

ANNUAL REPORT
of the
OFFICERS, BOARDS
and
COMMITTEES
of the
TOWN OF MERRIMAC
MASSACHUSETTS

For the Year Ending December 31, 2010



IN MEMORY

*of those
Who Have Held
Public Office
in the
Town of Merrimac*



Vernon Fisher

Animal Control Officer 1982-1990

DIRECTORY OF ELECTED OFFICERS

Moderator – One Year

Robert Bender Term Expires 2011

Board of Selectmen – Three Years

Carol A. Traynor Term Expires 2012
Ricky J. Pinciario, Chairperson Term Expires 2011
W. Earl Baumgardner Term Expires 2013

Board of Assessors – Three Years

Louise Lingerman Term Expires 2013
Joyce E. Clohecy Term Expires 2011
Edward R. Davis, Chairman Term Expires 2012

Planning Board – Five Years

Dennis Brodie Term Expires 2011
John Thomas Term Expires 2012
Ronald Barnes Term Expires 2013
Sandy Venner, Chairperson Term Expires 2014
Robert Atwood, Term Expires 2015
Patricia True, Secretary

Constables – Three Years

Arthur Evans Term Expires 2013
James Seymour Term Expires 2013

Town Clerk – Three Years

Patricia True Term Expires 2013

Board of Health – Three Years

Eileen Hurley, Chairperson Term Expires 2011
Carol A. Traynor Term Expires 2012
Mark Sofia Term Expires 2013

School Committee – Three Years

Maureen Moran, Vice Chairman Term Expires 2011
Todd Treado Term Expires 2012
Jane Broz Term Expires 2013

Library Trustees - Three Years

Susan M. Coburn	Term Expires 2012
Yvonne Cosgrove	Term Expires 2011
Ellen Evans	Term Expires 2013
Linda Getz	Term Expires 2011
Jennifer Brown	Term Expires 2012
Jeffrey W. Hoyt, Chairman	Term Expires 2013

Parks & Recreation Commissioners - Five Years

John Lusty	Term Expires 2012
Open	Term Expires 2011
Erick Kuchar	Term Expires 2014
Open	Term Expires 2015
Jay Soucy, Chairman	Term Expires 2013

Municipal Light Commissioners - Three Years

James Young	Term Expires 2012
Norman R. Denault	Term Expires 2011
Louis Bibeau	Term Expires 2013

Cemetery Trustees - Three Years

Patricia Casey	Term Expires 2012
Elizabeth L. Emery, Chairperson	Term Expires 2011
Carol Ranshaw	Term Expires 2013

Merrimac Housing Authority - Five Years

C. Shirley Jones	Term Expires 2011
Altha Ottman	Term Expires 2012
Stephen P. True, Vice Treasurer	Term Expires 2013
Anthony Pretti	Term Expires 2014

DIRECTORY OF APPOINTED OFFICERS

Finance Committee

John Cryan, Co-Chairman
Patricia Dillon, Secretary
Ann Crowell
Catherine Gabriel-Heusser, Co-Chairman

Debra Champagne
Victor Quattrini
Krista Thornton

Board of Appeals

Arthur Amirault
Gordon Broz, Alternate
Ronald Dandurant
Robert Sinibaldi

Joseph Moran, Chairman
Joshua Jackson, Vice Chair
Kathleen Walker, Alternate
Debra Weinhold, Secretary

