

# TOWN OF ADAMS



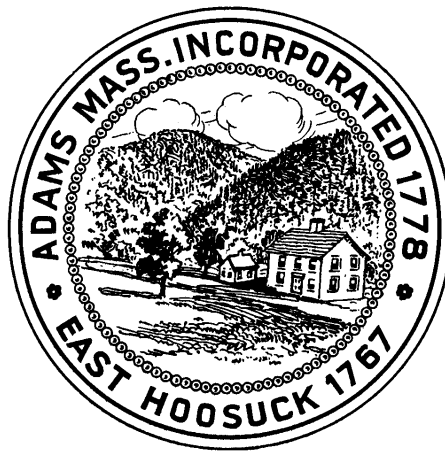
ANNUAL REPORT 2020



*Town of*  
**ADAMS**

**MASSACHUSETTS**

**REPORT OF THE  
TOWN OFFICERS**



**FOR THE YEAR ENDING  
DECEMBER 31, 2020**

*Compiled and Edited by the*  
**TOWN REPORT COMMITTEE**  
As Authorized by the Special Town Meeting  
June 24, 1963

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



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# General Information

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

## Population:

Town Census 2020	8,398
Town Census 2019	8,442
Town Census 2018	8,476
Town Census 2017	8,523
Town Census 2016	8,556
Town Census 2015	8,521
Town Census 2014	8,799
Town Census 2013	8,914
Town Census 2012	9,146
Town Census 2011	9,183
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 2020	Pending
Federal Census 2010	8,485
Federal Census 2000	8,809
Federal Census 1990	9,455
Federal Census 1980	10,385

**Registered Voters May 2020** **5,995**

<b>Area</b>	23.02 Square Miles
<b>Altitude</b>	799 feet above sea level
<b>Latitude</b>	42 degrees – 37”
<b>Longitude</b>	73 degrees – 7”
<b>Miles of State Road</b>	2.73
<b>Miles of Town Road</b>	57

## Tax Rate FY20

Residential and Open Space	<b>\$ 21.88</b>
Commercial, Industrial & Personal	<b>\$ 25.99</b>

<b>Total Taxed Assessed</b>	<b>\$ 11,861,365</b>
<b>Total Valuation</b>	<b>\$ 516,763,257</b>

## Town Hall:

Open 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.  
Monday through Thursday  
Closed Friday

## Selectmen's Meeting:

Wednesday at 7:00 p.m.  
Adams Town Hall, 8 Park Street

## Town Election:

First Monday in May

## State Senator, Berkshire District

ADAM G. HINDS – Pittsfield

## State Representative, 1st Berkshire District

JOHN BARRETT III – North Adams

## Governor's Councillor, 8th District

MARY HURLEY – Longmeadow

## United States Senators:

ELIZABETH WARREN – Cambridge

EDWARD J. MARKEY – Boston

## Representative in Congress,

**1st Congressional District**

RICHARD NEAL – Springfield

## Points of Interest

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The **Ashuwillticook Rail Trail** is a former railroad corridor that was paved to form a path for recreation. Ten feet wide and spanning 12.5 miles through the towns of Adams, Cheshire, and Lanesborough parallel to Route 8, this scenic path boasts views of mountains, the Cheshire Reservoir, the Hoosic River, wetlands, and natural scenery including local wildlife. The name Ashuwillticook is derived from a Native American term meaning “at the pleasant river between the hills.”

**Greylock Glen** is the area at the base of Mt. Greylock which was formerly farm land, and the future site of a campground, amphitheater and Outdoor Center. This location has many beautiful vistas of mountains, streams and fields.

**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.”

**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.

**The Quaker Meeting House**, in the Maple Street Cemetery, is an enduring memorial to the pioneers of Adams, who built it. The meeting house (c. 1784) is open for tours on Sundays, after July 4th and before Columbus Day, from 1-4 p.m.

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

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

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

# In Memoriam



**ANITA AVERY**

Council on Aging Board Member  
Town Meeting Member

**LOUISE G. BARRETT**

Adams-Cheshire Regional School District

**BARBARA J. BEDNARZ**

Assessor  
Town Meeting Member

**JAMES P. BIGELOW**

Adams-Cheshire Regional School District

**JAMES BUSH**

Board of Selectmen Member  
Town Meeting Member

**DAVID DELISLE**

Animal Control Officer

**JOHN GELHEISER, JR.**

Weigher of all Commodities

**ARTHUR HARRINGTON**

Board of Selectmen Member  
Assistant Building Inspector

**EDWARD I. KOCZELA**

Adams-Cheshire Regional School District  
School Committee Member  
Town Meeting Member

**DOLORES LILLIE**

Town Meeting Member

**RUTH E. MCBRIDE**

Adams-Cheshire Regional School District  
Adams Free Library Volunteer  
Council on Aging Board Member

**THOMAS A. WALSH**

Adams-Cheshire Regional School District





# DEDICATION



*This year's Town Report is dedicated to a devoted public servant and citizen advocate:*

## **JAMES R. BUSH**

**James R. "Jim" Bush**, lived, worshipped, worked in Adams, and later served the Town of Adams in many capacities until his sudden passing on September 9, 2020. He attended schools in Adams and graduated from Hoosac Valley High School in 1971 before working as an analytical chemist for the former Pfizer Company in Adams, then for Specialty Minerals until his retirement in 2009 after 35 years. He was also a communicant of the Parish of St. John Paul II at Notre Dame des Sept Douleurs Church, Adams. He was fully integrated as part of the fabric of the community in many ways, and expressed his love for the community by serving the citizens of Adams and in Northern Berkshire County.

Jim became a Town Meeting Member in 1991 and faithfully performed those duties until his passing in 2020. Jim was a member of the Adams Sportsman for Youth and the Cheshire Rod & Gun Club. He served as Secretary for the Northern Berkshire Retirement Club, as President and member of the Adams Turners and on Berkshire Scenic Railway, where he was a conductor. He went on to run for and serve in a higher capacity on the Board of Selectmen for the Town of Adams, and later as Vice Chairman of the Board.

As a Selectman, Jim served on many subcommittees. He worked on committees for youth programs, the Department of Public Works, economic development and green energy and served in the capacity of Alternate Commissioner for the Northern Berkshire Solid Waste Management District. Close to his heart was the Fallen Heroes Banner Project which recognized those who lost their lives during wars, and he was very proud to see each person honored on Park Street. He additionally served as the liaison to the Ad Hoc Committee on Solid Waste, the Adams Arts Advisory Board, Board of Health, Cemetery Commission, Council on Aging, Friends of the Ashuwillticook Trail, Berkshire Scenic Railway, Northern Berkshire Community Coalition, Parks Commission, Prudential Committee and the Traffic Commission. He was a committed volunteer at local food banks in Adams, Cheshire and North Adams as well as a volunteer instructor for the "Matter of Balance" classes.

Jim's favorite role, however, was as Santa and especially on the Tinselinier Train. His incredible community efforts were recognized with the 2020 Martin Luther King Jr. Peacemaker Award, which was well earned. He embodied a full life of service which is hard to duplicate, and is deserving of sincere recognition for all of the hard work done simply because of his love for this community.

# Adams Town Election Results

June 1, 2020

MODERATOR for a term of One Year		
Myra L. Wilk	Four hundred forty-two	442*
Blanks	Forty-four	44
<b>Total</b>		<b>486</b>

SELECTMEN for a term of Three Years		
Christine D. Hoyt	Four hundred thirty-four	434*
Blanks	Fifty-two	52
<b>Total</b>		<b>486</b>

ASSESSORS for a term of Three Years		
George J. Haddad	Four hundred thirty-two	432*
Blanks	Fifty-four	54
<b>Total</b>		<b>486</b>

BOARD OF HEALTH MEMBER for a term of Three Years		
David Brian Rhoads	Three hundred ninety-three	393*
Blanks	Ninety-three	93
<b>Total</b>		<b>486</b>

BOARD OF HEALTH MEMBER for a term of One Year		
Laura Ann Grandchamp	Four hundred thirteen	413*
Blanks	Seventy-three	73
<b>Total</b>		<b>486</b>

LIBRARY TRUSTEES for a term of Three Years		
Brian R. Bishop	Three hundred sixty-eight	368*
Linda S. Rhoads	Two hundred seventy-four	274*
Robert F. Harris	One hundred seventy-nine	179
Blanks	One hundred fifty-one	151
<b>Total</b>		<b>972</b>

PARK COMMISSIONERS for a term of Three Years		
Jacob N. Schutz	Four hundred thirty-four	434*
Write In Votes	Three	3
Blanks	Five hundred thirty-five	535
<b>Total</b>		<b>972</b>

*Failure to Elect the remaining Three Year seat*

PLANNING BOARD MEMBER for a term of Five Years		
David C. Krzeminski	Four hundred eleven	411*
Blanks	Seventy-five	75
<b>Total</b>		<b>486</b>

CEMETERY COMMISSIONER for a term of Three Years		
Frederick S. Hobert	Four hundred two	402*
Blanks	Eighty-four	84
<b>Total</b>		<b>486</b>

HOUSING AUTHORITY MEMBER for a term of Five Years		
Write In Votes	Five	5
Blanks	Four hundred eighty-one	481
<b>Total</b>		<b>486</b>

*Failure to Elect*

REDEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY MEMBER for a term of Five Years		
Write In Votes	Three	3
Blanks	Four hundred eighty-three	483
<b>Total</b>		<b>486</b>

*Failure to Elect*

REDEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY MEMBER for a term of Four Years		
Write In Votes	Two	2
Blanks	Four hundred eighty-four	484
<b>Total</b>		<b>486</b>

*Failure to Elect*

NORTHERN BERKSHIRE REGIONAL VOCATIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT COMMITTEE MEMBER for a term of Three Years		
Daniel J. Maloney, Jr.	Four hundred twenty-four	424*
Blanks	Sixty-two	62
<b>Total</b>		<b>486</b>

NORTHERN BERKSHIRE REGIONAL VOCATIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT COMMITTEE MEMBER for a term of One Year		
Bruce Dale Shepley	Four hundred twenty-three	423*
Blanks	Sixty-three	63
<b>Total</b>		<b>486</b>

*\*Elected Official*

## Election Results *(continued)*

### HOOSAC VALLEY REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT COMMITTEE MEMBER ADAMS REPRESENTATIVE for a term of Three Years

Regina A. Hill	Two hundred ninety-five	295*
Erin Milne	One hundred sixty-three	163
Blanks	Twenty-eight	28
<b>Total</b>		<b>486</b>

### HOOSAC VALLEY REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT COMMITTEE MEMBER CHESHIRE REPRESENTATIVE for a term of Three Years

Adam B. Emerson	Four hundred five	405*
Blanks	Eighty-one	81
<b>Total</b>		<b>486</b>

### Results of the annual Town Elections held for the Hoosac Valley Regional School District.

#### ADAMS

#### Adams Representative – Three Year Term

	Adams	Cheshire
Regina A. Hill	295	213
Erin Milne	163	140
Blanks	28	67
<b>Total</b>	<b>486</b>	<b>420</b>

#### CHESHIRE

#### Cheshire Representative – Three Year Term

	Adams	Cheshire
Adam B. Emerson	405	371
Write In Votes	0	2
Blanks	81	47
<b>Total</b>	<b>486</b>	<b>420</b>

## Elected Town Officers

### Term Expires

#### Moderator

Myra L. Wilk 2021

#### Town Clerk

Haley A. Meczywor 2021

#### Selectmen

James Bush (*Deceased 9/9/20*) 2021

John E. Duval 2021

Richard Blanchard 2022

Joseph J. Nowak 2022

Christine D. Hoyt 2023

#### Treasurer-Collector

Kelly F. Rice 2022

#### Assessors

Donna Aitken MacDonald 2021

Lorraine M. Kalisz 2022

George J. Haddad 2023

#### Board of Health

Laura Ann Grandchamp 2021

Peter L. Hoyt 2022

David Brian Rhoads 2023

#### Library Trustees

James R. Loughman 2021

Eugene F. Michalenko 2021

Virginia Phelps Duval 2022

Karen L. Kettles 2022

Brian R. Bishop 2023

Linda S. Rhoads 2023

#### Park Commission

Cynthia H. Bird 2021

Scott E. Cernik (*Appt. by BOS 8/19/20*) 2021

James J. Fassell 2021

Jacob Levesque (*Resigned 6/19/20*) 2021

Paul A. Nowicki (*Appt. by BOS 8/19/20*) 2021

Jacob N. Schutz 2023

#### Planning Board

David B. Rhinemiller 2021

Sandra H. Moderski 2022

Lisa A. Gazaille 2023

Michael J. Mach 2024

David C. Krzeminski 2025

*\*Elected Official*

## Elected Town Officers *(continued)*

	<i>Term Expires</i>
<b>Cemetery Commission</b>	
Bruce Dale Shepley	2021
James M. Taylor	2022
Frederick S. Hobart	2023
<b>Housing Authority</b>	
Linda Cernik <i>(State Appointee)</i>	2022
Adele P. Hale <i>(Appt. by BOS 9/16/20)</i>	2021
Carol A. Roberts	2021
Stephanie L. Melito <i>(Resigned 7/31/20)</i>	2023
Erica Meranda Girgenti	2024
Vacant	2025
<b>Redevelopment Authority</b>	
Vacant <i>(State Appointee)</i>	
Joseph W. Allard	2022
Elizabeth M. Bushey	2023
Vacant	2024
Vacant	2025
<b>Northern Berkshire Regional Vocational School Committee</b>	
Bruce Dale Shepley	2021
Joseph W. Allard	2022
Daniel J. Maloney, Jr.	2023
<b>Hoosac Valley Regional School District Committee</b>	
<b>Elected At-Large</b>	
<b>(Adams)</b>	
Michael C. Mucci, Jr.	2021
Martin K. Bush <i>(Resigned 12/13/20)</i>	2022
Jennifer J. Gageant <i>(Resigned 1/6/20)</i>	2022
Nannette C. Reid <i>(Appt. by HVRSD 2/10/20)</i>	2022
Regina A. Hill	2023
<b>(Cheshire)</b>	
Bethany J. DeMarco	2021
Michael J. Henault <i>(Appt. by HVRSD 3/9/20)</i>	2022
Peter J. Tatrow <i>(Resigned 1/27/20)</i>	2022
Adam B. Emerson	2023

## Appointed By Moderator

	<i>Term Expires</i>
<b>Finance Committee</b>	
Timothy R. Burdick	2021
Michele Butler	2021
Craig R. Corrigan	2021
John R. Cowie, Jr.	2021
Aimee L. Kupiec	2021
Carol A. Cushenette	2022
Charles H. Foster	2022
Brian R. Johnson	2022
Sarah J.P. Kline	2022
Jay T. Meczywor	2022
Justin S. Duval	2023
Stephanie L. Melito	2023
Jason Nocher	2023
Rachel H. Tomkowicz	2023
Vacant	2023
<b>Town Report Committee</b>	
Deborah J. Dunlap	
Joseph Nowak	
Crystal Wojcik	
Haley A. Meczywor	
Donna E. Cesan	
<b>Adams Memorial Day Committee</b>	
John Borgeau	
Anthony Donovan	
Joseph Kus	
David Smachetti	
Keith Lawson	
Paul Hutchinson	

# Appointed Town Officials – July 2020

---

**Right to Know Coordinator**

Jay R. Green

**AdHoc Committee on Solid Waste**

Gregory DeBlois  
David Rhoads  
Linda Cernik

**Agricultural Commission**

Wayne Piaggi  
Emilie Krzanik  
Vacant  
Vacant  
Vacant  
Vacant (Alternate)  
Vacant (Alternate)  
Vacant (Alternate)  
Vacant (Alternate)

**American with Disabilities Coordinator**

Jay R. Green

**Animal Control Officer**

Kim Witek

**Animal Control Officer (Weekend)**

(Vacant)

**Berkshire Regional Planning Commission**

Lisa Gazaille  
John Duval (Alternate)

**Berkshire County Regional Transit Authority**

Christine Hoyt

**Chief Procurement Officer**

Jay R. Green

**Code Enforcement Officer**

Mark Blaisdell

**Community Development Director**

Donna E. Cesan

**Conservation Commission**

James J. Fassell  
Brian Bishop  
Tom Robinson  
Natasha L. Bordeaux  
David Lipinski  
Tammie Shafer  
Vacant

**Constables**

Thomas Satko  
Herman Bishop

**Council on Aging Director**

Erica Girgenti

**Council on Aging Board of Directors**

Barbara Fiske  
Robert Joppich  
Leona Meczywor  
Aleta Moncecchi  
Pamela St. John  
Bruce Dale Shepley  
Mary E. Whitman  
Deb Weinberg  
Barbara Lagowski

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

Linda Rhoads  
Henry Klein

**Department of Public Works Director**

Robert Tober

**Emergency Management Director**

Richard Kleiner

**Employee Insurance Advisory Group**

Mary Beverly  
Melissa Schaffrick  
Kathleen Fletcher  
Erica Girgenti  
Norman Charron  
Vacant

**Fair Housing Officer**

Donna E. Cesan

**Forest Warden**

Richard Kleiner

**Hazardous Waste Coordinator**

Jay R. Green

**Historical Commission**

Eugene Michalenko  
Ryan Biros  
Bruce D. Dumochel

**Housing & Building Inspector**

Gerald Garner

**Information Technology Consultant**

Robert Wnuk

**Inspector of Gas Piping & Appliances**

Norman Rolnick

**Inspector of Plumbing**

Norman Rolnick

**Mt. Greylock Advisory Board**

Timothy Herrmann

# Appointed Town Officials – July 2020 *(continued)*

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**Northern Berkshire Solid Waste Management District**

Linda Cernik

**Parks, Grounds and Recreation Superintendent**

Robert Tober

**Preservation Officer**

Eugene Michalenko

**Registrar of Voters**

John J. Tarsa

Timothy Rowley

Casimer R. Kuza

**Retirement Board**

Patricia Wol

**Safety Committee**

Robert Rumbolt

Timothy Cota

Richard Tarsa

Gerald Garner

Erica Girgenti

Mary Beverly

**Special Police Officers**

Allen Mendel

**Superintendent of Insect Control**

Steven Skrocki

**Town Accountant**

Mary Beverly

**Town Counsel**

Edmund St. John, III

**Town Scholarship Committee**

Kelly Rice

Ashley Satko

Haley Meczywor

George Haddad

Vacant

**Traffic Commission**

Troy Bacon

Tom Satko (Citizen)

Timothy Cota

Gregory Onorato

Lisa Gazaille (Planning Board)

**Tree Board**

Vacant

**Tree Warden**

Timothy Cota

**Trench Board**

Gerald Garner

Mark Blaisdell

Robert Tober

**Veterans Agent**

Stephen R. Roy

**Wastewater Treatment Plant Superintendent**

Robert Rumbolt

**Weighers of All Commodities:****Hoosac Valley Coal & Grain**

Jennifer Brown

**Mullen Movers**

Martin Mullen, Jr.

Vacant

**Specialty Minerals, Inc.**

Chris Shoestock

Jim Ryan

Corey Mullen

Chris Riordan

Beth Rusilowicz

Stephanie Lopez

Alicia Williams

Derek Masse

Kevin Hubbard

**Wire Inspector**

David Rhinemiller

**Assistant Wire Inspector**

Todd Rhinemiller

**Zoning Board of Appeals**

Jim Duda

Wayne V. Piaggi

Brian Tenczar

Glendon Diehl

David B. Rhinemiller

Vacant (Alternate)

Vacant (Alternate)

Vacant (Alternate)

# Town Meeting Members – Annual Town Meeting

Precinct 1	September 24	Precinct 2	September 24	Precinct 3	September 24
Baker, Patricia A.	X	Bishop, Brian	X	Allard, Joseph	--
Baker, Starr D.	X	Bishop, Dawn L.	X	Blanchard, Richard	X
Biros, Ryan P.	X	Bury, Donald	X	Conroy-Shepley, Patricia	X
Bush, James (Deceased 9/9/2020)	--	Cernik, Linda A.	E	Corrigan, Craig R.	X
Butler, Michele	--	Cernik, Scott E.	E	Cowie, John R., Jr.	X
Charron, James F.	X	DeBlois, Gregory A.	X	Cutler, Michael Alton	--
Charron, Melissa M.	X	Dolle, James J.	--	Dumouchel, Bruce D.	--
Clerc, Bruce P.	X	Driscoll, Edward J.	--	Frederick, Jon A.	--
Cunningham, Travis	X	Duval, John E.	X	Frost, Richard E.	E
Duval, Virginia Phelps	X	Duval, Justin S.	X	Frost, Susan K.	E
Fijal, Jody A.	X	Gazaille, Lisa A.	X	Gageant, Stephen	--
Hoyt, Christine D.	X	Janik, Edward S.	X	Gargan, Raymond, Jr.	X
Hoyt, Peter L.	X	Ketcham, William F.	X	Kelley, Nancy A.	X
Jette, Richard A.	E	Kolis, Dolores J.	X	Kolis, Marilyn Phelps	E
Kline, Sarah JP	X	Lentine, Joseph A.	E	Lawson, John L.	--
Kolis, David	X	Meczywor, Michael V.	X	Mach, Michael J.	X
Kolis, Patricia M.	X	Meczywor, Paula	X	Norcross, Robert	--
Kupiec, Anne E.	X	Merlini, Donald J.	E	Parrott, Leon S., Jr.	--
Kupiec, Neil	X	Michalenko, Eugene F.	X	Parrott, Nancy A.	--
Moran, Terence E.	--	Miller, Jessica Marie	--	Powers, Michael J.	--
Moyer, Christine A.	X	Moderski, Sandra H.	X	Satko, Ashley Ruth	X
Moyer, John D.	X	Odvar, Lisa A.	X	Schaffrick, Melissa L.	--
Mucci, Erin	X	Penna, Nicholas Francis	--	Schutz, Jacob N.	--
Nimmons, Jacqueline F.	X	Schutz, Norman K.	--	Shepley, Bruce Dale	X
Poirot, Dayne P.	X	Sutliff, Mary Ellen	X	Silvia, Veronica A.	X
Robinson, Brenda	X	Sutliff, Shaun W.	X	Tinney, Thomas N.	--
Robinson, Thomas	X	Tomkowicz, Rachel H.	X	Trzcinski, Bianca F.	X
Strek, Erin Marie	--	Tomyl, Peter	X	Wilk-Chaffee, Juliette J.	X
Taylor, Judith L.	X	Turoczy, Lawrence	X		
Wilson, William Robert	--	Wilson-Malloy, Tanya M.	X		
Precinct 4	September 24	Precinct 4 (continued)	September 24	Precinct 5 (continued)	September 24
Alibozek, Elizabeth S.	--	Smachetti, David L.	X	Girgenti, Erica Meranda	X
Blanchard, Scott M.	--	Sommer, Donald R.	X	Haddad, George J.	X
Blanchard, Steven M.	--	Sommer, Donald R., Jr.	--	Kleiner, Richard G.	X
Blanchard, William T.	--	Taylor, James M.	X	Koperniak, Christopher T.	X
Bourdon, Beth L.	X	Taylor, Patricia F.	X	Lennon, David J., Jr.	X
Bourdon, Wilfred R., III	X	Wilk, Myra L.	X	Milne, Erin	X
Clough, Marnie Ann	X	Ziaja, Mark D.	X	Moran, Frederick D.	X
Deeley, Susan	--	Ziemba, Barbara	X	Moran, Marilyn A.	X
Dellaghelfa, Jessica Ann	--			Phoenix, Elizabeth Ann	--
Demastrie, Jacqueline M.	X			Pierce, Kayla M.	--
Demastrie, Paul S.	X			Rhoads, David Brian	X
Dimitropolis, George H.	--			Rhoads, Linda S.	X
Donahue, Meaghanne E.	--			Satko, Thomas A.	X
Hayer, Joseph P.	X			Tarsa, Barbara J.	X
Johnson, Nicole E.	X			Tarsa, Richard W., Jr.	--
Koscinski, Joseph P.	X			West, Peter	--
Meczywor, Leona	X			Whitman, Mary E.	X
Mendel, Bruce W.	X				
		Precinct 5	September 24		
		Bishop, Corey J.	X		
		Burdick, Timothy R.	X		
		Clairmont, Lawrence A.	X		
		Cushenette, Carol A.	X		
		Doyle, Ann Marie	X		
		Doyle, Joseph B.	X		
		Fassell, James J.	X		
		Girgenti, Aaron	X		

# Board of Selectmen / Town Administrator

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2020 was a challenging year for many of us! Despite the challenges and difficulties, we found some hope, opportunity and a path forward in our community.

## Board of Selectmen

Calendar year 2020 saw the re-election of Christine Hoyt in the postponed Annual Town Election held in June. Chairman and Vice Chairman remained the same in order to provide continuity of leadership during the health pandemic. Therefore, Christine Hoyt and Jim Bush continued to serve as Chairman and Vice Chairman, respectively.

The Board and the entire Town faced the shocking and unbelievable passing of Vice Chair Jim Bush in September 2020. Jim was committed to the Town of Adams, serving on numerous boards, committees, and serving as a liaison from the Board of Selectmen to a number of organizations. Elected in 2018, Jim served as a Selectman and defined the role with his sense of humor, optimism and strong connection to the community. In this role, he supported the following organizations as a liaison: Ad Hoc Committee on Solid Waste, Adams Arts Advisory Board, Board of Health, Cemetery Commission, Council on Aging Board, Friend of the Ashuwillticook Trail, Berkshire Scenic Railway Museum, Northern Berkshire Community Coalition, Parks Commission, Prudential Committee, and the Traffic Commission. In January of 2020, Jim was recognized by the Northern Berkshire Community Coalition and the Northern Berkshire MLK Committee when he was presented with the 2020 Martin Luther King Jr. Peacemaker Award.

One of the final projects that Jim worked on was the Fallen Heroes Veterans Banners along Park Street. Jim worked with an all-volunteer committee to bring this project to Adams, honoring our veterans. He reported out to the Board of Selectmen about the progress of this project for nearly a year before the banners were installed. It is a legacy that he was proud to be part of, and his determination and persistence brought that project to fruition.

Jim had a big heart and would help anyone in need. Members of the community would see Jim helping out throughout the community, including being seen at each Mobile Food Bank helping to direct traffic or distribute food twice a month. With Jim's passing, a huge hole has been left in our hearts, and his presence is certainly missed at the Selectmen's table.

## COVID-19 Pandemic

In March, the Governor declared a state of emergency, and the Town of Adams followed suit on March 13, 2020, now facing a health pandemic unlike anything we had seen in our lifetime. Initially this state of emergency forced the temporary closure of many businesses and organizations in our community. Town buildings remained open to the public by appointment-only throughout this time, with many operations moving online, and the Town also waived any fees associated with online payments. Acting quickly, the Board of Selectmen and the Town Administrator moved to using the Zoom platform for public meetings, which allowed for business to still be conducted and the public to participate in the process.

Led by our Town Administrator Jay R. Green, the Town of Adams has been an integral member of the Northern Berkshire Emergency Operations Center (EOC) since its creation on March 16, 2020. Early on, the EOC was influential in providing educational materials and securing PPE for our region, among other operational tasks. The EOC was at the forefront of vaccination clinic planning, which is scheduled to begin in North Adams in January 2021.

## Retirements and Hirings

2020 brought many changes to the Adams Police Department. Adams Police Chief Richard W. Tarsa, Jr. announced his retirement from the Town of Adams Police Department after more than 36 years of police service. Chief Tarsa began his police career with the Adams Police Department as a Provisional Officer in 1984, becoming a full-time Reserve Officer the same year and a permanent Full-Time Police Officer in 1987. He rose to the level of Sergeant in 1990 and served as Acting Chief in 2013 before formally becoming Chief of Police later the same year.

Lt. Shawn Briggs announced his retirement in the Spring of 2020. He was initially appointed to the Adams Police Department in 1985. He worked his way up through the ranks serving as a Provisional Officer, Reserve Officer, Patrolman, Sergeant, and Lieutenant. Lt. Briggs spent the majority of his career as the overnight shift commander. He was the supervisor of the department's sexual assault investigation unit. He served in this role for nearly two decades. Lt. Briggs also worked with the Elizabeth Freeman Center, acting as the Department's liaison, ensuring both victims of domestic violence and investigation officers had the tools and resources they needed.

Sgt. Scott McWhirt also retired in the Spring of 2020. Sgt. McWhirt joined the Adams Police Department in 1986 as a Reserve Police Officer. A few years later he was appointed a full-time Patrolman. Sgt. McWhirt served as the director of the Police Athletic League (PAL) for over twenty-five years and was the Department's first certified Field Training Officer (FTO). Sgt. McWhirt has stayed involved with the Department post-retirement as a Special Police Officer.

Officer David Dean retired in the Summer of 2020. Officer Dean was appointed to the Adams Police Department in 1992 and worked his entire 28-year career on patrol. He achieved one of the greatest honors in the Adams Police Department, earning the right to wear badge #1; a significant achievement indicating he is the most senior officer assigned to patrol. He is credited with starting the Adams Police Department Taser program. Officer Dean has also remained involved with the Department post-retirement as a Special Police Officer.

Officer Greg Charon retired in the Spring of 2020. Officer Charon was appointed to the Adams Police Department in 1993. Officer Charon was a Firearms Instructor, certified fingerprint technician and member of the bike patrol unit. Officer Charon was well known in the community and spent countless hours volunteering at school and youth sporting events, including the Police Athletic League.

In June 2020, we hired Troy Bacon of Frankfort, Indiana to serve as Interim Police Chief for a six-month period of time. Chief Bacon worked with Town Administrator Jay Green to assess the operations of the department, provide suggestions to the Board of Selectmen and Town Administrator on staffing, organization, policy, training, etc. and assist in the recruiting and hiring of a permanent Chief with the right mix of skills, education and philosophy to fit our community best.

