

## BOARD OF ASSESSORS

For 2007, the total assessed taxable valuation of Hamilton is \$1,479,271,880 with a property tax levy of \$19,807,450. The fiscal year 2008 tax rate as certified by the Department of Revenue is \$13.39 up .81 from the previous year. Building permits issued in 2007 resulted in an additional \$171,712 in tax levy growth.

In 2007, the Board of Assessors completed an interim year adjustment of all property in the town of Hamilton as required by the Department of Revenue. Under Massachusetts's law, this Board is required to value all of Hamilton's 2793 properties at 100 percent of their full and fair cash valuation, thereby insuring an equitable distribution of the property tax levy. The town's average single-family valuation is \$538,850. More importantly, we believe that we have met our statutory obligation to re-establish proper assessment level and uniformity throughout the town of Hamilton. Final Department of Revenue certification of assessed valuations was granted in December and property tax bills were subsequently mailed at the end of December. The current valuation and levy percentages based upon property class are as follows:

<b><u>CLASS</u></b>	<b><u>VALUATION</u></b>	<b><u>%</u></b>	<b><u>TAXES PAID</u></b>	<b><u>LEVY %</u></b>
<b>Residential</b>	1,408,580,100	95%	\$18,860,888	95%
<b>Commercial</b>	59,491,800	4%	\$796,595	4%
<b>Industrial</b>	823,700	0%	\$11,029	0%
<b>Personal</b>	<u>10,376,280</u>	<u>1%</u>	<u>\$138,938</u>	<u>1%</u>
<b>TOTALS</b>	1,479,271,880	100%	\$19,807,450	100%

In 2007, the Assessing Department completed the fourth year of a state-mandated data re-collection program. This process is an important component of maintaining the integrity of Hamilton's real property information database.

Also in 2007, the Board of Assessors declared an overlay surplus of over 37,000 dollars. This surplus was realized in large part due to determination of defensible valuations as incorporating a thorough appeal review process. This surplus was returned to the Town for fiscal year 2009 budgetary purposes.

This past year saw the retirement of long time Assessor, Robert Trussell. His knowledge and dedication to the Town will be missed.

We would like to assure all property owners that the Board of Assessors will continue its effort to meet the challenge of maintaining equitable assessments in this current real estate market.

Respectfully submitted,

Gelean M. Campbell, Chairman

Steven Ozahowski, Member

Peter J. Kane, Member

## TREASURER COLLECTOR

I hereby submit my Annual Report as Treasurer/Collector for the Town of Hamilton for the calendar year ended December 31, 2007.

<b>January 1, 2007</b>	<b>\$5,458,194</b>
Receipts	\$25,972,396
Disbursements	( <b>\$27,753,540</b> )
<b>December 31, 2007</b>	<b>\$3,677,050</b>

### Segregated Cash Accounts - December 31, 2007

Stabilization Fund	\$ 612,905
Clark Property Fund	\$ 226,244
Conservation Commission	\$ 94,881
Cultural Council	\$ 1,699
Comcast	\$ 4,319
CPA	\$ 1,301,288
Junction	\$ 181
Performance Guarantee	\$ 5,054
Verizon	\$ 5,153
MMDT - Public Safety Building	\$ 31,755
Merrill Lynch - Trust Funds	\$ 425,850
	<hr/>
	\$ 2,709,328

Respectfully Submitted,

Cheryl J. Booth, CMMT, CMMC  
Treasurer/Collector

**TREASURER COLLECTOR**

<u>COLLECTIONS</u>	<u>YEAR</u>	<u>January - June</u>		<u>July - December</u>		<u>Total</u>
<b>REAL ESTATE</b>	<b>2008</b>	\$	-	\$	9,146,981	\$ 9,146,981
	<b>2007</b>	\$	9,688,274	\$	161,550	\$ 9,849,824
		\$	9,688,274	\$	9,308,531	\$ 18,996,805
<b>PERSONAL PROPERTY</b>	<b>2008</b>	\$	-	\$	58,170	\$ 58,170
	<b>2007</b>	\$	61,761	\$	276	\$ 62,037
		\$	61,761	\$	58,446	\$ 120,207
<b>MOTOR VEHICLE EXCISE</b>	<b>2007</b>	\$	815,250	\$	119,241	\$ 934,491
	<b>2006</b>	\$	23,934	\$	8,257	\$ 32,191
	<b>2005</b>	\$	1,321	\$	2,866	\$ 4,187
	<b>Prior to 2004</b>	\$	352	\$	971	\$ 1,323
		\$	840,857	\$	131,335	\$ 972,192
<b>BOAT EXCISE</b>	<b>2007</b>	\$	-	\$	2,481	\$ 2,481
	<b>2006</b>	\$	206	\$	-	\$ 206
		\$	206	\$	2,481	\$ 2,687
<b>WATER</b>	<b>Rates</b>	\$	340,169	\$	444,269	\$ 784,438
	<b>General Billing</b>	\$	8,642	\$	9,956	\$ 18,598
	<b>Liens</b>	\$	21,769	\$	2,297	\$ 24,066
	<b>Penalties &amp; Interest</b>	\$	140	\$	213	\$ 353
		\$	370,720	\$	456,735	\$ 827,455
<b>CPA</b>	<b>2008</b>	\$	-	\$	153,089	\$ 153,089
	<b>2007</b>	\$	161,325	\$	1,825	\$ 163,150
	<b>Interest</b>	\$	250	\$	259	\$ 509
		\$	161,575	\$	155,173	\$ 316,748
<b>TAX TITLES</b>		\$	49,223	\$	66,962	\$ 116,185
<b>BETTERMENTS</b>		\$	3,383	\$	50	\$ 3,433
<b>PENALTIES &amp; INTEREST</b>		\$	36,103	\$	36,206	\$ 72,309
<b>MUNICIPAL LIEN CERTIFICATES</b>		\$	3,175	\$	2,325	\$ 5,500
<b>TOTAL</b>		\$	<b>11,215,277</b>	\$	<b>10,218,244</b>	\$ <b>21,433,521</b>

## **BOARD OF HEALTH**

The Board of Health is responsible for the overall stewardship of the public health and environmental protection of the town. Responsibilities are defined both by local bylaws and state law. The Board promotes, enacts, and enforces all health and environmental laws, rules and regulations. Additionally the Board of Health conducts health clinics, participates in education programs wherever possible and administers the contracts for a food inspection program, a public health nurse and communicable disease follow-up program, and animal inspection services.

The Board consists of three members serving three-year terms in rotation. Stephen Druschel served as Chair, JoAnne Ainsworth and Rodd Stockwell, M.D. served as members. John Jacobi is the Health Agent. Gail Messelaar continued as Administrative Assistant as well as Doris Cole as part-time Administrative Assistant. Dyan Katz was reappointed as Animal Inspector and Anne Jackman was reappointed as Assistant Animal Inspector.

In 2007 the Hamilton Board of Health continued to be pro-active in the review and formulation of a disaster plan in concert with the Department of Public Health and the Office of Domestic Preparedness. The Hamilton Board of Health continued to partner with thirteen cities and towns which make up the North Shore Coalition for Emergency Preparedness.

The Board is working in conjunction with Walter Montgomery of the Northeast Massachusetts Mosquito Control, the Board of Selectmen, and town residents to establish a Mosquito Control Monitoring program for the town.

The Health Agent enforced Massachusetts Title V regulations for sewage disposal. This included many site visits to existing and proposed home sites, review and approval of plans, and the issuing of treatment and disposal system permits. Our role also includes the inspection of construction of the sewage systems and involvement in the permit process for work on existing and new homes.

Semi-annual food inspections were performed by Frank Giacalone at all permanent, limited and temporary establishments that sell and/or prepare food including the school cafeterias in the Hamilton-Wenham School District.

The Board provided public health, preventative health and health promotion services to the residents of Hamilton. These included: tuberculosis screening; immunization against other communicable diseases; communicable disease follow-up by telephone and/or home visits with completion of epidemiological survey; one time home visits to high risk mothers and their newborns; occasional home visits to assess an individual's health and safety and grief visits. Increases in both Lyme disease and other tick borne diseases continue to make up the majority of all reportable disease in Hamilton.

Influenza/pneumonia vaccination clinics were held by the Board of Health and with assistance of private nurse services.

In the Spring, a rabies immunization clinic for dogs and cats was offered at the Town garage. The clinic was sponsored by the Veterinary Association of the North Shore.

The Board cannot over emphasize the absolute need for dog and cat owners to obtain rabies vaccinations for their pets and revaccinations on the required schedule. Please have your cats and dogs vaccinated not only to protect their health but also to prevent rabies in humans, as pets are the bridge between ground animals and humans. Pets must be revaccinated within one (1) year of their initial vaccination and revaccinated as recommended by the Veterinarian or vaccine manufacturer thereafter.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts, Department of Food and Agriculture, Division of Animal Health and Dairying requires all horses, ponies, cattle, sheep, goats, swine, and flocks of poultry numbering twenty-five (25) or more to be inspected and an annual census completed. The Inspector of Animals conducted inspections of the animals and their housing conditions throughout Hamilton.

Numerous environmental and housing complaints were also investigated and properly handled in accordance with State regulations.

The Board also distributed vaccines and biologics from the Massachusetts Department of Public Health to physicians in Hamilton.

Respectfully submitted,

Stephen Druschel, Chairman  
JoAnne Ainsworth  
Rodd Stockwell, M. D

### **CHEBACCO WOODS LAND MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE**

Fiscal 2008 was a busy year for the Committee. Sue McLaughlin continued to conduct monthly hikes: but last fall, the Committee decided to reduce the hikes to a quarterly rotation: December, March, June, and September. Most locals who use the Woods are familiar with its trails. Sue also monitors the supply of maps and dog clean up bags at the Kiosk at the main entrance. Unfortunately, the two major encroachments to the property remain unresolved. The Committee received all prior approvals necessary before obtaining final approval for the land swaps from the Legislature. Legislative approval, however, must be sought within one year of approvals by the Towns; and due to delay at one office, this requirement was not met. Approvals by the towns will again be sought to meet this requirement. The trail improvement project continues with the assistance of many. Gordon College completed the section of the Red Dot Trail leading from the college to Round Pond. Following Hamilton Conservation Commission approval, Messrs, Vandy and Dolan of Hamilton replaced a damaged culvert with an easily maintained swale. R. B. Strong of Gloucester has completed approximately  $\frac{3}{4}$  of the work on the White Dot Trail, and Strong and Stendahl Tree of Ipswich have visited the eastern half of the property in anticipation of commencing work there in fiscal 2009. For the work completed to date and thru June 2008, the Committee is deeply indebted to the Hamilton Community Preservation Committee for its \$25,000 grant. The Committee also thanks the Essex County Trail Association for its contribution of \$250. The Committee is hopeful that it will receive a substantial contribution from the Manchester Community Preservation Committee to do the work on the eastern half of the property. This work includes opening an old trail that hugs the eastern coast of Round Pond. Rick Vancisin of Hamilton agreed to fill the one remaining vacant position on the Committee.

## COMMUNITY PRESERVATION COMMITTEE

The CPC continued to meet on a monthly basis in 2007. The Committee and the Committee's Coordinator, Christine Berry, have been working with the proponents and managers of the projects that were approved at Town Meeting last spring. Many of the previously approved CPA projects have been completed or are nearing completion. The Committee has also been working with citizens and other town boards to develop new applications for funding for CPA projects. The Committee has recently completed its review and recommendation of applications for this spring's Town Meeting.

The committee has the following nine members; Tom Catalano (Chair, Historic District Commission), Leigh Keyser (Housing Authority), Lindle Willnow (Recreation Board), Chris Davis (At-Large), Dave Carey (Board of Selectmen), Peter Britton (Housing Partnership), Peter Clark (Planning Board), Peter Dana (Conservation Commission), Ray Whipple (At Large).

The following items were approved at Annual Town Meeting in May 2007:

1. To appropriate \$1,200 from FY 2008 Community Preservation Fund Revenues to fund the purchase of a laptop computer needed to carryout the Mass. Conservation Mapping Assistance Partnership Program.
2. To appropriate \$8,200 from FY 2008 Community Preservation Fund Revenues to fund the architectural and design work necessary for the repair of the HW Community House portico and underlying structural system.
3. To appropriate \$16,346 from FY 2008 Community Preservation Fund Revenues to fund the preservation and scanning of a variety of the Town's historical assets which are in need of conservation.
4. To appropriate \$25,000 from FY 2008 Community Preservation Fund Revenues to fund trail improvements on portions of the White Dot Trail at Chebacco Woods.
5. To appropriate \$23,300 from FY 2008 Community Preservation Fund Revenues to fund a portion of the Pleasant Pond Landscape Improvement Plan
6. To appropriate \$4,200 from FY 2008 Community Preservation Fund Revenues to fund the purchase of raw materials to construct a dozen picnic tables, bike racks, and trash receptacles to be placed in parks and various other public areas of town.
7. To appropriate \$9,900 from FY 2008 Community Preservation Fund Revenues to fund an energy audit of Town Hall.
8. To appropriate \$25,000 from FY 2008 Community Preservation Fund Revenues to fund an additional light and the replacement of the underground wiring at Patton Park which feeds various lights and poles at the Park.
9. To appropriate \$30,000 from FY 2008 Community Preservation Fund Revenues to fund the repair of the 1898 existing plaster ceiling of the 2nd floor of Town Hall.
10. To appropriate \$32,000 from FY 2008 Community Preservation Fund Revenues to fund the construction of a stream crossing needed to complete the pedestrian/bicycle pathway along Woodbury Street.

11. To appropriate \$113,000 from FY 2008 Community Preservation Fund Revenues to fund a study of the existing environmental condition of the landfill area and review the potential for its reuse.
12. To appropriate \$35,000 from FY 2008 Community Preservation Fund Revenues to re-construct the building that currently houses the Chemical I, a 1916 Model T/American LaFrance Chemical Truck, the first piece of apparatus purchased by the Hamilton Fire Dept.
13. To appropriate \$60,000 from FY 2008 Community Preservation Fund Revenues for the required 10% set aside for future Community Housing projects.
14. To appropriate \$30,000 from FY 2008 Community Preservation Fund Revenues for administration costs including, but not limited to, \$1,500 for the annual Community Preservation Coalition Membership Fees and salary for the part-time Community Preservation Committee Coordinator position.

The following items were approved at Special Town Meeting in October 2007:

1. To appropriate \$40,000 from FY 2008 Community Preservation Fund balance to increase the appropriation of a previously approved project to improve the heating system at Town Hall.

## CONSERVATION COMMISSION

The Hamilton Conservation Commission's primary task is the administration and enforcement of the state Wetlands Protection Act (Ch. 131 §40) and the Town's Conservation By-Law, Chapter 17. The Commission also seeks to fulfill its mandate by funding environmental education programs in the regional school system and by organizing and publicizing various conferences and events that seek to protect open space and inform residents of the value of preservation of woodlands and scenic areas as well as trail access and management.

### Conservation Commission jurisdiction and procedure:

The Commission's jurisdiction includes all proposed changes in land use which will occur within defined wetlands or within 100 feet of the defined edge of wetlands, or within 200 feet of the perennial streams and rivers within the borders of the Town. The Commission considers applications (known as "Requests for Determination" and also "Notices of Intent") for work in these areas and holds site walks to evaluate the conditions at the work area. The Commission then conducts public hearings or public meetings to decide if a permit (either a "Negative Determination" or an "Order of Conditions") shall issue. Once a project is completed, the Commission holds another site walk to establish that the project was finished in the same manner as it was originally proposed and that no damage to resource areas has occurred. A Certificate of Compliance is then issued and the process is complete. The Commission also investigates violations of the Wetlands Act and local Conservation By-Law and the Commission issues Enforcement Orders or Violation Notices if appropriate.

### 2007 Special Projects and Issues:

The Commission issued their final approval of a Town wide Trail Management Plan that will streamline review and permitting of normal and routine maintenance of the extensive trail network in Hamilton. The Plan may act as a model for other communities in the Commonwealth that seek to lower permitting costs of trail work in sensitive areas and, at the same time, improve trail access while protecting wetlands and the environment in general.

The Commission undertook to amend their regulations last year. The public hearing process took place for most of the year, and after a thorough, and sometimes heated, exchange of views and debate between interested residents and Town officials, the Commission issued an amended set of regulations in November of 2007.

After a public hearing, the Commission reviewed and approved a project to repair the Winthrop Street Bridge, which is a joint federal, state, and local initiative.

The Commission approved a vegetation management plan to control the nuisance vegetation at Weaver Pond in Patton Park.

Along with the Wenham Conservation Commission, the Hamilton Commission reviewed and approved a project to improve the beach area at Pleasant Pond.

The Commission's Open Space Committee met regularly to review the needs of the Town relative to preservation of Open Space. The Committee continues to work towards revising the Hamilton Open Space Plan and they seek to have the revised plan finalized, approved and in place early in 2008.



### Education Program

The Commission funded an Environmental Education program for the students in almost all grade levels in the Hamilton-Wenham Regional School District. The program is designed and run by the Massachusetts Audubon Society and it is subject to in-depth review and amendment by the Commission annually. The Commission continues to enthusiastically support and promote this program.

### 2007 Filings and Other Regulatory Decisions

13 Requests for Determination

17 Orders of Conditions and Orders of Resource Area Delineation

4 Modifications or Amendments of Orders of Conditions

5 Enforcement Orders and Violation Notices

6 Extensions

6 Certificates of Compliance

3 Conservation Restrictions Approved

### Members and Staff (Term Expiration)

Sarah Getchell, Chair (2008)

John Hamilton, Co-Chair (2009)

Virginia Cookson (2007)

Robert Cronin (2007)

Peter Dana (2009)

Camilla Rich (2008)

John Rhoads (associate member)

John Hendrickson (associate member)

James Hankin, Coordinator

## COUNCIL ON AGING

The Hamilton Council on Aging had a busy and successful year serving the senior community. Council members along with the assistance of dedicated volunteers, worked very hard to create a wide variety of program offerings. Hamilton seniors were able to choose from day trips to The Bull and Claw Restaurant, Wells, Maine, Amesbury Playhouse, Beantown Trolley/Union Oyster House, The Vermont Feast at the Putney Inn, State House trip and the March Irish Show at Danversport Yacht Club. We were also able to offer our third overnight trip to the Beacon Resort in Lincoln, NH. Special events and educational forums were well attended and included; “And Now Mark Twain”, Hamilton Fire Department “Safety in the Home”, Senior Cookout, Hamilton-Wenham Senior Breakfast, our December Holiday Party, Hamilton-Wenham Garden Club floral projects, “River Run” (the outdoor educational classroom constructed at Winthrop School), and the very popular student run buffet luncheons at the North Shore Technical Vocational High School.

