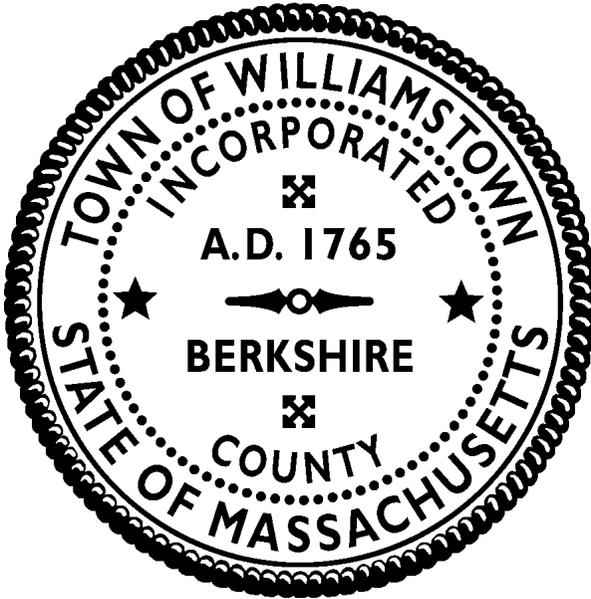


Town of Williamstown, Massachusetts



2013

ANNUAL REPORT



2013 Annual Report

Department reports are for the calendar year 2013 unless otherwise noted
Financial report covers the fiscal year ending June 30, 2013

Prepared by Debra Turnbull & Andrew Groff
Cover photo courtesy of the Williamstown Public Works Department
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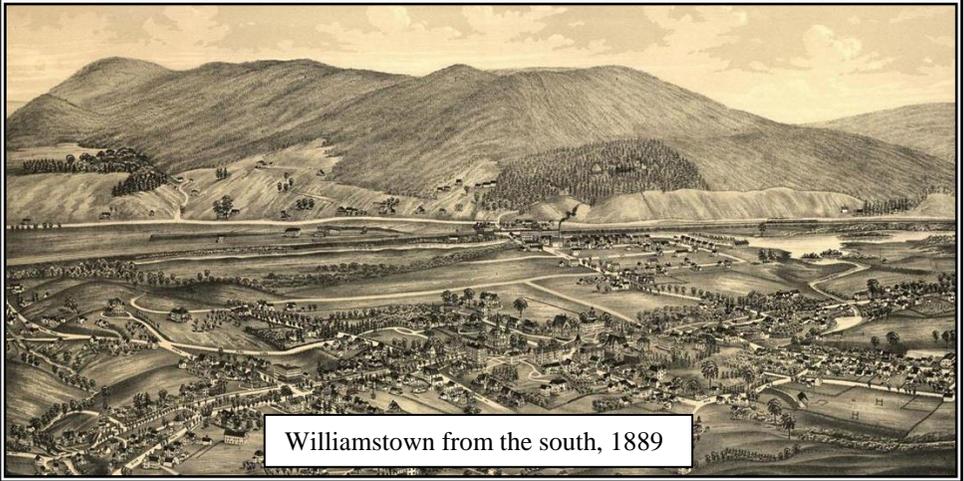
2013 Annual Report

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Community Facts

Williamstown began in 1750 as a plantation known as West Hoosac. Lots were laid out and the town was slowly settled until the beginning of the French and Indian War in 1754. In 1765 the town was incorporated as Williamstown according to the will of Col. Ephraim Williams, who was killed at the Battle of Lake George in 1755. He bequeathed a significant sum to the town on the condition that it were named after him and started a free school. The school opened in October of 1791 with 15 students. The free school became Williams College in 1793 under a charter from the Commonwealth, becoming the second college to be founded in Massachusetts.



Elevation: 740 ft. above Sea Level

Area: 46.86 Square Miles

Population: 7806 which includes approximately 2,000 Williams College Students

Registered Voters: 4338

Town Website: www.williamstown.net

SCHOOLS

Public

Williamstown Elementary School
Mt. Greylock Regional High School
Charles H. McCann Vocational School
(Grades 9-12 North Adams)
Berkshire Arts and Technologies Charter School
(Grades 6-12 Adams)

MAJOR EMPLOYERS

Williams College
Williamstown Commons
Williamstown Medical Associates
Town of Williamstown
Mount Greylock Regional School District

Private

Pine Cobble (preK-9)
Buxton (Secondary)
Williams College

Sweet Brook Nursing Center
Clark Art Institute
Williamstown Savings Bank
Williams Inn

Cover Story

The May 29 Flash Flood

At 8:00pm on the evening of May 29, Williamstown was hit by a thunderstorm that dropped huge amounts of rain in a very short period of time. In fact, researchers working at Williams College's Hopkins Forest measured the most intense rainfall on record there, with .74 inches falling in 10 minutes and about 1.8 inches falling in 30 minutes. This deluge caused more damage to the Town's road system than anyone here can recall. This storm changed the course of the Public Works Department for the remainder of 2013. The heaviest damage occurred on the west side of town along the Taconic Range. Here runoff washed away numerous culvert pipes and roadways. Treadwell Hollow Road lost two forty foot long eight foot diameter culvert pipes that were discovered a quarter mile downstream the next morning. Petersburg Road was under white water. You could feel Bee Hill Road collapsing under the wheels of your vehicle. The experience was frightening. By 9:00pm that night our Town crew was mobilized and working. The repair work continued until November. Immediate response focused on restoring safe passage to effected homes. A military style bailey bridge was installed over the brook on Treadwell Hollow Road to give residents access to their homes. Quick deployment of this temporary measure helped ensure Peace Valley Farm was able to continue supplying the community with fresh produce. The permanent replacement of the two large culvert pipes on Treadwell Hollow proved challenging. Emergency permits were issued by the Conservation Commission and Army Corps and these culverts were replaced by DPW crews in record time. Petersburg, Bee Hill, Stratton, Blair, Northwest Hill, Berlin and Oblong Roads required the replacement of substantial amounts of culvert piping and gravel. All the gravel roads were re-graded and treated with calcium. Rip rap walls were rebuilt to support roads along stream beds. Damage to paved roads, catch basins and driveway aprons all over Town needed extensive repair. Debris had to be retrieved from drainages to prevent future flooding, including a bridge that washed away from Margaret Lindley Park. Crew members from all of the Public Works Departments consolidated time, abilities, and resources to repair the damage caused by this powerful storm. They deserve recognition and appreciation for their tenacious effort.

Cover Photo: Public Works employees (from left to right) Robert (Bob) Sweet, Alex Charron, Matt Gaffey, Robert MacDonald, Steve Johnson, and Pete Robare stand on one of two new culverts on Treadwell Hollow Road



Flooding surrounds a home at the corner of Petersburg & NW Hill Roads on May 30, 2013.



The May 29 storm as captured on National Weather Service radar from Albany, NY



Setting the temporary “Bailey Bridge” on Treadwell Hollow Road.



DPW crews preparing to set a new corrugated metal culvert on Treadwell Hollow Rd.



Filling and compacting around one of Treadwell Hollow Road's two new culverts

Current Town Officials

Elected Officials

SELECTMEN

Jane B. Allen, Chair	2014	David A. Rempell	2014
Thomas E. Sheldon	2015	Ronald Turbin	2016
Jane Patton	2016		

MODERATOR

Adam Filson	2016
-------------	------

LIBRARY TRUSTEES

David Dewey	2014	Kathleen Schultze	2014
Geoffrey Heddon	2015	Peter Mehlin	2016
Rebecca Ohm, Chair	2016	Katherine Myers	2016
Mark Maniak	2016		

ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

John Skavlem	2014	Valerie Hall	2015
Christopher Jones	2015	Richard Reynolds	2016
Daniel Caplinger	2016		

HOUSING AUTHORITY

Mark Reinhardt, Chair	2014 (State Appointed)		
Joan Burns	2014	Richard Hamblin	2015
Peter Mehlin	2016	David Mangun	2017

Betty Anne LaBombard, Executive Director

NORTHERN BERKSHIRE VOCATIONAL REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

Thomas Mahar	2015	James Gazzaniga	2016
--------------	------	-----------------	------

MT. GREYLOCK REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL

Robert Ericson	2014	Carolyn Greene, Chair	2014
David Langston	2014	Christopher Dodig	2014
David Backus	2016	Sheila Hebert	2016
Colleen Taylor	2016		

PLANNING BOARD

Patrick Dunlavy	2014	Ann McCallum	2015
Elizabeth McGowan	2016	Chris Winters, Chair	2017
Carol Stein- Payne	2018	Susan Schneski, Associate	2016

Officials Appointed by the Moderator

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Doris Karampatsos	2014	Dan Gendron	2014
Suzanne Dewey	2014	Paula Consolini	2015
Charles Fox	2015	Michael Sussman	2015
Elizabeth Goodman	2016	K Elaine Neely	2016
Andrew Hogeland	2016		

Officials Appointed by the Selectmen

AFFORDABLE HOUSING COMMITTEE

Charles Bonenti	2014	Cheryl Shanks	2014
Cathy Yamamoto, Chair	2014	Leigh Short	2014
Van Ellet	2014	Bilal Ansari	2014
Dylan Stafford	2014	Craig Clemow	2014

AFFORDABLE HOUSING TRUST BOARD

Cathy Yamamoto (Afford Housing)	2014	Fred Puddester	2014
Stanley Parese	2014	Richard DeMayo	2015
Tom Sheldon, Chair	2015		

AGRICULTURAL COMMISSION

Andrew Bernardy	2014	Lisa DeMayo	2014
Beth Phelps, Chair	2015	Kim Wells	2015
Richard Haley	2015	Christopher Sabot, Alt.	2015
Sarah Gardner, Alt.	2015		
Leslie Reed Evans, Alt.	2015		

CABLE TELEVISION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Mary Kavanaugh	2014	Vacancy	2015
Vacancy	2016		

COMMUNITY PRESERVATION COMMITTEE

Town Resident

Jeffrey Thomas 2014

Other Representatives Designated by their Committees:

Philip McKnight (Conservation Commission), Chair	
Linda Conway (Historical Commission)	Chris Winters (Planning Board)
Dan Gendron (Finance Committee)	Jane Allen (Parks Commissioner)
Peter Fohlin (Town Manager)	Mark Reinhardt (Housing Authority)

CONSTABLES

Andrew Bernardy	2014	Paul Yarter	2015
-----------------	------	-------------	------

CULTURAL COUNCIL of NORTHERN BERKSHIRE

Judith Ensign	2015	Jane Hudson	2016
---------------	------	-------------	------

FENCE VIEWERS

Marilyn Kirby	2014	Cheryl Shanks	2014
---------------	------	---------------	------

HOOSAC WATER QUALITY DISTRICT

Charles Schlesinger	2016	K. Elaine Neely	2016
---------------------	------	-----------------	------

MOBILE HOME RENT CONTROL BOARD

David Levine	2014	Cheryl Shanks	2014
Jack Nogueira, Chair	2016	John Luczynski	2016

MT. GREYLOCK ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Cosmo Catalano, State Appointed	Scott Lewis		2015
---------------------------------	-------------	--	------

MUNICIPAL SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE

Kris Kirby	2014	Cherl Yarter	2014
Jeanne DiLisio	2014	Robert Kavanaugh	2016

REGISTRARS OF VOTERS

Mary C. Kennedy (D)	Town Clerk	Kurt Gabel (R)	2015
Mark Windover (D)	2017	Robert A. Jones (R)	2016

SIGN COMMISSION

Stuart Armet	2013	Gregory Hitchcock	2014
Mary Beebee	2015	Anne Singleton	2016
Tim Hamilton, Chair	2017		

NORTHERN BERKSHIRE SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

Tim Kaiser	2014		
------------	------	--	--

BERKSHIRE REGIONAL TRANSIT AUTHORITY

Brian O'Grady	2014	(appointed by the Board of Selectmen Chair)	
---------------	------	---	--

ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS

John Holden	2014	Leah Short	2015
Ryan Neathawk	2016	Andrew Hoar, Chair	2017
David Levine	2018	David Ranzer, Assoc.	2017
Hugh Daley, Assoc.	2014	Lawrence Wright, Assoc.	2018

Officials Appointed by the Town Manager

1753 HOUSE COMMITTEE

Sarah Currie	Andrus Burr	David Loomis
Marilyn Faulkner	Henry N. Flynt, Jr.	Lauren Stevens
Henry Art		

ANIMAL CONTROL OFFICER AND INSPECTOR OF ANIMALS

Jacqueline Lemieux

BOARD OF ASSESSORS

David Westall	William Barkin, Chair
Thomas Elder	

BERKSHIRE REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION

Pat Dunlavy, Appointed by Planning Board	2014
Roger Bolton, Alternate	2014

CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Philip McKnight	2014	Harold Brotzman	2014
Richard Schlesinger	2014	Robert Hatton	2015
Sarah Gardner	2015	Hank Art, Chair	2015
Thomas Van Ellis	2016		

COUNCIL ON AGING

Brian T. O'Grady, Director			
Clara Winslow	2014	Judy Bombardier	2014
Patricia Picard	2014	Peter Mehlin	2015
Eugenia Smith	2015	Robin Lenz	2015
Franz Burnet-Gocht	2016	Pamela Burger, Chair	2016
Anne Jones	2016		

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

Peter L. Fohlin, Director

FOREST WARDEN

Richard Daniels

FORESTRY/ PEST CONTROL SUPERINTENDENT/TREE WARDEN

Robert E. McCarthy, Jr.

HEALTH INSPECTOR

Jeffrey C. Kennedy

BOARD OF HEALTH

Marcia Tessier 2014
James Parkinson, MD 2015
Ruth Harrison 2016

Erwin Stuebner, MD 2014
Ronald Stant, Chair 2015

HISTORICAL COMMISSION

Linda Conway 2014
William Barkin, Chair 2014
Barbara Lucas 2016

K. Scott Wang 2015
Cheryl Shanks 2015

POLICE DEPARTMENT

Kyle Johnson, Chief
Paul Thompson, Sergeant

Scott McGowan, Sergeant
David Lemieux, Sergeant

POLICE OFFICERS

John J. McConnell, Jr.
Shuan William
Tania Hernandez
Craig Eichhammer

Preston Kelly
Scott Skorupski
Michael Ziemba
Kevin Garner

SPECIAL POLICE OFFICER

David Sherman

Kyle Jolin

POLICE DISPATCHERS

Bill Jennings
Elizabeth Haight
David Sherman
Kyle Jolin

Paul Oleskiewicz
Scott Sherman
Wayne Buckley
Collin Shepley

SCHOOL CROSSING GUARDS

Patricia Fix
Rosella Cote

William Cote

Reports of the Committees, Commissions, & Boards

1753 HOUSE COMMITTEE

Lauren R. Stevens

Henry N. Flynt was among the illustrious Williamstown residents who, in 1953, constructed the 1753 House as a bicentennial memorial of Williamstown's first settlement. Although builders anticipated a temporary structure, largely due to Hank's care and oversight, the small structure, on Field Park between The Williams Inn and the Milne Library, appears every year to be more of a permanent part of the town landscape—a magnet for tourists, a classroom for students and the atmospheric location of the annual carol sing.

Hank, however, stepped down from the committee in 2013, leading to changes in its structure, also tending toward permanency. Whereas the committee had existed informally for its first 60 years, it is now officially part of town government, with established terms of office and its infrequent meetings posted. With that, the town has assumed responsibilities for oversight of the structure including in 2012 Community Preservation Act support for a new fireplace and chimney. The House also maintains a mutually beneficial relationship with the Williamstown Historical Museum.

In the period July through October, Sarah Currie and others saw to it the building was open all weekends and most weekdays. Seventy-two visitors chose to sign in, 57 from 23 states and 15 from five foreign countries. In December David Loomis lighted a welcoming fire on the hearth, Deborah Burns led the carol sing, with help from Gail Burns and her family, and wassail provided by The Williams Inn, for a House full of participants. In preparation, David and Lauren Stevens procured fir boughs from Summit Farm. David had also constructed a new threshold and repaired the skewed legs of two stools.

Members of the committee in 2013 were Henry Art, Andrus Burr, Sarah Currie, Marilyn Faulkner, Henry N. Flynt, David Loomis and Lauren R. Stevens, who provided this report.

ACCOUNTANT

Donna Estes

Town Accountant's Annual Report of Budgets and Expenditures

For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2013

	Original	Revised	FY12		Total		FY13	
Account	Budget	Budget	Encumber	Receipts	Available	Expended	Encumber	Balance
Appropriations - General								
Selectmen	6,793.00	6,793.00	0.00	0.00	6,793.00	4,687.70	0.00	2,105.30
Town Manager	220,479.00	220,479.00	0.00	0.00	220,479.00	212,329.47	0.00	8,149.53
Insurance	102,350.00	102,350.00	0.00	0.00	102,350.00	101,826.55	0.00	523.45
Finance Committee	770.00	770.00	0.00	0.00	770.00	173.00	0.00	597.00
Reserve Fund	75,000.00	49,627.00	0.00	0.00	49,627.00	0.00	0.00	49,627.00
Town Accountant	197,263.00	197,263.00	0.00	0.00	197,263.00	144,820.01	0.00	52,442.99
Assessor	138,610.00	138,610.00	6,000.00	0.00	144,610.00	139,779.47	4,830.00	0.53
Treasurer-Collector	167,021.00	167,021.00	0.00	0.00	167,021.00	162,255.11	0.00	4,765.89
Town Counsel	25,743.00	46,743.00	0.00	0.00	46,743.00	49,755.23	0.00	(3,012.23)
Management Information Systems	54,854.00	54,854.00	10,995.68	0.00	65,849.68	55,119.26	10,995.68	(265.26)
Town Clerk	79,100.00	79,100.00	0.00	0.00	79,100.00	78,371.26	0.00	728.74
Board of Registrars	18,993.00	23,366.00	0.00	0.00	23,366.00	23,093.35	120.00	152.65
Conservation Commission	5,616.00	5,616.00	0.00	0.00	5,616.00	5,153.34	0.00	462.66
Planning Board	2,185.00	2,185.00	0.00	0.00	2,185.00	963.27	0.00	1,221.73
Zoning Board	3,900.00	3,900.00	0.00	0.00	3,900.00	3,294.06	0.00	605.94
Historical Commission	500.00	500.00	0.00	0.00	500.00	264.06	0.00	235.94
Chamber of Commerce	38,641.00	38,641.00	0.00	0.00	38,641.00	0.00	38,641.00	0.00
Facilities Management	182,592.00	182,592.00	0.00	0.00	182,592.00	176,689.64	0.00	5,902.36
Milne Library Improvements			0.00	0.00	0.00		0.00	0.00
Police Department	1,080,031.00	1,084,431.00	0.00	0.00	1,084,431.00	1,113,438.29	168.99	(29,176.28)
Police Station Design Development	143,295.00	143,295.00	0.00	0.00	143,295.00	0.00	143,295.00	0.00
Dispatch Services	204,913.00	200,513.00	18,000.00	0.00	218,513.00	171,097.26	18,000.00	29,415.74
Building Inspector	282,800.00	289,300.00	0.00	0.00	289,300.00	289,196.46	99.00	4.54
Sealer of Weights & Measures	5,017.00	5,017.00	0.00	0.00	5,017.00	4,770.56	0.00	246.44
Emergency Management	25.00	25.00	0.00	0.00	25.00	0.00	0.00	25.00
Animal Control Officer	19,335.00	19,335.00	0.00	0.00	19,335.00	17,885.90	0.00	1,449.10
Forest Warden	6,170.00	6,170.00	0.00	0.00	6,170.00	6,158.66	0.00	11.34

Director of Public Works	154,350.00	154,350.00	10,000.00	0.00	164,350.00	140,100.88	23,877.00	372.12
DPW Facility Photovoltaic System	0.00	0.00	12,106.49	0.00	12,106.49	2,900.00	9,206.49	0.00
Highway Department	1,165,520.00	1,165,520.00	202,371.20	0.00	1,367,891.20	1,007,870.63	348,819.72	11,200.85
Road and Culvert Repairs	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Latham Street Culvert	0.00	0.00	207,553.95	0.00	207,553.95	14,251.16	193,302.79	0.00
Sidewalk & Curb Replacement - North & Main	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Water Street Sidewalk Replacement	0.00	0.00	88,596.00	0.00	88,596.00	0.00	88,596.00	0.00
Adams Road Resurfacing	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Sidewalk Repair - Spring Street	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Construction - No. Hoosac Road	133,246.00	133,246.00	230,693.20	0.00	363,939.20	356,199.98	0.00	7,739.22
Replace 2000 Intl Dump Truck	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	6,032.00	(6,032.00)
Replace 2003 4X4 Dump Truck		0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Replace 2001 Ford Dump Truck	145,000.00	145,000.00	0.00	0.00	145,000.00	141,013.18	0.00	3,986.82
Replace 1997 Volvo Loader	155,000.00	155,000.00	0.00	0.00	155,000.00	150,737.21	0.00	4,262.79
Snow and Ice Control	166,863.00	166,863.00	0.00	0.00	166,863.00	252,592.84	0.00	(85,729.84)
Parks and Cemetery	262,152.00	262,152.00	30,254.41	0.00	292,406.41	245,015.68	31,637.44	15,753.29
Replace 2003 Chevrolet 4x4 dump Truck	71,000.00	71,000.00	6,561.00	0.00	77,561.00	69,886.58	6,561.00	1,113.42
Cemetery Roads Repair	0.00	0.00	1,199.21	0.00	1,199.21	0.00	1,199.21	0.00
Sherman Burbank Chapel	6,290.00	6,290.00	0.00	0.00	6,290.00	3,048.40	0.00	3,241.60
Forestry Department	41,859.00	41,859.00	6,271.80	0.00	48,130.80	46,395.10	0.00	1,735.70
Health Department	88,618.00	88,618.00	0.00	0.00	88,618.00	88,455.61	112.50	49.89
Council on Aging	234,902.00	234,902.00	6,203.00	0.00	241,105.00	221,276.23	6,203.00	13,625.77
Veterans Benefits	92,714.00	92,714.00	16,808.00	0.00	109,522.00	79,047.94	0.00	30,474.06
Library	495,036.00	495,036.00	0.00	0.00	495,036.00	487,860.62	180.75	6,994.63
Recreation Commission	11,280.00	11,280.00	0.00	0.00	11,280.00	10,723.92	2,400.00	(1,843.92)
Youth Center	66,961.00	66,961.00	0.00	0.00	66,961.00	66,960.00	0.00	1.00
Veterans Graves and Holidays	3,090.00	3,090.00	0.00	0.00	3,090.00	1,667.97	0.00	1,422.03
General Debt Service	476,722.00	476,722.00	0.00	0.00	476,722.00	476,993.44	0.00	(271.44)
Employees Benefits	1,034,230.00	1,027,730.00	158,579.72	0.00	1,186,309.72	1,056,792.58	121,909.03	7,608.11
Transfers to other Funds	100,500.00	100,500.00	0.00	0.00	100,500.00	100,500.00	0.00	0.00
Local Public Schools	5,366,774.00	5,366,774.00	220,492.61	0.00	5,587,266.61	5,547,374.98	39,891.63	(0.00)
Mt Greylock Regional School	4,610.041.00	4,610.041.00	0.00	0.00	4,610.041.00	4,610.041.00	0.00	0.00
Northern Berk Vocational School	300,298.00	300,298.00	0.00	0.00	300,298.00	296,965.00	0.00	3,333.00
Total Appropriated - General	18,244,442.00	18,244,442.00	1,232,686.27	0.00	19,477,128.27	18,235,792.84	1,096,078.23	145,257.20

Appropriations - Enterprise								
Transfer Station	187,142. 00	187,142. 00	3,354.12	0.00	190,496. 12	171,958. 61	4,532.00	14,005. 51
Sewer Department	334,311. 00	334,311. 00	64,810.7 7	0.00	399,121. 77	319,364. 21	94,163.7 2	(14,406 .16)
Pump Station Reparis	0.00	0.00	20,000.0 0	0.00	20,000.0 0	0.00	20,000.0 0	0.00
Pick-up Truck	0.00	0.00	45,500.0 0	0.00	45,500.0 0	0.00	45,500.0 0	0.00
Sewer Debt Service	127,727. 00	127,727. 00	0.00	0.00	127,727. 00	102,726. 26	0.00	25,000. 74
Water Meter Replacements	40,000.0 0	40,000.0 0	0.00	0.00	40,000.0 0	40,000.0 0	0.00	0.00
Damaged Property Reimbursements	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Rate Relief Grant	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Syndicate Road Sewer Line	60,000.0 0	60,000.0 0	0.00	0.00	60,000.0 0	2,485.51	57,514.1 9	0.30
Ritter Sewer Line Gift	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Brayman Sewer Line Gift				0.00	0.00			0.00
Green River Stabilization Grant	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Transfers to General Fund	82,219.0 0	82,219.0 0	0.00	0.00	82,219.0 0	82,219.0 0	0.00	0.00
Transfers to Reserve	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Hoosac Water Quality District	685,537. 00	685,537. 00	0.00	0.00	685,537. 00	673,033. 53	12,503.4 7	(0.00)
Water Department	602,463. 00	602,463. 00	80,762.7 3	0.00	683,225. 73	614,725. 16	56,858.0 6	11,642. 51
SCADA System Update	0.00	0.00	67,573.7 4	0.00	67,573.7 4	67,573.7 4	0.00	0.00
Well 1 Rehabilitation	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		0.00	0.00
Main Street Water Main Construction	0.00	0.00	87,774.9 0	0.00	87,774.9 0	0.00	87,774.9 0	0.00
Water Meter Replacements	40,000.0 0	40,000.0 0	0.00	0.00	40,000.0 0	40,000.0 0	0.00	0.00
Water Debt Service	196,484. 00	196,484. 00	0.00	0.00	196,484. 00	171,484. 38	0.00	24,999. 62
Damaged Property Reimbursements	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Replace 2005 Utility Van	50,000.0 0	50,000.0 0	0.00	0.00	50,000.0 0	47,978.0 0	0.00	2,022.0 0
Transfer to Reserves	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		0.00	0.00
Transfers to General Fund	117,081. 00	117,081. 00	0.00	0.00	117,081. 00	117,081. 00	0.00	0.00
Total Appropriated - General	2,522,96 4.00	2,522,96 4.00	369,776. 26	0.00	2,892,74 0.26	2,450,62 9.40	378,846. 34	63,264. 52
Tax Rate Assessments								
State Assessments	22,200.0 0	22,200.0 0	0.00	0.00	22,200.0 0	29,160.0 0	0.00	(6,960. 00)
County Assessments	23,826.0 0	23,826.0 0	0.00	0.00	23,826.0 0	33,939.0 0	0.00	(10,113 .00)
Other Assessments	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	5,197.46	0.00	(5,197. 46)
Total Tax Rate Assessments	46,026.0 0	46,026.0 0	0.00	0.00	46,026.0 0	68,296.4 6	0.00	(22,270 .46)
Borrowed Funds								
Cemetery Building	0.00	0.00	1,778.55	0.00	1,778.55	0.00	1,778.55	0.00

Inflow and Infiltration	0.00	0.00	239,111.31	0.00	239,111.31	0.00	239,111.31	0.00
Well #1 Replacement	0.00	0.00	118,540.44	0.00	118,540.44	118,540.44	0.00	0.00
Phase II and Cole Field Landfill Closure	0.00	0.00	78,495.67	0.00	78,495.67	35,400.00	43,095.67	0.00
Total Borrowed Funds	0.00	0.00	437,925.97	0.00	437,925.97	153,940.44	283,985.53	0.00
Special Revenue Funds								
School Lunch Revolving Fund	0.00	0.00	0.00	101,589.31	101,589.31	101,589.31	0.00	0.00
Highway Flood Control - Green River	0.00	0.00	474.60	0.00	474.60	0.00	474.60	0.00
Highway - Cole Ave Bridge	0.00	0.00	517.74	0.00	517.74	0.00	517.74	0.00
Highway - Linear Park Bridge	0.00	0.00	4,044.12	0.00	4,044.12	0.00	4,044.12	0.00
Highway - Syndicate Stabilization Grant	0.00	0.00	5,243.80	0.00	5,243.80	0.00	5,243.80	0.00
Highway - Chapter 90	0.00	0.00	(117,576.50)	0.00	(117,576.50)	(10,688.00)	(128,264.50)	0.00
Highway - Roaring Brook Grant	0.00	0.00	6,575.96	0.00	6,575.96	0.00	6,575.96	0.00
School - SPED Professional Development	0.00	0.00	0.00	3,150.00	3,150.00	2,400.00	750.00	0.00
School - Title II - Math & Science	0.00	0.00	0.89	1,186.00	1,186.89	13,130.00	(11,943.11)	0.00
School - Early Literacy Gap	0.00	0.00	7.83	(1,659.20)	(1,651.37)	(1,651.37)	0.00	(0.00)
School - Quality Kindergarten Grant	0.00	0.00	0.08	31,130.00	31,130.08	25,000.00	6,130.08	0.00
School - Circuit Breaker	0.00	0.00	64,284.44	50,201.00	114,485.44	45,874.48	68,610.96	0.00
School - School Choice	0.00	0.00	326,797.72	233,463.00	560,260.72	290,029.75	270,230.97	0.00
School - Early Childhood - WEE	0.00	0.00	12,909.90	4,976.40	17,886.30	8,293.00	9,593.30	0.00
School - Title I	0.00	0.00	1,368.96	5,353.00	6,721.96	61,915.00	(55,193.04)	0.00
School - P.L. 94-142	0.00	0.00	0.22	94,111.00	94,111.22	111,853.00	(17,741.78)	0.00
School - ARRA Early Childhood SPED	0.00	0.00	3,450.00	0.00	3,450.00	1,651.37	1,798.63	0.00
School - ARRA Education Jobs Grant	0.00	0.00	0.00	877.00	877.00	877.00	0.00	0.00
School - Race to the Top	0.00	0.00	5,711.00	789.00	6,500.00	8,782.00	(2,282.00)	0.00
CDBG Housing - Steinerfilm	0.00	0.00	15,650.40	0.00	15,650.40	0.00	15,650.40	0.00
Community Preservation Act Fund	0.00	0.00	435,393.27	269,030.69	704,423.96	300,572.86	403,851.10	0.00
Selectmen - Cable Technology Fund	0.00	0.00	5,874.71	0.00	5,874.71	0.00	5,874.71	0.00
Selectmen - Affordable Housing - Phototech	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	71,773.08	(71,773.08)	0.00
Selectmen - Solarize MA Program	0.00	0.00	0.00	2,500.00	2,500.00	1,519.32	980.68	0.00
Town Clerk - Polling Reimbursement	0.00	0.00	654.77	774.00	1,428.77	584.00	844.77	0.00
ConCom - Wetlands Fees	0.00	0.00	25,333.38	2,790.00	28,123.38	0.00	28,123.38	0.00
ConCom - Stone Hill Stewardship Grant	0.00	0.00	2,805.00	0.00	2,805.00	0.00	2,805.00	0.00
Econ Develop - FrnHA Exec Park	0.00	0.00	1,617.95	0.00	1,617.95	0.00	1,617.95	0.00
Econ Develop - Bike Trail Gift	0.00	0.00	5,416.15	0.00	5,416.15	0.00	5,416.15	0.00