In December 2020, we hired K. Scott Kelley of South Carolina as the next Chief of the Adams Police Department. Chief Kelley is scheduled to begin his duties in January of 2021. Chief Kelley has over 25 years of law enforcement experience and in a variety of sub-areas of policing such as investigations, narcotics, patrol, and special weapons and tactics. He comes to Adams after serving in increasingly greater positions of responsibility in Anderson, S.C., Folly Beach, S.C. and as Director of Public Safety and Chief of Police for Spartanburg Community College.



The Police Department saw the promotion of two patrol officers to Sergeant. This restored supervisory staffing to the previous number of four with Officers Greg Onorato and Dylan Hicks joining Sgts. Donna Malloy and Matthew Wright. Sgts. Onorato and Hicks were the first two promotions since the Town voted to leave the Civil Service system. Under the supervision of Chief Bacon, a combination of written and oral exams were given by a professional law enforcement consulting firm.

Donna Cesan announced her retirement as the Director of Community Development in September 2020. Donna worked for the Town of Adams for 20 years, and her positive impact and contribution can be seen throughout our community. From the Greylock Glen trails through our quintessential downtown to various infrastructure projects, Donna has had a hand in keeping Adams moving. Her institutional knowledge, not only as Community Development Director, but as Interim Town Administrator and Interim DPW Director is valuable. As the Town embarks on a search for the next Director of Community Development, Donna is continuing her service to the Town in a part-time capacity as Special Projects Coordinator in Community Development. Donna's vision, enthusiasm and belief in Adams continues to motivate her desire to stay involved. Should the long-awaited funding for the Greylock Glen Outdoor Center become available, Donna will continue to bring that vision to reality.

Department of Public Works Administrative Assistant Marilyn Kolis retired after 29 years of service to the Town. Through the turnover of various DPW Directors and through the years without a Director, Marilyn kept the office open, the bills paid and the constituent calls answered. She helped coordinate the use of the Town's athletic fields and maintained Cemetery records. Her institutional knowledge and good sense of humor will be missed by Town staff.

### **Town Meeting**

The Annual Town Meeting was postponed from June until September as the Town awaited the State budget with regard to our "Cherry Sheets" or state financial aid. Without a state budget and without an annual budget, this required the Town to operate in a monthly budget situation for July through September. An outdoor Town Meeting was pulled together at Bowe Field to allow for Town Meeting Members to gather safely discussing and voting on important Town business.

In addition to the FY22 budget, the following items were voted on allowing the Town to move forward:

- Amend the Zoning Map to reflect changes in the Commercial Street area
- Amend Chapter 125 of the Code of the Town of Adams to adopt a Smart Growth Overlay District in accordance with MCL Chapter 40R
- Authorization for the Board of Selectmen to enter into negotiations to acquire 26 Commercial Street
- Accept the provisions of MGL Chapter 33, Section 59 which grants up to 40 days of leave with pay for town employees who are members of a reserve component of the Armed Forces of the United States.
- Adopt a Veteran Tax Work Off Program

### **Events and Programs**

In 2020, groups and organizations were forced to rethink and reimagine their events and programs. The Town was no different.

The 200th birthday of Susan B. Anthony and the 100th anniversary of the ratification of the 19th Amendment of the Constitution allowing women the right to vote was to be celebrated in 2020. Soon

after the kickoff to the 2020 celebrations with the Red and Black Gala in February 2020, the Adams Suffragette Centennial Celebration Committee (ASCCC) had to rethink the plans for the events and programs that were scheduled. Meeting with the Board of Selectmen, it was determined to postpone celebratory events until sometime in 2021, at a time that would be less impacted by the pandemic.

Coordinated by the Adams Police Department, our first responders, Forest Wardens, Adams Fire and Adams Ambulance, participated in birthday parades for the children of this community. Using this same model, the APD coordinated a Halloween Candy donation and distribution. This same group of emergency responders helped pull together a holiday tree lighting that was filmed by Northern Berkshire Community Television and shared virtually with our community. Led by the Town Clerk and our Treasurer/Tax Collector, the community also participated in a Holiday Decorating contest which had over 50 homes participating. A map was created to allow for families to drive/walk around the Town looking at the decorations before ultimately voting for their top choices.

### **Projects**

- Route 8 (Commercial Street) Improvement Project, a full depth reconstruction of the roadway began September 2020. The \$8.7 million project will be funded entirely by Federal Highway Funds, with an anticipated completion in 2022.
- Town Common rehabilitation including gazebo, landscaping, walkways and turf, construction and the installation of the Susan B. Anthony statue.
- Memorial School Building HVAC installation.
- Ashwilticook Rail Trail project, resurfacing of the original trail.
- Russell Field rehabilitation, new tennis/pickleball court, turf, fencing and playground.
- Grant Street Stormwater Mitigation/Drainage Project.
- Crotteau Street area *Complete Streets Program* installation of new sidewalks, curbing, water lines, drainage structures, signage and road surface.

### **Business Development**

- At-home bakeries: Shire Cottage Bakery and Honey Bee Sweets
- Shire Donuts on Summer Street
- Miss Adams Diner expected 2021
- Phykitt Insurance Company on Park Street
- Berkshire Hair Trends salon on Park Street
- Original Seed Cigar Lounge

### **Summary**

In summary, 2020 provided the Town with some unique challenges. Through the stable leadership and dedicated team of staff, the Town sought the opportunities that were presented and worked to move the Town forward. Embracing new tools for economic development, answering the calls for potential development, moving forward with construction to better our infrastructure, and providing high-quality services to our residents, all while keeping our community safe from the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Respectfully submitted,

Christine D. Hoyt  
Chairman, Board of Selectmen  
Jay R. Green  
Town Administrator

## Town Clerk

### Revenue Generated –

Application Fees – ZBA and Planning Board,  
Cemetery Lot Deeds, Certified Copies, Dog  
Licenses, Marriage Intentions, Miscellaneous,  
Non-Criminal Fines, Pole Locations,  
Raffle Permits, Storage Tank Permits..... **\$ 25,934.00**

Vital Statistics	2020	2019	2018
Births Reported	59	63	69
Marriages Reported	21	42	36
Deaths	105	115	103

**Storage Tank Renewals .....8**

### Number of Dog Licenses Issued

Males .....	41
Neutered Males.....	242
Females .....	26
Spayed Females .....	252
4 Dogs Kennel License.....	6
10 Dogs Kennel License.....	1
25 Dogs Kennel License.....	0
<b>Total .....</b>	<b>568</b>

**Town Census 8,398**

## VOTER REGISTRATION

### Annual Town Election – June 1, 2020

Registered voters as of the close of registration on May 26, 2020

Precinct	Total	Dem.	Rep.	Unenr.	Libert.	Other
1	1120	343	93	669	8	7
2	1188	362	93	713	7	13
3	1280	438	129	691	8	14
4	1113	320	111	668	4	10
5	1294	393	99	783	9	10
	<b>5995</b>	<b>1856</b>	<b>525</b>	<b>3524</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>54</b>

## Adams Historical Commission

Four buildings in Adams were razed because of their deteriorated condition. They were located at 8 Depot Street, 40 Spring Street, 219 West Road and 121 Summer Street. Of the four two have a history worth noting in this report.

The Arnold Lumber Co. was, at one time, the oldest operating business in Adams founded in 1788 by Henry Arnold. One of his grandsons, John, ran a business selling heating fuel at the 40 Spring St. location. Before oil, gas and electric, homes were heated by burning wood and coal. The building that was razed this past year appears to be a replacement for the original structure. At one time, there was a large truck scale adjacent to the place that measured the amount of coal being purchased. This small building was a vestige of the coal merchants that were an important part of the local economy.



40 Spring Street



John E. Arnold Coal Co.



Pietras Store after 1938 Flood

The corner store at 121 Summer Street was most recently known as The Convenient Store but in the past it was also known as Casey's Market and Pietras's Store. It was one of very many corner stores that dotted the town and were in walking distance to people's homes—a necessity when most people didn't own automobiles. The local historical fame of the Pietras store is that the torrents of the Tophet Brook during the Hurricane of 1938 destroyed it.

In April, 2020, The Polish National Alliance (PNA) was sold to a private owner. It was originally built in 1894 by the Einigkeit Lodge, a German fraternal organization. In 1923, the PNA purchased it from the group and owned it until the present time.

As it passes out of their ownership it ends the era when there were three Polish fraternal organizations in Adams that owned meeting halls which served as social centers: The Saint Stanislaus Kostka Society on East Hoosac Street, The Polish Roman Catholic Union at the corner of Victory and Summer Street (burnt in 1984) and the PNA on Victory Street.



The PNA in 1936

# Adams Agricultural Fair, Inc.

## Annual Report 2020

The Adams Agricultural Fair had to cancel its events in 2020 due to the Covid-19 pandemic.

The Fair did have a few events that were allowed on the field with guidance and permission from the Town of Adams and the Board of Health.

The Fair hosted the Third Annual Berkshires Summer Jazz Day Camp, which is a free camp that was brought in by William Kolis, Michael Mach, Richard Boulger, and the Berkshire Academy for Advanced Music. The teachers at the school were Richard Boulger, Alex Foster, Victor Jones, Gary Foote, David Gilmore, and Charles Blenzig.

The other events that took place were Dance Recitals for Dancecapade and Chasing Dreams, followed by the Town of Adams Annual Town Meeting and a small wedding.

Respectfully submitted,

Chuck Felix

# Conservation Commission

The Conservation Commission has six (6) members:

Chairman James Fassell  
Vice-Chairman Tammie Shafer  
Thomas Robinson  
David Lipinski  
Brian Bishop  
Natasha Bordeaux

There were four (4) business meetings held in 2020. The Commission acted on two Requests for Determination.

In addition, Commission members addressed various other business. They answered several complaints, reviewed quarterly reports submitted from Specialty Minerals, issued two Enforcement Orders, as well as one Emergency Order.

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

1. Christopher Robakiewicz  
property at 11 West Road.
2. Town of Adams  
property at Grant Street, Cross Street, Lincoln Street  
and Valley Street.



*Third Annual Summer Jazz Day Camp at the Agricultural Fairgrounds*

# Adams Free Library

## ANNUAL REPORT 2020

This year has been full of unique challenges for the Adams Free Library. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, difficult decisions had to be made daily about operations, staff and safety. While we did everything we could to sustain daily operations and provide service to our community, the library was closed to the public in mid-March and library staff were furloughed in mid-April. During this time we began to plan for reopening, reviewed Governor Baker's protocols and purchased the supplies needed to keep the staff and the public safe. As restrictions eased in June, we were able to bring some employees back to implement our plan for contactless pick-up. As we adapted to these unprecedented circumstances, we were fortunate to have an accessible entrance with a doorbell and intercom that allowed staff to serve our community without contact. Patrons were able to choose items to borrow through the internet, over the phone or by email. In June we opened our computer area to the public by appointment. By October all staff had returned and our hours expanded to include an evening and Saturdays. As 2020 comes to an end, we are not looking to "get back to normal" – we are hoping to move forward to better.

"The most important asset of any library goes home at night – the library staff."

– Timothy Healy

The Trustees are indebted to all the library employees for their dedication and hard work. Long-time employee Christa Sidway moved to be closer to family in January and Eleanore Goerlach was hired in June as the new Adult Services Librarian. Ellie began her employment here during a time of uncertainty but quickly adapted to the changing reality of library service in Adams. She is responsible for managing the interlibrary loan and delivery process for the more than five thousand items that flow in and out of the building during the year, while also handling administrative assistant duties and running adult programs such as our monthly book discussion groups. Library Aide Elizabeth Erdeski works at the main circulation desk and in the Children's Department where she handles circulation duties, reference questions and shelving. Library Aide Tanya Guerin, whose main responsibilities are customer service at the front desk and answering reference questions, also developed and ran a successful Teen Madden NFL 20 Gaming Tournament. Library Aide Caren Les retired in September. Our Library Page, Theresa Flor, is responsible for keeping the collection organized, shelving all library materials and the physical processing of the collection.



The Children's Department remains a focal point of library services and is adeptly managed by Children's Librarian Juliana Matthews. She is responsible for providing quality collections and programs for children and tweens in Adams and surrounding communities. Ms. Matthews report follows:

### Children's Department

As with so many other programs in 2020, the COVID-19 pandemic greatly affected planned activities of the Adams Free Library's Children's Department.

Before the library closed to patrons in the second half of March, the Children's Department was able to conduct two in-person programs. On Read Across America Day, March 2, staff visited Hoosac Valley Elementary School to read *The Man Whose Name Is Not Thomas* by M. Jean Craig to the third-grade class.

On March 5, Lisa Collins, SkillsUSA advisor at McCann Technical School, along with the high school's SkillsUSA chapter officers, presented a program at the library aimed at helping youngsters ages 3-10 explore possible career choices. After a reading of *Clothesline Clues to Jobs People Do* by Kathryn Heling and Deborah Hembook (a guessing book about jobs), the students, dressed in character, led a discussion about the different jobs that correlate with classes they were taking. The visitors guided the children through a craft activity where they decorated paper cut-out clothes of the type worn in various occupations and hung them on a miniature clothesline. SkillsUSA is a



*Madden Tournament Superbowl*

partnership of students, teachers, and industry working together to ensure America has a skilled workforce by providing educational programs, events and competitions that support career and technical education in the nation's classrooms.

"DinoMan," a school spring vacation program with a natural history theme planned for April 23, was cancelled due to the pandemic. "DinoMan" is an interactive show using inflatable, ceiling-height dinosaurs.

Beginning at the end of June, Children's Department patrons were able to participate in the library's "take-out" program where books and other materials are requested online or by phone and retrieved from the lower level of the Miller Annex using designated COVID protocols. Youngsters received a surprise item from a "treasure chest" at pick-up.

The theme for the 2020 Summer Reading Program, "Imagine Your Story," celebrated fairy tales, mythology and fantasy. The program, which began on July 1, was available via the Beanstack Reading Challenge software and app. Participants spanned the ages from 4 to adult. The Youth Services page of the library's website provided information about registration, logs to track reading time and links to various programs. The goal was to read for 400 minutes (about 20 minutes every day for 20 days). Once registered with the Beanstack software, participants timed their reading sessions, logged their minutes, completed activities, attended virtual programs, won weekly surprises for pick-up at the library, earned incentives and accumulated virtual tickets for real prizes. Participants who attended virtual events earned extra tickets.

The programs end date was extended to September 30 and winning tickets were drawn. The Friends of the Adams Free Library provided funds for eight raffle baskets, each of which contained a T-shirt, magnetic book mark, sticky notes, coloring poster, books, Uno cards, kinetic sand, bubbles, a handmade fabric face mask, \$25 worth of gift cards and more! "Imagine Your Story" was sponsored by the Adams Free Library, the Massachusetts Library System, the Boston Bruins and the Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners. Associated programs were supported in part by a grant from the Cultural Council of Northern Berkshire, a local agency supported by the Mass Cultural Council, a state agency. Additional funding was provided by the Friends of the Adams Free Library.

Four of the planned eight summer programs were able to go forward because they used or were changed to a virtual format and, in some cases, were moved to new dates. Beginning on July 8, Ed the Wizard presented two adapted performances on YouTube with unlimited viewing until the end of August. "Meal Time Magic" taught impromptu magic using items found in a table setting (runtime 38.36 minutes). "Reading is Magic" emphasized the importance of reading, with new effects specifically designed for the "Imagine Your Story"

theme (runtime 32.18 minutes). This program was supported in part by the Cultural Council of Northern Berkshire and the Friends of the Adams Free Library.

On July 16, "Zoo on the Go" was presented on Facebook Live with free, unlimited attendance. The Zoo in Forest Park & Education Center presented this community partner event, a half hour with five ambassador animals and a dedicated question & answer session with a zoo staff member.



*Zoo on the Go -  
a Facebook Live Event*

Also, on July 16, Rick Goldin and his puppet friends presented "I Like to Read," a musical program moved to a virtual setting. The pre-recorded program featured songs about books, reading and going to the library, with lots of movement, humor and singing along. This program was also made possible with the support of the Cultural Council of Northern Berkshire and the library Friends.

On August 10, the Children's Department presented a virtual adaptation of "Mother-Goose-in-Person" by minstrel storyteller Mary Jo Maichack. The show of songs, movement, small puppets and rhymes celebrated the classic nursery rhymes in a participatory, gentle style. (approximately 40 minutes).

Four other programs planned for the summer months had to be cancelled because of pandemic restrictions: July 30 - Pajama Story Time and Stuffed Animal Sleepover; August 4 - Jerry Schneider, monarch butterflies slide presentation; August 7, 14, 21, and 28 - Julie Stepanek, "Ukulele Story Times;" August 13 - Bowey the Clown and "Magic Brushes Face Painting," which would have been the end-of-program party.



*Reading Magic with Ed the Wizard*

"Technology helps libraries do what they do best: connect people with resources and ideas...."

*- American Library Association*

Now more than ever, a library card gives more than just access to books; it gives access to the world from home or from the road. The library offers free online databases where patrons can learn a language, work on their resume, learn to play the ukulele and so much more. Thanks to our Friends group, the library also offers Ancestry Library Edition which provides a great amount of genealogy and ancestry information. The library loans Mobile Wi-Fi Hotspots that allow the user

to connect Wi-Fi-enabled devices such as laptops, tablets and smartphones to the internet from home. We also continue to offer free public computers onsite.

This year, through our membership with C/W Mars, patrons had access digitally to more than 106,000 eBooks, 27,000 eAudiobooks and 3,000 magazines. As the pandemic progressed and libraries were no longer able to host programs onsite, libraries began to work together across the state to host a variety of online programs for our patrons. These included Fortnite tournaments, financial planning webinars, yoga classes, mindfulness workshops, author talks from such prestigious authors as Karen Kingsbury and James Patterson, book discussion groups, employment help and even dance classes. These programs were open to all patrons across the Commonwealth and could be found on the library website calendar.

The Adams Free Library can be found online at:  
[www.adamslibraryma.org](http://www.adamslibraryma.org)

This is a direct, online window to our services. Through this easy-to-navigate design, website users can access their library accounts, learn about the Adams Free Library and all its services, and contact us with ease.

This year Brian Bishop, Trustee Chair of Building Maintenance, oversaw repairs and updates to the building and grounds. The ceiling in Memorial Hall and the main entrance area were repaired and painted. The hot water heater was replaced and LED energy-saving lights were installed throughout the building. An automatic water shutoff valve was installed thanks to a grant from MIIA.

The year 2020 was indeed an unusual and challenging year for the Friends of the Adams Free Library because of the coronavirus. They were able to meet only in January and February. Many activities planned for the year were cancelled – book sale, participation in the Susan B. Anthony festivities, Dining for Dollars, Hometown Holiday Sale, etc. They were unable to fundraise. The only new money came from Friends' dues.

The Friends were able to fund the children's summer reading program, "Imagine Your Story," which was held virtually, and funded prizes for participants. They also funded raffle tickets for the Adult Summer Program, purchased the computer program Ancestry.com for public use and provided annual passes for The Mount and the Norman Rockwell Museum.

The Friends hope that in 2021 their opportunities to meet and their ability to do additional fundraising in order to sponsor programs will improve.

Officers were: President – Carleen Butler, Vice-President – MaryAnn Hish, Secretary – Meaghanne Donahue and Treasurer – Pat Catelotti.

There are numerous Friends who donate a great deal of time to make the group what it is, and we thank them. The library would not be able to accomplish all of what it does without their continued support. I, along with the Library Trustees and staff, extend heartfelt gratitude and thanks to the Friends for their many efforts.

The members of the Board of Trustees are Chairman James Loughman, Treasurer Eugene Michalenko, Building Maintenance Chairman Brian Bishop, Virginia Duval, Karen Kettles and Linda Rhoads.

The Trustees, administration and staff wish to extend sincere appreciation to the many town departments that have provided assistance this year. We wish to extend special thanks to the town's custodians Kyle Wilson and Ray Keele. The routine management of the physical building and grounds would not be possible without their hard work.

James R. Loughman,  
Chairman of the  
Board of Library Trustees

Holli Jayko,  
Library Director



*2020 Summer Reading prizes courtesy  
of the Friends of the Adams Free Library.*



# Fiscal 2020 Library Statistics

<b>Total Number of Holdings as of June 30, 2020:</b>	<b>33,810</b>
<b>Magazine and Newspaper Subscriptions (including gifts):</b>	<b>51</b>
<b>Registered borrowers:</b>	<b>2,402</b>
<b>Circulation:</b>	
Adult and young adult print	11,446
Juvenile print	6,720
Video Cassettes/music CDs/DVDs, museum passes, misc.	9,438
Audio Books	1,085
E-books	1,800
Downloadable Audio/video (audiobooks, music)	1,187
Misc. (Teacher Kits, Hotspots, Ukuleles)	395
Print Periodicals	471
Materials in Electronic Format	34
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>32,576</b>

## TREASURER'S REPORT

<b>Fees Returned to Town Treasurer:</b>	<b>\$ 1,370.50</b>
Microfilm Printer Receipts	\$ 7.90
Internet Printer Receipts	722.70
Miscellaneous	86.85
Photocopier Receipts	553.05
<b>Returned to Revolving Fund via Town Treasurer:</b>	<b>767.47</b>
Fines for Overdue Materials	681.98
Damaged or Lost Items Replacement Fees	85.49
<b>TOTAL CASH RECEIPTS</b>	<b>\$ 2,137.97</b>

## OTHER INCOME

Gifts, Memorial Donations, Used Items Sales	\$ 5,079.20
Grant: No. Berkshire Cultural Council	\$ 500.00
State Aid to Public Libraries Award	\$ 15,613.49

<b>TRUST FUNDS</b>	<b>BALANCE</b>	<b>RECEIPTS</b>	<b>DISBURSEMENTS</b>	<b>BALANCE</b>
<b>Dividend Income</b>	<b>7/01/19</b>			<b>6/30/20</b>
W.T. Adams	\$ 3,303.94	\$ 5,212.51	\$ 4,240.26	\$ 4,276.19
Dividends Fund	-	18,083.82	12,814.40	5,269.42
C.N. Miller	4,545.19	2,481.24	2,618.35	4,408.08
Plunkett / Saunders	618.88	-	30.00	588.88
H. Tiedemann	5,164.79	2,017.72	1,963.90	5,218.61
<b>Totals</b>	<b>\$ 13,632.80</b>	<b>\$ 27,795.29</b>	<b>\$ 21,666.91</b>	<b>\$ 19,761.18</b>

<b>Memorial Book Funds</b>	<b>as of Dec. 2020</b>	<b>\$ 44,025.06</b>
<b>Memorial Book Fund Investment Values</b>	<b>as of Dec. 2020</b>	<b>\$ 190,637.02</b>

# Adams Police Department

## Chief of Police

Richard Tarsa Jr.

Troy Bacon  
(7/20-12/20)

## Lieutenant

Shawn Briggs

## Sergeants

Scott McWhirt  
Matthew Wright

Donna Malloy

## Patrol Officers

David Dean  
Michael Wandrei  
Nicholas Dabrowski  
Travis Cunningham  
Dakota Baker  
Michael Rossi  
Nicholas Sorrell  
Samantha Morin

Gregory Charon  
Joshua Baker  
Curtis Crane  
Gregory Onorato  
Dylan Hicks  
Alexander Morse  
Christopher Whitney

## Administrative Specialist

Melissa Schaffrick

## Reserve Officers

Robert Krzanik  
Christopher Lampiasi

Danielle Carter

## Special Police Officers

Allen Mendel

Robert Mallet

## Animal Control Officer

Kimberly Witek

## Training 2020

### In-Service Training

- Legal Updates (various topics, focusing on recent updates or changes)
- Police Survival
- Investigations involving animal cruelty
- Police Pursuit: Guidelines, Policy & Procedures, Risk Avoidance
- Defensive Tactics
- CPR/ First Responder
- Suicide by Cop: A dangerous reality
- Firearms Qualifications/ Training
- All Firearms Instructors completed the MPTC recertification course
- All Taser Instructors completed the Axon Taser Instructor recertification
- Kumar (K-9), and Officer Crane completed training throughout the year
- BCSRT Team Leader J. Baker, and BCSRT Operator N. Kaiser attended SWAT trainings
- Officers of the Sexual Assault Division completed trainings in crimes against children, sexual assault investigation & evidence collection, and the opioid epidemic

## 2020 Activity Report

Calls for Service..... 9,676  
Ambulance Calls ..... 1,799  
Fire Department Calls ..... 335  
DPW Calls ..... 24  
Animal Control Calls ..... 82

## **Criminal & Custodial Activity**

Offenses Committed ..... 706  
**Arrests:**  
Total ..... 276  
On View ..... 91  
Incident/ Warrant..... 41  
Summons..... 144  
Adult ..... 260  
Juvenile ..... 16  
PC..... 28  
Domestic Violence (16.6%) ..... 46  
Summons Served ..... 27

## **Motor Vehicle**

Written Warnings ..... 124  
Civil Offenses ..... 49  
Arrests ..... 23  
Criminal Complaints ..... 74

## **Accidents:**

Investigated ..... 147  
Fatalities ..... 0  
Persons Injured..... 32  
Possible Injuries ..... 10  
No Reported Injuries..... 227  
(out of 275 parties)  
Drugs Involved..... 4  
Alcohol Involved ..... 9

### ***Location with the highest number of accidents:***

Columbia St., Commercial St., Howland Ave.

## **Other Activity:**

B&E / Larcenies..... 224  
Alarms..... 327  
Parking Tickets..... 666  
Business Checks..... 674  
Heroin / Opioid Overdose ..... 15  
K-9 Deployments ..... 11



## **Notable Events 2020**

During the year of 2020, the police department held testing for two Sergeant positions. After a rigorous testing procedure, following officers were promoted to Sergeant: *Greg Onorato* and *Dylan Hicks*.

In November of 2020, Officer S. Morin responded to an incident involving a person being stabbed. Officer Morin provided medical assistance to the victim, including applying a tourniquet. Her response, and quick thinking saved the victims life. Officer Morin was in her first year as a police officer during the year of 2020. Officer Morin received a commendation for her actions on that day.

A search committee was formed during the pandemic for the purpose of finding an interim Chief of Police. After the process, the Town of Adams hired Chief Troy Bacon from Indiana. Chief Bacon was welcomed and sworn in during a ceremony held in July. Chief Bacon brought respectability and professionalism to the position, and the Town of Adams. Chief Bacon served the Town of Adams with honor for six months.

Several members of the department participated in the “Walk a Mile in Her Shoes” initiative. This is a program that helps bring attention, and education to the public about domestic violence.

During the year of 2020, Adams PD had several retirements. *Chief Rick Tarsa, Lt. Shawn Briggs, Sgt. Scott McWhirt, and Officer David Dean* retired from service. All served the Town of Adams, and its community for decades. Thank you all for your service to the town, and law enforcement.

## **From the Desk of the Chief**

Hello,

My name is Scott Kelley, and I’m the current Chief of Police in Adams. As I write this, the nation, and law enforcement are still in the grips of COVID-19. Coronavirus has touched every aspect of our lives for over a year now. Numbers of cases are slowly coming down, and vaccines are becoming more readily available. We are all hoping that the light at the end of the tunnel is getting closer. With that, continue to be safe, and vigilant with your actions against this disease.

Throughout these times, one thing has stayed consistent, this police department’s dedication to the community. The members of this department have consistently taken precautions to keep themselves, and the community safe. All the while, continuing the service that the community expects.

As you can see from the previous sections, life does continue to move forward. This department continued to train officers, answer calls for service, and deal with personnel changes. Events were held, with precautions, that benefited charities and brought awareness to causes. Officer Dabrowski continued to organize wave parades, which brought a bit of joy to children and adults during this time. The resilience of this police department, and the community has been impressive.

In closing, I would like to leave you with this. This community is no different than any other. There are issues like drug addiction, assaults, domestic violence, and property crimes. As the new Chief of Police, I will continue to work hand in hand with my staff and community to address these issues. This police department is full of wonderful officers, who truly want what’s best for the community. Thank you all for the support you have given this department before me, and thank you for what I’ve seen my short time here.

Sincerely,

Chief K. Scott Kelley

# Board of Health

## 2020 Annual Report

Needless to say, the coronavirus pandemic brought several public health challenges to Adams. We owe debts of gratitude to our regional agencies – Northern Berkshire Regional Emergency Planning Committee and Berkshire Regional Planning Commission – for providing guidance and assistance to deal with the health crisis. We also owe a debt of gratitude to our public health nurse for working overtime to manage the spread of COVID-19. Finally, we deeply appreciate the efforts of Code Enforcement Officer Mark Blaisdell for effectively managing an unforeseen set of responsibilities in keeping town residents, staff, and business safe in addition to maintaining his role in inspectional services and enforcement.

