of "Fourth Grade Forum".

Mrs. Gajda's class has become pen pals with Ms Ivy's 5th grade class in Waxahachie, Texas. This relationship was formed after our class heard that Ms Ivy's school had just lost their entire library to a flood only days before school started this year. Mrs. Gajda's class wrote letters and sent a box full of books from their own class library to help the students in Texas start to rebuild theirs.

In the spring of 2011, both 4th grade classes will collaborate with Mr. Herrmann's chemistry class from Hoosac Valley and spend a day as scientists conducting several amazing experiments such as making Mentos rockets and combining a solid and a liquid to create SLIME!!

The students have been working very hard to master the basic facts in math and they are devoting a lot of time to writing. Fourth grade is the year that the students take the long composition portion of the state MCAS tests. A lot of time goes into the writing of a good composition, a skill that they will need throughout their educational lives. The fourth grade students

Teachers: Mrs. Michelle Gajda & Mr. Eric Brown

### FIFTH GRADE

The fifth grade visited the Baseball Hall of Fame with Mr. Sniezek as a culminating event to a cross-curricular unit that integrated baseball with our regular curriculum. The students have been involved in a unit on the Alaskan Iditarod dog sled race. All academic areas were involved as the children explored this historic event. They even got to go on-line and have their own "Musher" to keep track of. The class did a mini-unit on apples in the fall ending with them having an "apple tasting" event. The fifth grade classes have become buddies to the first grade classes and have worked together on holiday activities several times throughout the year. The fifth grades have been working hard to make strong progress and to be prepared for the annual spring tests. They have been a busy bunch.

Teachers: Dawn Prokopowicz & Tom Prokopowicz (5/6)

### SIXTH GRADE

Sixth Grade at Cheshire Elementary School is a tremendous opportunity for students to develop both academically and emotionally. Along with academic work, students are prepared for entry into the middle school and the responsibilities that go along with that. Academically, students are challenged in all areas. A strong emphasis is focused on Language Arts and Math,

and integrating writing into all content areas. Students complete several Language Arts projects that are designed challenge the students multiple intelligences. A major focus in math is to develop a wide range of strategies to use when faced with challenging problems to solve.

Special events that take place in the sixth grade are Nature's Classroom, Berkshire Theatre Festival's Artist in Residency and Kindergarten Buddies. Each of these programs allows students to grow creatively and see themselves in new and exciting ways. Students gain more responsibility throughout the year. They learn to view themselves as young adults as they enter into their middle school years. Many students also take on leadership roles by volunteering on various committees and extra-curricular clubs.

Teachers: Jan Charbonneau & Thomas Prokopowicz (5/6)

### PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Physical education classes at Cheshire Elementary School are taught by Jason Sniezek and cover a wide variety of activities and sports that adhere to the guidelines set forth in the Massachusetts Health Curriculum Frameworks. Pre-K through grade three students practice many gross motor, manipulative, coordinative, and social skills that they will develop and use in a more structured team- oriented atmosphere as they move into higher grades. Grades four through six students gain knowledge and skills in traditional sports such as soccer, football, hockey, basketball, baseball, volleyball, and badminton. They also are exposed to non-traditional sports such as bowling, orienteering, Frisbee, cross country skiing, and many Project Adventure team building activities.

The students at Cheshire Elementary School also participate in Music and Art classes. Annually, there is a musical performance as well as an Art show where the children's talents are showcased.

Teachers: Art – Mrs. Cheryl Sykes Music – Mrs. Wavelyn Hine

### The rest of our Cheshire School Educational Team

Administrative Assista	nt Nancy Chaput
Special Education	Christine LeVardi
Speech & Language Pa	athologistCindy Rancourt
School Adjustment Cor	unselor (Tues. & Thurs.)
	Nicole Seyerlein
Technology (Tues. & T	Churs.) Geoff Kondel
<b>Building &amp; Grounds</b>	Dave Richards
	Stash Cote
Long term substitutes:	John Pellerin
	Aaron Biros
School Nurse	Linda Biros
Cafeteria	Cindy Gajda
	Denise Moncecchi
	Nanciann Klammer
Extended Care	Sherry Goodrich
	Donna Torres
	Clara Wilusz