Econ Develop - Canoe Access Facility Grant	0.00	0.00	5,500.00	0.00	5,500.00	0.00	5,500.00	0.00
Pub Property - LRS Oil Tank Grant	0.00	0.00	(2,787.50)	0.00	(2,787.50)	0.00	(2,787.50)	0.00
Pub Property - Damaged Property	0.00	0.00	750.00	0.00	750.00	0.00	750.00	0.00
Pub Property - Sale of Property	0.00	0.00	235,580.00	0.00	235,580.00	0.00	235,580.00	0.00
Pub Property - Green Community Grant	0.00	0.00	51,774.99	0.00	51,774.99	89,958.95	(38,183.96)	0.00
Police - Support Fund	0.00	0.00	24,632.86	5,900.00	30,532.86	513.90	30,018.96	0.00
Police - Drug Task Force	0.00	0.00	15,702.39	1,827.18	17,529.57	1,389.27	16,140.30	0.00
Police - Forfeiture Funds	0.00	0.00	6,317.26	3,036.09	9,353.35	267.25	9,086.10	0.00
Police - Defibrillator Gift	0.00	0.00	714.54	0.00	714.54	0.00	714.54	0.00
Police - School Resource Officer Gift	0.00	0.00	8,575.82	0.00	8,575.82	0.00	8,575.82	0.00
Police - Bullet Proof Vest Grant	0.00	0.00	3,084.50	0.00	3,084.50	0.00	3,084.50	0.00
Police - COPS Fast Grant	0.00	0.00	14,026.79	0.00	14,026.79	0.00	14,026.79	0.00
Police - Public Safety & Equipment Grant	0.00	0.00	3,116.99	0.00	3,116.99	2,680.02	436.97	0.00
Police - Damaged Property	0.00	0.00	1,770.44	0.00	1,770.44	0.00	1,770.44	0.00
Police - K9 Gifts	0.00	0.00	11,159.71	1,075.00	12,234.71	3,443.41	8,791.30	0.00
Police - E911 Training Grant	0.00	0.00	(3,397.07)	6,633.10	3,236.03	14,642.92	(11,406.89)	0.00
Police - E911 Communications Grant	0.00	0.00	(25,660.73)	30,397.95	4,737.22	26,922.31	(22,185.09)	0.00
Police - Console Grant	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Police - REACH Triad Grant	0.00	0.00	144.54	0.00	144.54	0.00	144.54	0.00
Police - Highway Safety Grant	0.00	0.00	10,320.48	0.00	10,320.48	0.00	10,320.48	0.00
Police - COPS MORE Grant	0.00	0.00	4,109.96	0.00	4,109.96	96.73	4,013.23	0.00
Police - Systems Improvement Grant	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Police - Underage Alcohol Enforcement	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Police - Irene OT	0.00	0.00	(6,802.51)	6,802.51	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Forest Warden - Assist Firefighters	0.00	0.00	(255.00)	1,199.50	944.50	0.00	944.50	0.00
DIS - Damaged Property	0.00	0.00	458.17	0.00	458.17	427.00	31.17	0.00
Civil Defense - Emergency Management Grant	0.00	0.00	6,003.26	1,996.34	7,999.60	4,637.12	3,362.48	0.00
Civil Defense - Emergency Preparedness	0.00	0.00	2,904.52	0.00	2,904.52	1,129.35	1,775.17	0.00
Animal Control - Operations Gift	0.00	0.00	114.13	0.00	114.13	0.00	114.13	0.00
DPW - Damaged Prop	0.00	0.00	2,934.56	25,987.50	28,922.06	1,500.00	27,422.06	0.00
DPW - Irene - Luce Road Headwall	0.00	0.00	(5,254.36)	0.00	(5,254.36)	0.00	(5,254.36)	0.00
DPW - Irene - Protective Measures	0.00	0.00	(20,046.59)	22,157.00	2,110.41	0.00	2,110.41	0.00
DPW - Fed Snow & Ice	0.00	0.00	33,844.11	0.00	33,844.11	22,836.51	11,007.60	0.00
Parks - Litchfield Beautification Gift	0.00	0.00	2,000.00	0.00	2,000.00	0.00	2,000.00	0.00

Parks - Damaged Prop	0.00	0.00	2,141.14	0.00	2,141.14	1,399.80	741.34	0.00
Parks - Sherman Chapel Gifts	0.00	0.00	50.00	0.00	50.00	0.00	50.00	0.00
Forestry - Gift	0.00	0.00	1,689.50	0.00	1,689.50	0.00	1,689.50	0.00
Forestry - Damaged Prop	0.00	0.00	1,500.00	0.00	1,500.00	0.00	1,500.00	0.00
Health - MAAG - Right to Farm	0.00	0.00	0.00	500.00	500.00	115.22	384.78	0.00
COA - Activity Fund	0.00	0.00	6,572.14	5,182.58	11,754.72	6,182.87	5,571.85	0.00
COA - Formula Grant	0.00	0.00	71.87	14,543.73	14,615.60	13,833.82	781.78	0.00
COA - Damaged Property Reimbursement	0.00	0.00	97.20	0.00	97.20	0.00	97.20	0.00
COA - CPR Grant	0.00	0.00	425.00	0.00	425.00	70.00	355.00	0.00
COA - Public Health Incentive Grant	0.00	0.00	40.80	0.00	40.80	0.00	40.80	0.00
COA - Incentive Grant	0.00	0.00	20.90	0.00	20.90	0.00	20.90	0.00
COA - Senior Comm. Nutrition Assess	0.00	0.00	0.00	150.00	150.00	0.00	150.00	0.00
Lib - Museum Pass Gift	0.00	0.00	9,095.00	0.00	9,095.00	1,055.00	8,040.00	0.00
Lib - Gifts for Books	0.00	0.00	5,278.68	10,789.05	16,067.73	3,622.49	12,445.24	0.00
Lib - Damaged Prop	0.00	0.00	3,836.69	402.60	4,239.29	0.00	4,239.29	0.00
Lib - LIG/MEG Grant	0.00	0.00	0.00	10,186.54	10,186.54	10,186.54	0.00	(0.00)
Lib - Operations Gift	0.00	0.00	4,740.64	24,537.00	29,277.64	26,122.90	3,154.74	0.00
Lib - Photovoltaic Grant	0.00	0.00	0.00		0.00		0.00	0.00
Recreation - Revolving Acct	0.00	0.00	3,600.39	0.00	3,600.39	0.00	3,600.39	0.00
Recreation - Skateboard Park Gift	0.00	0.00	436.59	0.00	436.59	0.00	436.59	0.00
Benefits - BHG Health Coordinator	0.00	0.00	2,270.90	2,000.00	4,270.90	1,752.07	2,518.83	0.00
School - Field Trips	0.00	0.00	2,372.38	5,277.00	7,649.38	5,786.85	1,862.53	0.00
School - 5th Grade Fund	0.00	0.00	490.38	0.00	490.38	386.50	103.88	0.00
School - Outdoor Classroom Gifts	0.00	0.00	516.54	1,794.25	2,310.79	331.16	1,979.63	0.00
School - Computer Tech Gifts	0.00	0.00	0.00	2,000.00	2,000.00	1,857.20	142.80	0.00
School - Adventures in Learning Gifts	0.00	0.00	7,757.23	5,550.00	13,307.23	4,230.70	9,076.53	0.00
School - Sunrise Spanish	0.00	0.00	(0.45)	0.00	(0.45)	(632.12)	631.67	(0.00)
School - Library Books	0.00	0.00	20,759.98	2,013.85	22,773.83	2,337.32	20,436.51	0.00
School - PTO Educ Materials	0.00	0.00	17,540.23	5,527.59	23,067.82	6,720.72	16,347.10	0.00
School - Teacher Salary Gift	0.00	0.00	33,169.64	21,234.00	54,403.64	2,702.42	51,701.22	0.00
School - Music Gift	0.00	0.00	2,752.46	5,126.00	7,878.46	7,150.08	728.38	0.00
School - After School WISH Program	0.00	0.00	1,579.37	0.00	1,579.37	0.00	1,579.37	0.00
School - 6th Grade Fund	0.00	0.00	8,388.30	18,187.27	26,575.57	20,949.81	5,625.76	0.00
County Dog Tax Refund	0.00	0.00	19,648.00	0.00	19,648.00	0.00	19,648.00	0.00

Library - Revolving Fund	0.00	0.00	2,671.34	5,446.18	8,117.52	8,117.52	0.00	0.00
School - Green School Grant	0.00	0.00	18,586.72	0.00	18,586.72	0.00	18,586.72	0.00
School - Oil Tank Removal Grant	0.00	0.00	5,000.00	0.00	5,000.00	0.00	5,000.00	0.00
School - Tuition	0.00	0.00	338,656.58	103,394.72	442,051.30	277,251.09	164,800.21	0.00
School - Summer School Tuition	0.00	0.00	1,227.92	0.00	1,227.92	168.50	1,059.42	0.00
School - Transportation Fees	0.00	0.00	588.87	0.00	588.87	104.06	484.81	0.00
School - Rental	0.00	0.00	40,873.23	10,652.80	51,526.03	1,775.20	49,750.83	0.00
Total Special Revenue	0.00	0.00	1,752,338.81	1,161,768.53	2,914,107.34	1,607,527.26	1,285,204.08	(0.00)
Trust Funds								
Selectman's Discretionary	0.00	0.00		0.00	0.00			0.00
Margaret Lindley	0.00	0.00	2,448.10	12.17	2,460.27	0.00	2,460.27	0.00
Conservation Commission	0.00	0.00	6,348.39	553.67	6,902.06	0.00	6,902.06	0.00
Helen Renzi School	0.00	0.00	8,009.16	2,100.34	10,109.50	42.25	10,067.25	0.00
Sherman Burbank	0.00	0.00	19,432.69	11,090.32	30,523.01	16,329.00	14,194.01	0.00
Torrey Woods	0.00	0.00	2,942.59	21.98	2,964.57	0.00	2,964.57	0.00
Alma Morey	0.00	0.00	21,764.81	162.56	21,927.37	0.00	21,927.37	0.00
Perpetual Care Principal	0.00	0.00	336,921.13	7,600.00	344,521.13	0.00	344,521.13	0.00
Municipal Scholarship	0.00	0.00	36,104.73	3,082.62	39,187.35	3,200.00	35,987.35	0.00
Library Annual Fund	0.00	0.00	83,173.61	36,376.94	119,550.55	32,799.16	86,751.39	0.00
Library Carpenter Fund	0.00	0.00	9,888.57	49.23	9,937.80	0.00	9,937.80	0.00
Stabilization Fund	0.00	0.00	725,821.28	103,643.72	829,465.00	0.00	829,465.00	0.00
Perpetual Care Income	0.00	0.00	7,321.96	1,832.02	9,153.98	3,000.00	6,153.98	0.00
Sale of Lots	0.00	0.00	23,136.86	150.00	23,286.86	0.00	23,286.86	0.00
Bullock Forest	0.00	0.00	106,289.78	793.86	107,083.64	0.00	107,083.64	0.00
Botsford - Library Trust	0.00	0.00	83,913.38	417.81	84,331.19	0.00	84,331.19	0.00
Botsford - House of Local History Trust	0.00	0.00	41,637.89	207.31	41,845.20	0.00	41,845.20	0.00
J.E. Bascom	0.00	0.00	10,893.83	54.23	10,948.06	0.00	10,948.06	0.00
C.D. Foster	0.00	0.00	1,894.60	9.43	1,904.03	0.00	1,904.03	0.00
West Lawn Cemetery	0.00	0.00	143,867.73	8,448.36	152,316.09	0.00	152,316.09	0.00
Affordable Housing	0.00	0.00	0.00	200,962.86	200,962.86	7,075.00	193,887.86	
Total Trust Funds	0.00	0.00	1,671,811.09	377,569.43	2,049,380.52	62,445.41	1,986,935.11	0.00
Total All Expenditures	20,813.432.00	20,813.432.00	5,464,538.40	1,539,337.96	27,817,308.36	22,578,631.81	5,031,049.29	186,251.26

AFFORDABLE HOUSING COMMITTEE

Catherine Yamamoto, Chair

The primary goal of the AHC has been to meet the town's overall need for 300 units of affordable housing, a goal set by the state's Department of Housing and Community Development. The Town currently has only half this number, largely because of a lack of suitable sites, neighborhood opposition, and conflicting priorities among the town's governing boards.

The year was one of debate, some progress and some disappointment. Local media chronicled well the conversation surrounding land use and, as some viewed it, the conflicting need for a site to build housing that approximates what was lost at The Spruces. The Committee's advocacy for the use of a portion of the Lowry or Burbank properties for affordable housing was unsuccessful. The Committee requested that the Selectmen request a portion of either of the properties for the development of affordable housing. The Selectmen made the request of the Conservation Committee, but later withdrew the request.

In April we received the results of a Housing Needs Assessment conducted by a consultant engaged by the Committee and the Affordable Housing Trust. The results confirmed a reduction in the number of families with children (both renters and homeowners), the increasing age and wealth of the town residents, and the need for more affordable rental housing. Perhaps most surprising was the number of elderly residents living in homes they own and paying more than 30% of their incomes for housing costs, indicating a need for options for some homeowners to downsize to more affordable accommodation.

After re-considering a number of town-owned sites, we resumed our focus on 59 Water Street and Photech because they were in town and vacant, and because the town had previously voted to sell them. With state funds and \$27,000 of the \$107,000 in CPA funds approved for AHC use at the 2012 town meeting, remediation of hazardous materials was conducted at the two sites to a level acceptable for residential development.

At a December Special Town Meeting, voters unanimously accepted the Spruces land (to be conveyed in 2016 in fulfillment of the \$6.1 million Hazard Mitigation Grant) and responsibility for closing the mobile home park and relocating the remaining residents. The Selectmen voted to commit \$2.5 million of the grant funds to the Highland Woods development, a proposed 40-unit senior housing facility, announced in June, to be located to the north of Proprietors Fields. Williams College donated a 4-acre parcel of land for this project and engaged as developers The Women's Institute, Berkshire Housing & Development Corp., Williamstown Elderly Housing (ownership entity of Proprietors Fields), and the non-profit organization Higher Ground, which was established to assist town residents affected by Tropical Storm Irene, namely current and displaced residents of The Spruces Mobile Home Park. Completion is expected in early 2016.

Working with consultants in the fall, the AHC conducted two community listening sessions in order to gather public input about development of the Photech and Water Street properties, and drafted requests for proposals for the two sites for the Selectmen's approval, with a goal of identifying a developer by mid-April 2014.

Another project that may get underway in 2014 is the long-awaited Cable Mill redevelopment on Water Street, which is expected to total 60 units, 13 of which will be affordable at 80% of median income.

These projects together will not meet the Town's affordable housing needs nor serve all the constituencies that need housing that is affordable. The Town will have to commit town-owned land or purchase additional land to meet these needs and restore its economic diversity.

The Committee continues to work together with the Affordable Housing Trust to increase the Town's supply of affordable housing and to identify and promote a number of programs that make home ownership a possibility for those of limited means.

We welcomed Dylan Stafford to the committee in October.

Bilal Ansari
Charles Bonenti
Van Ellet
Cheryl Shanks, Secretary
Leigh Short
Dylan Stafford
Catherine Marks Yamamoto, Chair

AFFORDABLE HOUSING TRUST FUND

Tom Sheldon, Chair

The Affordable Housing Trust was created by Town Meeting in 2012 and began functioning in the summer of 2012. Thus 2013 was its first full year of operation. Because of the Town's acute need for considerably more units of affordable housing, it was a year of purposeful activity.

The Trust met at least once monthly and the following are some of the key accomplishments:

Approved a grant of \$150,000 in December to support the Highland Woods project on Southworth Street that promises to add approximately 40 units of senior affordable housing in approximately two years. The Trust emphasized the hope that residents of The Spruces would be beneficiaries of the project.

Drafted language for an RFP to solicit privately owned properties in Williamstown for affordable housing under the Uniform Procurement Act.

Provided support to the Affordable Housing Committee in its development of RFPs for affordable housing at 59 Water Street and the PhoTech site on Cole Avenue.

Secured \$200,000 in Community Preservation Act funds to support the development of affordable housing.

Conducted three joint meetings with the Town's Affordable Housing Committee to clarify respective responsibilities and to pursue matters of joint interest.

Began a Trust webpage on the Town's website

Filed a trust instrument with the Registry of Deeds to enable the Trust to purchase and sell properties

Shared the cost of the Housing Needs Assessment performed by John Ryan which provides a wealth of information about the Town's demographic trends and housing needs

Although a good deal was accomplished in 2013, the real hard work of achieving more affordable housing for families, the elderly and the disabled remains to be done. The Trust looks forward to continuing its work with the multiple organizations that are pressing to that end.

AGRICULTURAL COMMISSION

Beth Phelps, Chair



Purpose: The purpose of the Agricultural Commission is to support commercial agriculture and other farming activities in the Town of Williamstown. The Commission's duties include but are not limited to the following:

- Serve as facilitators for encouraging the pursuit of agriculture in Williamstown
- Promote agricultural-based economic opportunities in Town
- Act as mediators, advocates, educators, and negotiators on farming issues
- Work for the preservation of agricultural lands
- Advise the Town Meeting, Board of Selectmen, Planning Board, Zoning Board of Appeals, Conservation Commission, Board of Health, Historical Commission, Board of Assessors, or any other appropriate Town Boards on issues involving agriculture

The Agricultural Commission also pursues all initiatives appropriate to creating a sustainable agricultural community.

Current Members: Beth Phelps (Chair), Andrew Bernardy, Lisa DeMayo, Kim Wells, Rich Haley, Sarah Gardner (Alternate), Leslie Reed-Evans (Alternate), and Topher Sabot (Alternate). Contact us at agcommission@williamstown.net

Liaisons: The Williamstown Agricultural Commission works with the philosophy that good communication between the various Town boards, committees, and commissions is crucial to establishing a healthy relationship between the Town's key organizations and the farming community. To establish this communication, we have

assigned liaison duties among the AgCom members and key Town organizations. They are:

- Select Board: Beth Phelps
- Planning Board: Lisa DeMayo
- Zoning Board of Appeals: Rich Haley & Beth Phelps
- Conservation Commission: Sarah Gardner
- Board of Health: Kim Wells
- Affordable Housing Committee: Vacant
- Spruces Roof Group: Beth Phelps
- Williamstown Grange: Andy Bernardy
- Spruces Reuse Committee: Lisa DeMayo & Leslie Reed Evans
- Williamstown Farmers Market: Beth Phelps

Activities/Accomplishments:

- *Williamstown Farmers Market:* The AgCom worked with the Williamstown Farmers Market (WFM) and recommended they form a steering committee to meet their growth goals. They received a \$1,500 grant from the Fund for Williamstown to provide music and other marketing efforts. The WFM solicited community support by offering memberships at several levels. The AgCom approved a contribution of \$150 toward the WFM. The WFM has seen an improved sense of community building and increased patronage and vendor participation in 2013.

- *Website:* The website was up and running in January and can be reached at www.williamstownfarms.com. Our website is a resource for both farmers and their neighbors and friends. The AgCom is seeking a volunteer to help manage and work with the site. Ideas for improvement are welcome!

- *The Spruces, Lowry, Burbank, and Affordable Housing:* AgCom members, both independently and as liaisons, attended numerous Town committee and board meetings throughout the year with concerns about the proposal to use town-owned conservation farmland as replacement housing sites for Spruces residents following the park's closure. As a result of the ongoing discussions, the AgCom published its position statement and a list of Frequently Asked Questions which can be found on the town website under Agricultural Commission. The AgCom also submitted a letter of support for the Higher Ground development project on Williams College-owned land for the Spruces residents.

- *Agricultural Preservation Restriction (APR):* The AgCom took a position in favor of supporting the remaining Galusha land be placed in APR. This is a state-run program aimed at protecting prime agricultural soils by restricting development. The APR program also makes it more affordable for farmers to pass on their land to future farming generations. Land is appraised based on best use, road frontage, houses on lots, and the farmer is paid $\frac{2}{3}$ to $\frac{3}{4}$ the value of the property. Farmers continue to own the land, and the farmland is taxed the same as Chapter 61A, so the Town does not lose revenue.

- *MA Legislative Actions:*

1. Bill H. 755 was proposed to create and administer a state meat inspection program within the MA Department of Agricultural Resources (MDAR). This program shall be responsible for all slaughter, meat cutting, and meat packaging operations occurring in the Commonwealth. The goals of the program shall be to protect public health while strengthening the local food system, and ensuring a strong and diverse slaughter and processing infrastructure for the benefit of both farmers and consumers. Currently, only two USDA-approved facilities exist – one in Groton and the other in Athol. Most meat processing in Berkshire County is taken out of state to NY or Vermont. The AgCom sent a letter of support for this bill to our state representative, Gailanne Cariddi.

2. Environmental Bond Bill: The MA Farm Bureau Federation (MFBF) has proposed language changes to MGL Chapter 20 Section 23(b) which pertains to APR restrictions on farmers. The MFBF claims that MDAR's "regulatory creep" is preventing some farmers from using their land for value-added agricultural production. The AgCom has sent a letter to Gailanne Cariddi in support of the proposed language changes.

- *Federal Legislative Action:* The FDA has proposed two major food safety regulations that would negatively impact small producers. One would impose as much as weekly water testing for farms that irrigate produce with well or natural water sources. The other would impose preventive control rules such as increased record keeping, inspections, and other requirements that would add unbearable expense to small farm operations. The AgCom submitted letters to the FDA, one for each of the rules, which are on file at Town Hall and express opposition to the rules as written and suggest specific changes to the rules so as not to unnecessarily burden small farms.

- *MA Association of Agricultural Commissions (MAAC):* Kim Wells attended the annual conference in March and brought back much information for us on topics such as Energy Programs, Municipal Issues, and Conflict Resolution. Successes and failures of AgComs around the state over the past several years in topics such as solar bylaws, rooster remediation, farmers markets, and boards of health were also shared among members.

- *2nd Annual Farmers Dinner:* The AgCom hosted its Second Annual Farmer's Dinner for Williamstown and our neighboring farmers in Lanesborough, Hancock, and New Ashford. An enjoyable evening of farming fellowship was had by all. Nancy Lescarbeau, Master of the Williamstown Grange, gave an interesting presentation about the Grange's rich history.

- *Williams College Environmental Planning Presentation:* Williams students presented their findings at the December meeting. They researched the potential for land leasing for farming in Williamstown and Adams and found that dozens of landowners in both towns are interested in considering leasing their land for agricultural uses. Cris Coffin of American Farmland Trust also attended and spoke about the importance of the project and how leasing can help farms boost food production by bringing more land into agriculture while helping new farmers who lack access to land.

BOARD OF ASSESSORS

William Barkin, Chair

Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 59 specifically equates that fair cash value be the standard by which property is taxed. A comprehensive appraisal system, as well as constant monitoring of real estate market fluctuations is needed in order for the Board of Assessors to meet this statutory requirement.

Studies of real estate transactions from January 2011 through December 2012 were conducted and property assessments were adjusted to reflect full and fair cash value as of January 1, 2013. The total taxable valuation of the Town decreased 4.51% from the previous year of \$995,250,355 to \$950,376,594. The average assessed value of a single family home decreased 5.04% from \$364,900 to \$346,500.

The Board of Assessors maintains a property inventory of 2,830 real estate properties and 261 personal property accounts. We strive for 100% accuracy in our assessments. The abatement process allows the Board to view properties that may have errors on the property record card or exhibit market aberrations and thus produce inaccurate assessments. At the beginning of each year the Board conducts field inspections of all building permits issued in the prior calendar year to ascertain new growth.

Williamstown Board of Assessors

Computations for Determining Fiscal 2013 Tax Rate

Town Meeting Date	Total Appropriations Each Meeting	From Tax Levy	From Free Cash	From Other Available Funds	From Enterprise Funds	(Memo) Borrowing
5/15/2012	21,114,619	17,882,516	143,295.00	19,329.00	3,069,479	0.00
Totals	21,114,619	17,882,516	143,295.00	19,329.00	3,069,479	0.00

Local Expenditures.....	\$ 21,507,792.24
Cherry Sheet Offsets & Other Amounts.....	97,292.00
Overlay.....	101,841.37
Tax Rate Summary	
1. Gross Amount to be Raised.....	21,706,925.61
2. Estimated Receipts and Available Funds.....	7,405,178.00
3. Net Amount to be Raised by Taxation.....	\$ 14,301,747.61
4. Real Property Valuation.....	\$977,505,880
5. Personal Property Valuation.....	\$ 17,744,475
6. Total Property Valuation.....	\$995,250,355
7. Tax Rate	14.37
8. Real Property Tax.....	14,046,759.50
9. Personal Property Tax.....	254,988.11
10. Total Taxes Levied on Property.....	\$ 14,301,747.60

Recap Abatements and Exemptions		Recap Motor Vehicle Commitments	
Fiscal 2013		Year	Valuation
Real Estate	\$ 19,016.00	1 2013	\$ 18,716,700
Personal Property	\$ 117.00	2 2013	\$ 2,896,850
		3, 4, 5, 6 2013	\$ 7,627,700
		7 2012	\$ 1,086,600
		Totals	\$30,327,850
			\$642,822
Exemptions			
Clause 41C	\$ 5,000.00		
Clause 22, 22E	17,600.00		
Clause 17D	2,450.00		
Clause 37	1,312.50		
Clause 42	1,681.29		
Clause 18	800.00		
Total.....	\$ 47,976.79		
		Number	Excise
		296	\$ 20,810.86
		Totals	\$20,810.86

CEMETERIES AND PARKS

Christopher Lemoine, Superintendent

The department operates and maintains three cemeteries in Town: Eastlawn, Southlawn and Westlawn. The Town's flagship cemetery is Eastlawn which was established around 1850. A new section for gravesites was surveyed and laid out in 2010 adding 848 gravesites. The cemetery has a total of 1,463 unsold graves, averages 35 sales annually and has a life expectancy of 41 years. Southlawn cemetery has 576 unsold graves, averages 9 sales annually and has a life expectancy of 64 years. The oldest cemetery in town is Westlawn which dates back to the 1700's has only a handful of useable gravesites left unsold. In total the Town has enough gravesites available for sale to last 43 years. Residents can purchase gravesites at a rate of \$450.00 each and can purchase as many graves equal to the amount of people living in the household at the time of purchase. Non residents need to request and obtain permission from the Board of Selectmen for lot purchases at a rate of \$900.00 per grave and are limited to a maximum of two graves. For information call 458-8657 between 7:30am and 4:00pm Monday thru Friday.

The department is responsible for the maintenance of seven public parks in town, the Elementary School athletic fields, the grounds around the Milne Library and the Municipal Building. The Department this season dredged the holding pond out at Margaret Lindley Park due to large amounts of sediment deposited by hurricane Irene. The crew also added sand and graded the beach areas. Margaret Lindley Park is extremely popular in the summer swimming season thanks to the pond which is constantly replenished with crisp fresh water. The park is open sunrise to sunset year round and is staffed with a park ranger from mid-June to Labor Day. Another popular park in Town is Mount Hope Park which has grills for cooking and natural swimming holes in the adjacent Green River. If you are looking for playground equipment you will want to visit Linear Park accessible from Water Street, or Broadbrook Park off of White Oaks Road. All of the Parks in Town are open to the public free of any charges.

If you are on Spring Street or in the area of Field Park you will notice new informational kiosks. Each has a map of the 72 miles of public hiking trails within the Town's borders and on the opposite side you will see a map of the Towns business district and a business directory with QR scan codes.

I thank the department staff for their consideration and diligence in keeping our public properties maintained, providing our patrons with clean, safe and fun places to enjoy.

COMMUNITY PRESERVATION ACT COMMITTEE

Philip McKnight, Chair

The Community Preservation Act (CPA), adopted by the Town in 2002, permits Williamstown to address important community needs under the terms of the law, including:

- Acquisition, preservation, rehabilitation, and restoration of historic resources;
- Acquisition, creation, and preservation of open space;
- Creation, preservation, and support of affordable housing; and
- Acquisition of land for recreation and preservation of recreational resources.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts supplements funds that Williamstown raises directly through the CPA surcharge on real property taxes. The match was 100% for the first five years and then steadily declined as a direct result of the economic recession to its present level of 25%. As a result of last year's amendments to the CPA, there is every reason to believe that the match next year, FY15, will be substantially higher. The local Community Preservation Committee makes a recommendation to Town Meeting every year on how CPA revenues should be spent. The Committee's eight members consist of representatives from the Town's Conservation Commission, Finance Committee, Historical Commission, Housing Authority, Planning Board, Parks Commission, Town Manager, and an at-large community member.

