DEDICATION

DANIEL FLEURIEL

We dedicate the 2012 Annual Town Report to Daniel Fleuriel. Words cannot adequately express how much Dan Fleuriel means to the Town of Buckland; however, we will do our best to acknowledge Dan’s service to the people of the Town of Buckland.

Dan began his career as a temporary worker at the Shelburne Falls Wastewater Treatment Plant on December 28, 1983. He received his treatment plant training and certification while serving in the U.S. Air Force. In March 1984, when the Chief Operator of the Plant resigned, Dan was named Chief Operator of the Shelburne Falls Wastewater Treatment Plant, thus beginning his nearly thirty years (so far) of service to the Town of Buckland.

Dan Fleuriel is the first name that comes up when we need something done or fixed at Town Hall. Dan has come to the rescue many times. He fixes everything: toilets, faucets, door locks, office equipment, and much more, and he usually does this on his lunch break. We cannot remember a time when he has not been able to repair, replace or lend a hand whenever it was needed. He has even donned scuba equipment to search for leaks in the pool at the Buckland Recreation Area! He always finds the time to help, and always does it with a smile. Dan is a talented woodworker. He has crafted a gavel and case for the Town Moderator and repaired a chair in the Assessors office. He is affectionately referred to as “MacGyver” as he can fix just about anything with the most unusual parts and pieces that he just happens to have on hand in his shop.

The year 2013 marks Dan’s thirtieth year of faithful services to all of the residents of Buckland. Thank you, Dan. For all you do for all of us. It is with great pleasure we dedicate this Annual Report to you.
NATIONAL, STATE, AND COUNTY OFFICIALS

UNITED STATES SENATORS

Scott Brown                                          John F. Kerry

GOVERNOR
Deval L. Patrick

LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR
Timothy P. Murray

U.S. REPRESENTATIVE DISTRICT I
John W. Olver

STATE SENATOR
Stanley C. Rosenberg

REPRESENTATIVE IN GENERAL COURT
Paul Mark

FRANKLIN REGIONAL COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
John Paciorek, Chair
Bill Perlman, Vice Chair
Sam Lovejoy, Secretary
Ann Banash
William Martin
TOWN OF BUCKLAND TRANSFER STATION INFORMATION

Transfer Station Hours: Tuesdays and Saturdays 7:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Hours are subject to change.

Transfer Station Location: Take Route 112 South, turn left onto Hodgen Road (opposite “Recycling Center” sign), go past the Fire Station and up the hill to the Transfer Station

Transfer Station Telephone: 625-6743

Transfer Station Regulations

1. Transfer Station stickers will be issued after proof of residency is shown. Transfer Station stickers are available at the Town Hall from the Administrative Assistant (Monday – Friday, 8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m). Stickers are to be displayed on lower left or rear window of your vehicle.

2. The attendant will monitor stickers at the Transfer Station; NO ONE will be allowed to enter the Transfer Station without a CURRENT STICKER.

3. All trash must be disposed of in a Town of Buckland trash bag. Trash bags (33 gallons) cost $2.00 each and are available in bundles of ten at the Buckland Town Hall (Monday – Friday, 8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.), McCusker’s Market, and Shelburne Farm and Garden. Small bags (18/20 gallons) are $12.50 for a bundle of ten, available at Buckland Town Hall.

4. Recyclable materials may be disposed of free of charge.

5. Shoes are required to be worn.

6. No removal of items from Transfer Station property – person will be prosecuted.

7. No smoking is allowed at the Transfer Station. Children and/or pets must be confined to the vehicle.

Allowable Items: Clean and dry paper and cardboard; junk mail; boxboard; newspapers/inserts; magazines/catalogs; paper bags; white and colored office paper; computer paper; corrugated cardboard; paperbacks and phone books. All paper and cardboard must be clean and dry. Glass bottles/jars (only clear, green, brown, less than two gallons); aluminum, tin/steel cans and lids and aluminum foil; milk and juice cartons (tent top); drink boxes; plastic bottles, jars, tubs, and microwave trays/containers. Empty and rinse all containers. All types of metal, ferrous, non-ferrous, clean waste oil.

Do Not Include: Plastic bags or wraps, pizza boxes, motor oil bottles, Styrofoam, egg cartons, syringes/hypodermic needles, broken glass, soda or beer holders/cartons, ceramics.

Appliances: A fee of $5.00 per appliance must be paid at the Town Hall before disposal.

Ranges Stoves Ovens Hot water heaters Compactors
Washers Dryers Dishwashers Gas Grills - without propane

APPLIANCES CANNOT BE SMASHED BUT MAY HAVE SOME DENTS.

UNALLOWABLE ITEMS: Stereo Sets Television Sets Tree Stumps
Refrigerators Microwaves C&D Material
Salvaging materials by public, Chairs, Tables, Sofas, Rugs, etc.

(MATERIAL FROM COMPLETE BUILDINGS MUST BE TAKEN TO A COMMERCIAL DUMP.)

Clean Sweep Days are May 18, 2013 and October 19, 2013.
TOWN OFFICE HOURS

Selectmen’s Meetings are held at 6:30 p.m., on the second and fourth Tuesday of the month, in the Town Hall Selectmen’s Meeting Room, and are open to the public. Meetings are broadcast over cable television.

OFFICES are closed from 12:30 – 1:00 p.m. for lunch.

Selectmen’s Office  
Administrative Assistant – Sherry Clark  
Hours: Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Town Clerk – Janice Purington  
Hours: 625-8572  
Monday - Thursday, 7:30 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Assessor’s Office  
Administrative Assistant – Pamela Guyette  
Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday  
Hours: 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Tax Collector – Linda Marcotte  
Hours: 625-9474  
Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday  
9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Treasurer – Linda Marcotte  
625-9474

Town Administrator – Andrea Llamas  
625-6167

Town Accountant – Joyce Muka  
625-6167

Buckland Public Library  
Elizabeth Jacobson-Carroll  
625-9412

Dog Officer – Edward Grinnell  
834-2951

Highway Department – Steve Daby  
625-2367

Recreation Area  
625-9555

Transfer Station – Harry Warger  
625-6743

Wastewater Treatment Plant – Dan Fleuriel  
625-2300
## MONTHLY MEETING SCHEDULE OF TOWN BOARDS, COMMISSIONS, AND COMMITTEES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Board</th>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Time</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Board of Assessors</td>
<td>First Thursday</td>
<td>4:00 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Board of Health</td>
<td>Second Wednesday</td>
<td>7:00 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Conservation Commission</td>
<td>First Thursday</td>
<td>7:00 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Franklin County Tech School Committee</td>
<td>Second Wednesday</td>
<td>7:00 p.m.**</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mohawk School Committee</td>
<td>Second Wednesday</td>
<td>7:30 p.m.*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Planning Board</td>
<td>Second Thursday</td>
<td>7:00 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Recreation Committee</td>
<td>Third Tuesday</td>
<td>7:00 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Selectmen</td>
<td>Second and Fourth</td>
<td>6:30 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Zoning Board of Appeals</td>
<td>First Wednesday</td>
<td>7:00 p.m.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>As Needed</td>
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*Regular meetings are held in the Resource Center, Mohawk Trail Regional School.

**Regular meetings are held in the Assembly Hall, Franklin County Tech School, in Turners Falls.

The following Boards, Committees, and Commissions meet “as posted”:

- Agricultural Commission
- Buckland Public Library Trustees – First Tuesday monthly
- Cultural Council
- Energy Committee
- Renewable Energy Advisory Committee
- Finance Committee
- Historic Commission
- Personnel Committee
- Public Safety Committee

**Annual Town Election:** Tuesday, April 30, 2013, 7:00 a.m. – 8:00 p.m., Buckland Town Hall, Second Floor, William Street Entrance

**Annual Town Meeting:** Wednesday, May 8, 2013, 7:00 p.m., Mohawk Trail Regional School District Auditorium
## Elected Officials

### Offices

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>OFFICES</th>
<th>TERM</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Board of Selectmen</strong> (three year term)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Robert A. Dean</td>
<td>2011-2014</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cheryl L. Dukes</td>
<td>2012-2015</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kevin P. Fox</td>
<td>2010-2013</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Board of Assessors</strong> (three year term)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sammy Purington</td>
<td>2012-2015</td>
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<tr>
<td>Marion Scott</td>
<td>2010-2013</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pamela Guyette</td>
<td>2011-2014</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Board of Health</strong> (three year term)</td>
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<tr>
<td>James Bauerlein</td>
<td>2010-2013</td>
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<tr>
<td>Terry Estes</td>
<td>2011-2014</td>
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<tr>
<td>Richard Warner</td>
<td>2012-2015</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Buckland Public Library Trustees</strong> (three year term)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ann Bodkhe</td>
<td>2012-2015</td>
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<tr>
<td>George Dole</td>
<td>2010-2013</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mary Ellen Jepsen</td>
<td>2009-2012</td>
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<tr>
<td>Amy Love</td>
<td>2011-2014</td>
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<td><strong>Constables</strong> (three year term)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Robert Howson</td>
<td>2011-2014</td>
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<tr>
<td>Henry Phillips</td>
<td>2010-2013</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Finance Committee</strong> (three year term)</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Karen Blom</td>
<td>2012-2013</td>
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<tr>
<td>Paula Consolo</td>
<td>2010-2013</td>
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<tr>
<td>Benjamin Murray</td>
<td>2011-2014</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rob Riggan</td>
<td>2012-2012</td>
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<tr>
<td>Michael Turley</td>
<td>2012-2015</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dena Willmore</td>
<td>2012-2015</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Moderator</strong> (one year term)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Phoebe Walker</td>
<td>2012-2013</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Mohawk Trail Regional School Committee</strong> (three year term)</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Jon Wyman</td>
<td>2010-2012</td>
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<tr>
<td>Christopher Skelly (Appointed)</td>
<td>2011-2014</td>
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<tr>
<td>Martha Thurber (Appointed)</td>
<td>2012-2013</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Recreation Committee</strong> (three year term, five members)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Brandon Boucias</td>
<td>2009-2012</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nicole Freeman</td>
<td>2010-2013</td>
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<tr>
<td>Barbara Harris</td>
<td>2010-2013</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cynthia Schwartz (Appointed)</td>
<td>2011-2014</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
TREE WARDEN (three year term)
David Lowell 2010-2013

TOWN CLERK (three year term)
Janice Purington 2011-2014

SELECTMEN’S APPOINTMENTS

ADA COORDINATOR (one year term)
Kevin Fox 7/01/12-6/30/13

AGRICULTURAL COMMISSION
Susan Atherton 7/01/11-6/30/14
Sandra Cardinal 7/01/12-6/30/14
David Lenaerts 7/01/11-6/30/14
Sammy Purington 7/01/11-6/30/14
Christopher Rose 7/01/12-6/30/14
Colin Scott 7/01/12-6/30/14
Duane Schmidt 7/01/12-6/30/14
Paul Willis 7/01/11-6/30/14

ANIMAL INSPECTOR (one year term)
Sammy Purington (Barn Books) 5/01/12-4/30/13
Edward Grinnell 5/01/12-4/30/13

BOARD OF REGISTERS (three year term)
Kathleen Fekete Bauerlein 7/01/11-6/30/14
Sharon Gilmore 7/01/12-6/30/15
Lisa Mullen 7/01/10-6/30/13
Janice Purington 7/01/11-6/30/14

BOARD OF TRUSTEES – Will of Fred Wells (five year term)
Pamela Walker 7/01/09-6/30/14

BUCKLAND CULTURAL COUNCIL (two year term, three consecutive terms)
Karen Brandow (first term) 9/14/11-6/30/13
Erica Leiberman (second term) 7/01/11-6/30/13
Rosalind Lytle-Rich (first term) 7/01/12-6/30/14
Constance Mosher (second term) 7/01/11-6/30/13
Johanna Weinstein (second Term) 7/-1/12-6/30/15

BURIAL AGENT
John Chadwick 7/01/12-6/30/13

CARE OF VETERANS GRAVES
Les Chadwick 7/01/12-6/30/13

CONSERVATION COMMISSION (three year term)
Ellen Eller 7/01/10-6/30/13
Thomas Heinig 7/01/11-6/30/14
John Organ 7/01/11-6/30/14
Amy Wagener Murray 7/01/11-6/30/14
COUNCIL ON AGING (three year term)
Ellen Eller  7/01/12-6/30/15
Susan Pratt  8/14/12-6/30/15
Joanne Soroka  4/12/11-6/30/13
Eric Temple  8/14/12-6/30/15

DOG OFFICER/ANIMAL CONTROL OFFICER
Edward Grinnell  07/01/11-6/30/12

ASSISTANT DOG OFFICER/ANIMAL CONTROL OFFICER
Linda Rollins  07/01/11-6/30/12

ANIMAL CONTROL RELIEF OFFICER
Jack Cavolick  07/24/12-6/30/13

FENCE VIEWER
John Snyder  7/01/11-6/30/12

FIELD DRIVER
Clay Herbert  7/01/11-6/30/12

FOREST WARDEN
Russell Scott  7/01/11-6/30/12

DEPUTY FOREST WARDEN
Paul Herbert  7/01/11-6/30/12
Arthur Phillips  7/01/11-6/30/12
Open

FRANKLIN REGIONAL COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS
Kevin P. Fox  7/01/11-6/30/12

FRANKLIN COUNTY BUILDING INSPECTION PROGRAM
James Bonham  7/01/11-6/30/12

FRANKLIN REGIONAL COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS PLANNING REPRESENTATIVE
Michael Hoberman, Alternate  7/01/11-6/30/12

FRANKLIN COUNTY REGIONAL TRANSIT AUTHORITY REPRESENTATIVE
Peter Otten  7/01/11-6/30/12

FRANKLIN COUNTY SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT DISTRICT
Andrea Donlon  7/01/11-6/30/12

GYPSY MOTH SUPERINTENDENT
David Lowell  7/01/11-6/30/12

HAZARDOUS WASTE COORDINATOR
Robert A. Dean  7/01/11-6/30/12
HEALTH AGENT
Daniel Fleuriel 7/01/11-6/30/12

HISTORICAL COMMISSION (3 year term)
Roxana Racz 7/01/10-6/30/13

HIGHWAY FOREMAN
Steve Daby 7/01/11-6/30/12

HOUSING FOR THE ELDERLY
Kevin P. Fox 7/01/11-6/30/12

INSPECTORS – REGIONAL
BUILDING INSPECTOR
James Hawkins, Building Inspector
James Cerone, Local Building Inspector
Electrical Inspector
Thomas McDonald
Telephone: (413) 772-2026 X126

PLUMBING/GAS INSPECTOR
Andrew French
Telephone: (413) 772-2026 X125

MASSACHUSETTS EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT DIRECTOR
Arthur H. Phillips 7/01/11-6/30/12

MASSACHUSETTS ASSISTANT EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT DIRECTOR
Michael Dekoschak 7/01/11-6/30/12

MMAC REPRESENTATIVE
Benjamin Murray 7/01/11-6/30/12

NILMAN SCHOLARSHIP FUND
Marion Scott 7/01/11-6/30/12

PARKING CLERK
Janice Purington 7/01/11-6/30/12

PERC AGENTS (three year term)
James Bauerlein 7/01/11-6/30/14
Terry Estes 7/01/11-6/30/14
Richard Warner 7/01/11-6/30/14

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE (one year term)
Karen Blom (Finance Committee Appointment) 9/13/11-6/30/12
Randy Gobeil 6/14/11-6/30/12
Catherine Todd (Moderator Appointment) 7/01/11-6/30/12
PLANNING BOARD (three year term)
John Gould 7/01/10-6/30/13
Edward Grinnell 7/01/10-6/30/13
Thomas Heinig 7/01/09-6/30/12
Michael Hoherman 7/01/11-6/30/14
Christopher Skelly 7/01/10-6/30/13

POLICE CHIEF
James T. Hicks 7/01/09-6/30/12

REPRESENTATIVE TO FRANKLIN VETERANS SERVICE CENTER
Kevin Fox 7/01/11-6/30/12

RIGHT-TO-KNOW COORDINATOR
Robert A. Dean 7/01/11-6/30/12

SELECTMEN’S ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT
Sherry Clark 7/01/11-6/30/12

SEWER HOOK-UP INSPECTOR
Daniel Fleuriel 7/01/11-6/30/12

STREET LISTER
Janice Purington 7/01/11-6/30/12

SURVEYORS OF WOOD, BARK, AND LUMBER
Roxana Racz 7/01/11-6/30/12

TOWN ACCOUNTANT
FRCOG - Joyce Muka 7/01/11-6/30/12

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR
Andrea Llamas 3/01/11-3/01/14

TREASURER/COLLECTOR
Linda Marcotte 7/01/11-6/30/12

WORKMEN’S COMPENSATION AGENT
Linda Marcotte 7/01/11-6/30/12

ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS (five year term)
Dennis Clark 10/27/09-6/30/12
John Gould 10/27/09-6/30/14
James Rae, Alternate 10/27/09-6/30/13
James Rae 7/13/10-6/30/13
Jeffrey Rose 10/27/09-6/30/12

ASSOCIATE MEMBERS
Open
OTHER APPOINTMENTS AND COMMITTEES

ASSESSORS ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT
Appointed by the Assessors
Pamela Guyette 7/01/11-6/30/12

BYLAW COMMITTEE
Open (Planning Board Representative)
Open (Zoning Board Representative)

ENERGY COMMITTEE
John Gould (Planning Board Appointee)
Ellen Kaufmann
Michael McCusker
Margaret Olin
Brian Summer
Michael Turley (Finance Committee Appointee)
Pamela Walker

McKNIGHT SCHOLARSHIP FUND
Buckland Board of Selectmen
Linda Marcotte

OPEN SPACE COMMITTEE
Randy Gobeil

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE
Karen Blom (Finance Committee Appointee)
Randy Gobiel (Selectmen Appointee)
Catherine Todd (Moderator Appointee)
Michael Turley (Moderator Appointee)

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE
Steven Daby
Robert Dean
James Hicks
Henry Phillips
Janet Sinclair