Conservation Commission

Timothy Simmons
Jon Pearson
Robert Prokop, Chairman
Ellis Katz

Jay Smith, Agent
Janet Terry
Deborah Woodward
Arthur Yarranton

Building Inspector

Philip Hagopian thru 10/2010

Interim Building Inspector

Denis Nadeau

Local Inspector

Robert Sinibaldi

Plumbing & Gas Inspector

Ronald Caruso

Wiring Inspector

William Nutter

Department of Public Works

Richard Spinale, Director

Highway Department

Tom Barry, Foreman

Fire Department

Ralph Spencer, Chief

Greg Habgood, Deputy Chief

Larry Fisher, Deputy Chief

Board of Registrars

Natalie Christie

Betty Elliot

Dorothy Whiting

Town Counsel
Ashod N. Amirian

Town Accountant
Anne O. Jim

Finance Director & Treasurer
Carol A. McLeod

Tax Collector
Geraldine A. Gozycki

Selectmen's Secretary
Jennifer Penney

Rent Control Board

Ron Proposki

Edward Madden

Animal Care & Control Officer
Lisa Young-Carey

Cultural Council

Thelma Gibbs
Ann Tucker
Nancy Perkins

Mary Gage Cogswell
Joyce Zarins
Andrew Tucker

Veteran's Agent
Kevin Hunt

Historical Commission

J. Leonard Bachelder
Patricia Casey
Timothy Cavanaugh
Yvonne Cosgrove, Secretary

Jeffrey W. Hoyt, Chairman
Jason Sargent, Treasurer
Evelyn Calnan

Council on Aging

Mary Cheney
Laura Dillingham-Mailman, Director
Colleen Ranshaw-Fiorello, Chairperson
Nancy Bachelder
David Dutton
Charles Hackett

Dorothy Lumsden
James Murphy
Victor Perrault
Carol Ranshaw, Secretary
David Vance

Emergency Management Director
Ralph W. Spencer, Chief

Open Space Committee

Michelle Carley
Deborah Woodward, Chairman
Nancy Perkins

Donna Tierney
Sandra Venner

Town Nurse

Charlotte Eileen Stepanian

Capital Planning Committee

Patricia Dillon, Finance Committee
Janet Bruno
Edward Madden

Sandra Venner, Chairperson
Carol A. Traynor, Selectman

Affordable Housing Board of Trustees

Sandra Venner, Chairperson
Earl Baumgardner, Selectmen's Representative
Joseph Moran
Colleen Ranshaw-Fiorello

Ray Gingras, Vice-Chairperson
Laura Dillingham-Mailman
Phillip Parry

The Board of Selectmen would like to thank all those who have served the town this past year, especially the ones who have retired or moved on.

**ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
MERRIMAC BOARD OF SELECTMEN
FOR THE YEAR ENDING 2010**

Dear Residents of Merrimac,

Once again, 2010 has been full of many challenges and productivity.

First, we were finally able to start moving forward with the repairs to River Road when another storm caused further damage resulting in the State and Federal funding being pulled from the project. We have been working with State and Local officials to determine how we can address this, which has resulted in additional engineering and cost studies. The good news is that the repair to the Cobbler's Brook Bridge is scheduled for Spring, 2011.

The Selectmen accepted the Merrimac Housing Production Plan in conjunction with our Affordable Housing Trust, in an effort to identify housing options and alternatives for those in need.

In an effort to find cost savings, we worked with Accountant Anne Jim and implemented several programs resulting in immediate savings throughout all departments. This included participation in the State Supply Purchasing Program, requiring 3 bids on all anticipated expenses in excess of \$500 and a change to fuel cards for town vehicles.

We have continued discussions with Merrimac Valley Planning Commission on options for the Coastal Metal property as well as on the Town Square Project, which will improve traffic flows through the center of town and provide needed handicap accessible sidewalks. The work will also extend down both East and West Main Street and all affected residents have attended a public hearing with the engineer and Board of Selectmen that outlined the progress of the project.

Also, considerable work was completed at the Donaghue School involving the removal of carpets and asbestos tiles. The new tile work is 90% complete and the remaining areas will be scheduled for completion over the summer.

The Selectmen have been working with the Superintendent's office and the School Committee in submitting application for participation in the Green Repair Program. This will address roofing, windows and heat/air conditioning systems that are in need of replacement and the anticipated reimbursement is around 51%. The sub-committee has chosen the project manager and designer and once approved, work must be completed by December 31, 2011. We are excited about participating in this program and bringing much needed improvements to our two elementary schools.

Lastly, our cable Channel 18 has been providing new programming and our Director Chris Liquori continues to work with interested volunteers, getting residents involved in the future development of the station.

It has been a pleasure serving the residents of Merrimac.