The Committee held public information sessions and public meetings beginning in the fall in which applications were received and funding proposals were discussed. Ultimately, the following proposals were recommended for funding by Town Meeting in May 2013 and were approved:

1. An amount of \$2,000 under the terms of the CPA for historic resources purposes to be expended under the direction of the Williamstown Historical Commission to fund a grant to David and Judy Loomis for the restoration and preservation of a chimney at the Colonel Benjamin Simonds House, 643 Simonds Road;
2. An amount of \$25,000 under the terms of the CPA for historic resources purposes to be expended under the direction of the Parks and Cemetery Superintendent with the assistance of the South Williamstown historical commission for the preservation of historic gravestones at Southlawn Cemetery;
3. An amount of \$65,000 under the terms of the CPA for recreational purposes for the purpose of the Conservation Commission rehabilitating and restoring a public drinking water supply system at Margaret Lindley Park;

4. An amount of \$200,000 under the terms of the CPA for community housing purposes to be deposited in the Affordable Housing Trust Fund for the purpose of creating community housing;
5. An amount of \$10,000 under the terms of the CPA for the payment of administrative expenses associated with the work of the Committee in FY 2014 and, further, to reserve the sums of \$29,000 for open space purposes and \$3,000 for historic resources purposes for future appropriation.

In any given year the Committee anticipates receiving more worthwhile projects for consideration than can responsibly be funded. In addition, the Committee may choose to set aside certain amounts of available funds for future projects. Because of this, and to help guide its deliberations, the Committee has established a number of project investment criteria, which applicants must address, and encourages interested parties to read about the CPA and the investment criteria on the Commission's Town's website.

CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Philip R. McKnight, Chair

The Conservation Commission is the citizen board responsible for administration of the Massachusetts Wetlands and Rivers Protection Act (the "Wetlands Act"). The Commission also oversees the management of nine parcels of land owned by the Town which are dedicated to a variety of conservation and recreation goals. Our meetings are held on the second and fourth Thursdays of each month at 7:00 p.m. and are often preceded by site visits to assess field conditions for projects that are brought to the Commission through the Wetlands Act review process.

In 2013 the Commission acted on 15 Requests for Determination of Applicability of the Wetlands Act to proposed projects. We also acted on six Notice of Intent applications for projects that clearly came under the jurisdiction of the Wetlands Act and for which we determined it was necessary to place Orders of Condition as to how the project would be undertaken and managed to ensure the protection of wetlands resources. We issued three Emergency Certifications, one for culvert repair work on Blair Road, one for town-wide damage following the May 29 severe thunderstorm, and a final one for repairs to the water line on White Oaks Road owned by the City of North Adams.

Beginning in the spring the Commission held several hearings to examine a request from the Board of Selectmen to review and change the current conservation status of the Lowry and the Burbank properties, which are managed by the on behalf of the Town, in order to make those properties available for affordable housing purposes. The Board eventually withdrew its request, and the properties continue to retain their conservation status.

Current members of the Commission are Philip McKnight (chair), Van Ellet (vice chair), Hank Art, Robert Hatton, Sarah Gardner, Harold Brotzman, and Richard Schlesinger. We would again thank Andrew Groff (the Town Conservation Agent) for his dedicated and effective service to the Conservation Commission.

COUNCIL ON AGING

Brian T. O'Grady, Director

In 2013, over 1100 individuals participating in one COA program or another. That's a lot of people. We offered a variety of programs designed to both meet essential human needs and provide some entertainment in life. We have essentially turned the Harper Center into a "destination." We are attributing our successes to continually emphasizing our presence and being present everywhere we can. Becoming more of a travelling road show during the year, we changed our outreach function a bit and added communal meetings at local housing clusters such as, for example, Meadowvale. We typically included food for these occasions bringing pizza, donut holes, veggie snacks etc. as well as guest speakers such as our SHINE counselor to sweeten the event. This activity seems to have worked as we have added new participants from housing to active programming and have assisted others to acquire other community based services.

We strengthened our position as a major source for information and referral. Receiving between twenty to thirty calls for information every day in 2013, we noted that a growing source of calls for information have been from younger people. These callers are typically looking for answers to questions for aging parents, grandparents, other relatives and friends. If we don't have something here, we can usually find it. Our new Administrative person, Heather DeMarsico, has created an in house resource directory which includes everything from nurses to contractors. It has reached novel proportions at about 130 pages. Need to find information on an insurance provider? Call us!

Marion Quinn-Jowett, our Outreach worker was rather busy herself during the past year. She has been a vital force in the implementation of programs and services for Williamstown seniors. In addition to our larger group meetings, Marion has averaged over 100 individual consultations monthly with town seniors bringing assistance to trouble shoot problems and answer questions.

Our transportation numbers continue to be strong highlighting the ever present need for this service in a rural area. Strong may be an understatement as we recorded staggering increases in travel. The vehicle completed 10,015 individual local trips including over 5200 medical trips and 1812 shopping expeditions during the year. And we still do quite a few "quality of life" trips-hairdresser, library, visiting friends. The opening of a full service wound clinic including hyperbaric medicine added to the numbers, as did numerous individuals who decided to stop driving in 2013 and give up their cars. Last June, we were also fortunate to have been the recipients of a brand new van courtesy of the BRTA to facilitate transportation. Our prior vehicle was beginning to show signs of wear.

Oh, by the way our drivers are Kathy Vareschi, the current and reigning “Town Employee of the Year” and her able driver colleague David Larabee.

Aware of some of the limitations of public transportation in the area, we joined Williams College, Mass College of Liberal Arts and Berkshire Community College in successfully advocating for the re-establishment of transportation via Berkshire Regional Transit Authority [BRTA] to Pittsfield directly via Rt. 7. This will allow people to access rural south Williamstown including Sweetbrook Nursing Home and the Sweetwood housing facility. In addition to student travel, the bus provides rides to and from work for staff at the aforementioned facilities as well as transport for seniors visiting the nursing home.

We invested a considerable bit of time during the past year supporting residents of the Spruces Mobile Home Park, which was largely destroyed by tropical storm Irene in 2011. Approximately 100 residents, mainly seniors, were able to return to the park in the days and weeks following the disaster. That unfortunate event further exposed a significant lack of housing affordability in town with senior housing most specifically identified as a major need. We supported efforts by Higher Ground, the Women’s Institute, Berkshire Housing Development Corporation and the Williamstown Elder Housing Corporation in an effort to acquire a gift of land from Williams College to build approximately 40 units of affordable senior housing adjacent to Proprietors Field and the Harper Center. The College generously donated the land and applications for funding are underway. The project is crucial as the Spruces itself is to be closed within approximately 2 years as it lies within the boundaries of a flood plain and the residents all live in harm’s way. The process and speculation regarding the future have caused a degree of uncertainty in the resident’s minds and your COA has done everything possible to help inform and support as needed.

Senior Center activity continues to be strong and growing. Our grant driven exercise class, a three day per week affair boasted 50 members during the year. Karyn O’Toole and Jane Jezouit are our exercise instructors. Our Tai Chi classes with Youlin Shi feature introductory level and advanced classes continue to be popular. We began to offer an increasingly popular senior friendly Yoga class with instructor Mary Edgerton in November. Our almost continuous-for-the- last-20 years painting class with instructor Jackie Toomey hosted their first ever show in mid-October, our walking group hooves it out every Thursday and swimming at the pool at Williams is a daily activity for some. Monthly blood pressure clinics sponsored by Sweetbrook and foot care clinics with Serena Merrill are popular and well attended. Our Reading Buddies meet with their second grade friends from the WES to share stories every two weeks and a regular flock of Kindergarteners routinely provide decorations for this facility. We continue our monthly educational forums with food, a big draw. Kira Breard from Amedisys and many good people from the North Adams Regional Hospital have been regular contributors. Our monthly “Java with Judy” session featuring Williamstown Commons Admissions Director Judy Bombardier-who by the way, is a COA Board member as well- is a popular monthly morning fixture. We hosted a host of musicians and entertainers during the year to provide a recreational opportunity for many. In some cases, we collaborated with Ida Patella from Berkshire

Housing to bring programs to the community. Oh yes, food. In conjunction with Elder Services congregate meals program, as well as meals prepared in-house, we provided a hot meal at lunch over 5000 times last year. We actually offer food six days weekly, a unique service indeed. Call our meals coordinator Pat Picard if you want to join us for lunch.

Our computer lab is new and updated-we replaced every computer in the building during June 2013, with an upgraded internet capacity with new and faster operating systems and which attracted a new cast of people interested in computing. We offer free individualized computer lessons for beginners and those looking for enhancement with our instructor Elaine Keyes by appointment. Speaking of new, our building renovations, completed in September 2012, have made the Harper Center to be friendlier temperature and budget wise-new walls hold heat and cool, the air conditioning proved a wonderful respite for some during the oppressive heat at the beginning of summer. We are now officially able to call ourselves a cooling center!

And, speaking of cool, we have other cool options for folks who need them.

SHINE counselor Peg Jenks is at Harper every Wednesday to meet with seniors who have problems or who need information about health care insurance. As I write this she has just completed a very busy period helping people thru Medicare open enrollment details. Given the changes in insurance in general, this has been a busy year for the program. She is available for individual consultations by appointment through the COA office at 458.8250.

Pim Goodbody coordinates a band of AARP Tax Aides twice weekly from February through D-Day in April, assisting people with the task of completing and filing both state and federal income taxes. This cool free option has been a wonderful benefit-last year, they assisted over 135 different people to file their taxes in 2013!

TRS stands for Telephone Reassurance Service. We call people every morning just to make sure that they have gotten thru the night and are ok to begin the day. Last year was quiet without mishap-yeah! However-during the years since the programs beginning in 2001 we have rescued 11 people who had literally fallen and couldn't get up and needed help. It's a simple program wherein you provide us with the names of people you'd like to have contacted in an emergency as well as your number and we'll talk daily.

Our bridge group has met every Wednesday afternoon at Harper since the 1980's. Genie Smith is the person to talk with if you want to play cards. And of course there is bingo! Maggie Guiden organizes the game, arranges for volunteer guest callers and is generally in charge of the program both for the COA and the Friendship Club-she's the current club President. She also coordinated our Project Linus efforts in 2013. Project Linus was a cooperative effort with numerous Harper seniors meeting every other week to knit, crochet and quilt lap robes, quilts and blankets for sick children in the area. A noble effort indeed!

If you want to know what we're up to on a weekly basis, let us know and we'll send you our monthly newsletter-all we need is your email address! You can also find us at the Williamstown Municipal Government website;

www.williamstown.net

or on Facebook at;

www.facebook.com/williamstowncouncilonaging.

You can call us at 458.8250 or better yet, stop in and say hello! We love to meet new people!

In the only sad and negative note to the year, Ann Luczynski, Administrative Assistant to the Director and twice Acting Director of the Williamstown Council on Aging during her 26 years of service at the Harper Center passed on June 29th, 2013. She is greatly missed. This report is dedicated in her memory.

Brian T. O'Grady

Director.

DAVID & JOYCE MILNE PUBLIC LIBRARY

Pat McLeod, Library Director



www.milnelibrary.org

2013 Statistics

- 7,800 cardholders
- 96,500 holdings
- 31,365 Interlibrary loans
- 151,000 circulations
- 51,400 circulations to nonresidents

Discover Explore Learn Grow Dream

This year's *Annual Report* begins with thanking the Friends of the Milne Public Library. Without their active participation in fundraising and advocacy, the Williamstown Library patrons would see fewer programs and services. This year the Friends' moved their Book Sale operations to 184 Southworth St. to a Williams College property that was rehabilitated by the College to address the Friends' needs for a functional drop off location, sorting and pricing spaces and a storage facility for their Annual Spring Book Sale. The Friends had used the back lobby of

the Milne Library for years to do their sorting and the basement for storage until the books were moved to the Elementary School during school vacation. We miss seeing our “friendly” volunteers each week, but the reclaiming of space of the rear lobby has given way to host many large functions for the library and the Williamstown Historical Museum and is being considered for a renovation to a quiet reading room with Wi-Fi, electrical outlets for plugging in portable devices and also to house the magazine, newspaper, and special collections.

The Friends fundraising activities in 2013 contributed \$27,400 for numerous library services, programs, and assistance. New library materials for the adult and children’s collections. Replacement PC’s for the staff and public. Professional development opportunities for staff to develop and learn new skills and network with their peers. The funding also paid for annual subscriptions to Ancestry.com online and Tumble books and the Early Literacy workstation in the Children’s Room. The Friends also offered to fund a large project that will renovate the Children’s Room with a new circulation desk and staff work space, desks, and furniture while still continuing their obligation for compensating the entire summer reading programs and other seasonal programs throughout the year. Thanks to the tireless volunteers for all of their hard work this year. The Friends sadly lost their Treasurer, Bud Riley this past year. Bud had served as Treasurer for over 16 years and coordinated all the cashiers at the Book Sale each year.

For more information about the Friends, please visit their website and become a member.

Milnelibraryfriends.org

Automation system In May of 2012, as a member of C/W MARS, the Milne Library switched to Evergreen, a new automation system. This software change was designed to save money and facilitate custom software. Implementing Evergreen was extremely stressful for patrons and staff due to the frequent circulation computer crashes, glitches, bugs and overall slow performance during peak afternoon hours, it has been a hard transition for the past two years. However, the circulation function has improved and staff can quickly access patron information enabling quick retrieval of requested materials. Patrons are pleased to have more control over their own account and their requests for items. The staff thank all patrons for their patience during this period. One exciting project on the horizon is a statewide library card program that is being researched by the Mass. Board of Library Commissioners. This would allow residents of the Commonwealth to borrow materials from libraries throughout the state with just one card.

Youth Services 2013 was a year of changes in the children’s room, as Mindy Hackner left to take a new position and Kirsten Rose joined the Milne staff as the new Children’s Librarian.

“Though I am new to the Milne Public Library, I am not new to Williamstown. I graduated from Williams College, left the area after graduation, and then moved back

to Williamstown 7 years ago. I am thrilled and excited to have the opportunity to work with the children and families of Williamstown.”

Throughout all these transitions, the children’s department was mostly business as usual. 42,686 items circulated from the children’s department during the year (including books, magazines, movies, CDs, games and toys) and we had 1,310 attendees at our programs.

Dig Into Reading was our Summer Reading theme, and we delved into some topics like archaeology, storytelling, puppets, and music, funded in large part by the Friends of the Library. This coming year’s theme for Summer Reading is Fizz, Boom, Read! with a focus on science for kids and we hope to have a summer full of science and exploration. We’re also working on some on-going programming this spring, such as a chess club.

We are continually buying new material to expand the range of what’s available for kids for learning and entertainment. If you have any suggestions, please feel free to stop by and chat.



“Make Your Own Comic Book!” – Summer Reading Program with Emily Brannan

Young Adult Services We continue to build the collection for the Young Adult room (for 7th-12th graders), constantly weeding out older books in challenged condition, to make room for the exciting new literature that is being written increasingly for that age group. We had free, hands-on programs for the tweens and teens which have included a week long Graphic Novel writing workshop, and a Sculptural Mask Making program, both facilitated by local artists. In the past we have had theater

improvisation and photography programs, as well as programs at WilliNet, all of which have been very popular with that age group. We have several teen volunteers who have been trained to help us with shelving, and welcome others who wish to do some community service. The teen graphic novel section has continued to grow, and we always have available multiple copies of required reading books for the middle



and high school students. We have also collaborated with the Mt. Greylock librarians to facilitate getting library cards for students who didn't already have one.

“Masks: On the Surface?” program facilitated by Ann Kremers

Adult Programs

- Financial Planning and Investment seminars
- Book Discussion Groups
- French Club
- “Aging, Society and Film” Seminars
- Downsizing for baby boomers and seniors
- Internet scams and prevention for caregivers, children of seniors and seniors.
- Volunteer Services in Africa
- Provided a loaning library of books and media at the '62 Center to support their 2013/14 performances
- Our “Books on Wheels” delivery program continues, staffed by a Library volunteer who delivers books to patrons who could not get to the Library

English as a Second Language (ESL) We continue to act as a satellite classroom for ESL classes for MCLA. Three days a week students attend 3 hour classes to help them learn English, function in their workplaces and ideally have enabled a few immigrants to attain citizenship.

Local Artists The library is also known for its gallery space that provides a place where community artists and crafts people can show their work, particularly those without the reputation or resources which would enable them to exhibit at museums or commercial galleries. Collectively, the Library's exhibits reflect a variety of media, styles, cultural viewpoints, and levels of artistic experience. The patrons enjoy the monthly change of artwork and talent.



Your Digital branch – the library never sleeps with our digital branch open 24/7 at www.milnelibrary.org

You can access from our Digital Café which now includes:

- E-books for the Kindle, Nook, iPad or any tablet or e-reader.
- Digital audiobooks to listen to on your smart phone, iPod or Mp3 players.
- Online language learning with over 100 languages and English as a Second Language called Transparent Language.
- Downloadable videos.
- Atomic Training courses. Over 300 online tutorials to learn about new technology such Skype, your iPad, Twitter. etc.
- Children's books, read-alongs, games and puzzles all online called Tumblebooks.

- Online full text journal articles and newspapers. Access to an extensive collection of useful databases.

All of these are available for your PC, laptop, e-reader, tablet, or smart phone.

The Library Board of Trustees The fundraising for the Trustees Fund was very successful, raising \$35,811 from 417 households. The Trustees Fund supported a new public photocopier, additional hours for our library maintenance employee, new carpeting in the Children’s Room, funded the Space Consultant to study the current library and to review and plan future growth of the library for this community. It is also revisiting what can be done to repair, remodel, and expand our aging infrastructure to meet the needs of a new generation of users.

Current slate of the Board of Trustees:

Rebecca Ohm – Chair

David Dewey – Vice Chair

Mark Maniak

Peter Mehlin – Treasurer

Kathleen Schultze – Secretary

Geoffrey Hedden – Facilities

Katherine Myers – Friends Liaison

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Charles Fox, Chair, and Suzanne Dewey, Vice Chair, for 2013

During the calendar year 2013, the following members served on the Finance Committee: Paula Consolini, Suzanne Dewey, Charles Fox , Dan Gendron, Elizabeth Goodman, Andrew Hogeland, Doris Karampatsos, Elaine Neely, and Michael Sussman.

At the Annual Town Meeting on May 21, 2013, the Finance Committee recommended, and the Town approved, a budget of \$21,283,557 for Fiscal Year 2014 (July 2013 – June 2014) This figure represented a very modest increase of \$200,694, or less than 1% over FY13. (This compares with an increase of 2.9% in FY13 over FY12.) The overall efficiency of this budget is further testimony to the careful management of Town resources by our Town Manager and our Town employees. The Town currently has an unused levy capacity of \$920,538 (an amount we could, if we chose to do so, legally tax ourselves under “Prop 2.5”); a free cash balance of \$518,894; and a stabilization fund of \$829,465 (a basis for our excellent bond rating). So we have been preparing ourselves financially to address some major capital project challenges that are clearly standing before us, as for example the physical condition of our police station and of our high school. Once again, as in last year’s report, we would make special note of the recent history of budget efficiency at MGRHS. Their

FY14 budget proposal represented a .11% decline over the budget of FY13, which was itself only a .2% increase over the FY12 budget, while from FY11 to FY12 their budget remained even.

A breakdown of appropriations approved at the Annual Town Meeting on 5/21/13 is as follows:

Budget Category	FY 2013	FY 2014	% change
General Government	\$6,570,461	\$6,727,674	+2.4%
Williamstown Elementary School	\$5,366,744	\$5,494,774	+2.4%
Mt. Greylock High School	\$4,610,042	\$4,559,872	-.11%
McCann Technical School	\$300,298	\$267,523	-10.9%
Sewer Department	\$1,144,848	\$1,094,429	-4.4%
Water Department	\$889,963	\$904,729	+1.6%
Transfer Station Department	\$187,142	\$179,730	-3.9%
Capital Projects	\$837,541	\$744,242	-11%
Debt Service	\$468,722	\$457,955	-2.3%
Community Preservation	\$426,500	\$334,000	-21.7%
FinCom Reserve Fund	\$75,000	\$75,000	0%
Stabilization Fund	\$100,000	\$25,000	-75%
Chamber of Commerce	\$38,641	\$40,066	+3.7%
Youth Center	\$66,961	\$68,563	+2.3%
Police Station Design		\$160,000	+100%
Post-Employment Benefits		\$150,000	+100%
Total	\$21,082,863	\$21,283,557	+9%

FOREST WARDEN

Richard F. Daniels, Jr.

During 2013, the Forest Warden's Department issued Town burning permits from January 15 through May 1, as well as Agricultural permits year-round when the weather permitted. Also throughout the year, the Department investigated all outdoor smoke complaints. The Department performed daily fire checks, extinguishing illegal fires and fighting out of control fires. The Department issued 198 burning permits and responded to 33 calls for service. There were 8 smoke complaints and 12 illegal content or no-permit-issued calls. We responded to 6 Search & Rescues and 7 out-of-control fires. The Warden's Department also received 69 phone calls regarding questions about burning and camp fires.

The season was a dry one with a windy spring season resulting in many days where it was not safe to issue permits. The State also issued many red flag days, which meant no outdoor fires of any kind. Williamstown had 4 small out of control fires this year; one on Easter Sunday. The Department went to Pownal, VT, for stand-by and then got called to Woodford, VT, to assist with a forest fire. We also assisted the Williamstown Fire Department with a hay fire at a local farm.

The Warden's Department had 6 Search & Rescue calls to locate lost hikers and assist them safely out of the woods. Massachusetts law dictates that law enforcement are responsible for searches and fire personnel are responsible for rescues, so the Forest Warden Department, overseen by the Police Chief, is the liaison between the Police and Fire departments during these types of calls for service, and we also work closely with Village Ambulance Services during search and rescues. One of the calls involved 3 lost hikers at night on Mt. Greylock, and we were assisted by the State Police and two of their K9 units.

The Warden Department was also called upon to assist if needed with an overland foot race that occurred along the Taconic Crest Trail, passing through Williamstown with a finish line in Hancock. Fortunately, there were no warden responses needed.

The Williamstown Forest Wardens attended Fire Prevention Day in October. The Department also attended all town parades as well as the Rowe, MA, parade, where we took first place for the second year in a row. All Forest Warden members train regularly, completing CPR/AED and first responder training for the year as required by the State. 2 of our members are certified for National Wildland Red Card Firefighters Type 2; two members are Emergency Medical Technicians (EMT's), and one is a Paramedic.

The Forest Warden's Department received a Volunteer Fire Assistance Grant for \$1,999.50. This grant allowed for the purchase of a new water pump for our Dodge Power Wagon and a slide-in pump and tank for our Polaris Ranger 6X6. All three of the Department's vehicles now have new water pumps.

FOREST WARDEN'S DEPARTMENT PERSONNEL:

FOREST WARDEN	Richard F. Daniels Jr.
DEPUTY WARDENS	Michael Daniels, Military leave
	Marcus Bottesi Jr.
	Peter Niemeyer
	Sean Peltier
	Kevin O'Mara
	David Larabee
	Morissa Daniels
	Kevin Jolin
	Erika O'Mara

Secretary	Dawn Daniels
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BOARD OF HEALTH

Ronald Stant, Chair

Jeffery C. Kennedy RS, Health Inspector

Health inspection functions in Williamstown are mandated by State laws and regulations, and by local Board of Health regulations. The inspection and monitoring requirements are many, and include, but are not limited to, food establishments, bathing beaches, septic systems, private wells, housing, swimming pools, tanning facilities, refuse and recycling, manufactured housing communities, beaver control, recreational camps, and nuisances affecting the public health.

The Health Inspector for the town holds licenses as a Registered Sanitarian, a Soil Evaluator, and a Septic System Inspector. All licenses require a commitment for continuing education in the various aspects of their applicable disciplines. Registered Sanitarians are required to accrue 12 contact hours each year; Soil Evaluators and Septic System Inspector must accrue 10 hours every 3 years.

Did you know that over 10% of the boards of health in the United States are located in Massachusetts? Functions that in other states are handled at the state or county level are under the purview of local boards of health. Boards of health or their designated agents have the same responsibilities, and are required to perform the same duties no matter the size of their community. In rural western Massachusetts, boards and their agents do not have the luxury of specializing in certain aspects of a board of health's day-to-day responsibilities. They are general practitioners of public health. It's what makes public health in this side of the Commonwealth both interesting and challenging.

- In 2013 the Board of Health had 256 permits in its database.

Food Establishment inspections are performed on restaurants, cafeterias, dining facilities, bed and breakfasts, non-profit organizations serving an occasional meal for a fee or donation, and retail stores. Inspections look at food handling, facility infrastructure and equipment, and employee cleanliness and appearance. Efforts are made to work with the establishments to upgrade their facilities and improve practices, if needed, to insure patrons are getting a safe meal. New and upgraded establishments require that an application and plan are submitted for review. A schedule of all new equipment with specification sheets are also required.

- There are currently 79 (at the time of writing) establishments which undergo, at a minimum, annual or semi-annual inspection by the Health Inspector. Additional permits are issued to temporary establishments, which are inspected as needed. Food Establishment numbers are changing throughout the year, as some establishments close their doors, and others try their hand at operating in the Town of Williamstown.

- A total of 143 inspections were conducted in 2013.

The Board of Health issues retail establishment licenses to individual vendors selling processed foods at a farmers' market. The Board of Health must assess the facilities available to the farmer's market, and prohibit any food-handling operation that cannot be safely performed. In addition, the Board of Health may prohibit the sale of certain food items if the items cannot be handled and maintained in accordance with 105 CMR 590.000 requirements.

- In 2013, the Board of Health issued 42 such licenses for various processed foods to be sold either at the Williamstown Farmers' Market and/or the Williamstown Holiday Farmers' Markets. These markets are inspected by the Health Inspector. The Board of Health requires all rental units to have undergone an inspection within 12 months prior to occupancy by the current tenant. The units are inspected for compliance with 105 CMR 410.000 Minimum Standards of Fitness for Human Habitation, State Sanitary Code, Chapter II. Every unit that meets the standards is issued a Certificate of Compliance (CoC). Other conditions also apply, depending upon the length of tenancy. It appears that there was less tenant movement in 2012, therefore less inspections were performed. However various houses that are 'for sale' have been made rentals until such time as the dwelling is sold. In addition, complaint inspections, which are not part of the CoC database, were also performed, resulting in Orders to Correct being issued, and occasionally, filings in housing court.

- There are 820 dwelling units listed in the Rental Unit database. Some of these units may no longer be rental units through sale or conversion to condominium.

- 118 applications for inspection were received in 2013.

Every house without access to community water must have a private water supply approved by the Board of Health or its Agent. The Board requires that the proposed well is sited by a Professional Engineer or Registered Sanitarian to meet all safety setbacks, and is drilled by a Massachusetts registered well driller. Following drilling, water quality and quantity reports are submitted by the driller and/or property owner to the Board for review to determine that the supply is sufficient for the house, and meets chemical and bacterial standards. If all information is acceptable, a Certificate of Compliance is issued. A building permit for a new home will not be issued for homes on a private water supply until the Board issues a Well Certificate of Compliance. The Board of Health also requires most of this information for ANY well intended to supply water for ANY purpose. Many geo-thermal system wells have been permitted recently.

- Well permits issued in 2013 - 2.

- Total private wells drilled since 1992 regulation - 135

Every home without access to community sewer must have an on-site sewage disposal system that meets the requirements of 310 CMR 15.000, usually referred to as Title 5. Existing on-site systems must be inspected at time of sale or other title transfer, and failing systems or components must be upgraded to meet Title 5 standards. A new system starts with a soil evaluation (perk test) performed by a licensed Soil Evaluator and witnessed by the Board of Health. This insures that the on-site soils absorption system (leaching field) is correctly placed and sized for the home it services. A Professional Engineer or Registered Sanitarian will submit a design plan to the Board for review. Following review, if the plan meets the provisions of Title 5, and if a properly trained and licensed installer is contracted by the property owner, a permit to construct is issued. Inspections are conducted throughout the installation process by the Board and the designer to monitor compliance with the design plans. Any changes to the plans must be approved by the Board prior to implementation. If the system is constructed properly, and certificates of construction compliance are received by the Board from the engineer and installer, a Certificate of Compliance is issued for the system. Upgrades of failed existing

system components are also evaluated for Title 5 compliance prior to installation. The Board of Health requires that all installers working in Williamstown must have attended a training course recognized by the Berkshire County Boards of Health Association and have satisfactorily passed the given exam. In addition, the Board requires that all new or upgraded septic tanks have an effluent filter installed at the tank outlet. This helps prevent field loss through system clogging due to inattention. If a Title 5 Septic System Inspection show that systems have a garbage grinder and/or a water softener discharging into the system, property owners are now informed by letter that their system is in noncompliance, and are instructed to remove the garbage grinder, and discharge the water softener to a drywell. Failure to do so could result in a damaged septic system requiring costly replacement or repair.

- Septic System permits issued in 2013 - 9
- Total Septic Systems in the Williamstown database – 584

Companies which haul septage are required to obtain permits from the Board of health in each town they serve. Haulers must keep a record of individual systems served, which is presented to the appropriate wastewater treatment plant. The plant forwards these records to the Board of Health, which keeps a database on how often each system is pumped. At times, these records will allow the Board to determine if an on-site system is functioning properly.

- Septage haulers permitted to operate in the Town of Williamstown – 5
- The Board of Health from time to time examines all camps, motels, hotels, manufactured housing communities and cabins licensed by it and if, upon such examination, such camp, motel, hotel, manufactured housing community or cabin is found to be in an unsanitary condition, the Board may, after notice and a hearing, suspend or revoke such license.

- There are 11 motels, 2 hotels, and 2 manufactured housing communities in the Town of Williamstown.