REGIONAL VOCATIONAL SCHOOL COMMITTEE
(Three year term, Moderator’s Appointment)
Laura Earl 7/01/10-6/30/13

RENEWABLE ENERGY ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Susan Atherton Amy Murray
Dennis Clark Janet Sinclair
Terry Estes Jan Voorhis
Kevin Fox Paul Willis
Michael Hoberman
Michael McCusker
TOWN EMPLOYEES

MAIN OFFICE
Joyce Muka Town Accountant
Janice Purington Town Clerk
Pamela Guyette Assessors Administrative Assistant
Linda Marcotte Treasurer/Tax Collector
Sherry Clark Selectmen’s Administrative Assistant
Andrea Llamas Town Administrator

HIGHWAY/REFUSE DEPARTMENT
Steve Daby Highway/Refuse Superintendent
Mark Jarvis Truck Driver/Operator
Timothy Loncar Truck Driver/Operator
Sammy Purington Truck Driver/Operator
Harry Warger Transfer Station Attendant

WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT
Daniel Fleuriel Chief Operator
Alan Nichols Assistant Operator

BUCKLAND PUBLIC LIBRARY
Elizabeth Jacobson-Carroll Library Director
BUCKLAND POLICE DEPARTMENT

POLICE CHIEF
James T. Hicks

Patrolman
Timothy Budrewicz

RESERVE OFFICERS
Robert Carmody
Paul Herbert
Nathan Jackman
Jeffrey King
Jason LaRose
Patrick Merrigan
Joseph Murdock
David Sampson
Edwin Thurston
Charles Wilder
Roger Williams

ASHFIELD POLICE DEPARTMENT
Patrick Droney, Chief

Jarek Konopko
Justin Roy
Diane Wilder
Charles Wilder

CHARLEMONT POLICE DEPARTMENT
Jared Bellows, Officer in Charge
Gordon Cutter
Greg Dekoschak
Clayton Herbert, Sergeant
Kate Herbert
Paul Herbert

Holland Herzig
Melinda Herzig
James Hunkler
John McDonough, Sergeant
Charles Ricco
Mellisa Salls

SHELBURNE POLICE DEPARTMENT
Steven Walker, Chief
Greg Bardwell, Sergeant
Michael Billiel
Clayton Herbert

Phillip Malone
Robert Manners
Clint Phillips
Kurt Wilkins
BOARD OF SELECTMEN’S ANNUAL REPORT 2012

In August, based on an application supported by our Board and written by Mary Vilbon of the Greater Shelburne Falls Area Business Association, with the help of several local artists and crafts people, the Massachusetts Cultural Council designated the village of Shelburne Falls as a Cultural District. A cultural district designation should help “attract artists and cultural enterprises, encourage business and job growth, expand tourism, preserve and reuse historic buildings, enhance property values, and foster local cultural development.”

This Cultural District designation is one result of the on-going Shelburne Falls Area Partnership between the Towns of Buckland and Shelburne and the Greater Shelburne Falls Area Business Association. The Partnership continues to meet quarterly to discuss issues of mutual concern and benefit, and to work collaboratively to move forward on economic development and other projects to improve our community. The Partnership has directly benefited Buckland in many ways, including better scores for Community Development Block Grant applications that have resulted in millions of dollars worth of infrastructure improvements, housing rehabilitation loans and social service assistance to our residents over the past several years.

In other cultural news, Buckland will feature prominently in a major motion picture to be released in 2013. In June, 2012, the cast and crew of the film, Labor Day, came to Town and briefly transformed our village into the fictional movie town of Holton Mills, NH. Working collaboratively with local police and the business community, the production progressed as well as could be expected through locations on both sides of the river in Shelburne Falls, as well on location in upper Buckland, especially given the fickle stretch of weather that required regular changes in the schedule. Time will tell if this Jason Reitman-directed movie will be a box office hit, but our brush with fame (Kate Winslet and Josh Brolin headline the cast) was an interesting view into the world of movie making that we believe will have a positive impact on our local economy for years to come.

Broadband Access

The Massachusetts Broadband Institute (MBI) is building a “Middle Mile” network through 123 municipalities across western Massachusetts. Several public facilities, or “community anchor institutions”, in Buckland, including the town hall, police station, both fire stations, the library and the Mohawk school building, will receive a direct connection to this high speed fiber network as well as free equipment to make it easy to access the network. As many as 30 end user service providers have expressed interest to MBI to use the new network. We will be considering how best to use the network for the benefit of the Town and will welcome your input along the way.

While the Middle Mile network creates a super highway-type fiber framework for service providers to tap into to provide last mile service directly to residents and businesses, it does not string any wires to homes. Our Cable Television Advisory Committee, working in collaboration with the Town of Shelburne, negotiated some line extensions in the latest cable TV renewal contract signed in 2012, but Comcast has actively resisted building out the entire town. We recognize the disadvantage created by lack of access to high speed internet services. For that reason, Town Meeting voted to create a Municipal Lighting Plant for the purpose of joining the Wired West collaborative of towns trying to bring broadband internet
service to unserved areas in Western Mass. After receiving contract assurances that the Town will not be liable for any of the cost of the Wired West network without a Town Meeting vote to approve funding, we signed the paperwork and Buckland joined 41 other communities across western Mass that are attempting to bridge that divide between the 21st century needs of our unserved residents and businesses and the Comcast business model that prohibits investment without a quick payback.

**Town Facilities**

We hired a mechanical engineer, Lily Barak of Sensible Solutions, to examine Town Hall and recommend improvements to make the building more energy efficient to reduce our future energy use, thereby reducing our operating expenses. Using funds already appropriated as well as state grant funds received as a result of Buckland’s official status as a Massachusetts Green Community, we are out to bid in 2013 for a contractor to implement the improvements.

As we improve Town Hall, we are also preserving and sharing our cultural heritage. The Buckland Bicentennial Quilt, hand-crafted by Buckland residents in 1979 and safely stored since the 2003 renovation of Town Hall, has once again been installed for viewing at Town Hall; this time upstairs in a beautiful display case built by Buckland residents Charles Plesnar and Mark Cormier, owners of M.I.B. Construction and Hilltown Custom Cabinetry. They donated a great deal of the labor and all of the materials to construct a beautiful case that is a work of art in its own right. Also, the original “Buckland Theater” sign has been rescued from the Town Hall attic, dusted off and installed upstairs at Town Hall by our highway department staff, recalling the building’s former use as a movie house.

We are still working on finding a permanent home for our highway department that works operationally as well as financially for the town. We are hindered by the fact that the Town of Buckland does not own much property, and none that is not already in use for other purposes. We have been examining possible uses of portions of the Lamson & Goodnow property, as well as the Mayhew Steel property. Examinations of the appropriateness of these sites are on-going, as well as continued efforts to identify other affordable, usable properties.

**Budget and Finance**

Buckland has an excellent finance team that continued in 2012 to guide our town through the challenges of a national economic recession to ensure that we meet our local government obligations in a manner that is fair to current and future generations of taxpayers. As our federal and state governments have reduced budgets and staffing levels, our local government is being required to take on increasing responsibilities with less funding to do so. Given those pressures, our budget is in good shape, though fiscal year 2014 promises to be another challenging budget to prepare.

**Irene’s Aftermath**

Tropical Storm Irene infrastructure repairs will finally be completed in 2013. Much of our time was frustratingly spent in 2012 working with seven different FEMA project specialists to negotiate approval for the scope of work needed to fix infrastructure damaged in the storm. In October we received final FEMA project approval for reimbursement. In anticipation of that approval, we hired Weston and Sampson Engineers earlier in the year to prepare the design and shepherd the Town through the environmental permitting process. We issued a bid for the work and awarded it to the low bidder, C.D. Davenport Trucking, Inc., based in Greenfield. The timing of the final FEMA approval was such that the contractor could not get any work completed before asphalt plants closed in November. Consequently, work will start as soon as possible in the spring of 2013 and continue until completed.
In our attempt to tap into as many funding sources as possible to address the post-Irene condition of Clesson Brook Road, we applied for and were awarded a state MassWorks grant in the amount of $971,053. This money will allow us to do additional work that FEMA will not pay for along the road. We will soon put this work out to bid for construction in 2013.

We will have significant financial challenges to address once our Irene-induced costs and related federal and state reimbursements are finalized. The Massachusetts Legislature appropriated funding to help towns affected by Irene to match federal funding. We continue to work with our elected representatives to determine Buckland’s share, but may not know the final amount until we have a better defined final cost as repairs get underway in the spring of 2013. The Finance Committee is aware of the process and has the long term financing of these repairs in mind as the fiscal year 2014 budget is being discussed.

Other Infrastructure Projects

The project to reconstruct State Street was completed with final paving and line striping in the spring of 2012. Construction costs were paid entirely with state and federal transportation dollars, while the town used state chapter 90 funds for the engineering design and construction phase engineering work. We are also benefiting from new “street” trees planted as part of this project. Another grant paid for plantings around the trees and in other locations along the street that serve to beautify our commercial downtown, making it an attractive destination for residents and visitors.

The Clement Street Project was completed in 2012 after being started in 2011. This project was funded mainly with Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds secured through a competitive grant application process. In addition to street level paving and sidewalk replacement, the project included new water, sewer and storm drainage piping under the street.

We were also successful in our CDBG application to reconstruct a portion of Sears Street from Clement Street to Wellington Street. Construction will begin in the spring of 2013, while we apply for CDBG funding to rebuild another section of Sears Street, from Clement Street to Green Street. Thanks to the many residents and other stakeholder agencies that assisted in the application process by attending meetings and offering letters of support. That local showing of support is crucial to securing CDBG grant funding.

Our efforts toward securing Massachusetts Department of Transportation approval of the Conway Street/Summer Street/South Street/Conway Road corridor reconstruction project were successful and we are now in the queue for future state and federal funding through the Franklin County Transportation Improvement Plan (TIP).

Emergency Preparedness

We continue to be engaged and forward thinking about emergency planning and management in a comprehensive and inclusive fashion. Building on lessons learned from our experience with tropical storm Irene, we were prepared to respond when Hurricane Sandy approached in October. We collaborated with our neighbors in Shelburne, with our fire and water districts, and with the business association and the Mohawk school district to use our collective limited resources to the best advantage. We were thankful that Sandy did not treat us as did Irene, but we know that we must continue to make ourselves ready for the next storm.

We will soon be installing a generator at Town Hall, paid for using a combination of state emergency preparedness grant funds and town funds. A generator will allow us to continue government operations and to use Town Hall space for emergency response if needed during a power outage.
Sharing With Other Towns

Buckland continues to innovate in leveraging resources and partnering with others to provide services. A new Senior Center agreement has been signed, acknowledging changes made necessary when the four town Center became a three town Center. Thanks to our Council on Aging for helping us work through the details and arrive at an agreement that works for all three towns.

Our animal control officer (ACO), Ed Grinnell took it upon himself to acquire advanced training and, at his suggestion, we now have an arrangement with Colrain’s ACO to back up Ed when he is unavailable, and vice versa. This arrangement is a good example of applying local resources in a new fashion.

We also signed an agreement to participate in a regional dog kennel and adoption service operated by the Franklin County Sheriff’s office. Twelve county towns participate in this program that provides some back up for part-time on call ACOs.

We also continue to work collaboratively with other towns through our membership in the Franklin Regional Council of Governments. We are currently participating in the regional public health, town accounting, cooperative purchasing and building/plumbing/wiring inspection programs at the FRCOG.

Continuing Education/Training

The Selectmen and our Town Administrator each attended various professional development training sessions in 2012. We are taking advantage of opportunities to stay abreast of new developments and learning opportunities, and we encourage other Buckland officials and our Town employees to continue their education for their personal benefit as well as to be better public servants.

Open Government/Citizen Involvement

Given some of the headlines we read these days, we think it is worth noting that the three of us on the Board still speak to each other in a civil and respectful manner; an important requirement for a healthy democracy that is in danger of becoming a rarity at all levels of government. Not only are we still talking to one another, we actively invite our citizens to participate in town government and the conversation in a respectful and civil manner. Here are some examples of how local citizens are getting involved.

At the instruction of last May’s Annual Town Meeting, we appointed an alternative energy advisory committee to advise the Planning Board as it works to consider updating our zoning bylaws to address large scale wind and solar installations. After a public hearing, recommendations will be coming back to the 2013 Annual Town Meeting for a vote.

Our volunteer Town Energy Committee is working collaboratively with the Selectboard, most recently advising us on ways to save money by retrofitting the pedestrian level lighting in the village area with energy efficient bulbs and ballasts. We will be partnering with WMECO on this project.

Through a project of the Buckland Historical Society, a group of dedicated citizens are working with interested property owners to plant American Elm trees, an effort that is bringing this stately tree back to Buckland, and to Elm Street, no less.

Our local Boy Scout troop came to one of our meetings in 2012. It was a welcomed opportunity for us to remember why what we do, though sometimes tedious and boring, is important for our community. It is important to teach our children about civic engagement.
and the responsibility we all face to get involved in some way to make our community a better place in which to live.

Volunteer recognition is a standing item on our agendas. Many residents of Buckland routinely pitch in and help -- often without receiving, or wanting to receive, any recognition at all. The actions of these volunteers add to the vitality of our town and contribute to our sense of well-being and being well in living here.

Finally, we offer our sincere thanks and appreciation to all who volunteer their time and talents to serve the Town on the various boards and committees that keep our municipal government moving forward, and who volunteer in other ways for the benefit of our community.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED ON BEHALF OF THE ENTIRE BOARD OF SELECTMEN,

Robert Dean, Chairman
Board of Selectmen
The following is a summary of the annual Animal Inspection for 2012:

1. **Cattle**: (Adult = 2 years and over)  
   - Number of Dairy: 60  
   - Beef: 19  
   - Steers/Oxen: 3

2. **Number of Goats** (Adult = 1 year and up)  
   - 16

3. **Number of Sheep** (Adult = 1 year and up)  
   - 18

4. **Swine**:  
   - Number of Breeders: 8  
   - Number of Feeders: 10

5. **Llamas/Alpacas**  
   - 1

6. **Equine**:  
   - Number of Horses, Ponies: 31  
   - Donkeys and Mules: 4

7. **Poultry**:  
   - Number of Chickens: 775  
   - Number of Turkeys: 9  
   - Number of Waterfowl: 28

8. **Number of Rabbits**  
   - 3

9. **Other Animals**  
   - (Game Birds): 20

Respectfully Submitted,  
Sammy Purington  
Inspector of Animals
ARMS LIBRARY ANNUAL REPORT 2012

By the books, by the numbers, we have it covered! Shelburne Falls is a good place to be. Our three-year automation project is complete, and how the landscape of our library has changed! Service is always our priority, and joining the CW/MARS has added another level of meeting patron needs. We’ve had unwavering support from our library users, the towns, individuals, and businesses to raise money for our library building. It has been a year of realizing a few hefty long-term goals. Thank you to all who have been a part of this.

In the first eight months of our June 2012 start date, 12,810 checkouts were made at the Arms Library. This is close to what we circulated in one year, prior to the library’s automation. We’ve learned a great number of new names and faces as people we’d never seen before began coming to the Arms. And, we’ve been moving a lot of materials, as people are able to drop off books (even when borrowed elsewhere) at convenient libraries, which are then delivered to the materials’ owning libraries.

Hundreds of volunteer hours went into adding and creating records for each item in the Arms’ collection. More hours were spent learning the system, and then teaching it both to patrons who’d used the system and to those with no experience, as the CWMARS system changed its entire platform the week before we “went live.”

Our initial CW/MARS membership and our start up costs were paid for by a generous bequest by the late Phyllis Joyce. Our yearly membership fee and updating hardware at the library are also paid for from the Phyllis Joyce fund.

$13,000 was spent in 2012 on books, audiobooks and movies. Currently we have 15,171 items in our collection, with loans being made through our library as well as to libraries across central and western Massachusetts. Add to this all automated libraries in Central and Western Mass.; plus, using two more aspects of CW/MARS, we are able to access more libraries through a statewide “Virtual Catalog”, and, “Overdrive” which downloads ebooks, movies and audiobooks.

In early 2013 we went live with our website armslibrary.org, which connects users with our online catalog and with Facebook pages for the Arms Library and for the “Put a Roof On It” Fundraising Campaign activities. Look on these pages for photos and current and archival library information. Technology has made the library much busier and more accessible; you can get more material than ever and in many formats. We hope with all of this change we’ve maintained the richness of what makes our library special. Let us know how we’re doing!

The Arms is cared for by the following individuals:
Staff: Laurie Wheeler (Director); Susie Patlove (Assistant Librarian); Emma Taylor (Page).
Board of Trustees: Cynthia Caporaso (Buckland); Sarah Davenport (Shelburne); Kate Downes (Shelburne); Sheryl Gilmore (Shelburne); Randy Gobeil (Buckland); Donna Liebl (Buckland); Sandra Lucentini (Shelburne); Richard Parmett (Buckland); Kathy Upton (Shelburne).
Pratt Memorial Library Building Committee: Cynthia Caporaso; Sheryl Gilmore; Donna Liebl; Robert Manners (selectman); Laurie Wheeler, advisory.
Fundraising Committee co-chaired by Whit Sanford (Shelburne) and Cherie Rankin (Shelburne).
Friends of the Arms Library: Lisa Merrill (Shelburne); Joan Lawless (Buckland); Sally Judd (Buckland); Christine Couture (Shelburne); Peter Schriber (Shelburne); Sharon Glazer (Conway).

We are open Mondays and Wednesdays 1-8 p.m., and Saturdays 11a.m. – 3 p.m. Please visit our new website: armslibrary.org

Respectfully Submitted,
Laurie Wheeler, Director Arms Library
BUCKLAND BOARD OF HEALTH ANNUAL REPORT 2012

The Buckland Board of Health is almost underway with Homeland Security warnings for food and weather alerts, regional planning for the next weather disasters, health emergency planning committees, and so on.