Presently the Council on Aging shares usage of the former Hamilton Library. During the past year, Council members focused on developing our weekly Wednesday Open House Program (10 am – 12 noon) that now averages 35-45 seniors in attendance every week.

This is a casual get together time where seniors can socialize, play cards and games (BINGO and BUNCO), enjoy a cup of coffee, obtain elder issues resource information and register for upcoming activities. Many Hamilton seniors have commented that they look forward to attending every week and enjoy the welcoming atmosphere that Council members have worked to provide in this shared space. Our “Stay Healthy” series is very popular and continues to grow. A free Blood Pressure Clinic is held at the senior center on the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays of the month from 10 am – 12 noon. During the past year over 55 Hamilton seniors utilized the clinic on a regular basis. Barbara Rigol continues to volunteer her time and offer a Low Impact Exercise Class with a focus on balance. HATS OFF to these wonderful volunteers who help keep our Hamilton seniors healthy!!

Each December, the Council on Aging honors our resident senior citizens over the age of 90 by delivering holiday fruit baskets to their homes. For the second year, Hamilton Boy Scout Troop #235 happily agreed to assist in the delivery of 30 baskets and we were very grateful. What a wonderful way to make a difference in the lives of others with a “special delivery” from a young person. Hamilton seniors also enjoyed some “helping hands” with spring yard work from a group of Hamilton-Wenham Regional High School seniors who volunteered their time.

We continue to focus on communication to our senior community by publishing and mailing a bi-monthly newsletter to over 800 head of household residents. In addition, the Council on Aging maintains an office at the former Hamilton Library with a 24 hour answering service. Telephone calls that we receive range from transportation needs, program requests, health insurance issues, Meals on Wheels referrals, home health services, medical equipment and housing information. The Hamilton Council on Aging has always functioned with the efforts of many volunteers. As the program continues to grow and serve the needs of our many senior residents, the Council on Aging welcomes the ideas, suggestions and active participation of all Hamilton seniors.

Lindsey D. Snavely, Senior Services Coordinator

## THE HAMILTON-WENHAM CULTURAL COUNCIL

The Hamilton-Wenham Cultural Council awarded \$8,000 in state funds for the year 2007 to local artists and performers in the arts, humanities and interpretive sciences. In addition to the State funds, a \$1,000 donation was made by Augie MacCurrach of Wenham from funds raised at a band party at the Community House. The Council wants to thank Augie and all those who attended and contributed to this cause. The 6 member Council strives to select events that will enrich and appeal to all sectors of the community. There were 30 applications for grants this year. Whole or partial funding was given to 18 applicants:

❖ Georgia Bills	Jump into Spring
❖ Anthony Boff	Wonder Tales
❖ Buker Elementary	Artquest Programs
❖ Cantemus Chamber Chorus	“Songs of Love: Requited and Not Quite” Concert
❖ Richard Clark	And Now Mark Twain
❖ Cutler School	A Christmas Carol
❖ Friends of Wenham Council on Aging	Wenham Kite Flying Day
❖ Friendship Theater	Our Town
❖ J.P. Goodwin	River Run
❖ H/W Garden Club	Conservatory Programs
❖ Hamilton Historical Society	This evening – You Are There!
❖ Hamilton-Wenham Public Library	Drawbridge Puppet Theater & Jim Cruise the Spoon Man
❖ New England Light Opera	GWOSWOG! One Acts
❖ John Root	Senior Citizen Musical Program
❖ Sundays in Patton Park	Sundays in Patton Park
❖ The Open Road Theater	Cinderella
❖ Veterans for Peace	North Shore Peace Poetry Contest

On November 28, 2007, the Hamilton-Wenham Cultural Council voted on and granted \$8,897 for 16 grant applications for the year 2008.

Residents of Hamilton and Wenham with an interest in the arts may want to consider applying for a position on the Council. Council members serve three-year terms and are appointed by the Boards of Selectmen. There are positions open on the Board for the coming year.

### **Meredith Gisness, Chairperson**

Council Members:

Lorrie Berry, Roberta Perkins, Elizabeth Roberts, Mary Buntin, Heidi Blaser, Beth McLeod (new member)

## **DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS**

The employee's of the Public Work's Department have been able to assist many Town departments and entities in multiple ways because of their diversity in knowledge and background. This has saved the tax payers considerable tax dollars throughout the year; as well as savings seen daily within the department.

### **HIGHWAY DIVISION**

#### **ROAD PROGRAM**

The DPW received \$191,939.00 from the Massachusetts Highway Department under Chapter 90 road monies and completed the following projects:

School Street – partial reclamation and paving, with sidewalk construction and curbing

Cutler Road – reclamation, grading and partial paving

Sagamore Street – partial reclamation and paving

Highland, Asbury and Forest Street – milled and paved sections

#### **HIGHWAY MAINTENANCE**

Annual bids for Catch Basin Cleaning and Street Sweeping went out to bid and were completed. 757 catch basins were cleaned and 36 miles of roadway swept.

The DPW installed four and overhauled six catch basins. We have also replaced culvert pipe on Winthrop Street and completed high pressure cleaning of several drainage pipes throughout the Town.

Snow removal and sanding continue to go smoothly during inclement weather conditions due to the dedication of our DPW personnel. The DPW is increasingly utilizing more and more salt to clear the roads due to public demands. This is expensive and detrimental to the environment. We continue to attempt to balance out the needs for public safety, financial accountability and protecting the environment.

The DPW has had a busy year with tree work. Due to budget constraints, the DPW was limited to the removal of trees that were considered to be “emergency” in nature utilizing both in-house and contracted labor. A large percentage of the Town's trees are maturing at the same time; as a result, the amount of work needed is escalating. There are also various diseases that shorten the life of trees such as Elms, Maples, Ash, Oak and Hemlocks that make up a large portion of our tree inventory. The DPW was unable to replace any trees we removed due to funding problems. Hopefully, we can plant several next year.

The opening of the landfill to residents for the disposal of brush and organic debris continues to be in demand. We have numerous residents taking advantage of these drop-offs. The demand is so high we schedule time on Wednesday's once a month, with the exception of December through March. There has been such a good response from the community that we delivered seven truckloads of chipped brush to Brick End Farm, a compost facility located on Highland Street.

### **PARK DIVISION**

Patton Park continues to be the main focus of playing fields for the sport teams of the various Joint Recreation Programs. The continuous use of Patton Park places a heavy burden on the condition of the park but with our staff's diligence and materials and labor financed through the Joint Recreations funds, we continue to keep it in excellent shape.

Although the DPW has not had the time or funding this year, we continue to improve School Street and Cutler Park. This helps relieve Patton Park’s “wear and tear” and makes School Street and Cutler Park much more appealing for neighborhood and public use.

We did get some great news and received CPA funding to raise, level and re-seed the “Richard A. Vitale” Ball Field at the park.

### CEMETERY DIVISION

The Cemetery remains in great shape. The Cemetery Foreman kept busy mowing well into what is normally planting and pruning season. Our fight with the Japanese beetle grubs continues with positive results using biological means and not chemical pesticides. It is this type of care and dedication that illustrates the fine condition of the cemetery.

The Cemetery conducted the following business:

Sale of Lots:	\$ 4,400.00
Perpetual Care:	\$ 5,000.00
Openings and Foundations:	\$ 29,900.00

The Cemetery Department has also created a site set aside solely for cremation burials. This type of lot has become increasingly popular. Grave lots are available to residents or long time residents at the following rates. If you would wish to purchase a lot contact the Department of Public Works at their office.

Cremation Lot:	\$ 450.00 (6)
Standard Single Grave Lot:	\$ 450.00
Standard Four Grave Lot:	\$1,450.00

### EQUIPMENT MAINTENANCE OPERATIONS

The Town Mechanic continues to repair our fleet in a professional and expedient manner. Once again, I would like to thank the residents for their support at Town Meeting in allowing us to upgrade and maintain our fleet of vehicles. Although our purchases have been reduced due to budget cuts, the department was able to replace two pick-up trucks, an asphalt roller and also received a grant to purchase a new Holder tractor. Special thanks go to State Rep. Brad Hill, Senator Bruce Tarr, Christine Berry, Dick Flynn and Deborah Nippes-Mena in securing the grant. This will allow us to continue our daily tasks and maintain the roads and sidewalks during snow storms by minimizing break downs.

Our fuel system continues to pass its daily monitoring. The computerized leak detection and fuel-dispensing system is working well. The ability to buy fuel in bulk and “play” the market has allowed us to purchase fuel at a great savings and enables us to keep our fuel purchasing budget down while fuel prices fluctuate.

### SANITATION

The Town continues its curbside pick-up contract with Hiltz Disposal Services which includes rubbish, recycling and leaf pick-up for our Town.

***Our “Pay as You Throw” metals, tires, TV’s, computer monitors, fluorescent lights and refrigerator programs have been very successful this year. The DPW was able to recycle these materials at no cost to the general taxpayer, as the individuals utilizing this service pay for it. We encourage our no cost drop-off of cardboard and nickel/cadmium batteries at Town Hall.***

There is also a drop-off point at the Town Clerk’s office, Building Inspector’s Office or DPW Office for mercury thermostats or any mercury-containing product at no cost and a thermometer exchange program where mercury thermometers are exchanged for electronic read thermometers. It is important to recycle/reuse as much as possible, both for an environmental and economical standpoint. It’s the habits that we practice and adopt that will help us recycle more in the future. Recycling bins for curbside pickup are available at Town Hall for new residents or new participants wishing to get involved with the recycling program.

Our refuse disposal and recycling figures for 2007 were as follows:

	<u>2006</u>	<u>2007</u>
Municipal Household Waste:	3,226	2,833
Commingled Curbside Recycling:	623	761
Leaf Collection and Composting:	75	120
All Metals:	55	38
Tires:	583	178
Household Hazardous Waste:	0	78
Corrugated Cardboard:	22	35
TV and Computer Monitors:	568	508
Nickel/ Cadmium Batteries – 5 gallon pail	1	1
Mercury – 5 gallon pail	1	1
Car Batteries	5	5

With help and enthusiasm from the “Recycling Committee” the Town will be implementing a new “Waste Reduction Program” effective March or 2008.

### **WATER DIVISION**

The Gordon “Tiny” Thompson Filtration Plant still continues to produce several hundred thousand gallons of clean water per day. However, the treatment plant is approaching its eighth year of operation and in the near future it will become necessary for the Town to address a number of issues with maintenance/upgrades in areas of the disinfection and treatment process. As we continue to look for additional water sources, several test wells drilled in the Idlewood Well field may be a potential source to have a safe yield comparable to our existing Plateau Well.

The Department of Environmental Protection imposed further restrictions to the Town’s Outside Watering/Irrigation By-Law in not allowing the use of sprinkler/irrigation systems from July 2<sup>nd</sup> until September 30, 2007. However, due to continual dry weather conditions, the Board of Selectmen in serving as the Town’s Water Commissioners voted to extend this mandatory restriction to October 15, 2007. The Town’s RGPCD (Residential Gallon Per Capita a Day) is 46.3, under the recommended 65 guideline of the DEP. The cooperation of the community illustrates our commitment to protect our well fields, sub-basins and the Ipswich River Basin. We strongly encourage our customers to conserve and thank you for your cooperation.

In August, a sonic leak detection survey was performed on 52 miles of the Town’s water mains. The leakage investigation indicated three leaks, one a service leak, the other two hydrant leaks. This survey was conducted as part of the Town’s Water Loss Prevention Grant to assist in keeping underground leakage to a minimum. As a result, all were promptly repaired.

We continue to implement our radio read program which is near completion as time permits. This upgraded technology saves the Town many manpower hours in reading water meters and enables the water staff to capitalize on areas of complying with new State regulations, various installations and system repairs.

Our personnel continues to meet the needs for the ever-changing technical field of water treatment by taking exams, attending seminars and receiving advanced Drinking Water Certification Certificates.

We submit this Annual Report to the Board of Selectmen and the residents of this community. If any citizen is in need of information, has questions or comments concerning the Department of Public Works, please feel free to contact us at 978-468-5580 or 5581.

Respectfully submitted,

Richard Campana and Timothy Shea  
Interim Operation Managers

## ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

The Hamilton Selectmen established the Economic Development Committee (EDC) in 2004 in accordance with the recommendations of the Master Plan update completed in that year and at the request of the Hamilton Planning Board. Among its charges, the EDC was to initiate work on ways that Hamilton could modify its land use policies so as to permit non-single family residential projects (like age-restricted and commercial development) and thus expand its tax base and increase its property tax revenues without adding school-age children to the town schools.

In response the EDC undertook three initiatives: (1) the development of a planned alternative development (PAD) zoning bylaw; (2) study and review of impediments to further downtown development; and (3) consideration of the re-development of the Hamilton landfill off of Chebacco Road.

**Planned Alternative Development Bylaw:** During the winter and spring of 2005, the proposed multi-use bylaw (known as "PAD"-Planned Alternative Development) was created and discussed at length with all town committees and boards, as well as interested town residents. In accordance with the motion at the May 2005 Annual Town meeting, the EDC forwarded the bylaw to the Planning Board for revisions so as to address the objections. At a Hamilton All Board meeting in December 2007, the EDC was directed to bring back the proposed mixed use bylaw. The EDC is working with the Planning Board to define the scope of the mixed use bylaw.

**Enhanced Downtown Development:** The review of further development to the downtown area has led to the conclusion that adequate septage disposal and parking remain as impediments in the Bay Road and Railroad Avenue blocks. With the support and direction of the Selectmen a brief study was completed for small scale localized septage disposal system along Railroad Avenue but the system was deemed to expensive. The committee also met with local businesses along Railroad Avenue to assess the interest in more density, a combined local septage system and acquisition of land for additional parking. Further work is ongoing on these matters at this time including the consideration of a downtown planning charrette.

**Re-development of the Hamilton Landfill:** Study and review of possible re-development of the Hamilton landfill is underway by the ten-member Hamilton Landfill Steering Committee appointed by the Selectmen in the summer of 2005. An interim report to the Selectmen was presented before the 2007 Annual Town Meeting which reviewed progress in grant funding sources, grant writers and discussing marketing study options. The outcome of the test wells results, which will dictate the landfill closure requirements, are due in the summer of 2008. A member of the EDC is on the committee and the EDC is actively researching opportunities.

The EDC assisted in assembling the CURP Study for Hamilton and reviewed other land use Committees and Boards proposals, in particular the proposed Senior Housing Bylaw.

The EDC would like to take the opportunity to thank former EDC Chairman Peter Twining for his tremendous contributions while on the EDC. Peter's hard work, great insight and tireless contributions are greatly appreciated by all.

Thanks go to Peter Gourdeau, Carl Swanson, David Lemons and Bob Bullivant for their capable work and tireless contributions to the EDC during 2007

Respectively submitted,

Bill Gisness, Chair



## EMERGENCY CENTER

Many changes happened in 2007 at the Hamilton-Wenham Emergency Center. In April, we moved in to the new Hamilton Public Safety Facility, where the communications room is on the first floor allowing total accessibility. Most of the equipment was brought over from the old building and rearranged for better working conditions. We now have a secure room for our equipment which previously was housed in the public hallway and the police garage. There is access flooring with all wiring under the tiles allowing easier reach for repairs.

At the same time, a new 9-1-1 system was installed. We still get the caller information but the biggest technological change is the mapping component. Almost immediately, the location of the caller is shown on the screen. Cell calls are still going to the Massachusetts State Police and being transferred to the local department. The mapping on the cell call is accurate within 50 to 200 meters. A good example of the benefit of this technology was the ability to locate a lost hiker in the Chebacco Woods. While the police were enroute, the dispatcher could see the location on the map and was able to direct the person out to the street.

For the first time, the State Emergency Telecommunications Board has set up a grant program for dispatch training. Our communications center was awarded \$5000. The grant amounts were based on population and 9-1-1 call volume. Our dispatchers were able to attend classes on advanced police service, advanced fire service, 9-1-1 liability and certification on the new 9-1-1 equipment, as well as taking several on-line classes. Because of our new facility, we were able to host these classes.

Another grant will allow us to purchase a computer program to enhance emergency medical dispatch. Currently we use a system of flip cards to ascertain the necessary information needed for the EMT's and paramedics in the medical emergency. This will then merge in to the computer aided dispatch program to give more complete details of each call.

A long time goal of having a community notification system will come to pass in 2008. We will be using the same company that provides ConnectEd for the schools. Citizens will be asked to provide any cell phone numbers to supplement the information on home phones. There will be a public education program before this goes in to service.

We are always available to give tours to school and scout groups as well as any interested citizens.

The dispatchers who work for the two towns are a dedicated group. The residents can feel confident that when help is needed at any hour of the day or night, a qualified and caring person will be on the other end of the telephone to render assistance.

Respectfully submitted,

Anne Marie Cullen

## FIRE DEPARTMENT

The Hamilton Fire Department has the following apparatus available for service:

ENGINE 1	1996 Pierce Saber 1250 gpm pumper w/Boat
ENGINE 2	1985 International S-1800/Ranger 1000 gpm pumper
ENGINE 3	2004 Pierce Saber 1500 gpm pumper
LADDER 4	1980 American LaFrance 100' Aerial Ladder
SQUAD 5	2006 Ford F-550 (4X4)/Greenwood Forestry Truck 100 gpm
MOBILE AIR UNIT 6	1994 Ford E-350 Mobile Air Supply Van
SQUAD 7	1995 Ford F-250 Pick-up (4X4)

### INCIDENTS 2007

Fire	52
Explosion	1
Rescue Call & EMS	192
Hazardous Condition (No Fire)	71
Service Call	116
Good Intent Call	38
False Call	164
Severe weather	3
<b>TOTAL FIRE CALLS</b>	<b>637</b>

Fire Prevention did 673 inspections and issued 562 permits, not counting Open Burning Permits.

We have (2) Firefighters certified to do car seat installations. They did 236 installations last year. There is no charge for the installation.

We moved in to the new Public Safety Building last April. We now have room for all our fire apparatus and more office space and storage. We appreciate all the work the Public Safety Building Committee did to get this project passed and especially the support of the voters.

The Fire Department currently has (3) fulltime firefighters and a fulltime Fire Chief, who work during the day. They are also on call at night. The Department relies on call firefighters for sufficient help and to man the weekend shifts. The station is usually manned with 1 to 3 firefighters 6 am to 6 pm on weekdays and 3 firefighters 10 am to 5 pm on weekends.

The Call Firefighters save the town a considerable amount of money. It would cost the town about \$2 million per year to man one Engine Company, 24 hours per day, 7 days per week. It is getting more difficult to recruit call firefighters, because of the time commitment. The Call Firefighters leave work and their families at a moments notice, in all kinds of weather to assist in any kind of emergency. .