Respectfully Submitted,

Merrimac Board of Selectmen

Rick Pinciario; Chairman

Carol Traynor

W. Earl Baumgardner

FIREFIGHTERS

Deputy Larry Fisher	Chief Ralph W. Spencer*		Deputy Greg Habgood*
	Captain Mike Sloban		
	Captain James David		
	Captain Lester Smith		
	Captain Mark Soucy*		
	Lt Harry Ellis*		
	Lt Tim Carey*		
	Lt. Robert Judson Jr		
	Lt. Tim Bean		
Arthur Amirault	Tim Bean	Albert Berard	Steve Brown*
Brandon Cox	Raymond Dower	Corey Fisher	Jay Fournier
Robert Heusser*	Richard Holcroft	William Howard*	Thomas Jordan
Chris Judson	Mark Judson	Robert Judson Sr.	Nick Laubner*
Mike Maguire	Susan Marden*	Jon Morrill*	Gretchen Nolan*
Patrick Noone	Peter O'Loughlin*	Deb Podson*	Nick Putnam*
Dennis Reilly	Jim Sevigny	Keith Sherman	David Sherwood*
Jamie Souliotis	Kathy Spencer*	Chris Stiles*	Jodi Swenson*
Gary Tuck*	Lisa Young-Carey*		

* denotes EMT

**MERRIMAC FIRE DEPARTMENT
 COPY OF INCIDENT TYPE REPORT (SUMMARY) *MONTHLY*
 ALARM DATE BETWEEN {01/01/2010} AND {12/31/2010}**

Incident Type	Count	Pct of Incidents
1 Fire		
100 Fire, Other	2	0.25%
111 Building fire	12	1.51%
113 Cooking fire, confined to container	20	2.53%
114 Chimney or flue fire, confined to chimney	3	0.37%
116 Fuel burner/boiler malfunction, fire	2	0.25%
130 Mobile property (vehicle) fire, Other	1	0.12%
131 Passenger vehicle fire	10	1.26%
141 Forest, woods or wildland fire	2	0.25%
142 Brush or brush-and-grass mixture fire	15	1.89%
150 Outside rubbish fire, Other	1	0.12%
151 Outside rubbish, trash or waste fire	2	0.25%
160 Special outside fire, Other	1	0.12%
162 Outside equipment fire	3	0.37%
	74	9.36%
3 Rescue & Emergency Medical Service Incident		
311 Medical assist, assist EMS crew	1	0.12%
321 EMS call, excluding vehicle accident with	379	47.97%
3211 EMS call, excluding MVA with injury - 2nd	4	0.50%
3212 EMS call, excluding MVA - Aspirin Protocol	1	0.12%
3213 EMS call, excluding MVA - Blood Glucose	1	0.12%
322 Motor vehicle accident with injuries	47	5.94%
323 Motor vehicle/pedestrian accident (MV Ped)	1	0.12%
324 Motor Vehicle Accident with no injuries	37	4.68%
351 Extrication of victim(s) from	1	0.12%
352 Extrication of victim(s) from vehicle	1	0.12%
365 Watercraft rescue	1	0.12%
	474	60.00%
4 Hazardous Condition (No Fire)		
411 Gasoline or other flammable liquid spill	5	0.63%
412 Gas leak (natural gas or LPG)	14	1.77%
420 Toxic condition, Other	1	0.12%
424 Carbon monoxide incident	3	0.37%
440 Electrical wiring/equipment problem, Other	2	0.25%
443 Breakdown of light ballast	1	0.12%
444 Power line down	11	1.39%
	37	4.68%

**MERRIMAC FIRE DEPARTMENT
 COPY OF INCIDENT TYPE REPORT (SUMMARY) *MONTHLY*
 ALARM DATE BETWEEN {01/01/2010} AND {12/31/2010}**