Glen Ayers of the Franklin Regional Council of Governments has continued to bail us out on many issues too complex for a part-time Board of Health. He stepped in to help us with several housing issues that required coordinating with multiple agencies and with the Board of Health members has worked hard to solve problems of Buckland residents. Lisa White has greatly helped the Town and county as the Public Health Nurse, coordinating flu shots and tracking and reporting on other diseases/illnesses/tick bites, etc..

New food inspection rules are in place, and the inspections are being jointly done by Glen Ayers and Jim Bauerlein. New tobacco sales regulations are in place to plug holes in the previous regulations.

There is a new fee structure in place for septic installers, well drivers, perc tests, tobacco sales, and food service inspections. The Board issued warnings and letters to residents for improper wood burning (burning garbage remains a problem) and outdoor wood boilers remain a problem at times.

The members would like to thank Phoebe Walker for her great efforts to set up and coordinate the county health program in its multiple aspects.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jim Bauerlein, Chair
Terry Estes
Richard Warner

FRANKLIN COUNTY COOPERATIVE PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE ANNUAL REPORT 2012

The Town of Buckland is a member of the Cooperative Public Health Service, a new health district at the Franklin Regional Council of Governments. In 2012 the Town received the following expanded services from CPHS:

- Submitted a successful $1000 application for federal FDA funding for the town’s food inspection activities.
- Witnessed 6 Title-5 Septic System Inspections.
- Witnessed 6 Soil Evaluations and Perc Tests.
- Conducted all Septic Plan Reviews & Final Septic System Installation Inspections.
- Attended 11 Board of Health Meetings.
- Completed of all mandated annual reports to the state Department of Public Health.
- The Health Agent is always available 24/7 for public health emergency situations in town.
- Responded to and investigated all housing complaints.
- Assisted the Board with food code inspections, including schools and restaurants.
- Reviewed and permitted all new private wells.
- Improved public health protections for residents through updated private well regulations, new local septic regulations, new food inspection policy, and new outside consultant regulations for large and/or controversial projects.
Completion of all mandated annual reports to the state Department of Public Health and Department of Environmental Protection.

Walk-in clinics every Wednesday in Deerfield Town Hall assisting residents of any member town with basic health screenings, assessment and monitoring of health conditions, medication information.

Completed state-mandated infectious disease surveillance, reporting and case monitoring. There were 3 infectious disease cases in Buckland in 2012, and 47 in the region.

75 residents attended the Community flu vaccination clinic at the Senior Center, and 122 vaccines were given at the EDS/Flu Clinic at Mohawk, and home vaccination was available to residents in need.

Nurse is available for individual meetings with Buckland residents to help with self-management of chronic conditions, medication management and connection to services.

Mercury thermometer and sharps disposal and container exchange (collaboration with the Franklin County Solid Waste Mgmt. District).

Buckland’s representatives to the CPHS Oversight Board are Rich Warner and Terry Estes. The member towns in the CPHS are: Buckland, Charlemont, Conway, Deerfield, Gill, Hawley, Heath, Monroe, and joining in 2013, Leyden and Shelburne.

To reach the Buckland Health Agent: Glen Ayers, RS, CHO: glenayers@frcog.org or (413) 774-3167 x 106. To reach the Buckland Public Health Nurse Lisa White, BS, RN; lwhite@frcog.org or (413) 665-1400 x 114.
The Assessing Department has been extremely busy this year. We encountered several challenges along with the daily routine work.

Chapter Land is always an interesting field, and Pam Guyette, our Administrative Assistant, spent many hours reviewing rules and regulations with the Department of Revenue and fellow Assessing Departments in other Towns to compare notes. When it comes to Chapter Land no two cases are alike, and there is always research involved to make sure that the proper paperwork that is mandatory has been filed.

We are seeing more and more ANR and CR plans coming into focus. These also require a good deal of time and research for a final outcome.

Excise bills always seem to be a problem. PLEASE when you are buying a new vehicle or trading vehicles, make sure that your insurance company/dealership have the correct place of garaging on the form. BUCKLAND is your place of garaging not Shelburne or Shelburne Falls.

Our new mapping system is progressing and we are now reviewing and correcting any discrepancies between the software and the maps which should be the final stage in the process.

Fiscal Year 2014 is our recertification year. We will be working very closely with the Department of Revenue throughout the process of having our Town recertified. We ask for your cooperation and understanding during this time in order to have the recertification run smoothly.

We welcome any questions or concerns that you may have. Our Assessor’s Office is open on a part-time basis; therefore we suggest you call (413-625-2335) to make sure that someone is available to help you.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>FY 2011</th>
<th>FY 2012</th>
<th>FY 2013</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Total Dollars to be Raised</td>
<td>$4,285,787.34</td>
<td>$4,181,198.48</td>
<td>$4,201,281.99</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Source of Dollars</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>a. Estimated From State</td>
<td>$310,537.00</td>
<td>$295,677.00</td>
<td>$322,116.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. Estimated Local Receipts</td>
<td>$598,304.00</td>
<td>472,379.00</td>
<td>520,028.95</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>c. Available Funds</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1. Free Cash</td>
<td>$130,402.33</td>
<td>163,862.00</td>
<td>142,835.25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Other Available Funds</td>
<td>$185,255.20</td>
<td>143,260.28</td>
<td>49,220.82</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Free Cash to Lower Tax Rate</td>
<td>$0.00</td>
<td>$0.00</td>
<td>$0.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Other Source</td>
<td>$0.00</td>
<td>$0.00</td>
<td>$0.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Total Assessment Valuation</td>
<td>$216,958,810</td>
<td>$212,741,109</td>
<td>$212,841,463</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Tax Rate</td>
<td>$14.11</td>
<td>$14.60</td>
<td>$14.88</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Respectfully Submitted,
Marion E. Scott, Chair
Pamela Guyette
Sammy Purington
The Buckland Cultural Council met several times in 2012. Three of our meetings were devoted to how to spend the grant monies. We received 52 applications, and some were denied funding because they did not meet the criteria created by state guidelines. With $795 carried over from unused but allocated grant money from last year, plus what the state allocated this year, $3,870, we had a total of $4664 in state funds to distribute. The following is a break down of the applicants, project title, request and amount awarded if accepted:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Applicant</th>
<th>Project Title</th>
<th>Decision</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Deerfield River Watershed Assoc.</td>
<td>RiverFest</td>
<td>$300</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stacy Kontrabekci</td>
<td>TEDx Shelburne Falls</td>
<td>$75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eventide Singers</td>
<td>Eventide Singers</td>
<td>$75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lindsay Funk and Terry Page</td>
<td>The Little Yellow Trolley Car, Timelines and history</td>
<td>$100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Damon, Steve</td>
<td>Musical Library</td>
<td>$75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Green, Katie</td>
<td>Hear the Whistle Blow</td>
<td>$75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Murray, Ben</td>
<td>Canoeing the Connecticut River</td>
<td>$50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bates, Davis</td>
<td>A Song &amp; Story Celebration</td>
<td>$100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Menella, Cheli</td>
<td>Feed the People</td>
<td>$100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Buckland Shelburne Elementary</td>
<td>Eric Carle Museum of Science</td>
<td>$125</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pioneer Valley Symphony Orchestra</td>
<td>Classical Symphonic Educational Program and Concert</td>
<td>$100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Museum of our Industrial Heritage</td>
<td>Summer Celebration at MOIH</td>
<td>$50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Charlemont Forum</td>
<td>The Charlemont Forum</td>
<td>$75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Valley Art Share</td>
<td>Ratchet</td>
<td>$75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ashfield Community Theater</td>
<td>Summer Arts Program</td>
<td>$150</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friends of Robert Strong Woodward</td>
<td>The Hilltown Landscapes of Robert Strong Woodward</td>
<td>$50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Collected Poets Series</td>
<td>The Collected Poets Series 2013 Season</td>
<td>$200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Miller, Bambi</td>
<td>Stitchin' Outside of the Square</td>
<td>$50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cooper, Jacqueline</td>
<td>Legacy of Rural Music, People, and Place</td>
<td>$100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Christina Gabriel with Rami Arbo</td>
<td>Mohawk Folk Rock</td>
<td>$200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ballet Reuniverse</td>
<td>The Dance of the Honey Bees' Residency</td>
<td>$100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cantor, Molly</td>
<td>Clay Classes for Children and Teens</td>
<td>$100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AIM Committee/MTRSD Related ARTs Teachers</td>
<td>Colonial ARTs Program</td>
<td>$150</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Root, John</td>
<td>Edible Perennial Gardening and Landscaping</td>
<td>$50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Karen Eldred</td>
<td>Children's Museum in Holyoke</td>
<td>$125</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Douglas Forbes</td>
<td>Presentation of Historic One Room School</td>
<td>$50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fred DeVcica</td>
<td>Pothole Pictures Film Series</td>
<td>$300</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jane Beatrice Wegscheider</td>
<td>Community Exhibits at The Art Garden</td>
<td>$250</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rawlings, Dre</td>
<td>Mohawk 'Palooza</td>
<td>$100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sachs, Katie</td>
<td>Healing Through Sound: Songwriting Workshop</td>
<td>$100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jonathan Diamond</td>
<td>The Hobbit</td>
<td>$314</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mohawk Trail Concerts, Inc.</td>
<td>The Spirit of Youth</td>
<td>$200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ashfield Community Theater</td>
<td>Ashfield Community theater Play Production</td>
<td>$150</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Senior Center</td>
<td>Multi-generational chorus Hilltown Harmony</td>
<td>$100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shelburne Senior Center</td>
<td>Dancing through the Decades</td>
<td>$75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shelburne Senior Center</td>
<td>Life in a Wheelchair</td>
<td>$50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pioneer Valley Jewish Film Festival</td>
<td>Pioneer Valley Jewish Film Festival</td>
<td>$50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Heath Agricultural Society</td>
<td>Heath Fair Music</td>
<td>$100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Honeywell, Donna Lee</td>
<td>The Patsy Cline Era</td>
<td>$75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pit Theatre Company</td>
<td>SYRUP: One Sweet Performing Arts Festival</td>
<td>$100</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The details of the funding for fiscal year 2013 are available at the Buckland LCC section on the website: www.mass-culture.org, or from Erica Liebermann, Chair.

In our public meetings, members of our committee were thoughtful and enthusiastic in the discussions about funding. The notice for the meetings is posted at the back entrance to town hall, and our meetings take place inside the building. We hope that our choices will continue to bring interesting and culturally enriching events to our area.

Respectfully Submitted,
Erica Liebermann, Chair
Karen Brandow
Roz Lytle-Rich
Connie Mosher
Johanna Weinstein
With the first full-year in the expanded and renovated library behind us, I am happy to report that the building is well-loved and well-used. Patrons came in increasing numbers and checked-out more materials than ever. Their cars frequently filled our new parking lot, and they continued to remark on how much they enjoy their library. The saying, “If you build it, they will come” has proven to be true here on Upper Street.

We bid farewell to many members of the Board of Trustees this year, including Mary Ellen Jepsen, Edith Gerry, Mark Pichette, Lois Holm and Susan Garfield-Wright. Each of them devoted years of service to our community, and has our heartfelt thanks. We welcomed new members Susan Atherton (Treasurer), Dale Ward, Cynthia Fisher, Catherine Russillo and Ann Bodkhe. Amy Love and George L. Dole remained, with the former serving as interim chair. While the board was in transition, we limited programming to story hours at the Mohawk Summer Camp/Buckland Recreation Area in July and August, and participating in the Mary Lyon Spelling Bee in the fall.

A variety of groups and individuals used the community room (while the library was closed) for meetings, book club gatherings, art and building design classes, writing workshops, and private parties. While the library was open, patrons with laptops enjoyed the room’s ample workspace and speedy wi-fi access; collectors searched the on-going book sale located at one end the room; a violinist rehearsed; and friends met for coffee. (The community room is available for public use, by prior arrangement, when the library is closed. It comfortably accommodates a dozen people at one large table, an instructor with a dozen students sharing smaller tables, or twice that number of guests seated in rows. The space includes a kitchenette with a sink, a small refrigerator, a microwave and a coffeepot. There is an accessible bathroom off the entryway. Annmarie Gardner, who has volunteered to coordinate reservations, may be reached by telephone at 625-6214.)

Patrons were busy computing on and off the premises. Our three public computer workstations, equipped with 21”-screen iMacs, were in use almost continuously. A stand-up station, with a fourth iMac, was reserved for patrons wanting to search the library catalog. As mentioned earlier, many patrons rely on the library’s wi-fi access while they are inside and, when the library is closed, from their cars in the parking lot. Also this year, more patrons tried downloading audio-books, e-books and movies from the CWMARS catalog from the comfort of their homes.

Behind the circulation desk, we gained direct access to the collections of more libraries through the new (and still to be improved) circulation software implemented throughout the Central and Western Massachusetts Regional System (CWMARS). We exchanged 4-5 bins of materials through CWMARS each week, and we and relied on volunteers to re-shelve and pull dozens of titles every Tuesday and Friday. We struggled to purchase ample new books, audio books, magazines and movies to meet the demand created by more visitors, but generous patrons helped us to do so by donating recently published items to our collections.

Members of the Board of Trustees and I remain grateful to the Town for its contribution to the library’s operating budget. We heartily encourage all residents who have not yet visited the renovated facility to do so soon. (New patrons can receive a library card in just a few minutes.) You will find an inviting atmosphere, comfortable seating, interesting and entertaining materials, and friendly neighbors.

Library hours: Tuesdays 2:00 – 8:00 pm, Fridays 1:00 – 6:00 pm, Saturdays 9:00 am – 1:00 pm. Call (413) 625-9412 for more information.

Respectfully Submitted,
Liz Jacobson-Carroll, Director
2012 was a transition year for the Senior Center. The first half included six months of Colrain participation in the Consortium followed by six months of settling in as a Consortium primarily serving three towns. During the year, service units for each of the four towns increased dramatically. Services which include transportation, a meals program, outreach, social, recreational and health services were administered by our professional staff and conducted with the help of over 100 volunteers. The report to the Executive Office of Elder Affairs for fiscal year 2011 showed that a total of 552 people age 60 and older from the four towns were served a total of 13,831 times. The breakdown by town was as follows:

- Ashfield: 82 seniors, 1,838 times
- Buckland: 181 seniors, 3,594 times
- Colrain: 84 seniors, 1,932 times
- Shelburne: 205 seniors, 6,467 times

We were pleased new Council On Aging members stepped forward and were appointed from each of the towns, giving representation and advocacy to residents. Each Council On Aging has started new initiatives to get to know the elders in their communities and share information about what is available for them. Together the board members have worked cooperatively to establish new guidelines and plans for the future of the Senior Center. A new three town Consortium Agreement was also developed by the Selectboards. It includes updated procedures and protocols to clarify various situations that arise. All of this groundwork has provided a strong structure and support network for the Senior Center.

2012 also saw a change in staffing. After almost four and one half years of service to the Consortium, Jamie Godfrey resigned from the Director’s position. Program Director Cathy Buntin took on his duties for the Interim period of March through August when she was appointed as Director. Leanne Dowd was then hired as a part time Activities Coordinator in late November.

We also said goodbye to Therese Fitzsimmons, our Neighbor to Neighbor Coordinator when the program’s Community Block Grant ended. Thanks to many volunteers and supporters, the Center has remained active and continues to grow to meet and engage the increasing number of wonderful elders in our communities. We are here, working together to support each other.

If you are interested in joining us for an activity, larger community effort or gather information for a loved one, please contact me or our staff at any time. You and our West County neighbors and friends are always welcome.

Respectfully Submitted,
Cathleen Buntin, Director
Buckland’s Council On Aging is active once again, looking for ways to connect with—and serve—our town’s seniors: those of you 55 and older who are thinking ahead...healthy seniors who want to participate in various activities...and frail individuals who need help, information or would simply appreciate knowing there are people who care.

In the past year we have served on the Senior Center’s Board of Directors, held “Meet & Greet” gatherings at the Buckland Public Library and at the Senior Center, as well as a couple of “Conversation Café” luncheons at the Mary Lyon Church. Our goal is to start having regular monthly events and to create a communications network so that no senior need ever feel isolated or lonely. That’s especially important for those who live far from family and friends.

We urge you to call any of your Council On Aging members, listed below, and let us know the best way to reach you—by telephone or email. We look forward to hearing from you and seeing you at future programs and events at the Senior Center and elsewhere in Buckland. The more responses we get, the better we can serve our seniors.

Respectfully Submitted,
Ellen Eller (625-9933)
Sue Pratt (625-8232)
Joanne Soroka (629-3146)
Eric Temple (625-9093)
Calendar year 2012 was a significant year for the FRCOG. In April we moved to offices at the John W. Olver Transit Center. This marks the first time in 18 years that FRCOG staff have been housed under one roof, and the benefits of this were immediately noticeable from better collaboration between FRCOG programs to reduced administrative costs. On July 1, the FRCOG celebrated its 15th anniversary. We believe that the Charter Commission that created the FRCOG would agree that the FRCOG is meeting its mission and serving the region of Franklin County and its towns well. Provided below are highlights from each of our programs.

Administration and Special Regional Projects. In 2012 special projects included organizing the fourth annual statewide Regionalization Conference with Lt. Governor Tim Murray’s office. This conference highlights the FRCOG and the towns of Franklin County for its regionalization efforts and has identified the FRCOG as the leading regionalization organization in Massachusetts.

Cooperative Public Health Service. This program was created in 2012 by combining the Regional Health and Regional Nurse Programs. The program provided public health and nursing to eight towns and will expand to 10 towns in 2013. In 2012 the program conducted: 95 food inspections, 40 septic plan reviews, 90 Title 5 inspections, 12 camp inspections, 7 pool inspections, 10 hotel/motel inspections, 40 perc tests, and administered more than 1,000 vaccines at flu clinics throughout the county.

Cooperative Purchasing Program. The Cooperative Purchasing Program provided bidding and contracting services for more than 20 highway products and services to 23 towns; fuel bidding services to 19 towns and non-profits; dog tags and licenses for 45 towns in 5 counties; and elevator maintenance services to 3 school districts and 11 towns.