Nevertheless, the Board of Health continued with some normal business:

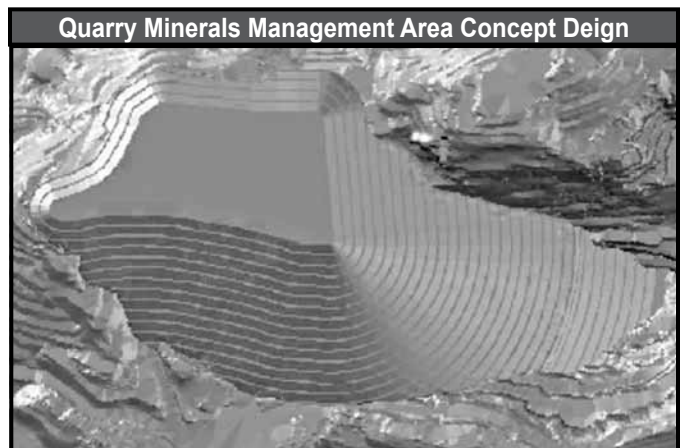
- In the pandemic-delayed town election in June, David Rhoads was re-elected for his second term and Laura Grandchamp was elected to fill the remaining year of the term to which she was appointed in 2019. At the subsequent board meeting, we elected David Rhoads as Chairman and Peter Hoyt as Vice-Chair.
- The year began with a continuation of our efforts to inform townspeople of the hazards of vaping. To that end we posted information from state (Department of Public Health) and federal (Centers for Disease Control) agencies as well as non-governmental organization.
- Our major effort was updating our tobacco sales regulations. The motivating concern was seeing the recent increase in the number of tobacco retailers to 11 from 7, which was the stable level for many years. [Note: one retailer went out of business during our process.] Adding impetus was the state's New Tobacco Law passed in November 2019, prompted in part by the appearance of vaping-related acute lung illnesses, among other risks. Our main goal was to limit (cap) the number of tobacco retailers; youth smoking has been linked to access. A general rule of thumb is one retailer per 1,000 population, which would be 8 or 9 for Adams. A new regulation was drafted with assistance from the Department of Public Health and several local smoking control organizations. Public input was sought at a hearing, where we heard both pros and cons. The adopted regulations cap tobacco sale permits at 9 as our goal, to be achieved by attrition as current permits are relinquished. So as not to stifle current business expansion, we allowed for the issuance of two new permits. Should these not be used, one each will "expire" in November of this year and 2022. Importantly, to moderate the density of tobacco retailers, we established more restrictions for any new tobacco retailer than the state-mandated distance of 500 feet from a school. Specifically, we also applied the 500-foot rule to the distance from another retailer as well as to a sports/athletic field, park, or playground (i.e., where young people congregate). We note that the New Tobacco Law bans the sale of flavored products (including menthol) except in adult-only establishments. Our regulations allow for up to 4 adult-only shops within the cap. We are grateful for the assistance and support we

received in striving to make Adams a healthier town. The 2020 tobacco sales regulations may be found on our web page: [town.adams.ma.us/board-health](http://town.adams.ma.us/board-health)



*Figure 1. Specialty Minerals quarry:  
Current view, looking northward*

- We were also apprised of the landfill project envisioned by Specialty Minerals, one that will require Board of Health approval as a final step. As current SMI landfills are near capacity, they are proposing to fill much of the previously mined quarry (Figure 1) with allowable waste mineral solids as they continue excavating northward, a project anticipated to take years. The landfill will eventually be covered with topsoil and appropriate vegetation (see concept, Figure 2). As can be imagined, the landfill will be aesthetically pleasing. The proposal has passed the state environmental reviews and is currently under review by the Department of Environmental Protection. As part of that process, a public comment period will be opened, and the board will hold a public hearing for further input from the town. We look forward to continuing our productive relationship with one of our town's strong economic partners. Watch for further details in 2021.



*Figure 2. Specialty Minerals landfill proposal:  
Concept design, northward to the left*

- While a small item, we updated our fee schedule to comply with current regulations, practices, and our online permit application portal.

As per Town Code, we offer our recommendations to improve public health. Not unexpectedly, these revolved around the pandemic: (i) complying with the precautions to limit the spread of COVID-19; (ii) maintaining physical activity, given its difficulty under stay-at-home guidelines; (iii) taking care of our mental health during this stressful time; and (iv) reaching out to care for others insofar as possible.

In closing, we look forward to a year in working with you to promote public health in Adams.

#### Permits / Fees:

Body Art Establishment .....	1	\$ 150
Body Art – Practitioners.....	0	0
Disposal system construction (septic).....	0	0
Disposal system replacement (septic).....	0	0
Food Service Establishments .....	41	3,025
Catering.....	3	200
Frozen Desserts .....	2	60
Retail Food.....	6	485
Residential Kitchen.....	4	160
Funeral Director .....	0	0
Lodging (includes mobile home parks) .....	4	400
Mobile Food.....	7	225
Septic Hauler.....	5	500
Septic Installer .....	0	0
Solid Waste Hauler.....	9	900

Tanning Salon .....	1	75
Temporary Food / Farmers' Market .....	6	20
Tobacco & Nicotine Delivery Product Sales ....	12	1,200
Well Permit .....	2	150
Pre-rental Inspections.....	111	3,885
Property Registrations.....	18	1,800
<b>Total Revenue Realized</b>		<b>\$ 13,235</b>

Not included in the above total is a refund of \$100 & waivers of \$1,200.

#### Other Activity

Businesses closed.....	6
New businesses .....	4
Prospective new establishments.....	4
Establishments affected by COVID-19.....	4
Temporary events affected by COVID-19 .....	4
Nuisance cases .....	N/A
Vacant properties with Code Enforcement .....	44
Housing Code cases .....	N/A
Condemnations .....	19
Condemnations rescinded .....	3
Demolitions by owner (from Code Enforcement) .....	1
Food Code cases (not pandemic related) .....	N/A
Tobacco-related cases .....	2
Investigations, etc. related to COVID-19 pandemic .....	95
Other case types (not specified above) .....	N/A
21D tickets issued .....	35
Court cases .....	6

### Board of Health Budget (Fiscal Year 2020: 1 July 2019 through 30 June 2020):

Category	Appropriated	TFs/Adj	Revised	Expended	Remaining
Order Enforcement	1,500	(924)	576	76.00	500.00
Legal/Professional Services*	1,500	(733)	767	525.00	242.00
Advertising	250	250	500	450.00	50.00
Nursing Services**	3,000	2,988	5,988	5,446.00	542.00
Postage	450	(60)	390	335.00	55.00
Office (Other expenses)	550	375	925	347.45	577.55
Education/Travel/Conferences/Meals	4,000	(1,191)	2,809	665.00	2,144.00
Dues	55	60	115	55.00	60.00
Online permitting system***	N/A				
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>11,305</b>	<b>765</b>	<b>12,070</b>	<b>7,899.45</b>	<b>4,170.55</b>

\*Professional services include inspectional services from the Berkshire Public Health Association.

\*\*Public health nursing included \$3,262 for tuberculosis monitoring, a service not included in our annual contract (\$2,184).

\*\*\*The cost for the Health Department portion of the **Full Circle** online permitting system (\$4,985) was covered under the **Technology** line item in the **Finance & Technology** appropriation.

# Community Development Department

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## Annual Report 2020

During 2020, the Adams Community Development Department implemented a broad work program, involving several community and economic development projects for the Town. These projects included those funded under the Massachusetts Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program, as well as several other grant funding programs. In 2020, department staff implemented projects under both Fiscal Year 2018 and Fiscal Year 2019 CDBG programs. As in past years, administrative funds from CDBG cover the wages and benefits of the grants staff within the Community Development Department.

### **CDBG PROGRAM AND PROJECTS**

The Community Development Department continued to accomplish significant progress on several projects in 2020 throughout the community:

#### **Memorial School Redevelopment and Reuse Project**

Work continued throughout 2020 on the installation of a new HVAC system and associated minor interior improvements within the “community use” portion of the school building (gym, locker rooms, shop area). The Town executed a contract with Kurtz, Inc. from Westfield (Gable Electric and Adams Plumbing & Heating as subs) in January 2020. Funding for the project was from Fiscal Year 2018 CDBG and Town funds, for a total project cost of \$585,000. Balancing the HVAC system and project close-out was completed in late December. The community use portion of the building will be cleaned, repainted, and funding sought for other repairs/improvements. CD staff will update and reissue the RFP to solicit a private developer partner to redevelop the classroom wing of the building into residential use now that passage of the 40R program has been approved by Town Meeting.

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

The goal of the Town’s Fiscal Year 2019 Adams Housing Rehabilitation Program (HRP) is to rehabilitate up to eight (8) residential units, both owner-occupied and investor-owned, for low-to-moderate income residents within the Route 8 Target Area. Based on the Town’s current waiting list, it is anticipated that 100% of the program’s beneficiaries will be low/moderate income persons. As in past years, the proposed projects will address improvements to residential dwellings by providing safe, decent, and sanitary housing. Additionally, the program seeks to preserve the historic character of existing neighborhoods and historic dwellings. The Adams HRP provides deferred-payment loans (DPL) to owner-occupied (one/two family) units and to investor-owners who have low-to-moderate income tenants.

#### **Russell Field Renovation Project**

Russell Field is a multi-purpose recreational facility located close to state Route 8 and along the popular Ashuwillticook Rail Trail, a focus of increasing recreational activity within the Town. The heavily used public facility serves the entire community and provides playing fields for youth sports including Lassie League softball, junior football, and youth football (Pop Warner and flag football). It is considered a premiere park in

Adams, as it is the only illuminated softball field. The northern half of the park provides for a children’s playground and tennis courts, the only tennis facilities in Adams. The existing condition of the facility created numerous safety concerns. The field was uneven and the facility is not accessible in a manner consistent with ADA regulations. The Town received \$493,000 in Fiscal Year 2019 CDBG funds to renovate Russell Field. The Town’s contractor for the project, Mountain View Landscapes & Lawncare, Inc. was issued a Notice to Proceed on July 7, 2020 and work began immediately and progressed throughout the remainder of 2020, after which the project was shut down for winter weather. The renovation work provided various upgrades involving new drainage, new paths to the playground, and new tennis courts and dugouts designed to be fully ADA accessible. The tennis courts have been enlarged and will include both tennis and pickleball lines to attract a diverse group of users. A new fitness area, suitable for youth and adults, will allow a new free and accessible exercise venue for Adams residents. The project will also result in new wiring and working lights to facilitate night games and practices for various teams. Although the project was substantially complete in 2020, work will resume in spring 2021 to ensure all new turf areas have taken well before close out of the project.

### **OTHER COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS**

#### **Town Common Renovation Project**

The Town received a grant of \$297,500 through the Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs to renovate the Town Common, located at the intersection of Commercial and Center Streets. The property was last upgraded in 1985 and in critical need of improvements. The project was prompted in part by the Adams Suffrage Centennial Celebration Committee. The local volunteer committee raised funds to commission a statue of Susan B. Anthony, to be placed in the Town Common, to honor the 200th year anniversary of Susan B. Anthony’s birth in Adams and the 100th year anniversary of the passing of the 19th Amendment. Brian Hanlon of Hanlon Sculpture Studio was selected sculptor of the statue, which depicts both a young and an adult Anthony. The renovation of Town Common includes a new plaza, which is the location of the new statue, surrounded by benches and information plaques describing Susan B. Anthony’s life and contribution to women gaining the right to vote. Due to its central location, the Town Common has often been used as a gathering place for Town events, such as the tree lighting ceremony and during Town parades. The renovation of the park includes a permanent Christmas tree, to be lit every year, as well as a new gazebo which can be used as a focus for events. The Town’s construction contractor for the project, William J. Keller & Sons, expects to fully complete all project work by late spring 2021.

#### **Crotteau Street Improvement Project**

The Invitation for Bids was issued in April 2020 and the low bid was submitted by Clayton Davenport Construction, Inc. Town staff obtained the Rights-of-Entry forms needed from

abutting residents to allow the project to go forward, and construction began by mid-May. The Crotteau Street project involved the reconstruction of 1,300 linear feet of roadway and sidewalk replacement on Crotteau Street from Murray Street to Sparrow Street. The existing pavement and sub-base material were removed and reconstructed with a full depth pavement section from Cook Street to Sparrow Street. Pavement milling and overlay was completed from Murray Street to Cook Street. The existing curb and sidewalks were removed and new granite curb, sidewalk, and wheelchair ramps were installed. Funding for the project is a combination of Complete Streets (\$290,000) and c. 90 funding (approximately \$150,000). Work was completed in late fall 2020 and the final punch list items were fully addressed by the contractor. The project was successfully closed out prior to the end of November.

### **Route 8 Construction Project**

The Town's Route 8 Roadway Improvement Project (Commercial Street - extending approximately 5,800 linear feet: from the bridge crossing the Ashuwillticook Rail Trail to Route 116), moved from design to construction during 2020. Based on work by Department staff, the Right-of-Way for the Route 8 project was submitted to MassDOT for final approval along with all final documentation, the project was advertised, and public bidding completed. Maxymillian, Inc. was selected as the state's contractor for the project and construction was underway in late summer 2020, and is expected to continue through the end of 2021. The Traffic Control Agreement and the Non-Participation Agreement (for additional sewer pipe lining work to be paid by Town funds) were executed between the Town and MassDOT. Department staff conducted the required hearing for street tree removals in mid-November. Community Development staff also worked with the project engineer, VHB, to develop design drawings for a drainage connection for Lower Linden Street (which has experienced flooding and poor storm drainage) to the new drainage lines in the project. Final anticipated construction costs: \$8.7M.

### **Ashuwillticook Rail Trail Extension (Phase IV) Project**

Earlier in 2019, the Town executed the Agreement with MassDOT for the first phase of design (25%) of the trail's final segment in Adams (Lime Street to Hodges Cross Road in North Adams). Federal Highway funds allocated by MassDOT has provided \$561,003 for 25% design with another \$140,250 (20% match) provided by the Town through its Chapter 90 funding. The Town executed its contract with VHB in October 2019 to complete the 25% design phase for the extension project. Engineering design has continued through 2020 with survey, bridge design and hydraulic studies, and environmental analysis all advancing. The project schedule indicates that the MassDOT 25% Design Public Hearing would occur prior to the end of the 2020 calendar year but, given COVID-19 impacts, the hearing has been delayed until spring 2021.

### **Grant Street Neighborhood Drainage Project**

The final engineering design and public bidding for the drainage project was completed in early 2020, the Town conducted the public bidding process, and executed a contract in July with Maxymillian, Inc., for a total contract price of \$1,306,600. A Pre-Construction Meeting was conducted in the field on July 22, 2020 with representatives of VHB, the project engineer,

Maxymillian, Inc. and Town DPW and Community Development staff. Discussion focused on the drainage design and how to handle service crossings, especially given the Town's poor location data of services in the area. Construction was initiated in August. Extensive investigations (test pits, ground radar, and pipe videography) occupied the first two months of construction given the inaccuracy of existing utility mapping (both Town and Adams Fire District mapping).

The Grant Street project involves removal and installation of drain pipe along with catch basin and manhole installations and repair (involving approximately 2,000 lineal feet of 12" to 42" reinforced concrete pipe). In addition to the surface and sub-surface drainage improvements, the project work also includes site clearing, earth work, paving, erosion & sediment control, stabilization of disturbed areas, and other incidental work. The project addresses the recurrent flooding that the neighborhood has experienced over the years with the increase in intensity of storm events. The project was identified as a high priority in the Town's Community Resiliency Building Workshop funded under the state's Municipal Vulnerability Preparedness (MVP) program. The Town subsequently received MVP Action grant funds in the amount of \$572,100 towards construction and another \$92,400 for engineering for implementation of the Grant Street drainage improvements. The project will be completed and closed out prior to the end of June 2021.

### **Davis Street Culvert Replacement Project**

Community Development staff have continued to work with VHB and Hill Engineers on the design of a new 9-foot open bottom box culvert with expanded and armored wing walls for extra protection and resilience at Davis Street. The project design has been submitted to the Town and DPW staff for review of the drawings. Given its location crossing the Southwick Brook, the project is complicated and needs to be vetted by Army Corps, MassDOT, Berkshire Gas, etc. and requires Conservation Commission approval. CD staff hope the project can move through permitting during the fall/winter months so that a summer 2021 construction will be possible.

### **Jordan Street Culvert Replacement**

The Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency (MEMA) approved the Town's application under the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) 4372, recommending it for further review by FEMA and an obligation of \$1,717, 500 in federal funding for the project (The Town would provide a 25% match to this amount). In the spring 2020, FEMA requested additional information to complete their review of the Town's application. Our additional information was to be submitted by June but the deadline was extended to August 8. At FEMA's request, CD staff provided additional data from National Grid and the Town's consultant reworked the Benefit-Cost Analysis required under the program. Town staff is hopeful to receive an actual award of funding from FEMA and a notice to proceed with the project in 2021.

# Adams Suffrage Centennial Celebration Committee

During the fall of 2016, the Board of Selectmen authorized the formation of a committee to celebrate the 200th birthday of Adams native, Susan B. Anthony, and the 100th anniversary of the passage of the 19th amendment in 2020. This committee named itself the Adams Suffrage Centennial Celebration Committee and met twice a month for four years.

The mission of the ASCCC was to raise funds for a statue of Susan B. Anthony and for a celebration in August of 2020. A local artist, George Lemaitre, provided a mock-up of an adult Susan B. Anthony giving a speech in Philadelphia accompanied by a young Susan B. Anthony sitting at the adult Susan's feet. The young Susan represented her formative years as a young girl in Adams.

The committee sought proposals from sculptors nationally and received thirteen responses. After a lengthy selection process, the committee selected Brian Hanlon from Tom's River, NJ. Hanlon is nationally known for the Basketball Hall of Fame sculptures and other sports sculptures located throughout the country. A contract was signed and work commenced.



*Above: The new statue depicting Susan B. Anthony, as both an adult and a young girl, in place at the Town Common.*

*Top Right: Portrait of Susan by Bradford Lambert, hanging in the Adams Free Library.*



A huge part of the committee's work involved fundraising. They included direct solicitations, tea socials, musical bingo and a Gala celebrating Ms. Anthony's actual 200th birthday in 2020. Several major donors came forward to contribute to the effort. They were the Adams Community Bank, the Fitzpatrick Trust, the Feigenbaum Foundation, Greylock Federal Credit Union, the Susan B. Anthony Birthplace Museum, the Estate of Oscar Choquette c/o Larry Choquette, Avangrid, Adams Hometown Market, National Grid, Big Y, the Town of Adams and the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. Many, many individuals also contributed.

The committee intended to have the statue completed and installed in time for the town celebration in August of 2020. It planned a three-day celebration from August 21st to August 23rd. Included in this celebration were nighttime and all-day events, including dramatic performances, musical performances, a food truck festival, a fireworks display and a parade on August 23rd. The dedication of the statue was to have occurred on August 23rd after the parade. However, the COVID-19 pandemic cancelled all plans.

The statue was delivered and installed on the Town Common in September of 2020. Once town officials deem it safe, a dedication ceremony and, we hope, a scaled down celebration will take place.

The Committee members were Pam St. John, Chair, Lynda Bianchi, Vice-Chair, Jim Loughman, Secretary, Erin Mucci, Treasurer, Pat Catelotti, Bill Kolis, Eugene Michalenko, Joseph Nowak, Cassandra Peltier, and Peter Tomy. Former members were Carleen Butler and Colleen Janz.

Respected submitted,

Adams Suffrage Centennial Celebration Committee



# Cultural Council of Northern Berkshire

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For fiscal year 2021, the Cultural Council of Northern Berkshire (CCNB) awarded \$72,500 to 63 individuals and organizations to benefit the citizens of the eleven towns within its jurisdiction: Adams, North Adams, Cheshire, Clarksburg, Florida, Hancock, Lanesborough, Monroe, New Ashford, Savoy, and Williamstown. The local cultural council program, of which CCNB is a part, is funded through the Massachusetts Cultural Council (MCC), the largest grassroots cultural funding network in the nation, which receives an annual appropriation from the state legislature. In the era of COVID-19, the MCC has been a lifeline for struggling organizations and a beacon of hope that a robust arts and humanities scene will once again thrive in the Berkshires. In the meanwhile, the CCNB has fostered a good deal of creativity among artists and humanists as they seek to adapt their talents to online program delivery.

This newest round of CCNB funding will benefit the Adams Free Library's summer reading program, motivational and musical programs for middle- and high-school students, professional development for a North County arts educator, a series of performances and educational opportunities at Bascom Lodge, and outdoor educational explorations for Youth Center participants. Those who extend their travels to other North County towns will discover a range of entertaining and uplifting musical, theater, art, and educational offerings supported, in part, by the CCNB.

The activities CCNB has voted to support in the past range from concerts, exhibitions, radio and video productions, music enrichment, and storytellers, to field trips for schoolchildren, after-school youth programs, puppeteers, theatre performances, dance, and town library programs, to community block parties, lectures, nature and science education programs, hands-on museum art activities, and town fairs. We all look forward to the time when we can once more gather together in public spaces to fully enjoy all that our gifted artists and educators have to offer us. As the pandemic continues to constrain our activities, however, the CCNB has done its part to enhance Adams's cultural life, to grow its local economy, and to promote the well-being of its citizens.

The Adams representatives to the Cultural Council of Northern Berkshire are Lynn Rhoads and Henry Klein.

If you are interested in joining the CCNB, please contact co-presidents Arthur De Bow or Cecilia Hirsch or administrator Maureen Riley Moriarty at:

<https://www.mass-culture.org/ccnb>

And if you are an artist or educator, be sure to visit:

[www.mass-culture.org](http://www.mass-culture.org)

to explore the array of opportunities the MCC supports in a variety of specialized programs.

# Office of Veteran Services

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## Annual Report 2020

The Adams Office of Veteran Services is directly responsible for providing veterans' benefits under Chapter 115 of the General Laws of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. This important need-based program leads the nation in providing financial assistance to eligible veterans by delivering a measure of relief from crushing poverty and hopelessness. Veterans of our community who are disabled, homeless, unemployed, underemployed or suffering from the trauma of war and have nowhere else to turn should seek the services provided by Veteran Service Officer (VSO) Stephen R. Roy. Many veterans and their families have been rescued from hunger and homelessness by the services provided by VSO Roy, who works closely with the Massachusetts Department of Veteran Services in Boston to ensure the community is reimbursed for the expenses these services entail.

Veteran Services also assists a great number of veterans with filing claims through the United States Department of Veterans Affairs (VA). This intimidating process can be extremely difficult to accomplish successfully; we support these folks by acquiring the correct documentation, proper completion and submission to the appropriate entity. Other services provided include - but are not limited to - educational/employment assistance, dependency and indemnity compensation, alcohol/drug rehabilitation, housing assistance, referrals, and close contact with funeral homes and cemeteries to ensure all veteran graves are properly honored. The Office of Veteran Services also serves as a depository for hundreds of thousands of documents and important records of historic value to the sons and daughters of Adams, maintained in secure archives.

The VSO maintains a very dynamic and flexible schedule serving not only the Town of Adams but the City of North Adams and Towns of Williamstown, Dalton, Lanesborough, Cheshire, Clarksburg, Savoy and Florida, Massachusetts. The VSO often makes special appointments and house calls to the sick, bedridden or elderly who cannot easily make it to Town Hall. The VSO also makes frequent duty calls to hospitals and skilled nursing/assisted living facilities in the area to help our most vulnerable veterans with their needs.

Respectfully submitted,

Stephen R. Roy  
Veteran Service Officer

# Department of Public Works

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The Department of Public Works acts as the Town road and sewer infrastructure, cemeteries, parks and grounds, and equipment maintenance labor force, and also provides Transfer Station and Recycling Services. Under the authority of the DPW Director, with a labor force of thirteen full-time employees, there are divisions which maintain certain areas of expertise though department members are interchangeably assigned as needed to support each division by the Operations Supervisor to the most pressing needs of the town. The Divisions include the *Highway Division*, the *Parks, Grounds and Cemetery Division*, and the *Equipment Maintenance Division*.

## **HIGHWAY DIVISION**

The Highway Division provides the primary maintenance, repair and beautification of the Town's roadways and parking lot infrastructure. The regular operations carried out by this Division include:

- Street Sweeping
- Patching Streets
- Scarifying and shaping unpaved roads
- Maintaining gravel roads
- Maintaining guardrails, culverts and surface drains
- Maintaining parking meters and regulatory signs
- Painting all crosswalks, parking spaces and centerlines
- Sanding, salting, snow plowing and snow removal
- Sidewalk replacement
- Repairing and rebuilding catch basins and sewer manholes
- Draining manholes
- Maintenance, repair and installation of sewer connections
- Tree pruning, removal and planting
- Chipping roadside brush and at the Transfer Station
- Large project collaboration with other contracted agencies
- Mowing grass at the Cemeteries
- Flower planting and beautification of downtown Adams
- Maintaining the new section of the Ashuwillticook Rail Trail
- Maintaining the Greylock Glen
- Transfer Station and Recycle Center Services

## **CEMETERIES, PARKS AND GROUNDS DIVISION**

### **CEMETERIES**

Five Seasonal Employees were hired this year to provide all aspects of cemetery maintenance.

#### **Maple Street Cemetery**

Maple Street Cemetery continues to have several older trees that remain in poor condition. Additional tree maintenance and plantings will need to take place in the coming years. The cemetery was ready for Memorial Day and maintained the entire summer with regular grass cutting, weed whacking, and tree trimming.

#### **Bellevue Cemetery**

The five Seasonal Employees assisted one full-time employee this season in maintaining all aspects of the cemetery and in burial excavations. The recently installed "S" section on the south side of the cemetery has sold several lots this year. Several trees were trimmed at the cemetery this year to maintain them, as well as regular grass cutting, and weed whacking.

### **FLOOD CONTROL**

DPW employees performed as much vegetation and brush removal as possible. Despite the challenges by COVID-19 on our labor resources, we were able to clear some trees along portions of the flood control system. The herbicide spraying program was suspended in this area so challenging, unwanted vegetation was instead removed manually by DPW employees with the assistance of seasonal employees.

### **PARKS AND ATHLETIC FIELDS**

#### **Valley Street Field**

The Parks crew hauled several cubic yards of new beautiful baseball infield mix to the field this year. New fixtures were installed in the bathrooms and some repair work made to the building and dugout. The two irrigation systems were professionally tuned up in the spring, although there was no play this season because of the pandemic, and irrigation was restricted due to the town-wide mandatory water ban.

#### **Renfrew Field**

Unlike previous years, Renfrew Field saw no play in 2020 as a result of COVID-19. This allowed turf to rest a season which will improve conditions for the next one.

#### **Reid Field**

Reid Field, like the others, was closed to play for almost all the season because of state mandated pandemic related closure.

#### **Other Duties**

The Visitors Center saw some different activities this year. Without the annual Thunderfest and Ramblefest public events, because of COVID-19, we hosted L.L. Bean's Mobile Tour in the parking lot for outside shopping. The Parks & Grounds staff maintained the lighting and flowers on Park Street, Armory Court and all of Memorial Park. Banners and seasonal decorations on Park Street were updated as well. This team also worked hard to maintain some sections of the flood control system, which spans from Lime Street to Reeves Street. This Division keeps all bridges, walkways and street crossing ramps clear of snow and debris. The crew regularly assists the Highway Division with all public plowing and street sweeping, 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.



## **EQUIPMENT MAINTENANCE** **DIVISION**

There are presently two full-time employees in the Equipment Maintenance Division. This division holds the large responsibility of repairing, maintaining and repurposing all of the Town-owned vehicles and equipment. The Highway Division, Parks, Grounds and Cemetery Division, the Wastewater Treatment Plant, and the Forest Wardens utilize approximately fifty pieces of equipment and vehicles. The nine Police Department vehicles and two vans from the Council on Aging also require maintenance. Additional repairs and attention are given to the lawn mowers, weed whackers, chain saws, water pumps, generators, snow blowers, air compressors, and other various pieces of equipment needed by the Divisions in their daily operations.

The Equipment Maintenance Division performs all of its own fabrication and welding to plows, plow frames, dump bodies and loader buckets, as well as accomplishing body repairs. Tires are changed on all vehicles, including loader tires and large truck tires, and specifications are written for all equipment to be purchased. Recently we were able to purchase a new tire changing machine and wheel balancing unit. This is an example of how this division shows extensive creativity, out-of-the-box thinking and impressive expertise to perform the numerous repairs that present themselves each day with aging equipment and tight budgetary restrictions.

In 2020, a new one-ton truck was added to the fleet, and an existing SUV was reconditioned as part of the Police Department vehicle fleet. Extraordinary efforts are made to repurpose vehicles to maximize their life and usefulness as portions of vehicles deteriorate beyond repair due to their age. For example, two International Dump Trucks, both 2005 vintage, were reconditioned in the previous year to bring them up to acceptable operational standard. In 2020, work began on restoring a 2002 trackless machine that, when completed, will add to the Town's fleet, at a fraction the cost of buying a new one. It is expected these restored pieces of equipment will see many years of unabated performance to the Town.

## **MAJOR NEW** **PROJECTS**

### **Crotteau Street**

Crotteau Street, from Sparrow to Murray, saw extensive construction work to the storm drains, road, and sidewalks. After many months of planning, preparing and meeting with the community by the Community Development Department, the project was handed off to the DPW to oversee the construction phase performed by a contractor awarded the bid. Murray Street also had construction as part of this project which included, among other work, new sidewalk construction.

### **Russell Field**

Russell Field went through extensive reconstruction this year. Many years of planning resulted in the entire field being redone and new outdoor use equipment installed. From the tennis court to the softball field backstop fencing and everything in between, the field is brand new. Some of the work includes, new tennis courts with pickleball striping, new adult outdoor fitness exercise area, new youth playground area, additional underground field drainage lines, new underground conduit lines for electric wiring for lights, updated ADA and senior parking, new trees, new bituminous walking paths, and new backstop fencing to name a few.

### **Town Common**

Extensive redesign construction work was performed at the Town Common this year that brought new attractions and re-inforced existing character. Included are a new gazebo with overhead lighting, redesigned walkway, new trees, benches and trash receptacles, and new live celebration evergreen tree to name a few. The highlight attraction of all this redesign work is a Susan B. Anthony statue. The statue overlooks the main thoroughfare and is a welcoming point of sorts to those entering the Town via Route 8 and Route 116. The Town Common has been a wonderful central location that hosts community events such as weddings, music festivals and youth-based programs, and now with the Susan B. Anthony statue, will include a permanent historical component.

### **Grant Street, Cross Street, Lincoln Street and Valley Street Drainage Improvements**

Drainage improvement work commenced to this area in 2020. Much needed improvements were delivered to half the project already with the remainder to resume and finish in 2021. Some enormous structures were installed on Valley Street to improve drainage to this area and end a history of storm water drainage problems.