The firefighters on shift do fire prevention programs, inspections, training, maintain equipment and hydrants, install car seats, assist the Police on the ambulance, as well as fire suppression.

Firefighter Justin Tilley started the Massachusetts Firefighting Academy's Firefighter I/II Recruit Program for Call Firefighters. He will complete the 168 hour course in February. This course teaches him all the basics of firefighting. It is a combination of lecture and hands on fire training. They also have many hours of homework. They have to pass a written test and a practical test.

Residents should make sure their house numbers are posted and visible from the road, at least 3" numbers. This should be in addition to mailbox numbers.

Common driveways should also have numbers at any splits in the driveway. Make sure numbers are visible after snowstorms. This saves valuable time in an emergency.

Stay fire safe. Check your smoke and carbon monoxide detectors at least once per month and change the batteries at least twice a year at daylight savings. Replace defective detectors. If in doubt, call the Fire Department. Practice the family escape plan often. Keep combustibles away from heating sources and limit the use of extension cords. Call the Fire Prevention Office at (978)468-5558 for a free fire prevention audit of your home.

I would like to thank Herb Ryan for all the help he has given us.

The Fire Department is always there to help the citizens of Hamilton in any kind of emergency at anytime.

Philip W. Stevens, Jr., Fire Chief

## THE HAMILTON FOUNDATION

The Hamilton Foundation (THF) was established as a municipal trust by the Board of Selectmen and Town Meeting vote. THF was created to help meet the unexpected, urgent short term needs of Hamilton residents due to job loss, death, divorce or illness. The inspiration came from concerned citizens who have personally seen the need for economic support experienced by fellow townspeople. It is a common misperception that Hamilton is a universally affluent community. Severe economic and personal distress does exist here.

THF was not intended to replace traditional governmental welfare programs or social service organizations. Indeed, it directs people to those programs when appropriate. THF does not rely on public funds or tax dollars.

The work of The Hamilton Foundation is carried out by a five member board and a coordinator. The coordinator receives calls from residents in need and in a confidential manner, shares necessary information with the board in order for the latter to make a decision about how to help the resident. Particular assistance might include full or partial payment of a bill or the provision of a scholarship or gift certificate.

The Board meets regularly and is in contact by phone and email between meetings. If the payment of a bill is agreed upon by the board for a resident, that resident is asked to white-out his/her name from the bill and is given a number for purposes of confidentiality. That resident then sends the bill to our P.O. Box at Town Hall and the bill is paid directly to the vendor.

THF was initially funded by the 2005 transfer of \$6,331.71 from the Maxwell Norman Trust to The Hamilton Foundation. Subsequent donations and grants have continued to provide the resources needed to carry out THF's mission.

During 2007, THF fundraising activities included a direct mail solicitation sent to all Hamilton residents and two fundraising events. On May 5, the Bach to Beatles and Bach Again benefit concert showcased the talents of local musicians and singers. Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary generously offered the use of their beautiful chapel for the event and provided refreshments. The second annual THF Trick or Treat Trail Run took place at Bradley Palmer State Park on October 20. These efforts increased public awareness of The Hamilton Foundation and its mission and, as of September 15, they had generated more than \$10,000 in donations and ticket and entry fees.

Since November, 2005, we have received requests for assistance from more than 35 local residents. From January to November, 2007, THF provided more than \$4000 for the payment of electric, heating, rent, mortgage and phone bills and the provision of gift certificates for food and gasoline.

As of February 11, 2008, the current balance of the Hamilton Foundation was \$19,692.69.

## HOUSING PARTNERSHIP

The Hamilton Housing Partnership Committee (HPC) activities and accomplishments for FY 2008 include:

- 1) The Commonwealth of Massachusetts approved Hamilton's Housing Production plan. The plan indicates that if Hamilton permits approximately 20 units of affordable housing per year, developers will no longer have a right to build 40B affordable housing projects in Hamilton without ZBA approval.
- 2) The HPC began working with the Economic Development Committee to test the feasibility of a large affordable project in the downtown area. Such a project could be classified as a Smart Growth project which would give developers to build up to 20 units per acre. The HPC sees this as a major concern.
- 3) The HPC was unable to complete the perc test on the single family home project but hopes to do so in FY '09.
- 4) The HPC met with a non-profit developer (First Baptist Church of Beverly) and discussed the concept of a large, 100% affordable project. We referred the developer to the Economic Development Committee, as the project would be located downtown.
- 5) The HPC is considering proposing a Community Development Corp which would have authority to development affordable housing. This initiative would require Town Meeting approval.
- 6) The Junction, Hamilton's first affordable project (done under 40B regulations) was 75% completed in FY 2008 and occupancy is underway.

## INSPECTION DEPARTMENTS

### Building Inspector

I herewith submit the report of the Building Inspector for the year ending December 31, 2007.

#### **There were a total of 279 permits issued for 2007.**

Among these permits were: 1 house demolished and re-built, and 1 new single family dwelling. This department also issued permits for the construction of the third building of 5 units for the Carriage House Junction 40B development. The rest of the permits issued include: additions, renovations, garages/barns, sheds, non-residential renovations, in-ground and above ground pools, porches/decks, siding/windows/roofing, demolitions, signs and tents.

**Charles Brett**  
**Inspector of Buildings**

### Electrical Inspector

I herewith submit my report as Electrical Inspector for the year ending December 31, 2007.

#### **213 total permits issued**

The total permits issued include new dwellings, additions and renovations, garages/barns plus new/upgraded services, pools, alarms, boilers, septic pumps and miscellaneous permits.

**Robert B. Brown, Jr.**  
**Electrical Inspector**

### Plumbing Inspector

I herewith submit my report as Plumbing Inspector for the year ending December 31, 2007.

#### **133 total plumbing permits issued**

The total permits issued include new dwellings, additions, garages/barns plus hot water tanks, backflow preventers, floor drains, water piping and other miscellaneous fixtures.

**William C. Thomas, Jr.**  
**Plumbing Inspector**

### Gas Inspector

I herewith submit my report as Gas Inspector for the year ending December 31, 2007.

#### **127 total gas permits issued**

The total permits issued include new dwellings, additions, garages/barns plus fireplace inserts, ranges, heating boilers, furnaces, water heaters, dryers, direct vent heaters, pool heaters, and other miscellaneous fixtures.

I wish to express my appreciation to all I have come in contact with for their cooperation during the performance of my duties.

**William C. Thomas, Jr.**  
**Gas Inspector**

## **LANDFILL STEERING COMMITTEE**

The Landfill Steering Committee (LSC) met regularly during 2007 and continues to meet during 2008. The mandatory testing required by the State has been completed, and the LSC now awaits the final report on the actual closure of the Landfill.

Preliminary indications are that the Landfill will meet the State's closure standards without any more testing or measures to be taken by the Town. Closure of the Landfill gives the LSC the opportunity to begin the process of development. Members of the LSC have met informally with officials in the Town of Manchester and the threat of Manchester blocking development at the site is minimal. We are about to review an environmental report on the wetlands and endangered species in the area. This will tell us what the actual viable area of development will be.

The process of development of the Landfill will be affected by the State's requirements, by market conditions, by environment factors and by the needs of the Town. At this time the LSC is beginning that process and will be setting our agenda for 2008-2009 with the hope of moving forward in a responsible and visible fashion.

## PLANNING BOARD

### ORGANIZATION

Marc Johnson remained as Chairman, and Susie Richey as Vice-Chairman. Peter Clark was re-elected for a five year term. Jean Nelson, Planning Coordinator, is employed on a part-time basis for 26 hours a week.

### APPROVAL NOT REQUIRED PLANS

290/292 Bridge Street, reconfiguration of lot lines; no new building lots created.

454 Bay Road – 81L filing for two dwelling which predate zoning: Two new lots were created and no new building lots created.

776 Bay Road, reconfiguration of lot lines; no new building lots created.

862 Bay Road and Erin's Way, one new building lot created

22/38 Gardner Street, reconfiguration of lot lines; no new building lots created.

261/265 Cutler Road, plan filed and subsequently withdrawn

33 Waldingfield Road/Highland Street, 3 new lots created from one existing lot, two new building lots created

### DEFINITIVE SUBDIVISION PLANS

There were no Definitive Subdivision Plans filed in 2007.

### SPECIAL PERMITS

448-454 Bay Road, Common Driveway Special Permit

### SITE PLAN REVIEW

For Site Plan Review, the Planning Board reviewed each application below, and considered input from town officials, departments, and residents. As required by the Zoning Bylaw, the Board made recommendations to the Zoning Board of Appeals.

169 Bay Road, for storage of vehicles

Bay Road, Public Safety Building, revision of parking lot layout

Bay Road, Patton Park, re-review of an application filed in 2004 for the addition of a light

641-645 Bay Road, Abbreviated Site Plan Review for Temporary Farmstands (two separate applications)

### ZONING BYLAW AMENDMENTS

The Board proposed the following Zoning Bylaw Amendments for the Annual Town Meeting:

Senior Housing Special Permit (this bylaw was not approved at Town Meeting)

Amendment to Accessory Apartment, Section V.A.11. (e)4

Amendment to Special Permits, Section V.A.11 (d) (both of these amendments were approved)

### GENERAL BYLAW AMENDMENTS

At the request of the Board of Selectmen, the Planning Board researched and drafted two general bylaws. The Stormwater Management Bylaw (General Bylaw XXIX) and Illicit Discharge Detection Elimination Bylaw (General Bylaw XXX) were presented and approved by Special Town Meeting on October 22, 2007.

### GENERAL

#### Bylaws

In the winter of 2007, the primary focus of the Planning Board was drafting of a **Senior Housing Bylaw**. Through February, meetings of the Senior Housing Working Group (SHWG) continued. In mid-February, the Planning Board held an All-Board Meeting, facilitated by Susan Moses of Essex



County Forum, to gather input on a new draft. The draft had been crafted as a result of the twelve Senior Housing Working Group meetings. Key to the new bylaw was a Matrix of Incentives. Under this concept, a lower base density was set, and incentives could bring the density up to a maximum of four dwelling units per acre. Many other suggestions of the SHWG were also incorporated into the draft. The Planning Board then held three nights of hearings through March. The final bylaw voted at Town Meeting was defeated by a vote of 180-113. A two-thirds majority vote is required by state law for zoning bylaws.

The Board also worked on drafting of **Stormwater Management (SWM) and Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination Bylaw (IDDE)** for the October Special Town Meeting. (See above). These are General Bylaws XXIX and XXX. Such bylaws are required under the EPA's NPDES Phase II requirements. Both bylaws were approved at Town Meeting, and the Board is drafting Rules and Regulations to supplement the SWM bylaw.

### **AFFORDABLE HOUSING**

The Board reviewed a draft Planned Production, or Affordable Housing Plan, and provided input to the Board of Selectmen. The plan was submitted to the Department of Housing and Community Development in December for approval. The Board also urged the Board of Selectmen to join the Massachusetts Affordable Housing Coalition, a newly formed organization examining the Commonwealth's 40B statute. MAHC seeks alternative means to create affordable housing, and to give more control to the communities.

The Planning Board filed a preliminary application to the Community Preservation Committee for funds to create an Accessory Apartment loan program. Several ideas to promote affordable housing were considered, including a loan program to help create accessory apartments; a home repair program; and a minor repair program for income eligible senior citizens. These suggestions were made to the Housing Partnership Committee for follow-up with a final Application, but the application was not pursued by the HPC.

### **ALL-BOARD MEETING**

On December 1, 2007, the Planning Board hosted an All-Board Meeting of public officials. Approximately forty public officials attended the five hour meeting held at the Hamilton-Wenham Public Library. The meeting was facilitated by resident Susan Wiltshire. The topic and focus of the meeting was "The Fiscal State of the Town, and Ways to Improve It". Presentations were:

- A detailed fiscal history of the Town, and observation of trends, prepared by Marc Johnson of the Planning Board;
- Economic Development Committee progress and future efforts as presented by Chair Bill Gisness;
- The importance of Open Space Preservation, as discussed by Susanna Colloredo-Mansfeld, Chair of the Open Space Committee;
- An update of the Landfill Steering Committee by Chair David Kerr,
- A discussion of fiscal benefits and alternatives to single family housing, presented by Marc Johnson.

Discussion of these topics, methods to help improve the fiscal picture, and drafting a list of action items followed. The Minutes of the All-Board Meeting are posted on the Town's website [www.hamiltonma.gov](http://www.hamiltonma.gov), under the Planning Board section found in Town Hall Offices.

The Planning Board thanks everyone who attended the meeting. A commitment has been made to hold quarterly meetings of board chairs or department heads, in order to improve communications, and to hold annual All-Board Meetings of all public officials.

A list of priorities to address was defined, and those items will be worked on by various town boards and committees.

In addition to the specific project listed above, the Planning Board meets with or talks with many residents, attorneys, engineers, interested parties, and public officials about lots, land use, and other topics. The Board attempts to balance interest in growth and development with preserving the character of the Town. Members of the Planning Board and the Coordinator have spent many hours, for example, reviewing, commenting, and providing data for the draft and updated Open Space and Recreation Plan; researching files and plans to gain information on street, lots, and neighborhoods, and attending workshops and seminars to stay up to date with new concepts, procedures, and state laws.

## **HAMILTON PLANNING BOARD**

Peter Clark

Marc Johnson, Chair

Rick Mitchell

Susanne Richey, Vice Chair

David Santomenna

Evelyn Shuman

Dorothy Stookey

To the Honorable Board of Selectmen:

I herewith submit my annual report of the activity of the Police Department for the year ending December 31, 2007. This year the Police Department logged 17,840 interactions with the public. Of the 17,840 calls, 12,674 were calls for service, including alarms, ambulance runs, animal calls, disturbance calls, fire incidents, motor vehicle related incidents, crimes against property, services rendered, arrests, and summonses. The following is a synopsis of the police activity, broken down by street. We also logged over 100,000 miles on patrol during this past year. This has been the busiest year in the history of the Police Department.

Respectfully submitted,

WALTER D. CULLEN  
Chief of Police

<u>Adams Road</u>		<u>Arlington Street, con't.</u>		<u>Asbury Street, con't.</u>		<u>Bay Road, con't.</u>	
Assistance rendered	1	911 hang-up/wrong dial	1	Traffic control	5	Alarm, working on	9
<u>Alan Road</u>		Listing	1	<u>Autumn Lane</u>		Community policing	2
Vandalism	1	<u>Arthur Avenue</u>		209A call	1	Child seat info/check	2
Hazards	1	Assistance rendered	1	Alarm police	10	DPW Hamilton	1
Ambulance call	3	General disturbance	1	Animal call	1	Fire, brush	2
Animal call	2	Lock out	1	Assistance rendered	1	Firearms ID card	4
Assistance rendered	5	911 hang-up/wrong dial	1	General disturbance	1	Fire, structure	1
General disturbance	3	<u>Asbury Avenue</u>		Lost and found	1	Fire, other	2
MVA hit and run	1	Animal call	1	Suspicious activity	2	House check info	1
Telephone calls	1	Fireworks	1	<u>Baker Avenue</u>		Listing	36
911 hang-up/wrong call	2	Motor vech complaint	1	Animal call	3	School traffic	332
Motor vehicle stop	1	911 hang-up/wrong dial	2	Assistance rendered	1	Paperwork served	1
Suspicious activity	1	Unwanted guest	1	<u>Bancroft Way</u>		Motor vehicle stop	208
<u>Alexander Way</u>		<u>Asbury Street</u>		Alarm police	1	Suspicious activity	8
Animal call	2	B&E burglary	1	General disturbance	1	Traffic control	4
Suspicious activity	1	Larceny	3	Alarm, working on	1	Transport	3
<u>Annie's Lane</u>		M/V theft	2	House check info	1	Water/ice rescue	1
Ambulance call	1	Check well being	15	<u>Bass Road</u>		Assaults/A&B/DW	1
Animal call	2	B&E of MV	2	Animal call	2	M/V theft	1
General disturbance	1	Hazards	20	<u>Bay Road</u>		RR gates	1
Malicious destruct	1	Alarm fire	5	Larceny	3	Directed patrol	1
911 hang-up/wrong dial	1	Alarm police	4	Fax received	17	Vandalism	1
<u>Anthony Road</u>		Ambulance call	26	RR gates	13	209A call	1
Alarm police	1	Mutual aid rendered	2	Stolen property	1	Request message del'v	2
Assistance rendered	2	Animal call	31	Vandalism	2	Report recvd no action	1
Domestic	1	Assistance rendered	17	Disorderly person	1	Check well being	19
911 hang-up/wrong dial	3	Juvenile comp	1	Request message del'v	2	B&E of M/V	1
Paperwork served	1	General disturbance	7	Check well being	19	Hazards	22
<u>Appaloosa Lane</u>		Field interview	1	B&E of M/V	1	Alarm fire	9
Assaults/A&B/DW	1	Fire calls	1	Hazards	29	Alarm police	38
Solicitors	1	Fireworks	1	Alarm fire	12	Ambulance call	17
Check well being	1	Malicious mischief	2	Alarm police	20	Animal call	27
Hazards	1	Attempt B&E	2	Ambulance call	23	Assistance rendered	46
Alarm police	3	Skateboard	5	Mutual aid rendered	1	Door/window open bus.	1
Assistance rendered	3	Missing person	1	Animal call	20	Juvenile comp	2
Juvenile comp	1	Lost and found	4	Assistance rendered	57	General disturbance	4
Fire calls	2	Motor vech complaint	13	Building checks	4	Field interview	1
Motor vech complaint	1	MVA invest "accident"	4	Door/window open bus.	1	Fire calls	1
M/V disabled	1	MVA not invest	10	Suicides	1	Malicious destruct	1
Susp M/V	2	MVA hit and run	1	General disturbance	14	Malicious mischief	1
911 hang-up/wrong dial	1	M/V disabled	1	Field interview	1	Lost and found	4
Fire, structure	1	Lock out	1	Malicious mischief	1	Motor vech complaint	23
Fire, other	1	M/V illegally parked	2	Attempt B&E	1	MVA invest "accident"	6
Listing	1	Susp M/V	7	MVA with pedes	1	MVA not invest	11
Motor vehicle stop	1	Susp person	4	Lost and found	5	MVA hit and run	1
<u>Appleton Avenue</u>		Telephone calls	3	Motor vech complaint	40	M/V disabled	22
Fraud	1	911 hang-up/wrong dial	9	MVA invest "accident"	12	Lock out	1
Check well being	1	Trespass	1	MVA not invest	10	M/V illegally parked	9
Ambulance call	7	Alarm, working on	5	MVA hit and run	3	Susp M/V	4
Animal call	1	Carbon monoxide	3	M/V disabled	21	Susp person	2
Assistance rendered	1	DPW Hamilton	1	Lock out	4	Threats	2
<u>Arabian Way</u>		Fire, other	5	M/V illegally parked	4	911 hang-up/wrong dial	19
911 hang-up/wrong dial	1	House check info	6	Susp M/V	6	Summons served	1
Soliciting	1	Listing	19	Susp person	4	Arrest on warrant	1
<u>Arlington Street</u>		School traffic	1	Telephone calls	1	Alarm, working on	23
Alarm police	2	Paperwork served	2	Threats	2	BOLO	1
Animal call	2	Motor vehicle stop	51	911 hang-up/wrong dial	13	Community policing	4
Building checks	1	Suspicious activity	3	Unwanted guest	1	Fire, auto	1