Incident Type	Count	Pct of Incidents
5 Service Call		
500 Service Call, other	3	0.37%
510 Person in distress, Other	40	5.06%
511 Lock-out	2	0.25%
512 Ring or jewelry removal	3	0.37%
520 Water problem, Other	1	0.12%
521 Water evacuation	1	0.12%
531 Smoke or odor removal	5	0.63%
542 Animal rescue	1	0.12%
550 Public service assistance, Other	1	0.12 %
551 Assist police or other governmental agency	2	0.25%
553 Public service	1	0.12%
554 Assist invalid	4	0.50%
561 Unauthorized burning	1	0.12%
571 Cover assignment, standby, moveup	13	1.64%
	78	9.87%
6 Good Intent Call		
611 Dispatched & cancelled en route	52	6.58%
622 No Incident found on arrival at dispatch	13	1.64%
650 Steam, Other gas mistaken for smoke, Other	2	0.25%
671 HazMat release investigation w/no HazMat	1	0.12%
	68	8.60%
7 False Alarm & False Call		
700 False alarm or false call, Other	3	0.37%
730 System malfunction, Other	2	0.25%
731 Sprinkler activation due to malfunction	1	0.12%
733 Smoke detector activation due to	30	3.79%
734 Heat detector activation due to malfunction	4	0.50%
735 Alarm system sounded due to malfunction	4	0.50%
736 CO detector activation due to malfunction	7	0.88%
740 Unintentional transmission of alarm, Other	1	0.12%
741 Sprinkler activation, no fire -	1	0.12%
743 Smoke detector activation, no fire -	1	0.12%
745 Alarm system activation, no fire -	1	0.12%
746 Carbon monoxide detector activation, no CO	1	0.12%
	56	7.08%
8 Severe Weather & Natural Disaster		
813 Wind storm, tornado/hurricane assessment	1	0.12%

**MERRIMAC FIRE DEPARTMENT
 COPY OF INCIDENT TYPE REPORT (SUMMARY) *MONTHLY*
 ALARM DATE BETWEEN {01/01/2010} AND {12/31/2010}**

Incident Type	Count	Pct of Incidents
9 Special Incident Type	1	0.12%
900 Special type of incident, Other	1	0.12%
911 Citizen complaint	1	0.12%
	2	0.25%

Total Incident Count: 790

REPORT OF THE CHIEF OF POLICE

To the Citizens of Merrimac,

Please accept this letter as my intent to retire at the end of this fiscal year. This has been a difficult decision for my family and I to make. On March 9 of 1975 I was appointed as a full time police officer for the Town and in April of 1983 I began serving 27 years as our Police Chief. I have been grateful for the privilege to serve the Town of Merrimac in such a responsible position. I have enjoyed working with the members of this Police Department, the Board of Selectmen, the Finance Department and the Town's Finance Committee developing this department to the level that it now stands. I am grateful for the relationships I have with the Fire, Highway, Light, Water and Sewer Departments. I wish to thank the citizens of the Town of Merrimac for their confidence in me and I have been honored to serve them.

Respectfully Submitted

James A Flynn, Jr.
Chief of Police

REPORT OF THE CHIEF OF POLICE

To The Honorable Board of Selectmen and the Citizens of the Town of Merrimac,
Massachusetts:

2010 POLICE ACTIVITIES BY DISPATCH REASON

Assault & Battery	4
B & E (Attempted)	6
B&E Building	13
B&E Motor Vehicle	8
Larceny / Personal Property	55
Larceny by Check	2
Larceny of Motor Vehicle	6
Assault (Threats / No Battery)	3
Forgery & Counterfeiting	2
Stalking	1
Vandalism Complaint	50
Weapons Violation	2
Drug Law Violations	1
Gaming Law Violation	1
Offenses Against Family/Child	1
Intoxicated Driver Complaint	12
Disorderly Conduct	2
209A Violation	10
209A Order Received	27
Officer Investigation	48
Larceny of Bicycle	3
General Offenses	4
Trespass Complaint	15
Civil Complaint	1
Juvenile Offense	17
Town Bylaw Violation	3
Missing Person	21
Lost / Found Property	59
Disturbance (General)	22
Domestic Disturbance	35
Disturbance (Group)	36
Disturbqnce (School)	1
Hazard / Youths in Street	30
Disturbance (Noise)	55
Annoying Harassing Phone Calls	12
Suspicious Activity	198
ATV / Dirt bike Complaint	12
General Services	900