Paraprofessionals:
Linda Bonnivier
Susan Halverson
Shannon Briggs
Noreen Hoag
Karen Drain
Judy Gaylord
Linda Giroux
Sherry Goodrich
Susan Halverson
Noreen Hoag
Susan Halverson
Cathy Malloy
Donna Murdock
Linda Giroux
Susan Halverson
Cathy Malloy
Clara Wilusz

Cheshire School also works with many organizations in Berkshire County. We are business partners with Berkshire County Sheriff's Department. The Sheriff's office helps to scholarship students to special events like the sixth grade trip to Nature's Classroom. They have also assisted with school events like Field Day as well as a visit from Santa in December. We bid farewell to long-time sheriff Carmen Massimiano, Jr. and are looking forward to continuing our relationship with the new Sheriff Thomas Bowler and the rest of the members of his department.

The Cheshire Fire and Police Departments as well as the State Police are also reliable sources of support for the children and staff of Cheshire Elementary providing programs for fire safety and assistance for our Crisis Team with the various safety drills that are conducted throughout the year. There are various other local businesses and civic groups who have supported the school during the past year and for that we are all truly grateful. The Cheshire Lions Club generously donated funds for the front door security system as well as gifts to students in need for the holiday season as well as school supplies. We sincerely thank them for their efforts. Also, Bedard Brothers Auto dealership sponsored a literacy outreach project that provided books to many of the Cheshire School students. In these times of very tough budgets, it is so wonderful to have support for children and education.

Respectfully Submitted;

Peter J. Bachli Principal

### **Athletic Director**

### **Annual Athletic Report 2010**

The 2010 athletic program had over 400 student athletes participate in 26 varsity and sub-varsity programs that compete in the Berkshire County League. We also have collaborative teams in swimming, Nordic skiing, tennis, and wrestling, with other Northern Berkshire schools.

In the fall, the Boy's Football team had an excellent season, only to be defeated in the Berkshire County title game, under the direction of Head Coach John Duval. The Girls' Soccer team came on strong winning the southern divisional title. The Boys' Soccer team qualified for the Western-Mass tournament and lost a heart breaker on a last minute goal. The Boys' and Girls' Cross-Country running team did very well they both won the southern division past fall. The golf team that now participates in the fall and had a great season falling just short of winning the northern division.

In the winter season, the Boys' and Girls' Nordic Skiing, along with a group of new participants finished near the top in State competition. The Girls' Swim team had a successful season in league action and competed in Western Mass Division I, and in the Div. I State meet. The Boys' Swim team competed in both Western Mass and States as well. Both the Boy's and Girls' Basketball teams qualified for Western Mass tournament play, with the Boys being beat in the Western Mass finals.

In the spring, the Boys' baseball team qualified for Western Mass only to get beat in the semi-finals. The Girls' softball won the southern division, and qualified for Western Mass also losing in the semi-finals. The boy's and girl's track teams, qualified for Western Mass and State meets. The tennis team, which co-ops with Drury, also qualified for the Western Mass Tournament.

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

### **Director of Food Services**

In 2010, the Adams-Cheshire Regional School District continued to participate in the National School Lunch and School Breakfast programs. We also participated in the Special Milk, After School Snacks, USDA Commodity Distribution and the federally funded Summer Food Service programs. Berkshire Head Start continues to receive breakfast and lunch from Plunkett School. The food service department remains a member of the Berkshire County Food Service Purchasing Cooperative. This co-op puts out to bid our bread, dairy, paper and ice cream on a county-wide basis.

For the 2009-2010 school years, the food service department earned a profit of \$18,727 on revenues of \$69,292.45. Government subsidies represented 49.5% of the total revenue. The percentage of students who qualified for free/reduced meals was 44.3% at the end of December 2010. USDA commodities valued at \$23,258 were received in 2010.

Labor costs for the 2009-2010 school years were maintained with staffing levels of 16 permanent positions, a director and a clerk. Daily, the food service department operated with 92.5 hours. Meals per labor hour for the department averaged \$15.40.