*Crotteau Street from the Murray Street corner.*

## **Ashuwillticook and Greylock Glen Maintenance**

The new mile of the Ashuwillticook Trail and the expanding Greylock Glen usage area are additional responsibilities for the Highway Division to maintain. Grass cutting, trimming, and vegetation removal have begun to require regular and additional manpower. The Kubota, acquired over two years ago, has proved to be a valuable vehicle to reach these off-road areas to provide the upkeep needed; as will be the reconditioned 2002 Trackless Multi-purpose Tractor. Additional parking was created at the end of Thiel Road by relocating the Jersey barriers back further, and widening one side of the road and adding mill material to it for a base to park on. The additional parking helped accommodate the heavier use experienced at the Glen as a result of the pandemic.



*Greylock Glen heavy visitor usage*

The catch basins and manholes are being cleaned routinely but continue to fill with debris from heavy rainfall, tree leaves and branches, and trash build-up from the streets. Our progress this year was delayed by COVID-19. Regular maintenance was not completed until late in the season. 77 catch basins needed repair/maintenance work this year. Additional procedures and reporting will continue in 2020 in the Smart Asset Management and Inventory System (MS4 stormwater management) protocols that the Town of Adams has implemented.

### **Overview**

2020 was a challenging year because of a large number of projects that were planned from years prior, and because of COVID-19, which took over the forefront of everyone's concern and agenda.

In an effort to continue operations of the Towns infrastructure, we had to take unprecedented pro-active measures to reduce risk of exposure to the virus by our crew. This included splitting our Highway Department crew in two teams and staggering their work days in case one team had a member that became infected we would still have a backup team to keep our Town infrastructure operating. This strategy worked, but took a toll on progress. Our dedicated crews were able to bounce back from the pandemic and its challenges and provide uninterrupted service while simultaneously delivering on the completion of the year's full plate of scheduled new projects.

The year ended with snow and ice removal from winter storms that kept the crews regularly busy with varying temperature and precipitation type storms that required rapid changes in operations and skill by the team to switch from rain to ice, and then to snow and back in short periods of time.

## **ON GOING MAINTENANCE AND REPAIRS**

### **Black Top**

During the late winter, spring and summer seasons, pot hole repairs were, as most years, a major issue. Maintenance of these pot holes and frost heave problems represented the bulk of black top work for 2020 with hundreds of tons of black top spread and rolled in all sections of the town.

### **Tree Maintenance**

Tree work was done in several areas of town. Pruning, shaping and removal of trees was done in many locations to eliminate dead or dangerous limbs, create better tree health and shape, and for the safety of citizens.

### **Flood Management and Repairs**

Damage from two separate large-volume rain storms the town experienced in 2018 is still being dealt with today. Davis Street culvert repair being one of those projects. Repair work using subsidized funding has been approved and should commence in 2021. In addition, the Town had a culvert collapse on Jordan Street in 2020. Application for subsidized government funding has been submitted for this.



*Collapsed culvert off of Jordan Street*

The dedication of the Department of Public Works to serve the citizens to provide for safety and quality infrastructure under varying conditions, long hours, and sudden circumstance changes has been demonstrated, as in previous years, again in 2020. Thank you to this hard-working team that continues to handle the challenges as they come.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert P. Tober  
Director  
Adams Department  
of Public Works

# Emergency Management Report

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The Town of Adams Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan continues to be updated. Meetings between all departments essential to emergency response are ongoing. The meetings have the goal of improving lines of communications and to establish protocol for each department. The Plan provides a framework for the Town of Adams to perform emergency functions during emergency situations on the local, state or national level.

Quarterly meetings held by MEMA in Agawam were suspended due to COVID-19.

Wind Shear Event: October 7, 2020 emergency services were dispatched to Cook Street, Crotteau Street and West Kittler Ave to assist with traffic control and tree removal.

A thank you to all Departments and personnel involved in the ongoing effort to provide for the safety and welfare of the citizens of Adams in the event of an emergency, natural or manmade.

A special thank you to the members of the Adams Forest Wardens for your support involving Emergency Management issues. You are always there supplying the manpower needed to resolve the issues.

Respectfully submitted,

Richard G. Kleiner  
Emergency Management Director  
Town of Adams

# Forest Warden Report

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**The Adams Forest Department is a  
WILDLAND FIRE DEPARTMENT**

**“ONLY YOU CAN PREVENT WILDLAND FIRES!”**

The Forest Warden Department is charged with:

- The prevention and suppression of all outdoor fires
- Enforcement of the outdoor burning regulations as stated in Chapter 48 of the Massachusetts General Laws and in 527 CMR Section 1 and 310 CMR Section 7
- The issuance of outdoor burning permits

**October 26, 2020 All Forest Warden drills were cancelled because of the upsurge in COVID-19 cases in the Town of Adams.**

The Forest Warden Department continued to respond to Emergency calls.

**The Forest Warden Department Responded  
To The Following In 2020:**

## **CALLS:**

- 6 Outdoor Fires
- 10 Illegal Burns
- 21 Smoke Investigations
- 2 Mutual Aid Calls
- 9 Search and Rescue

## **EVENTS:**

- 23 Community Events/  
Traffic Control/Service Details

**BURNING PERMITS ISSUED: 317**

**“THANK YOU”** to the residents of the Town of Adams for your support of the Adams Forest Warden Department. The Forest Warden Department exists to serve the Town and its residents in any capacity.

Respectfully submitted,

Richard G. Kleiner  
Chief Forest Warden  
Town of Adams

# Inspectional Services Department

During 2020, The Adams Building Safety and Inspectional Services Department issued five hundred thirty-three (533) permits for construction, demolition, alterations, additions, repairs, change of use, solid fuel appliances, trenching and sheet metal permits, certificate of occupancies, certificate of inspections, signs and curb cut permits, electrical, plumbing and gas. Of those permits, six were issued for new residential single-family dwellings.

A total of \$62,896 in permitting fees was collected during the year.

The Building Inspector's Office performed numerous inspections associated with permitting and addressed numerous zoning and building code violations, with none requiring court action. Periodic inspections were performed on restaurants, bars, clubs, food establishments, schools, bed & breakfast inns, motels, apartment houses, day care centers, condominiums and churches. The Building Inspector also worked with the Zoning and Planning Boards by reviewing applications and organizing meetings.

Type of Permits:	# of Permits:
Single Family Dwelling	6
Residential additions, alterations, conversions, repairs, & insulation	217
Commercial/Business/Non-Residential additions, alterations, conversions, and repair	21
Sign Permits	13
Curb-cut/Driveway entrance	6
Certificate of Inspections/Certificate of Occupancy	18
Solid Fuel	7
Temporary Structures (Tents)	7
Trenches	17
Sheet Metal	3
<b>Gas Inspector</b>	
Number of Gas Fitting Permits Issued	71
<i>Fees Collected</i>	<b>\$ 4,800.00</b>
<b>Plumbing Inspector</b>	
Number of Plumbing Permits Issued	23
<i>Fees Collected</i>	<b>\$ 1,860.00</b>
<b>Electrical Inspector</b>	
Number of Electrical Permits Issued	136
<i>Fees Collected</i>	<b>\$ 12,725.00</b>

The Inspection Services Department is responsible for the enforcement of all state and local codes and ordinances pertaining to building and health. The department oversees all building permits and inspection activities with regards to the Massachusetts State Building Code, applicable Massachusetts General Laws, Accessibility Regulations, zoning, planning and Board of Health Regulations. The department is also responsible for issuing all electrical, plumbing, and gas permits.

As we all know, 2020 has been a challenging year for all of us. With the introduction of COVID-19 we have been forced to adapt to a newly structured society and forced to change our ways of doing business. While some communities closed their building departments and other services, our Inspectional Services Department in Adams was committed to keep the operations moving, encourage development of our community, and continue to move

forward despite the building being closed and many employees being sent home. While this may not sound unique, many communities in Berkshire County closed their operations completely, and no permits were being issued and inspections were not being conducted. The Town of Adams Inspectional Services Department was committed to continuing operations as close to normal as possible, while keeping the public, and ourselves, safe from infection. Due to this commitment we were able to salvage the year's permit and inspection totals for both the Building and Health Departments with a minor deviation from the previous years.

Despite the pandemic, the Department was still able to remove several blighted properties with no cost to the taxpayers. Some of these razed buildings are 8 Depot Street, 40 Spring Street, 219 West Road, 121 Summer Street and an assortment of smaller accessory structures located within the Town. There are still some properties pending demolition, but we are still working with these owners to remove these structures. There are inevitably going to be buildings slated for demolition the Town will have to fund, but we do have state funds available to us to help defray these costs.

While there are still many properties that need attention, not all are slated for the wrecking ball. Some structures have been presented to realtors and contractors by the Board of Health to take part in our receivership program for redevelopment. It is too early to tell how well this will work for the Town as COVID-19 has stymied the ability for some of these projects to begin, as State Offices who assist with this program have been closed, making attempts difficult to start the process. It is the intention of the Town not to demolish every blighted building asset; it is imperative to keep structures intact and viable as this affects the tax rate. Bringing substandard housing into a presentable condition increases property values and decreases taxes. This is just one piece of a very complicated puzzle to encourage new growth and lower taxes.

Although the pandemic has had serious consequences in allowing us to utilize several of the tools we would normally use to bring up substandard housing, we hope that the efforts to combat the pandemic will open up the door to allow greater access to properties, and give the public more confidence to allow safe access. As was stated last year, the ultimate goal for the Department is to combat the blighted conditions within the Town using as many tools as possible. This effort will take many years and will certainly not happen overnight, but every effort will be made to end blight in our community.

I would like to thank the Board of Selectmen, Community Development Director Donna Cesan, and Town Administrator Jay Green for the opportunity to work for the residents of the Town of Adams. My experience here has been a positive one, and I find the community to be welcoming, and supportive of our efforts. I started as a part time Building Commissioner / Local Inspector on January 3, 2019 and was subsequently appointed as the full-time Building Commissioner on March 25, 2019 in charge of the Inspectional Services Department which encompasses the Building Inspector's Office, and Administrative oversight of the Code Enforcement Officer for the Board of Health.

Sincerely,

Gerald W. Garner  
Building Commissioner

# Northern Berkshire Solid Waste Management District

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In Calendar Year 2020, 842.97 tons of paper, glass, cans, and plastic were recycled. The Town of Adams recycled 92.18 tons of paper and 51.76 co-mingle. District-wide Recycling Services, MSW (Trash) provided 2,048 tons, Demo/Bulky recycling had 649 tons and Scrap Metal Recycling was 290 Tons, generating \$19,053 in revenue back to the member Towns. Congratulations to all the residents of the member towns for increasing recycling from the last calendar year. The Textile Recovery recycling program District-wide had an increase as well, and collected 79,425 pounds of textiles. Thank you for donating and keeping them from the waste stream. The town's Transfer Station again this year rated excellent in the MassDEP third-party inspection due to the great work of the Transfer Station Attendants and Town officials!

The District contracted with Clean Harbors Environmental for a one-day Hazardous Waste Collection that was held on August 22, 2020 at the Adams DPW yard. This location is central to the residents of the thirteen towns in the District, and we appreciate the Town of Adams for allowing NBSWMD the use of the property for that day. Residents from every member town, 155 households and several town departments in all, took advantage of the opportunity to dispose of hazardous chemicals in a safe way. The cost for this one-day event was \$10,150, and the peace of mind for residents was priceless! Thank you to Town of Adams Commissioner Edward Driscoll, Clarksburg Commissioner Carl McKinney, the Commonwealth Community Service program and Adams Police Department for help at our much-needed collection. The NBSWMD has changed the paint collection program to mainstream it and maximize dollars. Oil-based paint is collected at the Comprehensive Household Hazardous Waste Collection. Latex paint is no longer accepted, as it is not a hazardous material. We continue to educate residents on drying latex and proper disposal, or donating if the product is usable. The next Household Hazardous Waste Collection will be held April 24, 2021 at the Town of Adams DPW yard. Information is available at: [www.nbswmd.com](http://www.nbswmd.com) under Special Collections.

The District has six Universal Waste Product Sheds for District member towns to utilize, funded throughout the years by MassDEP. The cost of recycling is allocated from the District's yearly budget. This program has increased with the amount of collections and there are sheds at the Adams, Cheshire, Hinsdale, Peru, Windsor, and Williamstown Transfer Stations. Next Level for Recycling, Inc. (NLR) is the designated facility for the District's recycling of Universal Waste products. To stay in compliance with MassDEP, all sheds must be cleaned and packed for shipping on a yearly basis. Each town generates a Waste Manifest which is filed in the District office. Thanks again to all who make this program a success. This program is also maintained by each town's Transfer/Recycling Center Attendants and the NBSWMD Program Coordinator. The District recycled 917 lbs. of various sized fluorescent lamps, 1,088 lbs. of mixed batteries, 503 lbs. of non-PCB contaminated ballasts, two 5-gallon containers of mercury devices (such as thermostats and thermometers) at a cost of \$4,655. We continue with outreach and education in assisting our communities in converting their households and businesses to LED lighting. Please check with

your local Community Action Council or Mass Save program for information on this. Your utility company can assist with information regarding Energy Audits.

The District, with town volunteers, held annual Bulky and Electronic Waste Collection days in Adams, Clarksburg, and Lanesborough. The special collection events are open to all residents of the thirteen towns in the District. Total material collected at Adams: 14,230 pounds of electronics, 7.05 tons of scrap metal, and 5.61 tons of furniture, etc. Total collected at Lanesborough: 6,120 pounds of electronics, 1.99 tons of scrap metal, and 1.51 tons of furniture, etc. Total collected at Clarksburg: 3,600 pounds of electronics, 2.56 tons of scrap metal and 1.51 tons of furniture, etc. Sincere thanks to our volunteers: Joe Szczepaniak, Paul Howcroft, Adams DPW Director Robert Tober, Adams, Clarksburg, and Lanesborough DPWs. The District had three extraordinarily successful Bulky Waste Collection events. The schedule for 2021 can be found on our website (under Special Collections) and flyers will be available at the Transfer Stations as soon as dates are finalized. These collections are scheduled to be held in the months of June, September, and October 2021. With heartfelt sadness, we acknowledge the loss of Alternate Commissioner and Adams Selectman James "Jim" Bush in September. He is dearly missed and appreciated for his friendship and dedication to the District.

On April 11, 2020, the District and Pro Shred offered a paper shredding event, which was held at the Town Hall in Lanesborough. There was no cost for residents to utilize this collection, and it generated 4,800 lbs. of shredded paper. The cost was \$750, which was paid for by our Recycling Dividends Shared Grant Award through MassDEP. The collection promotes recycling and helps combat identity theft. Many towns' residents had the opportunity to safely shred paper documents.

Please view our website for events and information/resources on recycling programs. Upcoming planned events include: The Kick-off to Earth Day/Month, the Household Hazardous Waste Collection on Saturday, April 24, 2021 at the Town of Adams DPW yard, and a Pro-Shred paper Shred Fest on Saturday, May 8th at the Town of Williamstown Transfer Station. The District has been in discussion with Williams College Environmental Studies to conduct a comprehensive study on a pilot project to promote food waste reduction. The two models will offer curbside and drop-off at the Transfer Station with possible support from the Cool Committee and Casella Waste Systems, Inc. We hope to offer this program in the upcoming year and introduce it to all towns in the District. In July, 2021 the Town of Hinsdale Transfer Station will promote our Subsidized Earth Machine program which offers home composting units to diverting food waste into compost. As more collections will be offered they will be added to the NBSWMD website: [www.nbswmd.com](http://www.nbswmd.com) under Special Collections

This year NBSWMD Program Coordinator Linda Cernik filed grant applications. Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (MassDEP) awarded "Small Initiative Grants" of \$500.00 to three towns in the District, and \$1,500.00 to NBSWMD. The Commissioners voted to pool the grants for

a shared purchase of one hundred 80-gallon Earth Machines (home composting units), various outreach materials to organize special collection events by community and schools and to hold community paper shredding days and Hazardous Household Waste collection events. The approved shared purchase will be a benefit to all the member towns and residents. There were ten towns in the District that received benefits from the MassDEP Recycling Dividends Program. Each of the member towns contributed \$500.00, with NBSWMD contributing \$1,500.00 for the shared purchase.

The Towns of Adams, Cheshire, Florida, Hancock, Hinsdale, Williamstown, Windsor, and Savoy were again recognized and awarded funds under the MassDEP Recycling Dividends Program. The District is proud to announce two new member towns receiving funds through the Recycling Dividends Program (RDP); Monroe in the amount of \$2,800 and Peru in the amount of \$3,150. This program awards points for achievement, and District member towns received the following amounts: Adams - \$5,950, Cheshire - \$4,550, Florida - \$3,500, Hancock - \$3,500, Hinsdale - \$4,900, Savoy - \$4,550, Williamstown - \$4,900, and Windsor - \$4,550. Towns of Clarksburg, Lanesborough, New Ashford were awarded Small Scales Awards of \$500 and NBSWMD the amount of \$1,500. Total grant dollars awarded District-wide were \$45,350. This is an increase of 30% from last year's grant awards showing great teamwork! The funds are reinvested to promote recycling education, new equipment, or projects. All of the member towns increased their RDP Grant Awards from last calendar year and it is the goal for all the member towns to receive RDP Grant awards. Each year the criteria to achieve RDP Awards requires additional data and recycling requirements. This coming grant cycle, all towns must certify that their school system is contracted with a hauling company and provide recycling. This data was captured in our Solid Waste and Recycling Data Surveys, which will be submitted in January 2021 for thirteen Towns.

The waste stream and our programs will continue to evolve. Our efforts in the coming year will be aimed at expanding locations for collecting textiles and providing a Compost Distribution Pilot Program with Williams College. Additionally there will be a creation of new CHARM Center opportunities including waste reduction, keeping costs down, a "Kickoff to Earth Day/Month," a Household Hazardous Waste Collection on April 24, 2021, a Community paper Shred Fest scheduled for May 8, 2021, and an expansion of the "Green Team" collaboration with our District's local schools, outreach and education.

A heartfelt thank you goes out to Shawn Wright, Amy Broderick and Connor Doherty, the Commonwealth of Massachusetts Trial Court, Office of Community Corrections for over 168 hours of volunteer time provided to the member towns in the District. Their help with Hazardous Household Waste and other special events, packing Universal Waste Sheds and the boxes for pickup, organizing the Town of Hinsdale's Swap Shop monthly cleaning, and organizing the Town of Williamstown's Book Shed is greatly appreciated. There are so many benefits from the sheds at the transfer stations and many treasures can be found. Thank you all for a great year and partnership. We look forward to working with you in 2021!

To the residents of the member towns, thank you for your continued support in recycling and waste reduction. Your dedication is what makes the northern Berkshire community a beautiful place to call home! Stop by your town's Swap Shop in Hinsdale, Savoy, and Windsor and see what there is to be found!

Thank you all for a great year despite the challenging times. We stuck together to make it all possible. The District thanks all Board of Commissioners, Transfer Station/Recycling Attendants, Contracted Haulers, Casella Waste Systems, Inc., Sayers' Scrap Recycling, Bob's Tires, Next Level Recycling, Clean Harbors Environmental, and our textile recycling collections vendors.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda Cernik  
NBSWMD  
Program Coordinator

Edward Driscoll  
NBSWMD Commissioner  
for the Town of Adams

**Reuse ~ Recycle ~ Re-think ~ Donate & Recycle Whenever Possible.**

## Planning Board

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The Planning Board held five public hearings during 2020, at which time they addressed three Site Plan review applications, as well as several workshop meetings to discuss future zoning bylaw changes.

Specific applications reviewed included Site Plan approvals for a Commercial Scale Ground-Mounted Solar project located on 101 Grove Street by Grove Street Solar, LLC, McDonald's USA LLC at 12 Commercial Street, and a wholesale bakery operated by Edward Ellmore located at 86 Howland Avenue.

The Planning Board also approved one Form A, ("Approval Not Required") under the Subdivision Regulations for property located at: 100 Alger Street and Harding Avenue (Map 108 Parcel 149).

Members of the Planning Board were:

Chairman David Rhinemiller  
Vice-Chairman David Krzeminski  
Sandra Moderski  
Lisa Gazaille  
Michael Mach

In addition, Michael Mach replaced Lisa Gazaille as the Board's representative to the Berkshire Regional Planning Commission.

## Zoning Board of Appeals

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The Zoning Board of Appeals conducts hearings on special permits, appeals or petitions for variance under the direction of M.G.L. Chapter 40A and comprehensive construction permits pursuant to M.G.L. c. 40B. The Board of Appeals plays a key role in determining special permit applications under the Adams Zoning Bylaw. The Zoning Board of Appeals also hears appeals from applicants who have been denied some or all of their building application that pertain to the Zoning Bylaws. Appeals of any order or decision of the Building Official or any other administrative official are also conducted.

Several applications came before the Zoning Board during 2020. Nine (9) Public Hearings were conducted involving four Special Permit requests and six Variances. Additional requests by applicants included one administrative appeal and two continuance hearings.

During 2020, the Adams Zoning Board of Appeals consisted of four Permanent members and one Temporary Permanent member.

The Zoning Board members were:

Acting Chairman Brian Tenczar  
Glen Diehl  
Wayne Piaggi  
James Duda  
Jacob Levesque

The Zoning Board's Temporary Permanent member was:

David Rhinemiller

During the year, Jacob Levesque resigned on June 19th from the Zoning Board and was replaced by James Duda as the Zoning Board's newly elected permanent member.



# Senior Center/Council on Aging

The role of the Senior Center/Council on Aging is to provide optimal aging opportunities through a comprehensive network of both in-home and community-based services and support programs in an effort to improve the quality of life for the older adults of our community. We do this through support, advocacy, planning, coordination, and implementation of programs that bring people together for social, recreational, and educational purposes. We also provide access to financial assistance programs. We seek to educate the entire community and enlist its support and participation.

It goes without saying that in 2020 we had an interesting year, to say the least. Despite our challenges, we did not slow down. The impact of the COVID-19 Pandemic forced us to look for the silver lining in our calendar year. It was the week of March 9th when the Town closed our doors to through traffic, which in turn provided us with an opportunity to look at our programming and delivery of services. Within the quiet office, we were able to increase our outreach, “touch” more people than we ever have through phone calls, door drop-offs, and later, in-person office visits through a controlled sanitized setting.

In January, we had a full year planned ahead and quickly started to make changes. The pandemic forced us to find the silver lining in things, to redesign some of our programs, and create some new programs in an effort to continue to touch lives. Below are just a few of the great programs we continued to offer:

**16.5%**  
More people served  
than 2019  
**37%**  
More people served  
than 2018

1. **“Stay Active” Kits:** Grants through the Berkshire Taconic Foundation and Executive Office of Elder Affairs allow us the funding to build “Stay Active” kits for community members who sheltered in place. We partnered with small local businesses who couldn’t open their doors and purchased items like brain puzzles, board puzzles, journals, etc., and local farms to purchase jams, honey, pickled and canned items. Content varied but included things like gift cards, note cards, virtual yoga classes, home exercise ideas, puzzles, sanitizer and more.
2. **“Thinking of You” Bags:** Distributed bags to grandparents raising grandchildren or those who struggled through remote learning so that the children’s parents could return to work as essential workers. Community members had an opportunity to anonymously recommend someone for us to drop a bag off to. While every bag included frozen food from a program with Elder Services of Berkshire County and USDA, bags also included activities for the children as well as the items listed above in the “stay active bags”. Both types of bags were delivered in person while maintaining all safety precautions.
3. **“Mask Up MA” Campaign:** We randomly selected 200 community members and mailed them a disposable mask in an effort to participate in the #MaskUpMA campaign and offered some helpful literature on Scam Awareness and Coronavirus Hotline numbers.

4. **Grandparent’s Day:** In September we mailed letters which included supportive information and a gift card to a local restaurant. Many of the same grandparents included in the “Thinking of You” bags also got mailings here. Gift Cards were purchased through a grant from Executive Office of Elder Affairs and our gift account.

5. **Holiday Gifts:** Traditionally we would have held a big Holiday Gathering event but couldn’t this year. Instead we drove around to many of our community members’ front doors and gifted them with a small purposeful gift to let them know we were thinking of them.

6. **Random Act of Kindness:** An anonymous monetary gift with the purpose of assisting us to spread kindness allowed us to gift small gifts to random community members in an effort to spark joy in their day.



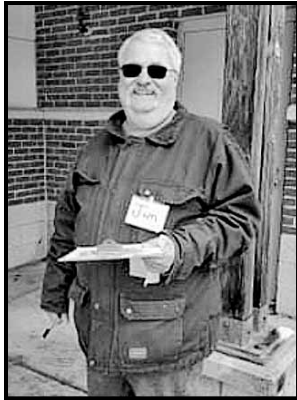
*Above: Director Erica Girgenti and five-year-old daughter Tressa handing out holiday gifts to community member and COA volunteer Mrs. Fran Meier.*

7. **“Check in Calls”:** Utilized trained volunteers to make hundreds of calls to people to check in on their well-being while reminding them of their 2020 census obligations.

These are just a few of the many programs we offered in 2020. All the while, our transportation program never ceased and our long-distance transportation program thrives although there is need to increase volunteer drivers for this program. The department continues to offer a Grab n’ Go style lunch, Health Insurance Counseling (SHINE) and managed to get 180 community members household taxes filed through the free AARP Tax Program before our program got cut short in March.

In the way of food security, our department continues to work closely with the Department of Transitional Assistance, Food Bank of Western Mass, Executive Office of Health and Human Services, and Executive Office of Elder Affairs. Our partnership with the DTA provides us with direct access to assist with SNAP applications and also aided us in assisting local families with issues that came up with the Pandemic EBT cards issued to school age children. With the quick assistance of volunteers, our Mobile Food Bank Program barely skipped a beat and participation exploded offering nearly 400 families twice a month with a distribution. Participation in our Brown Bag program remained the same. Through the pandemic our lunch program never stopped, although our indoor dining did. Community members took to the outdoors and enjoyed the sun while eating their meal.





*Above Left : Town Selectman and Adams Council on Aging volunteer Jim Bush at the Mobile Food Bank.*

*Above Center: Outdoor Lunch program at the Visitor Center.*

*Above right: Rose Koscelniak on her 104th birthday.*

Other fun community events (pre-pandemic) included escorting community member Rose Koscelniak to the Hoosac Valley Elementary School on their 100th school day, also on Dr. Seuss's birthday to read to the pre-school children.

Despite the closing of our doors to through-traffic, our center was still very busy, adding and assisting 246 NEW people to our system for one or more reasons, on top of the hundreds assisted year after year. That's about one new person per working day in 2020! Combined with returning friends, a global health pandemic, a decrease in staffing (due to pandemic lay-off for

most drivers), and locked doors to through traffic, we managed to assist over 1,164 people in 2020, this is an INCREASE in people by 16.5% from what we saw in 2019. Among these 1,164 people, 465 of them needed direct services in the way of application assistance, care coordination, money management, housing assistance and more. That's roughly 2 people per day who required multiple appointments. We saw these folks over 921 interactions within the calendar year. On top of these statistics, we had over 200 additional in-person interactions with community members for eyes-on well-checks. We just don't have enough hands to input all the work we've done!

**Your COA Team is here to serve YOU! Call us with your needs: 743-8333**



*Above Left: contents of a Mobile Food Bank distribution which varies every time.*

*Above Center: COA Van Driver John Naughton delivering brown bags to homebound residents.*

*Above Right: Rose Koscelniak with the Cat in the Hat.*

# Wastewater Treatment Plant

## 2020 Annual Town Report

For 2020 the Town of Adams Wastewater Treatment Plant provided wastewater treatment services for not only town residents, but also commercial and industrial operations within the town. Wastewater is treated for/from Hardman Industrial Park and the Walmart complex just north of the Adams/North Adams line. Our staffing levels are operating at 6 full-time employees, with the Operator I position being vacant. Our hours of operation are 7 AM - 3 PM, Monday through Friday. To meet the conditions set forth in our National Pollution Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit for daily monitoring, our laboratory is staffed full-time on weekdays and for two hours each day on weekends and holidays. The wastewater treatment plant (WWTP) and two wastewater pumping stations are inspected seven days a week, including holidays to comply with Massachusetts General Law. These daily checks at the plant and the pump stations are done by our licensed mechanic. Four employees at the Adams Wastewater Treatment Plant hold a Massachusetts Wastewater Treatment Plant Grade 4 Operator's license, one employee holds a grade 3.

As in the past few years, the layout of this report is a summary of the work and projects accomplished in 2020:

### MOBILE EQUIPMENT, STATIONARY EMERGENCY GENERATORS and VEHICLE MAINTENANCE

- The John Deere push mower had its motor oil, air filter, gas line and cutting blade replaced.
- Changed oil and oil filter on the plant truck (2009 F-350).
- The forklift truck had oil, oil filter and air filter replaced. A new starting battery was purchased/installed and the critical wear-pad slides replaced.
- John Deere riding mower had new cutting blades, oil, oil filter and spark plug installed.
- Semiannual oil, oil filters and coolant filters changed on our two Caterpillar stationary emergency electrical generators.

### VALVES, PUMPS, MOTORS, CONTROLLERS and ASSOCIATED EQUIPMENT

- Complete rebuild of #1 raw sewage pump.
- All cooling fans (plenum, heat sink & stirring fans) were cleaned and serviced in all "Square D" Variable Frequency Drives to raw sewage pump motors, activated sludge return pump motors and aerator motors.
- Compression fittings and new tubing installed on all of the Hypochlorite pumps.

### OTHER EQUIPMENT

- Air Handling Unit air filters replaced.
- In November all outside chemical solution lines were drained and purged with compressed air to prevent freeze damage from cold weather.
- Gearbox lubricants from mechanical aerators and clarifier drives were sent out for wear analysis.