Williamstown hosts many recreational camps for children each summer. Camps must meet the standards set down by the State in 105 CMR 430.000, Minimum Sanitation and Safety Standards for Recreational Camps for Children. Fortunately, most camps are operating on the Williams College campus, which has dormitories, dining facilities, and other infrastructure subject to periodic building and health inspections. The Board insures that camp staff and counselors have undergone criminal and sexual offender record checks, that campers and staff have appropriate medical checks, that a licensed physician, physician's assistant or nurse practitioner is contracted as a health care consultant, and that adequate medical staff and equipment are available to meet the campers' needs.

- In 2013, 9 recreational camps for children were held in Williamstown. Most of these camps held multiple sessions throughout the summer.

All public and semi-public (motels, condominiums, clubs, schools, institutions, etc.) pools and hot tubs/spas are required to be inspected at least annually. Inspections look at the design and construction of the pool, safety equipment and communication devices, first aid equipment, and water quality. All public and semi-public pools are required to have a Certified Pool Operator and perform inspections and water chemical testing at prescribed intervals.

- In 2013, 24 permits were issued for public and semi-public pools and hot tubs.

Margaret Lindley Park has the only authorized public bathing beach in Williamstown. Beach bacterial sampling of the impoundment water at Margaret Lindley Park is periodically tested from Memorial Day to Labor Day, and has always showed excellent results, well within standards set by the state (No single E. coli sample shall exceed 235 colonies per 100 ml. and the geometric mean of the most recent five E. coli samples within the same bathing season shall not exceed 126 colonies per 100 ml). This facility continues to be very popular with many people in North Berkshire County. In 2013, torrential rain storms had caused the adjacent Hemlock Brook to overtop the banks at Margaret Lindley, sending cloudy water into the swimming area. The swimming area was closed for several weeks while the water cleared. Additionally, work to repair damage upstream of the park caused an elevated bacterial count in the bi-weekly water sample. As the swimming was closed already, no one was affected by the high count. However, sampling of the beach water was increased to weekly, and will continue as weekly sampling for at least 2 years, to insure water integrity.

- In 2013 the geometric mean established for the last 5 samples taken was – 11.53

The Board of Health licenses and regulates through inspection the maintenance of safe and appropriate indoor air quality in ice skating rinks that utilize ice resurfacing equipment powered by combustible fuels which produce carbon monoxide or nitrogen dioxide and thereby protect the health, safety and well-being of the public.

- The Williams College Lansing Chapman Rink is inspected annually, usually during the Bay State Games. Although the rink is primarily serviced with an electric ice resurfacing machine, it is still licensed and inspected because the seldom used back-up resurfacers are propane powered.

The Board of Health also regulates nuisances and noisome trades, and may restrict and/or prohibit any trade or employment, nuisances, sources of filth, injurious odors and potentials for sickness, which may endanger the public health, safety, or welfare of the inhabitants of the Town of Williamstown. Many nuisance complaints are received anonymously by telephone, but still require follow-up and inspection. Refuse haulers operating in the Town of Williamstown must be permitted by the Board of Health, and must offer recycling services.

- Number of permitted Refuse Haulers in 2013 – 9

Williamstown has joined the Berkshire County Public Health Alliance to coordinate public health efforts on a larger scale and to assist in planning and implementation of public health functions to smaller communities.

- Since 1995, the Health Inspector has assisted other communities throughout the county by providing technical and physical assistance to those towns without a full time health agent. Although still available to assist other Boards of Health, the Health Alliance will provide that assistance in the future.

The Board of Health also oversees the duties of the Animal Inspector. Dog Officer Jackie Lemieux is also the appointed Animal Inspector for the Town of Williamstown. The Animal Inspector inspects the health and living conditions of livestock located in town, as well as investigating animal bite reports and processing

or quarantine animal suspected of carrying rabies. She primarily operates under the provisions of Massachusetts General Law Chapter 129, and reports her findings to the Massachusetts Department of Agricultural Resources. The Board of Health has authority under Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 111 to license all stables and promulgate regulations for the keeping of animals. The Williamstown Board of Health has not set fees for stables, nor has it written regulations, preferring at this time to operate under its adopted guidelines for the proper keeping of livestock. The Health Inspector has worked with the Animal Inspector on various stabling and livestock issues in 2008, and will continue to take an active interest in livestock oversight and care.

The Town of Williamstown has a very pro-active and involved public health program; there is much expected in this town of 7000 +. The Health Inspector continues to use federal, state and local regulations in a reasonable manner to insure the spirit and intent of each are used for the general maintenance and improvement of the community's public health needs.

HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT

Chris Lemoine, Superintendent

If you have not already read this year's Town Report Cover Story please do. The May 29 Thunderstorm and its associated flash flooding caused some of the most extensive damage to town road ways in recent memory. This event and its aftermath was the defining story of 2013 for the Town's Highway Department. All of the Department's staff deserve recognition for their work in the recovery effort during 2013.

In other 2013 news the highway department installed new sidewalks on both sides of Linden Street. Proper installation necessitated the excavation of the subsoil and



The Town's new Mack dump truck.

installation of a gravel base, compacted, a binder layer and finished with a top layer of blacktop. Curbing and driveway aprons were also replaced. The department will continue the process this coming season on other streets

in the neighborhood. New guardrails were installed on Luce, Petersburg, and Stratton Roads. The pond at Margaret Lindley Park was repeatedly closed due to soil erosion caused by storm runoff. The highway crew removed all the sediment and graded the pond floor.

The Highway Department purchased a new 2014 Mack dump truck. After decades of being a loyal customer of International Trucks and in the interest of fuel economy and customer satisfaction, we decided to try Mack. The fuel economy has supported our decision as the fuel mileage has improved by 20%.

At the Department of Public Works stockyard, excess excavated material from within the Town accumulates over time to a point when we run out of space. So in 2013 we reclaimed 15,000 tons of material and crushed it into usable gravel at a cost of less than half if purchased. It is recycling on a grand scale.

The Town has a new Foreman in our Cemetery and Parks Department. Craig Clough has been transferred from the Highway Department and has taken on the daily responsibilities of providing the services required of the Department and its personnel. Craig is very capable of fulfilling his obligations and has adapted well. He is very conscientious and has a great attention to detail. He remains involved with the Highway Department and helps keep our Public Works Departments consolidated. At the Cemetery and Parks maintenance building in Eastlawn Cemetery we installed a thirty nine panel, 9.75 kw photovoltaic system that produces more power than the



New fuel shed, under construction by Kenny McAlpine. Material recycling ongoing in background.

building consumes. The excess power is credited to the DPW facility further reducing expense.

Roadways were not the only thing damaged from the May storm. The fuel shed at the Department of Public Works was destroyed by heavy winds. Our facilities technician, Kenny McAlpine, took on the responsibility of building a new one.

The new structure is a great improvement, is stronger and more secure. The propane heater at the Towns animal shelter was properly replaced along with new controls, venting and detectors.

The Department of Public Works personnel has proven to be conscientious and committed in keeping our roads, parks and buildings safe and in good repair. I find it gratifying to be part of a group that works very hard and takes great pride in their accomplishments

HISTORICAL COMMISSION

William Barkin, Chair

The commission acted on three items in 2013. They are as follows:

A proposed demolition of rear porches by owner Michael Badorini at 22-24 Elm Street. The applicant showed the commission photographs of the dilapidated porches he would like to remove. The commission was in agreement that the two family dwelling was not “preferably preserved” and voted unanimously to allow the applicant to go forward with the demolition without any delay imposed.

For Williams College’s Collins House located at 125 Latham Street, Andrew Groff, Town Planer, explained that the College was planning a rearrangement/overhaul of the Weston Playing Field and that Collins house had to be removed/demolished to make way for the new design. The commission members were informed that assessors’ property records for Collins House indicated that it was erected around 1940 and that substantial footprint changes were made in the 1990s. The assessors said it was not truly a property that should have been listed on the Williamstown historical properties list. Commission members concurred, although there was a discussion that perhaps the original foundation was from the 19th century. It was noted by Mr. Groff that the college’s plans for the renovation Weston Field would not begin until after the last home football game of the 2013 season – that time frame being around late November 2013. Thus any delay invoked by the commission would have no effect on the college’s plans. The commission agreed to allow the college to go ahead with plans for the removal of Collins house without a demolition delay called upon.

For Williams College’s Peck’s Grandstand at Weston Field, Andrew Groff, Town Planer, explained, with the help of a set of plans, how the college was planning to reorient Weston Field. He pointed to where Peck’s Grandstand would be relocated in relation to the track and field area. The plans illustrated for the Commission members

the various changes to take place for the football field as well as the entire rearrangement of Weston Field itself. Mr. Groff reiterated that because Peck's Grandstand was over a hundred years old and on the list of historical structures in town, the commission had the authority to decide if moving it was detrimental to its historical value. The commission voted to allow the college to move the structure, there being no change or harm in said move and a demolition delay was unnecessary.

Submitted,
William Barkin, Chair

HOOSAC WATER QUALITY DISTRICT

Bradley O. Furlon, Chief Operator/District Manager

District Commission
Charles Schlesinger, Chair - Williamstown
Timothy Lescarbeau, Vice Chair- North Adams
K. Elaine Neely, Secretary- Williamstown
Michael Canales, Member/Assistant Treasurer -North Adams

Bradley Furlon, Chief Operator/District Manager
Mark J. DePonte, Assistant Chief Operator
John R. Gaffey, Treasurer

Narrative

The Hoosac Water Quality District (District), which serves the Town of Williamstown and the City of North Adams, treated a total of 1,300,171,000 gallons of raw sewage during Fiscal Year 2013, which represents a decrease in flow of 222,732,000 gallons as compared to Fiscal Year 2012. In addition, the District treated 572,027 pounds of Biochemical Oxygen Demand (BOD) and 780,331 pounds of Total Suspended Solids (TSS) in FY 2013.

Some key highlights of FY 13 were:

- On April 22, 2013, the District was notified of an exposed section of the District's 48-inch diameter interceptor sanitary sewer main, running parallel to the Hoosic River, west of the Spruces Mobile Home Park. This river bank erosion and exposure was due to significant rain events over the prior year. This section was found to be in emergency repair. The work included installation of rip-rap along the lower portion of the existing slope so as to protect the pipe and deter further scour and slippage of the bank. The upper portion of the bank was stabilized with heavy duty erosion control blankets bedded into the rip-rap at the base and keyed into the soil at the top of the slope. Also installed was the design of two stone flow deflectors (barbs) to divert the river channel further from the river bank. The contractor for this project was D.R. Billings, Inc. of Lanesboro, MA. The project was completed in June 2013.

- The District put together a capital improvement project which consists of replacement of the District's secondary clarifier mechanisms, replacement of compost fan buildings, flow meter building modifications, polymer system upgrades, wet well modifications, PLC upgrade to Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition (SCADA) system, SSI mixer replacement and paving of compost facility area. These upgrades went out to bid in the spring of 2013. Bay State Regional Contractors of Yarmouthport, MA was awarded the bid. The Agreement for this project between the District and Bay State Regional Contractors became effective on July 11, 2013. All Work except for the work associated with the secondary clarifiers will be substantially complete on or before December 15, 2013. The Work associated with the secondary clarifiers will be substantially complete on or before September 2014. Total estimated costs for these improvements are approximately \$2,300,000.
- On February 27, 2013, the District received its renewed National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Permit from MADEP and EPA. The NPDES Permit became effective on April 1, 2013.
- District personnel, which include six licensed wastewater operators, continue to work tirelessly to ensure that every requirement included in the Consent Decree and NPDES permit is fulfilled. Monthly reports are submitted to EPA and DEP, which outline all actions being taken to ensure complete compliance.
- Since 1983, the District's compost facility continues to produce Type I compost as defined by the MADEP. About 5,841 yards of final compost was produced in FY13. During FY13, compost was made available to individual members of the local communities; however, the bulk of the compost was sold throughout the state of Massachusetts, New York, Connecticut and Vermont by a contracted vendor.
- Public interests in the District's facility is becoming more frequent, with many tours given to Massachusetts College of Liberal Arts, Williams College, North Adams Public Schools, Williamstown Public Schools and Gabriel Abbott Memorial School.

As always, we look forward to the challenges each year presents to us and remain committed to keeping our communities clean and safe.

INSPECTION SERVICES DEPARTMENT

Michael Card, MCO, Director

Ryan A. Contenta, CBO, Local Inspector

Jeffery Kennedy, RS, Health Inspector

Andrew Groff, AICP, Planner

Samuel Vince, Inspector of Wires

John Haig, Inspector of Plumbing and Gas

Jaqueline Lemieux, Animal Inspector

The Department of Inspection Services partners three basic functions of town government, the Building Officials, Board of Health and Health Inspector, and Planning and Land Use. All three basic functions of the Department work together to forward the goal of protecting both the town's built and natural environment to ensure a safe, healthy, and thriving Williamstown. The State Building Code, Board of Health Regulations, The Wetlands and Rivers Protection Acts, as well as the Town's Zoning Bylaw, Sign Bylaw and Subdivision Regulations are all enforced by the Department and the various volunteer community boards that the Department works with in order to achieve this goal. Below are reports from the Department's Building Officials and Planner. Reports concerning the many different Boards and Commissions the Department works with are separate from this report.

BUILDING OFFICIALS

Michael J. Card, Inspector of Buildings

Ryan A. Contenta, Local Inspector

Samuel Vince, Inspector of Wires

John Haig, Inspector of Plumbing and Gas

In total, Williamstown issued 551 building permits in 2013. These range from small residential work such as replacement windows to new homes to major commercial construction projects. The Department continued to work closely throughout 2013 with Williams College and the Clark Art Institute on two of the largest projects in Williamstown's history, the Stetson Library renovation and addition and the Visitor Exhibition and Conference Center project at the Clark Art. These projects are constantly moving and require nearly daily visits from our department to ensure that the finished projects will be safe building code compliant buildings. We're looking forward to entering the final stages of both of these projects in 2014.

Other major commercial work that began in 2013 include two projects at Williams College. A major renovation to the Weston Field complex and a project to create a green sustainable office building out of the former Kellogg House at Williams. When complete the building will be a new home for the Zilkha Center for Environmental Initiatives. We also saw the completion of a major renovation to the 384 Main Street building to house a new Dollar General store.

Residential work also began to tick upwards 2013 as the community continues to recover from the recent economic downturn. Permits for four new single family homes were issued. Several large home renovation projects were also done in 2013. One of the more exciting trends for the year was the large increase in the amount of permits issued for the installation of residential solar photovoltaic systems. 55 permits were issued for such systems in 2013, more permits than all previous years combined. This trend was the result of the Town’s successful work with the Solarize Mass program. Work on completing installations of these systems is ongoing. We expect to continue issuing a large number of these photovoltaic system permits in 2014.

In addition to reviewing permit applications and plans and inspecting ongoing projects the Building Officials are responsible for performing annual reviews of certain public buildings throughout the community. 188 Buildings were inspected and received valid Certificates of Inspection in 2013. In a response to the loss of life at the Station Night Club in Rhode Island several years ago, the Building Code was changed to require annual inspections of buildings where alcoholic beverages are consumed to be performed jointly by the Inspector of Buildings and Fire Chief Pedercini. These inspections are done once a year and a valid inspection certificate is a requirement for an alcohol beverage license. This requirement helps to ensure your safety in the event of an emergency at any of the Williamstown’s liquor license holding establishments.

Your Williamstown Building Officials are dedicated individuals who strive to ensure that the built environment of Williamstown is a safe place to live, work, and enjoy. We wish you all a happy and safe 2014.

Williamstown Inspection Services Building and Trades Permits Issued 2013	
New Single Family Houses	4
Solar Photovoltaic	55
Total Building Permits	551
Wire Permits	371
Plumbing Permits	146
Gas Permits	130

PLANNING AND LAND USE

Planner, Andrew Groff, AICP

The Planning and Land Use arm of Inspection Services is responsible for the administration and enforcement for all of the land use regulations governing development in town. We're also the staff support for the Boards and Commissions that have permitting and regulatory responsibility for these same laws and regulations.

A significant part of our work involves providing support to all members of the community who are investigating the possibility of changing how their land is used. When someone is researching potential development, whether the proposal is a small home addition or a large commercial building, the planner is generally the first town official you will see when undertaking a project. It is our job to help citizens make sense of these laws and regulations and ensure the permitting process is simple, fair and equitable for all stakeholders of any size project.

In addition to assisting the public with navigating the maze of Massachusetts land use law our office is responsible for the staff support, including research, analysis, and GIS mapping capabilities to five of Williamstown's local boards and commissions. These capabilities also support many other initiatives ongoing in town including work on the Spruces Hazard Mitigation Grant project and work with the Public Works Department in planning for a future North Adams to Williamstown bike path. The Boards and Commissions that we work with, along with a brief description of each board are;

- **Conservation Commission**

The Conservation Commission is responsible for administration of the Massachusetts Wetlands and Rivers Protection Act (the "Wetlands Protection Act"), this legislation requires approval for activities that involve "digging, dredging, or altering" wetlands or areas near wetlands. The Commission also oversees the management of nine parcels of land owned by the Town which are dedicated to a variety of conservation and recreation goals. Meetings are held on second and fourth Thursdays of each month at 7:00 p.m. and are often preceded by site visits to assess field conditions for projects that are brought to the Commission through the Wetlands Act review process. The Planner attends all of the Commission's meetings to provide staff support and also acts as the Conservation Agent, handling enforcement and other day to day issues of the Commission.

- **Historical Commission**

The Historical Commission reviews projects for compliance with the Demolition Delay Bylaw. The Planner reviews and processes these applications. The Commission meets on Wednesdays, on an as needed basis.

- **Planning Board**

The Planning Board is an elected Board, responsible for overseeing the long term land use patterns of Williamstown through the Zoning Bylaw, Subdivision Rules, and Master Planning process. The Planner is responsible for the review of all of all plans and permit applications that come before the Board and ensures they are complete and

distributed to all interested parties. The Planner also provides significant time in staff support to the board. Working with individual members on research projects and possible zoning bylaw, and subdivision regulation amendments. The Planner is also responsible for the maintenance of the Board's official maps and frequently updates the Board on important legislation and other planning issues.

- **Sign Commission**

The Sign Inspector is responsible for reviewing all sign applications and may issue any sign which fully complies with the Sign Bylaw; any deviation from the bylaw requires Sign Commission approval. The Sign Inspector is also the enforcing authority under the bylaw. Fines may be assessed under the non-criminal disposition provisions of the Code of the Town of Williamstown. The Sign Commission meets the 4th Thursday of every month.

- **The Zoning Board of Appeals**

The Zoning Board (ZBA) hears and decides petitions arising from the application of the Williamstown's Zoning Bylaws. These petitions fall into four categories, Special Permits, Variances, Administrative Appeals, and Comprehensive Permits. The Planner is responsible for the review of all of the ZBA's permit applications and ensures they are complete and distributed to all interested parties. Ensuring completion can involve plan review meetings with project stakeholders and other town officials. The Board meets on the third Thursday of every month

These are all brief descriptions of each Board's responsibilities; please see each individual Board's report for a more in-depth description of all the business the Boards, Commissions and the our department have been working on for the past year.

SEALER OF WEIGHTS AND MEASURES

Jeffrey C. Kennedy

The Health Inspector, beginning in 2011, has assumed the position of Sealer of Weights and Measures, passing both the written and field test portions of certification. Additionally, there is a continuing education requirement for Certified Sealers. The Sealer attends meetings twice a year in Marlborough. The meetings are hosted by the Massachusetts Weights and Measures Association.

The duties of the Sealer include:

Enforcement of, and compliance with, Massachusetts General Law chapter 98, sections 34 through 56D pertaining to weighing and measuring devices, including, but not limited to:

- Balances and Scales
- Weights
- Capacity Measures
- Liquid Measuring Devices
- Fuel Pumps
- Linear Measuring Devices

Collection of fees for each inspection performed, to be turned in to the Department of Inspection Services for deposit with the Treasurer/Collector.

The accurate and timely submission of all reports required by state and local authorities.

Insuring all equipment is maintained and repaired, and that certification of weights and standards is accomplished when needed.

- In 2013, 52 gasoline and diesel pumps, 24 test weights and 31 scales were inspected and certified.

DOG OFFICER & ANIMAL INSPECTOR

Jacqueline Lemieux

Animal Inspections

The primary duty of the Animal Inspector has recently become rabies control in the domestic animal population. There are several angles which must be covered to accomplish this.

1. Domestic mammals which come in contact with, or are otherwise exposed to the rabies virus must first be assessed to determine severity of risk. Depending on the vaccination status of the domestic mammal involved, it will be either quarantined or destroyed. Be sure to send in the Notice of Exposure forms that are used for this type of quarantine at least once a month.
2. The Animal Inspector will be contacted by local veterinarians when a client presents an animal which may have had an encounter with a potentially rabid animal. Again, the severity of the situation must be assessed before determining the proper course of action.
3. Any domestic mammal which bites a human or another domestic mammal must be quarantined for a period of ten days to determine the risk of rabies transmission. Be sure to send in the duplicate copies of the Order of Quarantine form at least once a month. If you do not have any animal bites in a six-month period, please send in a letter to that effect.
4. The Animal Inspector must ensure that all animals (wild or domestic) which must be tested for rabies are captured and euthanized. The head must be removed, packaged properly and submitted to the State Rabies Lab for testing. (Any questions, call the Rabies Lab at (617) 983-6385 for copy of protocol.) This is not to say that the Animal Inspector must perform these tasks personally, but he/she must ensure that they are completed.

Municipal Animal Inspectors are also responsible for barn inspections. Depending on the city/town, this may be a light task or a lengthy one. Barn inspections are designed to:

1. Get a good census of the domestic animal population of the town
2. Be sure that all of the animals appear to be in good health and free from disease, and
3. Observe animal housing and ensure ample food and water are supplied.

Permission to inspect any premise upon which animals are kept is assured to Municipal Animal Inspectors under Section 7 of Chapter 129 of the MGL. Visits should be scheduled for normal business hours. If a conflict between the animal owner and the Inspector occurs, the Inspector may have a local police officer accompany him or her. If the problem persists, please call the Bureau of Animal Health (617) 626-1792, 1795, or 1791.

The third duty of the Animal Inspector is to check ear tag numbers and date of arrival of cattle from out of state and to report this information on the Animal Inspector's copy of the Cattle and Llama Permit which is furnished to the Animal Inspector by the Department of Food and Agriculture.

Municipal Animal Inspectors may also be called to assist with other domestic animal disease quarantines in the event of an outbreak.

- In 2013 there were 4 submissions for rabies testing. 0 were positive.
- In 2013 there were 11 quarantines for animal bites or scratches. 6 of these were 10 day quarantine, 3 were 45 day quarantine, and 2 were 6 month quarantine.
- In 2013 4 animals were euthanized for rabies testing
- In 2013 15 barns were inspected, containing a total of adults and young. 126 beef, 662 dairy, 8 goats, 2 Sheep, 96 swine, 15 Llamas/Alpacas, 107 horses, 314 chickens. 1 barn was referred to the MSPCA and the Massachusetts Department of Agricultural Resources for further inspection.

Dog Officer

Massachusetts General Law Chapter 140, sections 136A – 175 details the duties and responsibilities of Dog Officers. The Dog Officer is also responsible for the enforcement of the provisions of the Code of the Town of Williamstown, Chapter 10, Animals.

Primarily, the Dog Officer responds to complaints of vicious and nuisance dogs, and seeks enforcement for any violations of the above named ordinances. The Dog officer can order the restraint and confinement of any dog found to be a nuisance or a danger, and can refer the matter to the Board of Selectmen for disposition in cases that require removal or destruction of a nuisance or vicious dogs.

- In 2013 the Dog Officer responded to 89 dog complaints, 5 cat complaints, 17 wildlife complaints, 5 farm animal complaints.

The Dog Officer is also responsible for the Town Dog Shelter.

- Making sure there is enough food and supplies on hand. Donations of dog food were made this year.
- The new MGL has dropped the holding period from 10 days to 7 days of October 2012. No dogs were held for the 7 day required time period.
- Feeding, cleaning, walking dogs' daily and veterinary care if needed.
- 13 dogs were held at the shelter for various hours or overnight. 0 dogs were taken to the Berkshire Humane Society.

MOUNT GREYLOCK REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

Rose P. Ellis, Superintendent

Mary MacDonald Principal

ANNUAL REPORT 2013

School Year 2012-2013

STUDENT ENROLLMENT 565 FACULTY AND STAFF 96.5*

School-year 2012-2013 marked the third full year of the Williamstown-Lanesborough Public Schools functioning as a Tri-District, including Mount Greylock, Williamstown Elementary and Lanesborough Elementary School. Our track record of excellence, commitment, and demonstrated results continues. Highlights include:

- ✓ **TURN AROUND:** MG previously labeled “needs improvement” and “in corrective action” for four years. Now ranked **LEVEL ONE** by State Department of Education (DESE) .
- ✓ **ACHIEVEMENT:** Improved MCAS performance in mathematics/science. Increased number of students taking AP exams with 90% of 2013 graduates attending institutes of higher education.
- ✓ **WILLIAMS COLLEGE:** Received a very generous donor grant to support 21st Century teaching/learning and to upgrade technology (\$285,000) over two years. Significant school wide impact. In June, the same donor’s family offered another donation of \$450,000 for years three and four. Williamstown community members also donated to this fund now called the Williams Community Fund for Mount Greylock (WCF/MG)
- ✓ **PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT:** Increased training/development opportunities for all teachers.
- ✓ **SCHOOL-WIDE ASSESSMENT:** Continued to work with International Center for Leadership in Education (ICLE). Conducted school wide needs assessment of educational programming and staffing with focus on science instruction and labs.
- ✓ **PROGRAMMING:** New course offerings with electives designed by faculty, based upon student interest and innovative 21st Century teaching
- ✓ **TECHNOLOGY:** Upgraded digital equipment and software. Added wireless to entire building. Added new position of Digital Media & Learning Specialist.
- ✓ **“THE GREYLOCK WAY”:** Staff and students continued to work to reset culture at MG and expand goal of relationship building throughout the school.
- ✓ **MAINTENANCE:** Ongoing efforts to improve/maintain cleanliness, safety, and physical appearance of building.
- ✓ **BUILDING PROJECT:** Championed multi-year effort to present a compelling case to MSBA for a building project.

*Includes Tri-District Staff

And Across the Three Schools -

- ✓ GRANT FUNDING: Obtained \$50K competitive State grant to study PK-12 REGIONALIZATION.

Our schools are part of a national trend seeing declining enrollments and challenged school budgets requiring small districts to accomplish more with less. Therefore, the benefits to regionalization can be significant by creating a single, unified PK-12 District with one cohesive vision for our children's education. Combining three small districts into one strengthens the whole, while improving the vertical and horizontal alignment of all grades with an enhanced sense of "the whole child." Students progressing from PK-12 would share similar academic experiences in content and skill development resulting in a more equitable preparation for secondary school. Staff would experience better vertical communication from primary through high school that would allow for superior spiraling of learning while promoting greater achievement. Professional development and collaboration for teachers would be expanded, as would academic opportunities and extra-curricular options for students at all levels. Economies of scale would become commonplace in a larger regional district, resulting in greater cost savings. Daily operations would be streamlined and become more efficient as a new, expanded regional district would function with one representative PK-12 School Committee, one annual budget, and combined collective bargaining agreements.

NEW PRINCIPAL HIRED

At the end of the school year, Mary MacDonald was appointed Principal of Mount Greylock, effective July 2013. Mrs. MacDonald has been a public school educator for almost two decades. She taught middle school English in New York City before relocating to the Berkshires where she taught at Mount Greylock and Lenox Memorial Middle and High School. While at Lenox, she chaired the English Department. She returned to Mount Greylock in summer 2012, in the role of Tri-District *Coordinator of Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment* to work with the teachers and principals of Lanesborough and Williamstown elementary schools as well as Mount Greylock. MacDonald is a MA Certified Principal and holds a B.A. in English and Political Science from Boston College and an M.A. in English Education from Columbia University, Teachers College.

One of Mrs. MacDonald's first priorities as Principal was to hire and appoint a new Assistant Principal for the upcoming school year. The search for an Assistant Principal resulted in the hiring of Jacob Schutz. Mr. Schutz had most recently been working as an Administrator at Adams-Cheshire schools.

MOUNT GREYLOCK REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT ENROLLMENT and STAFFING

STUDENT ENROLLMENT

YEAR	TOTALS	7	8	9	10	11	12	SP
12-13	565	91	87	92	92	117	82	4
11-12	585	90	91	88	116	89	107	4
10-11	602	90	105	120	94	106	80	7

EDUCATIONAL AND SUPPORT STAFFING (Full-Time Equivalents)

Faculty	50.3
Specialists (Nurse and Technology)	3.6
Special Education Teachers and Professional Support Staff	5.13
Paraprofessionals	16.05
Custodians/Cafeteria	9.1
TOTAL	84.2

STUDENT ACADEMIC SUCCESS 2012-2013

Mount Greylock students continue to receive recognition for high academic achievements.

Massachusetts Comprehensive Assessment System (MCAS): Mount Greylock Level 1 School:

In the spring of 2013 the students at Mount Greylock were administered the MCAS and maintained the success seen in previous years in most categories. Most notable was the closing of gaps in performance between students in high needs categories and the aggregate; this accomplishment, along with the composite scores in all tested subjects resulted in the LEVEL ONE status. Composite scores across grades 7, 8, and 10 for the English/Language Arts exam indicate that 92% of our students performed at the advanced or proficient levels; this figure includes a 5% shift towards advanced

from proficient. Students from the same grades performed well on the mathematics test with a composite score of 77% of all students performing at advanced or proficient, which was up 3 percentage points from the previous year. Students in grades 8 and 9 who were administered the Science and Engineering/Technology tests saw a decline from 60% in 2012 to 51% in 2013.

Scholastic Aptitude Test: A high percentage (88%) of the senior class took the SAT, achieving a three-test average of 1595. This average compares favorably to the state average of 1553 and national average of 1498. The tests include Critical Reading, Mathematics, and Writing.

Scholarship: In 2012-2013, Mount Greylock had one National Advanced Placement (AP) Scholar, 10 AP Scholars with Distinction, 10 AP Scholars with Honor, and 13 AP Scholars. Two students, Jonah Majumder and Nathan Majumder, earned honors as National Merit Commended students.