Welfare Check	50
Officer Wanted	730
Prisoner Transport	2
Assist Citizen	312
Building Check	224
Message Delivery	56
Animal Incident (ACO)	299
Assist Municipal Agencies	467
Utility Alarm / Emergency	52
Medical Emergency	361
Mental Health Emergency	14
Intoxicated Person	3
FIRE ALARM - Street Box	39
FIRE ALARM - Brush Fire	13
FIRE ALARM - Car Fire	9
FIRE ALARM - Structure Fire	7
FIRE ALARM - Investigation	112
FIRE ALARM - Mutual Aid	69
Burglar Alarm	139
Assist Other Police Department	217
Motor Vehicle Stop	643
Motor Vehicle Listing	126
Parking Violation	47
RADAR Assignment	29
Motor Vehicle Complaint (Speed)	53
Motor Vehicle Accidents	147
Traffic Control	1
Abandoned MV Complaint	9
Disabled MV Complaint	72
Inter - Department Services	65
Court (On Duty)	24
911 Calls	71

TOTAL	6192
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2010 ADULT ARRESTS

Male Arrests 38

Female Arrests 15

2010 JUVENILE ARRESTS

Male Juvenile Arrests 4

Female Juvenile Arrests 3

2010 PROTECTIVE CUSTODY

Male PC 4

Female PC 2

CRIMINAL COMPLAINT APPLICATIONS 2010

Various Criminal Offenses 50

James A. Flynn, Jr.
Chief of Police

Eric M. Shears
Sergeant

Patrolmen

David J. Vance
Charles W. Sciacca

Stephen M. Ringuette
Richard P. Holcroft

Daniel A. Ross

Reserve Police Officers

Stephen E. Beaulieu
Lori D. Buttry
Michael A. D'Angelo
Benjamin A. Douglas
Paul M. Hogg
Michael R. McGrath
Jonathan G. Morrill
David W. Riley
James M. Seymour
Adam E. White

Jeffrey D. Boisvert
Edward A. Cardone, Jr.
Anthony V. Deangelo
Arthur D. Evans
Andrew G. Hosman
James T. Mikson
Brian W. Peavey, Sr.
Stephen A. Ringuette
Edward Syvinski

Fire/Police Signal Operator/Clerk

Vacant Position

Fire/Police Signal Operators/Dispatchers

Bonnie J. Bishop

Mark E. Sayers

Kathy A. Spencer

Part Time Fire/Police Signal Operators/Dispatchers

Brian W. Peavey, Jr.
Shara T. Judson
Lori D. Buttry

Andres G. Hosman
Jennifer D. Marden

Stephen A. Ringuette
Michael O. McLeieer

Matrons

Bonnie J. Bishop
Jennifer D. Marden

Kathy A. Spencer
Annette Hagopian

Shara Judson
Lori D. Buttry

Honorary Police Officers

Alan Hassig

Richard Noone

In Memoriam

Sgt. Alfred Nichols

Clerk Linda A. Seymour

Officer Robert Adams

MERRIMAC DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS' SERVICES

Kevin Hunt
Director

Telephone:
978 465-4418

TOWN OF MERRIMAC
OFFICE OF THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN
MERRIMAC, MA 01860

What follows is the annual report from The Department of Veterans' Services.

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS CHAPTER 115 BENEFITS:

This department was able to assist veterans or family members this past year under Chapter 115. This is emergency financial assistance provided to selected veterans.

VETERANS DAY:

Thanks to the efforts of Commander Roger Clark, of Post 134 of the American Legion, Veterans Day was commemorated on November 11, 2010

MEMORIAL DAY FLAGS

Again, thanks to the efforts of Commander Clark and Post 134 of the American Legion, veterans' graves and memorials were appropriately decorated before Memorial Day in 2010.

VA COMPENSATION

This department continues to assist and secure various VA benefits -- service connected and non-service connected -- disability compensations and pensions. Last year, the Federal Department of Veterans' Affairs distributed nearly \$600,000 to Merrimac veterans and/or their surviving spouses as compensation or pension. The Veterans' Office assists veterans in applying for these benefits. The Town of Merrimac does not have to pay anything to receive these funds, much of which is spent within the Town.