No price increase was initiated for the 2009-2010 school year. Prices remained:

Paid Student Lunch (CES & CTP)	2.00
Paid Student Lunch (HVHS)	2.25
Paid Student Breakfast	1.00
Reduced Student Lunch	.40
Reduced Student Breakfast	.30
Paid Adult Lunch	3.25

Participation in the reimbursable school lunch program for the 2009-2010 school years was 72.5%. Previous years:

2008-2009	72.9%
2007-2008	74.9%
2006-2007	73.6%

Breakfast participation for the 2009-2010 school years was 19.1%. Previous years:

2008-2009	18.6%
2007-2008	18.4%
2006-2007	17.4%

Preparations are underway for moving kitchen equipment and personnel from the high school to AMMS and Notre Dame. Consideration is being given to equipment that can be utilized in Cheshire Elementary and Plunkett Elementary for the 2012-2013 school years.

Marsha McAlpine Food Service Director

### **Director of Special Services**

### 2010 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 in the least restrictive setting. We aim to minimize the impact of a disability for our students and maximize achievement, independence and participation in the community. In order to accomplish this goal, we have been 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 creative program development and evaluating existing programs to ensure their effectiveness. 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.

This has been a year in transition as we saw the retirement of longtime educator and administrator Juliette Wilk-Chaffee at the end of the school year. Her leadership and vision have facilitated significant growth and development in the Department and she will be missed by faculty, staff and countless students whom she has touched through the years. With Julie's retirement, the former Supervisor of Special Services was appointed to the Director position. Additionally, former Hoosac Valley Assistant Principal and Pittsfield High School Principal Christopher Sposato was brought back to the district as Supervisor of Special Services to ensure we continue to operate our substantially separate self contained programs for our intensive needs and at-risk populations. These programs have allowed the district to significantly reduce out-of-district placements in private residential and therapeutic day programs across the state. Returning these students from placement and preventing further placements have resulted in significant cost savings and more importantly, have returned these children to their families and community. Despite changes in the leadership of the Department we remain committed to the same Mission, Values and Beliefs and I am pleased to report the leadership transition went very smoothly; programs and services continued to be delivered without interruption or distraction.

The ACRSD offers a full continuum of programs and services from the least restrictive full inclusion and academic support offerings through to substantially separate self contained models for our most needy at-risk populations. Academic support programs in direct, systematic reading instruction and remediation in math are part of the resource room and inclusion instruction that students receive during the school day. Related services for students are provided by Speech and Language Pathologists as well as Speech Assistants, as well as a full time Occupational Therapist and Occupational Therapist Assistant allowing us to provide services on site thereby ensuring minimal disruption to the academic day for students. We continue to contract the services of a Physical Therapist to provide services on site for students who have the need.

This is the second year of blending the middle and high school programs and we have maximized the opportunity to provide expanded support services for students. In addition to Resource Room programs for academic support and specialized instruction in reading, writing and mathematics; paraprofessionals provide individualized small group assistance under the guidance and consultation of certified teachers.

In addition to these "less restrictive" options, Hoosac Valley Middle/High School offers three highly specialized self contained programs. The Exceptional Program (EP) is safe, structured and predictable environment with an individualized small group instructional model for students who have been unable to successfully access the curriculum in any less restrictive setting. The program provides multiple supports, rigorous social skill training and specific focus on preparing students to successfully transition to post graduation life in the working world. Therapeutic and behavioral supports augment a case management model that provides significant outreach to home, family and community ensuring a holistic model for educating these youth. Services available for students in the EP historically would only be available in costly private therapeutic day programs away from home and community. A vital and unique component of the EP is the metal shop. Here students learn valuable pre-vocational skills as well as on-the job training with a structured curriculum designed to provide real "at-work" experience. Students "graduate" from the shop to work study and community service learning placements to further bolster their employment experience prior to graduation. Some of these placements have evolved into paying internships and post-graduate employment in a field of choice.

The Life Skills Program at Hoosac Valley has evolved into a comprehensive offering for students to develop more independence and functional life skills in a structured, caring setting. The program is dedicated to educating students with developmental disabilities. The curriculum is designed to address the individualized needs of each student, while globally addressing the expanded core curriculum. Vital components include adaptive daily living skills, social skills, cooking, functional academics, leisure training, pre-vocational instruction and health and wellness. The Life Skills Program aims to integrate students into the community to their maximum potential and is actively involved in volunteering at several community sites including the Adams Community Center, Food Pantry, Free Public Library and Town Hall to name a few. Most students in the program are engaged and participate in the Special Olympics as well as many of Hoosac Valley's extracurricular functions.