Four-Year Graduation Rates: In the annual Massachusetts report on the percentage of students graduating with four years of attendance from 2009-2013, Mount Greylock had a very high rate of 93%. In June, 81 students of the Class of 2013 received their diplomas. Ninety-four percent of the graduates planned to continue their education by enrolling in college. The 2013 class headed to 42 different colleges and universities, including: *Wesleyan University, Williams College, Tufts University, Yale University, Smith College, Bates College, George Washington University, Middlebury College, College of Wooster, Lewis & Clark College, Western New England College, University of Massachusetts-Amherst, Massachusetts College of Liberal Arts, and Berkshire Community College.*

OUTREACH

The Peer Team and Amnesty International collaborated with the coordination of Lisa Jennings and the expertise of Larry Bell to provide 31 science labs for a girls high school in Afghanistan. Using funds provided from the Peter Goodrich Foundation, they researched and ordered thirteen boxes of lab supplies and equipment valued at almost \$9,000 to support the labs.

Students Organizing Change, a middle school student action group, ran dances to raise funds for Lavallette School, a K-8 school in New Jersey that lost everything to Hurricane Sandy.

The Great Day of Service found Mount Greylock high school students working beside Williams College students to clean out debris from the surrounding woods, weeding gardens, spreading mulch and hauling trash. Kaatje White organized this effort with the support of Jessica Casalinova and Jesse Wirtes.

Kat Chenail and Emily Kaegi orchestrated a *Toy Drive* at Williamstown Elementary School to benefit children in the family court system. Over 900 stuffed animals were collected.

THRIVING PERFORMING ARTS

As is typical at Mount Greylock Regional School, the Performing Arts calendar showcased a variety of events. After a collaboration in the “Get Acquainted” concert, the middle and high school students each performed winter and spring band, orchestra, and choral performances under the guidance of our Music Department Faculty of Lyndon Moors, Band Director, Ouisa Fohrhaltz, Orchestra Director, and Kate Caton, Choral Director. Members of the orchestra and band as well as the chorus also provided support at various school functions, including graduation.

In the spring, another collaboration between Kate Caton, Ouisa Fohrhaltz, visual arts teacher, Jane-Ellen DeSomma, and environmental science teacher, Rebecca Green, and Ted Vigil, a John Denver tribute artist, produced a multi-media presentation on local and national environmental issues. The concert, replete with John Denver classics, was supported by a grant from the *Williams Community Fund for Mount Greylock*. Preparation for the concert included open rehearsals for community members and master classes provided by Mr. Vigil.

Mount Greylock student musicians competed for places in the Regional and State Music Festivals. Schuyler Fohrhaltz-Burbank, Taylor Fohrhaltz-Burbank, Eric Hirsch and Nathan Majumder participated in the Western Mass Senior District Music Festival in January. Students participating in March’s Junior District Music Festival included Dagny Albano, Jenna Benzinger, Cameron Castonguay, Serena Chow, Niku Darafshi, Mercer Greenwald, Clara Kittner, Aaron Kleiner and Matthew Kleiner. Schuyler Fohrhaltz-Burbank and Taylor Fohrhaltz-Burbank were selected to perform at the All-State Music Festival in Boston’s Symphony Hall. In addition to competitions, our students provided instrumental and choral support for student theater productions, school community meetings and graduation. In May, our saxophone players attended an in-house clinic delivered by faculty from Westfield State University.

In November 2012, a cast and crew of over 60 middle and high school students produced *A Midsummer Night’s Dream* in the annual Fall Shakespeare Festival. Following on-campus performances, the Mount Greylock cast joined students from ten other local high schools to stage the annual multi-school marathon of Shakespearean productions at the Founders Theater in Lenox.

The high school musical, directed by Jeff Welch in early March, was *Oklahoma*. Pit band director, Lyndon Moors, and assistant director, Kate Caton, supported the production that included close to 40 students in cast and crew. The Spring Drama, *Twelve Angry Jurors*, directed by Mount Greylock alumnus, Patrick Madden, received great acclaim.

The Friends of the Arts, a parent organization, once again held their annual Food of Love Festival at the Williams Inn. Attending to the theme, *Love Interrupted*, students from Mount Greylock performed select Shakespearean scenes and read sonnets, while guests enjoyed a sumptuous buffet of chocolate desserts. Funds raised at this event help support the Fall Shakespeare Festival and art student trips to MassMOCA.

VISUAL ARTS EXHIBIT

The Norman Rockwell Museum hosted the annual *Berkshire High School Art Show*, and honored ten student artists by displaying their work; two student photographers' pieces were also part of the exhibit. Under the guidance of art teacher Jane Ellen DeSomma, thirty students displayed artwork at a juried student exhibit hosted by MASS MoCA. This exhibit, the *MASS MoCA High School Art Invitational*, which includes cash prizes, awarded the grand prize to Alex Delano, allowing her to take a credited art course at MCLA during her senior year. Other award winners included:

Gold – Anya Sheldon

Silver – Emily Kaegi and Alexandra DeVeaux

Honorable Mention – Lucius Park

In photography, the following students received awards:

Gold – Ian Culnane, Kristina Fisk and Cheyanne Alcombright

Silver – Julia Whitney

Photography students also had the chance to display their work at the Berkshire Museum Camera Club Open Show. In the Youth Division, seven photographers placed:

First – Ian Culnane

Second – Rosemarie Mele

Third – Libby Manning

Honorable Mention – Dan Finnegan, Greta Savitsky, Grace Smith and Hope Willis

With financial support from the *Williams Community Fund for Mount Greylock*, Jane-ellen DeSomma and alumnus Aaron Andrews guided and assisted student painters Elizabeth Bernardi, Sophie Gerry, Anya Sheldon, Alex Delano, Rosemarie Mele and Ellie Williams in completing a vibrant mural in the Bruce Carlson Library. The mural depicts various cultures' perspectives on knowledge and writing.

Mount Greylock's stained glass program continues to be a distinct point of pride for the school. In addition to working on individual projects, students collaborate on windows to be installed in the school and explore other forms of glasswork including fusing and mosaic construction.

The Half Dozen or So Gallery at Mount Greylock hosted two professional artists with connections to Williams College. Mike Glier, a professor of painting, exhibited a small body of his portrait work accompanied by writings by the subjects of his portraits. Painter and video artist, Julia Morgan-Leamon, welcomed summer with an exhibition of impressionistic swimming and diving scenes done in oils and watercolors.

THE WILLIAMS CENTER AT MOUNT GREYLOCK

The partnership between the Williams College Center (WC) at Mount Greylock and the school continues to thrive. It supports myriad programs and initiatives, which develop and grow each year. Mount Greylock's relationship with the Williams Center impacts programs in writing, research, math, hands-on science, the arts, and after-school homework help. Notable among these initiatives are collaborative efforts by

college students and high school English teachers to support student writing in many English classes and through online assistance.

In December of 2012, the Williams' math faculty again hosted a creative and innovative opportunity for Mount Greylock 10th graders. MathBlast, in its second year, is a series of real-life math workshops taught by Williams faculty; it is organized to excite students about the world of math. In addition, the Williams Center continued its support of the high school biology research project by arranging an orientation at *Schow Science Library* and by offering interested Mount Greylock students the opportunity to work with a professor in a college lab as part of that project. For the 3rd year in a row, The Center for Environmental Studies provided a Williams intern for the summer to support the gardening initiatives of the Mount Greylock Youth Environmental Squad (YES). Mount Greylock's school garden produced food for the cafeteria during both the fall and spring seasons. Williams faculty and staff offered their expertise as guest speakers for a variety of classes; they held discussions in English classes and supported onsite research on Pontoosac Lake. Throughout the year, more than 50 college students worked with middle school and high school students in after-school tutoring sessions, both at the school and on campus at Williams. Mount Greylock greatly values its higher education partner—Williams College.

STUDENT ATHLETE VICTORIES

Mount Greylock student athletes continue to excel both athletically and academically while representing their school well throughout Berkshire County. Of the 22 Varsity Programs hosted by the school, 21 earned ***MIAA Academic Excellence Honors*** during the 2012-2013 athletic seasons. Gold Honors were given to the 18 teams with an overall team GPA above 3.0, while Silver Honors were awarded to the 3 teams with a team GPA of 2.5-3.0. There were 381 students at Mount Greylock that participated on a school athletic team this year, accounting for 67% of the total enrollment. Ten Mount Greylock athletes were honored by WNAW as being the MVP of their respective sport: *Eric Leitch* (baseball), *Emily Kaegi* (cross country), *Ethan Ryan* (football), *Andrew Leitch* (hockey), *Brett McCormack* (lacrosse), *Nathan Majumder* (soccer), *Emma Whitney* (swimming), *Rohan Shastri* (tennis), *Mitch Graves* (wrestling), and William Kirby (nordic skiing). *Eric Leitch* was also selected as the ***Overall Berkshire County Athlete of the Year***. Multiple students were invited to attend various MIAA events and ceremonies. *Nicholas DiSantis*, *Thomas Guettler*, *Rachel Clement* and *Heather Tomkowicz* were selected to attend the ***MIAA Sportsmanship Summit*** at Gillette Stadium. *Alexa Adams*, *Chloe Anderson*, *Margot Besnard*, *Katherine Chenail*, and *Emily Greb* were honored at the ***National Girls and Women in Sports Day*** convention at Faneuil Hall. *Miranda Voller* and *Matthew Hogan* were selected by the MIAA to attend the ***New England Student Leadership Conference*** at Stonehill College. They will join other students from the county who attended the conference to present a session on Sportsmanship and School Spirit to their younger peers at the second annual ***Berkshire County Leadership Summit*** on December 10th, 2013. Attendees in the school year 2012-2013 include *Lucy Barrett*,

Ian Brink, Erin Dodig, Laura Galib, Archer Greenhalgh, Matthew Hogan, Emily Kaegi, Kelsey Orpin, Carter Stripp, and Miranda Voller.

Fall 2012: Five of the seven fall athletic teams qualified for the **MIAA Tournament**. The Mount Greylock **Football Team** won their third consecutive **Berkshire County Title and Western Mass Superbowl Championship** extending their record to 31 straight wins. Both **Cross Country Teams** won **Western Mass Championship Titles** qualifying to compete in the **State Championship Meet** in which the girls placed 7th and the boys placed 14th. The Boys Team became the most decorated team in Western Mass, winning their 15th Western Mass Title. Both the **Boys' and Girls' Soccer** performed well and became **Western Mass Semifinalists**.

Winter 2012-2013: The **Nordic Ski Teams** continued their success as the boys' team won their 3rd straight **Massachusetts State Title**, and the girls placed 2nd. At the State Meet *Will Kirby(4), Alex White(7), Katherine Chenail(7), Sean Houston(10), Matt Wiseman(13), and Jake Foehl(15)* all placed in the top 15. The **Alpine Ski Teams** sent *Ryan Kuhn* and *Nick DiSantis* to the State Championship race and *Abby Wiseman* was an alternate. The boys' team placed 2nd in Berkshire County, while the girls' team placed 5th. The **Wrestling Team** placed third in the **Western Mass Team Championship**. *Ross Jackson (2), Travis Hilchey (3), Caymen Mead (3), Mitch Graves (3), Devon Pelletier (4), CJ Lillie (4), David O'Brien (4), and Johnny Colon (4)* placed in the top 4 in their weight class qualifying them for the State Meet. *Jude Rorke* was the only Mountie to win his division. Both *Ross Jackson* and *Mitch Graves* placed 3rd at the State Meet, while *Travis Hilchey* placed 4th. The **Hockey Team** finished the second as the **Western Mass Semi-Finalists**. *Andrew Leitch* received the Don Troy Sr. Memorial Sportsmanship Award, selected by the game officials. The **Swim Team** finished second in Berkshire County. *Emma Whitney, Julia Whitney, and Elizabeth Bernardy* received All-Berkshire Awards for their performance in the **Western Mass Championship Meet**. All three swimmers qualified for the **Massachusetts State Meet**. The **Boys' Basketball Team** were **Western Mass Quarter-Finalists**, and won the **Southern Division Title**.

Spring 2013: All eight spring athletic teams qualified for **MIAA Tournaments**. Both the **Boys' and Girls' Lacrosse Teams** did this in their second season as Varsity Programs at Mount Greylock and the boys team was a **Western Mass Semi-Finalist**. The **Girls' Track Team** placed 7th in the **Central/Western Mass Championship Meet**. *Alex Majetich* was the **Central/Western Mass Champion** in the 100m hurdles and placed 2nd in the triple jump. *Emily Kaegi* placed 4th in the mile. They both qualified for the **Massachusetts State Meet**, where *Alex* placed 3rd in the 100m and 4th in the triple jump and *Emily* placed 13th in the mile. The **Girls' Tennis Team** made the **Western Mass Semi-finals**, while the **Boys' Baseball Team** were **Western Mass Finalists**. The **Boys' Tennis Team** captured the **Western Mass Championship** title.

SUPPORTIVE PARENTS AND A DYNAMIC COMMUNITY

Parents and community volunteers continue to support the many activities and programs offered at Mount Greylock. There was a successful and well-organized "After Prom 2013" event held for the graduating class and their guests. The industrious athletic booster clubs and extra-curricular organizations, including Friends of the Arts and the PTO, provided year-round support through many on-site fundraisers. Parent, staff, and community members of the *SEE Fund Board* sponsored a second successful fundraising telethon in collaboration with Willinet. The funds raised are used to enhance a variety of Mount Greylock programs and initiatives; many of them initiated by teachers and community members, who may apply for this financial assistance through educational endowment grants to enrich innovative, school-based ideas. Community organizations and business partners opened their doors to allow Mount Greylock students to job shadow and complete internships and school-to-work programs. Williams College, Massachusetts College of Liberal Arts and Berkshire Community College provided opportunities for Mount Greylock students to enroll in credit-bearing courses. MCLA offered cross-registration at no cost for students who took Honors Statistics with Luke Polidoro at Mount Greylock. Polidoro, who also teaches at MCLA, worked with Monica Joslin, Dean of Academic Affairs, to make this credit-bearing opportunity become possible.

Community members are invited to stay apprised of Mount Greylock events and accomplishments by visiting the expanding Mount Greylock website at www.mgrhs.org and the tri-district website, www.wlschools.org.

NORTHERN BERKSHIRE CULTURAL COUNCIL

Judy Ensign and Jane Hudson, Williamstown Representatives

After meetings in the Fall of 2013 to select applications for review, the Northern Berkshire Cultural Council met in December to award grants for 2014. From a total of 87 applications from individuals, schools and organizations to fund projects in the 11 communities served by the NBCC, applications were funded from a total budget of approximately \$61,000, and \$16,363 (roughly 32%) was awarded to Williamstown proposals.

The recipients are:

Berkshire Lyric Theater, Concerts and Education at St. John's Church

Steve Damon, Music for Seniors

Stephen Dankner, Classical Music for Seniors

Healing Winds, Rock, Rattle and Drum, Native American events

Images Cinema, Movie Nights at the Museum

Bernice Lewis, 4th Annual Ukulele Fest.

Mount Greylock, Fall Festival

Northern Berkshire Chorale at Chapin Hall

Pine Cobble School, Castlebay Celtic

Shakespeare & Co., Shakespeare in the Courts

South Williamstown, A Guide to Southlawn

The New Opera, concert at Chapin Hall
Shira Wohlberg will perform the Crossing Guard Parade at Summer Sundays
Greylock Elementary, trip to the New England Aquarium

Two other programs are open to participants from Williamstown:

Barrington Stage Playwright mentoring
Shakespeare & Co., Shakespeare in the Courts

NORTHERN BERKSHIRE SOLID WASTE DISTRICT

Timothy Kaiser, Commissioner

In 2013, the 1217 Williamstown households using the Transfer Station recycled 206 tons of paper, 90 tons of co-mingled containers and 78 tons of scrap metal were recycled. The scrap metal included some material from DPW operations. Nine tons of electronics (e-waste) was recycled through East Coast Electronics Recycling. A total of 367 tons of trash was compacted and 91 tons of bulky waste was sent for disposal.

Burnt-out fluorescent bulbs can be brought to the Transfer Station. These contain mercury and NBSWMD contracts with NLR, Inc. who is able to recycle them safely.

In 2013 we issued an invitation to bid for the transportation of recyclables, ie. paper, plastic and glass. The bid was awarded to TAM, Inc. of Shaftsbury, VT and resulted in a decrease of costs to the Town of Williamstown.

The Transfer Station was inspected by Sandy Totter, NBSWMD Program Coordinator, to fulfill Department of Environmental Protection regulations requiring an annual inspection. Please note new fire extinguishers and locator signs. The station was found to be in excellent operating condition.

Earth Machine Composters are available for \$45. Contact the District Office at 743-8208 to have one delivered to your home.

Disposal and recycling answers can be found on our website www.nbswmd.com or by calling the Solid Waste District Office at 413-743-8208.

NORTHERN BERKSHIRE VOCATIONAL REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

James Brosnan, Superintendent

The Northern Berkshire Vocational Regional School District, McCann Technical School, students, faculty and staff continued their record of noteworthy accomplishments in fiscal year 2013 and this report highlights some of these accomplishments.

As the national and regional economic recession continued to affect the Commonwealth, McCann officials reduced expenditures while protecting our hallmark high quality vocational-technical and academic programs for our students. Our unanimously approved FY13 budget contained a modest .02 % increase.

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:

Communication strengthens partnership development and teamwork.

Achievement is attained through a strong work ethic.

Respect from all guarantees a safe learning environment.

Ethics ensure a dedication to honesty and integrity.

During the last seventeen years we have witnessed a dramatic transformation in vocational technical education especially in our application of technology and STEM subjects. We are very proud of the academic and technical achievement of our students and as each succeeding class raises the bar of accomplishment, the next class seeks to surpass it. The integration of our technical and academic curriculum has prepared our graduates well for their future and we appreciate you, our member communities, for your support in making it happen.

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

- Two of our automotive technology students finished in the top 5 in the Massachusetts Automotive Dealers Competition.
- The Class of 2013 became the tenth class in a row to attain 100 percent competency determination on the MCAS tests.
- Twenty-nine of the Class of 2014 earned the prestigious John and Abigail Adams Scholarship awarded through the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education for their academic record and MCAS achievement..
- The results of the spring 2013 MCAS test once again echoed the continuous progress of our students through their dedication and that of our terrific faculty. Once again McCann posted solid scores highlighted below.

GRADE 10 - ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS					
PERFORMANCE LEVEL	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
ADVANCED	17%	11%	14%	21%	15%
PROFICIENT	56%	61%	73%	67%	76%
NEEDS IMPROVEMENT	25%	25%	13%	11%	8%
FAILING	3%	2%	1%	0%	1%

GRADE 10 - MATHEMATICS					
PERFORMANCE LEVEL	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
ADVANCED	35%	30%	41%	33%	35%
PROFICIENT	39%	35%	37%	42%	39%
NEEDS IMPROVEMENT	22%	32%	20%	23%	17%
FAILING	5%	3%	3%	3%	9%

GRADE 10 - SCIENCE AND TECH/ENG					
PERFORMANCE LEVEL	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
ADVANCED	9%	9%	11%	9%	13%
PROFICIENT	55%	51%	64%	54%	53%
NEEDS IMPROVEMENT	30%	28%	22%	30%	24%
FAILING	6%	12%	3%	7%	9%

McCann competes in the Pioneer Valley Interscholastic Athletic Association which we joined 16 years ago. In 2012- 2013 our sports teams continued to represent their school in a manner that makes us proud of their sportsmanship and effort. The 2012 boys and girls soccer teams qualified for the state soccer tournaments. The percentage of students participating continues to rise with record high participation in soccer, golf, x-country and football.

Our 96 2013 graduates saw 64% continue their education in a variety of colleges and universities, 34% enter the workforce and 2% proudly enter into military service.

The Council on Occupational Education conducted an accreditation visit in March and we received overwhelming accolades from the team resulting in continued candidacy accreditation.

The integration of educational technology into our programs continues to be a priority. Over the past year we received a donation of CimatronE software to be used in our manufacturing programs. The software is the current industry standard and valued at just under 1 million dollars. Our business technology program is training students using Office14, the newest Microsoft program. We have also upgraded our internal network to be able to handle the greater bandwidth anticipated being delivered to the school through the Massachusetts Broadband Initiative.

Community service projects continue to provide us with an excellent opportunity to allow our students to exhibit their skills and support community activities. The installation of a handicap ramp at the Lanesborough town hall involved CAD, carpentry, metal fabrication and electrical students. Our culinary students were very busy supporting a number of community groups including Relay for Life, families in need, and military family groups to name a few.

For the past 12 years our students have participated in SkillsUSA a national organization with more than 300,000 members. It is a partnership of students, teachers and industry representatives working together to ensure America has a skilled work force. McCann is 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. Our secondary and postsecondary students have earned 20 gold medals at the national competitions. At the 2013 SkillsUSA state competition McCann high school students earned gold medals in technical computer applications and postsecondary students in dental assisting and medical assisting. Silver medals were awarded to postsecondary students in job interview and bronze medals to high school students in automated manufacturing technology, diesel equipment technology, and internetworking,

Business Professionals of America, BPA, is the leading CTSO (Career and Technical Student Organization) for students pursuing careers in business management, office administration, information technology and other related career fields. The Workplace Skills Assessment Program (WSAP) prepares students to succeed and assesses real-world business skills and problem solving abilities in finance, management, IT and computer applications. Students from our business and information technology departments have been participating in BPA since 2005. During this time, our students have earned numerous awards at state competitions and have qualified for the National Leadership Conference every year. Current award counts from State Leadership Conferences consist of 46 awards in administrative events, 18 in finance events, 25 in information technology events, and 24 in human

resources/marketing/management. National level awards consist of 16 in administrative events, 10 in information technology events, 3 in human resources/marketing/management events, and 2 in finance events.

Project Lead the Way is the leading provider of rigorous and innovative Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) education curricular programs for middle and high schools across the U.S. Students enrolled in the program take as many as 4 four courses above and beyond their graduation requirements. Since its inception over 60% of participating students –over one hundred - have become eligible for between 4 and 12 transcript college credit 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 grade 9 engineering class alone, 92% of the students achieved this eligibility. Through a Williams College Olmsted Grant, three teachers completed graduate-level intensive training at Worcester Polytechnic Institute and Rochester Institute of Technology last summer, bringing the total number of PLTW program-certified engineering instructors to eight.

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. In FY13 we continued to operate, as we have for the past 18 years, with the municipal minimum recommended assessments for all of our member communities. Additional requirements were assessed for student transportation and the capital rehabilitation debt service for the gymnasium project. At the end of the fiscal year we returned \$37,304.00 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.

We upgraded our kitchen electrical service and installed a new cafeteria serving line. Added 3 new CNC milling machines and new welding equipment.

FY13 Budgeted Revenues	Original	Actual
City & Town Assessments		
Municipal Minimum	\$2,057,940.00	\$2,057,940.00
Capital	\$117,188.00	\$117,188.00
Transportation	\$195,000.00	\$195,000.00
Ch. 71 Transportation	\$175,000.00	\$213,284.00
Ch. 70 General School Aid	\$4,211,358.00	\$4,206,358.00
Tuitions	\$1,340,191.00	\$1,351,751.00

Miscellaneous Revenue	\$18,172.00	\$11,716.00
Total Revenue Received	\$8,114,849.00	\$8,153,237.00
Additional Transportation Charges		(\$980.00)
Member City & Town Transportation Refunds		(\$37,304.00)
Misc. Revenue Balance to Surplus E & D		(\$104.00)
A/P Assessment Payable (Received in July)		\$0.00
	\$8,114,849.00	\$8,114,849.00

Source Grant Amount

(Federal Entitlement)

Fed	Sped 240	\$113,443.00
Fed	Title I	\$154,602.00
Fed	Title II A	\$20,060.00
Fed	Perkins	\$73,833.00
Fed	SPED Improvement	\$3,466.00
Fed	Postsecondary Perkins	\$4,236.00

(Federal Grants Other)

REAP	\$39,378.00
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(State Grants)

Big Yellow School Bus	\$200.00
STEM at Scale	\$19,700.00
Community Innovative Challenge	\$2,399.00
MA Cultural Council	\$1,855.00

(Competitive/Private)

Private	Olmsted	\$4,300.00
Private	BHG Wellness	\$2,000.00
Private	BCREB: Connecting Activities	\$2,000.00
Private	City of Chicopee Nurse Grant	\$4,618.00
Private	Target – Taking Care of Education	\$85.00
Private	Hannaford Supermarkets	\$15.00
Private	Ohiopyleprints	\$125.00

TOTAL GRANTS \$446,315.00

PLANNING BOARD

Chris Winters, Chair

The Planning Board is an elected Board, responsible for overseeing the long term land use patterns of Williamstown through the Zoning Bylaw, Subdivision Rules, and Master Planning process. Comprised of five members the Board is chaired by Chris Winters, with additional members; Patrick Dunlavey, Ann McCallum, Elizabeth McGowan, and Carol Stein - Payne.

In 2013 the Board remained busy reviewing the Action Plan and other items from the 2002 Master Plan. The focus of the Board's efforts was to ensure that worthwhile initiatives identified in the Master Plan were completed. The Board's update on the status of actionable items identified in the Master Plan and its associated Action Plan was wrapped up in late 2013. This work showed that much progress has been made in the last decade but there are many identified issues left unresolved. The Board hopes to work in 2014 with other Town committees on some of these issues.

The Board also continued throughout 2013 its efforts to ensure Williamstown's zoning laws are working to create the kind of community Williamstown residents want to live in. The Board has spent considerable time revisiting longstanding issues involving the Tourist Business Zoning District. A major bylaw revision was carried out in 2013 to finally remove this problematic "spot zone" from our regulations. In its place a mixed use Southern Gateway District was created along Cold Spring Road to allow property owners maximum flexibility in pursuing both housing and business use as options. Strict lot sizing and frontage regulations were also retained in this area to preserve the present scenic nature of the Route 7 entrance to Williamstown. The northern section of the former Tourist Business district was also changed to Limited Business, allowing existing businesses in the area additional flexibility.

Additionally the Board has pursued other bylaw amendments aimed at making the bylaw easier to use and more consistent with existing land use patterns. These included expanding the areas of town where Bed and Breakfasts can be permitted, and rezoning some parcels that formerly contained non-conforming buildings.

The Board is looking forward to continuing its work and embarking on new ventures in 2014. One current proposal the Board is investigating is a modernization of the Town's Subdivision Rules and Regulations which have not been updated in nearly 20 years. The Planning Board will be meeting the second Tuesday of each month at 7 PM to discuss these and other important issues. We encourage the public to attend and discuss the present and future land use patterns of Williamstown, and how we grow, protect, and manage the fabric of our community

POLICE DEPARTMENT

Chief Kyle J. Johnson

The Police Chief oversees the Police Department, Communications Section and the Forest Warden Department. These three departments are made up of a group of hard-working, dedicated professionals. Williamstown is very fortunate to have these people, and I would like to start this report by personally thanking these men and women for their continued hard work, dedication and professionalism that they display each and every day, and a thank you to the Community as well for the continued support of these departments.

Administration / Personnel

Dispatcher Gary Thompson retired in April 2013. He started as a part time Dispatcher in 1972, and with the exception of two years somewhere in the middle where he was committed elsewhere, Gary served in both a part and full time capacity, retiring as the senior Dispatcher after 39 years of service to the Town.

Scott Sherman, who joined the Department in 2012 as a part time Dispatcher in the Communications Section replaced Gary in a full time role, and he has also become certified as a Special Police Officer. Part time Dispatcher Colin Shepley became full time after the resignation of Joseph Ross, who left the department to pursue other opportunities. Colin has also become certified as a Special Police Officer.

Trainings

Training is a very important element for effective policing. Laws are constantly being created or updated, and technology is rapidly advancing in the world of law enforcement. There is a delicate balance between staying current, and sometimes even ahead of these changes, while working within the strict confines of a budget. The department recognizes the importance of training, and every year all officers receive In-Service training through classroom sessions conducted by the Pittsfield Police Department, or online through various agencies such as the Municipal Police Training Committee, Massachusetts State Police or the Municipal Police Institute.

2013 included: Legal Updates, Use of Force and Defensive Tactics, CPR, First Responder, AED, and Dealing with Autistic Persons.

We also conduct training within the Department with our own staff functioning as instructors. These include handgun, long gun (Sgt. David Lemieux and Officer Kyle Jolin) and electronic weapons qualifications (Sgt. Lemieux). In addition to the in-service trainings and certifications, the following are some of the specialized training that was able to be attended:

FEBRUARY:

Sgt. McGowan attended four days of “Investigative Techniques” training in Taunton. This is an annual training clinic conducted by Commonwealth Police Services. This

training includes topics such as changes in the law, searches, warrants, gathering and providing discovery, and case preparation for court.

All employees attended “Dispatch Customer Service” sponsored by this Department and hosted at the Williams Inn as required for all Public Safety Answering Points (PSAP) Emergency Medical Dispatching (EMD) certified Dispatchers. This completed the first eight (8) of the sixteen (16) required annual hours. Commonwealth Police Services conducted the training, and many other Berkshire County agencies participated. The training costs, both overtime and tuition, were reimbursed by a State 911 training grant.

MARCH:

On Saturday, March 3, the Western Ma Regional Homeland Security Advisory Council sponsored “Look, Listen & Feel” training at the Williams Inn comprised of the following topics: Chemical Suicides - H2S, Cyanide and Helium, Concealed Weapons and Scene Safety, Reading the Patient / Subject, and On Scene Etiquette: What to Say, What NOT to Say, and How to Say it. The training was free and a grant covered the overtime cost for those attending. Officers in attendance were Chief Johnson, Sergeants Thompson and Lemieux, and Officers McConnell, William and Ziemba.

On March 18, Sergeants Thompson and Lemieux attended an emergency preparedness tabletop exercise at Williams College regarding major incident type calls on the campus.