- Wastewater plant's main back flow prevention valve was inspected and tested by the town's water department. Back flow valve passed all test parameters.
- All 3 motors in the aeration/reaeration (Motors #1, 2, 3) were tested and operable.
- All fire extinguishers at the wastewater treatment plant and the three pumping stations were tested and inspected. Two of which at the plant were replaced with more up-to-date "ABC" style extinguishers.
- Five Magnetic Flow Meters were cleaned and calibrated.
- New *ISCO* composite sampler head unit (*Image 1*).
- Four condensate pump motors installed (*Image 2*).



*Image 1*  
New *ISCO* composite  
sampler head unit



*Image 2*  
Condensate  
motor pump

### MISCELLANEOUS

- All plant equipment malfunction alarms were tested and deemed working properly. This included but was not limited to the Clarifier, Aeration, and Reaeration equipment alarms.
- The entire plant was upgraded to LED lighting.
- Lawn damage from snow plowing repaired in the spring.
- Fume hood in lab inspected and tested annually.
- Annual state inspection of facility's boilers and compressors passed.
- Alarm system insurance certification performed by Alarms of Berkshire County.
- Ground water removed from electrical manholes and chemical line manholes in the spring and fall.
- *ISCO* stationary sampler tubing replaced as needed (both influent and effluent).

Laboratory equipment was upgraded as follows:

1. Bought our usual (spring/fall) chemicals: Hypochlorite, Sodium Bisulfite, and PolyAluminum Chloride.
2. Had balance calibration weight certified.
3. Laboratory scales were cleaned and calibrated by All State Scale Company.

## OVERALL SUMMARY

The Wastewater Treatment Plant is still monitoring and inspecting two (2) pump stations, located on Zylonite and Harmony Street.

A review of the 2020 facility's records and reports documents 660.9 million gallons of wastewater was treated and cleaned before being discharged to the Hoosic River. This was a decrease of 6.2% from last years (2019) annual flow of 704.9 million gallons.

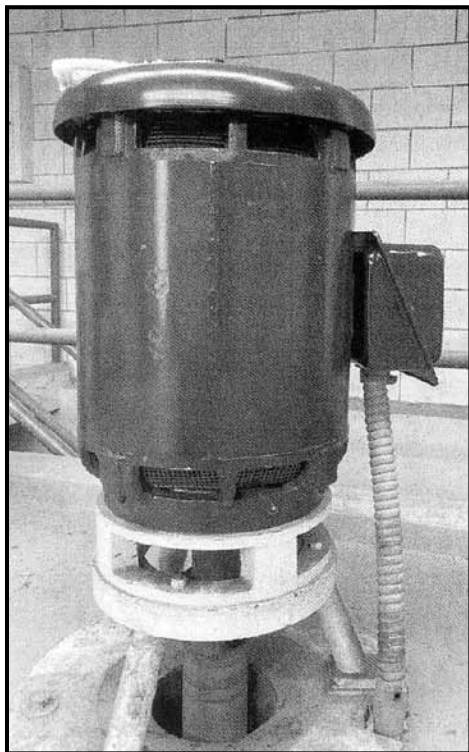
A total of 108.1 dry metric tons of dewatered sludge was processed and hauled to an incinerator in Waterbury, CT, for final disposal in 2020. This was a decrease of 18.6% from 2019 sludge disposal total of 132.76 dry metric tons.

The monthly averages for removal of Total Suspended Solids ranged between a minimum of 85.4% to a maximum of 96.7% with an overall average for 2020 of 91.0% removal. Biochemical Oxygen Demand removals ranged from a minimum of 91.8% to a maximum of 98.2% with a twelve-month average for 2020 of 95.8% removal.

## CONCLUSION

Although 2020 has brought on many challenges in the world, we stayed focused and implemented a couple very important upgrades:

1. New pump and motor installed at the domestic pump station (*Images 3-6*).

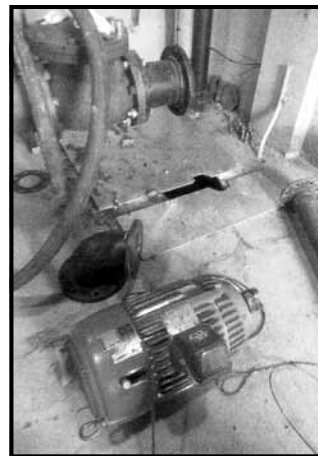


*Above - Image 3,  
Upper Right - Image 4,  
Right - Image 5,*

*Far Right - Image 6:  
Views of the new pump and motor  
at the domestic pump station*



*Image 7  
New Harmony Street BJM submersible pump*



2. New BJM submersible pump installed at Harmony Street pump station (*Images 7, 8*).

The laboratory technician passed all analytical parameters that were part of the EPA's annual Discharge Monitoring Report Quality Assurance Study. The 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.

With all that being said, I would like to thank my staff and peers for the daily efforts they put into the plant on a consistent basis. In the big picture, our main goal is to return the wastewater to the Hoosic River as clean as possible. It comes with a very wide range of process and operational tasks, as well as important decisions in order to fulfill that goal. However, our word can be kept that we will continue to do everything within our power to keep the Hoosic River watershed, the surrounding ecosystem, and the Town of Adams as clean and healthy as possible.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert Rumbolt  
Plant Superintendent



# Financial Reports

## Board of Assessors

### TAX RATE SUMMARY FOR FY 2021

a. Total amount to be raised	\$ 17,467,783.83
b. Total estimated receipts and other Revenue sources	<u>- 5,223,925.00</u>
c. Tax levy	<b>\$ 12,243,860.83</b>

Class	Certified Full and Fair Cash Value Assessments	Percentage Full Value Shares of Total Tax Levy
1. Residential	430,535,966	79.5388%
2. Open Space	0	0%
3. Commercial	36,234,334	7.9581%
4. Industrial	28,933,201	6.3546%
5. Personal Property	27,994,878	6.1485%
<b>Totals</b>	<b>523,698,379</b>	<b>100.0000%</b>

**Tax Rate for Fiscal Year 2021 - \$22.62 Residential; \$26.89 Commercial, Industrial, Personal Property**

**The Department of Revenue mandates that cities and towns re-inspect and check the accuracy of the assessment data of all property approximately every nine to ten years. We would like to thank the residents of the Town of Adams for their continued cooperation.**

The Adams Board of Assessors continues to modernize our systems and software programs. The conversion of data to Tyler Technologies was completed during the summer of 2020.

As part of the upgrade, the Board of Assessors recommends reviewing your property record card online at:  
[www.town.adams.ma.us](http://www.town.adams.ma.us)

If you have questions you can phone us at:  
413-743-8300 ext. 178.

# Town of Adams

## Schedule of Taxes Receivable

### for the Year Ended June 30, 2020

	Uncollected Tax July 1, 2019	Add Commitments	(Add) Deduct Abatements and Adjustments	Add/(Deduct) Prior years Tax Title Account	Deduct Transfer to Tax Title Account	Deduct Collections	Correct Uncollected Tax June 30, 2020
<b>REAL ESTATE</b>							
2011 and older	58,462						58,462
2012	214						214
2013	1,035						1,035
2014	3,779					981	2,798
2015	1,212						1,212
2016	4,851					1,268	3,583
2017	5,073					1,075	3,998
2018	13,250					4,472	8,778
2019	352,025		68		137,931	143,827	70,199
2020		11,001,800	120,577			10,407,758	473,465
<b>Total Real Estate</b>	<b>439,901</b>	<b>11,001,800</b>	<b>120,645</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>137,931</b>	<b>10,559,381</b>	<b>623,744</b>
<b>PERSONAL PROPERTY</b>							
2013 and older	16,740					772	15,968
2014	2,272						2,272
2015	2,812						2,812
2016	1,572						1,572
2017	1,903						1,903
2018	3,188						3,188
2019	2,187					783	1,404
2020		679,522	825	(7,876)		665,168	5,653
<b>Total</b>							
<b>Personal Property</b>	<b>30,674</b>	<b>679,522</b>	<b>825</b>		<b>-</b>	<b>666,723</b>	<b>34,772</b>
<b>Total Real Estate and Personal Property Taxes</b>	<b>470,575</b>	<b>11,681,322</b>	<b>121,470</b>		<b>137,931</b>	<b>11,226,104</b>	<b>658,516</b>
<b>MOTOR VEHICLE EXCISE</b>							
2013 and older	57,772					43	57,729
2014	2,733					63	2,670
2015	4,926					398	4,528
2016	7,040		74			1,514	5,452
2017	11,406		736			2,483	8,187
2018	23,418		1,210			11,409	10,799
2019	99,346	102,019	19,011			158,883	23,471
2020		901,223	32,301	(17,688)		782,044	104,566
<b>Total Motor Vehicle Excise</b>	<b>206,641</b>	<b>1,003,242</b>	<b>53,332</b>	<b>(17,688)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>956,837</b>	<b>217,402</b>
<b>Grand Total Tax Receivables</b>	<b>677,216</b>	<b>12,684,564</b>	<b>174,802</b>	<b>(17,688)</b>	<b>137,931</b>	<b>12,182,941</b>	<b>875,918</b>

# Town of Adams

## Reconciliation of Treasurer's Cash

### June 30, 2020

As of June 30, 2020, cash consisted of the following balances:

Cash in savings, checking accounts and short-term investment accounts:

Bank North, NA	\$ 26,952
Adams Community Bank	2,281,327
UniBank	4,816,459
Century Bank	35,715
Value Line	15,022
<b>Total</b>	<b>7,175,475</b>
Petty Cash	410
<b>Total cash and Short-term Investments</b>	<b>\$ 7,175,885</b>

## Indebtedness

### June 30, 2020

	Outstanding July 1, 2019	Retirement	Outstanding June 30, 2020
Town Hall/Police Station/Library	\$ 1,385,000	\$ 165,000	\$ 1,220,000
WWTP Plant Renovations	1,112,032	170,709	941,323
Storm Damage Sept 2018	2,325,000	10,000	2,315,000
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 4,822,032</b>	<b>\$ 345,709</b>	<b>\$ 4,476,323</b>

**Town of Adams, Massachusetts**  
**Office of the Town Accountant**  
**Statement of Operating Revenues and Expenditures**  
**Budgetary and Actual - General Fund**  
**for the year ended June 30, 2020 (Audited)**

	Original Budget	Reserve Acct. Transfers & Prior Year Encumbered to FY 2020	Budget Reflecting Reflecting Reserve Acct. Transfers & Prior Year Encumbrances	Actual Expenditures/ Revenue	Surplus/ (Deficit)
<b>REVENUES</b>					
Property Taxes	11,681,365		11,681,365	11,226,104	(455,261)
Motor Vehicle Excise Taxes	975,000		975,000	999,078	24,078
Departmental Receipts, Licenses & Permits	466,965		466,965	771,020	304,055
Earnings on Invested Funds	10,135		10,135	15,810	5,675
Total Locally Raised Revenue	13,133,465	-	13,133,465	13,012,012	(121,453)
Intergovernmental Revenues/Net of Offsets	2,764,319		2,764,319	2,742,318	(22,001)
<b>Total Revenues</b>	<b>15,897,784</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>15,897,784</b>	<b>15,754,330</b>	<b>(143,454)</b>
<b>GENERAL GOVERNMENT</b>					
Selectmen/Moderator/Town Report	21,956	367	22,323	19,678	2,645
Town Administrator	202,538	4,507	207,045	186,494	20,551
Financial - Accounting/FinCom	372,413		372,413	183,377	189,036
Assessors	143,638	20,000	163,638	149,897	13,741
Treasurer	179,254	-16,041	163,213	148,742	14,471
Town Counsel	44,121		44,121	44,060	61
Technology	206,444	21,480	227,924	182,764	45,160
Town Clerk/Elections/Registration/Codes	170,743	1,723	172,466	158,636	13,830
Property & Liability Ins.	178,750	10,041	188,791	187,871	920
<b>Total General Government</b>	<b>1,519,857</b>	<b>42,077</b>	<b>1,561,934</b>	<b>1,261,519</b>	<b>300,415</b>
<b>COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT</b>	<b>230,312</b>	<b>118,326</b>	<b>348,638</b>	<b>301,616</b>	<b>47,022</b>
<b>INSPECTION SERVICES</b>					
Inspection Services/Weights & Measures	207,157	3,185	210,342	210,342	0
Conservation/Agriculture/ Historical Commissions	2,266		2,266	1,169	1,097
Planning/Zoning Board	8,635	2,864	11,499	10,746	753
<b>Total Inspection Services</b>	<b>218,058</b>	<b>6,049</b>	<b>224,107</b>	<b>222,257</b>	<b>1,850</b>
<b>PUBLIC SAFETY</b>					
Police	1,842,998	34,352	1,877,350	1,875,446	1,904
Police Station	27,762	24,142	51,904	51,509	395
Emergency Management/Forest Warden	16,794	12,019	28,813	24,655	4,158
Animal Control Officer	32,044	1,704	33,748	23,065	10,683
Parking Management	31,767	40	31,807	14,288	17,519
<b>Total Public Safety</b>	<b>1,951,365</b>	<b>72,257</b>	<b>2,023,622</b>	<b>1,988,963</b>	<b>34,659</b>

	Original Budget	Reserve Acct. Transfers & Prior Year Encumbered to FY 2020	Budget Reflecting Reflecting Reserve Acct. Transfers & Prior Year Encumbrances	Actual Expenditures/ Revenue	Surplus/ (Deficit)
<b>HEALTH &amp; HUMAN SERVICES</b>					
Council on Aging	233,318	845	234,163	196,949	37,215
Veteran Services/Memorial Day	199,985		199,985	181,490	18,495
Board of Health	11,305	765	12,070	7,899	4,171
<b>Total Health &amp; Human Services</b>	<b>444,608</b>	<b>1,610</b>	<b>446,218</b>	<b>386,338</b>	<b>59,881</b>
<b>REGIONAL SCHOOLS</b>					
Adams-Cheshire Regional	5,792,649		5,792,649	5,792,649	0
McCann Vocational Regional	1,010,634		1,010,634	1,010,634	0
<b>Total Regional Schools</b>	<b>6,803,283</b>		<b>6,803,283</b>	<b>6,803,283</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>LIBRARY</b>	<b>273,882</b>		<b>273,882</b>	<b>231,076</b>	<b>42,806</b>
<b>PUBLIC WORKS, BUILDINGS &amp; HIGHWAYS</b>					
Public Buildings/Prop Ma	284,290	55,109	339,399	330,318	9,081
DPW Administration/Tree Warden	131,908	1,742	133,650	119,446	14,204
Highways	1,466,079		1,466,079	1,386,375	79,704
Snow & Ice Control	246,000	425	246,425	241,075	5,350
Flood Control	600		600	600	0
DPW Garage/Equipment Maintenance	294,500	15,057	309,557	270,200	39,357
Transfer Station	70,699		70,699	67,313	3,386
Wastewater Treatment/Collection	377,571	11,509	389,080	363,383	25,697
<b>Total Public Works, Buildings &amp; Highway</b>	<b>2,871,647</b>	<b>83,842</b>	<b>2,955,489</b>	<b>2,778,710</b>	<b>176,779</b>
<b>EMPLOYEE/RETIREE BENEFITS</b>	<b>1,323,331</b>	<b>724</b>	<b>1,324,055</b>	<b>1,329,634</b>	<b>-5,579</b>
<b>CEMETERY, PARKS &amp; OTHER</b>					
Cemetery, Parks & Grounds	142,525	4,761	147,286	70,767	76,519
Recreation	15,000		15,000	15,000	0
Celebrations - Seasonal	1,800		1,800	1,785	15
<b>Total Cemetery, Parks &amp; Other</b>	<b>159,325</b>	<b>4,761</b>	<b>164,086</b>	<b>87,552</b>	<b>76,534</b>
<b>COURT JUDGEMENT</b>		<b>16,250</b>	<b>16,250</b>	<b>16,250</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>DEBT SERVICE</b>	<b>464,279</b>		<b>464,279</b>	<b>432,977</b>	<b>31,302</b>
Principal	335,709	10,000	345,709	335,709	10,000
Interest/Fees	128,570	-10,000	118,570	97,268	21,302
<b>TOTAL APPROPRIATIONS/ EXPENDITURES</b>	<b>16,259,947</b>	<b>345,896</b>	<b>16,605,843</b>	<b>15,840,174</b>	<b>765,669</b>



	<b>Original Budget</b>	<b>Reserve Acct. Transfers &amp; Prior Year Encumbered to FY 2020</b>	<b>Budget Reflecting Reflecting Reserve Acct. Transfers &amp; Prior Year Encumbrances</b>	<b>Actual Expenditures/ Revenue</b>	<b>Surplus/ (Deficit)</b>
Excess (Deficiency) of Revenues Over Expenditures	(362,163)	(345,896)	(708,059)	(85,844)	
<b>OTHER AMOUNTS RAISED:</b>					
State Intergovernmental Assessments/Offsets	(57,142)		(57,142)	57,522	
Allowance For Abatements & Exemptions	(160,295)		(160,295)	160,295	
Court Judgement	(16,250)				
Excess (Deficiency) of Revenues Over Expenditures	(595,850)		(925,496)	131,973	
<b>OPERATING TRANSFERS</b>					
Other Available Funds	64,000		64,000	64,000	
Operating Transfers Out	(242,600)		(242,600)	(242,600)	
Excess (Deficiency) of Revenue Over Expenditures and Operating Transfers	(774,450)		(1,104,096)	(46,627)	
<b>OTHER FINANCING SOURCES/(USES):</b>					
Free Cash for Capital & Offset Tax Rate	531,850		531,850		
Economic Development Fund Appropriation	82,600		82,600		
Reserve Fund Balance Transfer	75,000		75,000		
Free Cash For Town Common	85,000		85,000		
Other Financing Sources & Transfers	774,450		774,450		
Excess (Deficiency) of Revenues Over Expenditures with Other Financing Sources	Balanced		(329,646)		

# Town of Adams, Massachusetts

## Office of the Town Accountant - Consolidated Balance Sheet

As of June 30, 2020 (Unaudited)

ASSETS		General Fund	Stabilization Fund	Special Revenue	Special Revenue Small Cities	Capital Projects	Trusts Funds	Agency Funds	Long-term Debt Group	Total Memo only as of 06/30/2020
<b>Cash</b>										
Petty Cash		410								410
Cash in Savings and Money Market Account Investments		3,177,132	634,761	2,580,036	58,403	26,378	680,917	17,848		7,175,475
<b>Accounts Receivable</b>										
Personal Property Taxes		34,772								34,772
Real Estate Taxes		623,743								623,743
Allowance for Abatements & Exemptions		-436,847								-436,847
Motor Vehicle Excise		217,401								217,401
Tax Titles		1,032,348								1,032,348
Tax Possessions										
Departmental - PD Off Duty - due from Vendors								28,595		28,595
Departmental - Industry Sewer										
Departmental - Sewer/Water Liens AFD										
Departmental - Veterans Services		115,607								115,607
Departmental - HVRS - Underassessment		17,840								17,840
Special Assessment - Demolition Lien		1,155								1,155
Departmental - Emergencies Agencies										
Departmental - Federal Grant Receivable				48,235	65,100					113,335
Departmental - Comm of Mass Grants				65,850						65,850
Departmental - Comm of Mass Chapter 90										
Due from SRF - Federal Grant Small Cities I										
Due from SRF - PARC St Grant										
Due from SRF - Chapter 90										
<b>Amounts to be Provided for</b>										
Payment of Bond									4,476,323	4,476,323
Debt Authorized & Unissued									215,000	215,000
<b>Total Assets</b>		<b>4,783,561</b>	<b>634,761</b>	<b>2,694,121</b>	<b>123,503</b>	<b>26,378</b>	<b>680,917</b>	<b>46,443</b>	<b>4,691,323</b>	<b>13,681,007</b>

# Town of Adams, Massachusetts

## Office of the Town Accountant - Consolidated Balance Sheet

As of June 30, 2020 (Unaudited Continued)

<b>LIABILITIES and FUND BALANCES</b>	<b>General Fund</b>	<b>Stabilization Fund</b>	<b>Special Revenue</b>	<b>Special Revenue Small Cities</b>	<b>Special Revenue Capital Projects</b>	<b>Trusts Funds</b>	<b>Agency Funds</b>	<b>Long-term Debt Group</b>	<b>Total Memo only as of 06/30/2020</b>
<b>Current Liabilities</b>									
Warrants Payable	234,717			112,145					346,862
Payroll Payable	132,330								132,330
Health Insurance Withheld	55,265								55,265
Workmans Comp/PD Accident Payable	6,248								6,248
Taxes Withheld/Payable	4,145								4,145
Unemployment Payable	0								0
Misc. Withheld	15,679								15,679
Cafeteria Plan Withheld	25,045								25,045
Retirement Withheld	558								558
Due to General Fund									0
Due to SR FED Grant									
Due to Deputy Collector							672		672
Due to Commonwealth of Mass - FID							2,623		2,623
Miscellaneous - Escrow - Chenail Farm							5,000		5,000
Off-Duty Work							9,553		9,553
<b>Deferred Revenues</b>									
Real Estate & Personal Property Tax	221,668								221,668
Tax Liens	1,032,348								1,032,348
Motor Vehicle Excise	217,401								217,401
Tax Possessions									
Departmental	133,447						28,595		162,042
Special Assessments	1,155								1,155
Due from Federal Government			48,235	65,100					113,335
Due from Comm of Mass Grants			65,850						65,850
<b>Unreserved Fund Balances</b>	<b>1,329,534</b>	<b>634,761</b>							<b>1,964,295</b>
<b>Fund Balances Reserved for Encumbrances</b>	<b>566,567</b>								<b>566,567</b>
<b>Fund Balances Reserved for Compensated Absences</b>	<b>107,827</b>								<b>107,827</b>
<b>Fund Balances Reserved for Trust Funds</b>									
Restricted Trust Funds									542,930
Unrestricted Trust Funds									137,987

# Town of Adams, Massachusetts

## Office of the Town Accountant - Consolidated Balance Sheet

As of June 30, 2020 (Unaudited Continued)

<b>LIABILITIES and FUND BALANCES</b>	<b>General Fund</b>	<b>Stabilization Fund</b>	<b>Special Revenue</b>	<b>Special Revenue Small Cities</b>	<b>Special Revenue Capital Projects</b>	<b>Trusts Funds</b>	<b>Agency Funds</b>	<b>Long-term Debt Group</b>	<b>Total Memo only as of 06/30/2020</b>
<b>Fund Balances Reserved for Fed/State Grants</b>			-7,701	-53,742					-61,443
<b>Fund Balances Reserved for Appropriation</b>	250,000		312,822						562,822
<b>Fund Balances Reserved for Gifts/Bequests/Revolving</b>			206,132						206,132
<b>Fund Balances Reserved for Special Purposes</b>									
Reserved for Expenditure	449,627		178,600						628,227
Reserved for Emergency Spending - Storm Damage			1,890,183						1,890,183
<b>Fund Balances Reserved for Capital Projects</b>									
Reserved for Chapter 90					-23,338				-23,338
Reserved for Water Channel Improvements					10,019				10,019
Reserved for Old Town Hall/Library					38,896				38,896
Reserved for Library Renovation					801				801
Reserved for 10 Year Revaluation									
<b>Bonds Payable</b>									
Inside Debt Limit - Town Hall/Police Station/Library								1,220,000	1,220,000
Inside Debt Limit - MWPAI								941,323	941,323
Inside Debt Limit - Storm Damage								2,315,000	2,315,000
Bonds Authorized & Unissued								215,000	215,000
<b>Total Liabilities and Fund Balances</b>	<b>4,783,561</b>	<b>634,761</b>	<b>2,694,121</b>	<b>123,503</b>	<b>26,378</b>	<b>680,917</b>	<b>46,443</b>	<b>4,691,323</b>	<b>13,681,007</b>

**Town of Adams, Massachusetts,  
Office of the Town Accountant - Combining Statement of Revenues and Expenditures  
and Changes in Fund Balances - Special Revenue Funds - for the year ended June 30, 2020 (Unaudited)**

	Fund Balance 06/30/19	Revenue	Expenditure	Excess (Deficiency) of Revenue over Expenditure	Operating Transfer In	Operating Transfer Out	Fund Balance 06/30/20
<b>FEDERAL GRANTS</b>							
Federal Community Develop Block Grant	-38,210.00	554,024.00	-644,975.00	-90,951.00	75,419.00		-53,742.00
Massachusetts Small Cities Program	-4,013.00	55,354.00	-99,576.00	-44,222.00			-48,235.00
Brownsfield Grant	0.00	38,524.00	-104,374.00	-65,850.00			-65,850.00
Federal Grant IV - Rail Trail	0.00	42,933.00	-19,684.00	23,249.00			23,249.00
FEMA - Covid-19							
<b>Total Federal Grants</b>	<b>-42,223.00</b>	<b>690,835.00</b>	<b>-868,609.00</b>	<b>-177,774.00</b>	<b>75,419.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>-144,578.00</b>
<b>STATE GRANTS</b>							
Board of Health - Local Prep Grant	2,347.00			0.00			2,347.00
COA Grant	6,086.00		-131.00	-131.00			5,955.00
Community Compact	12,300.00	50,000.00	-10,391.00	39,609.00			51,909.00
Elderly Grant	10,393.00	26,160.00	-13,811.00	12,349.00			22,742.00
Early Poling Grant	2,783.00	1,167.00		1,167.00			3,950.00
Events Committee	316.00	1,068.00	-1,058.00	10.00			326.00
Green Communities	-7,304.00	11,128.00	-3,863.00	7,265.00			-39.00
Greylock Glen - State Grant	268,970.00		-268,221.00	-268,221.00			749.00
MEMA	2,915.00		-4,474.00	-4,474.00			-1,559.00
MVP Grant/MO Trail 20 MVP	-22,442.00	22,500.00	-112,221.00	-89,721.00			-112,163.00
PARC - Grant - Train Station	-17,483.00	106,118.00	-91,751.00	14,367.00			-3,116.00
Public Safety	35,700.00	29,625.00	-25,075.00	4,550.00			40,250.00
PWED - Cemetery Preservation	1,056.00			0.00			1,056.00
Small Initiative/Recycling Grant	2,820.00	4,200.00	-5,020.00	-820.00			2,000.00
Solarization/Energy Conservation	72.00			0.00			72.00
State Aid to Libraries	47,504.00	16,109.00	-8,574.00	7,535.00			55,039.00
Visitor Center/Cultural Council	7,489.00	12,374.00	-6,246.00	6,128.00			13,617.00
<b>Total State Grants</b>	<b>353,522.00</b>	<b>280,449.00</b>	<b>-550,836.00</b>	<b>-270,387.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>83,135.00</b>
<b>OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS</b>							
Economic Development Fund	147,258.00		-89,894.00	-89,894.00	81,235.00		138,599.00
Parking Meter	53,117.00	5,313.00		5,313.00		-10,000.00	48,430.00
Council on Aging	56,962.00	17,365.00		17,365.00		-25,000.00	49,327.00
Technology Fund	49,431.00	28,026.00		28,026.00		-29,000.00	48,457.00
Cemetery Sale of Lots	201,569.00	10,609.00	-45,573.00	-34,964.00			166,605.00
Cannibis Fund	0.00	40,000.00		40,000.00			40,000.00
September Storm Damage 2018	2,087,347.00		-128,004.00	-128,004.00		-69,161.00	1,890,182.00
Other Special Revenue Revolving & Gifts & Donations	202,700.00	250,943.00	-247,510.00	3,433.00			206,133.00
<b>Total Other Special Revenue Funds</b>	<b>2,798,384.00</b>	<b>352,256.00</b>	<b>-510,981.00</b>	<b>-158,725.00</b>	<b>81,235.00</b>	<b>-133,161.00</b>	<b>2,587,733.00</b>
<b>TOTAL SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS</b>	<b>3,109,683.00</b>	<b>1,323,540.00</b>	<b>-1,930,426.00</b>	<b>-606,886.00</b>	<b>156,654.00</b>	<b>-133,161.00</b>	<b>2,526,290.00</b>

**Town of Adams, Massachusetts**  
**Office of the Town Accountant - Combining Statement of Revenues and Expenditures**  
**and Changes in Fund Balances - Trust Funds - for the year ended June 30, 2020**  
(Audited)

	Fund Balance 06/30/19	Revenue	Expenditure	Excess (Deficiency) of Revenue over Expenditure	Operating Transfer In	Operating Transfer Out	Fund Balance 06/30/20
<b>RESTRICTED TRUST FUNDS</b>							
Cemetery Perpetual Care Principal Only	428,346	3,800		3,800			432,146
OPEB Trust	50,898	735		735			51,633
Library - Plunkett Fund	23,626	341		341			23,967
Library - Saunders Fund	5,111	74		74			5,185
East Road Solar Bond	30,000			0			30,000
<b>Total Restricted Trust</b>	<b>537,981</b>	<b>4,950</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>4,950</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>542,931</b>
<b>UNRESTRICTED TRUST FUNDS</b>							
Stabilization	463,077	6,684		6,684	165,000		634,761
Cemetery Perpetual Care - Interest Only	20,443	5,979		5,979			26,422
Cemetery Maintenance	13,362	478		478			13,840
Cemetery Endowed Lots - Harrington/Hall/Plunkett	27,675	400	-300	100			27,775
Scholarship - Hall/Low	22,810	329		329			23,139
Scholarship - Kruszyna	15,793	478		478			16,271
Scholarship - Town	14,214	3,122	-3,600	-478			13,736
Conservation Trust	246	429	-769	-340			-94
Historical Preservation - Quaker Meeting House	16,659	241		241			16,900
<b>Total Unrestricted Trust</b>	<b>594,278</b>	<b>18,140</b>	<b>-4,669</b>	<b>13,471</b>	<b>165,000</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>772,749</b>
<b>TOTAL TRUST FUNDS</b>	<b>1,132,259</b>	<b>23,090</b>	<b>-4,669</b>	<b>18,421</b>	<b>165,000</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1,315,680</b>

**ANNUAL REPORTS  
OF THE  
HOOSAC VALLEY  
REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
CHESHIRE, MA 01225**

**FOR THE FISCAL YEAR  
July 1, 2019 - June 30, 2020**

# Report of the Chairman

## Hoosac Valley Regional School District

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Michael Mucci, Chairman	(Adams)
Adam Emerson, Vice-Chairman	(Cheshire)
Regina Hill	(Adams)
Bethany DeMarco	(Cheshire)
Martin Bush	(Adams)
Nannette Reid	(Adams)

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This school year was unlike anything our District or this Nation has seen in generations. We began by closing our school buildings in the spring of 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic and quickly transitioned to fully remote learning. Over the summer, we planned and transitioned into Hybrid Learning, where depending upon grade level, students were in the building on average 2 days per week. We were able to provide full remote learning options for families that decided that they were not yet ready to send their children back into the buildings. We eventually came full circle as we reopened our buildings to full time in class learning for all students choosing to do so in the Spring of 2021. Those that opted to stay fully remote were still provided that educational opportunity.