Economic Development. Using a U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) grant, over $53,000 worth of environmental site assessment work was conducted on six properties in four Franklin County towns that were potentially contaminated brownfields sites. As the 1,300-mile MassBroadband middle mile network neared completion, the FRCOG engaged in a municipal broadband adoption project that included a municipal survey of each town’s existing voice and data contracts and a Request for Information to all last mile service providers so that towns can compare options, services and pricing.

Emergency Preparedness. Emergency Preparedness staff assisted several municipal public health and public safety groups in Franklin County including the Mohawk Area Public Health Coalition (MAPHCO), the Franklin County Regional Emergency Planning Committee (REPC), the Citizen Emergency Response Team (CERT), the Medical Reserve Corps (MRC) and the Disaster Animal Response Team (DART). For each of these groups, FRCOG staff organized workshops, trainings, and exercises, analyzed past response efforts, and worked to plan a coordinated emergency response before Franklin County’s next regional, emergency event.
Franklin County Cooperative Inspection Program (FCCIP). The FCCIP provides building, plumbing and wiring inspection services to 16 Franklin County towns. The highlight of 2012 was implementation of a revised assessment formula that reduces town assessments and makes the assessments more predictable over time.

Homeland Security Fiduciary. The FRCOG has served as fiduciary for the Western Region Homeland Security Advisory Council (WHRSAC) since 2004. Franklin County 2012 projects included: improvements to the Route 202 corridor coverage of the Franklin County Emergency Communications System; a new emergency sheltering equipment trailer housed in Buckland; the development of a Technical Rescue Team for the Western Mass Fire Chiefs Association; and video downlink equipment, housed at the Greenfield Fire Department, which allows incident commanders to view aerial video taken by the Massachusetts State Police.

Land Use Planning. Based on socio-economic analysis, Franklin County needs to accommodate 3,500 new houses and adapt to and provide services for an aging population over the next 25 years. The FRCOG received a 3-year Sustainable Communities Regional Planning Grant from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Sustainable Communities Initiative to address this. The goal of the project is to create a plan that identifies where and how new housing, including senior housing, should be built to have the least impact on prime farmland and forestland and centralize development in community service areas by using undeveloped and under-utilized parcels and buildings.

Natural Resources Planning. The FRCOG spent the last part of 2012 focusing on the upcoming Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) relicensing of five hydroelectric facilities on the Connecticut River, two of which are located in Franklin County. The new licenses will be in effect for 30-50 years, so the FRCOG recognizes the importance of ensuring that the river, the farmland along the river, and the associated recreation facilities important to Franklin County are protected and maintained by the licenses.

Town Accounting Program. The Town Accounting Program now provides accounting services and software to 14 towns. The focus of 2012 was to provide and improve the quality of service to all participating communities.

Transportation Planning. The FRCOG, along with MassDOT and three other regional planning agencies, have been working to launch a marketing campaign for the seven designated Scenic Byways in Western Massachusetts. In Franklin County this includes Route 122, Route 2, Route 116, Route 47 and 63/10, and Route 122. The goal of the project is to brand and promote these Scenic Byways as local and regional travel destinations. To date the project has produced a family of logos and graphics for the byways, and is well underway with website development, the production of maps and brochures, and identification of a wayfinding sign system.

For additional details about FRCOG programs, we encourage residents to read the FRCOG Annual Report, which will be posted on our web site, www.frcog.org, or you can receive a copy by calling 413-774-3167.
FRANKLIN COUNTY SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT DISTRICT ANNUAL REPORT 2012

To the Residents of the Solid Waste District:

The Solid Waste District was formed in 1989 to help Franklin County towns manage all aspects of their solid waste – recyclables, organics, hazardous waste, wastewater treatment sludge, and trash. We continue to provide assistance to twenty-two member towns through administrative support, professional consultation, trainings, and outreach to residents and businesses.

A review of recycling tonnage for 2012 shows a slight decrease from 2011. District residents recycled over 1,900 tons of paper and over 1,100 tons of mixed containers. The recyclable material was processed at the Springfield Materials Recycling Facility. Market prices for recyclables were low from June through December. Despite the low market prices, District towns received a total of $94,500 in revenue for their recyclables.

In 2012, the District sponsored spring and fall “Clean Sweep” collections for bulky items, electronics, tires, appliances, and anything too big to fit into a trash bag. Almost 60 tons of material was recycled or disposed of from the two collections. A total of 512 households participated in these collection events.

We also held our annual household hazardous waste collection in September 2012. This event allows residents to properly dispose of toxic cleaners, automotive products, pesticides, and other toxic products. A total of 324 households participated in this event. 50% of participants were using the collection for the first time.

We continue to work with public schools to improve their recycling programs and to implement programs to collect food waste for composting. The District also provides hands-on assistance to businesses and institutions that want to recycle or compost their waste. In 2012 we used a state grant to supply twenty-seven wheeled carts for bottles/cans recycling to area schools. We also helped member towns implement $23,000 worth of small scale initiative grants from the MA Department of Environmental Protection.

If you have questions about District programs, call us at 413-772-2438 (MA Relay for the hearing impaired: 711 or 1-800-439-2370 TTY/TDD), visit our website at www.franklincountywastedistrict.org or visit us at 50 Miles Street in Greenfield.

Jan Ameen - Executive Director           Jonathan Lagreze, Colrain - Chair
Chris Boutwell, Montague - Vice-Chair   Andrea Donlon, Buckland – Treasurer
CARL H. NILMAN SCHOLARSHIP FUND ANNUAL REPORT 2012

The fund was established under the provisions of the will of Carl H. Nilman for the purpose of providing scholarships. Recipients shall reside in the school district and be graduates of the Mohawk Trail Regional High School who desire and are deemed worthy of post high school education or training and who are in need of financial assistance.

This year the Awards subcommittee read 81 applications, 34 were from seniors and 47 from previous graduates of Mohawk. $29,750.00 is to be awarded using 30% for seniors and 70% for graduates. The Committee feels that seniors have multiple scholarship opportunities from other sources while graduates have far fewer resources. 24 scholarships totaling $9,150.00 were awarded to seniors (70% of applicants). 42 scholarships totaling $20,600.00 were given to graduates (98% of applicants.) The awards committee is Sheila Graves, Marge Porrovecchio (Charlemont), Eric Sumner (Heath), Michelle Hillman (Colrain), and Marion Scott (Buckland).

From 1991 – 2012 a total of $779,225.00 has been awarded in scholarships. Mohawk seniors have received $240,475.00 and $538,750.00 has been awarded to Mohawk graduates.

A new formula for determining what percentage of the funds should be distributed as scholarships has been established by the School Committee and the management firm of Bartholomew and Company.

Co-chairs of the Committee are Marge Porrovecchio and Robin Hartnett. The Finance Committee is composed of David Engle, Marion Taylor and Jim Pilgrim. Other members of the Committee are Paula Consolo, member at large from Buckland, Jonathan Diamond from Heath and Rebecca Bradley.

We wish to thank David Purington who has served as liaison between the School Committee and the Carl H. Nilman Scholarship Committee.

The Mohawk community owes a debt of gratitude to Mr. Nilman for his foresight in supporting higher education for the students of the Mohawk Trail Regional High School. The committee members are honored to bring the wishes of his will to fruition.

Students of any age who are graduates of Mohawk (and were living in the nine town area at the time of graduation) are encouraged to apply for scholarships to help meet their continuing education needs. Call the Guidance Office at Mohawk for information regarding requirements and deadlines.

Respectfully Submitted,
Marion E. Scott, Secretary
This scholarship, originally set up from a bequest in the will of Clifton L. McKnight, is a Trust Fund made available to high school and college students from the Town of Buckland to help further their education. The Trust Fund was set up in 1930, and after reaching $5,000.00, the income earned each year has been used for scholarship(s). Because the principal cannot be touched, and the fund has been earning only $30.00 interest annually, the Board of Selectmen has set up a supplemental McKnight Scholarship Fund. If you would like to donate to this fund, please make your check payable to the Town of Buckland, and indicate in the memo area it is for the Select Board McKnight Supplemental Scholarship Fund.

The Clifton L. McKnight Scholarship Committee consists of the Buckland Board of Selectmen, the Mohawk Regional District School Committee, a MTRHS Guidance Counselor, and the Buckland Town Treasurer, who is always the Chairman. The Guidance Counselor and the Treasurer are non-voting members. Applications, which are due by April 1st, are always available in the Buckland Town Office and the Guidance Office at MTRHS.

Nine applications were received by the April 1 deadline. This year’s recipient was Krystyna Mitchell.

Respectfully Submitted,
McKnight Scholarship Committee
The Highway Department was very busy in 2012 repairing and maintaining the roads in Buckland. In addition to the regular activities of patching potholes, cleaning culverts, ditches and catch basins, trimming branches and brush along roadsides, and plowing and sanding, the highway crew was busy reshaping and graveling our dirt roads.

The nearly $3,000,000 full-depth reconstruction of State Street was completed in June. The project was Federally-funded through the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) and included the replacement of water and sewer main and services, drainage, sidewalk, gravel base, pavement, guardrail and signage.

Also completed in June was the $440,000 full-depth reconstruction of Clement Street, a CDBG-funded project, replacing water, sewer main and services, drainage, gravel base, pavement, curbing and sidewalk.

The highway crew prepared seven roads for resurfacing; Avery, Orcutt Hill, Martin, Nilman, Stone, Goodnow and Old Bray received a double coat of oil and stone. The work was completed by Comer Contracting for roughly $182,133 and was paid for with Chapter 90 funds.

C. D. Davenport Trucking of Greenfield, MA was awarded the bid for the damage repair work to Clesson Brook Road caused by Tropical Storm Irene. The work will commence in the spring.

In October, Buckland was awarded a Mass Works Grant for nearly $1,000,000 for the reconstruction of a section of Clesson Brook Road. This will be in addition to the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) repairs. The work will consist of new and upgraded drainage, gravel sub base (where necessary), new bituminous concrete surface (blacktop) and guardrail. Construction is scheduled to begin late spring/early summer.

Finally, if you have any concerns with a town road, please call the Highway Garage at 625-2367. We cannot be everywhere at once so we ask for your help in letting us know where problems may exist. Also, since most road damage occurs when water cannot drain properly, please help us by keeping debris from clogging culverts and catch basins around your home and in your neighborhood. In the meantime, we will continue our diligence in improving the condition of all town roads. Thank you very much for your help.

Respectfully Submitted,

Steven L. Daby, Highway Superintendent
POLICE DEPARTMENT ANNUAL REPORT 2012

I am pleased and honored to present my twenty-second report to the Town of Buckland as your Chief of Police.

CRIMINAL CHARGES BREAKDOWN

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>#</th>
<th>Charge</th>
<th>#</th>
<th>Charge</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Aggravated Assault</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>Simple Assault</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Breaking &amp; Entering</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>Theft from a Building</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>All other Larceny</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Counterfeiting / Forgery</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Credit Card Fraud</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Impersonation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>Destruction of Property</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>Drug / Narcotic Violations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Disorderly Conduct</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>Driving Under the Influence</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Trespass of Real Property</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>All other Offenses</td>
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ARREST BY AGE GROUP

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>AGE</th>
<th>00-10 YOA</th>
<th>11-17 YOA</th>
<th>18-24 YOA</th>
<th>25-34 YOA</th>
<th>35-54 YOA</th>
<th>55 Plus YOA</th>
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<tr>
<td>#</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>7</td>
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ARREST BY LOCATION

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>LOCATION</th>
<th>BAR/CLUB</th>
<th>STORE</th>
<th>PUBLIC BUILDING</th>
<th>HWY/ST/RD</th>
<th>RESIDENCE</th>
<th>SCHOOL</th>
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</thead>
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<tr>
<td>#</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>13</td>
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</table>

2012 Breakdown of Calls/Activity (1,746)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>#</th>
<th>Description</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>Assist with 209A Order</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Assist Ashfield Police</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22</td>
<td>Assist Fire Department</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>69</td>
<td>Assist Shelburne Police</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>By-Law Violations Reported</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21</td>
<td>Civil Drug Violations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>DCF/DSS Investigations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>Disabled Motor Vehicle Reported</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21</td>
<td>False 911 Calls</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>Assist Other Outside Agency</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>House Check Request</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Intoxicated Person Reported</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Assist State Police</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>Motor Vehicle Lock Out</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20</td>
<td>Recovered Property</td>
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<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Section 12 Custody</td>
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<td>8</td>
<td>Suspicious Motor Vehicle</td>
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<td>33</td>
<td>Summons Service</td>
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<td>11</td>
<td>Towed Motor Vehicle</td>
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<td>2</td>
<td>Unauthorized Burning</td>
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<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Unsecured Resident</td>
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<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Well Being Checks</td>
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<tr>
<td>0</td>
<td>Stolen Motor Vehicles</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18</td>
<td>Police Information Collection</td>
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<tr>
<td>27</td>
<td>Respond to 911 Call</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17</td>
<td>Animal Complaints</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>186</td>
<td>Assist Citizen (General)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Brush Fires</td>
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<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>Citizen Complaints</td>
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<tr>
<td>41</td>
<td>Assist Ambulance</td>
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<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Co2 Alarm Sounding</td>
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<tr>
<td>51</td>
<td>High School General</td>
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<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Possible Identity Fraud</td>
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<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>Reported Missing Person</td>
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<tr>
<td>17</td>
<td>Vehicle Complaint/Oper.</td>
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<tr>
<td>73</td>
<td>Parking Enforcement</td>
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<td>Received Threatening Calls</td>
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<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Missing Person Reported</td>
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<td>8</td>
<td>Sex Offender Registrations</td>
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<td>5</td>
<td>Suspicious Person</td>
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<td>12</td>
<td>Storm Sandy General Calls</td>
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<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Unsecured Municipal Prop.</td>
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<td>5</td>
<td>Unwanted Persons</td>
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<tr>
<td>411</td>
<td>Motor Vehicle Citations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21</td>
<td>Vandalism</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Safety Hazard</td>
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PARKING ENFORCEMENT BREAKDOWN

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<thead>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Upon a Sidewalk</td>
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<td>Wrong Direction</td>
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<tr>
<td>24</td>
<td>Prohibited Area</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>Restricted Area</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21</td>
<td>Winter Parking Ban</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Road Hazard</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Credit Card Fraud</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Impersonation</td>
<td>7</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>24</td>
<td>Prohibited Area</td>
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<td>21</td>
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<td>1</td>
<td>Credit Card Fraud</td>
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<td>Impersonation</td>
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This past year (54) people were apprehended and/or summonsed and charged for (134) violations of the law, including ten court warrant arrests, four people were transported to Baystate Franklin Medical Center to be evaluated for their own safety and the safety of others.

I would like to thank all of the Officers of the Police Department. Throughout the year all the Officers provide time and service in assisting fellow Officers and providing a hand in the maintenance of the building and property at no cost to the community. We look forward to working with the community in the coming year.

Once again as a reminder, if you’re going to be away for an extended period of time, contact the Police Department (413-625-8200), our dispatchers will take your information down, and it will be passed onto the officers. They will be looking for basic information when you call, such as people’s names and contacts if an emergency arises at the property while you are away. They will also need to know if any vehicles will be left at the property, will lights be on a timer, dates and times of departure and arrival back. With this information, the Officers on patrol can take an extra look and make sure everything is fine at your property while you are away.

In closing, I would like to mention of Departing Officer Nathan Jackman and Officer Jason Larose who have provided many years of service. Between the two of them, they will be missed. I would also like to welcome two new Officers to the Department, Officer Patrick Merrigan and Officer David Sampson. One brings youth and the other brings many years experience to the Department. In closing, I would like to personally thank Full-Time Officer Tim Budrewicz as well as Reserve Officer Paul Herbert for their assistance in the daily operation of the Department and their time in a moment’s notice to take on activities that benefit their fellow Officers and the Town. THANK YOU!!!!!!

*REMINDERS*

1. Do not respond to emails or phone calls that require your personal information or account numbers. Check your monthly statements, and call the bank or creditor directly to confirm they are calling you and you’re not being scammed.

2. Also, someone may call and report that you need to send money for a sister, brother, grandchild or a friend in trouble, and you need to wire them X dollars so they can be released. Again, get the caller information, name and phone number. More than likely, if you hang up and make a few calls, you’ll find out the party in need of the money is not in need and someone is trying to scam you.

3. New this past year: people are calling to let you know that your application was approved for a small loan, and you need to provide bank information to have the money deposited in your account. Again, a SCAM!!!!!!!
4. YOU DID NOT WIN!!! Any lottery payout that requires you mail a check to pay for taxes, or deposit this check and wire the taxes to them, is a SCAM!!!!. Also I have not ever heard of anyone in the USA winning a Foreign Lottery when they Never purchased a ticket. If it sounds too good to be true, IT’S A SCAM!!!!!!

If you receive a call like this, please forward:
   a. Phone number they called from
   b. A call back number they may provide
   c. A mailing address for their company
   d. Their Supervisor’s name
   e. Include the nature of the call
   f. Time and Date

Believe me, after you start asking them the questions, they will probably hang up. Please forward this information to your local police department. (413) 625-8200.

Also, if you are one of our Senior residents, please forward this information to your Senior Center (625-2502) so they can get the information out to others.

NEW!!! If people show up at your house offering their service, please send them away. Real contractors don’t show up at your doorstep begging to help you. The new Scam Contractors offer a cheap deal, then scam you by over charging you for additional work they claim to have completed, which was discovered while doing the original deal they offered. Some residents have been scammed for over $3,000.00 this past year alone.

DON’T BE THE NEXT ONE. SEND THEM AWAY, CALL A FRIEND, CALL THE SENIOR CENTER, CALL SOMEONE, AND CALL THE POLICE!!!