Other specialized district programs include 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 students diagnosed with Autism Spectrum Disorder. 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 which are no longer necessary from outside services.

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 from an early age through to graduation. Our preschool programs operate side by side at Cheshire Elementary and welcome students with special needs and their typical peers.

Extended year programs continue to be available during the Summer months to assist students who prove to be at risk for substantial regression of their educational progress both academically and socially. A program for our younger students balances academic growth with "camp like" experiential projects to foster social emotional development. The Summer program for older students combines academic support and pre-vocational skill development with community and recreational outings. These programs provide diverse offerings for students pre K through age 22 at C.T. Plunkett Elementary.

Our efforts to develop and sustain programs which support students within their communities have had a dramatic impact on reducing the cost of out of district placements and keeping kids at home. Nevertheless, we periodically have the need to place an intensive needs student due to severe at-risk behavior or because the Department of Children and Families or Department of Mental Health has made the placement. We currently have one student placed at the Housatonic Academy and one student at the Kolburne School.

Recognizing the important role that they play in the lives of all students, we are striving to reach out and become active members on our Parent Advisory Council (PAC). The officers of the PAC meet regularly to advise the district and serve as a resource for all parents.

The district is proud of our successes in the area of special education. We continue to move forward to fulfill the beliefs and values that serve as a 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,

Kurt M. Garivaltis Director of Special Services

### **ACRSD Management Discussion and Analysis**

The following is an overview and highlights of the financial activities of the Adams Cheshire Regional School District for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2010. The finance information presented here is in the governmental fund format. The focus of this information is on near term inflows and outflows of spendable resources and on balances of spendable resources available at the end of the fiscal year.

As of the close of fiscal year FY2010, governmental funds reported a combined fund balance of \$1,613,799, an increase of \$815,244 in comparison with the prior year. This includes all funds, general, special revenue funds and capital projects funds. At the end of the current fiscal year, the unreserved fund balance for the general fund was \$1,034,820, an increase of \$577,624 in comparison with the prior year. Total long term debt at the close of the fiscal year was \$695,000, a decrease of \$385,000 in comparison with the prior year.

Differences between the original budget and the final amended budget resulted in an overall decrease in appropriations of \$200,542. The decrease in the budget was the result of reduc-

tions in Chapter 70 and Transportation funding of \$319,382, partially offset by an increase in Charter School reimbursement of \$118,840.

Total investment in capital assets at year end amounted to \$9,060,178 (net of accumulated depreciation), a decrease of \$230,194 from the prior year. This investment in capital assets includes land, buildings and improvements and machinery and equipment. Major capital asset events during FY2010 included the following: CT Plunkett HVAC - \$28,467, Machinery and Equipment - \$42,122 and Feasibility Study - \$272,799.

This financial report is designed to provide a general overview of the Adams Cheshire Regional School District's finances. Questions concerning any of the information provided here or requests for additional information should be addressed to:

David Hinkell, Business Administrator Adams Cheshire Regional School District 125 Savoy Road Cheshire, MA 01225

### ADAMS-CHESHIRE REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS

### BALANCE SHEET JUNE 30 2010

	General Fund	CTP HVAC	Non-major Governmental Funds	Total Governmental Funds
ASSETS				
Cash	3,447,261	-	896,633	4,343,894
Intergovernmental Receivables	1,324,774	-	39,798	1,364,572
Inventory	-	-	38,546	38,546
Due from Other Governments	120,515	-	-	120,515
Accounts Receivable	-	0	0	0
Taxes Receivable	=	-	-	0
Amount to be Provided	_	-	_	0
TOTAL ASSETS	4,892,550	0	974,977	5,867,527
LIABILITIES				
Warrants Payable	976,574	-	100	976,674
Accounts Payable	, -	0	23,262	23,262
Accrued Payroll and Withholdings	1,113,181	-	41,690	1,154,871
Deferred Revenue	1,347,981	-	4,940	1,352,921
Notes Payable	-	450,000	296,000	746,000
TOTAL LIABILITIES	3,437,736	450,000	365,992	4,253,728
FUND BALANCE				
Fund Balance-Capital Project Funds	-	(450,000)	(271,462)	(721,462)
Fund Balance-Special Revenue Funds	-	-	880,447	880,447
Undesignated/Unreserved Fund Balance	1,034,820	-	-	1,034,820
Reserve for Encumbrances	1,420	-	-	1,420
Reserve to Reduce Town Assessments	418,574	-	-	418,574
TOTAL FUND BALANCES	1,454,814	(450,000)	608,985	1,613,799
TOTAL LIABILITIES & FUND BALANCES	4,892,550	0	974,977	5,867,52