APRIL:

On April 4, Sergeants McGowan, Thompson, Lemieux and Officer Shepley attended an emergency preparedness tabletop functional scale exercise in North Adams, hosted by the Northern Berkshire Regional Emergency Planning Committee. Overtime funding was made available through a grant.

All Police employees attended “Active Shooter Training for Dispatchers” on Thursday or Friday, April 18 & 19, at the Williams Inn. This training was instructed by Power Phone and met the requirements of the Emergency Medical Dispatch mandate of sixteen (16) hours of training annually per person. Attendance at the training was reimbursed through the training grant supplied by the Massachusetts Executive Office of Public Safety & Security.

JUNE: Canine Team, Ziemba and Daisy attended their annual week of instruction in Amherst, MA.

SEPTEMBER:

Officer Kyle Jolin attended “Officer Down Rescue” Instructor training. All too often Law Enforcement Officers place themselves in harm’s way for others. Unfortunately, in many events officers find themselves or another officer gravely injured. Past shooting events have changed the way law enforcement officers look at first aid in the

field. Medical care in many of these cases falls to the officer on scene because the scene is not safe enough for EMS units. This class also showed EMS personnel how to work with Law Enforcement Officers to complete or take part in the rescue of a downed officer. The training utilized ballistic shields and the tactical blankets and focused on the following: Recognizing a life threatening injury, providing treatment under hostile conditions, conducting remote assessments and treatments, planning and executing a rapid rescue to hard cover or safety as well as concepts of "Self-Aid" and improvised bandaging.

Officer Scott Skorupski recertified as a Breath Test Operator, and Officers David Sherman, Scott Sherman and Colin Shepley obtained their initial certification on this instrument. All officers recertify every three (3) years.

Fifteen (15) staff members also completed their Emergency Medical Dispatch (EMD) recertification.

OCTOBER:

All officers completed their annual certification in handgun, patrol rifle and electronic control weapons.

December:

Officer Ziembra and Daisy completed their annual tracking certification.

GRANTS

In 2013, the following grant monies and/or equipment were awarded to the Department. In most instances, the grants come with specific rules regarding implementation and they generally do not allow their use to supplant any portion of the operating budget.

The following grant monies were received:

Source	Purpose	Amount
State 911 Public Safety Answering Point (PSAP) Support	Dispatch Equipment & Personnel Costs	\$25,892.00
State 911 Public Safety Answering Point (PSAP) Training	EMD Training	\$19,219.36

Programs & Assignments

The Department continued its Community Policing approach throughout 2013, and will do so well into the future. Community Policing is a style of police work that puts heavy emphasis on partnering with the community and problem solving as many issues as possible that threaten to erode the quality of life within the community. A large emphasis is placed on the smaller, less obvious issues to help establish ways of dealing with them before they can become a source of erosion to the quality of life for

the residents and visitors of our community. This is known as the “Broken Windows” theory. If a broken window is not fixed, then adjacent windows will be broken until the facade of the entire building is eroded. However, if this first window is maintained, the temptation to break other windows is reduced, and the building will stay intact. The “Building” in this theory is the community. Everyone knows that crimes such as drug offenses, assaults and larcenies are violations of the law and dealing with these issues falls under standard police work. The Community Policing philosophy tackles the smaller issues that tend to lead up to these more serious crimes in an effort to prevent them from occurring altogether.

Community Events Planning

The Department stays busy directing traffic around numerous events throughout the year. These include the Williams College Graduation and the Alumni Parade on Main and Spring Streets, the annual Holiday Walk on Spring Street, Memorial and Independence Day Parades, Cal Ripken Parade, and numerous fund-raising road races that occur on town streets.

A Safer Williamstown

This program allows the department to issue an informational brochure to all residents that apply for and receive either a Firearms Identification Card (FID) or a License to Carry (LTC) a firearm. The brochure focuses on safe gun storage, gun safety rules, and important points of law. Through a partnership with Project Home Safe, the Department is also able to distribute gun safety locks, free of charge, to all residents. Anyone in need of gun safety locks should call or stop by the Williamstown Police Department.

The issuance of the FID or LTC by the department has been expedited by the department implementing MIRCS (Massachusetts Instant Record Check System). MIRCS is a program implemented through the Criminal History Systems Board for online instant record checks, photos and fingerprinting for firearms licensing applicants and improves efficiency in the licensing process by confirming data and fingerprint identification immediately. This system allows for an electronic application process to reduce the delays caused by forwarding paper applications by mail. Sergeant David Lemieux is trained to administer and process all applications, and generally new applicants and renewals can be performed between 4:00PM and 10:00PM when Sgt. Lemieux is on duty. Residents are encouraged to call just prior to coming to the station to check his availability.

Prescription Round-Up

The Prescription Drop Box located in the police station lobby continues to be a valued tool for the community. While the Department did not participate in the National Prescription Round-up events in April and October, we did take in approximately 144 pounds of pills, ointments and liquid medications throughout the year in the drop box.

The drop box is available 24/7 to the community as a safe alternative to dispose of unwanted, unused and expired medications.

All needles and sharps must be placed into the approved Bio-Hazard container located adjacent the drug drop box in the lobby. We can also accept needles and sharps in medically approved Bio-Hazard, sealed containers. We cannot accept needles and sharps in homemade containers like coffee cans, milk containers or laundry detergent bottles.

Noise Abatement Program

The Noise Abatement Program has worked efficiently for the last nine years. This program partners the Police Department with Williams College Campus Safety & Security, Williams College administration representatives, landlords who rent to off-campus students and the students themselves. The purpose of this collaborative is to make students aware of the quality of life issues within their neighborhoods and how they can help maintain them and still have a college related social life. Referred to as the “Three strikes program” by some students, this project advises students about the consequences of repetitive police response to off campus housing and the consequences to tenants and property owners. This program is coordinated by Williamstown Police Sgt. Paul Thompson and Williams College Director of Security David Boyer.

Partnering with the Council on Aging (COA) to assist the seniors of the community with quality of life issues.

Through the partnership with the Council on Aging, special attention is focused on the senior citizens of Williamstown. This partnership focuses on quality of life issues, crime prevention measures and identity thefts and scams. One such initiative continued in 2013 included the purchase of numerous Lock Box units that are utilized to secure a spare key at an individual’s home. In the event that a person may be locked inside their residence and needs emergency care, responding officers and emergency personnel can access the key from the Lock Box and make entry without causing any damage to the residence.

Intern Program

The Williamstown Police Department continues to welcome students from high schools and colleges that have visions of pursuing a career in criminal justice. The intern program allows the students to shadow both the patrol and communications section to observe as well as experience where possible, the job first hand. In 2013, students interned from the BART Charter School in Adams, Southern Vermont College in Bennington, VT and Saint Andrews School in Middletown, Delaware.

Juvenile Resource Officer

The Department continues to work closely with Mt. Greylock Regional High School, Williamstown Elementary School, and Pine Cobble School in both a supportive and educating role. This includes the teaching of DARE (Drug Abuse Resistance Education) where 2013 saw the graduation of 9 students from the Pine Cobble School. Officer Tania Hernandez also serves as a senior counselor for two weeks of summer ROPES (Respecting Other People; Encouraging Self Esteem) camp sponsored by the Williamstown, North Adams, Adams, Clarksburg and Cheshire Police Departments, North Adams and Florida Fire Departments, North Adams and Village Ambulance, North Adams School System, as well as the Berkshire County District Attorney's Office. During 2013, approximately 170 youths attended and completed the ROPES camps with 23 residing in Williamstown.

Court

The Court Officer, Michael Ziemba works closely with the Northern Berkshire District Court and the Juvenile Court system to assist in the disposition of civil violations and the prosecution of criminal cases. Ziemba works with both courts on a daily basis submitting paperwork, reviewing probable cause statements and signing complaints for issue. All criminal charges must be reviewed with the Clerk Magistrate to ensure probable cause is established for each charge sought. Once the complaint is issued, it may be held at the Clerk Magistrates level for a specific length of time under certain strict conditions and later dismissed if all of the specific conditions are met. A first time offender charged with a non-violent crime is a candidate for this diversion-type program. Other cases are forwarded to the District Attorney's Office for prosecution. Other court duties include monthly show-cause hearings determining responsibility involving civil motor vehicle infractions, along with the delivery of summonses to witnesses, victims and defendants. Detailed recording keeping and data entry into the Department's record keeping system are also important functions of the Court Officer.

Investigations

The Town of Williamstown is a safe community that allows for people to enjoy an excellent quality of life to work and live. Unfortunately however, Williamstown is not immune from crimes or the persons that perpetrate them.

Sergeant Scott McGowan is responsible for handling the Department's investigations when incidents require uninterrupted attention. Sergeant McGowan continues to maintain certifications for specific investigations which are also critical for courtroom testimony and in some instances, required. Many of the incidents reported to the Williamstown Police Department throughout the year require this level of service. The attention that these felony cases require makes it difficult for a duty patrol officer to accomplish while handling the typical calls for service the Department receives on a daily basis.

In 2013, Sergeant McGowan handled a variety of incidents including two hundred thirteen (213) larceny incidents, thirty six (36) breaking & entering reports, two (2)

rapes and five (5) sexual assaults. 2013 also saw the advancement of many other cases through the criminal justice system.

Additionally in 2013, Sergeant McGowan testified at Grand Jury hearings which resulted in criminal charges being forwarded. In one case, the Grand Jury indicted a male for three (3) counts Aggravated Statutory Rape and one (1) count of Induce a minor for sexual intercourse. In another case, the Grand Jury indicted a male for one (1) count of Rape.

Another significant case occurred in January where a juvenile from Oklahoma was lured to Williamstown by a Level 2 sex offender. At the onset, an intense investigation was initiated in an effort to locate the child to ensure safety. The youth was located by Sgt. McGowan in New York State who then coordinated the safe transfer of the child to the New York State Police. The Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), Massachusetts State Police, and Oklahoma City, OK Police also assisted in the case that concluded with federal charges being filed by the FBI.

A motor vehicle crash in November sadly claimed the life of a motorist. After an extensive investigation, the operator responsible for the crash was later arrested and charged with homicide by motor vehicle while under the influence of alcohol, along with other motor vehicle offenses.

2013 saw a noticeable increase in breaking and entering's of motor vehicles, residences and businesses in Williamstown. Sgt. McGowan continues to work with area law enforcement agencies that also experienced similar crimes committed by the same people. Several cases have been resolved and in almost every instance, the supporting of a narcotic dependency was the leading motive for the crimes.

Law Enforcement is always in need of residents to assist with preserving our community's well-being. In two incidents taking place within three days of each other in November, alert residents provided this essential help. In one case, Williamstown Police were immediately contacted by a resident reporting a suspicious person attempting to break into his neighbor's home. The individual was arrested moments later for this crime. Three days later, another attentive resident contacted Police about a possible breaking and entering into a commercial building. As a result, four (4) individuals were arrested for a variety charges including breaking and entering in the daytime for felony purposes, possession of marijuana with the intent to distribute and possession of heroin.

At the time of this report, Sergeant McGowan has submitted further cases to the Berkshire County District Attorney's Office and is awaiting Grand Jury hearings to begin in 2014.

Berkshire Law Enforcement Task Force

In January 2013, the Berkshire Law Enforcement Task Force (BLETF) was created from the culmination of the Berkshire County Drug Task Force and the Massachusetts State Police Berkshire Detective Unit. Law Enforcement Officers assigned to this

unit are tasked with the investigation of all major crimes within Berkshire County. This unit consists mainly of Massachusetts State Police detectives, along with at least one officer from all full-time police departments in Berkshire County. Officer Shuan William is the Williamstown Police Department's representative with the BLETF.

Within the BLETF, there has been the creation of the Digital Evidence Unit (DEU), of which Officer William is assigned. Officer William's main duty is to assist other departments in obtaining search warrants for cellular telephones, and then digitally analyze the cellular telephones for evidence of crimes. The DEU can also analyze computers, hard drives, flash drives, along with basically any electronic device.

On March 15, 2013, The Williamstown Police Department (WPD) called numerous officers into duty to assist the Bennington (VT) Police Department (BPD) in apprehending a Fugitive From Justice, who was wanted in Vermont for Unlawful Restraint of a Person (Felony), Aggravated Assault with a Deadly Weapon – Handgun (Felony) and Committing a Felony while Carrying a Deadly Weapon – Handgun (Felony). BPD had credible information that the suspect had fled Vermont to a residence in Williamstown. With the assistance of BPD, Officer William was able to obtain the necessary “No-Knock Nighttime” search warrant for the residence. Shortly after 2am on March 16, 2013, members of the Berkshire County Special Response Team (SRT) were able to execute this search warrant on the residence and the wanted fugitive was apprehended without incident. The fugitive was later extradited back to Vermont.

Between March and June 2013, members of the BLETF conducted a large scale wire-tap drug trafficking case against a large scale narcotics dealers in Berkshire County. After an exhaustive two month case, Officers raided numerous locations in Berkshire County, along with a location in Stephentown, NY. With the assistance of the Rensselaer County (NY) Drug Task Force, the New York State Police (NYSP) and the Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA), the BLETF seized over seven-hundred (700) grams of cocaine, large amounts of prescriptions pills, stolen firearms and over \$500,000 in US Currency. The suspect is currently being held on bail, awaiting trial.

In May, 2013, Officer William assisted Sergeant McGowan on a Sexual Assault investigation. Officer William was able to execute a total of four search warrants on a cell phone, cell phone record, Applications and an MP3 player. The information obtained was pertinent in assisting Sgt. McGowan develop probable cause, forwarding criminal charges to Berkshire Superior Court.

On September 5, 2013, Officer William and other members of the BLETF conducted a motor vehicle stop on Oblong Rd. The suspect attempted to flee from detectives, but ultimately crashed his vehicle a short distance later. The suspect fled from the car, running through fields and back yards of residences along Oblong Rd. An MSP K-9 was on scene and was able to track the suspect to where he was hiding behind a tree, about a half mile from the crash site. Detectives recovered a loaded, stolen handgun, along with two hundred-eighty (280) bags of heroin. The suspect was charged with

numerous narcotics, firearm and motor vehicle charges. Detectives then executed a search warrant for the suspect's residence in another community and that search produced trafficking amounts heroin. Detectives also seized prescription pills, cocaine and marijuana, numerous firearms and a large amount of cash. Additional drug trafficking and firearms charges were sought against the suspect, as well as against his live-in girlfriend.

On November 2, 2013, after a brief investigation, Officer William along with other members of the BLETF, Berkshire County SRT and Williamstown Police, executed a "No-Knock" search warrant at a Williamstown motel. Officers discovered thirty-eight (38) bags of heroin that were packaged in a manner that is consistent with street level distribution. Officers also seized approximately \$5,800.00 in US Currency. At the conclusion of the search, the drug dealer was arrested was subsequently being held at the Berkshire House of Correction on \$15,000 cash bail. The 4 others persons present in the raid were summoned into court on other drug related charges.

K-9 Program

The Williamstown K-9 Unit, Officer Michael Ziemba and canine Daisy, were requested to responded to twenty-nine (29) calls for service in and around Williamstown requiring tracks to be performed for suspects that had just committed a crime and fled on foot, persons who had indicated they wished to harm themselves and walked away, persons fleeing from a motor vehicle crash or stop, and lost or missing persons. The team successfully located lost hikers in New Ashford and Egremont, as well as a robbery suspect in North Adams. Other tracks for suspects ended at buildings hosting multiple apartments and/or areas where motor vehicles were used to remove the suspect from the area.

The K-9 Unit also participated in nine (9) public service events which covered a range of topics from numerous informative presentations on the role and use of the K-9 to school children of varying ages, informative presentations and question and answer sessions, demonstrations at various local parades and block parties, and presentation of D.A.R.E. awards to students graduating from the program.

Training is a constant process for the K-9 Unit which, on average, logs approximately 12 hours each week. Most training is done locally in different scenarios of varying communities, usually in North Adams, Williamstown or Lanesborough. Many times, training time is also spent with the Pittsfield Police Department and the Albany Police Department, both of which have larger K-9 Units and certified Police K-9 Master Trainers.

Many local communities have recognized the benefit of having a certified K-9 Unit as part of the department and have begun the process to acquire same. At the inception of Williamstown's K-9 program there were no grants that were offered to assist with expenses and startup costs, but that has now changed. Currently, the Adams Police Department and Dalton Police Department have secured grant funding to start a K-9 Unit. They will eventually join the other local department K-9 Units in training and

responding to calls for service thus providing a greater coverage and a larger resource of K-9 responses, easing the burden on the existing K-9 Units in the area. Officer Ziemba has assisted with some of these new K-9's and their handlers by providing guidance as they start their respective programs. To date, these new K-9 units have selected either a Shepard or Lab canine, focusing training on tracking, article and/or narcotics detection and/or a patrol dog, leaving Williamstown's Daisy as the only bloodhound in all of Western Massachusetts. Bloodhounds are renowned for their scent tracking ability, and this is Daisy's only responsibility.

Daisy's day-to-day care and expenses are the sole responsibility of K-9 Handler, Officer Ziemba. Medical expenses are supported entirely by donations from the community.

Traffic Enforcement

Traffic enforcement is a significant portion of the Department's policing duties. The town is comprised of approximately eighty-six (86) miles of roadways, with the major routes being Routes 2, 7, and 43. When officers are not answering calls or completing paperwork, they are conducting enforcement on all roadways. Of the 1673 traffic stops conducted in 2013, these routes saw a majority of the enforcement:

Route 2 (Taconic Trail & Main Street): 580 stops; Route 7 (New Ashford & Cold Spring Roads, North Street and Simonds Road): 469 stops; Route 43 (Hancock & Green River Roads and Water Street): 154 stops. North Hoosac, Bridges and Sand Springs Road corridor: 302 traffic stops.

Specific traffic complaints are received regularly at the Department. As cell phone technologies advance with improved reception, more motorists are calling to report the improper operation of other motorists. When possible, patrols are directed to these areas in an attempt to locate the subject motor vehicle. A second type of complaint commonly received is when a resident or group of residents in a specific neighborhood report speeding motor vehicles in a specific section of town. To assist in strategizing enforcement in these specific areas, the Department deploys the speed monitoring trailer to record the number of vehicles, speed, direction and time of day to allow for a more specific enforcement action. This trailer also serves as a deterrent as well by displaying both the posted road speed and the vehicle's, and then flashing red when the posted speed is exceeded. Two permanent speed monitoring signs were donated to the Town and installed on Route 43 (Water Street and Green River Road) to also serve as a deterrent to speeding motorists.

In 2013, the department responded to two hundred-fifteen (215) motor vehicle crashes. Fortunately, most of these crashes were minor in nature and many occurred in parking lots or during on street parking. From the more significant crashes, twenty-six persons reported being injured and sadly there were two (2) fatalities from two (2) separate crashes on our roadways. Our thoughts and prayers are with those involved.

Traffic Activity Summary	2011	2012	2013
Total Motor Vehicle Crashes	229	175	215
Fatalities	1	1	2
Personal Injury Accidents	36	21	26
Pedestrian Involved Accidents	5	2	4
Total Traffic Violations Issued	2347	2881	2044
Motor Vehicle Criminal Violations	185	155	134
Motor Vehicle Civil Violations	355	313	277
Motor Vehicle Warnings	1804	2413	1633
Motor Vehicle Stops	1943	2498	1673
Parking Tickets Issued	1948	2411	2127

Communications Section

Our Communications Section of the Police Department is the heart and soul of the Department. These are the people behind the scenes, 24 hours a day, seven days a week, simultaneously performing a multitude of tasks and never getting the credit that they truly deserve. The Communications Section is a State of Massachusetts Public Safety Answering Point (PSAP), monitoring eight (8) Emergency 911 lines, three (3) standard emergency lines, and four (4) business phone lines. The Communications Section dispatches for the Williamstown Police, Williamstown Fire, Village Ambulance, and the Williamstown Forest Warden as well as serving as the after-hours point of contact for both the Department of Public Works and the State Department of Transportation. The Communications Section also dispatches mutual aid requests for police, fire and EMS outside of Williamstown. Other responsibilities of the Communications Section are to monitor any persons held in either of the holding cells, as well as all public record requests, burglar alarm bylaw monitoring and billing, and administrative duties to the Chief of Police.

Calls for service come into the Communications Section in a variety of ways. They can be personnel initiated via the radio or mobile computer, such as a patrol conducting a traffic stop or a building check; through the mail or email, such as a public records request or alarm permit renewal; walk-ins such as a License to Carry application or fingerprinting, as well as the standard phone calls to the business, emergency or 911 phone lines. In 2013, the Communications Section logged 14,321 calls for service, not including the everyday general business calls that do not amount to a call for service.

2013 Calls for Service by Shift:

Shift	Calls
Days / 7 a.m. to 3 p.m.	7651
Evenings / 3 p.m. to 11 p.m.	4645
Nights / 11 p.m. to 7 a.m.	2025
Total Calls for Service	14321

CALL STATISTICS	2011	2012	2013
Total Calls For Service	15745	16012	14321
911 ABANDONED CALLS	77	74	60
911 TEST CALLS	82	73	61
911 WRONG NUMBER CALLS	51	77	27
911 HANG UP CALL	37	44	21
911 SILENT CALLS	17	11	20
911 OVERFLOW – ADAMS	3	16	4
911 OVERFLOW – NORTH ADAMS	10	7	23
ALARM – BURGLAR	200	199	196
ALARM – OTHER	24	32	23
AMBULANCE CALL – WILLIAMSTOWN	1467	1449	1340
AMBULANCE CALL – HANCOCK	125	134	121
AMBULANCE CALL – MUTUAL AID	26	26	17
AMBULANCE CALLS – NEW ASHFORD	10	10	9
AMBULANCE CALLS – POWNAL	76	59	77
AMBULANCE TRANSFERS	1217	1203	1295
ANIMAL CONTROL	297	307	281
ALARM PERMITS ISSUED	6	7	10
ALARM PERMIT RENEWALS	130	118	153
ASSAULT	14	14	17
ASSIST OTHER AGENCY – DPW	73	77	63
ASSIST OTHER AGENCY – FIRE	101	94	104
ASSIST OTHER AGENCY – MUNICIPAL	10	4	6
ASSIST OTHER AGENCY	58	54	39
ASSIST OTHER AGENCY – RMV	9	10	2
ASSIST OTHER AGENCY – POLICE	116	98	84

ASSIST OTHER AGENCY – UTILITY	62	52	19
ASSIST OTHER AGENCY – WCS	44	26	13
ASSIST OTHER AGENCY – REPO	6	2	3
BREAKING & ENTRY	22	19	36
B.O.L.O.	69	88	56
BURN PERMIT	42	60	38
COMPUTER CRIMES	0	0	3
BUILDING CHECK	3831	3706	3019
DISTURBANCE	94	67	122
DISABLED MV	144	122	129
DOMESTIC DISTURBANCE	28	37	25
ESCORT / TRANSPORT	6	18	17
FIRE DISPATCH – WILLIAMSTOWN	303	272	324
FIRE DISPATCH – MUTUAL AID	4	6	7
FORGERY	0	0	1
FINGERPRINTING	71	71	46
FOREST WARDEN DISPATCH	24	46	33
GENERAL INFO	175	95	155
ILLEGAL DUMPING	16	11	8
K9 REQUEST – WILLIAMSTOWN	1	13	7
K9 REQUESTS – OTHER AGENCY	12	16	20
LARCENY	242	195	213
LICENSE TO CARRY	68	94	135
LIQUOR LAW VIOLATION	23	25	14
MEDICAL ASSISTANCE	165	175	188
MISSING PERSON	11	18	17
MV LOCKOUT	158	130	154
MV ACCIDENT	229	175	215
MV STOP	1944	2498	1673
NARCOTICS INVEST	42	32	31
NOISE COMPLAINT	67	53	44
PARKING COMPLAINT	58	48	48
PROPERTY DAMAGE	19	11	16
ANNOYING PHONE CALLS	10	18	30
PARKING CHECK	1472	1608	1404

POWER OUTAGE	11	16	13
PUBLIC RECORDS REQUEST	163	166	106
FOUND / LOST PROPERTY	156	139	133
PUBLIC SERVICE	80	116	92
PUBLIC SERVICE EVENT	29	33	33
RAPE	0	4	2
ROAD CONDITIONS	115	112	159
SERVE RESTRAINING ORDER	13	22	19
SEXUAL ASSAULT	16	12	5
SUDDEN DEATH	6	6	9
SECTION 12	25	30	29
SUSPICIOUS MV	305	284	254
AUTO THEFT	0		1
SOLICITING	1	3	7
SEX OFFENDER REGISTRATION	4	3	1
SPEED TRAILER ASSIGNMENT	10	9	4
SYSTEM TROUBLE	46	59	30
SERVE SUMMONS	137	109	109
SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITY	345	332	407
THREATS / HARRASSMENT	46	62	45
TRAFFIC CONTROL	88	46	117
TRAFFIC COMPLAINT	214	232	267
TRESPASS	27	33	28
UNWANTED GUEST	17	21	14
VANDALISM	31	28	20
VIOLATION RESTRAINING ORDER	8	1	10
SERVE WARRANT	9	10	12
WELL-BEING CHECK	75	95	79

SELECTMEN

Jane B. Allen, Chair

2013 was an interesting and historic year for Williamstown. We had four special town-wide meetings: two for the Town and two for the Fire District. And four ad hoc committees were appointed: the Public Safety Building Study Committee, the Long Term Coordinating Committee a/k/a the Spruces Roof Group, the Spruces Land Use Committee, and the Mount Greylock Regional School District Building Committee. The business of the special town-wide meetings and the work of the ad hoc committees centered around the issues that dominated the conversation in 2013: affordable housing for residents of the Spruces Mobile Home Park, land use, and the need for new facilities for the Police Department, the Fire District and the high school.

Since three different governmental entities (the Town, the Fire District and MGRSD) and one non-profit entity (the Village Ambulance Service) were all looking to embark on capital projects at the same time, the Public Safety Building Study Committee was appointed to explore where such public safety facilities might be located and the possibility of a combined facility. Appointed by the Board of Selectmen, the committee is comprised of representatives from the Police Department, Prudential Committee, Ambulance Service, Finance Committee, Planning Board and Board of Selectmen. The MGRSD Building Committee was appointed by the MGRSD School Committee and has members from both Lanesborough and Williamstown.

In March, the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) awarded a \$6.13M grant so the Town could acquire The Spruces Mobile Home Park from Morgan Management, compensate the residents under the Uniform Relocation Act, and relocate the residents to safer housing. A Relocation Advisory Agent was hired with grant monies to assist the residents throughout the relocation process. At the end of the grant period (March 2016), The Spruces must have a permanent conservation restriction and the property can only be used for recreation, agriculture and open space. The Spruces Land Use Committee was appointed by the Board of Selectmen to plan for future use of the property.

After much contentious debate about whether a portion of the town-owned Lowry property should be taken out of conservation to create an affordable housing development for residents of The Spruces, a Special Town Meeting, prompted by a citizen's petition, was held in April. No action was taken when voters at the well-attended meeting at MGRHS were persuaded to table the articles.

To help the community come to consensus around the unresolved issues, the Board of Selectmen appointed the Long Term Coordinating Committee which was comprised of the Chairs of all of the committees involved in the affordable housing/land use debate: the Affordable Housing Committee, the Affordable Housing Trust, the Agricultural Commission, the Council on Aging, the Conservation Commission, the Williamstown Housing Authority, the Planning Board and the Board of Selectmen.

The committee quickly determined that, given the time frame of the FEMA grant, there was an urgent need for low-income housing for the soon-to-be displaced residents of The Spruces and requested that the name of the committee be changed to Spruces Roof Group.

In June, Williams College announced the gift of approximately four acres of land adjacent to Proprietor's Field and a collaboration of four entities to develop the property for affordable housing: the Berkshire Housing Development Corporation, the Women's Institute for Housing and Economic Development, the Williamstown Elderly Housing Corporation, and Higher Ground. The gift of college-owned land enabled the community to come together over prospective housing for residents of The Spruces and when the second Special Town Meeting was held in December to approve the acquisition of The Spruces Mobile Home Park, the vote was unanimous! Given the generous action by the college and overwhelming support at both the local and state level, the Highland Woods project is on track to be completed in the Spring of 2016 and provide 40 units of low-income senior housing.

In December, the Town received word that the long-awaited Cable Mills project had received the final piece of funding needed for construction to begin in Spring 2014. When completed, this project will provide 13 units of affordable housing.

Seeking a positive outcome for residents of The Spruces has been the Town's focus since Tropical Storm Irene destroyed the mobile home park in August 2011. The events of this year have enabled us to take a giant step forward. A big THANK YOU to everyone who listened to our story, believed in our efforts, and helped to make it happen!

SIGN COMMISSION

Timothy Hamilton, Chair

The Town of Williamstown Sign Commission is tasked with administering the Code of the Town of Williamstown, Chapter 53, Signs (the Sign Bylaw), consistent with the character and appearance of the area for which the sign is requested. Signs may be of a permanent nature, (for new businesses, institutions or activities) or may be temporary for specific events or functions. Current Sign Commissioners are: Chair Timothy Hamilton, Anna Singleton, Stuart Armet, Mary Beebee, and Lindsay Neathawk.

The Sign Inspector can issue any sign which fully complies with the Sign Bylaw; any deviation from the bylaw requires Sign Commission approval. In granting Special Permits, the Commission has wide discretion in what will be allowed or modified in the application. The Sign Inspector is the enforcing authority under the bylaw. Fines may be assessed under the non-criminal disposition provisions of the Code of the Town of Williamstown.

The Sign Bylaw, in its introduction, states:

A. The Williamstown envisioned under this chapter is one with major patterns of use and general appearance little changed from today, but with greater opportunities within the community for a broader range of diversity of citizens and businesses; a town not only undamaged by change but made better through it.