Respectfully Submitted,

JTHicks
James T. Hicks
Chief of Police
Buckland’s Emergency Management Team is comprised of:
Emergency Management Director – Henry Phillips
Assistant Emergency Management Director -- vacant
The Buckland Selectboard and Sewer Commissioners – Bob Dean, Chair; Kevin Fox, and Cheryl L. Dukes
Buckland Town Administrator – Andrea Llamas
Police Chief – James Hicks
Shelburne Falls Fire Chief – Rick Bardwell
Buckland Fire Chief – Herb Guyette
Shelburne Falls Water District – Guy Wheeler
Shelburne Falls Wastewater Treatment Facility – Dan Fleuriel
Buckland Highway Department – Steve Daby
Buckland Board of Health – Richard Warner, M.D.
Buckland Finance Committee – Dena Willmore, Chairman
Buckland Treasurer – Linda Marcotte
Greater Shelburne Falls Area Business Association Executive Director – Mary Vilbon

The response and recovery from Hurricane Irene (August 2011) heightened awareness of the town’s emergency preparation, response, and recovery planning.

Michael Dekoschak, Assistant Emergency Management Director and Buckland Police Sergeant, resigned his position in September 2011. He extended his service with the Town of Buckland through the response period to Hurricane Irene. The Selectboard and the Emergency Management team appreciate his dedication to the town and his work in securing resources and managing the response and recovery.

Buckland was represented on the Regional Emergency Preparedness Committee (REPC) by Mike Dekoschak followed by Cheryl L. Dukes. The REPC addresses regional emergency preparation and response issues and is hosted by the Franklin Regional Council of Governments. The group is currently discussing and planning regional sheltering, transportation, and evacuation procedures.

Emergency Planning
The Town of Buckland is finalizing the Disaster Recovery Plan. It is currently working on a Continuing Operation Plan (COOP) for critical town operations.

Disaster Training
In Fall 2012, members of the Selectboard and the Town Administrator attended and completed emergency management training with a practice training exercise on January 19, 2013.

Emergency Dispensing Site (EDS) Exercise and Flu clinic at Mohawk High School in November 2012 for the West County region. 100 flu vaccines were dispensed; 13 pneumonia and 9 tetanus. The exercise is a training opportunity for the Boards of Health and public safety personnel to practice setting up a dispensing site and testing procedures for review and improvement. The flu clinic is an important health and wellness service to families in our communities.

Reverse 911
The Selectboard developed and implemented policy and procedures for the use of the reverse 911. The use of the system is limited to emergency notifications or outreach information to the entire town.
Buckland residents and businesses are encouraged to sign up for Buckland’s reverse 911 system – Blackboard Connect at https://01370buckland.bbcportal.com/ -- click on the Sign me up! Link to register. Upon registration, you will receive alert messages on selected devices including telephone, text, and email. You do not have to be a Buckland resident to sign up for the service.

Emergency Management Grants
Buckland applied for and received a grant to fund the purchase and installation of a transfer switch to support a portable generator for town hall. In 2012 grant funding was secured for the purchase of the portable generator for the town hall.

Recommendations for 2013
- Develop a continuing operations plan (COOP) for town hall and all town departments to support critical operations in the event of a disaster or pandemic.
- Community Emergency Response Teams (CERT). Develop a team and train community members to aid town response and operations during an emergency and the aftermath.
- Articulation of Emergency Shelter Plan and Staffing to support an Emergency Shelter and Warming/Distribution Station.

Respectfully Submitted,

Cheryl L. Dukes, Buckland Selectman
The Central Franklin County District was formed in 1940 and provides Veterans Services for twenty three towns within Franklin County. Currently we are providing support for 76 veterans who reside in your district.

The mission of the Department of Veterans' Services (DVS) is to be the chief advocate for the nearly half-million veterans of the Commonwealth and their families.

Under Chapter 115 of Massachusetts General Laws (M.G.L. ch. 115), the Commonwealth provides a uniform program of financial and medical assistance for income eligible veterans and their dependents. Qualifying veterans and their dependents receive financial assistance for food, shelter, clothing, housing supplies, and medical care in accordance with a formula which takes into account the number of dependants and income from all sources. Eligible dependents of deceased veterans are provided with the same benefits as they would were the veteran still living.

The District office is located at 190 Millers Falls Road, Turners falls, Mass.01376. Our offices are open four days a week from 8:00 AM until 4:00 PM (413-863-3205), and Friday by appointment. Leo Parent is the Director of Veterans Services, Mark Fitzpatrick is your Veterans Services Officer, and Donna Bezio is our Administrative Assistant.

Leo and Mark held our first annual Job Fair for Veterans at the French King Bowling Center with great success; as well as, a Veterans Administration Health Fair.

Many Veterans have been calling looking for the VA Web Sites here are a few for you.


Massachusetts State Veterans Services: [MassVets Advisor](http://MassVetsAdvisor)

Leo J. Parent, Director  Mark Fitzpatrick, Veterans Services Officer
**Purpose:** The purpose of the Partnership is to a) assist in the implementation of the Buckland-Shelburne Master Plan, b) to identify economic development and community improvement projects in the towns of Shelburne and Buckland through community forums and public meetings, c) to prioritize those projects of greatest interest to the Partners and the residents of Shelburne and Buckland, and d) to support Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funding revitalization program in Buckland and Shelburne, and e) to seek funding resources and professional contractors to implement priority projects.

The Shelburne Falls Area Partnership is comprised of the Shelburne Select Board Members, the Buckland Select Board Members, and the Board of Directors of the Greater Shelburne Falls Area Business Association (GSFABA). The Executive Director of the GSFABA serves as the Director of the Partnership and is responsible for the management of all Partnership programs. The full time Executive Director has committed a significant amount of time during the past year to the mission and goals of the Shelburne Falls Area Partnership.

The Partnership continues to bring to the Towns a competitive edge in grant funding, and over time has been demonstrably cost effective. The Partnership currently funded at just $5,000 from each town, insures supplemental support, continuous communication and cooperation between the business community and the two town governments. This cohesive support is integral to the future viability of downtown Shelburne Falls and surrounding area.

The Shelburne Falls Area Partnership continues to be an important resource to both the business community and the residents of the communities of Shelburne and Buckland. Since the mid-1990’s the Partnership has been valued and supported for our work and ours is the only Partnership remaining in the state.

In 2012 the Partnership accomplished the following:

**Emergency Preparation & Planning**
- Executive Director is a standing member of the Town of Buckland’s Emergency Management Planning and Response Team and is an important participant of the response and recovery team and is integral in information sharing between the business community and town officials.
- Represents the business community to be included in the Buckland Disaster Recovery Plan
- Participated in Emergency Planning for Hurricane Sandy (October 2012)
- Works directly with Buckland Selectmen and Town Administrator on Emergency Preparation and Planning for the business community; including a Continuing Operation Plan (on-going for 2013)
- Connected to Buckland’s reverse 911 messaging for adaption for and additional distribution to the greater West County business community (as appropriate) via GSFBA newsletter, Facebook, etc.
- Attended training and table top exercises to incorporate emergency preparation and response for the business community

**Completed Projects:**
- Developed and maintain the new Business Association website [www.gsfaba.org](http://www.gsfaba.org) to support local businesses
- Collaborated with the Franklin Regional Council of Governments to create a Business Development Profile
- Promote the West County Business Leaders Marketing Program and the Village Marketing Program to assist with promoting the West County area.
- Applied to Massachusetts Cultural Council and received Cultural District Designation
- Awarded the prestigious Creative Community Commonwealth Award from Massachusetts Cultural Council
- Provided staff support as liaison to the town during film production of major motion picture “Labor Day”
Submitted *Our Town* grant to National Endowment for the Arts for $100,000
Submitted Department of Housing & Community Development for technical assistance grant

**Ongoing Projects/Programs:**

- Collaborate with the Franklin/Hampshire Employment Board and the Mohawk Trail Regional High School with employment training
- Manage the Bridge Street Banner Policy for promoting local and regional events.
- The GSFABA continues to work collaboratively to sponsor community events that provide financial support for local business and many community organizations; Art Under The Stars (4 annually), Bridge of Flowers Road Race, Iron Bridge Dinner, Moonlight Magic, GSFABA Golf Outing, GSFABA Auction, and RiverFest.
- The Annual GSFABA Scholarship Program for a graduating senior who resides in West County. 2012 recipient – Jake Looman
- The SFABA assists in promoting the Village for tourism that directly improves the economic vitality of the community by:
  - Maintaining and managing the Shelburnefalls.com website
  - Communicating with tour companies, and large groups coming to town, thereby relieving stress on traffic, and maintaining public safety
  - Representing the village at the AAA Travel Show, Big E, and the Boston Globe Travel Show
  - Publishing a monthly Business Bulletin to businesses throughout the Pioneer Valley
  - Assisting with Marketing Promotions, Maps and Placemaps, Brochures
  - Organizing Village seasonal decorations
  - Organizing the local beautification program “A Whole Blooming Village”
  - Oversee maintenance of the gardens at the entrances to the Village
- Working with the Mohawk Trail Regional High School staff to expand the Career Exploration Program
- Continue to serve as a liaison between Town of Buckland and Shelburne on the Community Development Block Grant
- Coordinating of the Economic Development sub-committees.
- Working with local property owners to assist in filling empty store fronts and vacant properties.
- Participating in the Charlemont Roundtable meetings to support their efforts.
- Provide education training for local businesses.
- Collaborate and support with the Franklin County Solid Waste District for the Shelburne Falls Composting Initiative
- Working with state and local officials to improve signage along Route 2 and within the Village for tourism.

**Affiliations:**
The GSFABA continues to represent the Village on the following organizations:

- Bridge of Flowers Preservation, Inc.
- Fostering Arts & Culture in Franklin County
- Franklin County Chamber of Commerce
- Franklin County Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy Committee
- HUD Sustainable Communities Steering Committee
- Mahican Mohawk Trail Committee

The SFABA continues to collaborate with the following Massachusetts Regional Tourism Councils:

- Franklin County Chamber of Commerce
- Greater Springfield Convention and Visitors Bureau
- Johnny Appleseed Trail Visitors Center
- Mohawk Trail Association
SHELBURNE FALLS AREA PARTNERSHIP MEMBERS:

Shelburne Falls Select Board Members: Robert Manners, John Payne, Joe Judd  
Buckland Select Board Members: Robert Dean, Kevin Fox, Cheryl L. Dukes  
Greater Shelburne Falls Area Business Association Board of Directors: Will Flanders, President – Flanders Law Offices; Chris King, Past President - Mocha Maya’s; Eric Grant, Secretary - Western Mass Radio Group; Vincent Traina, Treasurer – People’s United Bank; President Elect – TBD; Karen Fairbrother - Greenfield Savings Bank; Wanda Mooney – Coldwell Banker Upton Massamont Realtors; Kelly Morrissey – Lamson & Goodnow; John Baldwin – Academy at Charlemont; Amy Shapiro – Franklin County Community Development Corporation; Christopher Loftus – Berkshire East; Whit Sanford – Independent Consultant  

Questions regarding the Shelburne Falls Area Partnership activities are welcome at 625-2526 or info@shelburnefalls.com.

SHELBURNE FALLS WASTEWATER TREATMENT FACILITY ANNUAL REPORT 2012

Thankfully we had a less eventful year than 2011. Utility construction in the village was minimal in terms of sewer work. On the Shelburne side, two sewer services had to be replaced as a result of the utility work on Grove Street. On the Buckland side, a stone culvert on Clement Street being replaced conflicted with the existing sewer main. About 70 feet of 18” diameter main was replaced with 12” diameter pipe at a slightly lower elevation. A new manhole was also installed to make the transition.

At the treatment facility, the aeration tank that had the high flow of the flood of Irene was pumped out to remove sand and debris. Only about 2 cubic yards of sand washed in so the tank was back in service within a few weeks. Then the digester was pumped down to clean it as well. While the digester was empty, the air diffusers were replaced to regain efficiency.

Last year stands out for being one of the driest in recent history. Averages from 1989 to present put annual precipitation at 54.19 inches and total flow at the treatment facility at 79.62 million gallons. This year the precipitation was 43.97 inches which is 19% below normal. The flow was 47.61 million gallons being 40% below normal. The level of treatment for the year came out to 98.0% of biochemical oxygen demand and 97.2% of suspended solids removed. The minimum requirement for each of these parameters is at least 85%. The reed beds had applied to them 593,321 gallons of sludge which accounted for 51,314 pounds of solids. Reed beds #2 and #3 are nearly full after taking sludge since 1995 and will need to be excavated in 2013.

I would like to thank all the homeowners that replaced pipes that will help reduce the inflow and infiltration of clean water entering the sewer system. It all adds up and less water directly results in better quality treatment and lower costs.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Daniel M. Fleuriel, Chief Operator  
Shelburne Falls Wastewater Treatment Facility
In 2012, the Buckland Zoning Board of Appeals received five zoning applications:

1. **Sheila Skop** – Special Permit to install 6’ solid white vinyl fence – Granted.
2. **Shelburne Falls Area Business Association** – Special Permit to remove Trolley Museum sign; replace existing parking sign with proposed direction sign – Granted.
3. **Jill E. Selleck** – Special Permit to keep up to 14 hens in garage; during daytime, will sometimes be allowed in backyard – Granted.
4. **Shelburne Falls Area Business Association** – Special Permit to install directional sign on back of existing sign – Granted.
5. **Paul St. Martin** – Special Permit to remove add-on overhang and replace it with deck with stairs going down to patio space below – Granted.

All Zoning Board of Appeals hearings are open to the public. Citizens are welcome to attend and take an active part in the permit process.

Respectfully Submitted,
Dennis Clark
John Cohen
John Gould
Alexander Nappan
James Rae
Jeffrey Rose
INTRODUCTION
Until 2012, public school districts in Massachusetts were held accountable by a system governed by the Federal No Child Left Behind Act (NCLB). Under that system, schools were classified as having either “Met Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP)” or “Not Met AYP.” In 2011, as the Federal NCLB AYP requirements in English Language Arts (ELA) and Mathematics approached the unrealistic goal of 100%, 81% of Massachusetts schools and 90% of Massachusetts districts failed to meet AYP. These percentages made no sense, because Massachusetts is widely regarded as having one of the more rigorous public education systems in the nation. As a result, the Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) applied for, and received, a waiver to NCLB AYP during the winter of 2012.

NEW STATE ACCOUNTABILITY SYSTEM
In 2012, a new Massachusetts accountability system replaced the Federal NCLB system, including several key changes. The NCLB goal of 100 percent proficiency was replaced with a new goal of reducing proficiency gaps by half by 2017. AYP was replaced with a new performance measure (the Progress and Performance Index, or PPI) that incorporates student growth and other indicators, including science and dropout rates. Schools and districts are now classified into one of five “Levels,” with Level 1 signaling strong performance and Level 5 signaling unacceptable performance.

Student growth is now an important component of the accountability system. The Student Growth Percentile (SGP) measures how much students gain from one year to the next relative to other students statewide with similar MCAS test score histories. Science is included in the accountability system as well as ELA and Math. A new "High Needs" subgroup is tracked, which includes students in a school or district belonging to at least one of the following individual subgroups: low income students, students with disabilities, English language learners (ELL) and former ELL students.

CLASSIFICATION LEVELS
Eighty percent of schools are classified into Level 1 or 2 based on the cumulative PPI for the "All Students" and “High Needs” groups. For a school to be classified into Level 1, the cumulative PPI for both the "All Students" group and “High Needs” students must be 75 or higher. The Cumulative PPI combines information about narrowing proficiency gaps, growth, and graduation and dropout rates over the most recent four-year period into a single number between 0 and 100.

Annual PPI is a measure of the improvement that a group makes toward its own targets over a two-year period using up to seven indicators: narrowing proficiency gaps (ELA, Math, and science); growth (ELA and Math); the annual dropout rate; and the cohort graduation rate. The Cumulative PPI is the average of a group's annual PPIs over four years, weighting the most recent years the most (Current Year PPI 40%, Current Year-1 30%, Current Year-2 20%, Current Year-3 10%). If a school does not meet both of these requirements, the school is classified into Level 2. A school may also be classified into Level 2 if it has low MCAS participation rates for any group (between 90 and 94%).

Schools are classified into Level 3 if they are among the lowest 20 percent relative to other schools in their grade span statewide, if one or more subgroups in the school are among the
lowest performing 20% of subgroups relative to all subgroups statewide, if they have persistently low graduation rates (less than 60% for any subgroup over a four-year period), or if they have very low MCAS participation rates for any group (less than 90%).

The lowest achieving, least improving Level 3 schools are candidates for classification into Levels 4 and 5, the most serious designations in Massachusetts’ accountability system. In general, a district is classified into the level of its lowest performing school, unless the district was independently classified into Level 4 or 5 as a result of action by the Board of Elementary and Secondary Education.

MOHAWK TRAIL REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT ACCOUNTABILITY DATA 2012

MOHAWK TRAIL REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
Classification: Level 2

• Because all schools within the District, including BSE, were classified as Level 2 schools, Mohawk exited Level 3 status, which is a positive consequence of the 2012 MCAS results.
• Within these results, there was a substantial increase in the number of students who performed at an Advanced level in ELA, Math and Science.
  – Increased percentage of students Advanced in ELA from 11% to 15%.
  – Increased percentage of students Advanced in Math from 21% to 26%.
  – Increased percentage of students Advanced in Science from 7% to 12%.