### ADAMS-CHESHIRE REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES AND CHANGES IN NET ASSETS

**JUNE 30 2010** 

	General Fund	CTP HVAC Project	Non-major Governmental Funds	Total Governmenta Funds
RVENEUES:				
Assessments to Member Towns	5,725,358	-	-	5,725,358
Tuition	179,442	_	-	179,442
Charges for Services	· -	-	637,848	637,848
Intergovernmental	15,093,159	-	2,450,392	17,543,551
Investment Income	9,015	-	· · · · · -	9,015
Miscellaneous	29,625	1,489	0	31,114
TOTAL REVENUES	21,036,599	1,489	3,088,240	24,126,328
EXPENDITURES:				
Administration	443,351	_	_	443,351
Instruction	5,808,950	0	1,125,128	6,934,078
Other School Services	910,497	-	635,163	1,545,660
Operations and Maintenance	1,190,612	_	-	1,190,612
Transportation	717,468	_	_	717,468
Intergovernmental	861,648			861,648
Debt Zservice	452,961			452,961
Special Education	1,889,544	=	836,479	2,726,023
Capital Outlay	1,009,544	-	272,799	2,720,023
	0 166 101	-	212,199	
Employee Benefits	8,166,484	<del>-</del>	-	8,166,484
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	20,441,515	0	2,869,569	23,311,084
Excess (Deficiency) Revenues/Expenditures	595,084	1,489	218,671	815,244
Other Financing Sources (Uses): Transfers In Transfers Out	401,370	- -	(401,370)	401,370 (401,370)
Total Other Financing Sources (Uses)	401,370	0	(401,370)	0
Change in Fund Balance	996,454	1,489	(182,699)	815,244
Fund Equity, at Beginning of Year	458,360	(451,489)	791,684	798,555
FUND EQUITY, AT END OF YEAR	1,454,814	(450,000)	608,985	1,613,799

## ADAMS-CHESHIRE REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT GENERAL FUND STATEMENT OF REVENUES AND OTHER SOURCES, AND EXPENDITURES AND OTHER USES BUDGET AND ACTUAL JUNE 30, 2010