This full circle of starting with no in-person classes and getting back to in-person classes presented challenges on all fronts whether being a school committee member, administrator, teacher, classroom aide, cafeteria staff, custodian, nurse, parent or, the most critical piece of this puzzle, the student.

The administration and teachers helped redefine education by embracing technology while still trying to maintain that personal connection with the students. It is through their relentless efforts, that we were able to still provide a meaningful and beneficial education.

The District's ability to write grant applications, navigate the complex funding sources of grants and the ability to follow their strict guidelines allowed us to make some great strides, including the purchase of hardware and software so that all children were provided an equitable avenue to their curriculum.

To paraphrase from our return to in-person instruction plan, many of these guiding principles held true throughout the past year:

- Safety: Data, medicine & science will guide decision making and operation planning.
- Education: Students, staff and families will be continually updated with current information.
- Equity: Ensure that every student receives what is needed to be successful.
- Learning: Move forward with the curriculum and work to increase student engagement.
- Remote Access & Delivery: Maintain remote learning using one platform and log-in.
- Timeline: Plan a staged approach to reopening the schools so that all students, staff, and families have a very clear understanding and commitment to all health protocols.
- Social/Emotional: Recognize and attempt to mitigate the trauma of all the changes.
- Communication: Committed to transparency and respect using health and safety as our guide.

I would like to personally thank everyone that worked with us through all the changes. The input from the parents that came from multiple ideologies regarding the impact of COVID-19 on schooling was an important part of the decision-making process. The School Committee has oversight of and responsibility for the school system, but our collective decision-making process should be an extension of our communities wants and needs. Together we can make a difference, together we can navigate these uncertain times.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael Mucci  
Chairman, School Committee  
Hoosac Valley Regional School District



# Report of the Superintendent

## FY 2021 Adams Town Report

Dear Community Members,

In August 2019, the Hoosac Valley School Committee selected me as the next superintendent of Hoosac Valley Regional School District. Upon entry I drafted an Entry Plan, including pre-entry activities, focusing on an intentional and inclusive process for my transition into the HVRSD. Being a member of the community, a graduate of the district, and previously a teacher in the district for 14 years, I definitely had strong contextual knowledge of the Hoosac Valley Regional School District prior to assuming the role of Superintendent on September 4, 2019. Nonetheless, it seemed both prudent and necessary to fully engage an entry plan.

The purpose of the entry plan was to structure and define my effort to become better acquainted with the most central elements of the Hoosac Valley Regional School District, most notably all aspects of the student and family experience and community partnerships. The focus of my entry involved hitting the ground learning and running.

The goals of the entry plan were as follows:

1. To further determine strengths, challenges, and goals in our schools
2. To gain deeper insight into the student experience
3. To examine relationships between schools with families and with the broader community
4. To become familiar with current policies, protocols, and norms
5. To identify data to inform a long-range strategic plan

In the initial months of my tenure, I conducted multiple visits to each school. During these visits, I talked with students and teachers, viewed instruction, analyzed student data, assessed facilities, and evaluated resources. I also worked with principals to set rigorous goals for themselves, their teachers and their students. Apart from these visits, I instituted bi-weekly meetings with principals with focuses on teaching and learning and operations, using these workgroup meetings to bring a focus to data collection, the budget process, and bringing consistency of practice throughout the district.

As you know, this work came to a screeching halt last March as COVID-19 interrupted our lives. While we have been working to sustain programming for the short term, we have maintained an eye on our long term goals and needs as a district. The administrative team has developed a district improvement plan and aligned school improvement plans aimed at promoting a positive culture and academic achievement for all students. In addition, we continue to work on the development of pathways with our high school programming through the expansion of our *Project Lead the Way* health sciences concentration, the addition of a career center and electives such as Timberframing and Outdoor Leadership, and the expansion of dual enrollment opportunities in partnership with MCLA. Additionally, we are working to expand after school programming and summer opportunities at the elementary and middle schools.

While the pandemic has hindered my efforts to collect a wide range of “count, see and hear data,” we have still managed to lay the groundwork for future improvements. I have adopted the Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education’s (DESE’s) District Standards and Indicators as an organizational framework for this report. The framework defines six standards of effective school district policy and practice, which, if implemented well, are likely to lead to improved student performance, opportunities, and outcomes. Below I will outline some key initiatives we have implemented in each of the defined areas.

### Leadership and Governance

School committee members and district and school leaders work collaboratively and strategically to improve all students’ performance, opportunities, and outcomes. They establish, implement, and evaluate policies, procedures, systems, and budgets with a primary focus on achieving district-wide improvement goals, in part through equitable and effective use of resources.

- The school committee has adopted aligned school and district improvement plans with targeted strategic objectives that focus on 4 key areas aligned with Standards Outlined in Department of Elementary and Secondary Education Evaluation Rubrics:
  1. Curriculum, Planning, and Assessment
  2. Teaching All Students
  3. Family and Community Engagement
  4. Professional Culture
- The policy subcommittee has begun the work of evaluating district handbooks, code of conduct, and curriculum and potential areas of policy to address in order to provide an equitable and high quality experience.
- The school committee has incorporated the use of data in academic and social emotional areas for the purposes of driving decisions with budget and policies.

### Assessment

The district establishes and supports a culture that values the use of data in improving teaching, learning, and decision-making. District and school leaders ensure that systems are in place for the efficient and purposeful collection, use, and sharing of data from a variety of assessments to guide decision making at the district, school and classroom levels and to improve all students’ performance, opportunities, and outcomes.

- HVRSD collects and intentionally uses data to inform decision making academically and social emotionally. Data is analyzed and utilized for decision making on the district level, school level, classroom level and individual student level.
  - Each school has an instructional leadership team that is tasked with analysis of school wide data.
  - Benchmark data is analyzed by all core teachers following benchmarks and adjustments are made to groupings and interventions based on this data.

- HVRSD performs academic benchmark testing in the areas of ELA and Math 3 times per year. This data is triangulated with MCAS results (when available) to create a full picture of academic strengths and challenges. Students who are identified for intervention are progress monitored between benchmark periods to explicitly track growth.
- HVRSD utilizes social emotional survey data and a Social, Academic, and Emotional Behavior Risk Screener (SAEBRS) to assess student skills with the 5 social emotional competencies: Self-Awareness, Self-Management, Social Awareness, Relationship Skills, and Responsible Decision-Making.
- Training has been provided to all educator teams on the effective use of formative assessment data to monitor student progress and understanding of content. As such, common planning time is utilized by staff for analyzing student work.
- HVRSD maintains partnerships with the following organizations as a means of supporting our students and families:
  - Northern Berkshire Community Coalition
  - Department of Children and Families
  - United Cerebral Palsy and Pediatric Development Center
  - Childcare of the Berkshires
  - Regional Meetings (early childhood, foster care and homeless, Title III (English Learner consortium))
  - Multicultural Bridge
  - Anti Defamation League
  - MassHire
  - Massachusetts Rehab Commission
  - Berkshire Family and Individual Resources
  - Northern Berkshire Juvenile Court
  - The Family Center and The Family Place
  - Multicultural Bridge
  - Northern Berkshire United Way

### Human Resources and Professional Development

The district strategically designs, implements and oversees human resource and inclusive professional development efforts in a way that supports an aligned human capital management system and results in the employment, development and retention of effective educators who are successful in advancing all students' performance, opportunities, and outcomes.

- HVRSD is currently engaged with the following Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) sponsored academies to provide high quality professional development and resources:
  - Math Academy - HVMS
  - Early Literacy Grant - HVES
  - PBIS Academy - HVHS
  - UDL - District wide
- HVRSD has a comprehensive professional development plan that provides high quality professional development in the development of high leverage teaching practices. The plan includes job embedded professional development such as classroom walkthroughs and coaching, as well as session work in areas such as curriculum development and inclusive teaching practices.

### Student Support

The district ensures that schools equitably support all students' safety, well-being, and sense of belonging; systematically identify and address students' needs; and engage families and community partners to improve all students' performance, opportunities, and outcomes. The district assesses the programs and practices used across schools to ensure that students experience educational continuity and are well supported through school transitions.

- HVRSD is working to develop Multi Tiered Systems of Support both academically and behaviorally, so that students are provided with early interventions as concerns arise. Each building has a referral process and a system for response to intervention to initiate and evaluate interventions for students. Building based teams.

### Financial and Asset Management

District leaders manage the equitable allocation and effective use of funding and other resources to improve all students' performance, opportunities, and outcomes, support the district's improvement plan, and secure community support.

Upon my entry in September of 2019, the district was cited as requiring assistance for data collection practices. Close attention to detail has been required for the district to begin to clean up our data. For many years, our data reporting efforts have occurred in isolation without those compiling the data understanding the full rationale for or impact from the data collected. As a data work group has formed, the importance of the data and its impact on children, schools and resources has been highlighted. We have thus begun to implement practices and protocols which will clean the data, allowing for more transparency in reporting and opportunity for funding.

Hoosac Valley Regional is a district with great possibility. However, a review of data and documents supports that the district also faces substantial challenges. The lower-than-state average school spending, per pupil expenditures, and teacher salaries, combined with a large percentage of high needs and high poverty students, leaves the district with substantial hurdles. The annual appropriation for the Hoosac Valley Regional School District is largely based on available state and local revenues, as determined by the town officials. District Profiles & Comparisons (based on latest data available at <https://profiles.doe.mass.edu/>) are as follows:

- Net school spending 111% requirement vs. state average 141.5%. (FY 2020)
- Total expenditure per pupil \$14,946 vs. state average \$15,956 (FY 2020)
- Student/teacher ratio 12.8 to 1 vs. state average 12.6 to 1 (FY 2020)

- Students with disabilities 24.2 % total enrollment vs. state average 18.4%(FY 2020)
- Economically disadvantaged population 51.1 % vs. state average 32.8% (FY 2020)

As the district is challenged with resources, we are very reliant on grants and donations to move important initiatives forward. This past school year, we were able to access grant funds and donations for a total of \$850,732, which provided us with a number of opportunities to replace technology, begin the curriculum replacement cycles, address COVID needs, and address facility needs.

Based on our latest financial audit, the district is on solid footing with financial tracking, forecasting, and controls for properly managing the budget. There is appropriate oversight of staffing and budget allocations to assure expenditures are allocated to the proper funding source. We continue to tweak business office practices to create efficiencies and to ensure that business office procedures are clearly understood and consistently followed.

### Closing Thoughts

The district will face considerable challenges in the coming years as we deal with the continued impact of a decline in foundation enrollment, we work to develop consistency in our programming, we work to respond to the challenges created by the COVID-19 pandemic, and we work to find our identity on the secondary level. As we plan for future years, the district will need to allocate resources to further develop our Multi Tiered Systems of Support (MTSS). We have established pockets of excellence, but need to continue building consistent programming for all need levels district wide. In addition, over the next couple of years we will need to strategically utilize resources for remedial services to address learning loss that occurred during the pandemic in the short term.

With multiple options for schooling at the secondary level, it is important that we continue to develop high quality programming that provides our students with unique opportunities. Data has indicated a need for programming that addresses pathways to medical sciences, human services, and liberal arts. In response, the high school has continued to provide a robust offering of Advanced Placement Courses, added a Biomedical pathway with PLTW (*Project Lead the Way*) programming, created a Career Center for students to explore job opportunities through internships, and expanded dual enrollment opportunities with MCLA. In addition, staff has worked to provide high quality electives in the arts, STEM (Science Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics), and technical arts with our timber framing program.

This past school year, we were able to take advantage of a number of resources through federal stimulus funds to address COVID-19 needs, including:

- the purchase of PPE and sanitizing equipment necessary for daily operations
- the purchase of 600 chromebook laptops needed for remote learning
- the purchase of 100 Verizon Jetpacks to provide internet access to families in need
- the purchase of software such as Zoom and Schoology that was necessary for providing instruction remotely
- professional development opportunities for staff to address teaching and learning on new platforms
- an assessment of our HVAC systems in both buildings which included the creation of a maintenance plan moving forward
- the purchase of updated materials for English Language Arts at all levels
- the creation of remote learning centers to assist families with remote learning challenges

Over the next few years grant funding will be available to help us address our needs, but we need to utilize these resources in a manner that promotes sustainability of our programs in the long term. This will require targeted short term and long term plans that address instructional needs, operational needs, and promote equity. As the leader of this district, I am committed to making sure we take the steps necessary to continually improve our district and provide for the needs of all our students. Moreover, I am thankful for the opportunity to serve the very community in which I was raised and schooled. Thank you for your continued support of our schools!

Sincerely,

Aaron M. Dean  
Superintendent  
Hoosac Valley Regional School District

# Hoosac Valley High School

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## WE BELIEVE IN YOU!

Perseverance, Respect, Integrity, Diversity, and Empathy (Hoosac P.R.I.D.E.) have been at the forefront of our efforts at the high school for two years now. At the start of the 2020-2021 school year, our third year, it was vitally important to review these tenets with our students. With the ongoing efforts to maintain a sound educational system during COVID-19, we realized that social-emotional teaching and learning would be our guide in delivering these principles to our #hvhsfamily!

During these unprecedented times there have been natural feelings of anxiety and even waves of uncertainty as we embarked on the 2020-2021 school year at Hoosac Valley High School. We continue to strive for P.R.I.D.E. as we work to make the best of this situation and to engage in as many “normal” daily activities as possible. We were excited to seize new opportunities with our students, staff, and families this school year and beyond, and we have been focusing on our commitment to create a safe, supportive learning environment for ALL in our school.

We celebrated many new beginnings as we welcomed folks back (remotely), starting on September 15, 2020. We greeted new faces at HVHS and familiar faces changing positions; Ms. Brenda Burbank joined our administrative team as the Dean of Students. Miss Jacquelynn Varney was hired as a Math teacher for the high school; Ms. Molly Meczywor went back into the classroom to teach English, and Mr. Jerome Vinette joined the ELA department as well. Mr. Darren Bradley joined us from Wahconah as our new Cornerstone teacher, and Mr. Jeff Horton stepped in as a long-term substitute with our team of inclusion teachers. In order to expand our remote learning platform, Mrs. Driscoll became one of our Learning Lab teachers, and Ms. Karylee Doubiago joined us as a long-term substitute in our technology/computer lab. Mr. Mike Matera joined us as a Health and Wellness teacher, AND he has been heading up Athletics with Ms. Meczywor as Co-Athletic Director for HVHS. Ms. Nitsche joined our paraprofessional team along with Kim Dragon and Jacob Keplinger.

Our days start at 7:30 a.m. with Period 1 this year, and in order to create a safe and equitable schedule during this pandemic, we have been running a 6-Period day with 10-minute passing times that ensure mask breaks and physical distancing. In addition to the focus on engaging educational activities and an increase in academic rigor - regardless of remote or in-person instruction - we are pleased to have introduced a new program: **Advisories**. The objective of the program is to promote and grow meaningful relationships between staff and students, while providing social-emotional and academic support to students. We have been using the CharacterStrong platform throughout the year. Each student was placed in an Advisory and has remained with that teacher for the duration of the year. To maintain continuity, the bell schedule has been followed by ALL students regardless of remote or hybrid status.

Once again this year, we have been lucky enough to be able to offer **free** breakfast and lunch to all students, and students are still welcome to purchase items from the cafeteria in addition to what's being served on any particular day.

Most of our school's policies and procedures for this year were sent out in our COVID-19 Addendum and in our revised Student Handbook. As always an electronic version of the handbook is available on the school's website under the Parents and Students tab at [hoosacvalley.org](https://www.hoosacvalley.org).

**Meet Hoosac Valley High School** (formerly Meet the Teacher) was held virtually in early September. **Student Picture Day** went off without a hitch in late October, and our fabulous advisors planned an Interscholastic Clubs and Organizations virtual “shopping day” and tour for our students. **GRADE 8** students were engaged in a virtual orientation with the LINK CREW (HS mentors) on September 14, as an introduction to the school year and their assigned mentors, AND we planned a book distribution week for students in grades 8-12 the week of September 14.

Even during these unprecedented times our focus has been to promote the learning and growth of all students by providing high-quality and coherent instruction, designing and administering authentic and meaningful student assessments, analyzing student performance and growth data, using this data to improve instruction, providing students with constructive feedback on an ongoing basis, and continuously refining learning objectives. Our goal is to establish high expectations, while creating a safe and effective classroom environment. We also know that the growth of our students relies on effective partnerships with families, caregivers, community members, and organizations.

The Instructional Leadership Team continues to work diligently on the standards of the School Improvement Plan, which include classroom walkthroughs and observations, opportunities for collaborative time with colleagues, building in family and community outreach, offering English and Math interventions for students (who might be struggling with the curriculum), strengthening our inclusive practices and support services by offering co-teaching opportunities among inclusion teachers and regular education teachers, scheduling faculty meeting time with the Director of Special Services, and becoming more inclusive with our professional development. **THIS YEAR** we have had the ability to include academic coaches to our roster; they have been instrumental in helping create curricula, help to revise assessments and rubrics, and most importantly to assess multi-tiered systems of support for our students.

## WHAT WE ARE OFFERING AND MAINTAINING DURING COVID-19 AT HVHS:

### LINK CREW:

Hoosac Valley initiated the LINK Crew program: a high school transition program that welcomes new students and makes them feel comfortable throughout the first year of their high school experience. Our data continues to show that members of our grade 8 class struggle in forming positive peer-to-peer and peer-to-staff relationships. To this end, HVHS paired each 8th grader with a junior or senior, who was trained this past summer. During the first few days of school, LINK Crew developed and implemented the Grade 8 Orientation, which included

strategies for success, experiential learning, hands-on projects, and positive reinforcement. Throughout this school year, the LINK Crew organized and held activities involving Grade 8 students and their families to further build the relationships needed for a successful first year (socially distanced or REMOTE).

#### **World of Difference:**

In an effort to continue to promote positive school climate and address issues of diversity, offensive language, and negative peer-to-peer relationships, Hoosac Valley High School paired with the Anti-Defamation League, the Jewish Federation of the Berkshires, former Superintendent William Ballen, and the Berkshire United Way to bring the World of Difference back to HVHS. Ultimately the World of Difference “recognizes that attitudes and beliefs affect actions and that each member of society can have an impact on others and ultimately on the world in which we live.” Students have been meeting virtually.

#### **HVHS Concert Band, Jazz Ensemble, Marching Band:**

The High School Concert Band, Jazz Ensemble, and Marching Band have been on a bit of a “pause” since March of 2020; however, they are getting creative in their approach to this new way of teaching and learning. Mr. Keplinger has been busy organizing online “concerts” and music arrangements as a way to engage these young musicians. You might not be able to see them perform “live” this year, but you can certainly check out their Facebook page at: <https://www.facebook.com/Hoosac-Valley-Bands-228372486553>.

#### **Student Council:**

Student Council members promote leadership and citizenship, act as role models to encourage all students to strive for their highest potential, promote school spirit and pride, respect all citizens and groups in our community, and raise money to fund future service activities in the school community. Students must complete a minimum of 20-hours of service each year (10 during COVID, and most of these hours are done virtually). They participate in multiple activities:

- Weekly meetings via Zoom
  - Discuss school policies and procedures
- Organize and run school election of class officers
- Elect and organize class elections (virtually)
- Provide annual scholarships for graduating members

#### **Leo Club:**

The Hoosac Valley Leo Club works in conjunction with the Adams Lions Club to encourage students to become lifelong volunteers. The goal is to present volunteer opportunities to students that will help them see the benefits and rewards of volunteering. During COVID, the club is meeting with its advisor, Melissa Charron, and they were able to work on community events such as Create-A-Dream (we buy, wrap, box and deliver Christmas presents to children in Northern Berkshire County).

#### **National Honor Society:**

The National Honor Society (NHS) is the nation’s premier organization established to recognize outstanding high-school students. More than just an honor roll, NHS serves to recognize students who embody the four main purposes that have guided chapters of NHS from the beginning: to create enthusiasm for scholarship; to stimulate a desire to render service; to promote leadership; and to develop character in the students of secondary schools. These characteristics have been associated with membership in the organization since its beginning in 1921. Chapter membership not only recognizes students for their accomplishments, but challenges them to develop further through active involvement in school activities and community service. This year, about 30 students were inducted into this national society; their event was held in two different cohorts so that students and one family member could be present to receive the stole and certificate.

#### **Tutoring Center:**

The tutoring center has been up and running for several years and continues to support students in their academic growth. A licensed math teacher supervises the room, while students from the National Honor Society work one-on-one with their peers in ELA, math, science, history, and Spanish. This year the tutoring center operated virtually, via Zoom; students worked in breakout rooms as a way to get the one-on-one help they needed.

There are many exciting things happening at Hoosac Valley High School, and we are proud to include you into our #hvhsfamily because We Believe in You, too!

Respectfully submitted,

Colleen Byrd  
Principal HVHS

# Hoosac Valley Middle School

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## 2020-2021 Town Report

### Engaging Every Student Every Day

Though this was a year packed with changes, Hoosac Valley Middle School continues its commitment to the improvement of instructional practices. This includes completing our third year in the DESE Multi-Tiered Systems of Support Inclusive Practice Academy and beginning the Math Recovery Academy. We were also able to begin the use of Formative Assessment for Results (FAR Cycle) as a means of enhancing instructional delivery.

We were able to begin Character Strong - a program designed to help begin to address the social-emotional needs of students through a focus on building relationships with peers and school staff.

Staff were also able to engage in a weekly thirty-minute session designed to help them increase their own self-care with the goal of leading to more mindful interactions with students and families. This was run by Scott Balawender (SAC), Jon Berman (Interim Dean) and David Geer (Music).

We were also able to reach our one-to-one Chromebook goal! Every student is able to access online content as necessary. Despite some technological glitches in various areas students have been able to access the curriculum through platforms such as Schoology, Google Classroom, & Zoom.

This year saw the addition of Mr. Bergeron and Mr. Houle to our Special Education staff. Mr. Geer joined us as the new music teacher. Ms. Phoenix returned to Special Education and Mr. Berman became the interim Dean of Students.

During the months of May and June HVMS students will take a total of Nine MCAS Tests – ELA and Math for all grades, plus Science in grade five. This year's test will not be counted towards school designation and will be used for diagnostic purposes only.

We understand that the students did as well as they did in part due to the commitment of their families. This year, more than any other, emphasized the need for family-school partnerships. We look forward to building upon this relationship in the coming years and having all students back in the building.

Thank you for the privilege of partnering with families and the community as we help educate the children entrusted to our care.

Respectfully,

Christopher Sposato  
Principal  
Hoosac Valley Middle School

# Hoosac Valley Elementary School

*The Mission of the HVRSD is to create a partnership of our schools and communities that develops all of our students into educated, responsible, and productive citizens.*

## District Beliefs

- I believe all children are capable of learning.
- I believe all students deserve the best instruction and the best resources.
- I believe a safe, respectful, and organized environment creates the ideal climate for learning.
- I believe that people who share responsibility and accountability enhance success.
- I believe that learning is increased when everyone has high expectations.
- I believe providing a variety of approaches leads to individual success and growth.
- I believe that on-going assessment and adjustment is necessary for growth.

Hoosac Valley Elementary School services students in grades Pre-K - 3. The school is located on Commercial Street in downtown Adams housing five grade levels with between 34-86 students in each. 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. Although there have been many changes and adjustments to the way education looks due to the COVID-19 virus, our staff is dedicated to providing the best possible education to their students in whatever means are available. Our teachers have become experts in technology and online learning platforms overnight and continue to learn and grow right alongside their students. They are taking on what has proven to be the most challenging year in education with grace, dignity and love.

## Enrollment Comparisons

Grade	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21
<b>Pre-K</b>			<b>56</b>	<b>70</b>	<b>68</b>	<b>34</b>
<b>K</b>	<b>68</b>	<b>65</b>	<b>83</b>	<b>75</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>75</b>
<b>1</b>	<b>78</b>	<b>68</b>	<b>80</b>	<b>77</b>	<b>85</b>	<b>86</b>
<b>2</b>	<b>80</b>	<b>81</b>	<b>78</b>	<b>76</b>	<b>77</b>	<b>73</b>
<b>3</b>	<b>84</b>	<b>80</b>	<b>104</b>	<b>77</b>	<b>80</b>	<b>71</b>
<b>4</b>	<b>71</b>	<b>80</b>				
<b>5</b>	<b>72</b>	<b>68</b>				
<b>Totals</b>	<b>453</b>	<b>442</b>	<b>401</b>	<b>375</b>	<b>400</b>	<b>339</b>

## Staffing:

The following people help to provide a high quality educational program and a supportive learning environment for the students at our school:

### Pre-K

Laura Crane, Nicole Crane, Kelly Riechers\*

### Kindergarten

Kristy Bachli, Sarah Leidhold\*, Robin Poirot, Mara Woolley

### Grade 1

Katie Chenail, Mia Davis, Heather Emerson, April Mazzeo\*, Kelly Ryan

## Grade 2

Elizabeth Alibozek, Laurie Cantarella, Bethany Kelley, Christine Kirchner, Kimberley Trimarchi\*

## Grade 3

Stephanie McCarthy, Dawn Prokopowicz\*, Ann Prudhomme, Danielle Taylor

*\*Denotes teacher of the fully remote cohort*

## School-Wide

<b>Principal:</b>	Rebecca Sawyer
<b>Dean of Students:</b>	Delinda Dykes
<b>Literacy Coach:</b>	Nicole Dunham
<b>Special Education Coordinator:</b>	Cathy Salvini
<b>District Specialist:</b>	Kim Biagini
<b>Special Education:</b>	Sara Delmolino, Elizabeth Bean
<b>Bridges Program:</b>	Caitlin Larabee
<b>Cornerstone Program:</b>	Travis Poirot
<b>Art:</b>	Wendy Lamberton
<b>Music:</b>	Jonathan Rowe
<b>Physical Education:</b>	Dan Wehle
<b>Title I:</b>	Lorry Delmolino
<b>School Adjustment Counselor:</b>	Jennifer Renzi
<b>Speech/Lang:</b>	Diane Arduini, Karen Levesque, Brianna Shepard, Laura Underhill
<b>Occupational Therapy:</b>	Suzanne Harnick, Deb Silveira
<b>Physical Therapy:</b>	Jamie Bannon, Karissa Kingsley
<b>ESL Specialist:</b>	Joshua Kellogg
<b>Administrative Assistant:</b>	Paula Ciskowski
<b>Main Office Para:</b>	Cheryl Steuer
<b>Library:</b>	Laurie Gavazzi
<b>Nurse:</b>	Ashley Allard
<b>Cafeteria:</b>	Laurie Malloy, AnnMarie Belmonte, Gayle Galli, Gail Labonte, Hasna Badaoui-Nehme, Michael Remillard
<b>Custodians:</b>	Chad Carpenter, Marc McCarthy, Dennis Pinnsonneault

**Paraprofessionals:**

Shannon Badorini, Deb Ciempa, Tanelle Ciempa, Carrie Domanski, Lila Fetter, Kim Galli, Karen Isbell, Beth Larabee, Julie Lech, Heather Levy, Kathy Malloy, Emily Martinelli, Brian McCarthy, Sue McLear, Paula Meczywor, Francie Moore, Donna Mullany, Kayla Racine, Sarah Tenczar, Beth Thomas, Lisa Waltermire, Heather Witek, Tianna Will, Becki Zaleski

**HVES Reading and Math Programs:****English/Language Arts:**

Teachers continue to use our Literacy Closet to help students with comprehension and fluency practice, as well as to encourage student discourse. It is our goal at HVES that by using these novels and our Reading Street program, that our students will have a deeper understanding of text, more strategies to help them understand literature, and a love of reading in general. There is a newly formed Literacy Committee, chaired by consultant Jill Pompei, that is investigating a new ELA curriculum to replace the Scott Foresman program. The new program will be in place in the Fall of 2021.

**Mathematics:**

We are in our third year of our Eureka Math program, which is part of the Engage NY math series. The EngageNY curriculum is aligned with the Common Core standards in mathematics. This new curriculum has been used since the beginning of the 2018-2019 school year and is being embraced by staff and students as a much needed adjustment to our math instruction. Teachers knew their students needed more engaging and differentiated math instruction. Engage NY offers an in-depth understanding of numbers and their relationships; as well as providing opportunity for student discourse and teamwork. The lessons can be adapted; which allows the teacher flexibility in the classroom. In this way, instruction can meet the needs of all learners. The math modules provide a reasonable number of problem sets and applications for students to reasonably achieve understanding.