<b>Bay Road, con't.</b>		<b>Boardman Lane, con't.</b>		<b>Chebacco Road, con't.</b>		<b>Cutler Road, con't.</b>	
Fire, other	2	Alarm fire	1	Check well being	2	DPW Hamilton	1
House check info	10	Alarm police	2	Hazards	8	Fire, structure	1
Inspections	1	Ambulance call	3	Alarm fire	2	House check info	4
Listing	30	Animal call	5	Alarm police	13	Listing	11
School traffic	338	General disturbance	1	Animal call	15	Motor vehicle stop	5
Motor vehicle stop	185	Neighbors	1	Assistance rendered	7	Suspicious activity	2
Suspicious activity	5	Motor vech complaint	1	General disturbance	3	Transport	1
Traffic control	3	Lock out	1	Fireworks	1	<b>Day Avenue</b>	
Check well being	1	911 hang-up/wrong dial	1	Health/zone/conv	2	Check well being	1
Hazards	2	Listing	1	Malicious destruct	1	Hazards	2
Animal call	2	Suspicious activity	1	Motor vech complaint I		Assistance rendered	1
Assistance rendered	1	<b>Boston Avenue</b>		M/V abandoned	1	Domestic	1
Lost and found	1	Hazards	2	MVA invest "accident"	2	MVA hit and run	1
Alarm, working on	1	<b>Bradford Road</b>		MVA not invest	2	Telephone calls	1
Community policing	1	Directed patrol	1	Susp M/V	6	Carbon monoxide	1
Motor vehicle stop	1	Check well being	1	911 hang-up/wrong dial	2	Fire, other	1
<b>Beech Street</b>		Ambulance call	1	Alarm, working on	3	House check info	1
Hazards	2	Motor vech complaint	1	Firearms ID card	1	Suspicious activity	1
Assistance rendered	1	M/V illegally parked	1	Fire, other	1	<b>Denise Lane</b>	
<b>Beech (ext) Street</b>		Paperwork served	1	Listing	35	General disturbance	1
911 hang-up/wrong dial	1	Motor vehicle stop	1	Paperwork served	1	Paperwork served	1
<b>Berry Circle</b>		<b>Briarcliff Lane</b>		Motor vehicle stop	10	<b>Dental Road</b>	
B&E of M/V	1	Animal call	1	Suspicious activity	3	Hazards	1
Hazards	1	<b>Bridge Street</b>		Lost and found	1	General disturbance	1
Alarm fire	3	M/V theft	1	<b>Chestnut Street</b>		M/V repo	1
Alarm police	2	Solicitors	1	Alarm police	1	<b>Donald Road</b>	
Ambulance call	3	Check well being	5	Ambulance call	1	Larceny	1
Animal call	2	B&E of M/V	2	Animal call	1	Ambulance call	5
Assistance rendered	1	Hazards	19	Assistance rendered	2	Animal call	4
Malicious mischief	1	Alarm fire	4	General disturbance	1	Assistance rendered	1
911 hang-up/wrong dial	2	Alarm police	6	Field interview	1	Lost and found	1
Fire, other	1	Ambulance call	7	911 hang-up/wrong dial	2	<b>Donbyrne Way</b>	
Listing	7	Animal call	34	Fire, other	1	Alarm fire	1
Motor vehicle stop	1	Assistance rendered	10	Listing	1	Alarm police	3
<b>Berrywood Lane</b>		Building checks	1	<b>Cottage Street</b>		Assistance rendered	1
Solicitors	1	Door/window open res.	1	B&E of M/V	1	Motor vech complaint	1
Ambulance call	1	General disturbance	5	Alarm fire	1	911 hang-up/wrong dial	1
Animal call	2	Neighbors	1	Ambulance call	1	Alarm, working on	1
M/V repo	1	Field interview	1	Door/window open res.	1	Fire, auto	1
Lost and found	1	Malicious destruct	1	<b>Cresecent Road</b>		Paperwork served	1
Susp M/V	1	Malicious mischief	1	Check well being	1	Suspicious activity	1
911 hang-up/wrong dial	1	Lost and found	1	Hazards	1	<b>Durham Avenue</b>	
Carbon monoxide	1	Motor vech complaint	5	Ambulance call	4	Hazards	1
House check info	5	MVA invest "accident"	5	Animal call	1	Ambulance call	1
Suspicious activity	1	MVA not invest	4	Assistance rendered	1	Assistance rendered	1
<b>Birch Road</b>		M/V disabled	6	<b>Cummings Avenue</b>		MVA invest "accident"	1
Hazards	2	Lock out	4	Ambulance call	1	Susp M/V	1
Animal call	2	M/V illegally parked	1	<b>Cunningham Drive</b>		House check info	4
<b>Bittersweet Lane</b>		Susp M/V	2	Hazards	2	Listing	1
Larceny	1	911 hang-up/wrong dial	10	Assistance rendered	1	Paperwork served	3
Alarm fire	1	Fire, brush	1	Motor vech complaint	1	<b>Echo Cove Road</b>	
Animal call	4	Fire, other	3	Susp M/V	1	M/V theft	1
General disturbance	1	House check info	5	Alarm, working on	1	Solicitors	2
Alarm, working on	1	Listing	14	<b>Cutler Road</b>		B&E of M/V	1
Listing	1	Paperworked served	1	Assaults/A&B/DW	1	Hazards	1
Motor vehicle stop	1	Motor vehicle stop	36	Vandalism	2	Ambulance call	6
<b>Blackbrook Road</b>		Suspicious activity	4	Solicitors	1	Animal call	2
Alarm fire	1	Traffic control	3	Hazards	10	General disturbance	1
Animal call	1	<b>Carriage Lane</b>		Alarm fire	2	Junk car	1
Suspicious activity	1	Vandalism	1	Alarm police	2	MVA invest "accident"	1
<b>Blueberry Lane</b>		Alarm police	4	Ambulance call	3	Susp M/V	1
B&E of M/V	1	Animal call	2	Animal call	13	Susp person	1
Alarm police	2	Assistance rendered	1	Assistance rendered	3	Fire, structure	1
Ambulance call	3	Lock out	1	General disturbance	2	Fire, other	1
Mutual aid rendered	1	Susp person	1	Field interview	1	Listing	3
Animal call	2	Prowler	1	Cruiser transport	1	Recovered stolen MV	1
Assistance rendered	6	Fire, structure	1	Fireworks	2	Paperwork served	1
General disturbance	1	<b>Central Avenue</b>		Missing person	1	Suspicious activity	1
Motor vech complaint	1	Ambulance call	1	Motor vech complaint	4	<b>Elliott Street</b>	
Susp person	1	Assistance rendered	1	MVA invest "accident"	1	Ambulance call	1
911 hang-up/wrong dial	1	911 hang-up/wrong dial	1	MVA not invest	4	Animal call	1
Fire, other	1	Fire, other	1	M/V disabled	4	911 hang-up/wrong dial	1
House check info	1	<b>Chebacco Road</b>		Lock out	1	<b>Elm Street</b>	
Suspicious activity	1	209A call	1	Susp M/V	2	Check well being	1
<b>Boardman Lane</b>		Boating	5	911 hang-up/wrong dial	2	B&E of M/V	1
Hazards	1	Request message del'v	1	Community policing	1	Alarm fire	1

<b><u>Elm Street, con't.</u></b>		<b><u>Forest Street, con't.</u></b>		<b><u>Gregory Island Road, con't.</u></b>		<b><u>Highland Street, con't.</u></b>	
911 hang-up/wrong dial	1	911 hang-up/wrong dial	1	Hazards	3	Health/zone/consrv	1
House check info	4	DPW Hamilton	1	Alarm police	1	Malicious destruct	1
<b><u>Erin's Way</u></b>		Fire, other	1	Ambulance call	1	Missing person	1
Alarm police	2	Listing	4	Animal call	10	Motor vech complaint	6
MVA not invest	1	Motor vehicle stop	3	Assistance rendered	2	MVA invest "accident"	1
M/V disabled	1	<b><u>Fox Run Road</u></b>		General disturbance	3	MVA not invest	4
<b><u>Essex Avenue</u></b>		Check well being	1	Fireworks	2	M/V disabled	5
Animal call	1	Animal call	1	Missing person	1	Lock out	3
<b><u>Essex Street</u></b>		Building checks	1	Susp M/V	1	Susp M/V	5
Larceny	1	911 hang-up/wrong dial	1	911 hang-up/wrong dial	2	Suspicious person	1
Fraud	1	Listing	1	Fire, other	1	Prowler	1
Drunk/incapacitated	1	<b><u>Gail Avenue</u></b>		Paperwork served	1	Telephone calls	2
Request message del'v	1	Ambulance call	1	Suspicious activity	2	Threats	2
Check well being	6	Animal call	2	<b><u>Griffith Road</u></b>		911 hang-up/wrong dial	12
B&E of M/V	1	Assistance rendered	4	Ambulance call	1	Trespass	1
Hazards	15	<b><u>Gardner Street</u></b>		Animal call	2	Arrest on warrant	1
Alarm fire	15	B&E of M/V	2	911 hang-up/wrong dial	1	Alarm, working on	14
Alarm police	26	Hazards	2	<b><u>Hamilton Avenue</u></b>		Community policing	1
Ambulance call	15	Alarm fire	4	Fraud	1	Fire, brush	1
Animal call	37	Alarm police	4	Check well being	3	Fire, other	3
Assistance rendered	16	Ambulance call	2	Hazards	1	House check info	5
Door/window open bus.	1	Animal call	4	Ambulance call	1	Listing	20
Door/window open res.	1	Assistance rendered	2	Animal call	4	Paperwork served	9
General disturbance	4	General disturbance	2	Assistance rendered	1	Soliciting	2
Domestic	2	M/V repo	1	General disturbance	1	Motor vehicle stop	48
Field interview	2	Motor vech complaint	2	MVA not invest	1	Suspicious activity	7
Lost and found	4	MVA not invest	1	M/V disabled	1	Traffic control	1
Motor vech complaint	10	Susp M/V	1	911 hang-up/wrong dial	1	Transport	1
MVA invest "accident"	8	Community policing	1	Fire, other	1	Check well being	1
MVA not invest	5	House check info	5	Listing	2	B&E of M/V	4
M/V disabled	3	Listing	2	Suspicious activity	1	Hazards	5
Lock out	5	Motor vehicle stop	20	<b><u>Hamlin Avenue</u></b>		Alarm fire	1
M/V illegally parked	2	<b><u>Garfield Avenue</u></b>		Check well being	1	Alarm police	5
Susp M/V	3	Assaults/A&B/DW	1	<b><u>Harris Avenue</u></b>		Ambulance call	2
Susp person	2	Check well being	2	Ambulance call	1	Animal call	2
Gordon Conwell compl.	1	Ambulance call	6	Assistance rendered	1	Assistance rendered	5
Stolen lic. plate	1	Assistance rendered	2	Building checks	1	Building checks	1
Telephone calls	2	Domestic	1	<b><u>Hatfield Road</u></b>		Field interview	1
911 hang-up/wrong dial	11	Fire calls	1	Fraud	1	Fire calls	2
Unwanted guest	1	911 hang-up/wrong dial	1	Hazards	1	Lost and found	1
Alarm, working on	39	Listing	1	Ambulance call	1	Motor vech complaint	1
BOLO	1	Un attend death	1	Animal call	1	M/V disabled	4
Fire, structure	1	<b><u>Gifford Road</u></b>		Telephone calls	1	Susp M/V	6
Fire, other	6	Services rendered	1	<b><u>Haven Avenue</u></b>		911 hang-up/wrong dial	1
House check info	2	<b><u>Goodhue Street</u></b>		Suspicious activity	1	Alarm, working on	1
Listing	13	B&E of M/V	1	<b><u>Hedding Avenue</u></b>		House check info	4
System trouble	1	Hazards	1	Animal call	4	Listing	15
Motor vehicle stop	138	Alarm police	5	<b><u>Hickory Lane</u></b>		Motor vehicle stop	19
Suspicious activity	2	Animal call	1	Hazards	1	Suspicious activity	3
Traffic control	1	Assistance rendered	1	Ambulance call	2	Assistance rendered	1
Transport	1	Missing person	1	Animal call	1	MVA invest "accident"	1
<b><u>Fairfield Drive</u></b>		911 hang-up/wrong dial	3	Carbon monoxide	1	Hazards	1
Fraud	1	House check info	2	Motor vehicle stop	1	<b><u>Home Street</u></b>	
Solicitors	1	Listing	1	<b><u>High Rock Road</u></b>		Ambulance call	1
MVA not invest	1	Motor vehicle stop	2	Alarm police	1	MVA hit and run	1
<b><u>Farrington Lane</u></b>		Suspicious activity	1	<b><u>Highland Street</u></b>		911 hang-up/wrong dial	1
Hazards	2	<b><u>Grant Avenue</u></b>		Assaults/A&B/DW	1	Suspicious activity	1
Alarm fire	2	Ambulance call	1	B&E burglary	2	<b><u>Homestead Circle</u></b>	
Alarm police	3	General disturbance	1	Larceny	6	Solicitors	1
Animal call	2	Malicious destruct	1	M/V theft	1	Check well being	1
Assistance rendered	3	Firearms ID card	1	Vandalism	1	Hazards	1
Alarm, working on	2	Listing	2	209A call	2	Alarm fire	1
<b><u>Forest Street</u></b>		<b><u>Greenbrook Road</u></b>		Solicitors	1	Ambulance call	5
Check well being	2	Check well being	1	Request message del'v	1	Animal call	7
Hazards	4	Animal call	3	Check well being	6	General disturbance	2
Alarm police	1	Assistance rendered	3	B&E of M/V	5	Fire calls	2
Ambulance call	4	Fire calls	1	Hazards	19	MVA invest "accidents"	1
Animal call	4	Susp person	1	Alarm fire	8	Arrest on warrant	1
Assistance rendered	4	911 hang-up/wrong dial	3	Alarm police	12	Fire, auto	2
Juvenile comp	1	Fire, structure	1	Ambulance call	15	Fire, other	1
Neighbors	1	House check info	3	Animal call	7	House check info	1
Malicious destruct	1	Listing	1	Assistance rendered	15	Listing	1
Motor vech complaint	3	Suspicious activity	1	General disturbance	10	<b><u>Honesuckle Road</u></b>	
MVA invest "accident"	1	<b><u>Gregory Island Road</u></b>		Neighbors	1	Directed patrol	1
M/V disabled	1	Fraud	1	Field interview	2	Check well being	1
Telephone calls	1	B&E of M/V	1			Hazards	1