	Original Budget	Final Budget	Actual Amounts	Variance Positive (Negative)
RVENEUES AND OTHER SOURCES:				
Assessments to Member Towns	5,725,358	5,725,358	5,725,358	0
Tuition	200,000	200,000	179,442	(20,558)
Intergovernmental	11,408,072	11,207,530	11,148,289	(59,241)
Investment Income	32,000	32,000	9,015	(22,985)
Miscellaneous	20,000	20,000	29,625	9,625
Transfers In	460,000	460,000	401,370	(58,630)
Other Sources	19,376	19,376	19,376	0
TOTAL REVENUES	17,864,806	17,664,264	17,512,475	(151,789)
Administration	400 450			
Administration	489 450	484 350	459 636	24 714
Instruction	489,450 6,230,100	484,350 6,046,304	459,636 5,830,585	24,714 215,719
	489,450 6,230,100 901,420	484,350 6,046,304 925,678	459,636 5,830,585 884,899	
Instruction Other School Services	6,230,100	6,046,304	5,830,585	215,719 40,779
Instruction	6,230,100 901,420	6,046,304 925,678	5,830,585 884,899	215,719
Instruction Other School Services Operations and Maintenance	6,230,100 901,420 1,303,619	6,046,304 925,678 1,303,619	5,830,585 884,899 1,212,877	215,719 40,779 90,742
Instruction Other School Services Operations and Maintenance Transportation	6,230,100 901,420 1,303,619 779,477	6,046,304 925,678 1,303,619 669,379	5,830,585 884,899 1,212,877 717,468	215,719 40,779 90,742 (48,089)
Instruction Other School Services Operations and Maintenance Transportation Intergovernmental	6,230,100 901,420 1,303,619 779,477 912,421	6,046,304 925,678 1,303,619 669,379 1,004,411	5,830,585 884,899 1,212,877 717,468 857,450	215,719 40,779 90,742 (48,089) 146,961
Instruction Other School Services Operations and Maintenance Transportation Intergovernmental Debt Zservice	6,230,100 901,420 1,303,619 779,477 912,421 545,949	6,046,304 925,678 1,303,619 669,379 1,004,411 545,949	5,830,585 884,899 1,212,877 717,468 857,450 457,159	215,719 40,779 90,742 (48,089) 146,961 88,790
Instruction Other School Services Operations and Maintenance Transportation Intergovernmental Debt Zservice Special Education	6,230,100 901,420 1,303,619 779,477 912,421 545,949 2,244,903	6,046,304 925,678 1,303,619 669,379 1,004,411 545,949 2,227,107	5,830,585 884,899 1,212,877 717,468 857,450 457,159 1,894,756	215,719 40,779 90,742 (48,089) 146,961 88,790 332,351
Instruction Other School Services Operations and Maintenance Transportation Intergovernmental Debt Zservice Special Education Employee Benefits	6,230,100 901,420 1,303,619 779,477 912,421 545,949 2,244,903 4,457,467	6,046,304 925,678 1,303,619 669,379 1,004,411 545,949 2,227,107 4,457,467	5,830,585 884,899 1,212,877 717,468 857,450 457,159 1,894,756 4,221,614	215,719 40,779 90,742 (48,089) 146,961 88,790 332,351 235,853

### **Northern Berkshire Vocational Regional School District**

### FINANCIAL STATEMENT - July 1, 2009 - June 30, 2010



TOTAL RECEIPTS 2009 Cash Balance Receipts 2009-2010 Private Scholarship Accounts	\$1,290,862.37 11,234,332.78 149,112.99		Post-Secondary 37F Account Balance 6/30/10  O.D. Tuitions Balance 6/30/10	250,503.21 409,286.90
TOTAL PAYMENTS Payments 2009-2010	10,940,255.24		FG - Sped Entitlement -166 Balance 6/30/10	2,701.80
Cash balance as of June	30, 2010	\$1,734,052.90	Energy Training Grant Balance 6/30/10	4184.24
REVOLVING AG	CCOUNT BALA	NCES	BHG Wellness Program Balance 6/30/10	3,980.64
Payroll Deductions Balance 6/30/10		9,980.53	Shop Income Balance 6/30/10	25,088.02
Post Secondary Programs Balance 6/30/10		11,593.63	Fed. Grant ARRA SpEd	-7,002.00
School Lunch Balance 6/30/10		-2,045.95	Fed. Grant ARRATitle I	-4,143.00
Scholarships/Special & Cla	ass Gifts/Olmste	d & R.I.T.	Fed. Grant IDEA SpEd	-6,104.00
Awards Balance 6/30/10		14,501.07	Fed. Grant Title I	-13,885.10
Adult Continung Educatio Balance 6/30/10	n	35,499.27	Fed. Grant Teacher Quality  Fed. Grant Academic Support	-2,271.00 -2,380.00
Athletic Game Receipts Balance 6/30/10		0.00	*Grant Payments for above rec'd. July 7	th, 2010.
Cosmetology Kits Balance 6/30/10		1,392.72	Total Revolving Accounts	769,018.59
Sales & Meal Taxes Balance 6/30/10		91.42	Total Revolving Accounts	\$769,018.59
Claims Trust Fund Balance 6/30/10		13,600.18	2009 E & D Account Balance Encumbered PO's & Payroll	11,644.41 804,276.91
Student Activity Account Balance 6/30/10		23,215.34	Private Scholarship Accounts  Total Cash Balance 6/30/10	149,112.99
Tailings Balance 6/30/10		1230.67	Total Cash Balance 0/30/10	\$1,734,052.90

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