*"The Standards are defined as the knowledge, skills and understanding that individuals can and do habitually demonstrate over time because of instruction and learning experiences. These mathematics standards, collectively, are focused and cohesive—designed to support student access to the knowledge and understanding of the mathematical concepts that are necessary to function in a world very dependent upon the application of mathematics, while providing educators the opportunity to devise innovative programs to support this endeavor. As with any set of standards, they need to be rigorous; they need to demand a balance of conceptual understanding, procedural fluency and application and represent a significant level of achievement in mathematics that will enable students to successfully transition to post-secondary education and the workforce."*

*- New York State Education Department*

Hoosac Valley Elementary School is looking forward to continued success with the new math curriculum as well as higher student achievement, discourse, and mathematical understanding. Our district math coaches are in the process of completing the Math Recovery course to give us another resource for intervention materials to help our struggling learners.

**Parent Group (PTG)**

The Hoosac Valley Elementary School's PTG 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 Hoosac Valley Elementary School community in a variety of ways. Many of these events were not possible this year due to COVID restrictions, but the PTG is excited to implement them again when the situation allows.

**Arts Enrichment:**

- Performances in music, drama, science, history and dance, both in-house and off-site
- Sponsoring multiple children's authors
- Partnering with Berkshire Theater Group to provide our 3rd graders with BTG Plays!
- Collaborative Arts Night

**Activities**

- Craft activities sent home
- Field trips for students at all grade levels
- Give-a-Gift to promote the spirit of holiday giving and donating, from children to children.
- Hoosac Valley Elementary School Yearbook creation
- Family Movie nights (hosted in the HVMHS Auditorium)
- Family Fun and Food Festival
- Hosting the Hoosac Harvest and Spring Fling Vendor and Craft Fair
- Audubon science program
- Field Day treats
- Lucky To Have You Dance
- Valentine's Day Candy-Grams

**Appreciation Days**

- Staff Appreciation Day in May
- Book Fair breakfast for Faculty and Staff
- Pizza/Ice Cream parties to reward top collectors of BoxTops

**School Improvements/Equipment Maintenance:**

- Playground fundraising and maintenance
- Start up funding for the after school Explorer Program
- Funding for Scholastic Reader in the Classroom

**Title I**

Title I is a federal entitlement grant supporting school-wide academic support for all Hoosac Valley Elementary students. The grant helps to fund interventionists and instructional assistants as well as materials that supplement and support core instruction. Through Title I funding, classroom teachers and interventionists are able to use assessment data in ELA and math throughout the year to inform instructional routines. In grades 1-3 both the math and ELA interventionist and ELA paraprofessional provide services in both a push-in and pull-out model.

Students who are identified as needing additional instruction receive additional exposure to the core curriculum through Enhanced Core Reading Instruction (ECRI) and direct and explicit instruction models. Within the small group instruction, students also receive differentiated rigorous instruction to meet their individual needs.



## **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. Hoosac Valley Elementary School in partnership with Hoosac Valley Middle School applies for the ACE Grant through the Berkshire Taconic Foundation each year. These funds allow each student the opportunity to choose a book from a wide selection of books, based on their own interests once a year. The book distributions are enhanced by fun reading-motivational activities. Volunteers are a big part of RIF, helping make book-marks, ordering and taking inventory of books. As well as helping on distribution day by reading with students, stocking books, and even handing out special treats. Due to the COVID-19 restrictions we are all facing this year, our distribution will look a little different. We want to ensure that all students in hybrid or fully remote cohorts receive a book they are interested in, and we will be working closely with teachers to make this happen. Our distribution will be held in the Spring this year. This program is vital for children who have no books in their homes, have limited access to bookstores, and who would not experience the thrill of owning their own books without the service RIF provides.

## **Music Program:**

Jonathan Rowe teaches general music at Hoosac Valley Elementary School. In music classes students are introduced to musical notation, musical terminology, families of instruments, and major composers and different musical genres. Students in grades K and 1 focus on singing and movement activities along with hands-on experiences with drums, maracas and other classroom instruments while students in grades 2-3 have the opportunity to learn the basics of keyboards and drums.

## **Art:**

The Hoosac Valley Elementary School Visual Arts Program creates exposure to a variety of artists, materials and techniques. This exposure fosters creativity and increases the students' art knowledge and appreciation. Students develop and expand their Visual Arts skills through a combination of literacy based art lessons and techniques. Cross-curricular art lessons including language arts, math, science and art history enhance the students' experience of art techniques such as drawing, painting, printmaking, ceramics, mosaic and collage. Our students are encouraged to "Explore" the manipulation of various art materials such as paint, clay, ink and oil pastel. This art experience enables students to create multi-media art work.

## **Physical Education:**

Hoosac Valley Elementary physical education classes work to both actively engage a student's mind and body while conveying the importance of a healthy and active lifestyle. Physical education is both fun and challenging to all students, no matter their ability or skill level. A student enrolled in our program learns how to physically perform a skill, the rules involved and the social aspect surrounding that activity or sport.

Students are engaged in a vast array of different activities while participating in physical education. Children in the pre-school and kindergarten levels have been learning many different gross motor skills required to participate in large group activities and non-competitive games. The skills being learned at this level include the overhand and underhand throwing technique, kicking a stationary object, striking a moving object, jumping rope, locomotor movements, and fleeing and dodging

type activities. Children in the first through third grade levels learn the skills of many traditional and non-traditional sports including soccer, football, basketball, hockey, volleyball, badminton, tennis, and cup stacking. While actively engaged in sport students also learn how to better communicate and resolve conflicts with classmates.

All grade levels participate in our "kidnastics" unit, which is an age-appropriate version of gymnastics, the New York Road-runner's Rising Runner program and our annual Kids Heart Challenge (formally known as Jump Rope for Heart) fundraiser event through the American Heart Association. Students are engaged in cross-curricular activities that include mathematics, history, health, and ELA. Adaptive students have been actively engaged in the physical education program where they receive attention and accommodation focusing on their specific needs through the use of modified equipment and lesson plans. The physical education department is constantly seeking to increase the amount of time afforded to one on one opportunities for students with adaptive needs.

Students are making progress in understanding the value of teamwork, cooperation, effort, and sportsmanship. Please continue to follow the happenings in physical education by reading the quarterly newsletters and visiting the Bloomz physical education website.

## **Technology**

The current District Technology Plan continues to guide decisions in this vital area of educational practice. We continue to update content and improve communication between school/community/families through our district and individual school webpages. We see this as an opportunity to give families direct access to calendars, information and upcoming events, policies and procedures.

The 2020-2021 school year has brought the adoption of many new platforms for HVRSD. Schoology has been adopted as our primary remote learning platform, in addition to many other supporting platforms such as Google Classroom, Zoom, Google Meet, Kami, and Zearn. Because of remote learning, our on-line software offerings to students both in and out of school continue to expand. We are continuing to work with an on-line software offering for our students in the area of Math, Symphony Math. This student use program aligns with the CCSS (Common Core State Standards) and helps students connect the BIG IDEAS in mathematics. Mastery of new math skills is achieved through Conceptual Understanding, Fluency, and Adaptive Branching. It provides all students the opportunity to progress at their own rate of learning while responding to their individual needs as they work through the 26 stages of the program. Lexia CORE 5 is utilized in grades Pre-K to 3; which is based on the 5 components of reading and is compliant with the CCSS. As with Symphony it meets each student at their own level of learning and allows students the ability to acquire skills above their current grade level. Classroom teachers can access the data from these programs to guide instruction for individual students. These programs can be accessed at home directly from our school website and used on the chrome books, iPad, desktop, or android, within your web browser. We continue to review our offerings and explore new additions to our technology hardware/software to assist our staff in meeting the educational needs of all learners.

## 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:

- Berkshire Theatre Group (BTG Plays! for grade 3)
- The Counseling Center of the Berkshires (counseling)
- The Department of Children and Families (family support)
- The Massachusetts Audubon Society (classroom lessons)
- Adams Police Department (school resource officers, practice safety drills)
- Mass MoCA (Grant funded program for all students K-5 to attend performances/tour spaces)
- The Berkshire Museum
- The Family Place (Backpacked for Success Program)
- Adams Library, Fire Department, and local banks (educational programs)
- Hoosac Valley High School (Leo Club)
- Adams Visitor Center-Joe Nowak (Presentations and visits)
- Massachusetts College of Liberal Arts (practicum students and administrative interns)
- The Police Athletic League who use our gymnasium for basketball games
- REACH Foundation
- The Adams Community Bank provides our school with a generous donation each year.

*"When educating the minds of our youth,  
we must not forget to educate their hearts."*

*~ Dalai Lama*

Hoosac Valley Elementary School is a dynamic, child-centered school where our students' safety, social/emotional wellness, and academic achievements are our top priorities. We are so thankful for all of the continued support we receive from our parents, families, volunteers and community friends. The hard work we do each day could not be possible without you as our partner in the education of our children!

Submitted by,

Rebecca Sawyer  
Principal  
Hoosac Valley Elementary School



2019-2020 HVHS  
Girls Basketball Team  
Western / Central Mass  
Champions and  
State Co-Champions

# Hoosac Valley High School Athletics

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## Winter 2020

Congratulations to the Girls' Basketball team for earning State Champions honor once again. Led by long-time coach Ron Wojcik, the girls' team repeated as Western Mass and Central Mass Champs as well. Seniors Shaleigh Levesque and Riley Robinson led the team and the trip back to "The Cage" was a priority with a well-deserved win over rival Wahconah. While the girls were not able to participate in the State Championship game due to COVID, the team was awarded Co-Champ honor. In addition, the team continued to raise funds for The American Cancer Society through its Coaches for Cancer campaign. Congratulations to all coaches, players, families and teams that participated in this important event.

The boys' program saw Izaha Stubbs reach 1,000 point status, ending his career with 1,311 points. Congratulations, Izaha, on this tremendous honor following years of hard work and perseverance. The team earned well-deserved victories over Wahconah and Drury. The HV Boys' Basketball team continued to host the "Mr. Hoosac" competition and brought many laughs to those in surrounding communities.

The Nordic Ski program earned the right to compete at States and Junior Corbin Craig and Sophomore Justin Levesque competed at a high level and earned many accolades throughout the season. On the Girls' Side, skiers Sydni Jamros, Alannah McGrath, Natalie Pompei and Vienna Mahar continued to improve at each contest.

## Spring 2020

Unfortunately, with the onset of COVID-19, spring sports were not allowed to take place. However, coaches and student-athletes continued to maintain contact, hold online Zoom workouts as well as meet with their student-athletes.

## Fall 2020

There was a tremendous amount of uncertainty going into the Fall of 2020 but our dedicated coaches and student-athletes found a way to make the season as successful as possible. Even though there was not a traditional season, the golf, soccer, cheerleading, and football coaches were able to hold competitive, socially distanced, practices as well as strength and conditioning sessions.

Even though the students knew there was not going to be a traditional season, this did not stop them from coming out and getting better at their respective sports. There were over 105 students that took part in the fall season and all came together as a family to make the most out of an unprecedented situation. The boys and girls soccer team, along with the football team, also participated in non-MIAA leagues for the students to showcase everything they have been training for.

The number one priority at HVHS is safety and our coaches did a phenomenal job adhering to all MIAA, EEA, and state guidelines. Temperatures were taken before practice and all equipment was sanitized as much as possible. Due to the diligence of each coach, there were zero COVID cases in the athletics program. All coaches and players did an amazing job of keeping the high standard that Hoosac is used to. This Fall season will only serve to better prepare everyone for years to come.

## Winter 2020-2021

The Athletic Department is pleased to announce the hiring of new staff with a long history of success in their professional sports careers. While the future of Winter Athletics due to COVID and remote learning is uncertain, each coach has provided support and connection. Gretta Fachetti has been hired as the 2020-2021 Nordic Ski Coach. Coach Fachetti has a long history of success and coaching. She is the 1994 HVHS State Champion as well as having coached from 1999-2004 in a myriad of capacities. She brings with her a wealth of knowledge and experience as well and looks forward to growing the program.

Holly McGovern has been hired as the Girls' Varsity Basketball Coach and McKenzie Robinson as the Junior Varsity Coach. Both coaches have a depth of knowledge and history. Coach McGovern brings with her several honors: Winningest coach in MCLA/NASC history, MASCAC Championships and NCAA and ECAC Tournament Berths. Coach M. Robinson is a HVHS alumni who played Girls' Basketball all four years. In addition to her experience at Hoosac, she was a standout athlete at MCLA and moved on to coaching through the Berkshire Mountaineers Program, having coached the 5/6 and 7/8 age groups over a span of three years. She builds positive relationships with her players and parents alike.

William Robinson has returned as the Varsity Boys' Coach. Coach W. Robinson coached at Hoosac from 1990-2016 and won 4 Western Mass and 3 State Finalist honors. In 2015, Coach Robinson was selected to the New England Basketball Hall of Fame. In addition to his many accolades, Coach Robinson builds excellent connections with kids and stresses the importance of both academic, athletic and relational success. We look forward to having Coach Robinson back in the program. Coach Matt Larabee returns to coach the Junior Varsity team and we are excited as he continues to influence and impact the program and his student-athletes.

## Athletic Honors and Awards:

Hoosac Valley High School is honored to have received recognition for the following:

### 2019-2020 Athletic Leadership Council (ALC) MIAA/MSSADA award for Service

Led by Faith Hall, Shaleigh Levesque, Riley Robinson and Zach Swistak, the ALC paired with Wahconah Regional High School and The Berkshire county Sheriff's Office to collect toys and monetary donations for Toys for Tots Campaign. The group organized a toy collection at the school and prior to the 2019 football game at Wahconah.

Cecilia Norcross was awarded the District G Joao Rodrigues Award for contributions to an Athletic Department. This award is a reflection of dedication and commitment to interscholastic athletics in the state of Massachusetts. Celia has been a long-time contributor to the Towns of Adams and Cheshire through the Youth Soccer Program as well as a parent contributor to the HVHS Band Program and Boys' Soccer and Track programs. Celia donates countless hours to the benefit of student-athletes.

## Director of Food Services

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In 2019-2020, The Hoosac Valley Regional School District continues to participate in the National School Lunch Program, School Breakfast Program, Special Milk Program, USDA Commodity Distribution Program, Summer Food Service Program and a USDA Program called DOD-FFAVORS (Department of Defense Fresh Fruits & Vegetable Program).

The HVRSD Food Service Department is part of a Purchasing Program called Collaborative for Educational Services (CES) through which we purchase groceries for the Food Service Program. We also are members of the Berkshire County Food Service Purchasing Cooperative that puts out bids for bread, dairy and paper products, yearly, on a county wide basis.

We are in our third year of being a CEP district. This Community Eligibility Program makes our entire district eligible for free breakfast and free lunch for each student daily.

We received a grant for \$20,000.00 for a new Hobart Dishwasher for HVES to replace the existing one that was held together with band-aids. It was installed in August 2019. Expenses to Food Service were \$3,916.89.

HVES was also awarded a grant to participate in the Fruit & Veggie Program again for SY 2019-2020. The Grant supported a 3-hour worker who delivered daily samples of a fresh fruit & a fresh veggie to each student in each class to help teach students about choosing healthy snacks.

For the 2019-2020 SY, the Food Service Department had a deficit of (\$148,237) on Revenues of \$412,924.00. Government subsidies represented 92.8% of total Revenue. USDA Commodities valued at \$33,049.82 were received in 2020.

There were 3 retirements at the end of SY 2020. Flossie Hoellerich and Gena Simoneau retired after many years of dedicated service in the Food Service Department. Cindy Gajda, who was the Manager of Cheshire Elementary School, also retired with more than 30 years of dedicated service in Food Service.

Participation in the reimbursable National School Lunch Program for SY 19-20 was 54%. Participation in the School Breakfast Program for SY 19-20 was 72%. These totals reflect participation from August 28, 2019 through March 13, 2020.

On Monday, March 16, 2020, with the beginning of the COVID-19 Pandemic, school meals were delivered curbside at both HVMHS & HVES. There is no registration, meals are free to anyone 18 years and under. During the summer months, meals continued to be available curbside at HVES and also delivered to some homes by community volunteers. During the months from April through August 2020, there were 31,604 lunches distributed and 31,604 breakfasts distributed in our Community!

The percentage of students who qualified for free/reduced meals as of June 2020 was 50%, a 2% decrease from the previous year.

We operated 2 kitchens in SY 2019-2020.

Respectfully submitted,

Rosanne Schutz  
Food Service Director

# Special Services

## Annual Report 2020-2021

The COVID-19 pandemic has presented unprecedented challenges for our students, their families, and our entire school community. The extended school closure in the Spring 2020 and the varying learning models (remote and hybrid) of the Fall 2020 have had significant impacts on the academic and social-emotional well-being of all students, including students with disabilities. Our faculty, staff, and administration have worked tirelessly to meet the needs of all learners and to prioritize in-person learning for our youngest learners (preschool and kindergarten), as well as our high-needs populations (students participating in substantially separate programs, students with Department of Children and Families - DCF, and court involvement), as well as our McKinney Vento (homeless) students and students who are at risk for failure of core content classes. Some of these efforts have included the addition of licensed and non-licensed staff, the creation of school based Remote Learning Centers at both Hoosac Valley Middle School and Hoosac Valley High School, increased transportation for students with disabilities, and increased collaboration between our related service providers and families. Additionally, we have utilized Zoom Communications meeting platform, Zoom Edu, to conduct HIPPA and FERPA compliant team meetings and to provide direct special education services to students remotely.

Despite the challenges we have faced, the 2019-2020 and 2020-2021 school years have included new opportunities and continued development of essential programming for our students in the areas of Special Education, English Language Education, and Early Childhood Programming. During the 2020-2021 school year, the Special Services Department provided support services to approximately 307 students with Individualized Education Programs both in district schools, as well as in out-of-district school placements, 13 students who receive English Language Education, and approximately 70 students with 504 Accommodation Plans. Supports provided through the Special Services Department are aligned with the established regulations of the Individuals with Disabilities Act (IDEA), the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), and policies and laws for educating students with limited English proficiency.

During the 2019-2020 and 2020-2021 school years, our students have received a wide range of special education services, depending on their individualized needs, from ages three through twenty-two (or graduation in some cases). Services provided include direct instruction and support in academic areas such as reading, writing, or math, as well as in other areas such as executive functioning skills, life skills, social skills, self-regulation skills and skills that will help students transition to adulthood. Additionally, students have received an array of related services, which include speech and language therapy, occupational therapy, physical therapy, vision therapy, mobility training, supports for students with hearing impairments, school counseling, and behavioral interventions.

Our mandate and goal is to educate students in the least restrictive environment (LRE). To accomplish this, our special education services exist along a continuum that is individualized for each student to provide access to our school's curriculum. In

the 2019-2020 school year, 74% of our students with disabilities had IEPs that called for services in a Full Inclusion environment, 16% in a Partial Inclusion Environment, and 10% in a Substantially Separate Environment. Over the course of the past 10 months, the Special Services Office has been focused on improving the specificity of our student's IEPs to ensure that they meet their needs both academically and social-emotionally. We have challenged each other to think outside of the box and outside of past practices to both to ensure that the time our students are in the general education classroom is meaningful and to ensure that we are providing explicit instruction in both academic and social emotional skills. The hope is that by increasing the type of services available within our schools, we will be able to transition and integrate some of our students who are currently attending private day placements back to their home schools. While our goal is to provide inclusive opportunities for students whenever appropriate, many of our students continue to require specialized instruction outside of the general education setting based on their needs.

As a district, we continue to see rising numbers of students with high needs - academically, socially, medically, emotionally, and behaviorally, and as a district we continue to recognize that our programming needs to shift and adapt based on the changing needs of our students. The ultimate goal of our programming is to allow students with significant behavioral needs, learning needs, and needs relating to Autism or cognitive impairments to receive appropriate supports within their home schools, and we will continue to build internal capacity that allows this to occur. This year we have focused our capacity building on increasing our faculty and staff's knowledge and training in systematic, direct, explicit reading instruction for struggling readers. Our goal in providing this training is to increase the number of interventions available to faculty and students. This allows us to feature match each program to a child's specific learning profile. Specifically, we have trained 25 in the Introductory Wilson Reading Course and 7 staff participating in the yearlong practicum to become Level 1 Wilson Certified Instructors. Additionally, we have provided professional development to faculty in Lindamood Bell's programs (LiPs, Seeing Stars, and Visualizing and Verbalizing) and RAVE-O. Furthermore, Hoosac Valley Elementary School has been participating in the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE)'s Early Literacy Grant. The focus of this grant is to provide professional development in evidence-based practice in the science of reading. Lastly, we have received a three-year Math Recovery Academy sponsorship from the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE). This year we have trained our math coaches, district-wide, to be Math Recovery Specialists. This will allow them to provide Tier 3 interventions for students struggling in mathematics. In years 2 and 3 of the academy all math teachers in grades kindergarten through grade 8 will be trained in the use of the program.

The Special Services Department has continued to maintain strong partnerships with community-based organizations, such as Rhythm Rhyme Preschool, Berkshire Family and Individual Resources (BFAIR), Community Access to the Arts, Childcare

of the Berkshires Family Center, United Cerebral Palsy – Early Intervention, Pediatric Development Center which helps foster strong community connections for our students. Additionally, we have made connections with new community-based organizations including Communicare, LLC and Tate Behavioral who have provided assistive technology, augmentative alternative communication, and behavioral supports to our students.

This year the Special Services Department has also made significant growth through a strong partnership with the Hoosac Valley Technology Department. All students now have access to a wide array of support tools (i.e., speech-to-text, text-to-speech, study tools) both at school, as well as at home, through the Read&Write for Google extension. Additionally, we have provided students access to Bookshare, which is a text-to-speech service for students with print disabilities. With the support of our Technology Department, tools that used to be rare or unique are now commonplace and part of the general education classroom and are readily accessible for our students.

Our integrated preschool program continues to thrive at Hoosac Valley Elementary School. As of January 2021, we currently provide half-day programming to approximately 32 students, in three integrated classrooms. The integrated preschool model provides all students the opportunity to develop and strengthen their foundational academic and social skills alongside their peers. Our preschool curriculum is aligned to the Massachusetts Curriculum Frameworks, as well as Massachusetts Standards for Preschool Social and Emotional Learning and Approaches to Play and Learning. Our youngest learners learn pre-reading skills such as blending sounds to create words, segmenting, rhyming and learning letter sounds. Math activities have included rote counting, numeral recognition, patterning, subitizing, counting objects and measurement. Additionally, using small group instruction we can integrate social skills practice, Handwriting Without Tears and Talian Lively Letters curriculum in order to best meet the needs of diverse learners. Furthermore, some students also receive intensive services based on their specific needs and some students who participate in community preschool programs drop-in for special education services.

Our community is becoming increasingly diverse as is represented by the growing number of English Learner (EL) students. While it is at times challenging to meet the needs of a population that is constantly growing and evolving, the district sees our linguistically diverse population as a great strength and strives to meet the individual and varied needs of these students.

In response to the COVID-19 pandemic and the shift in educational models, the number one priority of our English Language Education and ESL programming has been to support our students - whether that be academically, socio-emotionally or technologically. Our EL teacher has collaborated with SEI endorsed teachers to ensure that access to the curriculum is equitable and technology has been provided in the form of Internet hotspots and Chromebook computers. In addition to this, EL students have continued to work in the areas of Reading, Writing, Listening and Speaking both remotely and in person when possible. Culture remains a focus of the curriculum as we strive to not only teach our EL students about American culture but explore what our Native English-speaking students can learn from them.

In the 2020-2021 school year, the Hoosac Valley Regional School District has 13 EL students enrolled. Since 2014, this number has grown by over 200%. The current languages of our EL population include Gujarati, Hindi, Indonesian, Mandarin, Arabic, Spanish and English. We currently have students originally from the USA, India and Ecuador. In the past few years, we have also enrolled students from France, the Philippines, Iran, Lebanon, Dubai, Puerto Rico, and other countries.

In preparing the 2021-2022 budget, the Special Services Office gathered both analytical and anecdotal information from a variety of stakeholders including parents of special education students, faculty, staff, students, and administration. Additionally, we utilized data gathered from an internal audit of federal and state timeline compliance, student enrollment, as well as benchmarking and progress monitoring data. A Special Services Budget Survey yielded a total of 112 responses. 42% of responses were from Parents, 47.3% were from Employees, 9.8% were from individuals who were both Parents and Employees, and 1% were from Students. A summary of the data can be found below:

- When asked how important it is to allocate resources to expand the number of licensed staff, 76.8% of respondents strongly agreed.
- When asked how important it is to allocate resources to expand the number of non-licensed staff, 51.8% of respondents strongly agreed.
- When asked what licensed position respondents believed represents the biggest staffing needs, 41.1% responded Special Education Teachers were the greatest need. There was an almost equal split between the remaining respondents who prioritized: Reading Specialists, Counselors, Behavior Specialists, School Psychologists and Therapeutic Staff.
- When asked what non-licensed position respondents believed represents the biggest staffing needs, 77.7% responded paraprofessionals and licensed paraprofessionals were the greatest need. 10% of respondents felt that Hall/Bathroom/Lunch/Recess Monitors were needed and 10% felt that none of the selections were needed.
- When asked which academic area should be prioritized, 64.3% identified Reading, 19.6% identified Math and 16.1% identified Writing.
- When asked which non-academic area should be prioritized, 55.3% identified Social-Emotional and Behavioral Supports. 18.8% identified Alternative Learning Pathways. 12.5% identified Transition to Adulthood Skills and the remaining respondents identified Professional Development and Information/Instructional Technology.

There were two open-response questions, as well, which asked where respondents felt that we should focus funding both academically and non-academically. Themes that emerged from the open response questions include:

- A need to focus on Reading and Social-Emotional Supports.
- Concern regarding the impact of the COVID-19 Pandemic on both the academic and social-emotional well-being of our students.
- A need to increase the continuum of services for students academically and social-emotionally.

- A need to increase the engagement of students, especially during remote learning.
- A need to develop alternative learning pathways and alternative education opportunities for secondary students.
- The need to have adequate staff (both licensed and non-licensed) to meet the needs of all learners.
- The need to identify (and to diversify) our current academic, social-emotional, and social skills curricula.
- The need for consistent implementation of chosen curricula and programs.

Our mission, as a Special Services Department, is to partner with families and the entire education community to provide a wide range of effective and meaningful services for our students. Ultimately, our goal as educators is to guide our students along their path to independent and connected adult lives. Looking to the 2021-2022 school year, our department is hoping to both increase the number of licensed staff within our buildings, as well as to identify and implement consistent academic, social-emotional, and social-skills curricula for students in preschool through grade 12. Lastly, we continue to seem parents who are interested in joining the Special Education Parent Advisory Council (SEPAC). If you have interest in becoming involved with our SEPAC, please reach out to our office via phone at 413-743-2939 ext. 1107 or via email at:

[jdickson@hoosacvalley.org](mailto:jdickson@hoosacvalley.org)

Respectfully,

Joshua Dickson, M.S.Ed.  
Director of Special Services

### Eligible Students by Grade

Grade	Eligible Students
PK	40
K	19
1	26
2	17
3	24
4	16
5	19
6	34
7	35
8	20
9	11
10	11
11	17
12	12
SP	3

### SPECIAL SERVICES FACULTY

Joshua Dickson	Suzanne Harnick	Elizabeth Phoenix
Jacquelyn Daniels	Deborah Silveira	Michelle Boire
Lisa Fortin	Jamie Bannon	Lisa Delmolino
Catherine Salvini	Karissa Kingsley	Mark Jagiello
Courtney Bopp	Kelly Riechers	Jeffrey Horton
Michael Vecchia	Laura Crane	Amanda Brooks-Clemeno
Kim Biagini	Nicole Crane	Cathy Abbot
Kaitlyn Moresi	Sara Malloy	Patrick Mahoney
Joshua Kellogg	Jessica Christman	Seth Jenkins
Kathy West	Elizabeth Bean	Amy O'Brien
Brianna Shepard	Caitlin Larabee	Susan Descarage
Diane Arduini	Travis Poirot	Pam Oddis
Laura Underhill	Zachary Houle	Debra Scanlon
Darian Kradin	James Bergeron	
Karen Levesque	Rebecca Cohen	

# Director of Business

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## Overview of Fiscal Year 2020

The process of developing the FY2020 budget began in November of 2018. Using a mind set of reconfigure and repurpose, the Administration began the task of developing building-based budgets while being mindful of the fiscal constraints each of our member towns remains under.

Repurposed funds allowed for the addition of a Learning Lab teacher, which serves all populations of students at the High School. This position allowed for advanced students to take on-line courses, while also serving as a center for students needing additional help to receive support outside of their regular classroom setting. This position, in addition to those added in previous budgets, has continued to support the District in educating and supporting students of varying abilities and needs.

In FY2020, The Adams-Cheshire Regional School District's Budget of \$20,099,487 represented an increase of \$349,341 over the previous fiscal year's budget. The increase was derived from contractual increases, Adams Retirement contribution increase, School Choice and Charter assessment increases from the state as well as a shift of expense out of the School Choice fund and into the operating budget.

The 2020 fiscal year began with a fund balance of \$378,138 as certified by the Department of Revenue. The District ended the year with E&D certified at \$383,955. This balance represents the amount remaining after revenues and expenditures are netted against the beginning balance, and the amount appropriated to reduce assessments to the towns in FY21 (\$300,000) is deducted. The amount of E&D used to offset town assessments has increased over the years. This approach, however, does not allow for the district to maintain the amount of E&D that is recommended by auditors, financial advisors and bond rating organizations. The District will now work towards slowly decreasing the amount of E&D used to offset assessments and instead use it towards maintaining a fund balance that will favorably impact it's financial situation and bond rating.

In closing, the FY2020 budget produced another beneficial teaching position, maintained current staffing and began a shift in dependency of using School Choice funds to absorb a large portion of elementary school expenditure. The current trends in population decline and minimal funding are all challenges that present themselves each year. The District's School Committee, Administration and Staff continue to make great gains in educating our children while facing the reality of the financial constraints around us.