Progress and Performance Index

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>YEAR</th>
<th>1-YEAR PPI</th>
<th>CLASSIFICATION</th>
<th>WEIGHT</th>
<th>1-YEAR PPI x WEIGHT</th>
<th>4-YEAR PPI</th>
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<tr>
<th>YEAR</th>
<th>1-YEAR PPI</th>
<th>CLASSIFICATION</th>
<th>WEIGHT</th>
<th>1-YEAR PPI x WEIGHT</th>
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<td>2011</td>
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<tr>
<td>2010</td>
<td>71</td>
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<tr>
<td>2009</td>
<td>71</td>
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Composite Performance Data (CPI)

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<th>Students</th>
<th>6-Year Goal</th>
<th>2011 CPI (Baseline)</th>
<th>2012 Target</th>
<th>2012 CPI</th>
<th>CPI Change</th>
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<td>81.8</td>
<td>79.8</td>
<td>-0.3</td>
<td>No Change</td>
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2012 Mathematics Proficiency Gap Narrowing

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Students</th>
<th>6-Year Goal</th>
<th>2011 CPI (Baseline)</th>
<th>2012 Target</th>
<th>2012 CPI</th>
<th>CPI Change</th>
<th>Rating</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>All students</td>
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<td>82.4</td>
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<tr>
<td>High needs</td>
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<td>73.6</td>
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2012 Science Proficiency Gap Narrowing

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<th>2012 CPI</th>
<th>CPI Change</th>
<th>Rating</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
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<td>All students</td>
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<td>80.1</td>
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MOHAWK TRAIL REGIONAL MIDDLE-HIGH SCHOOL
Classification:  Level 2

- After two years of very high performance (2011 PPI 89 and 2010 PPI 96), the Middle-High School’s 2012 MCAS results declined.
- Within these disappointing results, there were some bright spots.
  - Increased percentage of students Advanced in Math from 24% to 31%.
  - Increased the Student Growth Percentile in Math from 48 to 56.
  - Increased percentage of students Advanced in ELA from 14% to 18%.
  - The 4-Year Cohort Graduation Rate increased from 76% to 79%.
  - The Annual Drop-Out Rate declined from 4% to 2%.

Progress and Performance Index

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MOHAWK TRAIL REGIONAL MIDDLE-HIGH SCHOOL</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ALL STUDENTS</td>
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<td>2010</td>
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<td>Level 1</td>
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<td>2009</td>
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Composite Performance Data (CPI)

**MOHAWK TRAIL REGIONAL MIDDLE-HIGH SCHOOL**

### 2012 English Language Arts Proficiency Gap Narrowing

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<tr>
<th>Students</th>
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<th>2012 CPI</th>
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### 2012 Mathematics Proficiency Gap Narrowing

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<th>2012 CPI</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>All students</td>
<td>90.4</td>
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<td>High needs</td>
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### 2012 Science Proficiency Gap Narrowing

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>All students</td>
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**BUCKLAND-SHELBURNE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**

**Classification: Level 2**

- BSE exited Level 3 status with a second consecutive year of strong MCAS performance (2012 PPI 80 and 2011 PPI 75), which resulted in the District exiting Level 3 status as well.
- Excellent improvements in ELA.
  - All Students rating is On-Target/ High Needs rating is Above Target.
  - Student Growth Percentile increased from 49 to 55.
- Outstanding performance in Science.
  - All Students rating is well Above Target.
  - Increased percentage of students Advanced from 16% to 26%.

**Progress and Performance Index**

### BUCKLAND-SHELBURNE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

#### ALL STUDENTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>YEAR</th>
<th>1-YEAR PPI</th>
<th>CLASSIFICATION</th>
<th>WEIGHT</th>
<th>1-YEAR PPI x WEIGHT</th>
<th>4-YEAR PPI</th>
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<td>2009</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>Level 2</td>
<td>0.1</td>
<td>4</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**BUCKLAND-SHELBURNE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**

#### HIGH NEEDS STUDENTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>YEAR</th>
<th>1-YEAR PPI</th>
<th>CLASSIFICATION</th>
<th>WEIGHT</th>
<th>1-YEAR PPI x WEIGHT</th>
<th>4-YEAR PPI</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2012</td>
<td>75</td>
<td>Level 1</td>
<td>0.4</td>
<td>30</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2011</td>
<td>81</td>
<td>Level 1</td>
<td>0.3</td>
<td>24</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2010</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>Level 2</td>
<td>0.2</td>
<td>8</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2009</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>Level 2</td>
<td>0.1</td>
<td>4</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

-47-
Composite Performance Data (CPI)

BUCKLAND-SHELBURNE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

2012 English Language Arts Proficiency Gap Narrowing

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Students</th>
<th>6-Year Goal</th>
<th>2011 CPI (Baseline)</th>
<th>2012 Target</th>
<th>2012 CPI</th>
<th>CPI Change</th>
<th>Rating</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>All students</td>
<td>91.1</td>
<td>82.1</td>
<td>83.6</td>
<td>84.4</td>
<td>2.3</td>
<td>On Target</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>High needs</td>
<td>86.2</td>
<td>72.4</td>
<td>74.7</td>
<td>76.9</td>
<td>4.5</td>
<td>Above Target</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

2012 Mathematics Proficiency Gap Narrowing

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Students</th>
<th>6-Year Goal</th>
<th>2011 CPI (Baseline)</th>
<th>2012 Target</th>
<th>2012 CPI</th>
<th>CPI Change</th>
<th>Rating</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>All students</td>
<td>89.2</td>
<td>78.4</td>
<td>80.2</td>
<td>76.0</td>
<td>-2.4</td>
<td>No Change</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>High needs</td>
<td>84.8</td>
<td>69.5</td>
<td>72.0</td>
<td>68.9</td>
<td>-0.6</td>
<td>No Change</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

2012 Science Proficiency Gap Narrowing

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Students</th>
<th>6-Year Goal</th>
<th>2011 CPI (Baseline)</th>
<th>2012 Target</th>
<th>2012 CPI</th>
<th>CPI Change</th>
<th>Rating</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>All students</td>
<td>87.0</td>
<td>74.0</td>
<td>76.2</td>
<td>82.1</td>
<td>8.1</td>
<td>Above Target</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

SANDERSON ACADEMY

Classification: Level 2

- In 2012, the students performed very well in ELA, but the Math and Science results declined.
- Outstanding performance in ELA:
  - All Students rating is Above Target with a CPI of 93.3.
  - Increased percentage of students Advanced from 16% to 26%.
- The Math scores declined, but the CPI is a strong 86.6.
  - 67% of the students were Proficient-Advanced, greatly exceeding the State’s 59%.
- The Science scores also declined, but the CPI is a very respectable 82.5.
  - 55% of the students were Proficient-Advanced, exceeding the State’s 54%.

SANDERSON ACADEMY

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>YEAR</th>
<th>1-YEAR PPI</th>
<th>CLASSIFICATION</th>
<th>WEIGHT</th>
<th>1-YEAR PPI x WEIGHT</th>
<th>4-YEAR PPI</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2012</td>
<td>55</td>
<td>Level 2</td>
<td>0.4</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2011</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>Level 2</td>
<td>0.3</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2010</td>
<td>94</td>
<td>Level 1</td>
<td>0.2</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2009</td>
<td>69</td>
<td>Level 2</td>
<td>0.1</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Composite Performance Data (CPI)

SANDERSON ACADEMY

2012 English Language Arts Proficiency Gap Narrowing

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Students</th>
<th>6-Year Goal</th>
<th>2011 CPI (Baseline)</th>
<th>2012 Target</th>
<th>2012 CPI</th>
<th>CPI Change</th>
<th>Rating</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>All students</td>
<td>95.2</td>
<td>90.4</td>
<td>91.2</td>
<td>93.3</td>
<td>2.9</td>
<td>Above Target</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

2012 Mathematics Proficiency Gap Narrowing

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Students</th>
<th>6-Year Goal</th>
<th>2011 CPI (Baseline)</th>
<th>2012 Target</th>
<th>2012 CPI</th>
<th>CPI Change</th>
<th>Rating</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>All students</td>
<td>96.2</td>
<td>92.3</td>
<td>92.9</td>
<td>86.6</td>
<td>-5.7</td>
<td>Declined</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

2012 Science Proficiency Gap Narrowing

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Students</th>
<th>6-Year Goal</th>
<th>2011 CPI (Baseline)</th>
<th>2012 Target</th>
<th>2012 CPI</th>
<th>CPI Change</th>
<th>Rating</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>All students</td>
<td>95.0</td>
<td>90.0</td>
<td>90.8</td>
<td>82.5</td>
<td>-7.5</td>
<td>Declined</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

COLRAIN CENTRAL SCHOOL

Classification: Level 2

- The ELA scores were consistent with last year’s results reflecting a rating of No Change.
- The Math scores were also consistent with last year’s results, including several positive notes.
  - Highest percentage of students (61%) proficient-advanced in Math in the District.
  - Increased percentage of students in the Advanced category from 17% to 22%.
  - Student Growth Percentile increased from 48 to 58.

Progress and Performance Index

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>COLRAIN CENTRAL SCHOOL</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>ALL STUDENTS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>YEAR</td>
<td>1-YEAR PPI</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2012</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2011</td>
<td>63</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2010</td>
<td>44</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2009</td>
<td>69</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Composite Performance Data (CPI)

COLRAIN CENTRAL SCHOOL

2012 English Language Arts Proficiency Gap Narrowing

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Students</th>
<th>6-Year Goal</th>
<th>2011 CPI (Baseline)</th>
<th>2012 Target</th>
<th>2012 CPI</th>
<th>CPI Change</th>
<th>Rating</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>All students</td>
<td>91.8</td>
<td>83.5</td>
<td>84.9</td>
<td>82.9</td>
<td>-0.6</td>
<td>No Change</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

COLRAIN CENTRAL SCHOOL

2012 Mathematics Proficiency Gap Narrowing

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Students</th>
<th>6-Year Goal</th>
<th>2011 CPI (Baseline)</th>
<th>2012 Target</th>
<th>2012 CPI</th>
<th>CPI Change</th>
<th>Rating</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>All students</td>
<td>92.0</td>
<td>84.0</td>
<td>85.3</td>
<td>83.8</td>
<td>-0.2</td>
<td>No Change</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
HEATH ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
Classification: Level 2
- 4-Year PPI of 71 is 4 points shy of Level 1.
- Excellent improvement in ELA.
  - All Students rating is Above Target with a CPI increase of 3.8.
  - Student Growth Percentile increased substantially from 50 to 68.
  - The Math scores are On Target with a CPI increase of 2.6.
- The Science scores reflected an impressive 76% of the students Proficient-Advanced.

Progress and Performance Index

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>YEAR</th>
<th>1-YEAR PPI</th>
<th>CLASSIFICATION</th>
<th>WEIGHT</th>
<th>1-YEAR PPI x WEIGHT</th>
<th>4-YEAR PPI</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2012</td>
<td>106</td>
<td>Level 1</td>
<td>0.4</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>71</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2011</td>
<td>63</td>
<td>Level 2</td>
<td>0.3</td>
<td>19</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2010</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>Level 2</td>
<td>0.2</td>
<td>10</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2009</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>?</td>
<td>0.1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
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</table>

Composite Performance Data (CPI)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Students</th>
<th>6-Year Goal</th>
<th>2011 CPI (Baseline)</th>
<th>2012 Target</th>
<th>2012 CPI</th>
<th>CPI Change</th>
<th>Rating</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>All students</td>
<td>89.9</td>
<td>79.7</td>
<td>81.4</td>
<td>83.5</td>
<td>3.8</td>
<td>Above Target</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Students</th>
<th>6-Year Goal</th>
<th>2011 CPI (Baseline)</th>
<th>2012 Target</th>
<th>2012 CPI</th>
<th>CPI Change</th>
<th>Rating</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>All students</td>
<td>88.7</td>
<td>77.3</td>
<td>79.2</td>
<td>79.9</td>
<td>2.6</td>
<td>On Target</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

HAWLEMONT REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT ACCOUNTABILITY DATA 2012
HAWLEMONT REGIONAL ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
Classification: Level 2
- 4-Year PPI of 71 is 4 points shy of Level 1.
- In 2012, the students performed very well in Math, but the ELA results declined.
- Excellent improvement in Math.
  - All Students rating is Above Target with a CPI increase of 4.1.
  - Student Growth Percentile increased substantially from 36 to 52.
Progress and Performance Index

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>YEAR</th>
<th>1-YEAR PPI</th>
<th>CLASSIFICATION</th>
<th>WEIGHT</th>
<th>1-YEAR PPI x WEIGHT</th>
<th>4-YEAR PPI</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2012</td>
<td>63</td>
<td>Level 2</td>
<td>0.4</td>
<td>25</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2011</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>Level 2</td>
<td>0.3</td>
<td>11</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2010</td>
<td>113</td>
<td>Level 1</td>
<td>0.2</td>
<td>23</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2009</td>
<td>119</td>
<td>Level 1</td>
<td>0.1</td>
<td>12</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>YEAR</th>
<th>1-YEAR PPI</th>
<th>CLASSIFICATION</th>
<th>WEIGHT</th>
<th>1-YEAR PPI x WEIGHT</th>
<th>4-YEAR PPI</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2012</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>Level 3</td>
<td>0.4</td>
<td>5</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2011</td>
<td>63</td>
<td>Level 2</td>
<td>0.3</td>
<td>19</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2010</td>
<td>138</td>
<td>Level 1</td>
<td>0.2</td>
<td>28</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2009</td>
<td>150</td>
<td>Level 1</td>
<td>0.1</td>
<td>15</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
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</table>

Composite Performance Data (CPI)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2012 English Language Arts Proficiency Gap Narrowing</th>
<th>2012 Mathematics Proficiency Gap Narrowing</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Students</td>
<td>6-Year Goal</td>
<td>2011 CPI (Baseline)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All students</td>
<td>92.2</td>
<td>84.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>High needs</td>
<td>91.3</td>
<td>82.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All students</td>
<td>85.7</td>
<td>71.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>High needs</td>
<td>83.4</td>
<td>66.7</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

THE YEAR AHEAD

In 2012, the Mohawk and Hawlemont School Districts made substantial progress toward achieving their educational goals, which is reflected in the new Massachusetts accountability system. As is always the case, there is room for growth. During 2013, both the District Improvement Plans and School Improvement Plans will be significantly revamped in order to facilitate this growth. Within these efforts, I look forward to the introduction of Professional Learning Communities, Learning Walkthroughs, and the New Educator Evaluation System. There is a great deal of hard but exciting work in front of us, and I am very confident that our educational teams are up for the challenge. Indeed, the future is bright for our students!

Respectfully Submitted,
Michael A. Buoniconti
Superintendent of Schools
The connection between our school and our community is vitally important. Partnerships with our community provide students with enriching and authentic learning experiences, such as the Archaeology course in which students worked with a local archaeologist on the excavation of the Sanford Tavern site at Hawley’s Old Town Common. Mohawk students demonstrate initiative, extending what they learn beyond the classroom. This past spring students launched a composting program in our school cafeteria, significantly reducing the amount of waste that enters landfills. For the first time Mohawk students participated in the Model Congress that is held each year at American International College (AIC) in Springfield and they were honored with the "School Spirit" award recognizing their active participation in the legislative sessions. Members of the Varsity M club refurbished trophy display cases throughout the building and made regular visits to the elementary schools to serve as Reading Buddies for younger students. Students in the Vocational Integration Program (VIP) work with the Meals on Wheels program every week, helping to sort and distribute food.

Community organizations support our school through their generous efforts. The tenth annual Doug Turner Walkathon was held in October; over the past decade this event has raised over $100,000 for Mohawk athletic programs to date. In March the Mohawk Music Association organized a Mohawk Alumni Concert, with graduates from across the decades performing along with current students in a celebration of music. Through the generosity of civic and community groups as well as contributions from private citizens, Mohawk seniors were awarded scholarships totaling in excess of $100,000 and students who have graduated from Mohawk were awarded more than $50,000 in scholarships this year.

This year also saw important improvements to the physical plant of our school, as windows and the roof were replaced for greater energy efficiency. During this past year Mohawk completed its decennial self-assessment for NEASC (New England Association of Schools and Colleges) accreditation, culminating in a site visit by an evaluation team in late September-early October. With the addition of a Curriculum Director position, staff professional development has become a priority; faculty are increasingly collaborating through Professional Learning Communities (PLCs), which provide a structure for focused work such as book discussions, peer observations, and curriculum writing.

At the midpoint of the 2012-2013 school year, enrollment in grades 7-12 is 511. The seventh grade has 82 students and the eighth grade has 86. There are 85 students in the ninth grade, 93 in the tenth grade, 70 students in the junior class, and 89 students in the senior class. Six students are enrolled in our post-graduate program.

Respectfully Submitted,
Lynn R. Dole, Principal
MOHAWK TRAIL REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL CLASS OF 2012 GRADUATES

Kirsten Anguilo
Corey Bruffee
Ashley Cote
Tabitha Dawson
Zachary Flaxman
Nathan Grandison
Danielle Grover
Donna Hall
Daniel Hyytinen
Cameron Mikucki
Joshua O’Malley
Morgan Sallee
Alina Schmidt
Taylor Shippee
Alissa Snow
Dylan Tanner
The District Standards and Indicators adopted by the Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) have shaped the School Districts’ Improvement Plans (DIP) and directly impact the quality of our student services.

The Districts have demonstrated proficient performance on many of the state indicators including Time on Learning, Leadership and Governance, Educational Access and Continuity, and School Safety. The Superintendent’s Office has identified indicators requiring focused attention: (1) Aligned, Consistently Delivered, and Continuously Improving Curriculum and (2) Strong Instructional Leadership and Effective Instruction.

To revise and align its curriculum to the new state curriculum frameworks, the Districts have invested in a significant increase in professional development time. Full and half-day sessions for staff training are spread across the calendar so that staff can focus on the use of a web-based curriculum writing tool that will allow for a standard format and accessibility across all grade levels. By applying the Standards of Effective Instruction and principles of Universal Design, considering the needs of a diverse student body, the Districts will be poised to deliver a rich educational program to all learners.

Students identified with disabilities continue to receive the services defined by their Individual Educational Programs but interventions are not limited to that population of students. The elementary schools and the middle school are improving student learning and increasing inclusion of disabled students by providing tiered instructional delivery to all students as they need them. This starts with a rich core instruction with multiple means of learning and expressing understanding. Subsequent instructional interventions are informed by the regular collection of progress monitoring data. The high school is examining how instruction can change to support a diverse student body in all classes and provide additional time and support for students who have academic or behavioral challenges. District leaders have participated in regional DESE trainings in the use of the MA Tiered System of Supports which includes academic interventions and social and behavioral interventions that provide a continuum of service options based on student performance. These institutional improvements and the protections provided by the Americans with Disabilities Act will continue to complement and support our students in their educational experiences.