B. Economic growth appropriate to Williamstown's character is actively sought, not as an end to itself, but as a means of broadening the diversity of opportunity in Williamstown, in mm supporting a rich and diverse community life and population. There is room enough for all the development which realistically the town can expect to experience without the defacing of its special assets and places, including both natural and man-made features, mini vistas and historic monuments.

C. The basic form of Williamstown is that of a classic New England town, with a strong central village sharply contrasting with and benefiting from the openness of the surrounding lands. The present arrangement works well for almost everyone. It provides wonderful living possibilities within easy walk of both central services and open lands. It organizes development in an easily serviced way. It creates a visually rich and satisfying community character.

D. There is little doubt Williamstown residents intend the policies of the Sign Commission to enhance these qualities. Such conflicts within the community as the Sign Commission may encounter should be reconciled with this public vision in mind. It is instructed to use incentives and rewards wherever possible, as a way of implementing sign policy. However, the following guidelines are intended to be as clear and unambiguous as possible:

(1) The primary function of on-premise signs is to index the environment to tell people where they can find what. Selling is a subordinate purpose.

(2) Signs should be expressive of the individual proprietor's identity.

(3) Signs should be appropriate to the type of activity to which they pertain.

(4) Signs should be compatible with the visual character of the area surrounding them. Carved signs are compatible in all areas, and this chapter encourages their use.

(5) Signs should be legible in the circumstances in which they are seen.

Using its discretion, consistent with the bylaw, the Commission seeks to follows these guidelines in rendering its decisions.

In 2013 89 sign permits were issued either by the Commission or its Sign Inspector, Andrew Groff.

TOWN CLERK/BOARD OF REGISTRARS

Mary Courtney Kennedy, Town Clerk

Robert A. Jones, Registrar

Mark Windover, Registrar

Kurt Gabel, Registrar

The Town Clerk's office serves as the repository of vital records for the town; conducts all activities related to the Annual Street Listing, voter registration, elections and town meeting, administers oaths to all public officials, issues dog licenses, provides notary public services, oversees employee and board members compliance with the Conflict of Interest law, and serves as the office of record for a assortment of public filings.

2013 was an eventful year for the Board of Registrars with the following elections and town meetings:

Feb. 26, 2014 – Special Town Meeting

April 24, 2013 -Special Town Meeting

April 30, 2013 - Joint election - Special State Primary for Senator in Congress and the Annual Town Election

May 21, 2013 – Annual Town Meeting

June 25, 2013 - Special State Election for Senator in Congress

Dec. 10, 2103 – Special Town Meeting

**All town election and town meeting minutes are posted on the town's website - www.williamstown.net.*

Total Registered Voters as of July 1, 2013 – 4674

Democrats – 2134

Republicans – 341

Unenrolled – 2174

Green Rainbow 11

Libertarian – 12

Socialist - 1

Pirate Party – 1

The management of elections and town meetings requires the assistance of over 25 poll workers, the Department of Public Works, Police Department, Williamstown Elementary School, Mount Greylock Regional High School, Williams Inn and Williams College. While they all assist at different levels, without all their support would be unable to fulfill the requirements of state law.

Town Clerk Statistics - 2013

Dog Licenses Issued – 2013

Male	26
Female	22
Neutered Male	346
Spayed Female	363
Kennel License (4 dogs)	0
Kennel License (10 dogs)	1

Net Value of Licenses	\$4191
Late Fees	\$ 400
Gross Value of Dog License	\$ 4591

Vital Records Recorded in 2013

Births	28
Marriage Intentions	50
Marriage Licenses	40
Death	143

Documents and Permits issued in 2013

Business Certificates -38

Fuel Storage Registration -20

Raffle Permits - 1

Certified Birth Certificates Issued -55

Certified Marriage Certificates Issued – 51

Certified Death Certificates Issued - 883

TOWN MANAGER

Peter L. Fohlin

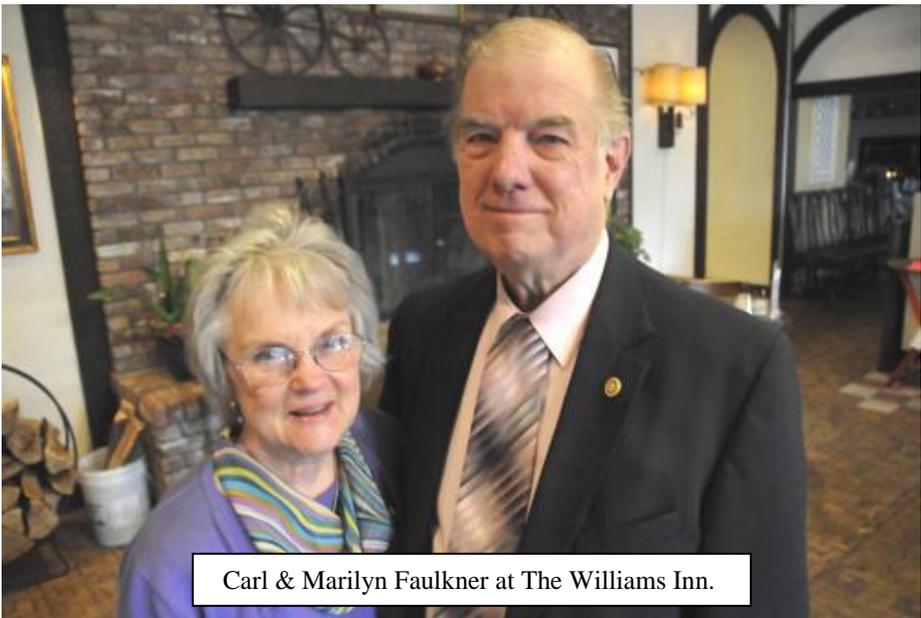


The goal of our town government is to live within our means. The only Proposition 2 ½ override in the last fifteen years was in 2003 when state government abandoned local communities and Williamstown taxpayers stepped in to fill the gap. Thank you! While the cost of petroleum products, electricity, health insurance, motor vehicles, and countless other items accelerate beyond two and a half percent a year, we have to find creative ways to compensate. We have over 52 kilowatts of solar panels installed on the elementary school, library, public works, and cemetery buildings, most of it paid for with Green Communities grant funds. More fuel efficient vehicles help to blunt the sharp rise in fuel costs. Energy conserving system controls at the elementary school and water pump stations dramatically reduce operating costs. Lighting controls and fixtures have been replaced at the

elementary school and the Municipal Building to conserve energy and save money. Participation in purchasing consortia helps control electricity, natural gas, and motor fuel costs. Bags and stickers at the Transfer Station sell for the same price today as they did in 2006. Small economies every day add up to large savings each year. And yet we must move forward with expensive and necessary projects. Our Police Department and our regional high school both need new facilities. To prepare for these expenditures, we have been building cash reserves and levy capacity the last few years. Unreserved Fund Balance (“free cash”) stood at zero most of the decade. Since 2010 our balance has increased from \$143,295 to \$518,894. Prudent budgeting has increased our Unused Levy Capacity from \$158,554 to \$920,538 in the last three years. Our Stabilization Fund rests at \$831,330. All these factors work to preserve the Town’s Aa2 bond rating which is important to our ability to borrow money for major investments at the lowest possible interest rate.

The Town now has only one open lawsuit against it. The suit filed by Morgan MHP Mass, LLC (a/k/a Morgan Management-The Spruces) against the Town of Williamstown and the Commonwealth of Massachusetts has been withdrawn. The suit over the proposed Fox Woods development on Bee Hill Road filed by Charles Fox lingers in Land Court. The suit presents no significant legal or financial exposure for the town as no monetary damages are sought.

The Town has reached agreement with Morgan Management LLC to acquire The Spruces Manufactured Housing Community under a FEMA Hazard Mitigation Grant so that the process of relocating residents to decent, safe, and sanitary housing out of the floodway can begin. Owner-occupants of the mobile homes are compensated for the appraised value of their displacement home plus the additional cost of their replacement home and relocation expenses, up to \$22,500. At the conclusion of the process in early 2016 the park will be closed and the land returned to its natural state. We continue to collaborate and cooperate with our neighbors in North and Central Berkshires on matters of mutual benefit. Veterans Services Officer Stephen Roy continues to deliver exemplary service to the veterans of Adams, Clarksburg, Florida, North Adams, and Williamstown. The Hoosac Water Quality District continues to operate efficiently and economically for the benefit of North Adams and Williamstown ratepayers and the environment. With North Adams taking the lead, Williamstown and seven other Berkshire communities will enter into an electric power aggregation agreement to purchase electricity for all participating residents at the best possible price. Williamstown is a member of the Central Berkshire Regional Emergency Planning Committee. We will continue to seek mutually beneficial opportunities for collaboration with our neighbors.



We should take this opportunity to recognize the contributions of Carl and Marilyn Faulkner, retiring owners of the Williams Inn. They have been valued members of the community and perfect neighbors to the Municipal Building since 1979.

Please visit the Town web site at www.williamstown.net. There you will find minutes of the Board of Selectmen's meetings and the Town Manager's twice-monthly Town Manager's Reports. Contact information for all departments, office hours, the

calendar of committee meetings, and voter registration information are among the many things found there. You can also pay tax bills, water/sewer bills, and motor vehicle excise tax bills on-line around the clock every day by check or credit card. Please subscribe to our bulletin in the lower left corner of the web site to receive announcements of timely interest.

For several years now I have held the honor of being Williamstown's longest serving town manager. That tenure has been made possible and pleasurable by our exceptional management team. Largely self-taught, DPW Director Tim Kaiser is the best engineer I have ever worked with. Finance Director Janet Saddler deftly manages collections, cash flow, and borrowing to keep the town on an even keel with strong financials. Town Clerk Mary Kennedy runs her office single-handedly, and her elections have never had a "hanging chad." COA Director Brian O'Grady is an imaginative and tireless advocate for our senior citizens. My Administrative Assistant, Debby Turnbull, has brought professionalism and energy to the town manager's office at just the time it is most needed. Jason McNair and Andrew Groff are contributing youthful vitality and new skills for the future. Like an Academy Awards speech, to name a few is to leave out many who deserve equal mention. In every position from building maintenance, police officer, and plow driver to accounting and building and health inspectors, these professionals earn my appreciation and the gratitude of residents, taxpayers, and visitors every day. It's been a good run.

TRANSFER STATION

Christopher Lemoine, Superintendent



If you frequent the Williamstown Transfer Station you know that we have a new attendant and his name is Jason Maynard. Jason takes pride in his work and keeps the station clean and well organized. The Station is open Tuesday – Friday 7:30am to 3:30pm, Saturday 7:00am to 3:00pm. Call 458-5159 if you have any questions.

Williamstown residents take recycling seriously and in 2013 achieved the following: 203 tons of papers, 91 tons of glass/metal/plastic, 78 tons of scrap metal, and 6 tons of electronics for a total of 378 tons of recycled materials. The total volume of unrecyclable waste equaled 357 tons. Though a date has yet to be set, there will be a hazardous waste collection day in 2014. When the date is chosen it will be posted at the station. The Williamstown Transfer Station is a user fee based operation and is not funded with taxation.

Current access stickers and refuse bags are available at the Treasurer’s Office located at Town Hall. Refuse bags are also available at the Williamstown Stop and Shop supermarket. Fee rates have not been increased since 2006.

Transfer Station Fees are as follows;

Access Sticker	\$75.00
Secondary Sticker	\$5.00
30 gal refuse bag	\$2.50
15 gal refuse bag	\$1.25
Demolition material	\$65.00 per cubic yard
Brush residential	\$4.00 per cubic yard
Brush commercial	\$12.00 per cubic yard
Woodchips commercial	\$5.00 per cubic yard
Logs	\$10.00 per cubic yard
Metal	\$13.00 per cubic yard.
White goods	\$35.00 each
AC units	\$10.00
TV console	\$20.00
TV >20 inches	\$10.00
TV < 20 inches	\$5.00
Monitors	\$5.00
Microwaves	\$5.00
Stereos/printers	\$2.00
Grass/leaves residential	FREE
Used motor oil	FREE requires signature

TREASURER / COLLECTOR

Janet Saddler, Treasurer / Finance Director

Statement of Debt

June 30, 2013

	Date	Amount	Amount		Princip al	Princi pal	Intere st	Princip al
	<u>Authorized</u>	<u>Authoriz ed</u>	<u>Issue</u>		<u>07/01/ 12</u>	<u>Paid</u>	<u>Paid</u>	<u>06/30/ 13</u>
Long Term Debt								
\$2.175 Million Bond-Issued Aug 15, 2001								
Town Garage	5/19/92	1,800,000	1,800,000	Inside Limit	470,000	95,000	12,319	375,000
Landfill Phase I	7/25/95	217,000	215,000	Outside Limit	55,000	15,000	1,369	40,000
Landfill Closing	5/17/94	140,000	50,000	Inside Limit	0	0	0	0
Well # 1	11/15/09	892,000	892,000	Inside Limit	600,000	140,000	15,375	460,000
		<u>3,049,000</u>	<u>2,957,000</u>		<u>1,125,000</u>	<u>250,000</u>	<u>29,063</u>	<u>875,000</u>
		0	0		00	00	3	0

\$3.325 Million Bond-Issued Aug 15, 2001

Sewage System Cemetery Building	5/23/89	145,000	75,700	Inside Limit	0	0	0	0
School Remodeling	5/23/89	281,000	128,500	Inside Limit	0	0	0	0
Water Standpipe	6/18/91	3,804,000	1,289,100	Outside Limit	0	0	0	0
Water Mains	6/18/91	122,000	33,900	Outside Limit	0	0	0	0
Sewer Inflow & Infiltration	5/15/01	1,156,000	1,156,000	Inside Limit	452,270	64,610	18,656	387,660
Chapel Borrowing	3/30/99	200,000	132,800	Inside Limit	54,530	7,790	2,249	46,740
Sewer Main-Spring Street & Gale Road	5/18/99	267,000	257,000	Inside Limit	105,700	15,100	0	90,600
Water Main-Spring Street	5/18/99	219,000	213,200	Outside Limit	0	12,500	3,609	75,000
		<u>6,302,500</u>	<u>3,325,000</u>		<u>700,000</u>	<u>100,000</u>	<u>28,875</u>	<u>600,000</u>
		0	0		0	00	5	0

\$4.35 Million Bond-Issued May 1, 2005

New School	Exempt 11/18/99	14,500,000	4,200,000	Inside Limit	2,730,000	210,000	111,720	2,520,000
Landfill Closure	5/14/00	4,200,000	150,000	Outside Limit	0	10,000	3,275	70,000
		<u>18,700,000</u>	<u>4,350,000</u>		<u>2,810,000</u>	<u>220,000</u>	<u>114,995</u>	<u>2,590,000</u>
		00	0		00	00	33	00

Total Long Term Debt	<u>28,051,500</u>	<u>12,316,000</u>	<u>4,635,000</u>	<u>570,000</u>	<u>172,933</u>	<u>4,065,000</u>
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Treasurer's Receipts
For the year ending June 30, 2013

Department	Description	Amount
Tax and Excise		
Treasurer-Collector	Personal Property	255,605.55
Treasurer-Collector	Real Estate Tax	13,961,958.14
Treasurer-Collector	Motor Vehicle Excise	613,274.86
Treasurer-Collector	Interest on Property Tax	37,556.57
Treasurer-Collector	Interest on MV Excise	2,297.53
Treasurer-Collector	Interest on Tax Liens	3,961.49
Treasurer-Collector	Payments in Lieu of Tax	45,060.79
Treasurer-Collector	Meals Tax	156,010.49
Treasurer-Collector	Hotel and Motel Tax	398,353.72
Treasurer-Collector	Community Preservation-State Match	56,821.00

Treasurer-Collector	Community Preservation Surcharge	208,023.13
Treasurer-Collector	Community Preservation Surcharge Interest	350.79
Total Tax and Excise		<u>15,739,274.06</u>

Utility Charges

Sewer Department	Sewer Charges	1,221,478.16
Water Department	Water Charges	1,118,210.73
Landfill Department	Landfill Payments	19,018.24
Landfill Department	Landfill Stickers	63,000.00
Landfill Department	Landfill Bags	63,148.75
Total Utility Charges		<u>2,484,855.88</u>

Other Charges for Services

Cemetery	Cemetery Interments	20,150.00
Police	Off-Duty Fees	142,215.17
School	Cafeteria Receipts	70,180.93
Total Charges for Services		<u>232,546.10</u>

Fees

Assessor	Fees	24.50
Building Inspector	Fees	10,285.35
Cemetery Department	Perpetual Care	7,600.00
Conservation Commission	Fees	1,307.67
Conservation Commission	Wetlands Fees	2,790.00
Council on Aging	Fees	13,321.33
Health Department	Fees	15,427.72
Highway	Fees	5,115.00
Historical Commission	Fees	160.00
Library	Fees	5,446.18
Planning Board	Fees	990.00
Zoning Board	Fees	1,895.00
Police Department	Fees	12,819.63
Police Department	Dispatch Services	51,228.25
Sealer of Weights	Fees	207.00
School	Rental - Custodians	10,652.80
School	Tuition	103,394.72
Town Clerk	Fees	7,623.00
Treasurer - Collector	Fees	43,368.34
Landfill Department	Fees	13,665.90
Sewer Department	Fees	421.00
Water Department	Fees	13,499.85

Total Fees

321,243.24

Licenses and Permits

Building Inspector	Licenses and Permits	159905.60
Gas Inspector	Licenses and Permits	7248.00
Health Department	Licenses and Permits	18965.00
Plumbing Inspector	Licenses and Permits	8980.00
Police Department	Licenses and Permits	5408.50
Selectmen	Licenses and Permits-Liquor Licenses	35210.00
Selectmen	Licenses and Permits	4062.50
Sign Commission	Licenses and Permits	2500.80
Town Clerk	Licenses and Permits	4168.00
Wiring Inspector	Licenses and Permits	82641.67
Total Licenses and Permits		<u>329090.07</u>

State Government - State Aid

Treasurer-Collector	FEMA	28959.51
Treasurer-Collector	Veterans Services	46712.00
Treasurer-Collector	Snow and Ice	1910.00
Treasurer-Collector	Abatement Reimbursement	1022.00
Treasurer-Collector	State Owned Land	119567.00
Treasurer-Collector	Chapter 70	909926.00
Treasurer-Collector	Lottery	807552.00
Treasurer-Collector	Federal Lunch Reimbursement	29468.98
Treasurer-Collector	State Lunch Reimbursement	1939.40
Treasurer-Collector	School Choice	233463.00
Treasurer-Collector	Circuit Breaker	50201.00
Treasurer-Collector	Urban Development Excise	26481.00
Treasurer-Collector	Municipal Medicaid	39245.70
Treasurer-Collector	Charter School	1869.00
Total State Aid		<u>2298316.59</u>

State Government - Grants

Treasurer-Collector	Teacher Training	75.00
Treasurer-Collector	Solarize Mass	2500.00
Treasurer-Collector	Right To Farm	500.00
Treasurer-Collector	COA-Nutrition Assistance	150.00
Treasurer-Collector	Forest Warden	1199.50
Treasurer-Collector	SPED Program Improvement	3075.00
Treasurer-Collector	DOE - Title I	5353.00
Treasurer-Collector	School ARRA Grant	877.00

Treasurer-Collector	DOE - Title II Math Science	1186.00
Treasurer-Collector	DOE - P.L. 94-142	94111.00
Treasurer-Collector	DOE - Early Childhood Wee Grant	4976.40
Treasurer-Collector	DOE - Quality Kindergarten Grant	31130.00
Treasurer-Collector	E-911	37031.05
Treasurer-Collector	Police-Drug Task Force	1827.18
Treasurer-Collector	Polling Re-imburement	774.00
Treasurer-Collector	Library Title LIG/MEG Grant	10,186.54
Treasurer-Collector	Emergency Management Grant	1,996.34
Treasurer-Collector	Council on Aging - Formula Grant	14,543.73
Treasurer-Collector	Race To The Top	789.00
Total State Grants		<u>212,280.74</u>

Fines and Forfeits

Commonwealth		
Police Department	Court Fines	14,187.50
Total Fines and Forfeits	Parking Tickets	<u>33,275.00</u>
		<u>47,462.50</u>

Sale of Assets

Cemetery		
DPW	Sale of Lots	150.00
Total Sale of Assets	Sale of Fixed Assets	<u>12,030.00</u>
		<u>12,180.00</u>

Interest Income

Treasurer-Collector		
Treasurer-Collector	Investment Interest	35,137.33
Total Interest Income	Trust Interest	<u>6,087.64</u>
		<u>41,224.97</u>

Gifts and Contributions

Police Department	Contribution - General	5,900.00
School	Renzi Trust	2,055.00
School	Adventures in Learning Gifts	5,550.00
School	Health Materials	968.00
School	School PTO Educational Materials	5,527.59
School	Library Books	1,045.85
School	Field Trips	5,277.00
School	5th and 6th Grade Fund	18,187.27
School	Teacher Salary	21,234.00
School	Computer Tech Gifts	2,000.00
School	Outdoor Classroom	1,794.25
School	Music	5,126.00

Council on Aging	Donations & Fundraisers	5,182.58
Library	Operations Gifts	24,537.00
Town/School	Health Coordinator	2,000.00
Town	Books	10,789.05
Town/School	K-9	1,075.00
Community Preservation	Southlawn Gift	2,500.00
Total Gifts and Contributions		<u>120,748.59</u>

Payroll and Insurance

Payroll Deductions		
Payroll Deductions	Federal Withholding	793,086.20
Payroll Deductions	Medicare Withholding	220,757.82
Payroll Deductions	State Withholding	371,021.14
Payroll Deductions	Retirement Withholding	711,051.21
Payroll Deductions	Health Insurance	1,520,178.40
Payroll Deductions	Life Insurance	35,507.10
Payroll Deductions	Dental Insurance	89,209.70
Payroll Deductions	Other Withholdings	431,227.58
Total Payroll and Insurance		<u>4,172,039.15</u>

Fund Transfers

Transfers between Funds		
Total Fund Transfers		<u>199,300.44</u>
		<u>199,300.44</u>

Miscellaneous

Miscellaneous		
Miscellaneous	Sherman Burbank Trust Distribution	18,685.44
Miscellaneous	Williamstown Scholarship Fund	2,905.63
Miscellaneous	Cemetery Perpetual Care Distribution	9,000.00
Miscellaneous	Affordable Housing Trust Distribution	200,000.00
Miscellaneous	Miscellaneous Trust Contributions	46,771.00
Miscellaneous	Reimbursement for damages	26,390.10
Total Miscellaneous	Stabilization Distribution	100,000.00
		<u>403,752.17</u>

Total Receipts

25,973,022.23

VETERANS SERVICES

Stephen Roy, Veteran's Agent

The Williamstown Office of Veteran Services is directly responsible for providing veterans' benefits under Chapter 115 of the General Laws of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and the Department of Veteran Affairs at the federal level. These important programs provide a great variety of resources and financial assistance to eligible veterans and their dependents. The veterans of our community who are disabled, homeless, unemployed or suffering from the trauma of war with nowhere else to turn can find relief in the services provided by the Office of Veteran Services.

Accurate bookkeeping and 100% approval of all submitted claims to the Department of Veteran Services (DVS) in Boston continues to be a priority in this time of financial insecurity our communities are facing. The Office of Veteran Services can assure full reimbursement to the Town of Williamstown under the guidelines of 108 CMR § 13.02 (3). Williamstown continues to see a steady increase in the number of claims filed and clients served; the associated costs to the community to pay these benefits escalates accordingly. Consequently the need for meticulous recordkeeping and guaranteed reimbursement by the Commonwealth to the City is imperative. In 2013, Veterans' Agent Stephen Roy processed \$65,975.41 in benefit claims without a single penny rejected by the Commonwealth - funding which would otherwise be a liability to the community. Many veterans have been saved from homelessness, hunger and despair by these funds.

With the drawdown in America's foreign engagements, many service members are coming home from Iraq and Afghanistan. While this is a wonderful, the unfortunate truth of the matter is America continues to recover from the recession and meaningful employment opportunities are extremely scarce. Worse, many soldiers, sailors, airmen and Marines come home greatly challenged due to the horrific effect of war on the human psyche. The Office of Veteran Services assists a great number of veterans with filing claims through the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA). This intimidating (and time consuming) process is extremely difficult to accomplish successfully; without assistance nearly all claims would otherwise be denied by the VA. We assist these folks in 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 veterans' graves are properly honored. The Veterans' Office also serves as a depository for hundreds of thousands of documents and important records of historic value to the sons and daughters of Williamstown in secure archives.

VSO Stephen Roy maintains a very dynamic and flexible schedule serving the veterans of not only the Town of Williamstown but the City of North Adams, Adams, Williamstown, Clarksburg and Florida. The Veterans' Agent often makes special appointments and house calls to the sick, bedridden or elderly who cannot easily make it to the Municipal Building to process documentation. The Williamstown Office of Veteran Services is staffed Monday and Wednesday afternoons from 1:00 – 3:30.

WATER AND SEWER

Edward Rondeau, Superintendent

The Water Department had a productive year in 2013, as we continue to better our water distribution system while promoting the production of good, clean and safe public drinking water of high quality and ample quality.

The Department repaired six main breaks, and two service line replacements during the calendar year.

Our biggest project was the installation of new eight inch ductile iron water main on Arnold Street to upgrade the fire protection, and promote better water quality in that neighborhood. This project is one part of a four to five year project to upgrade the water supply and fire protection in this neighborhood. The streets adjacent to the Photech Mill contain some of the most clustered housing in your community, but also have the most antiquated water mains in our distribution system.

We will continue with the project in the spring of 2014, next upgrading Mill Street and then Elm Street in its entirety, and finally finishing a project started in 1984 completing new main on Maple Street.

The Sewer Department had a busy year as well, starting with the replacement of 1,072 feet of clay tile sanitary sewer located off Syndicate Road, with new six inch p.v.c. plastic pipe. The main has been a maintenance nightmare for many years, being off road its subject to a great deal of root intrusion from trees and shrubs. The nuisance was compounded by the location of the pipe, being very inaccessible during most seasons, making the constant cleaning work on it even more difficult. The replacement pipe is not subject to root intrusion due to its tighter joints which don't allow tree roots to get into the pipe and impede the flow. The new main also has a much better flow pattern due to the "slippery effect" caused by it being a much smoother pipe.

The Sewer Department cleaned Maple Street, Cole Avenue (West Side), Colonial Avenue, Berkshire Drive, Orchard Lane and Harrison Avenue sewer mains. Four of these streets were also televised; Colonial, Berkshire, Orchard, Harrison. All of this work is part of our initiative to collect an entire video catalog of our entire sanitary sewer system.

WILLIAMSTOWN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Rose P. Ellis, Superintendent

Joelle Brookner, Principal

WILLIAMSTOWN-LANESBOROUGH SCHOOL UNION 71

Combined Student Enrollment:660 Faculty/Staff: 131.3*

Williamstown Elementary is a school of excellence and here is a sampling of programs and initiatives designed for our students that we are all proud of:

- ✓ **CURRICULUM:** Ongoing state-of-the art curriculum development in reading, writing, mathematics with hands-on learning in a well-stocked science lab.
- ✓ **STAFFING:** Experienced and highly dedicated teachers, support staff and the new Principal.
- ✓ **ACHIEVEMENT:** Grades 3rd through 6th consistently score high on MCAS in reading, math and science.
- ✓ **PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT:** Continued tradition of high quality, job-embedded training for staff.
- ✓ **TECHNOLOGY:** 21st Century tools aligned with teaching and learning in the digital age.
- ✓ **IPADS:** I Pads for staff to enhance their classroom instruction and support innovative teaching.
- ✓ **STUDENT MORNING NEWS PROGRAM:** Televised programming developed by 6th grade students with guidance from their teachers – viewed by all PK-6 classrooms. Now in its 10th year.
- ✓ **MANDARIN:** Instruction in world language starting in pre-kindergarten -- now in its second year.
- ✓ **ENRICHMENT:** On-going student experiences designed to stretch learning: SHAKESPEARE, Words Are Wonderful, 6th GRADE MUSICAL, ORCHESTRA/BAND CONCERTS, GRAND TRADITION PIANO CONCERT, ADVENTURES IN LEARNING, GEOGRAPHY BEE and RENZI AWARD.
- ✓ **WILLIAMSTOWN YOUTH CENTER:** New partnership with the Youth Center on the grounds of WES -- expanding opportunities for our students.

Additional

- ✓ **TRI-DISTRICT WEBSITE:** A website for WES, Mt. Greylock and Lanesborough. Please visit for information on the tri-district, regionalization and the Mt. Greylock building project: wlschools.org.
- ✓ **GRANT FUNDING:** Superintendent received \$50,000 competitive State grant to study PK-12 REGIONALIZATION.

*Includes Tri-District staff.

WILLIAMSTOWN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL ENROLLMENT and STAFFING
2012-2013

STUDENT ENROLLMENT

YEAR	TOTALS	PK	K	1	2	3	4	5	6
Ratio 12-13	438	1:11 34	1:18 54	1:16 63	1:18 55	1:16 48	1:21 64	1:20 60	1:20 60
Ratio 11-12	416	1:15 29	1:16 65	1:16 48	1:15 46	1:19 56	1:19 57	1:20 59	1:19 56
Ratio 10-11	407	1:11 33	1:16 47	1:16 48	1:15 58	1:18 54	1:21 62	1:18 55	1:17 50
Ratio 09-10	426	1:11 35	1:15 45	1:19 56	1:19 56	1:20 60	1:19 58	1:16 49	1:22 68
08-09	455	33	57	61	59	59	54	65	67

EDUCATIONAL AND SUPPORT STAFFING (Full-Time Equivalents)

Grade-Level Teachers PK-6	24
Specialists (Music, Art, Library, PE, Nurse, Reading, World Language and Technology)	8.8
Special Education Teachers And Professional Support Staff	7.3
Paraprofessionals	26
Custodians/Cafeteria	7.15
TOTAL	73.3 Staff Members

WILLIAMSTOWN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL HIGHLIGHTS 2012-2013

Williamstown Elementary held its 15th annual Word are Wonderful celebration in October. Under the inspired leadership of parent, Lauren Gotlieb, WES was host to a range of fantastic activities, including student workshops and assemblies given by writer Cynthia Lord, author of the Newbery Honor book *Rules*, and author/cartoonist George O'Connor, creator of *The Olympians* graphic novel series. The capstone highlight for the week was an ambitious all-school field trip to The '62 Center to hear singer/songwriter Jon Gailmor perform the debut of Williamstown Elementary's very own school song called, "*We Are WES*", which was written by the second and third grades during Mr. Gailmor's day-long residency at the school.