Respectfully submitted,

Erika M. Snyder  
Director of Business  
February 11, 2021



# Hoosac Valley Regional School District

## Governmental Funds

### Balance Sheet

#### June 30, 2020

	General Fund	Non-major Governmental Funds	Total Governmental Funds
<b>ASSETS</b>			
Cash and short-term investments	\$ 2,489,619	\$ 725,390	\$ 3,215,009
Receivables:			
Intergovernmental	43,666	178,010	221,676
Other	53,517	-	53,517
Inventory	-	33,705	33,705
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>\$ 2,586,802</b>	<b>\$ 937,105</b>	<b>\$ 3,523,907</b>
<b>LIABILITIES</b>			
Warrants payable	\$ 63,030	\$ 36,612	\$ 99,642
Accrued payroll and withholdings	1,207,296	41,272	1,248,568
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES</b>	<b>1,270,326</b>	<b>77,884</b>	<b>1,348,210</b>
<b>FUND BALANCES</b>			
Restricted	-	859,221	859,221
Assigned	573,054	-	573,054
Unassigned	743,422	-	743,422
<b>Total Fund Balances</b>	<b>1,316,476</b>	<b>859,221</b>	<b>2,175,697</b>
<b>Total Liabilities and Fund Balances</b>	<b>\$ 2,586,802</b>	<b>\$ 937,105</b>	<b>\$ 3,523,907</b>

**Hoosac Valley Regional School District**  
**Governmental Funds**  
**Statement of Revenues,**  
**Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balances**  
**for the Year Ended June 30, 2020**

	General Fund	Non-major Governmental Funds	Total Governmental Funds
<b>REVENUES</b>			
Assessments to member towns	\$ 8,520,702	\$ -	\$ 8,520,702
Charges for services	-	312,132	312,132
Intergovernmental	12,540,717	1,954,381	14,495,098
Investment income	31,076	-	31,076
Miscellaneous	12,167	-	12,167
<b>TOTAL REVENUES</b>	<b>\$ 21,104,662</b>	<b>\$ 2,266,513</b>	<b>\$ 23,371,175</b>
<b>EXPENDITURES</b>			
Current:			
Administration	714,192	3,117	717,309
Instruction	6,849,917	829,006	7,678,923
Other school services	1,173,096	819,104	1,992,200
Operation and maintenance	1,083,259	-	1,083,259
Fixed charges	141,149	-	141,149
Special education	2,694,615	480,738	3,175,353
Employee benefits	5,581,773	-	5,581,773
Debt Service:			
Principal	605,000	-	605,000
Interest	325,750	-	325,750
Intergovernmental	1,880,458	-	1,880,458
Acquisition	40,000	-	40,000
<b>Total Expenditures</b>	<b>21,089,209</b>	<b>2,131,965</b>	<b>23,221,174</b>
Change in fund balance	15,453	134,548	150,001
<b>FUND BALANCE, AT BEGINNING OF YEAR</b>	<b>1,301,023</b>	<b>724,673</b>	<b>2,025,696</b>
<b>FUND BALANCE, AT END OF YEAR</b>	<b>\$ 1,316,476</b>	<b>\$ 859,221</b>	<b>\$ 2,175,697</b>

# Hoosac Valley Regional School District

## Assessments to Member Towns

### June 30, 2020

<b>Town</b>	<b>Minimum Contribution</b>	<b>Contribution Outside Net School Spending</b>	<b>Transportation &amp; Capital Assessments</b>	<b>Total Assessments</b>
Adams	\$ 3,757,565	\$ 945,842	\$ 1,089,242	\$ 5,792,649
Cheshire	2,061,392	301,052	365,609	2,728,053
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 5,818,957</b>	<b>\$ 1,246,894</b>	<b>\$ 1,454,851</b>	<b>\$ 8,520,702</b>

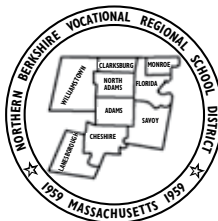
# Hoosac Valley Regional School District

## June 30, 2020

### Future Debt Service

<b>Governmental</b>	<b>Principal</b>	<b>Interest</b>	<b>Total</b>
2021	\$ 620,000	\$ 307,600	\$ 927,600
2022	640,000	289,000	929,000
2023	655,000	269,800	924,800
2024	635,000	250,150	885,150
2025	650,000	231,100	881,100
2026 - 2030	3,630,000	806,700	4,436,700
2031 - 2034	2,500,000	172,650	2,672,650
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 9,330,000</b>	<b>\$ 2,327,000</b>	<b>\$ 11,657,000</b>

# Northern Berkshire Vocational Regional School District



The Northern Berkshire Vocational Regional School District, McCann Technical School, students, faculty and staff continued their record of noteworthy accomplishments in fiscal year 2020 and this report highlights some of these accomplishments.

Our mission is to graduate technically skilled, academically prepared, and socially responsible individuals ready to meet the challenges of the 21st century. Our mission and educational philosophy are implemented by adhering to the following core values:

**Respect** for self, others, and the learning environment promotes a positive learning experience for all students.

**Effort** is demonstrated through an applied work ethic that includes punctuality, improvement, and a determination to succeed.

**Accountability** develops personal responsibility for both behavior and learning.

**Communication** facilitates collaboration, promotes self-advocacy, and develops positive relationships.

**Honor** requires students to act with integrity, honesty, positivity, and empathy for others.

McCann continues to offer high quality vocational and academic education. The faculty and staff prides itself on meeting the needs of all of our learners as the best practices in teaching and education are constantly being developed and refined. Our vocational programs are updated annually to the latest industry-recognized techniques and equipment. Academic programs consistently implement updated and relevant material for their disciplines. The support from our member towns is integral in creating this culture of learning which is reflected in our students' accomplishments.

The accomplishments of our students reflect the McCann culture of learning:

The Class of 2020 became the seventeenth class in a row to attain 100 percent competency determination on the MCAS tests. Thirty members of the Class of 2020 earned the prestigious John and Abigail Adams Scholarship awarded through the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education for their academic record and MCAS achievement. Our 116 2020 graduates saw 58% continue their education in a variety of colleges and universities, 38% enter the workforce and 4% proudly enter into military service.

We were fortunate to be able to award 116 diplomas to the class of 2020 during our outdoor commencement ceremony on August 6, 2020.

The 2020 MCAS exams were postponed due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The class of 2022 will take the MCAS exams during their junior year. The district will deliver the exams in accordance with DESE guidance.

## GRADE 10 - ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS

Performance Level	2019
Exceeding Expectations	2.0%
Passing	96.0%
Not Meeting Expectations	2.0%

## GRADE 10 – MATHEMATICS

Performance Level	2019
Exceeding Expectations	0.0%
Passing	94.0%
Not Meeting Expectations	6.0%

## GRADE 10 - SCIENCE AND TECH/ENG

Performance Level	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Advanced	11.3%	24.5%	26.1%	13.7%	16.0%
Proficient	63.7%	61.8%	51.3%	53.3%	56.0%
Needs Improvement	23.4%	10.9%	20.1%	30.6%	25.0%
Failing	1.6%	2.7%	1.7%	2.4%	3.0%

The McCann Athletics program continues to enjoy success in the Pioneer Valley Interscholastic Athletic Association. Our programs enjoy healthy participation numbers and our student athletes continue to represent our school admirably. The girls' soccer team claimed the State Vocational Small School Division Championship Title in a thrilling game versus Blue Hills Regional Vocational School on the Williams College soccer field. All spring sports were unfortunately cancelled due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Our continuous facility improvement program allowed us to remove asbestos floor tile and renovate eight classrooms, two offices, and two faculty rooms, renovate three more bathrooms and install new air-handling units in several locations. The advent of the COVID-19 pandemic necessitates additional sanitizing and HVAC challenges which will be evident during FY21.

The integration of new educational technology continues to be our priority. We used our Perkins Grant to continue our upgrade of educational software, purchase iPads for technical instructors to provide on-the-spot analysis of student progress, and replace hand tools in our carpentry, electrical, and metal fabrication departments. We also received a Skills Capital Grant of \$150,000.00 which enabled us to add a CNC waterjet machining center for our advanced manufacturing department and a CNC programmable vertical band saw and a CNC plasma cutting machine for our metal fabrication department.

Community service projects continue to provide our students with excellent opportunities to display their technical skills while exhibiting the passion and commitment to support their community. Our Skills USA students' community service included the "Buddy Walk of the Berkshires," placing flags on veterans' graves, assistance with the weekend Meals on Wheels, a Christmas "giving tree" for young residents of the Louison House, and several fundraisers for PopCares.

McCann continued its ongoing participation in SkillsUSA, a national organization of more than 300,000 members working to ensure America has a skilled work force. McCann is a 100% member of SkillsUSA which has provided the opportunity for our students to earn scholarships, tools for their trade, opportunities for employment and awards in recognition of their accomplishments. At the 2020 SkillsUSA district competition McCann students earned 20 gold medals in 3-D Visualization and Animation, Additive Manufacturing, Architectural Drafting, Automated Manufacturing Technology, Carpentry, Internet-working, Restaurant Service, Sheet Metal, Technical Computer Applications, Technical Drafting, Web Design, Welding at the high school level and Cosmetology (over 500), Dental Assisting and Medical Assisting at the postsecondary level. Sixteen silver medals were awarded in 3-D Visualization & Animation, Additive Manufacturing, Architectural Drafting, Automated Manufacturing Technology, Carpentry, Cosmetology (over 500), Customer Service, Industrial Motor Control, Sheet Metal, Technical Drafting at the high school level and Cosmetology (over 500), Dental Assisting and Medical Assisting at the postsecondary level. Eleven bronze medals were also earned in 3-D Visualization and Animation, Architectural Drafting, Automated Manufacturing Technology, Carpentry, Technical Drafting at the high school level and Cosmetology (over 500), Dental Assisting and Medical Assisting at the postsecondary level. Although this year's state and national SkillsUSA competitions were cancelled due to the COVID-19 pandemic, we are incredibly proud of our competitors!

Business Professionals of America (BPA) is the leading career and technical student organization for students pursuing careers in Business Management, Office Administration, Information Technology and other related career fields. The organization's activities complement classroom instruction by giving students practical experience through application of the skills learned at school. BPA is contributing to the preparation of a world-class workforce through the advancement of leadership, citizenship, academic, and technological skills. At the 2020 BPA State Leadership Conference held in Framingham, MA, McCann students

received a total of fifteen awards in Finance, Business Administration, Management Information Systems, Digital Communication and Design, and Management, Marketing and Communications. McCann BPA members earned three 1st place and three 3rd place awards at the SLC in March. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the National Leadership Conference scheduled for May 6-9 in Washington, D.C. was cancelled.

Project Lead the Way is the leading provider of rigorous and innovative Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) education programs in schools across the United States. Students enrolled in the program take as many as four courses above and beyond their graduation requirements. Since its inception in 2005, over 60% of participating students - over one hundred - have become eligible for college credits through Rochester Institute of Technology or New Hampshire Technical Institute as a result of their performance on the national engineering examination. In last year's PLTW cohort, seven students achieved this eligibility. Three instructors gained additional certifications, one each in the areas of Principles of Engineering, Civil Engineering and Architecture, and Aerospace Engineering.

Once again our advanced manufacturing sophomores and juniors received high accolades in the Manufacturing Advanced Center Workforce Innovative Collaborative, MACWIC, certification testing with 14 sophomores achieving Level I certification, one of whom received a challenge coin for achieving 85% or better in each of the five categories, while 3 juniors achieved Level II certification with two receiving a challenge coin for achieving 85% or better in each of the four categories. Seniors were not tested last year and no one was able to take the exams for a second time due to the COVID-19 closure. 39 of the 42 eligible Advanced Manufacturing Technology students have earned Level I credentials and 9 of the 25 eligible students have earned the Level II certification. Our Information Technology students were unable to take the CompTIA IT Fundamentals certification exam due to the examinations being cancelled because of the COVID-19 pandemic. Our Business Technology students were unable to test in IC3, Internet and Computing Core Certification, or any of the MOS, Microsoft Office Specialists, certifications for Word, Excel, Access, PowerPoint, or Outlook because of the COVID-19 pandemic closing of schools in March.

The success of our student body continues to be measured by our 100% competency determination, high career placement, high college matriculation rate and technical expertise in national skills competitions.

The district continues to operate on sound financial management principals and incorporates technology in this process to ensure maximum benefit for all of our programming. At the end of the fiscal year we returned \$165,000.00 of unused transportation monies to our communities. The district continues to search out grants to support our educational funding to improve instructional services and vocational equipment.

Our Massachusetts Board of State Examiners of Electricians 8 module (600 hour) journeyman electrical program continues to expand with over 78 electricians completing modules in 2019-2020 while 17 completed the master electrician program.

<b>FY20 Budgeted Revenues</b>	<b>Budget</b>	<b>Actual</b>
<b>City &amp; Town Assessments</b>		
Municipal Minimum	\$ 3,067,978.00	\$ 3,067,978.00
Capital	47,719.00	47,719.00
Transportation	165,000.00	165,000.00
Municipal Assessment	537,654.00	537,654.00
Ch. 71 Transportation	275,000.00	354,723.00
Ch. 70 General School Aid	4,829,906.00	4,805,496.00
Tuitions	635,560.00	714,043.51
Miscellaneous Revenue	5,910.00	25,137.49
State Bonus Aid	0.00	11,976.00
<b>Total Revenue Received</b>	<b>9,564,727.00</b>	<b>9,729,727.00</b>
Member City & Town Transportation Refunds		(165,000.00)
	<b>\$ 9,564,727.00</b>	<b>\$ 9,564,727.00</b>

<b>Source</b>	<b>Grant</b>	<b>Amount</b>
<b>(Federal Entitlement)</b>		
Fed	Sped IDEA	\$ 124,001.00
Fed	Title I	102,240.00
Fed	Title II A	15,733.00
Fed	Title IV	10,000.00
Fed	Perkins	65,228.00
Fed	Postsecondary Perkins	2,213.00
<b>(Federal Grants Other)</b>		
REAP		38,844.00
<b>(State Grants)</b>		
	Workforce Skills Capital Equipment	150,000.00
	MassHire Berkshire: Connecting Activities	1,000.00
	MassHire Berkshire: Advanced Manufacturing	20,000.00
	MassHire Berkshire: Welding	20,000.00
<b>(Competitive/Private)</b>		
Private	Olmsted	5,000.00
Private	BHG Wellness	2,000.00
Private	Project Lead the Way	10,000.00
Private	MASS Cultural Council	650.00
Private	General Dynamics for PLTW & Steam	4,000.00
Private	Adams Community Bank for Graduation	2,500.00
<b>TOTAL GRANTS</b>		<b>\$ 572,409.00</b>

# Adams Business Directory

Organization Name	Address	Organization Name	Address
7-Eleven	223 Columbia Street	Barrett House	17 Pleasant Street
A1 Pitching & Baseball Academy	5 Hoosac Street	Bascom Lodge	30 Rockwell Road
Adams Chiropractic PC	37 Park Street	B & B Micro Manufacturing	201 Howland Avenue
Adams Community Bank	PO Box 306	Belanger Photography of the Berkshires	20 Turners Avenue
Adams Hometown Market	11 Myrtle Street	Bella Sky Gifts	35 Park Street
Adams Housing Authority	4 Columbia Street	Bellevue Memorials	146 B Bellevue Avenue
Adams Internists	2 Park Street	Benchmark Tech. Design	9 Hoosac Street
Adams Physical Therapy	1 Berkshire Square, Suite 109	Berkshire Academy for Advanced Musical Studies	39 Commercial Street
Adams Plumbing & Heating	65 Printworks Drive	Berkshire Beauty Salon	18 Hoosac Street
Adams Redemption Center	56 Commercial Street	Berkshire Consulting Associates	1 Sommer Hill Road
Adams Specialty Printing Co.	14 Pine Street	Berkshire County Landscaping	213 Gould Road
Adams Stove Company	108.5 Columbia Street	Berkshire County Martial Arts Academy	39 Park Street
Adams Travel	6 Grandview Terrace	Berkshire Dance Theatre	21 Maple Street
Adams Turners, Inc.	6 Turners Avenue	Berkshire Decorators	109 East Hoosac Street
AFFOUE Management	9 Pearl Street	Berkshire Green Cleaning	4 East Walnut Street
AJ's Trailside Pub	12 Pleasant Street	Berlshear Hair Trendz	68 Park Street
Alcombright Prof. Drywall	9 East Street	Berkshire Hauler	9 Crotteau Street
Al's Service Center	95 Commercial Street	Berkshire Outdoor	173 Howland Avenue
Alternative Motors of Adams, Inc.	69 Columbia Street	Berkshire Outfitters	169 Grove Street
Amelia's	64 Summer Street	Berkshire Photovoltaic Services	46 Howland Avenue
Anahata Schoolhouse	201 North Summer Street	Berkshire Production Resources	7 East Hoosac Street
Anderson and Son Home Improvement	40 North Summer Street, Apt. B	Berkshire Studio	10 Allen Street
Angelina's Submarine Shop	34.5 Columbia Street	Berkshire Wood Floors	10 Brown Street
Anita Louise Photography	6 Quaker Street	Berkshire's Finest Detailing	431 West Road
Archie L. Dupont Profess Vid.	3 Myrtle Street	Betsy Sage	90 Summer Street
Area Carpet Cleaning	130 Columbia Street	BG's Luxury Apparel	89 Friend Street, Apt. 201
Arh+ Lab Tattoo	100 Summer Street	Bill Moncecchi Plumbing	71 Summer Street
Arigoni Construction	27 Mill Street, Unit B	Bits and Pieces	64 Summer Street
Arrowbend Construction	27 Mill Street, Unit B	Bottomless Bricks, LLC	57 Park Street
Ashford Heights Farm	1 Ashford Heights	Bounti-Fare Restaurant	200 Howland Avenue
Atlantis Equipment Corp.	16 Print Works Drive	Broadlawn Farm	46 Walling Road
Atwell Cattle Raising	312 East Road	Bruce D. Dumouchel, PHD	41 Park Street
Awaken	86 Summer Street	Burke Construction	6 Renfrew Street
Ayotte Construction	82 Commercial Street	Burnett Farm	312 East Road
B.S.L. Painting	8 Edward Avenue	C and R Contracting	27 Melrose Street
B.A.C.K. To The Basics Cleaning Service	82 Columbia Street	C. Diesz Electric LLC	126 East Road
Bark N Groom	190 Howland Avenue	C. W. Construction Co.	46 Howland Avenue

Organization Name	Address
Calderara Construction	41 Melrose Street
Capital Speed Equipment	63 Alger Street
Carolyn's Tax Service	1 Berkshire Square, Suite 107
Carpentry Plus Much More	3 Oak Lane
Cataract & Laser Center Assoc.	One Berkshire Square
Charles Phykitt Ins. Agency, Inc.	74 Park Street
Chee's Chinese Cuisine	13 Columbia Street
Chilson's Pilot Car	27 Grove Street
Chop Shop	81 Summer Street
Ciempa Landscaping & Home Improvement	78 Howland Avenue
Ciempa Professional Tree Service	6 Burns Lane
Color-Me Creative Gifts	98 Summer Street
Conserve Thru Control	PO Box 377
Coones Travel and Tours	97 Summer Street
Corner Lunch	50 Summer Street
Country Construction	110 Walling Road
Country Crowchet	17 Commercial Street
Cumberland Farms	46 Commercial Street
Custom City Cycle	2.5 Pleasant Street
Cutting Edge Family Haircare	37 Park St., Suite 1
Cutting Edge Fitness & Martial Arts Center	73 1/2 Summer Street
D & S Linen Services d/b/a Aladaco	82 Commercial Street
Daily Grind	37 Park Street
Dancecapade School of Dance	44 Spring Street
David A. Brown (Appliance Repairs)	54 Columbia Street
David C. Field Building Contractor	13 Friend Street
David Kittler	2 Pleasant Street
David L. Krutiak Tree Farm	219 West Road
Dean's Auto Repair Shop	112 West Rd
DJ BIZZ Entertainment	33 Notch Road
Domino's Pizza	80 Summer Street
Duda & Holland Construction	24 North Summer Street
Duff's Towing and Recovery	33 Highland Avenue
Dunkin Donuts	177 Columbia Street
East Adams Trucking	34 Meadow Street
Edward Jones	One Berkshire Square, Ste. 114
Elevated Printing	10 Allen Street
Field Property Development	129 East Road
Fillion Inc.	101 Howland Avenue

Organization Name	Address
Flower Gallery	249 North Summer Street
Forest Park Country Club	Forest Park Avenue
Frank Field General Contracting	129 East Road
Full Well Farm	312 East Road
Gabriel's Cleaning Service	29 Temple Street
Gary Griswold Construction	14 Oak Lane
Gary Lecuyer On Line Gallery	3 Country Club Avenue
Gene Sebastino's Towing	25 Columbia Street
Gene's Sales & Service	108 Howland Avenue
George Apkins & Sons, Inc.	37 Pleasant Stret
Girl on the Run	27 Melrose Street
Good Intentions	37 Park Street, Ste. 2
Gordon's Garage	173 Howland Avenue
Green Garden Man	15 Powers Street
GreenTopia	10 Pleasant Street
Greylock Alliance	Bascom Lodge
Greylock Apartments	3 Myrtle Street
Greylock Arms LLC	12 Phillips Hill
Greylock Electric Co.	11 Grove Street
Greylock Environmental	17 Turners Avenue
Greylock Federal Credit Union	2 Park Street
Greylock Ice & Heating	2 Orcutt Street
Greylock Realty Group	233 Columbia Street
Greylock Repair Center	69 Columbia Street
H & R Machine Company	101 Alger Street
Haas Appraisals	56 Wilbur Lane
Haflinger House Restaurant & Inn	17 Commercial Street
Hairloom	19 Leonard Street
Haley Bld. & Remodeling	194 West Road
Hesnor Engineering Company	2A River Street
HEWN	15 Grove Street
Hill Engineers	44 Spring Street
Hilltown Consulting	40B Richmond Lane
Hilltown Demolition	173 Howland Avenue
Historic Susan B. Anthony Farm	20 Walling Road
Hobby World	171 Grove Street
Holland Co. Inc.	153 Howland Avenue
Holland's Remodeling	64 Friend Street
Hoosac Valley Coal & Grain	2 Gavin Avenue
HRJ Associates	47 Willow Street



Organization Name	Address
Hytech Computer	57 Columbia Street
Interior Specialties	8 Sparrow Street
J & S Home Improvement	41 Temple Street
Jacqueline Tessier	6 Crotteau Street
Jaeschke Apple Orchard	23 Gould Road
Jeremy Johnson Finish Carpentry	47 Spring Street
Jim Gancarz Builders	11A Pinnacle Drive
JP's Painting a/k/a Peltier Painting & Papering	119 Spring Road
K A Construction	10 Burt Street
K. Davis Painting	11 Summit Avenue
Karen's School of Driving	7 Park Street
Kern's Plumbing & Heating	19 Dubis Street
Kim Byrd d/b/a KB Masonary	69B Park Street
K M R Massage	64 Summer Street
L & R Holding	2 Gavin Avenue
Labbee Home Improvement	8 Burns Lane
Lablue's Taxidermy	121 Alger Street
Lahey Plumbing Heating	22 Grandview Terr.
Landscape One	9 Mill Street
Lee's Dynasty Asian Fusion	131 Columbia Street
Leslie's Lawn & Garden	23 Bobs Hill
Life Balance Acupuncture & Wellness	86 Summer Street
Lillie's Enterprises	18 Lower Linden Street
Lynda's Antique Clothing Loft	41 Park Street
Maple Grove Equipment	8 Leonard Street
Marshall Arts Music	40 East Jordan Stret
Martin K. Bush, DDS	9 Park Street
McAndrews-King	PO Box 450
McDonald's	2 Commercial Street
MCR Roofing	84 Alger Street
Meehan & Company Inc.	7 Hoosac Street
Menty's Computer Services	1 East Hoosac Street
MERAKI SALON	90 Summer Street
Midtown Tax & Bookkeeping Service	44 Spring Street
Millhouses of Adams	75 Commercial Street
Minerals Technologies/ Specialty Minerals	260 Columbia Street
Miss Adams Diner/ under Auth. of PJO Corp.	53 Park Street
MISSION	150 Howland Avenue

Organization Name	Address
Modena Painting	126 Howland Avenue
Mohawk Recording Group	27 Mill Street, Unit B
Monarch Realty	97 Summer Street
Mop Shoppe	24 Fisk Street
Mountain Club	6 Anthony Street
Mountain View Painters	64 East Street
Mr. Rooter of Berk. County	194 Howland Avenue
MRA Laboratories	15 Print Works Drive
Mullen Moving & Storage	71 Grove Street
NASHCO	17 Albert Street
Needlejig Tattoo Supply, Inc.	43 Print Works Drive
Newaves Unisex Hair Salon	79 Park Street
Nick Johnson Photography	4 Edmunds Street, M101
North County Creates	3 East Hoosac Street
Northeast Custom Flatbeds	11 Pinnacle Point
Northern Berkshire Loss Support	17 East Road
Northern Berkshire Sports Academy	89 Park Street
Oasis Liquors	35 Spring Street
O'Geary's	60 Commercial Street
Organized by FAR	71 Park Street
Original Seed Cigar & Lounge	32 North Summer Street
Osterman Propane	60 Printworks Drive
Ouellette Bros. Plumbing	4 East Hoosac Street
Paciorek Funeral Home	13 Hoosac Street
Patriot Laundromat & Car Wash	215 Columbia Street
PCA System Corp.	155 Howland Avenue
Penny Entertainment	170 Columbia Street
People First Photography	25 Park Street
Peoples Bakery	86 Howland Avenue
Pete's Gun Shop	9 Grove Street
Pine Brook Pub LLC	128 Columbia Street
Pitchfork Restaurant	85 Commercial Street
Pizza House	26 Hoosac Street
Pop Up Bridal Online	65 East Hoosac Street
Pupper Stuffs	69 Lime Street
R. S. Lee Company	14 North Street
R.P.A. Home Repairs	20 Thompson Street
Rainbow Shack	85 Summer Street
RAM Electrical Services, LLC	1 Berkshire Sq.
Rebecca Field	75 Commercial Street, B103

Organization Name	Address
Walgreens #19038	21 Columbia Street
Robbie's Gluten Free Ma, LLC	1 Burns Lane
Rogowski Distribution	60 Printworks Drive
Ronnies Cycle	150 Howland Avenue
Rowley Fuel	1 Grove Street
RSP Petroleum, Inc. dba Racing Mart	73 Columbia Street
Sadlow Enterprises	21 Crandall Street
Saldo Electric	90 Howland Avenue
Salon D	24-26 Willow Street
Scarpmalli	69 Lime Street
Scotty's Trucking	41 Park Street, Suite 6
Serrano Builders	42 Alger Street
Servistove Solutions	7 Lower Linden Street
Shannon Perin Photography	49 Glen Street
Shine Wire	25 Printworks Drive
Shire Donuts, LLC	52 Summer Street
Simply Different Supplements	15 Fryc Lane
Sit and Stay	30 Winter Street
Smith Bros. McAndrews Ins. Co.	45 Park Street
Sommer Electric	117 Grove Street
Sommer Hill Farm	1 Sommer Hill Road
Soulier & Zepka Construction	5 Spring Street
Sparkle Clean	28 Burt Street
St. John Law Offices	2 Center Street
Standard Furniture	66 Summer Street
Stanley's Lumber & Bldg. Suplies, Inc.	PO Box 87
Steepleview Realty	63 Park Street
Stephen Faucher Photography	8 Baskin Lane
Stitchaholique	7 Glendale Drive
Styling Station	56 Summer Street
Sunny Dayz Tan	36 Park Street
Superneau Construction & Concrete	23 Willow Street
Susan B. Anthony Birthplace Museum	67 East Road

Organization Name	Address
T & A Tool Inc.	73 Summer Street
The Coffee Liberation	1 Park Street
The Creative Designs	48 Columbia Street
The Fabric Workshop	122 Columbia Street
The Grille Restaurant	77 Summer Street
The Hair Loft	37 Park St., Suite 1
The Shire Cottage Bakery	1 Upper Linden Street
Thompson & Linscott	P.O. Box 190
Thrifty Bundle Laundromat	41 Spring Street
Top's Wellness Lifestyle	8 Pearl Street
Total Access Computers	69 Columbia Street
TRI Petroleum LLC dba Adams Express	160 Howland Avenue
Trimarchi Landscape	15 Burns Lane
Trottier Pringle Funeral Home	6 Summer Street
Troy's Tree Service	5 McKinley Street
Ultimate Entertainment Adams	52 Howland Avenue
Val's Variety	5 Columbia Street
Victory Lounge	13 Victory Street
Viking Pub	83 Commercial Street
V's Car Wash	76 Columbia Street
Waterman Excavating, Inc.	44 Spring Street
Waterman Paving & General Contracting	17 Morningside Avenue
Whitco	186 Howland Avenue
Whitman AD	0 Upper Liden Street
Whitman's Crystal Cleaning	2 Melrose Street
Whitmans PM	168 Friend Street
Windsor Bush Consulting	36 Melrose Street
Wizard Man Computer Repair	15 Powers Street
Woodstock South	127 Columbia Street
Wojo's	27 Spring Street
Xtreme Cleaning	45 North Summer Street



FORGET CONVENTIONALISMS;  
FORGET WHAT THE WORLD  
THINKS OF YOU STEPPING OUT  
OF YOUR PLACE;  
THINK YOUR BEST THOUGHTS,  
SPEAK YOUR BEST WORDS,  
WORK YOUR BEST WORKS,  
LOOKING TO YOUR OWN  
CONSCIENCE FOR APPROVAL.

*-Susan B. Anthony*