Respectfully Submitted,
Patricia Bell
Director of Pupil Personnel Services
Our Spring Lyonnaise celebrated excellence in local education with displays of student work from all schools and dramatic presentations by students from Heath and Mohawk. Awards included the Spirit of Adventure Award presented to NASA astronaut Cady Coleman by the foundation's honorary advisory board member Senator Stan Rosenberg; the Mohawk Outstanding Alumni Award was presented to Northampton Mayor David Narkewicz '84 by Mohawk Principal Lynn Dole who also presented a certificate of commendation to senior Francesca Maroney. Drama director Jonathan Diamond presented the George Needham Business Award to Mo's Fudge Factor, and the Pat Kerrins Award was given to Jean Bernhardt, Administrative Director of the MGH Charlestown Healthcare Center by Sarah Kemble, MD. School committee chairperson Bob Aeschback presented a certificate of appreciation to teacher Shelley Schieffelin.

This past year we initiated a fundraising campaign and extensive work bee for the Rowe Elementary School which was struck by lightning on August 4. Truckloads of new and used school supplies, books and equipment were donated, and countless volunteers assisted in the relocation of the Rowe School to the nearby Hawlemont Regional School. Cash and stock donations of $5,000 were raised for the purchase of items lost in the fire.

Grants were gratefully received from the US Brookfield Foundation for the Harper Gerry Student Assistance Fund, from the Myrtle Atkinson Foundation and Recorder to support our programs in the schools and community and from MassHumanities and the Rowe, Leyden and Charlemont/Hawley cultural councils for the highly successful Hilltowns History Conference and Fair held October 13 at the Colrain Central School. The history conference featured humanities scholars Dr. Michael Coe and Prof. Leonard Richards, vendors, live music, children's activities, re-enactors and 17 concurrent workshops. All school district staff were given free admission and professional development credit.

The annual Community Spelling Bee held November 8 raised $7,000 for our mini-grant program; competing for the grand championship were 25 teams of 3 adults. The grand champion winning team was the FRCOG COGitators comprised of Phoebe Walker, Rachel Stoler and Kimberly Naoke MacPhee sponsored by Blackmer Insurance Agency.

In other matters we established a Vanguard brokerage account to accept gifts of stock and launched an e-newsletter along with a revitalized web site www.marylylon.org. The annual special education conference was held in March at Deerfield Academy for 700 western Massachusetts educators, and the Gift Catalog or wish list of school supplies garnered $4,000 in cash and in-kind donations with major support from Goodnow's Chip 'N Putt and Keystone Market.

Board members are George Dole, Marion Taylor, Hugh Knox, Karen Fairbrother, Sharon Hudson, Suzanne Conway Lagreze, Beth Bandy, Stefan Kostka, Jim Pilgrim, Amy Love, student representatives Molly Walsh Warder and Lydia Morris. Along with about 60 volunteers our part-time staff includes Sheila Damkoehler, Gina Sieber, Lynn Nichols, Josie Tetreault and Jill Connolly.

Respectfully Submitted,
Dr. Susan B. Samoriski, Founding Executive Director
I am pleased to present to the communities of Buckland and Shelburne my third report as principal of the Buckland-Shelburne Elementary School.

**Enrollment:** During our 2011-2012 school year BSE registered 212 students in the following grades: Pre Kindergarten: 33, Kindergarten: 21, Grade 1: 22, Grade 2: 28, Grade 3: 19, Grade 4: 28, Grade 5: 37 and Grade 6: 24

**Staffing:** With the close of the school year, BSE retired Jane Boron and Beverly Trainor, who served the Mohawk District for twenty-four and eighteen years, respectively. Staff hired to join the BSE team at the opening of the 2011-2012 school year included: Carolyn Goodnow (PK), Janet Miller (grade 2), Melissa Finn and Anne Wheeler (PK Assistants), and Todd Sessions (Head Custodian).

**Academic Environment:** With the close of the 2011-12 school year, we were able to measure student growth, in part, by the internal pod configuration that BSE has adopted. Professionals have configured three developmentally appropriate learning groups: Kindergarten through grade two, grades three and four, and students in grades five and six. Staff assigned to a pod, or learning group, review, plan and deliver curriculum that meets both the individual and group needs. Students are grouped according to their readiness for the content, which provides them academic opportunities specific to their need. We look forward to continued student success with this model.

**BSE Supporters:** BSE is thankful to receive support from our Mary Lyon Foundation. Through their program and scholarship offerings, BSE students and families have received assistance with the purchase of eyeglasses, winter clothing, and food. In addition, their support has enabled BSE to purchase items not built into our school budget. Custodial tools, equipment, computer lab furniture and teacher supplies are a few examples of the Mary Lyon Foundation’s contributions to our learning community.

On behalf of the entire BSE staff, I would like to express my appreciation to the communities of Buckland and Shelburne for your continued support of our local elementary school. We will continue to work diligently to ensure a safe and challenging learning environment for all attending children.

Respectfully Submitted,
Joanne Giguere, Principal
We submit this annual report for 2012 on behalf of the Franklin County Technical School District and its administration, faculty, staff and students.

Total enrollment as of October 1, 2012 was 517 students with town breakouts as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Town</th>
<th>Enrollment</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bernardston</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Erving</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Montague</td>
<td>73</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sunderland</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Buckland</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gill</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New Salem</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Warwick</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Colrain</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Greenfield</td>
<td>109</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Northfield</td>
<td>28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wendell</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conway</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Heath</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Orange</td>
<td>79</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Whately</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deerfield</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Leyden</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shelburn</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-District</td>
<td>47</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Franklin County Technical School awarded 117 diplomas to our seniors in June of 2012. Massachusetts students are required to pass the MCAS in order to receive a high school diploma and once again our students were very successful in meeting this high academic standard. The graduates also earned their vocational certificate along with their diploma. 56% of our graduates planned to go on to either a two or four year college, 30% joined the area work force, 1% planned to join the military, 1% went on to a post-secondary trade/technical school, and 12% were unsure as to which of the above options they would pursue. We are proud of the accomplishments of the Class of 2012.

During 2012, the students from various technical programs performed a variety of service-learning projects that directly benefit many of our member towns, their schools, and the city of Greenfield. We plan to continue supplying our constituent towns with these services for two main reasons: they offer both the ideal learning laboratories for our students as well as an opportunity to contribute back to the communities that have supported us so well over 38 years. A small sample of recent projects include completion of a single family home in collaboration with the Habitat for Humanity in Montague, continual service learning work in the Baystate Franklin Medical Center and Charlene Manor Extended Care, Colrain Town Hall wiring upgrades, an electrical service upgrade at Greenfield’s Camp Avery, further energy-efficiency lighting modifications at the Orange Airport, and the completion of a transfer station building for Warwick. A number of programs also continue to assist our own building maintenance department, supplying services that significantly reduce costs to our member towns.

FCTS, like every other school in the Commonwealth and along with 45 other states, is continuing a transition to the new Common Core academic state standards. Franklin County Technical School’s MCAS scores have remained steady over the last four years with modest growth, which is not sufficient to obtain adequate gains for student progress. In consultation with the Massachusetts Pioneer Valley DSAC (District & School Assistance Centers), we have begun to take immediate action to implement a continuity of math instruction at the outset of 2013.

Franklin County Tech is implementing a 10-point comprehensive school improvement plan called Math 180. This plan is designed to significantly bring up our overall math MCAS scores by utilizing an adaptive math software program during 9th and 10th grade shop weeks. Students will now be exposed to math instruction on a weekly basis as opposed to every other week.
In closing, we will continue to work diligently to ensure that our graduates are an integral part of the economic development for the region and we thank each and every citizen of Franklin County for your continued support.

Respectfully Submitted,

Mr. Richard J. Kuklewicz
School Committee Chairman

Mr. James M. Laverty
Superintendent-Director
Dear Residents of Buckland:

As you know, your town receives building, plumbing, gas, and wiring inspection and zoning enforcement services through the Franklin County Cooperative Inspection Program (FCCIP), a thirty-one year old shared service housed at the Franklin Regional Council of Governments (FRCOG). We thank your town for your continued participation in the FCCIP, which allows small towns to have access to professional staff and state-of-the-art technology.

2012 was a busy year for the program. We issued 2,043 permits, including a significant number of insulation upgrade, solar array and wood/pellet stove permits. 24 new dwelling units were constructed in participating towns. The number of permits and fee revenues were higher in 2012 than in the previous year.

Our new online permitting program went live on July 1, 2011 and has issued 3,472 building, electrical & plumbing/gas permits since then. The program allows you to apply, pay for, and track the progress of any permit online, saving you time and visits to our office in Greenfield. The program has 1,719 registered users. You can find it at www.frcog.org under the Franklin County Cooperative Inspection Program. Our website also includes helpful information on inspection requirements, permit costs, and contractor licensing.

Along with the rest of the FRCOG, at the end of April 2012 we moved our offices from the courthouse to the 2nd floor of the new John W. Olver Transit Center. If you haven’t visited us at our new location yet, we hope to see you soon.

In FY 2012, the FCCIP processed the following permits for Buckland:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Quantity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Residential</td>
<td>84</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Commercial</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sheet Metal</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Electrical</td>
<td>44</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Plumbing</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gas</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cert. of Inspection</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

We would like to remind all residents of the importance of applying for permits for work done. Building, Electrical and Plumbing/Gas permits are required by law and are an essential step in ensuring the safety of our communities. Please feel free to call our office with any building or zoning questions at 774-3167, extension 2.

James D. Hawkins
Building Commissioner
jhawkins@frcog.org
plumbing@frcog.org

James Cerone
Building Inspector
jcerone@frcog.org

Tom McDonald
Electrical Inspector
electric@frcog.org

Andy French
Plumbing/Gas

-59-
I am very pleased to be preparing my 23rd Annual Report as Town Clerk for the Town of Buckland. Along with my many other duties as Town Clerk, Election preparations, the actual elections and the recording and reporting of election results have kept me busy this year. The voter turnout for the Presidential Election was excellent. It was a busy day with a few problems that were all resolved. Thank you for your patience at the polls for any delay you may have experienced due to technical difficulties. The addition of 10 new voting stations was very helpful and prevented long lines at the polls. I would like to thank all of the elections workers for their efforts in conducting the election. I would also like to thank the members of the Board of Registrars for their assistance with the voter registration sessions. A special thank you to the Constables, Robert Howson and Arthur (Henry) Phillips, for setting up and taking down the voting booths, tables, and voting stations for the elections.

I would like to remind residents to complete and return your annual street listing forms. The return of your street listing form is necessary to maintain the voting status of residents in Buckland. It is also used to compile the school list, dog list, and to maintain a census for the town. This information is also used when the town applies for grants.

Please contact me with any questions regarding the return of your annual street listing form.

Please remember that most of the departments in the Town are one-person departments. Some of the departments are part time positions. It might be helpful for you to call first to be sure that someone is in the department you need to contact. We are occasionally out of the office due to illness, appointments, family circumstances, vacations, or to attend meetings, and classes, etc.

There were 3 (three) State or Federal elections in 2012.

- Presidential Primary, March 6th
- State Primary – September 6th
- Presidential Election – November 6th

There were 6 (six) Voter Registrations held in 2012.

- February 15, 2012 Prior to Presidential Primary, March 6th
- April 17, 2012 Prior to Annual Town Election and Town Meeting, May 7th & 9th
- August 3, 2012 Prior to Special Town Meeting, August 13th
- August 17, 2012 Prior to State Primary, September 6th
- September 24, 2012 Prior to Special Town Meeting, October 4th
- October 17, 2012 Prior to State Election, November 6th

Town Meetings and local elections were as follows:

- Election: May 7, 2012 Annual Town Election
- Town Meeting: May 9, 2012 Annual Town Meeting
- Special Town Meeting: August 13, 2012 Special Town Meeting
- Special Town Meeting: October 4, 2012 Special Town Meeting
**Annual Year – Dog Licenses**  

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Licenses</th>
<th>Count</th>
<th>Fee</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Spayed Females</td>
<td>132</td>
<td>$.50</td>
<td>660.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Females</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>$10.00</td>
<td>210.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Neutered Males</td>
<td>142</td>
<td>$5.00</td>
<td>710.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Males</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>$10.00</td>
<td>190.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kennels</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>$100.00</td>
<td>100.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kennel</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>$50.00</td>
<td>50.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kennels</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>$25.00</td>
<td>---</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Clerk Fees:  
- $316.00  
- $1,604.00  
Total:  $2,379.00

**VITAL STATISTICS RECORDED IN 2012**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Count</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>BIRTHS</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MARRIAGES</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DEATHS</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Respectfully submitted:

Janice D. Purington  
Town Clerk  
625-8572

Hours:  Monday - Thursday, 7:30am to 3pm  
Closed 12:30-1:00 pm for Lunch
This year featured more challenges from Mother Nature! Several windstorms, a glancing blow from Hurricane Sandy, and summer thunderstorms were some of the obstacles that we encountered in 2012! It was mild compared to 2011 and Tropical Storm Irene!

Several town trees were trimmed and removed. Some of the areas that work took place in were East Buckland Road, Goodnow Road, Conway Street, State Street, Spring Street, and Shepard Road.

If any residents are interested in obtaining wood from tree removals, please let the Town Office or Highway Department know. We have several larger portions of the trees left over usually and no place to take them.

Respectfully Submitted,

David E. Lowell
Buckland Tree Warden
Thankfully we had a less eventful year than 2011. Utility construction in the village was minimal in terms of sewer work. On the Shelburne side, two sewer services had to be replaced as a result of the utility work on Grove Street. On the Buckland side, a stone culvert on Clement Street being replaced conflicted with the existing sewer main. About 70 feet of 18” diameter main was replaced with 12” diameter pipe at a slightly lower elevation. A new manhole was also installed to make the transition.

At the treatment facility, the aeration tank that had the high flow of the flood of Irene was pumped out to remove sand and debris. Only about 2 cubic yards of sand washed in so the tank was back in service within a few weeks. Then the digester was pumped down to clean it as well. While the digester was empty, the air diffusers were replaced to regain efficiency.

Last year stands out for being one of the driest in recent history. Averages from 1989 to present put annual precipitation at 54.19 inches and total flow at the treatment facility at 79.62 million gallons. This year the precipitation was 43.97 inches which is 19% below normal. The flow was 47.61 million gallons being 40% below normal. The level of treatment for the year came out to 98.0% of biochemical oxygen demand and 97.2% of suspended solids removed. The minimum requirement for each of these parameters is at least 85%. The reed beds had applied to them 593,321 gallons of sludge which accounted for 51,314 pounds of solids. Reed beds #2 and #3 are nearly full after taking sludge since 1995 and will need to be excavated in 2013.

I would like to thank all the homeowners that replaced pipes that will help reduce the inflow and infiltration of clean water entering the sewer system. It all adds up and less water directly results in better quality treatment and lower costs.

Daniel M Fleuriel
Chief Operator, Shelburne Falls WWTF
Franklin County Regional Housing and Redevelopment Authority
ANNUAL REPORT
October 1, 2011 – September 30, 2012

The Franklin County Regional Housing and Redevelopment Authority is a public body politic and corporate, created by the Massachusetts legislature in 1973 to serve the residents and communities of Franklin County. HRA has all of the powers and responsibilities of a local housing authority and a redevelopment authority in all 26 communities of Franklin County. Our services include housing education; development, ownership and management of affordable rental housing; administration of housing subsidies; programs for homeless families; homeownership and foreclosure prevention education and services; and Community Development Block Grant application and administration for Franklin County towns.

Housing Consumer Education Center
HRA is part of a statewide network of nine regional Housing Consumer Education Centers that provide information, education, counseling, and referrals to individuals, families, organizations and businesses with housing-related questions or problems. HCEC staff work closely with social and human services providers to coordinate assistance to individuals and families in need, and conduct outreach to local banks, schools and utilities to provide information on housing-related resources.

HCEC staff served more than 2,200 clients in Franklin County in FY 2012. Types of clients included:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tenants</td>
<td>57%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Homeowners</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Homeless households</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Homebuyers</td>
<td>8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other agencies and client advocates</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Landlords</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>1%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

HCEC offers educational programs on housing-related topics and financial literacy. This year’s workshops included:

- First-time homebuyer series serving 140 participants.
- Outreach to regional lenders providing information on housing-related programs and services for low and moderate income households.
- Two educational workshops for landlords on Fair Housing laws and tenant selection, in cooperation with the HRA Leased Housing Department, Greenfield Housing Authority and HAP Housing.
- Massachusetts Housing Partnership-sponsored Homesafe Post-Purchase Workshop, which served nine first-time homebuyers.

Family homelessness is a growing problem nationwide and in Massachusetts, and Franklin County is no exception to this trend. In August 2011, HCEC staff began managing HomeBASE, the new state program for homeless families with extremely low incomes and few or no assets. The program is designed to prevent families at immediate risk of homelessness from losing their housing, and provide rapid re-housing services for families that become homeless.
In FY2012, the HomeBASE program provided 19 Franklin County families with rental assistance. Due to the high demand and high cost of rental assistance, eligibility for this benefit was discontinued by the state for households entering the program after September 28, 2012. HCEC also provided up to $4,000 in HomeBASE “household assistance” to 20 families, which allowed the recipients to stabilize their housing for twelve months. Two families received relocation assistance. Another four families were able to exit the shelter in motels through a combination of United Way and RAFT funds.

The HomeBASE program requires case management services for participating families. In FY 2012, HRA subcontracted these stabilization services to ServiceNet. HCEC staff worked in close partnership with staff at ServiceNet’s Greenfield Family Inn to assist homeless families in locating housing, and to promote successful tenancies.

HCEC and ServiceNet also created a task force to connect families receiving emergency shelter with services. Community response to this initiative has been outstanding, with nine agencies and twenty-two providers involved. Community Action created a resource guide targeted for families living in motels. Other accomplishments of the task force include community meals for the families, a resource fair, a successful fundraising effort that enabled 15 homeless children to attend summer camp, and distribution of new backpacks and school supplies to all children receiving emergency shelter in Franklin County.