<b><u>Honeysuckle Road, con't.</u></b>		<b><u>Lake Drive, con't.</u></b>		<b><u>Linden Street, con't.</u></b>		<b><u>Martel Road, con't.</u></b>	
Ambulance call	4	Death sudden	1	911 hang-up/wrong dial	4	Malicious destruct	1
Animal call	1	Neighbors	2	Alarm, working on	5	Susp /M/V	1
Lost and found	1	Malicious destruct	2	Community policing	1	Telephone calls	1
911 hang-up/wrong dial	1	Malicious mischief	1	DP Hamilton	2	911 hang-up/wrong dial	1
Fire, other	1	Motor vech complaint	3	House check info	1	House check info	3
Suspicious activity	2	Susp M/V	1	Listing	6	Listing	1
<b><u>Horseshoe Lane</u></b>		Susp person	1	Motor vehicle stop	2	Motor vehicle stop	3
B&E of M/V	1	Threats	2	Suspicious activity	1	<b><u>McClinflock Avenue</u></b>	
Lost and found	1	911 hang-up/wrong dial	4	Traffic control	1	M/V repo	1
House check info	1	House check info	2	<b><u>Lols Street</u></b>		<b><u>Meyer Lane</u></b>	
Listing	1	Listing	5	Check well being	1	Hazards	1
<b><u>Howard Street</u></b>		Motor vehicle stop	1	Hazards	3	Alarm police	2
Vandalism	1	Suspicious activity	2	Ambulance call	1	Ambulance call	1
B&E of M/V	1	<b><u>Lake Shore Avenue</u></b>		Animal call	7	Assistance rendered	1
Hazards	1	Boating	1	Field interview	1	<b><u>Meyer Road</u></b>	
Alarm police	2	Check well being	2	M/V disabled	1	Vandalism	1
Ambulance call	1	Alarm fire	1	Telephone calls	1	Request message del'v	1
Animal call	5	Alarm police	1	911 hang-up/wrong dial	1	Hazards	1
Assistance rendered	1	Assistance rendered	4	House check info	1	Alarm fire	1
Domestic	1	Motor vech complaint	2	<b><u>Longmeadow Way</u></b>		Alarm police	3
Field interview	1	M/V abandoned	1	Animal call	1	Animal call	2
Malicious mischief	1	House check info	1	911 hang-up/wrong dial	1	Assistance rendered	3
Lost and found	1	Listing	1	Firearms ID card	1	General disturbance	1
M/V abandoned	1	Motor vehicle stop	1	<b><u>Lorenzo Avenue</u></b>		Attempt B&E	1
Susp M/V	1	Suspicious activity	1	Alarm police	2	Motor vech complaint	1
911 hang-up/wrong dial	4	Water/ice rescue	1	Ambulance call	6	Susp M/V	2
Carbon monoxide	1	<b><u>Lee Park</u></b>		General disturbance	1	Fire, other	1
Fire, other	1	Check well being	1	911 hang-up/wrong dial	2	Listing	1
Listing	1	Assistance rendered	1	House check info	2	Paperwork served	1
Paperwork served	1	General disturbance	4	Paperwork served	1	Suspicious activity	1
Motor vehicle stop	1	Susp M/V	1	Motor vehicle stop	1	House check info	1
Suspicious activity	1	911 hang-up/wrong dial	1	<b><u>Madonna Drive</u></b>		<b><u>Miles River Road</u></b>	
<b><u>Hunter Lane</u></b>		Fire, other	1	General disturbance	2	Larceny	1
Solicitors	1	Suspicious activity	1	MVA hit and run	1	Fraud	1
Animal call	1	<b><u>Leigh Road</u></b>		M/V illegally parked	1	Vandalism	1
<b><u>Idlewood Avenue</u></b>		Ambulance call	1	Listing	1	Solicitors	1
Listing	1	Animal call	1	<b><u>Manor Hill Road</u></b>		Check well being	1
<b><u>Juniper Road</u></b>		General disturbance	1	Animal call	1	Hazards	4
B&E of M/V	3	911 hang-up/wrong dial	1	<b><u>Maple Avenue</u></b>		Alarm fire	1
Hazards	1	DPW Hamilton	1	Services rendered	3	Alarm police	12
Ambulance call	1	Hazards	2	<b><u>Maple Street</u></b>		Animal call	5
Animal call	5	Alarm police	3	Directed patrol	1	Assistance rendered	1
Assistance rendered	1	Ambulance call	8	Disorderly person	1	Fire calls	1
Lost and found	1	Animal call	4	Solicitors	2	Malicious mischief	1
911 hang-up/wrong dial	3	Assistance rendered	6	Hazards	2	Motor vech complaint	2
Listing	2	Missing person	1	Ambulance call	7	MVA invest "accident"	1
Suspicious activity	1	Lost and found	1	Animal call	4	M/V disabled	2
<b><u>Kennedy Road</u></b>		Motor vech complaint	2	General disturbance	1	Susp M/V	3
Animal call	2	MVA hit and run	1	MVA with pedes	1	Susp person	1
<b><u>Kinsman Lane</u></b>		911 hang-up/wrong dial	1	Motor vech complaint	1	DPW Hamilton	1
Alarm police	1	DPW Hamilton	1	Arrest on warrant	1	Listing	6
Motor vech complaint	1	Fire, other	1	Carbon monoxide	1	Motor vehicle stop	11
M/V disabled	1	Suspicious activity	1	Fire, other	2	<b><u>Mill Street</u></b>	
House check info	1	<b><u>Lincoln Avenue</u></b>		Listing	1	Larceny	1
Listing	2	Animal call	4	<b><u>Margaret Road</u></b>		Request message del'v	3
<b><u>Knoll Road</u></b>		Ambulance call	6	Check well being	5	Hazards	2
Assistance rendered	1	MVA hit and run	1	Hazards	1	Alarm fire	1
<b><u>Knowlton Street</u></b>		M/V complaint	1	Ambulance call	2	Ambulance call	2
Assaults/A&B/D	1	Fire, other	1	Animal call	1	Animal call	1
Disorderly person	1	<b><u>Linden Street</u></b>		Assistance rendered	5	Assistance rendered	2
Ambulance call	1	Check well being	11	Field interview	1	Building checks	1
Animal call	1	Hazards	5	Lost and found	1	Missing person	1
General disturbance	1	Alarm fire	1	911 hang-up/wrong dial	3	Lock out	1
Fire calls	1	Alarm police	2	DPW Hamilton	1	Fire, other	1
Telephone calls	1	Ambulance call	6	House check info	1	House check info	1
House check info	4	Animal call	13	Motor vehicle stop	1	Listing	1
Listing	1	Assistance rendered	3	<b><u>Margerie Street</u></b>		Paperwork served	1
Suspicious activity	2	General disturbance	3	Check well being	2	Motor vech complaint	2
<b><u>Lake Drive</u></b>		Field interview	3	Hazards	2	<b><u>Moulton Street</u></b>	
Vandalism	1	Lost and found	3	Ambulance call	3	Larceny	2
Check well being	5	Motor vech complaint	5	General disturbance	1	Vandalism	1
Hazards	3	MVA invest "accident"	4	Field interview	1	B&E of M/V	2
Ambulance call	1	M/V disabled	1	House check info	1	Hazards	3
Animal call	4	Lock out	1	<b><u>Martel Road</u></b>		Alarm police	7
Assistance rendered	1	M/V illegally parked	1	Alarm police	1	Ambulance call	5
Juvenile comp	1	Susp person	1	Animal call	1	Animal call	3

<b><u>Moulton Street, con't.</u></b>		<b><u>Paddock Lane</u></b>		<b><u>Porter Lane, con't.</u></b>		<b><u>Ricker Circle, con't.</u></b>	
Assistance rendered	4	Alarm police	1	Ambulance call	3	Assistance rendered	1
Door/window open res.	1	Alarm, working on	2	<b><u>Postgate Road</u></b>		Domestic	1
Malicious destruct	2	House check info	2	Larceny	1	Motor veh complaint	2
MVA not invest	1	<b><u>Park Street</u></b>		Check well being	2	<b><u>Rock Maple Avenue</u></b>	
Lock out	3	Ambulance call	1	Hazards	2	B&E burglary	1
Susp M/V	2	911 hang-up/wrong dial	1	Ambulance call	4	Hazards	1
Alarm, working on	1	Motor vehicle stop	1	Assistance rendered	1	Alarm fire	1
Community policing	1	<b><u>Partridgeberry Lane</u></b>		General disturbance	5	Alarm police	10
DPW Hamilton	1	Larceny	1	Domestic	3	Ambulance call	3
Fire, other	2	Alarm fire	1	Neighbors	2	Animal call	7
House check info	9	Alarm police	6	Malicious mischief	1	General disturbance	1
Listing	3	Ambulance call	2	Missing person	1	Susp M/V	2
Motor vehicle stop	6	Animal call	2	Motor veh complaint	1	911 hang-up/wrong dial	2
Suspicious activity	2	Assistance rendered	1	Lock out	2	Alarm, working on	2
<b><u>Moynihan Road</u></b>		Motor veh complaint	1	Prowler	1	House check info	4
Check well being	3	Suspicious person	1	Telephone calls	1	Listing	4
Ambulance call	5	Paperwork served	1	911 hang-up/wrong dial	1	Paperwork served	2
Animal call	1	<b><u>Patton Drive</u></b>		House check info	3	Motor vehicle stop	2
Assistance rendered	2	M/V theft	1	Listing	2	Suspicious activity	2
Lost and found	1	Alarm fire	3	Suspicious activity	1	<b><u>Roosevelt Avenue</u></b>	
M/V illegally parked	1	Alarm police	5	<b><u>Prides Park</u></b>		Domestic	1
911 hang-up/wrong dial	1	Ambulance call	1	Susp M/V	1	Suspicious activity	1
Suspicious activity	2	Animal call	3	Listing	1	<b><u>Rust Street</u></b>	
<b><u>Naples Road</u></b>		Lock out	1	<b><u>Prospect Street</u></b>		Larceny	1
Animal call	2	911 hang-up/wrong dial	1	Larceny	1	Request message del'v	1
Malicious mischief	1	Alarm, working on	3	Alarm police	1	Check well being	3
Fire, other	1	Carbon monoxide	1	Motor veh complaint	1	Hazards	3
Paperwork served	1	Listing	1	911 hang-up/wrong dial	1	Ambulance call	13
<b><u>Norman Road</u></b>		Suspicious activity	2	<b><u>Railroad Avenue</u></b>		Animal call	3
Solicitors	1	<b><u>Perkins Avenue</u></b>		Larceny	2	Assistance rendered	6
Ambulance call	2	Ambulance call	2	Vandalism	1	General disturbance	4
Motor veh complaint	1	Animal call	1	Check well being	6	Lost and found	1
Threats	1	Assistance rendered	1	Hazards	10	Motor veh complaint	1
House check info	1	Juvenile comp	1	Alarm fire	6	MVA not invest	1
<b><u>North Street</u></b>		Listing	1	Alarm police	17	Lock out	8
Ambulance call	3	<b><u>Pierce Avenue</u></b>		Ambulance call	50	Susp M/V	1
Animal call	3	Listing	1	Animal call	5	Suspicious person	1
Assistance rendered	1	<b><u>Pilgrim Road</u></b>		Assistance rendered	12	911 hang-up/wrong dial	1
<b><u>Northedge Road</u></b>		Animal call	2	Building checks	2	Alarm, working on	1
Alarm police	2	General disturbance	2	Juvenile comp	1	DPW Hamilton	3
Ambulance call	1	Domestic	2	General disturbance	9	House check info	2
Animal call	1	Field interview	1	Field interview	1	Listing	2
M/V illegally parked	1	Suspicious activity	1	Fire calls	1	Motor vehicle stop	1
911 hang-up/wrong dial	2	<b><u>Pine Street</u></b>		Malicious mischief	1	<b><u>Sagamore Street</u></b>	
House check info	6	Fraud	1	Skate board	2	Directed patrol	1
<b><u>Oak Avenue</u></b>		Animal call	1	Lost and found	5	Solicitors	1
Ambulance call	1	Assistance rendered	1	Motor veh complaint	5	Request message del'v	1
Lost and found	1	Motor veh complaint	1	MVA invest "accident"	2	Check well being	1
<b><u>Oak Street</u></b>		Listing	1	MVA not invest	4	B&E of M/V	1
Animal call	1	<b><u>Pine Tree Drive</u></b>		MVA hit and run	3	Hazards	6
<b><u>Old Cart Road</u></b>		Alarm police	1	M/V disabled	1	Alarm fire	4
Alarm police	1	Animal call	1	Lock out	7	Alarm police	5
Ambulance call	4	Telephone calls	2	M/V illegally parked	4	Ambulance call	5
Animal call	4	<b><u>Pleasant Avenue</u></b>		Suspicious person	1	Animal call	6
911 hang-up/wrong dial	2	Check well being	1	911 hang-up/wrong dial	4	Assistance rendered	5
Fire, other	2	Animal call	1	Alarm, working on	7	Building checks	1
House check info	4	Assistance rendered	2	Community policing	1	General disturbance	1
Listing	1	911 hang-up/wrong dial	2	Fire, other	1	Domestic	1
<b><u>Orchard Road</u></b>		<b><u>Pleasant Street</u></b>		Listing	18	Fire calls	1
911 hang-up/wrong dial	2	Directed patrol	1	Motor vehicle stop	5	Malicious destruct	1
Listing	1	<b><u>Plum Street</u></b>		Suspicious activity	3	Motor veh complaint	1
<b><u>Ortins Road</u></b>		Check well being	1	<b><u>Red Coach Road</u></b>		MVA invest "accident"	4
209A call	1	Assistance rendered	1	Vandalism	1	MVA not invest	2
Check well being	1	General disturbance	1	209A call	1	MVA hit and run	1
Hazards	2	Lock out	1	Check well being	2	M/V disabled	1
Ambulance call	6	Alarm, working on	1	Animal call	1	M/V illegally parked	1
Animal call	2	Listing	1	Assistance rendered	1	Susp M/V	3
Lost and found	1	<b><u>Plum Tree Court</u></b>		General disturbance	1	911 hang-up/wrong dial	1
M/V illegally parked	2	General disturbance	1	Domestic	1	Alarm, working on	3
911 hang-up/wrong dial	1	Hazards	3	Listing	1	Fire, other	4
Listing	2	Ambulance call	3	Motor vehicle stop	1	House check info	3
Soliciting	1	Assistance rendered	1	<b><u>Ricker Circle</u></b>		Listing	8
Suspicious activity	2	911 hang-up/wrong dial	1	B&E of M/V	2	Soliciting	1
<b><u>Overhead Drive</u></b>		<b><u>Porter Lane</u></b>		Alarm fire	1	Motor vehicle stop	7
Assistance rendered	1	Hazards	4	Ambulance call	1	Suspicious activity	3
		Assistance rendered	6				

<b><u>Sagamore Farm Road</u></b>		<b><u>Tally Ho Drive</u></b>		<b><u>Walnut Road, con't.</u></b>		<b><u>Willow Street, con't.</u></b>	
Alarm fire	2	Check well being	1	Ambulance call	6	Motor vehicle stop	3
Alarm police	3	Ambulance call	1	Animal call	22	Suspicious activity	2
Ambulance call	1	Anim	5	Assistance rendered	12	<b><u>Winthrop Street</u></b>	
Assistance rendered	1	Assistance rendered	1	Building checks	1	Hazards	4
General disturbance	2	Malicious destruct	1	Door/window open bus.	3	Alarm fire	1
Cruiser transport	1	Susp M/V	1	Juvenile comp	1	Alarm police	4
Fire calls	1	911 hang-up/wrong dial	1	General disturbance	12	Ambulance call	2
MVA invest "accident"	1	House check info	2	Field interview	1	Animal call	1
Alarm, working on	4	<b><u>Union Street</u></b>		Malicious mischief	1	General disturbance	1
House check info	1	Check well being	1	Skate board	4	Motor vech complaint	1
Motor vehicle stop	1	Hazards	3	Lost and found	12	Susp M/V	1
Suspicious activity	1	Alarm fire	4	Motor vech complaint	5	911 hang-up/wrong dial	1
<b><u>Savoy Road</u></b>		Alarm police	3	MVA invest "accident"	4	<b><u>Woodbury Street</u></b>	
Check well being	1	Ambulance call	8	MVA not invest	6	M/V theft	1
Animal call	1	Animal call	3	MVA hit and run	3	Check well being	3
Assistance rendered	1	Assistance rendered	7	M/V disabled	7	Hazards	2
911 hang-up/wrong dial	1	Juvenile comp	2	Lock out	5	Alarm fire	2
House check info	1	General disturbance	2	M.V illegally parked	2	Alarm police	2
<b><u>School Street</u></b>		Domestic	1	Susp M/V	1	Ambulance call	2
B&E burglary	1	Skate board	1	Susp person	1	Animal call	7
Larceny	1	M/V repo	1	Telephone calls	1	Assistance rendered	2
Directed patrol	1	Lost and found	3	911 hang-up/wrong dial	11	General disturbance	2
Request message del'v	1	Motor vech complaint	3	Alarm, working on	1	Neighbors	2
Check well being	2	MVA invest "accident"	3	Sire, structure	1	Malicious destruct	1
Hazards	3	M/V disabled	2	Fire, other	4	Lost and found	1
Alarm fire	7	Telephone calls	1	Listing	23	Motor vech complaint	1
Ambulance call	6	911 hang-up/wrong dial	7	Soliciting	1	MVA invest "accident"	1
Animal call	2	Arrest on warrant	1	Motor vehicle stop	16	MVA not invest	2
Assistance rendered	11	Alarm, working on	16	Suspicious activity	4	M/V disabled	2
General disturbance	1	Community policing	2	<b><u>Washington Avenue</u></b>			
Malicious mischief	1	Fire, other	1	Hazards	2	Lock out	1
Skate board	1	House check info	1	911 hang-up/wrong dial	1	Suspicious person	2
MVA not invest	1	Listing	4	Listing	1	911 hang-up/wrong dial	5
M/V disabled	1	Motor vehicle stop	1	<b><u>Western Avenue</u></b>			
Susp person	1	Suspicious activity	2	Hazards	1	Alarm, working on	2
911 hang-up/wrong dial	4	Traffic control	4	Ambulance call	1	DPW Hamilton	1
Alarm, working on	1	<b><u>Veranda Circle</u></b>		Animal call	1	Fire, other	1
DPW Hamilton	1	Alarm police	1	<b><u>Whipple Road</u></b>			
House check info	8	<b><u>Villa Road</u></b>		Hazards	1	House check info	1
Listing	7	Domestic	1	Alarm police	1	Listing	1
System trouble	1	Firearms ID card	1	Ambulance call	1	Motor vehicle stop	18
Motor vehicle stop	4	Listing	1	Lock out	1	Suspicious activity	3
Suspicious activity	2	Suspicious activity	1	Susp M/V	1	Hamilton water dept.	1
<b><u>Sharon Road</u></b>		<b><u>Village Lane</u></b>		911 hang-up/wrong dial	1	<b><u>Woodland Meade</u></b>	
Directed patrol	1	Check well being	2	House check info	2	Larceny	1
Hazards	2	Hazards	2	Fax received	1	Check well being	1
Ambulance call	2	Ambulance call	1	Request message del'v	1	Alarm fire	1
Assistance rendered	2	Assistance rendered	6	Check well being	3	Alarm police	3
Motor vehicle stop	1	General disturbance	1	Hazards	7	Ambulance call	1
Susp M/V	3	Susp M/V	1	Alarm fire	7	Animal call	1
House check info	2	911 hang-up/wrong dial	1	Alarm police	1	Assistance rendered	2
Listing	1	Fire, other	2	Ambulance call	10	Lock out	1
Motor vehicle stop	19	<b><u>Waldingfield Road</u></b>		Animal call	6	Susp M/V	1
Suspicious activity	1	B&E of M/V	1	Assistance rendered	8	911 hang-up/wrong dial	1
<b><u>Skinner Avenue</u></b>		Hazards	2	Building checks	1	Alarm, working on	1
Assistance rendered	2	Ambulance call	1	Door/window open bus.	4	House check info	3
<b><u>Spingler Drive</u></b>		Domestic	1	General disturbance	3	Listing	3
Alarm police	4	Lost and found	1	Field interview	1	<b><u>Woodside Road</u></b>	
<b><u>Stopford Street</u></b>		Susp M/V	1	Fireworks	2	Solicitors	1
Ambulance call	1	Alarm, working on	1	Malicious destruct	1	Ambulance call	1
<b><u>Sunset Lane</u></b>		DPW Hamilton	1	Motor vech complaint	1	Animal call	1
Animal call	1	Fire, other	1	MVA not invest	2		
Fire, structure	1	Listing	1	MVA hit and run	2		
<b><u>Surrey Lane</u></b>		Motor vehicle stop	1	M/V disabled	2		
Ambulance call	1	Suspicious activity	1	Lock out	2		
Field interview	1	<b><u>Walnut Lane</u></b>		Susp M/V	1		
Motor vech complaint	1	General disturbance	1	911 hang-up/wrong dial	3		
Susp M/V	1	Motor vehicle stop	1	Unwanted guest	1		
<b><u>Taft Woods Row</u></b>		<b><u>Walnut Road</u></b>		Alarm, working on	6		
B&E of M/V	1	Larceny	3	Child seat info/check	1		
Hazards	1	RR gates	7	Fire, other	5		
Ambulance call	1	Liquor law violations	1	House check info	1		
Animal call	4	Check well being	8	Listing	17		
Assistance rendered	3	Hazards	9	Paperwork served	6		
911 hang-up/wrong dial	2	Alarm fire	3	System trouble	1		
Motor vehicle stop	1	Alarm police	31				



## PUBLIC LIBRARY

The Hamilton-Wenham Public Library continued to be a welcoming destination and a source of information, leisure reading, meeting spaces and cultural programming for our two towns. The Library Trustees who served during 2007 were Wendy Daynes, Chair; Doris Gallant, Secretary; Annette Janes; Madelyn Liberti; Joanne Ridinger; and Elizabeth Stanton. The trustees generally meet on the second Thursday of the month and they are to be commended for their leadership and dedication to the library. One of their prime achievements this year was to establish a Policy on Professional Education Incentive to encourage staff members in their pursuit of a Master's Degree in Library Science.