This year we had twenty-nine fifth and sixth grade students working on the First Lego League challenges during our after-school Lego Robotics Club. Three WES teams competed in the Berkshire Robotics Championship in Lenox, which included thirty-six fourth through eighth grade teams from Berkshire County and surrounding states. Our grade six team of Walker Neimeyer, Theo Sandstrom, Jesse Seid, Josh Cheung, Cam

Honiker, and Spencer Rougeau finished in third place overall! Congratulations to WES Technology Coordinator and Lego Robotics Coach, Tom Welch, and all the students who participated.

In May, Williamstown Elementary sixth graders treated the entire community to a weekend of spirited performances of *Seussical*, a musical based on the beloved books of Dr. Seuss. Under the visionary direction of WES music teacher, Betsy Reali, students worked for months to master scripts and music, and to stitch whimsical costumes. WES alum, John Elder, now a professional lighting and set designer, returned to his alma mater once again to create an extended stage and brilliant sets. *Seussical* characters could be seen dancing, jumping, skate-boarding, and using scooters all over the stage, much to the delight of each packed audience. Many thanks go out to Betsy and John, as well as WES teachers Margot Sanger and Sue Kirby, for their countless hours shaping and guiding our students in this amazing venture.

WILLIAMSTOWN SCHOOL COMMITTEE

School Committee members for the 2012-2013 school year included: Margaret McComish, Chairperson, Valerie Hall, Vice-Chair, John Skavlem, Dan Caplinger, and Chris Jones--with Ms. McComish finishing up her term at the end of the school year. WES is fortunate to have such dedicated volunteers advocating for our students and school community.

WILLIAMSTOWN HOUSING AUTHORITY

Betty Ann LaBombard, Executive Director

35 Adams Road

Williamstown, Massachusetts 01267

Tel: 413 458-8282 Fax: 413 458-9698

The Williamstown Housing Authority administers a total of 150 units of subsidized housing, both rental assistance and conventional units. This includes: 30 elderly apartments, Meadowvale, on Adams Road, 97 units of federally subsidized Section 8 rental assistance, 8 units of family housing at the corner of Cole Avenue and Stetson Road, 8 units for people with special needs on Adams Road, and 7 state funded rental vouchers. Our office is located at Meadowvale, 35 Adams Road.

We are presently accepting applications for elderly and family housing. However, our Section 8 Federally funded rental assistance program waiting list is closed at the present time, due to the number of applicants.

The members of the Williamstown Housing Authority are: Mark Reinhardt – Chair and State Appointee, Richard Hamblin - Vice Chair, Peter Mehlin, Joan Burns and David Mangun. The Executive Director is Betty Ann Labombard

ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS

Andrew Hoar, Chair

The Zoning Board of Appeals is comprised of 5 members and 3 alternate members. Serving on the Board in 2013 were Andrew Hoar; Chair, John Holden, David Levine, Ryan Neathawk, and Leigh Short. Alternate Members are Hugh Daley, David Ranzer, and Larry Wright.

The Board meets the third Thursday of every month to hear and decide petitions arising from the application of the Williamstown's Zoning Bylaws. These petitions fall into four categories:

- **Variiances** seek relief from the requirements of the Bylaws due to particular circumstances that are unique to a property.
- **Special Permits** seek permission for uses or changes allowed under the Bylaws under certain conditions. These permits allow the Board to permit important projects while protecting neighborhoods from adverse impacts.
- **Administrative Appeals** seek relief from a decision made by the Zoning Enforcement Officer.
- **Comprehensive Permits** seek permission to circumvent certain local zoning laws to construct affordable housing under the authority of Massachusetts General Law Ch. 40B.

Any application for any of these four types of permits requires the Board to place advertisements in the local newspaper, formerly *The Advocate*, now *The Berkshire Eagle*, and notify all abutters of the subject property of the time and date of the public hearing on an application by mail. This process ensures that all neighbors of a proposed project have a chance to voice any concerns regarding a proposal. If you ever receive a post card notifying you of a permit request in your neighborhood don't hesitate to contact Town Hall for additional information.

The Zoning Board received 18 requests for hearings in 2013, a slight uptick from the previous year and hopefully a sign of slow but steady economic recovery. There were 18 requests for Special Permits with 17 approved and 1 denied. The most common Special Permits for the year were for Home Occupations. These are permits for business to be run out of single family homes. The Board is tasked with reviewing these permits to ensure that these businesses can contribute to the local economy without disrupting residential neighborhoods. Five of these permits were issued in 2013 for varying businesses including software development, law, and engineering.

The largest project permitted by the Board in 2013 was the renovation and reconfiguration of the Weston Field Complex at Williams College. This project will proceed throughout 2014 and is anticipated to be complete for the upcoming football season. This project, as is generally the case with Williams College projects, was a unique from a permitting perspective. Williams, along with other local institutions, is recognized under Mass. General Law as a non-profit educational institution. Mass. General Law exempts these types of institutions from all zoning use restrictions. Local communities, however, are still empowered to regulate aspects of development such as bulk, height, and size of structures as well as other site requirements such as landscaping, and parking. Properly permitting such a project requires careful

attention to past case law on exact findings and other procedural items required of Zoning Boards when proceeding with such projects.

Other noteworthy permits issued included; further revisions to the permits governing construction at the Clark Art, permits allowing 384 Main Street to be reconfigured for a Dollar General, and a new Bed and Breakfast on Cobbleview Road. Permits were also issued for both Cricket Creek and Sweetbrook Farms under a new provision in the Zoning Bylaw allowing the hosting of weddings on farms. We're looking forward to more exciting proposals from the community in 2014.

Appendices

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- Williamstown Historical Museum
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Williamstown Fire District Annual Report 2013



The Williamstown Fire District is an independent governmental entity created by a 1912 act of the Legislature. The District is governed by a board of three commissioners elected at the District's annual meeting customarily on the fourth Tuesday in May at which time the District also sets its budget and its tax levy for the following year. All registered voters of Williamstown are entitled to attend the annual meeting at the District firehouse on Water Street.

PRUDENTIAL COMMITTEE

Edward B. Briggs

John J. Notsley

Edward M. McGowan

Corydon L. Thurston, Clerk and Treasurer

Craig A. Pedercini, Chief

34 Water Street

(413) 458-8113

The Fire District would like to recognize Firefighter Karlan Eberhardt who joined the department in (October of 2010) as a Williams College student and who graduated in June of this year. Thank you for your dedicated service and contribution to the community.

The District welcomes Corydon L. Thurston as our newly elected Clerk/Treasurer and Moderator who has replaced J. Paul Dube. Cory has also been a firefighter since 2003

As a result of our summer recruitment campaign this year, the district welcomes newcomer's William R. Bowen, Lucas H. Ames, Erryn M. Leinbaugh and Dylan D. Stafford. It should also be mentioned that Erryn is a Williams College graduate of the class of 1999 and was on the fire department for 3 years during his time at Williams. Now fourteen years later he has returned to Williamstown to settle with his family.

The district's 26 firefighters train on Monday nights and they average thirty five training nights a year. The in house training consists of refresher classes for State mandated requirements such as First Responders, CPR/AED and Hazardous Materials Operations. Other in house training which is just as important to keep current consisted of Fire Behavior, Building Construction, Pumps and Hydraulics, Ladders, Vehicle Extrication, Self Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA's), Advancing Handlines, Dressing a Fire Hydrant (the proper way to connect hose), Drafting Water from Brooks and Rivers and Ventilation Techniques to name just a few.

Firefighters continue to take courses offered by the Massachusetts Fire Academy. These courses are usually taught on weekends to accommodate the Call/Volunteer Firefighters due to their full time jobs. The courses are hosted either at the Massachusetts Fire Academy or by fire departments throughout the State. This year the Williamstown Fire District hosted the Pumps and Hydraulic Course. Other courses taken during 2013 were Ethanol for First Responders, Counter-Terrorism Operational Program, Aerial Ladders, Vehicle Extrication, Protective Breathing/Search and Rescue, Firefighter Survivor Skills, Rural Water Supply, Hazardous Materials Operations Level, Chemical Suicide Methods, Command Control Gas Emergencies, Fire Prevention Officer Basic, Fire Prevention Officer Level I

Firefighters also took the following mandatory courses required by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and the Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency (MEMA): National Incident Management System (NIMS) IS-700, IS-800, Incident Command System (ICS) -100, ICS-200.

Additional courses taken were Emergency Driving, Responding to Utility Emergencies, Firefighter Safety – Calling a Mayday and Principles of Building Construction.

Four firefighters obtained their Firefighter I/II Pro Board Certification.

Congratulations to Ryan C. Housman, Sean P. Peltier, Kevin A. Jolin and Matthew C. Wilson.

The District responded to 284 calls in the year 2013 a few of which are mentioned in greater detail. On March 31 at 455 Main Street a fire alarm system was credited with saving the building. It was Easter Sunday Morning (8:36am) when the fire alarms sounded at the Greylock Federal Credit Union summoning the Fire Department. From the exterior you would never know anything was wrong but in the basement a fire was growing. When firefighters entered the front door they discovered smoke banking down from the ceiling. Smoke was pouring out of a floor vent indicating a basement fire. Firefighters made a quick knock down keeping the damages to a minimum. A short in an electrical conduit was found to be the cause of the fire. The electrical short burned a hole through the conduit showering sparks onto a cardboard box igniting it. The fire ran up the wall and across the ceiling before firefighters stopped it. The business was closed for a few days while repairs were made. The Fire Chief credited the fire alarm systems for giving firefighters a jump on the fire.

On April 1, 2013, April fools day around 4:00 pm. The fire department was dispatched to an unknown outside fire called in by a neighbor. Responding firefighters found a wood framed structure fully involved but not threatening any other buildings. The structure was four by eight feet by three and one half feet high with plywood siding and an asphalt shingled roof. The fire was extinguished but the structure was a total loss. Looking around the scene firefighters found a pig taking shelter in some brush. As it turned out the destroyed structure was the home of Howard, a Vietnamese pig who happened to be home when the fire broke out. Apparently Howard's heat lamp fell from where it was hanging and dropped down on his blanket setting it on fire and consequently burning down his home. No worries though, Howard suffered a couple minor burns and is doing well. Howard's owner was planning on rebuilding his home.

On July 15, 2013 at 3:50 pm the fire department was dispatched to a report of a porch on fire. When firefighters arrived they found the fire had already been extinguished by the two people who reported it. They were driving by in separate vehicles when they noticed the fire and pulled into the driveway. Using a five gallon bucket and water from a children's swimming pool they put the fire out. It was determined that a wicker basket containing a plant had somehow caught fire causing damage to the porch and vinyl siding of the home. Although the cause was not able to be determined it is considered to be of a suspicious nature.

On July 18, 2013 at 10:00 am firefighters were called out of work to Cricket Creek Farm for a hay wagon on fire. The caller stated that the fire had spread to the surrounding grass and was heading towards the barn. The Fire Chief who was first to arrive on scene found a 20 foot long flat bed trailer with eleven round bails of hay on it burning out of control now threatening a large wood framed barn which was 18 feet away. While waiting for fire apparatus to arrive, a few workers hooked up a garden hose and the Fire Chief was able to extinguish the grass fire keeping the flames from reaching the barn. The first arriving engine dropped a four inch line near the fire and then continued on to a pond on the property where a dry hydrant had been installed four or five years earlier. The second arriving engine connected to the four inch supply line and two attack lines were pulled to suppress the fire. Although the fire was under control in less than 30 minutes, firefighters spent two and one half additional hours in the grueling heat pulling each bail of hay apart to guarantee

extinguishment. The temperature that day was in the 90's. Village Ambulance was staged on scene to treat firefighters for heat exhaustion and dehydration. The Pownal VT, Fire Department was called to standby with an engine company in Williamstown's station. The cause of the fire came down to two possibilities, the first being that the hay bails overhung the sides of the trailer pushing down on the fender causing it to rub on the tire. This would have created friction which heated up the steel fender enough to ignite the dry hay. It is also a possibility that the tire blew out as a result of the fender rubbing on it creating sparks from the metal wheel rubbing on the metal fender igniting the hay. Either way the fire was ruled accidental.

On September 25, 2013 at around 1:55 pm the fire department was called out to a kitchen grease fire in a mobile home at The Spruces. When firefighters arrived they were informed the fire had already been extinguished by a neighbor who was nearby at the time. This Good Samaritan suffered a burn on the hand while carrying a flaming grease pan outside. The living room carpet was also burned as the fiery grease pan dripped flaming grease onto it. The occupants of the mobile home were outside when the fire broke out and a smoke detector alerted them of the fire. One of the occupants was frying food in a pan which they left unattended when grease splattered onto the burner igniting the pan and scorching the cabinets over the stove. Once again a smoke detector is credited with alerting the occupants of a fire which kept the damages to a minimum.

The fire department was also busy responding to 19 motor vehicle accidents this year. Firefighters assisted Village Ambulance on these incidents with first aid. On three separate incidents vehicle extrication was required with the jaws of life rescue tool. Unfortunately there were also fatalities involved. Firefighters also spent time on the trails of the Mt Greylock Reservation and Stone Hill searching for lost hikers. Working along side with the Town's Forest Warden's Department and the Police Department they successfully found the lost parties. An hour long search of the Green River for a missing child who had been reported falling into the river had firefighters, EMS and police officers combing the river banks from Blair Road to Main Street. The story ends on a happy note as the child was able to get onto a sandbar and out of the swift flowing water, scared but unharmed. Firefighters and EMS personnel rescued the child from the sandbar and returned her home to her parents.

Total calls consisted of : Structure Fires – 5, Mutual Aid Structure Fires/Standby – 5 (Pownal Vt.), Chimney Fires – 1, Vehicle Fires – 5, Cooking Fire (contained) – 8, Trash/Dumpster Fire – 1, Brush Fires – 2, Illegal Outside Fires – 2, Other – 1 (Molotov Cocktail), Motor Vehicle Accidents – 19 (3 requiring extrication), Hazardous Materials Incidents – 7, Carbon Monoxide Investigations – 27 (2 actually having CO), Activated Fire Alarms – 138, Activated Sprinkler Alarms – 9, Smoke/Good Intent Calls – 19, Natural/Propane Gas Calls – 9, Burning Odor/Electrical – 5, Gasoline/Oil Spills/Odor – 2, Fires- Electrical/pole/tree/wires down – 5, Water Issues/Flooding Basements – 8, Rescues – 5 (2 lost hiker) (1 water rescue) (1 jumper) (1 fell from tree bucket) and Assist Other Agency – 1
Chief Pedercini conducted regular comprehensive inspections of all public and private schools, restaurants, motels, inns, theaters, and nursing homes. Inspections of fire alarms and sprinkler systems were performed in all structures built or remodeled

during the year. 248 permits were issued for Smoke/CO Detectors, Smoke/CO Installations, LPG, Torch, Tank Removals, Oil Burners, Tank Truck Inspections, Hood Suppression, Floor Refinishing, Fire Protection Systems, Fire Reports, Fireworks and Fuel Tank Storage

The Fire District installed two Dry Hydrants this year. They were installed at the Blair Road Bridge and the Bridge at Five Corners. The firefighters did the installation themselves saving the tax payers a few thousand dollars. A dry hydrant was installed several years ago on Green River Road adjacent to Riverview Road. This now gives the firefighters three quick access points along the Green River. The District will be looking into other possible location for Dry Hydrants. A dry hydrant is a non-pressurized pipe permanently installed in existing lakes, ponds, or streams that provides a supply of water by means of suction to a Fire Apparatus. In our rural areas, a lack of water and domestic fire hydrants can sometimes impair a fire department's ability to do its job quickly and efficiently. The dry hydrant system concept includes not only the strategic location of the hydrant itself, but also the equipment and trained personnel to use it efficiently. All three of these components are essential for an effective dry hydrant system. Tanker trucks must be used to carry large amounts of water to the fire scene. The success of the operation hinges on the distance the trucks must travel to water "fill-up" points around town.

On June 13, 2013 the Fire District's Prudential Committee, after several years of hard work and a feasibility study that was performed by the Maguire Group signed a purchase and sales agreement to acquire the Lehovac estate located at 562-580 Main Street for the sum of \$575,000.00. The Fire District scheduled a town Fire District meeting to be held on October 15, 2013 at the Williamstown Elementary School's Auditorium for the purpose of voting to approve the land purchase, a two third's vote was needed. In the meantime the Fire District's Prudential Committee and its firefighters began to get information out to the town residents informing them of not only the importance of obtaining the Lehovac property but how it would effect each and everyone's taxes. The tax payers would see an increase of 10 cent for every thousand dollars of property value for two years. There were 245 voters in attendance and although the majority was in favor, the Fire District was unable to get the two third vote needed. The District fell short by 15 votes.

In light of the results, the Fire District's Prudential Committee knowing the importance of obtaining the Lehovac property scheduled a second Fire District meeting to be held on December 3, 2013 once again at the Williamstown Elementary School's Auditorium. The Prudential Committee and its firefighters again worked diligently at educating the public as to the reasons why this was such an essential piece of property to obtain and at the end of the day the opposition prevailed once again. This time there were 422 voters who turned out and once again the Fire District had the majority in favor but lost the two thirds vote by another narrow margin.

Elected officers of the Williamstown Fire District include Corydon L. Thurston as Moderator, Clerk, and Treasurer of the District. His term expires in 2014. Elected

Prudential Committee members and term expirations are John J. Notsley, 2014, Edward M. McGowan, 2015 and Edward B. Briggs, 2016.

Appointed officers are Chief Craig A. Pedercini, First Assistant Engineer Robert E. Briggs, Second Assistant Engineer Michael E. Noyes, Third Assistant Engineer Richard F. Daniels, and Fourth Assistant Engineer Daniel J. Bryant

2012 - 2013
REPORT OF THE
TREASURER

July 1, 2012 - June 30, 2013

JULY 1, 2012 - BALANCE ON HAND IN TREASURY	\$583,794.37
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RECEIPTS:

Town of Williamstown (Taxes collected)	660,656.41	
Williams College	27,873.77	
Inspection Fees	6,245.00	
Bank North (checking)	3.84	
Adams Community Bank (Money Market)	1,444.87	
TD Bank (Money Market)	335.52	
Miscellaneous	120.00	
Donations	450.00	\$697,129.41
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		\$1,280,923.78

EXPENDITURES:

Street Lighting	74,595.58
Water Rents	1,650.00
Heat, Light, Power	4,552.50
Pay of Firemen	39,405.00
Insurance	47,245.39
Pay Roll Taxes	3,103.80
Communications	5,607.50
Dispatch Services	51,228.25

Salaries	85,532.22	
Services & Supplies	8,000.00	
Education & Training	8,690.27	
Maintenance & Operation	52,078.28	
Berkshire County Retirement	28,492.00	
Audit	8,000.00	
Legal	200.00	

	418,380.79	
Article 6, Stabilization	42,000.00	
Site Cost	14,897.10	
Chief's Car	40,080.00	
Repair Roof & Front	66,041.14	\$581,399.03
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June 30, 2013, BALANCE ON HAND IN TREASURY		\$699,524.75
Stabilization Fund as of July 1, 2012	325,623.77	
Additions	42,000.00	
Interest	995.93	

Balance as of June 30, 2013		\$368,619.70

Williamstown Historical Museum

2013 Annual Report

Nancy Burstein, Curator

2013 was a year of transition and growth for the Williamstown Historical Museum. Sadly, Carl Westerdahl, the inspiring and forward thinking President of our Board of Directors since 2010, died in April. An extremely resilient and dedicated board, led by Interim President Rita Watson, kept the museum moving in the direction Carl hoped for. Generous monetary donations made in memory of Carl provided funding for a project to develop a redesigned website for the museum. This project aims to reach a broader audience create a new look for our publications and communications, a goal that was set by Carl. Our new website can be found by following this link: <http://www.williamstownhistoricalmuseum.org/>. In June, Nancy Burstein, our devoted director of over 28 years, retired. Nancy's accomplishments at the museum are countless, and her role in the firm establishment of the museum as a primary venue for the preservation and presentation of our town's valuable history is unquestionable. We are fortunate that Nancy remains closely connected to the museum and that she makes herself accessible as a priceless resource and guide to our collection.

In May our online catalog became accessible to the public. Making the core of the collection accessible off-site provides an opportunity for us to further our mission to "to increase the public's knowledge of Williamstown's past." By running a keyword search visitors to the site can find interesting images of and information about items in our collection related to Williamstown's history. <http://williamstown.pastperfect-online.com>. We encourage all town residents to take a look! A major portion of this project was made in possible by the support of a grant received in 2012 from the Fund for Williamstown, a fund of the Berkshire Taconic Community Foundation.

Exhibits

Our orientation exhibit *From Wilderness to Williamstown* continues to enlighten visitors about major trends in the town's development.

We have begun to explore ways to keep our temporary exhibits running for a longer period of time online. Our first online exhibit draws from the very popular "*Williamstown in the Golden Age of Postcards*" special exhibit that ran from the fall of 2012 to January of 2013. Our first online exhibit can be found here: <http://williamstownpostcards.wordpress.com/>.

Our on-site special exhibits in 2013 focused on two areas in town that are rich in history. Rita Watson curated *Spring Street, Then and Now*. Running from February through October, this exhibit featured captivating images of the street's evolution. Prior to Spring Street's establishment as a town street, it was little more than a well-trodden lane leading to two springs at its southern end that supplied townspeople and college students with drinking water. After years of development by the college, residents, and businesses, the street emerged into what is now a commercial "hub" of the town. In the exhibit, the buildings, businesses and people of Spring Street came to life in the "then and now" images and their accompanying descriptive text.

Our current special exhibit, curated by Joe Bergeron, is titled *Mt. Hope Farm*. The exhibit opened in November and will run through April, 2014. In this exhibit, visitors are able to explore the estate's rise to prototype farm through photos and maps of the property as well as publications focusing on the results of the scientific research carried out on the farm. We always appreciate the contributions of guest curators from the town and welcome suggestions for future exhibits.

Our traveling panel exhibit was on display at the '62 Center during the Williamstown Theater Festival season. Our small rotating exhibits have continued at the Williamstown Savings Bank and at the Municipal Building with two historic photos from the collection at each site that change monthly. These exhibits are primarily designed to pique interest and to bring people into the museum.

Outreach and Public Programs

In November, in conjunction with the Harper Center and WilliNet, we recorded a group discussion where participants shared their recollections of JFK's assassination on the 50th anniversary of the tragic event. Everyone had valuable memories to convey. For the second year, we provided the gift of a personal copy of *Williamstown: The First 250 Years* to each sixth grade graduate at Williamstown Elementary School. For a brief time this year, we submitted a monthly history article to *The Advocate* until the paper closed in January. The history article, prepared by Dusty Bahlman, drew points of interest and humor from *Williamstown: The First 250 Years*, the archives of the Williamstown Historical Museum, and personal recollections of town residents.

Education

Our reproduction early American games visited Pine Cobble School where second graders were able to explore history through play. Visits by the Williamstown Elementary School third grade classes were enhanced by Education Coordinator Dick Steege's pre-trip activities in the classroom. Dick continues to work as a liaison between the museum and teachers in an attempt to increase the use of material from our collection in the classroom. In the spring we met with a group of history teachers from MGRHS and provided them with a tour of our museum and had a productive conversation about how our materials could be of use to the teachers and their students. In the spring of 2012, the museum was awarded funding from WESE a

grant for a Third Grade Primary Source Packet. Nancy Burstein and Dick Steege spearheaded this project to compile binders of ready-to-go lessons and teaching points relating to Williamstown's history.

Research Assistance

Our resources are utilized not only for education and public programs, but also in responding daily to the many inquiries for genealogical assistance, house history research, student research, professional research, information for our own exhibits and programs, as well as for programs and visits arranged by request for other community groups. Our primary genealogy researcher, David Primmer, responded to approximately 12 research requests this year.

Nuts and Bolts

Our collection of historic artifacts continues to expand through the contributions of Williamstown-related items from our generous donors. In 2013 we received 64 separate gifts from 50 donors, 25 of them from first-time donors.

Most of the gifts consisted of multiple items, increasing our collection by more than 161 separate items that required sorting, evaluating, cataloguing, and processing. Our part-time staff member works approximately 20 hours a week. In 2013, the work of our professional staff was supplemented by the work of two Williams College interns who worked through the fall cataloging documents from our archive. Our ongoing work and many special projects were possible only with more than 500 additional hours generously donated by our faithful volunteers. Several volunteer docents fill 2-hour slots in the mornings and afternoons at the museum. Other volunteers carry out research, prepare for special programs and lectures, and help mount special exhibits.

A Broad Constituency

Our resources serve our local community but many people from beyond Williamstown, Berkshire county and bordering states visit the museum and use our research material. In 2013 our small museum's guestbook contained signatures from 21 states and 6 foreign countries: England, Spain, Canada, Sweden and Singapore and Israel.

We Must Be Doing Something Right

Among comments from visitors to our exhibits:

“Going to be working on ‘Our Town’ at Julliard – this is great help!”

“A 5 star gem of a historical museum.”

“Thanks for the expert and efficient help!”

“Excellent reference collection!”

“Charming and delightful way to spend an hour”



2013 Annual Report

David Rempell, Executive Director
Michael Williams, Assistant Director
Diane Sullivan, Assistant Director

The Williamstown Youth Center celebrated the one year anniversary of the opening of our new facility this past November. This event was noted in the local press and included a speech by 4th grade student Tess Johnstadt and a special snack for the children. As anticipated, the Youth Center is able to provide enhanced programming to the children of our community because of our “New” Youth Center facility. Needless to say, we are greatly appreciative of the support provided by the community that made this project possible. The children and staff love the new building.

It is important for the community to be aware of the mission and vision of the Williamstown Youth Center. They are as follows:

Mission: The Williamstown Youth Center is committed to nurturing the educational, recreational, social and emotional well-being of the youth and families in Williamstown and surrounding communities through quality programs for all.

Vision: The Williamstown Youth Center will serve children and their families during non-school hours by providing quality educational, recreational and artistic programs. Our programs will foster the development of healthy lifestyles in a safe, well-supervised and challenging environment. In addition, the Youth Center facility will be made available to other community groups when space is available.

Our signature program, the After-School Program, has seen a significant increase in participation since we moved into our new building. The After-School Program operates every school day until 5:30 p.m. With our increased enrollment, children are now grouped by age and sign up for a variety of activities during different segments of the afternoon. Each group has a “group leader”, a staff person who monitors the schedule for each child in his/her group. Daily meetings allow us to discuss issues as a community and build a positive culture, while we enjoy healthy snacks. There are many options available for children. These include homework assistance in our learning center, which also includes a comfortable library for reading; strategic board games; game room with ping pong, pool, foosball, etc.; art room, with a variety of activities offered on a daily basis; movement room where children get to experience different types of dance, yoga, etc., and a media center for technology activities. In addition, we now have dedicated space for our older (teenage) participants. The new gym provides enough space for gross-motor activities during the After-School

Program, as well as appropriate space for a new offering this year, volleyball. Clearly, the After-School Program is a popular part of many children's lives.

The Youth Center continues to offer full-day programs during school vacation weeks and during the summer. Our eight or nine week summer camp includes many trips to local cultural and recreational venues. In addition, our new facility allows other community organizations to partner with us as we expand our summer options.

During the school year the Youth Center facilitates programs in many sports. Many members of our community (parents, college and high school students, and college coaches) volunteer their time to provide instruction. Offerings include instruction in swimming, skating, hockey, basketball, track and field, soccer, etc. The Youth Center's Sports Philosophy states that the most important objectives for our young athletes are to have fun, improve playing skills, be a responsible team member, and learn to love to play.

The annual Snowfest celebration was held on Sunday, February 2nd. We are grateful to Williams College for the use of its skating rink and field house. In addition, many athletes at Williams and students from Mt. Greylock Regional High School provided assistance. As always, Snowfest provided a vast assortment of activities for children and families. Proceeds from the celebration support the operating budget of the Youth Center and allow us to continue to provide scholarship assistance so that all children can participate in Youth Center activities. To enhance our net income from Snowfest, a number of local organizations helped sponsor the event this year. Our sponsors included: American Legion Post # 152, Berkshire Direct, Colonial Pizza, Countryside Landscape and Design, Inc., Cozy Corner Restaurant, Donovan & O' Connor, LLP, Greylock Federal Credit Union, Ira Lapidus, D.M.D., Greylock Bowl and Golf/Mingo's Sports Bar and Grill, Pera Bistro, The Porches Inn, The Print Shop at Berkshire Direct, Ramuntos Pizza, True North Financial Services, Vermont Voltage Sports Club, VoIP Logic, The Williams Shop, and Williamstown Physical Therapy.

The Board of Directors works extremely hard on overseeing the operations of the Youth Center. This year the Board has created three new committees to help oversee its work and plan for the future. These committees are: Operational Committee, Financial Committee, and Planning and Organizational Committee. Members of the Board include Dave Armet, President, Duffy Judge, Vice-President, Russ Howard, Treasurer, Madeline Levy, Secretary, Kevin Bopp, Paul Jennings, Kim Kuster, John McAlister, Marc McDermott, Carman Nareau, Laura Thompson, and Tom Welch.

The Williamstown Youth Center could not possibly do what it does without the support of the community. Our generous donors, volunteer coaches, etc. help make this a better community for children. We receive major support from the Town of Williamstown and Williamstown Community Chest. The Williamstown Elementary School and Williams College provide space for many of our programs. Thank you for your support.