HCEC represents HRA in the Western Massachusetts Network to End Homelessness, a four-county effort to end homelessness. HCEC also administers emergency assistance funds for families at risk of homelessness. In FY 12, HRA distributed $73,446.32 in funding from the state Residential Assistance to Families in Transition (RAFT) program to help 50 Franklin County families avoid homelessness. The need for assistance greatly exceeded the funding available for the RAFT program.

HCEC continues to offer foreclosure prevention services to Franklin County homeowners through a partnership with the Western Massachusetts Foreclosure Prevention Center run by HAPHousing. This fiscal year, 52 homeowners at risk of foreclosure took advantage of this service. Foreclosure prevention services are most successful when homeowners seek assistance as soon as they know they are having difficulty making mortgage payments.

Sources of funding for the Housing Consumer Education Center in FY 2012 included:
- Massachusetts Department of Housing and Community Development
- Massachusetts Housing Partnership
- The Massachusetts Attorney General’s office
- United Way of Franklin County
- Florence Savings Bank

A special thanks to 22 individual donors who contributed funds HRA’s non profit affiliate, Rural Development, Inc., to assist homeless children.

Asset Management
In FY 2012, HRA managed 262 units of affordable rental housing, including:

- 117 units of state-assisted public housing for elders and persons with disabilities, located in the towns of Bernardston, Gill, Montague, Northfield and Shelburne.
- 27 units of state-assisted public housing for families, located in the towns of Bernardston, Buckland, Charlemont, Northfield and Orange.
- 48 apartments at the Crocker and Cutlery Block buildings in Montague.
- 26 single-room occupancy apartment for individuals in recovery from substance abuse at the Moltenbrey Building in Montague.
• 18 apartments at the Ashfield House in Ashfield.
• 16 units for men in recovery from substance abuse at the Orange Recovery House in Orange.
• 6 apartments for families at Prospect and Grove Apartments in Orange.
• 2 apartments for elders at the Smikes House in Whately.
• 2 fully-accessible units for people with disabilities at the Wisdom Way Solar Village in Greenfield.

Sources of revenue for property management include rent, subsidies and laundry income. Rent at public housing properties is set as a percentage of tenant income. At these properties, the state pays the difference between what tenants can afford and a maximum level of subsidy set by the Commonwealth each year. Unfortunately, the combination of rent and state subsidies is not sufficient to cover the costs of managing HRA’s public housing properties, which results in long-term maintenance issues and strains on the agency’s budget.

To improve tenant and staff health and safety and reduce maintenance expenses, HRA implemented a non-smoking policy at all properties owned and managed by the agency in 2012. A majority of tenants supported the change; most have been complying with the new policy.

There were a total of 47 vacancies at properties owned or managed by HRA in 2012, excluding the Orange Recovery House. Turnover is highest at the Moltenbrey Building, and higher at properties designed for families than at elderly/disabled developments. Of the vacancies, 34 units were left in good to very good condition, 7 in fair condition and 6 in poor to very poor condition. Poor conditions are not necessarily a reflection on the tenant who vacated. While some damage results from smoking and tenant abuse, often the need for major renovations is the direct result of long tenancies, aging properties and the inadequate resources available for preventative maintenance. All vacant apartments are renovated to comply with current code requirements prior to being rented to a new tenant.

In 2011, the Commonwealth implemented a new system for funding capital improvements at state-assisted public housing properties. HRA’s plan for capital improvements has been approved by the state Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD). However, capital needs far exceed the total of $341,758 in funding that the state has allocated to HRA through September 2014. In 2012, HRA used capital funds to complete HVAC repairs at Stoughton Place in Gill, tree removal at Stratton Manor in Bernardston, and flooring replacement at 30 A Oaklawn Avenue in Orange and the common hall space at the Winslow Wentworth House in Turners Falls.

Additional capital improvements to HRA’s public housing properties have been completed with other sources of funding. Federal stimulus funds awarded to the Town of Bernardston were used to replace the roof, siding and windows at Stratton Manor in Bernardston. The parking area was also re-paved. Community Development Block Grant funds awarded jointly to the Towns of Shelburne and Buckland paid for window replacement at 37 Clement Street in Buckland. DHCD provided funding to replace toilets with new, water-saving fixtures at Squakheag Village in Northfield, Stratton Manor, Stoughton Place and Winslow Wentworth House. HRA is gradually replacing older lighting with efficient LED lamps as part of regular maintenance.

HRA has been managing the Ashfield House, an 18-unit privately-owned affordable rental property, since 2005. The property has been experiencing severe financial challenges attributable to a variety of factors including but not limited to high vacancy rates, high property taxes, aging building components, high utility and insurance costs and expenses inherent in managing a multifamily property in a rural area. As a result, the property is
currently in debt to HRA. HRA staff is working with DHCD and the Massachusetts Affordable Housing Trust to stabilize operations.

Leased Housing
HRA administers a total of 599 federal and state subsidies that allow low-income individuals and families to rent privately-owned housing or purchase their own homes.

In 2012, HRA served 15 families through the Massachusetts Rental Voucher Program (MRVP), not including a new allocation of five vouchers for families in shelter and motels in September. Eleven of the vouchers are project-based, which means that they are connected to a particular property. These vouchers subsidize rent for clients of a program run by Franklin County DIAL/SELF, Inc. that assists young adults to become self-sufficient, and the Positive Parenting Program run by the United ARC, which helps stabilize at-risk families. HRA will have a total of 10 mobile state vouchers by the end of September, which can be used in any property that meets health and safety standards. This year, the state released a “freeze” on mobile vouchers, which means that agencies can now re-issue these subsidies to new households when they are relinquished by a current user.

HRA’s has 579 federal Section 8 Housing Choice Vouchers. Households with Section 8 vouchers pay a minimum of 30 percent and a maximum of 40 percent of their income toward housing and utilities at initial lease-up or moving; the program pays for the remainder. Subsidies may be used to pay rent (or a mortgage in limited cases) for apartments and homes that meet federal guidelines for affordability and safety. HRA’s Section 8 program served 704 families including a total of 1,275 individuals in FY 2012. Of the agency’s Section 8 vouchers,

- 454 are mobile
- 125 are project-based
- 441 are held by families where the head of household or the spouse is disabled
- 220 vouchers are held by families with children
- 70 percent are held by female-headed households

Federal regulations require that 75 percent of vouchers be allocated to “extremely low income” households, which are defined as those whose household income is less than 30 percent of area median income. In FY 2012, more than 90 percent of HRA’s federal housing vouchers were held by families with extremely low incomes. The average household income for families participating in the program in FY 2012 was $8,699.52.

HRA has a waiting list of approximately 75 families for Section 8 mobile vouchers and is not currently accepting new applications for this program. HUD regulations give priority for mobile vouchers to families who complete a year of successful tenancy in project-based units. HRA also gives priority for available Section 8 mobile vouchers to eligible veterans, and to tenants in project-based MRVP apartments when landlords choose to opt out of the MRVP program.

The federal Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher program is overseen by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). The rules and regulations for this program are onerous, and change on a continuous basis. In FY 2012, staff in the Leased Housing department continually worked to update HRA’s Section 8 Administrative Plan to reflect changes in HUD rules, regulations and guidelines. This process will continue in FY 2013.

FY 2012 marks the fourth consecutive year that HRA received a perfect score on the HUD Section 8 Management Assessment Program (SEMAP). This is a remarkable
accomplishment that entitles the agency to receive the highest level of administrative payments possible for the Section 8 program.

HRA collaborates with Greenfield Housing Authority in offering a family self sufficiency (FSS) program for Section 8 voucher holders. Holders of Section 8 vouchers are required to pay 30 percent of their income in rent. In general, when income rises, program participants are required to pay more rent. The FSS program allows participants to save increased earnings to achieve specific goals, such as earning a higher education degree, start a small business, or purchasing a home. In FY 2012, 45 of HRA’s Section 8 voucher holders were enrolled in the FSS program, with 16 participants contributing to escrows on a monthly basis. HRA has 11 clients who own their own homes and use their Housing Choice Vouchers to assist with the mortgage payments.

**Community Development**

The HRA Community Development Department provides application preparation, program implementation and administrative services to Franklin County towns in connection with Community Development Block Grants (CDBG). CDBG is a federal funding source designed to benefit low and moderate income people. Cities and large municipalities receive CDBG funds on an entitlement basis directly from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. Smaller communities may submit competitive applications to the Commonwealth. Eligible activities for CDBG funds include public infrastructure improvements, housing rehabilitation, social services, architectural/engineering design, architectural barrier removal and planning projects.

In FY 2012, HRA administered CDBG-funded housing rehabilitation loan programs benefitting 39 households in six Franklin County towns. Income-eligible participants in these programs can borrow up to $35,000 at zero interest to make health and safety improvements to their homes, including but not limited to repair or replacement of septic systems, wells, heating systems, plumbing and roofing and abatement of lead paint. Fifty percent of each loan is forgiven gradually over a 15-year period as long as the property owner remains in the home. The remainder is due and payable upon sale or transfer of the property.

In 2012, CDBG-funded housing rehabilitation programs loaned more than $1 million to help Franklin County households comply with current building and sanitary codes. All the work is done by local contractors selected by private property owners. HRA had grant funding available for housing rehabilitation loans in the following towns in FY 2012: Monroe, Montague, Northfield, Orange, and Sunderland.

| CDBG-funded Housing Rehabilitation Projects, FY2012 |
|---|---|---|
| Town | # projects | Total cost |
| Monroe | 2 | $47,283.00 |
| Montague (Montague Ctr.) | 6 | $123,908.84 |
| Montague (Turners Falls) | 5 | $66,060.00 |
| Montague Program Income | | $80,279.00 |
| Northfield | 14 | $447,333.16 |
| Northfield Program Income | | $15,961.57 |
| Orange | 10 | $213,828.00 |
| Orange Program Income | | $5,833.27 |
| Sunderland | 2 | $31,917.00 |
| **Total** | **39** | **$1,032,403.84** |

*Program income* refers to income received from the proceeds of previous housing rehabilitation loans. HRA also administers a housing rehabilitation revolving loan program for many communities in Franklin County. This program receives the proceeds of previous CDBG loans when the loans are paid off. These funds are then made available for the same
purpose to income-eligible households in the same town. Eighteen homeowners in fourteen towns took advantage of this program in 2012, resulting in total loans of $136,536.21.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Town</th>
<th># projects</th>
<th>Total cost</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ashfield</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>$855.80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Buckland</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>$2,500.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Charlemont</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>$2,525.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Colrain</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>$8,606.04</td>
</tr>
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<td>Conway</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>$45,350.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Erving</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>$3,901.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Heath</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>$14,825.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Leverett</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>$22,394.75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New Salem</td>
<td>1</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Northfield</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>$1,108.21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Orange</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>$1,761.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shutesbury</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>$5,089.49</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Warwick</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>$14,293.75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wendell</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>$4,094.11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>18</strong></td>
<td><strong>$136,536.21</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The housing rehabilitation revolving loan fund was created in 1999. In 2012, HRA began the process of updating and formalizing agreements with towns for administration of this program.

HRA also assisted three towns in administering CDBG grants for improvements to infrastructure and public facilities in FY 2012. Staff oversaw the procurement, contracting, and construction oversight of three projects:

- A commercial façade improvement program in the Town of Orange. Four downtown business received loans for a total of $240,000, which paid for façade, signage, and accessibility improvements to five storefronts.
- Phase One of improvements to Unity Park in Montague, which included a new playground with water features, a new parking lot and accessible walkways. The $652,000 project was completed in September 2012.
- The Town of Bernardston received $452,200 in CDBG funding from the 2008 American Recovery and Reinvestment Act for improvements to the Stratton Manor public housing property. The project, completed in August 2012, included a new roof, siding, windows, painting and reconstruction of sidewalks and parking lots.

HRA also assisted towns in applying for new CDBG funds in 2012. HRA filed applications on behalf of the towns of Montague, Orange and Erving. The Erving grant included funding for the towns of Colrain, Deerfield, and Gill. All of these competitive grant applications were awarded funding from DHCD.

**Housing Development, in partnership with Rural Development, Inc.**

HRA works to develop affordable housing in Franklin County in partnership with its nonprofit affiliate, Rural Development, Inc. HRA’s Executive Director serves as the unpaid Executive Director of RDI. RDI pays HRA for other personnel and administrative services.

**Home Ownership Program**

Following completion of 20 homes at the Wisdom Way Solar Village in Greenfield in September 2010, RDI suspended construction of new affordable homes due to lack of
funding. Four homes at the Solar Village were sold in FY 12, and the last home is under agreement and is expected to be sold in October 2012.

**Other Housing Development**

HRA and RDI provide consulting services to other organizations and individuals developing affordable housing and mixed use properties in Franklin County. In FY 2012, RDI’s application on behalf of Franklin County DIAL/SELF, Inc., a Greenfield-based non-profit agency, received funding to build supportive housing in Orange for teens who are homeless or at risk of homelessness. Construction is expected to begin in FY 2013.

HRA staff continued to provide accounting services in 2012 to owners of several commercial buildings in Greenfield that received New Market Tax Credits (NMTCs) and federal and state Historic Tax Credits. This year, we also assisted Greenfield Housing Associates in reviewing applications for residency in the newly construction addition to the Winslow Building on Wells Street to ensure compliance with federal Low Income Housing Tax Credit regulations.

**Administration and Finance**

HRA commissions an independent annual audit. HRA’s audited financial statements include revenue and expenses that are passed through the agency to other parties, such as the revenue that the agency receives from the federal government for the Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher Program, which is paid to landlords on behalf of voucher holders. Capital assets and depreciation are also included in the audited statements.

In the fiscal year that ended September 30, 2011, the agency’s net assets totaled $4,958,251, a decrease of $136,849 from the previous year. Revenues for FY 2011 totaled $8,283,456, which was $414,073 less than the previous year, a decrease of five percent. FY 2011 expenses totaled $8,420,305, which was $370,719 less than in FY 2010, a decrease of four percent. A decrease in CDBG and fee-for-service activities was the primary factor driving the decline in revenue in FY 2011. Staff reductions were largely responsible for the decrease in revenues. The FY 2011 HRA audit reported no findings or deficiencies. Copies are available upon request.

In October 2011, the HRA Board of Commissioners approved a FY 2012 annual operating budget showing anticipated total operating revenue of $2,247,754 and total operating expenses of $2,496,258, with a deficit of $248,504. The primary factor in the projected shortfall in revenue was a decrease of more than $350,000 in CDBG program revenue from the previous year. The HRA Board made a commitment to maintain staff and program capacity in the agency by drawing on prior year reserves.

While operating results are not currently available for FY 2012, internal financials through August 30, 2012 suggest that the operating deficit will not exceed the deficit approved in the budget.

Many thanks are due to HRA’s hard-working staff. Our employees do a great job of running programs while controlling expenses. FY 2012 marks the third consecutive year that the agency was unable to offer increases in compensation. Many of HRA’s employees have not have increases in salary or wages since October 2008. The exceptions are employees who were hired at probationary rates of pay, employees who were promoted to new positions, and maintenance staff, whose compensation is set by the state. The cost of health insurance and other benefits has increased significantly over the last several years, which means that employees’ net pay has actually decreased. HRA’s most senior administrators also took a 3.5 percent pay cut in FY 2012. Unfortunately, it does not appear that the agency will be able to offer increases in compensation in FY 2013.
Board of Commissioners
HRA has an 11-member Board of Commissioners. All commissioners reside in Franklin County. Nine members are appointed by the Franklin Regional Council of Governments for five year terms; none of these appointees may be from the same community. Two Commissioners are appointed by the Governor and serve until they are replaced. The Board of Commissioners meets once a month, generally on the first Monday of the month at 6:00pm at the HRA office. All meetings are open to the public.

HRA Commissioners in FY 2012
Jessica Atwood, Greenfield (Vice-Chair, Governor’s Appointee)
Leslie Brown, Erving (Treasurer)
Caryl Conner, Greenfield
Sharon Cottrell, Montague
Corrie Garnett, Gill
Linda Hoer, Leverett, (Chair)
Bruce Parkin, Shutesbury
Jo-Anne Sherburne, Colrain
Jonathan Tuttle, Shutesbury (Governor’s appointee)
The Housing Authority expresses gratitude to Commissioner Corrie Garnet, who left in 2012.

Staff
Frank Aronson, Information Services Specialist
Chris Austin, Staff Accountant
Joan Bernstein, Assistant Executive Director
Nathaniel Best, Housing Rehabilitation Specialist
*Cynthia Bleil, Outreach and Education Coordinator
Debran Brocklesby, Property Manager
Christina Chapman, Leased Housing Representative
*Donna Cote, Director of Community Development
Melanie Croteau, Leased Housing Representative
Linda Davenport, Director of Leased Housing
Charity Day, HCEC Director
Carmen DeLuca, Ashfield House Laundry Manager
*Terri Doherty, Director of Asset Management
Mark Fortier, Maintenance Mechanic/Laborer Working Foreman
*Stanley Gadomski, Leased Housing Inspector
Tammy Greene, Leased Housing Administrative Assistant
Pat Holloway, Receptionist
Bruce Hunter, Acting Director of Community Development
Wayne Jackman, Maintenance Mechanic/Laborer
Erik Jernstrom, Maintenance Mechanic/Laborer
*Denise LeDuc, Finance Director
Matthew Leger-Small, Administrative Coordinator
Debra Little, Community Development Program Manager
Brian McHugh, Construction Coordinator
Tracy Miner, Director of Asset Management
Ciera Rodriguez-Jones, Leased Housing Representative
*Clara Rowan, Accounting Clerk/Bookkeeper
Todd Seavey, Maintenance Mechanic/Laborer
Robin Sherman, Executive Director
Autumn West, Housing Supports Coordinator
Kerry Wyman, Staff Accountant

*Employee left HRA in FY 2012