As usual, the library staff has been terrific; their industriousness, creativity, enthusiasm and commitment to excellent service make the library an inviting institution dedicated to lifelong learning and the joy of reading. In 2007, we reached our highest circulation ever. A total of 229,387 items circulated during the year. Our meeting rooms were used by community groups and library programs a total of 842 times. The library offered 179 adult programs, 75 young adult programs and 275 children's programs. Our reference department answered 15,701 reference questions and our study rooms were used a total of 1,628 times. We also hosted six excellent art exhibits during the year that attracted many visitors to our facility. We installed six new computers and now offer 18 workstations for the public to use.

At least 1,912 children and 156 teens participated in our Summer Reading Program, "Catch the Beat at Your Library," which included many reading incentives and popular programs such as "Jewels from Mesopotamia: Kurdish Stories and Songs" by Diane Edgecomb, our 9th annual Vehicle Night, a visit from "The Spoon Man", and Charlie Hoffman's Monarch Butterfly Program. The teens enjoyed many programs including "Dance, Dance Revolution" and "Guitar Hero Night." We also supported the schools by providing Summer Reading materials.

This summer we also launched a new and successful partnership with the staff of the House of Seven Gables. Hamilton-Wenham adults were encouraged to read A Scarlet Letter by Nathaniel Hawthorne and one of our popular related activities was a field trip to the House of Seven Gables for a tour and a lecture. The Friends of the Library generously donated a pass to the Gables and many patrons have enjoyed visiting this historic landmark.

We added the "Series Adventure Club" which is our third story hour for elementary school children and continued to offer our popular story hours for preschoolers and babies. The library won a two-year LSTA (Library Services and Technology Act) grant for "Tweens and Teens" totaling \$20,000. This money will be used to improve the Young Adult area and purchase materials to improve our services and collection for youth from 11 to 18 years of age. Our Young Adult Advisory Group, the "Teen Think Tank" is instrumental in helping staff fulfill the requirements of the grant. The grant will also be used to improve resource sharing and communication with the Middle School and High School Library staff so that all students will be aware of and able to benefit from the public library's resources. A \$600 grant supplied new music CDs for our collection.

Adults enjoyed many special programs, including an author visit from Megan Marshall author of The Peabody Sisters, Three Women who Ignited American Romanticism, the monthly Literary Luncheon, a Genealogy Lock-in, and a foreign film series in the fall. Our senior citizens enjoyed a wide variety of speakers and fellowship at our monthly Koffee Klatch.

During 2007 we launched our first Community Read. We read Mountains Beyond Mountains by Tracy Kidder and were privileged to partner with Gordon College to have Tracy Kidder speak about his book at the A.J Memorial Chapel on March 21, 2007. In 2008 we are celebrating our second community read: "Two Books for Two Towns. We will offer a variety of programs and activities related to A Walk in the Woods by Bill Bryson and Reading the Forested Landscape: a Natural History of New England by Tom Wessels. Tom Wessels will speak at Gordon College on April 8, 2008. Patrons of all ages are invited and encouraged to participate in the related activities and read the books.

Many of our programs are funded by the generous support of the Friends of the Hamilton-Wenham Public Library who are a stellar group of dedicated volunteers. They held two very profitable book sales and a successful membership drive. The friends purchased a stately podium for our meeting room. They continue to provide the means for the library to offer the following museum passes for the public to enjoy: Boston by Foot, Children's Museum in Boston, Cape Ann Historical Museum in Gloucester, DeCordova Museum in Lincoln, Department of Conservation and Recreation Parks Pass, House of Seven Gables, JFK Library and Museum, Museum of Fine Arts, Museum of Science, New England Aquarium, Peabody Essex Museum, Roger Williams Park Zoo, and the Wenham Museum. Passes can call to reserve passes or sign-up remotely with their library card.

We could not operate without our dedicated volunteers who cheerfully and faithfully help us in countless ways to keep the library running smoothly. We also work with volunteers who have school and diversion program community service requirements. We also received some very generous donations from patrons which helped us add timely and important items to our collection.

In 2007 we started using DreamWeaver to author our website at [www.hwlibrary.org](http://www.hwlibrary.org). We continue to list our programs and events on our website. Patrons can order library materials from home and access many databases using their library cards. Besides the statewide and consortium databases, we offer our Hamilton-Wenham citizens access to Ancestry.com Library edition and the ABC-Clio Geography Database. We also offer the full Britannica.com which can be used remotely day and night. Ancestry.com offers HeritageQuest which can be accessed from home using one's library card barcode and the geography database can be accessed remotely with the user name and password of hwplpatron.

The library staff and trustees work hard to constantly improve collections and services. We greatly appreciate the citizens of Hamilton and Wenham; they are tremendously supportive and value education, learning and reading. We look forward to another great year in 2008.

Respectfully submitted,  
Jan Dempsey, Library Director

## HAMILTON-WENHAM PUBLIC LIBRARY TRUSTEES

The Director Jan Dempsey brings great energy, experience and efficiency to the operation of the library. The Trustees unanimously commend her for all of her excellent and successful efforts. Despite many staff changes during 2007, the Hamilton-Wenham Public Library continues to experience success and growth. Citizens from Hamilton, Wenham and many other communities enjoy the library and its many resources. This past year the circulation figures for the library saw constant increases. The library is busy all day and evening, and the public meeting rooms are in constant demand. Despite being stretched to the limit and the many staff changes, the library staff continues to perform at a high level of professionalism and competence. The Trustees acknowledge their outstanding public service. The Trustees continue to work for salaries that are more equitable for all of their employees. The Trustees unanimously created the Policy on Professional Education Incentive for Library Staff, which is for continuing education costs for staff members who wish to pursue a degree in library science. Expenses are covered with interest from the Katherine Duffy Trust Fund.

The State funding and our two Towns' tax dollars, which fund the operation of our library, do not cover all of the expenses, and certainly not the extras, which include special programs and speakers, staff development and even some basic costs such as supplies and equipment.

In 2007, the Trustees and Director raised \$5803.00 by requesting charitable giving. The State also contributed some matching funds as an incentive to local efforts. The Staff and the Trustees continue to take advantage of available grants and state aid to fund programs: The \$7500 Grant "On the Same Page" helped fund Hamilton and Wenham's first Community Read and we were please to have Tracy Kidder, author of Mountains Beyond Mountains come and talk about his book. An LSTA grant "Serving Tweens and Teens" will supplement staffing, library materials and services for the teens of our community for a two-year period. The Teen Think Tank created a plan to improve the Young Adult Space with painting. State Aid Funds will fund a Shelving Proposal.

Memorial Gifts were received in memory of Esther Noren, John Richards, Eileen White, Eileen Suppess, and Kay Duryea. A bequest was received from the estate of Susan D. Little. Many generous patrons also donated funds to the library. David Dearborn donated a Historical (1910) map of Hamilton and Wenham. The map and a preconstruction photograph of the library site, which have been professionally framed, are hanging outside of the Local History Room on the second floor of the library.

**In Memoriam** Frederick C. Batchelder, former Trustee of the Wenham Public Library for many years passed away on March 14, 2007 at the age of 95.

The Friends of the Library continue to be of great financial support to the library and its mission. They fund countless programs, purchase equipment and furniture and pay for the extensive collection of museum passes.

The library's website at [www.hwlibrary.org](http://www.hwlibrary.org) continues to be a very useful resource, providing information about programs, giving access to the databases and enabling citizens to order books online as well as from their home. A number of local talented artists show their work throughout year and we thank them for their generosity of sharing their work with the community. The trustees appreciate the support of the community and encourage everyone to enjoy the library and its many resources and programs.

Doris Gallant, Secretary  
Wendy Waller Daynes, Chair  
Madelyn Liberti

Elizabeth Stanton  
Annette Janes  
Joanne Ridinger

## RECREATION DEPARTMENT

Our commitment to continue to fund facility improvements, even in hard economic times, has become more trying. We were able to place a new play structure at the field behind the Recreation Center and with continued support of the Hamilton DPW arrange an agreement that the Town of Hamilton maintain the Donovan field to save the Youth Sports organizations the financial strain for trying to maintain this wonderful donation to the community. New benches, backstops and bleachers grace Patton and Pingree Park and work is planned for the outdoor basketball court as well as the tennis courts in both towns. It is our goal to help the Friends of Buker fundraise for a new gym floor.

On the program side of our mission, new programs included many special events for the community funded by the Recreation Department, including Pumpkins in the Park, Winterfest, Kite Day and Jump into Spring. This is new to us and was a wonderful addition to the community's offerings and an exciting partnership with the Police, COA, Community House and Arts Council. We look forward to many more collaborations in the future.

In addition to the classes we continued to offer, we were pleased to offer new classes for preschoolers and some art and science classes were added to grace our school year brochure. We will continue to branch out to offer programs not traditionally associated with the Recreation Department.

Maggie Whitesell, Director

Hamilton-Wenham Recreation Board

Jay Butler, Chairman

Denis Curran

Bob Kerrigan

Renee LaForce-MacDonald

Jane Lyman

Lindle Willnow

## RECREATION MISSION STATEMENT

The Hamilton-Wenham Recreation Department provides a wide variety of programs designed to improve the quality of life for resident by meeting physical and recreational needs. We promote life-long lesson through play, education and community wide events.

## RECYCLING COMMITTEE

The Hamilton Recycling Committee is comprised of members appointed by the Board of Selectman. The Committee has been meeting regularly over the past two years. In October 2007, the Town of Hamilton, approved at Town Meeting an amendment that allowed the Selectman to authorize a town-wide waste reduction program to begin on March 12, 2008. Hamilton is the 120<sup>th</sup> town in Massachusetts to put a waste reduction program in place. For Hamilton, this program requires each household to place up to 1 barrel of trash in a 35 gallon container on the curb with an unlimited amount of recycling. Any household with trash in excess of the 35 gallon container must purchase official trash bags from Hansburys, True Value, or Crosby's at a cost of \$1.75 each. Households, located on multiple driveways or with multiple families at one location, need to obtain a sticker for their trash barrel to differentiate each household.

The Committee has set up programs to support the waste reduction program including: 1) visiting homes to train families on recycling; 2) operating a hot line to provide waste information to Hamilton residents; 3) holding a series of public meetings and seeking out speaking engagements to inform residents about waste issues; 4) working out of the Town Hall to answer residents questions; 5) developing a series of articles for the paper to answer questions received on the new program; 6) establishing a website where residents can offer unwanted, but still useable items for free on the Yahoo freecycle website at : <[groups.yahoo.com/group/freecyclehamiltonwenham](http://groups.yahoo.com/group/freecyclehamiltonwenham)>; 7) coaching institutions that rent their facilities to outside groups on how to maximize recycling and minimize the solid waste the groups produce, at no cost to the host institution; 8) arranging for "at cost" composters to be available at Corliss Brothers in Ipswich to residents who signed up this spring, and then later for others at Green Meadows Farm in Hamilton; 9) exploring the possibility of a "Swap Shop" being created behind Town Hall in conjunction with the Boy Scouts Eagle Program.

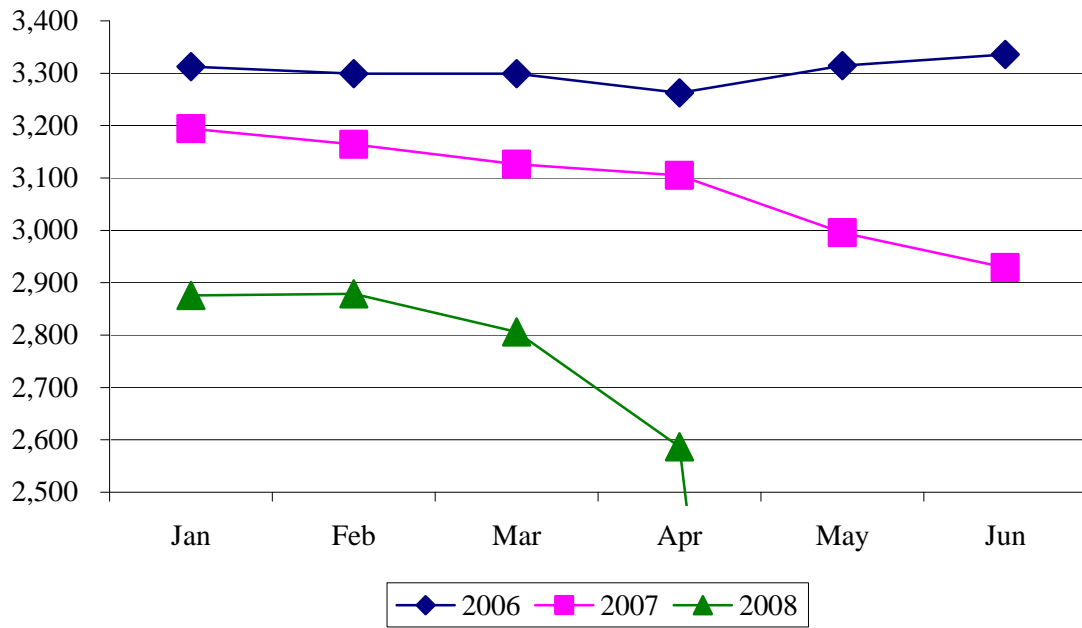
The Committee/DPW applied for and received a \$10,000 grant to initiate the waste reduction program for the Town. This grant covered the initial shipment of bags, publicity for the program, technical assistance from a DEP advisor and other related costs.

Other trash options include: Enforcement of the state-wide ban on placing random cardboard in the trash. All cardboard must be either broken down into 2' X 2' pieces and tied, or brought to the town hall broken down but not cut up and placed in the dumpster. The Committee has been working with the Town's DPW and its trash collector to enforce this rule. In addition, the Committee has been working with local garden centers and farms to encourage composting of food/plants.

### GOOD NEWS.

- With the implementation of the Town's "Waste Reduction Program", trash tonnage has dropped dramatically, and recycling and composting have increased dramatically. Trash tonnage for March 2008 was down 72 tons compared to the same month last year, resulting in avoided disposal cost savings of over \$5,000. For the four full weeks in April 2008, tonnage was down 82 tons, saving another \$5,700; This represents a 33% and 37% reduction in trash tonnage, which is well above even our projections!
- Recycling tonnage increased by 27 tons in April 2008 vs. April 2007.
- For the Fiscal Year 2008 so far, the trash tonnage is down, 205 tons, saving over \$14,000, with only two months of the WRP in place. In addition, as of April 28th, recycling tonnage is up 157 tons for the fiscal year 2008 compared to FY07, a 21% increase.
- The town hopes to achieve a 35% reduction in trash tonnage in 2008, with a savings of \$100,000.

### TONNAGE OF SOLID WASTE



## HAMILTON-WENHAM REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT COMMITTEE

### TERM EXPIRES

Richard L. Boroff, Chair 40 Moynihan Road, Hamilton 01982 (468-3162)	2008
Laurie Wilson, Vice Chair 17 Boardman Lane, Hamilton 01982 (468-2621)	2009
Catherine A. Harrison, Treasurer 49 Pleasant Street, Wenham 01984 (468-3359)	2008
Donald E. Gallant, Asst. Treasurer 28 Mayflower Drive, Wenham 01984 (468-2357)	2010
Jack O'Keefe, Secretary 5 Anthony Road, Hamilton 01982 (468-1494)	2009
Denise A. Bisailon, Asst. Secretary 37 Beech Street, Extension, Hamilton 01982 (468-3991)	2010
Lisa S. Gaquin PO Box 241 - 45 Rock Maple Avenue, Hamilton 01936 (468-3412)	2010
William F. Martin 101 Blueberry Lane, Hamilton 01982 (468-9553)	2008
Alexa McCloughan 489 Bridge Street, Hamilton 01982 (468-1743)	2009

**HAMILTON-WENHAM REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT ANNUAL REPORT**  
**Dr. Marinel D. McGrath, Superintendent of Schools**

I am pleased to present 2006-2007 Annual Report for the Hamilton-Wenham Regional School District. As you read the school reports, you will note that the strength of our school district is in the quality of our students, our faculty, our support staff, our school leadership, and our two communities.

During the 2006-2007 school year, the Hamilton-Wenham Regional School District (HWRSD) had an enrollment totaling 2121 students with 895 in the elementary grades Pre-Kindergarten through grade five, 507 in the middle school grades six through eight, and 719 in the high school grades nine through twelve. The school district goal is to provide an engaging and comprehensive curriculum that challenges all students and raises their achievement level. Our students must meet not only our own local learning standards, but also the learning standards of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and those of colleges across the country.

To realize the HWRSD goal, teams of teachers and principals provide an academic program for higher student achievement by embedding all state framework requirements within a strong District curriculum. Through state and federal grants and the generosity of the Hamilton and Wenham Education Fund, teachers availed themselves of quality staff development programs to ensure successful implementation of programs. Through the dedication, commitment, and caring of our teachers and support staff, Hamilton and Wenham students were recognized for their achievements in the academics, arts, athletics, and activities during the 2006-2007 school year. Our elementary students participated in artists in residence program; our middle school College Bowl students scored first place in a statewide competition and our middle school math team earned first place in Essex County for their participation in the New England Mathematics League. Middle School students were also recognized for their achievements in band competitions and the Boston Globe Art Awards. Our high school students received awards at the local and state level in history and science, the New England Drama Festival, Boston Globe Key Art Awards, District Band and Chorus, and Massachusetts All-State Band. One of our students, Mihika Pradhan, was named top prize winner and Massachusetts State Representative to the International Science Fair held in New Mexico. There, she won first place in her division. Hamilton-Wenham fielded the Cape Ann League and Division Champions in boys' and girls' cross country while the girls' lacrosse team was the Division II Cape Ann League Co-Champion. The golf, volleyball, girls' soccer, boys' ice hockey, gymnastics, boys' lacrosse, and boys' and girls' tennis teams all advanced to post-season tournament play.

The May 2006 MCAS scores reveal that Hamilton-Wenham students continue to score above the state average in all four subject areas tested (see Director of Curriculum's report for detail). Every member of the Class of 2007 has passed both the English and math sections of the MCAS which enabled all of them to graduate in June. In the area of college admission test scores, 91 % of HW Regional High School students took the SAT I with an average score of 1691 (Critical Reading – 565; Math – 561; Writing – 565). 126 students took 162 Advanced Placement examinations in Calculus AB, English Literature, European History, French, Spanish Language, Spanish Literature, and U.S. History, and achieved an average score of 3.5 out of 5.0. The Class of 2007 had seven students recognized as National Merit Scholars; six students received letters of commendation and one student was named a semi-finalist.

The H-W Regional School District continued its collaboration with the Towns of Hamilton and Wenham through the Towns/School Budget Process Committee (T/S BPC). I believe that the successful passage of the FY 08 school budget for \$24,625,610, which included a Proposition 2 ½ Override for \$494,938, was due to the commitment made by the towns and the school district to develop our budgets with more collaboration that produced a consensus-driven result. Even with this level of commitment from the towns, the School District could not maintain "level services" for FY 08. The FY 08 budget represented



a “reduced services” budget of \$24,625,610 which was offset by state revenues totaling \$3,370,393 dollars. As many know, the Chapter 70 state funding was decreased for the 8th consecutive year. In FY 01, the District received 19% of its budget from Chapter 70; in FY 08 the District received only 13% of its funding from Chapter 70 state aid. The School Committee continues to work hard with our legislators to change this formula to relieve the burden of the taxpayers.

Specifically, the FY 08 override funds provided three elementary teachers to avoid redistricting, one full time integrated arts teacher which maintained the FY 07 class size in art, music, physical education, technology education, life skills & Spanish and three high school teachers which enabled the high school to retain twenty academic sections ensuring that the majority of students are fully scheduled.

The FY 08 budget did not maintain funding for athletic and extracurricular fees; the District will implement a 100% user fee policy in September 2007. Given that the District lost 10.5 teaching and support positions in the FY 08 budget, citizen support in the two communities for our school district’s situation grew amongst concerned citizens. Sarah Gaylord, Amy Landon, and Nancy Peterson spearheaded a community fundraising group, Support Our Schools (SOS). In four short weeks the SOS group raised \$257,452 in private funding for the schools. The positions the District restored with the private funds included: two elementary teachers and teaching assistants and an eighth grade social studies teacher. Additionally, there were earmarked funds for the high school science department and Winthrop School. The balance of the funds was allocated to procuring much needed technology for high school classroom learning. These positions are funded for the 2007-2008 school year only; they are not included in the current FY 08 operating budget. The losses we suffered as a District seriously impacted the educational programs for our students.

Additionally, the FY 08 budget, even with the school override, did not contain any funding to address our strategic plan. The Strategic Plan was developed by community and school members based upon input from nearly 300 community and school people who participated in the various focus groups. The central purpose of the Strategic Plan is to restore, rebuild, and advance the curricular programs, services, and operations that are essential for our students today. If we had followed our strategic plan, we would have restored 10 positions in the academics and the arts totaling nearly \$500,000. The strategic plan is not excessive; it is what our students need.

While this budget balanced the education needs of students with economic realities, the FY 08 budget, once again, did not have the full support of our constituents. We had many constituents who believed the budget should have been higher so we could maintain a greater number of our academic programs. We also had just as many constituents who believed the budget should have been lower so as to ease the tax burden. We believed this budget was a fair, middle-of-the-road budget that had compromises on all sides.

At the June 6, 2007 School Committee meeting, the District bid farewell to three teachers and two principals at the fifth annual “We Honor You” reception. Honored retirees included: Ruth Herrick (34 years) Mary Mendonca (20 years), Steve Ottaviani (6 years), Martha Cesarz (13 years) Winthrop School Principal and Jan DeSantis (22 years) Miles River Middle School Principal.

No report of this kind would be complete without taking the opportunity to thank the many people who supported our schools this past year. On behalf of the students, faculty, administration, and School Committee, I thank the Friends of Pre-School, Buker, Cutler, Winthrop, Miles River, and High Schools, Special Education Parent Advisory Board, HW Education Fund, HW Rotary Club, HWRHS Sports and Activities Alliance, Support our Schools, Pro Musica II, and the many generous parents and community members who contributed time and money to support our schools.

I am also grateful to our faculty, staff, principals, assistant principals, and the District Leadership Team for their devotion to the children and youth of Hamilton and Wenham. Finally, we are most appreciative to the townspeople of Hamilton and Wenham and the Hamilton and Wenham Boards of Selectmen and Finance Committees who have seen us through difficult times and who continue to support our efforts to make the Hamilton-Wenham Schools the very best they can be. The FY 08 Budget Process personified the values of cooperation and collaboration that embody our communities. As your Superintendent, I thank each and every community member for their support of our students.

In closing, our initiatives continue to advance the coherence and quality of our educational program. There are many goals yet to realize which are dependent upon high levels of budget funding. Our professional staff must have the resources if we are to continue to be competitive with similar school districts in developing, providing, and maintaining a high quality educational program for our students in the Hamilton-Wenham Regional Schools.

## **DEPARTMENT OF STUDENT SERVICES**

**Allison Brown Collins, Director**

The Student Services Department of the Hamilton-Wenham Regional School District provides a wide range of programs for students with disabilities, ages 3 to 22. During the 2006-2007 school year, 342 students in the District (15.6% of the general school population) were identified as needing Special Education services. Special Education is a required program for all school districts under both federal law (Individuals with Disabilities Act – IDEA) and state law (Chapter 766). Eligibility for Special Education services is based upon the presence of a diagnosed disability, the inability to make effective progress in the general curriculum due to the disability, and the need for specially designed instruction or related services. A team of teachers, parents and other professionals collaborates in making eligibility determinations for each student. Evaluation Teams, composed of trained professionals including school psychologists, special education teachers, speech and language pathologists, occupational and physical therapists, and other specialists utilize a full battery of diagnostic instruments to assess the individual needs of the students.

The Integrated Preschool serves students from ages 3 to 5. Teachers, teaching assistants, monitors, and therapists work collaboratively to deliver services via an integrated model. In this setting, preschoolers learn and play together with their non-disabled peers. As students with disabilities reach school age, this inclusive and integrated model continues with most Special Education students receiving services within the general education classroom. Professional special educators, trained paraprofessionals, and therapists support our classroom teachers in meeting the needs of students with learning disabilities, health and sensory disabilities, communication disorders, neurological impairments, cognitive deficits, and emotional and behavioral difficulties. The Academic Opportunities and ASPIRE programs serve our most disabled students and include academics and life skill instruction both in the school and in the community. A Language Based Program at the middle school provides specialized instruction and curricula for students with language based learning issues. At the high school level, the STAY program offers a therapeutic educational setting for students at-risk of school failure due to emotional, learning, and behavioral issues.

The Special Education Department is evaluated annually on a three-year rotation between elementary, middle school and high school programs. These evaluations are required by law of all public schools as a means of ensuring quality programs for students with disabilities. In addition, the Department of Education conducts a full Coordinated Program Review every six years, with a mid-cycle review during one of the years in between. The Coordinated Program Review for Hamilton-Wenham was conducted during October 2006 and included a review of numerous student records, tours of each building and special education facilities, parent surveys and interviews, and staff and administrative interviews.

The Department is proud of its record of service within the District and recognizes that the high quality teaching practices of classroom teachers and the strong District Curriculum have established the climate of educational excellence that allows students with disabilities to succeed. The support of the School Committee, the Superintendent, School Administrators, families and townspeople has been essential in meeting the needs of all learners in the District.

**DIRECTOR OF CURRICULUM AND INSTRUCTION**  
**Dr. Maryellen Duffy, Director**

The Director of Curriculum and Instruction for the Hamilton- Wenham Regional School District continues to work with the Leadership Team and the staff to focus the district's curriculum and professional development work around the district's goals and strategic plan

Currently, curriculum and instruction task forces are established in all content areas and Technology. The task force committees continue to work on refining curriculum guides, developing curriculum maps and establishing benchmark assessments. The Curriculum and Professional Development Committee continues to oversee the task force committees, plan the curriculum articulation days, and related professional development.

The Curriculum Office and the Technology Committee oversee the implementation of the five year technology plan, a framework for defining a direction for educators, determining needs in our schools, and outlining goals for our students in the area of technology. A revised Acceptable Use Policy was developed by the Technology Committee and adopted by the school committee in 2006.

The Curriculum Office supervises the programming for our 13 English Language Learner students and the 61 students who qualify for Section 504 Individual Accommodation Plans. The Curriculum Office is also responsible for reviewing and approving Home Education Plans for 27 students from 15 families residing in Hamilton and Wenham.

Fortunately, state and federal grants have allowed us to continue offering quality professional development to our teachers. The grant funded staff development opportunities have included technology integration, the Responsive Classroom, Universal Design for Learning, Positive Behavior Intervention Strategies, and the Collaborative Project for Mathematics, Science, and Interdisciplinary Education. The Beginning Teacher Orientation, Induction and Mentoring Program and the curriculum coach positions have also been funded through grants. In addition, staff members are involved in 51 special project professional development opportunities during the early release Wednesday time period.

During 2006-2007 the HWRSD was awarded 8 state grants, 2 federal competitive grants and 4 private competitive grants totaling \$318,244. The grants were targeted for MCAS remediation, professional development, curriculum support and development, physical and health education, mental health services, and prevention programs. Staff also participated in grant supported professional development programs for science, mathematics, engineering and technology in collaboration with Salem State College and the University of Massachusetts, Lowell.

MCAS scores reveal that Hamilton-Wenham student scores are above the state average in all five subject areas tested: reading, English/language arts, mathematics, science/engineering, and technology. Our school district is doing particularly well in the areas of reading (96% passing at grade 3), English (average of 98% passing at grades 4, 5, 6, 7, 8 and 10), mathematics (average 95% passing at grades 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8 and 10) and science (97% passing at grades 5 and 8).

The HWRSD recognizes that student achievement, curriculum and professional development are interrelated and will continue to pursue and secure opportunities to support these connections.

## **BESSIE BUKER ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**

**Brian F. O'Donoghue, Principal**

The Buker School had an enrollment of 228 students in grades K-5 during the 2006-2007 school year. It was a busy and productive year for our students and the entire school community.

The year marked the departure of the integrated preschool classroom from the Buker School. The addition of our full day kindergarten program required classroom space that impacted our library and student services classroom in the previous year. The demand for adequate space for our library and student services needs prompted the decision to house the integrated preschool program at the Winthrop School. As a result, both the Buker library and student services classroom were restored this year and the services necessary for the integrated preschool were efficiently scheduled in one location.

In an effort to increase instructional time for students in our part-time kindergarten program, the decision was made to change the existing 2 ½ day model to a 5 half day program at each of the elementary schools. This change was well received by the community and we look forward to its implementation during the 2007-2008 school year.

The 2006-2007 school year resulted in few staff changes. Tim Buckley joined the Buker staff as the integrated media specialist and Erinn Gilmore joined our student services team as a part-time special education teacher.

Raising student achievement in writing was the focus of our professional development program. Elementary teachers across the district met during the year to review student work and discuss what constitutes high quality writing. Within the school, we identified the need to support our students with their written responses to reading prompts. We will continue to work on improving student writing during the 2007-2008 school year.

In an effort to strengthen the home to school connection, Buker teachers Gail Lamothe, Patti Miller, Nichole Miller, Laurie Mohan, and Kathy O'Shea developed and presented a Family Literacy Night that provided valuable information about how to support literacy development at home.

The Friends of Buker continued to provide cultural and academic opportunities for our students. They funded three authors to work with students on writing. The *Dancers Courageous* program and the *Tanglewood Marionettes* returned to support the developing creativity in our students. Through generous funding, the Friends and the Hamilton Wenham Edfund supported the purchase of two Smartboards for our classrooms.

**CUTLER ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**  
**Jennifer E. Clifford, Principal**

There were 323 students enrolled in grades K-5 at Cutler School in 2006-07. This number included seventeen classes. It was an invigorating and productive year for our school community. The dedicated staff, families, and students of Cutler supported Principal Jennifer Clifford during her first year.

New faculty members included the appointment of former third grade teacher Pam Larchez to the position of integrated-media specialist. The new integrated library and technology program was a significant focus this year in the building. Both the library and technology lab were transformed into inviting and up-to-date learning spaces for students of all ages. Other staff changes included the appointment of Caitlin Bird as our new PM Kindergarten teacher, Nancy Duffy as our new third grade teacher, Melissa Graham as our new fifth grade teacher, and Erinn Gilmore as a new part-time special education liaison.

Professional development initiatives in 2007 included the continuation of a literacy focus. Elementary teachers met throughout the year to review student work and to develop shared expectations. Elementary curriculum committees also convened monthly to further the outlining of grade level benchmarks in language arts, math, and social studies.

A Cutler School Technology Team was established to ensure alignment with the District's Five Year Technology Plan. Representatives established the needs of the building, while drafting goals and priorities for future technology use at every grade level. This team provided leadership and shared decision making as we explored the current use of technology in the building.

The Cutler School Council conducted a needs-assessment this year, identifying the need for more efficient communication between home and school. The Council has drafted a goal to address this deficit, and will present the School Improvement Plan to the School Committee in the fall of 2007.

The Friends of Cutler continued to provide extensive support to our school. The Friends purchased twelve new computers and a Smartboard, and made safety updates to repair existing playground structures. We continue to benefit from community-building events coordinated by the Friends. Cutler School also benefited from the generosity of the Hamilton-Wenham Education Fund, which will bring differentiated instruction resources to each elementary school next year.

Thank you for your continued support of Cutler School and our children.

**WINTHROP ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**  
**Martha D. Cesarz, Principal**

There were 344 children enrolled at the Winthrop School during the 2006-2007 school year. We continue to meet the needs of all children by creating specialized instructional programs at the Winthrop School. During the 2006-2007 school year, we implemented a new program for special needs primary grade students.

In the spring, Winthrop students visited the Peabody-Essex Museum to view the Joseph Cornell exhibit. After learning about his unusual art form of collage and box art, students created their own "reflection boxes" which were on display for the public. Students collected objects that represented something learned or experienced in school and displayed them in various size boxes. Not only did the children love presenting their boxes but they truly enjoyed seeing what everyone remembered about the school year. The children were particularly eager to see the teacher-made boxes and learn about their interests, hobbies, and memories. Students will remember the artist, Joseph Cornell, but even more, they will remember what they learned this year at school.

The outdoor learning and play area, *River Run*, has become a favorite spot for students and teachers. Chris Woodin, a Winthrop parent and well-known math instructional expert, presented a workshop for teachers in which he explained teaching math in an outside environment. Parents volunteered to provide extra supervision at recess times so children could explore the human size bird nest, the tree house, the vegetable and flower gardens, as well as the newly installed sundial. The Winthrop School community thanks Ms. Susan Tomases who tirelessly worked on *River Run* until its completion. We also thank the many community volunteers and businesses who donated time and materials to make *River Run* a reality.

During the summer, as materials and supplies arrived, several maintenance projects were completed. In the ongoing effort to replace old carpeting throughout the building, we replaced another classroom carpet with tile flooring. We also replaced the carpet in the library that had become a safety problem because of torn and worn spots. The final stage of the fire alarm system replacement was completed.

Families greeted the new principal of Winthrop School in August 2007. Ms. Carrie Vaich succeeded Mrs. Martha Cesarz who retired in July. Prior to her appointment as Principal, Ms. Vaich was the assistant principal at the Round Elementary School in Newbury, MA. During the spring and summer, Ms. Vaich spent many hours with Mrs. Cesarz learning about the school and communities of Hamilton and Wenham. Ms. Vaich worked closely with staff, parents, and guardians, to learn the many school traditions and maintain the high standards for academics and behavior at the Winthrop School.

## **MILES RIVER MIDDLE SCHOOL**

**Janice C. DeSantis, Principal**

The 2006–2007 school year was very positive and stable for the Miles River Middle School. There were 507 students enrolled at the middle school which was similar to the previous school year. Although our dearly loved Art teacher, Charles Allen retired, we were able to retain our teaching staff for the second consecutive year.

Ruth Herrick, Grade 6 Math teacher, Mary Mendonca, Grade 6, and Steve Ottaviani, Grade 8 Algebra teacher, all dedicated middle school educators, retired in June 2007. Each of them provided our students with rich and meaningful learning experiences and were respected by their colleagues for their contributions to children and to the District.

There were two major technology improvements made to the middle school thanks to the Friends of Miles River and the Hamilton-Wenham Ed Fund. The Friends provided Miles River with twenty-four new computers and four Smart Boards. The Ed Fund also provided grant funds for two additional Smart Boards. These improvements significantly enhanced the instructional practices and resources for both teachers and students. Technology needs will continue for the middle school since they are the essential tools for learning and communication for today's students.

Curriculum development and implementation continued. As part of our multi-year Social Studies plan, our popular Civics course was reinstated at the eighth grade level. The English Language Arts program continued its implementation of the "Six Traits" writing program to support the writing process program. Many students in grades 6-8 participated in an extended day mathematics independent inquiry program. Our Science teachers began a curriculum review process to align instruction with the Massachusetts Frameworks.

Our students performed well in many ways. For 2006-2007, our students met the Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) standards set by No Child Left Behind for all student subgroups. The New England Math League ranked our students in first place in Essex County. In the fall competition, our College Bowl team ranked first in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and fifty-eighth in the world.

Families greeted the new principal of Miles River Middle School in July 2007. Mr. Matthew J. Fox succeeded Ms. Jan DeSantis who retired in June after serving as principal for 18 years. Prior to his appointment as Principal, Mr. Fox was the principal of Georgetown's Penn Brook Elementary School and assistant principal at the Georgetown Middle/High School. During the spring and summer, Mr. Fox spent time with Ms. DeSantis and Dr. Reynolds learning about the school and communities of Hamilton and Wenham, the many school traditions and the school's commitment to high standards for academics and behavior.

The Miles River Middle School community thanks the citizens of Hamilton and Wenham, the Friends of Miles River, the Hamilton Wenham Ed Fund, Pro Musica, and the many volunteers for their continued support and commitment to provide our children with an excellent education.



## HAMILTON-WENHAM REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL

Robert M. Krol, Principal

I wish to thank the quality educators serving the families of Hamilton-Wenham. They provided our students with a rich and meaningful learning experience. Our faculty also dedicated themselves to the work of preparing for two site visits in the fall of 2006; one from the New England Association of Schools and Colleges (NEASC) followed by the Department of Education Coordinated Review.

Our students continue to excel in their daily academic endeavors, and in national and state testing. Our students' performance on the Scholastic Aptitude Testing, Advanced Placement, and MCAS are well above national and state averages. 84% of the graduating class continued their education at 4-year colleges, with an additional 8% continuing at two-year and post secondary schools. We are also proud of our students serving in the military and those starting their careers in the workforce.

Students continue to be active in co-curricular activities with well over 170 students taking part in the annual science and history fairs and representing the high school in state, regional, and national competitions. One of our students, Mihika Pradhan was named top prize winner and Massachusetts State Representative to the International Science Fair held in New Mexico. There, she won first place in her division. Over 350 students were involved throughout the year in various clubs and activities.

Our art, music, and drama students continued to distinguish themselves. Several students won *Boston Globe* Key Awards, Drama Guild ensemble and individual awards at the One-Act Festival, and students were selected to District and All-State Band and Chorus.

Our athletic teams competed successfully in all three seasons highlighted by an exciting Thanksgiving Day football game played in front of a huge crowd. The track on our main athletic field has been officially dedicated to Mr. Steve Sawyer for his many years of dedicated coaching. The participation rates in athletics included 310 students in fall sports, 310 students in the spring, and 270 students in the winter season.

The support of our parent groups continues to be outstanding. The Friends of the High School, the various booster clubs, and the Sports and Activities Alliance enriched our students' lives.

**MILES RIVER MIDDLE SCHOOL  
GRADE EIGHT GRADUATES**

Connor Adamik	Colton Dodge	Natalie Kassirer	Jackson Petri
Cailee Anastas	Zack Dolan	Meghan Kausel	Mark Petrou
John Andre	Kelsey Domoracki	Claire Kawski	Bai Hua (Tania) Piao
Elizabeth Astulfi	Katherine Donellan	Jared Kefalas	Molly Piper
Kyle Bache	Rachael Drougas	Donald Keith, III	Kendrick Poulin
Rebecca Balk	Joanna Durgin	James Ketcham	John Prince
Paul Bateman	Olivia Durgin	Tayler Kimball	Amelia Reardon
Christina Belezos	Nicholas Falasca	Jordan Kimkaran	Eleanore Rodgers
Nicole Benner	Connor Finley	Kevin King	Joshua Rosenberg
Samuel Berry	Katherine Flores	Emily Klobucher	Elizabeth Roth
Michael Beyer	Glorie Frackleton	Nathan Ko	Alix Rowen
James Brao	Anne Frederiksen	Richard Kong	Emma Sandler
Charles Brennick	Remy Frisch	Jessica Kotch	Andrea Sargent
Sophia Brockenbrough	Minot Frye, Jr.	Daniel Kvistad	Jacob Shaktman
Lillian Brotchie	Ryan Gallagher	Marissa Lampe	Heather Spearing
Brendan Brown	Carey Gallant	Alison Lanois	Claire Stehfest
Bridget Brown	Alexander Ganey	Jonathan Lebel	Alma Tambone
Zachary Brown	Cameron Gauthier	Gregory Lidrbauch	Linsey Tambone
Samantha Bucco	Michael Gianelli	Peter Liquori	Ashley Thibeault
Hannah Buckler	Scott Goodrich	Mimi Lounsbury	Daniel Trefrey
Tristan Burke	Logan Goodwin	James Love	Sean Turpin
Alton Bynum, III	Christine Grayton	Conor Lyons	Kathleen Vanni
Danielle Carp	William Gribbell	Jason Mackey	Juana Vargas
Nicholas Celata	Ryan Hale	Antonio Maggiacomo	John Vivian
William Charette	Cara Hamilton	Carter Makin	Dominick Vogus
Hannah Chmura	Christopher Hamilton	Annalise Manning	Christopher von Staats
Benjamin Clemenzi	Amelia Hammerl	Calvin Martel	Megan Walsh
Robert Clough	Katharine Heffernan	Robert McLane	William Whalen, Jr.
Spencer Collins	Patrick Hendrickson	Hannah Millimet	Natalie White
Anders Corey	Avery Hennigar	Mark Millimet	Pendleton White
Chelsea Curran	Molly Herlihy	Brendan Minot	Courtney Wilson
Julia Curran	Matthew Herrick	Margaret Morley	Maya Wilson
Robert Curran	Samantha Hill	Emma Needham	Jun Hyung (Joshua) Woo
Joseph Currie	Victoria Horton	Hannah Newth	Elizabeth Woodbury
Molly Curtis	Yin Ran (Jack) Huang	Brendan O'Donnell	Christopher Young
Samantha Davekos	Mackenzie Johnson	Timothy O'Leary	
Julianne Davis	Laurel Joly	Tyler Parady	
Stephen Decatur, III	Ashley Kang	Shayne Pavenski	
Emma Dickey	Julie Karpp	Nicholas Peckham	

## HAMILTON-WENHAM REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL 2007 GRADUATES

Benjamin William Ahearn  
 Jennifer Ashley Andrade  
 Ryan Michael Anthony  
 Christina Grace Asadorian  
 Allison Nicole Ashley  
 Lyndsay Marie Atherton  
 Romeu Goncalves Azevedo  
 Matthew Baker Ball  
 Brittany Lee Barrett  
 Elizabeth Anne Barth  
 Sophie Leigh Bellenis  
 Jennifer Elizabeth Benner  
 Rason Roberto Benton  
 Brian Daniel Bishop  
 Alyssa Abigail Blanchette  
 Chauntel Lee Bongiorno  
 Matthew Joseph Bonventre  
 Amanda Reed Brown  
 Ryan James Buckley  
 Christie Regina Butler  
 Michelle Marie Bynum  
 John William Carey  
 Grainne Honora Carlin  
 Cristina Chinnin Rey  
 Russell Gustav Chisholm  
 Greg Allan Cohan  
 Nathaniel Jennings Conant  
 Ashley Megan Corbin  
 Samuel Walter Crossan  
 Meredith Anne Crown  
 Samantha Marie Curr  
 Joseph Vincent Curran  
 Andrew John Curran  
 Elliot Edgell Davis  
 Rachel Marion Day  
 Pamela Macy Decatur  
 Samuel Wilson DeHority  
 Rebecca Leah Der  
 Danielle Rose DeSantis  
 Taylor Michelle Doherty  
 Teagan Andrew Dolan  
 Kyley Lynn Dolan  
 Jessica Stowell Doonan  
 Michael James Drinkwater  
 Colleen Frances Driscoll  
 Lillian Rose Driscoll  
 Charles Mark Duval, Jr.  
 Domenico Umberto Eramo  
 Jamie Basset Erdman  
 Anna Ellen Tebbutt Evetts  
 Jessica June Figurido  
 Heather Ann Fontaine  
 Jennifer Patricia Galvin  
 Donald Patrick Ganey, Jr.  
 Andrew John Gansenberg  
 Gregg Pierce Gentleman  
 Emily Elizabeth Greeke  
 Jennifer Louise Gwynne  
 Caroline Ashley Ham  
 Emily Teresa Hanson

Olivia Anne Harkness  
 Michael Vincent Harris  
 Jesse Oliver Henderson  
 Suzanne Marie Henkels  
 Margot Rantoul Hinchey  
 Melissa Mae Hines  
 Alexander Louis Hoffman  
 Samuel Max Houston  
 Kevin Michael Howard  
 Meryl Ann Hulse  
 Alexander Arthur Ingemi  
 Arthur George Jackson  
 Colin Lowery Jermain  
 Abigail Katherine Johnson  
 Taylor Robert Jones  
 Kayla Mary Alice Jones  
 Kelsey Lucile Keith  
 Devin Daniel Keller  
 Grace Francesca Kerr  
 Samuel Beck Kiely  
 Danielle Annette Kiely  
 Alexandra Grace Kilburn  
 David Aaron King  
 Samantha Joy Kinsman  
 Leigh Rose Kroeker  
 Elyse Patricia Lampe  
 Michael Patrick Landry  
 Solange Andrea Lara  
 David Gould Lear  
 Stephen Patrick Leavitt  
 Hannah Jacqueline Lebel  
 Keith Edward Dorman LeDuc  
 Charlotte Emily LeTourneau  
 Matthew Robert Levy  
 Benjamin Jeffrey Lithgow  
 Kelley Elizabeth Littlefield  
 Samuel Timothy Luddy  
 Mary Harding Lyons  
 Katherine Ann Lyons  
 Jefferson Jared MacDonald  
 Lisa Quinn MacGregor  
 Jamie Lee Malatzky  
 William Andrew Marques  
 Michelle Renee Martin  
 John Daniel Matook  
 Ryan Walter McGlynn  
 Dale Brittannie McGrath  
 Katie Michelle McKenna  
 Alexa Karen McNally  
 William Francis McNamara  
 Michael Grey Melanson  
 Jenna Elise Miedzionoski  
 Sara Ann Millimet  
 Roseannah Elizabeth Mills Grassin  
 Giles Cole Moffett  
 Kellyann Rose Moniz  
 Lauren Anne Morse  
 Roger Conant Moulton, III  
 Dylan Edward Murphy  
 Isaac Shiho Nam

Stephanie Louise Naugler  
 Leigh Catherine Nawoichik  
 Margaret Emily O'Neill  
 Gregory Michael Osborne, Jr.  
 Brittany Marie Parr  
 Shay Ryan Parsons  
 Rebecca Charlet Payne  
 Sophia Mann Plitt  
 Christina Jo-An Pohas  
 Charlotte Jane Press  
 Chelsea Elizabeth Putur  
 Zachary Edson Ray  
 Vanessa Adriane Richards  
 James Lyman Ricker  
 Catherine Michelle Robinson  
 William Ernest Rosser  
 William Robert Safrin  
 Edward Sten  
 Robert Sandell  
 Margaret Hesse Sanders  
 Charlotte Ann Sandler  
 Daniel Van Dam Sargent  
 Abigail Zerrenner Sawyer  
 John Diamond Scarpa  
 Arielle Ana Scoglio  
 Jeffrey Thomas Scuteri, Jr.  
 Benjamin Jacob Seidman  
 Sheila Kelly Serafino  
 Kevin Maloney Serafino  
 Laura Kaye Shaktman  
 Shiv Dutt Sharma  
 Joanna Sierks Smith  
 Perry Virginia Smith  
 Nicholas Arthur Smith  
 Timothy Alan Snow  
 Sarah Brittany Spearing  
 Kathleen Frances Splaine  
 Douglas George Stone  
 Connor Tucker Sullivan  
 Jenna Beverly Swartz  
 Matthew Parker Sweeney  
 Michael Adam Teal  
 Daron Meryl Thayer  
 Rachel PhuongAnh TonThat  
 John Patrick Townsend  
 Amy Elizabeth Truschel  
 Myriah Theresa Tucker  
 James Thomas Turner, III  
 Ariel Sterling Twomey  
 Joseph Aidan McDermott Vanni  
 John Volker  
 Abigail Laura Walker  
 Jeffrey Alan Walsh  
 Erin Melissa Watkins  
 Stephanie Rose Weaver  
 Ian Roger Whear  
 Deidre Ann Winrow  
 Byron Campbell Wiswell  
 Julie Lyn Woods  
 Thomas Erik Zagorski  
 Daniel Ryan Zisson

## SEALER OF WEIGHTS AND MEASURES

All devices used to weigh or measure for commerce in the Town of Hamilton have been tested and sealed in accordance with state regulations. The Treasurer/Collector received all fees collected.

<b>Business</b>	<b>Device</b>	<b>Revenue</b>
Connolly	Scales	\$30
CVS	Scales	\$40
Crosby Marketplace	Scales	\$220
		\$70
G & M Motors	Gasoline Pumps	\$280
Hamilton Convenience Store	Gasoline Pumps	\$240
Hungry Fox	Scales	\$10
Meadowbrook Farms	Scales	\$20
Oliver Gulf	Gasoline Pumps	\$240
Welsh & Lamson	Fuel Oil Trucks, Rack Test and Diesel Oil Dispensers	\$160

Robert D. Rose, Sealer

## TOWN CLERK

The Town Clerk's Office serves as a general information center to the public, including the posting of all board meetings according to the Open Meeting Law. Numerous requests for information from our residents are processed by the Clerk's Office including, certified copies of vital records, general information about the Town and its activities, genealogical information, business and legal decisions made by Town boards.

This office is responsible for local and state elections, recording and certification of all official actions from town meetings, census maintenance, voter registration, maintenance and issuance of vital records. We process and issue various licenses including dog, fishing, hunting, sporting and marriage licenses, raffle permits and business certificates throughout the year.

I would like to thank Administrative Assistant Christine Larcom for her dedication and effort in performing the many and varied duties which make it possible for this office to run smoothly. Marissa Frerk has done an outstanding job with updates to the Hamilton Website keeping the residents well informed. We are very fortunate to have dedicated senior volunteers who assist us with our special projects. Edward Haraden, Aileen Bianco, Carol Kirby, Ruth Flumerflet, Betty Gray, Herb Ryan and Doris Cooper help stuffing census envelopes, indexing our maps and town meeting minutes, just to name a few projects. We sincerely appreciate their efforts.

	2005	2006	2007
<b>Marriage Licenses Issued</b>	37	33	23
<b>Births Recorded</b>	89	92	97
<b>Deaths Recorded</b>	31	35	36
<b>Fish and Game Licenses Issued</b>			
Fishing Licenses	49		
Hunting Licenses	27		
Sporting Licenses	15		
Trapping	2		
Waterfowl Stamps	22		
Archery Stamps	19		
Primitive Firearms	20		
<b>Dog Licenses Issued</b>			
Dog Total	1,120		
Kennels	20		

Thank you to the Board of Health and Dr. Pett for organizing the Rabies Clinic at our town garage in the spring. We extend a special thanks to our dedicated Dog Officer, Dyan Katz for her outstanding work and love of Hamilton's furry friends.

### **Elections and Registrations**

Board of Registrars -Mary Anne Burridge, Edward Seaver, Forrester "Tim" Clark and Jane M. Wetson, Clerk Officio.

The Annual Town Election was held at the Winthrop School and I sincerely thank the dedication and hard work of Greg Stevens, Paul Rigol, and Bob Timpani in setting up the elections, the Board of Registrars, the Election Officials, and the Hamilton Police for their support and professionalism. I would also like to thank the custodians and kitchen staff at Winthrop School for helping our day to run smoothly and keeping us well fed.

We had the privilege of using the new AUTOMARK Handicap Accessible Voting Machine at the Elections. Several voters used this new machine and thought it to be very user friendly. Dean Avellis was the first voter to use this machine. He marked his ballot from a wheelchair and enjoyed the experience. John Sanders, who is a blind resident, was able to vote by himself by listening to the ballot being read through ear phones and voting using a key pad. He was very happy to be able to vote himself with the help of the new voting machine.

### **Summary of Elections & Town Meeting for 2007**

- |              |  |
|--------------|--|
| May 7, 2007  | Annual Town Meeting with 444 registered voters. ( <u>Quorum of 150</u> )<br>8% of the total 5,467 registered voters in attendance. |
| May 8, 2007  | Annual Town Meeting Adjourned session with 310 registered voters.<br>6% of the total 5,467 registered voters in attendance.        |
| May 17, 2007 | Annual Town Election with 1,854 ballots cast.<br>34% of the total 5,467 registered voters.   |

Attorney General approved Town By-law Quorum Requirements of the ATM to decrease the Quorum to 75 on July 10, 2007.

- |                  |  |
|------------------|--|
| October 22, 2007 | Special Town Meeting with 223 registered voters in attendance.<br>4% 223 of the total 5,542 registered voters in attendance. |
|------------------|--|

A report of all Town Meetings and Town Elections will be produced under separate cover.

The annual census forms were mailed out, and again we are urging residents to complete and return as soon as possible. Massachusetts State and Federal representation and funding depend on the population. Also, the listing of every resident and household is very important to our Police and Fire Departments for safety reasons.

I thank you for all your support throughout the year and for allowing me to serve you.

Respectfully submitted,

Jane M. Wetson, CMMC  
Town Clerk

**EASTERN ESSEX DISTRICT  
DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS' SERVICES**

This department is charged under Chapter 115 Massachusetts General Laws with providing services to veterans, their survivors and dependents. Principal workload, under state law, includes the administration of aid to veterans and dependents. Communities fund this program, which is subsequently 75% reimbursed the following fiscal year by the Commonwealth. This is a need based program and the department is required to conduct periodic comprehensive review of the cases to insure no substantive facts have changed, while working with the veteran to identify alternative or long-term solutions to individual circumstances. During the calendar year, one Hamilton veteran was on this program. Under state law the department also assists qualified veterans to obtain bonuses, and qualified veterans, widows and parents to obtain state annuities, property tax abatements, and other benefits.

The Veterans' Services program also mandates extensive interaction within the federal community, principally with the Department of Veterans' Affairs. The Veterans' Service Officer (VSO) assists veterans and their dependents in filing for pensions, service connected injury/illness compensation, dependency indemnity compensation for survivors, VA healthcare enrollment, insurance claims, decedent claims, and many other issues. Federal benefits, processed by this department are paid directly to those eligible to receive the assistance or entitlement. The VA sent approximately \$600,000 to eligible recipients in Hamilton, of which the current staff is responsible for approximately \$228,000 dollars paid to or saved by those assisted in Hamilton.

Additionally, the department interacts, within the federal community, to correct military records, obtain needed documentation and insure veterans/dependents receive awards and recognition to which entitled. The VSO provided information, advice or assistance to 48 of the town's 428 identified veterans and 2 of the 96 identified veterans' widows during 2007. We also provide support and information assistance for National Guard and Reserves called up for service in Iraq or Afghanistan and their families.

The Director and the Assistant to the Director, Georgia Gadbois, advocate for veterans on issues at the local, state and federal level, interact with elected and appointed officials on issues, and work with local organizations in serving the community. We also assisted the Hamilton Korean War and Vietnam War Monument committees in developing their portion of the memorial.

The Eastern Essex District is composed of the Towns of Essex, Georgetown, Hamilton, Ipswich, Rowley, West Newbury and Wenham. A Board of Directors, consisting of one selectman (or designee) from each town maintains oversight. Mr. William Bowler is the Hamilton member of the Board of Directors. Ms. Cheryl Booth, Treasurer for the Town of Hamilton, is also the District Treasurer.

Terrance P. Hart  
District Director

## ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS

The Zoning Board of Appeals heard a total of Thirteen (13) petitions in 2007. A summary of the Board's actions are as noted below:

- |   |                              |
|---|------------------------------|
| (5) Petitions for Extension/Alteration of a Non-Conforming Use:   | Granted with Conditions      |
| (2) Petitions for Site Plan Review:                               | Approved with Conditions     |
| (2) Petitions for Abbreviated Site Plan Review:                   | Approved with Conditions     |
| (1) Petition for Special Permit for an Accessory Apartment:       | Granted                      |
| (2) Petitions for Special Permit for an Accessory Apartment:      | Withdrawn without Prejudice  |
| (1) Petition for an Appeal of Decision of the Building Inspector: | Decision of Inspector Upheld |

The Zoning Board of appeals also participated in the following items during the year:

- The Zoning Board continued review of Massachusetts 40B Guidelines and legislation.
- The Zoning Board continued review of 40B project currently under construction.
- The Zoning Board reviewed and made recommendations to the Planning Board regarding proposed zoning by-law changes and additions.

Submitted By ZBA Board Members:

Beth Ganister, Chair  
Winifred Whitman  
David Sullivan  
Diane Meibaum, Alternate  
Susan Wiltshire, Alternate