VA HEALTH CARE

This department assisted and secured various VA medical benefits for service and non-service connected veterans. These medical benefits included short and long-term medical treatments at the VA Clinic satellite clinic in Haverhill and VA Hospitals in the VISN (Veterans Integrated Service Network) area.

SOCIAL SECURITY

This department continues to assist and refer veterans seeking benefits from Social Security.

Respectfully submitted,

Kevin Hunt
Director of Veterans' Services

**DISTRICT ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICES
22 MAIN STREET
WEST NEWBURY, MA 01985
TELEPHONE (978) 363-2280
FAX (978) 363-1165**

Dr. Paul A. Livingston
Superintendent of Schools

Dr. William I. Hart
Assistant Superintendent

The Merrimac Annual Report of the School Department activities for FY10 has been developed by the Principals of the Helen R. Donaghue School, Dr. Frederick N. Sweetsir School, Pentucket Regional Middle School and Pentucket Regional High School on behalf of the Superintendent of Schools and the Pentucket Regional School Committee.

Maureen Moran, Chairman
Joseph D'Amore, Vice Chairman
Jill Eichhorst, Assistant Treasurer
Heather Conner, Secretary
John Willett
Wendy Willis
Todd Treado
Richard Perrotti
Jill McGrail

**DR. FREDERICK N. SWEETSIR SCHOOL
HELEN R. DONAGHUE SCHOOL**

It is a pleasure to submit our annual report for the Dr. Fredrick N. Sweetsir School and the Helen R. Donaghue School for the 2009 - 2010 school year.

Our school year began with the ninth annual, "Merrimac Goes Back to School Day" to celebrate the opening of school. Families had an opportunity to visit classrooms, meet teachers and obtain information about the school, community, and PTO. Since its inception, this evening has provided a positive beginning to each school year.

The October 1, 2009 enrollment was 292 students in grades Preschool through grade 2 at the Dr. Sweetsir School and 392 in grades 3 through 6 at the Helen R. Donaghue School.

The School Councils for the Dr. Sweetsir and Helen R. Donaghue Schools continued to pursue the following School Improvement Plan goals to focus on during the 2009 - 2010 year:

- The students will make continuous improvement throughout the year in reading comprehension and fluency as measured by pre and post teacher-developed assessments.
- All students will make continuous improvement in writing as measured by grade level rubrics.
- All students will make progress from the pre test to the post test as measured by Everyday Mathematics assessments. 85% of the students will master grade level secure skills as measured by grade level assessments.
- All students will continuously use technology skills and computer-based applications throughout the year.

The school and district focused on two primary initiatives this year. The first was refining teachers' skills organizing reading instruction around a balanced literacy model that included using reader's workshop as a teaching model. To help teachers develop knowledge and skills in meeting this goal, the district entered into a partnership with Tufts University. Through this, teachers worked with a consultant in grade-level teams and as individuals. We will continue this relationship with these consultants and coaches in the 2010-2011 school year.

The district built on their work designing learning experiences and classrooms that result in enduring learning by students by identifying habits or competencies successful learners possess and use. Assistant Superintendent Dr. William Hart solicited from students, staff, parents, and community members their ideas of what skills and understandings our students will need as they move into the new economies that will greet them upon graduation. The result was a list of five "Habits of Learning" that teachers are focusing on helping students develop. Students in grades 4 and 6 will demonstrate how they have developed these habits by presenting portfolios of examples of learning in these areas. While teachers help students develop thinking, reasoning, and problem-solving, they will continue to also focus on helping students master the curriculum content as outlined in the state curriculum frameworks.

Once again, students in Grades 3, 4, 5, and 6 were tested as part of the Massachusetts Comprehensive Assessment System (MCAS). Students in all of these grades took tests in English Language Arts/Reading and Mathematics. Students in Grade 5 also took tests in Science, Engineering, and Technology. The percentage of students scoring at the proficient or advanced level increased from the previous year in Grade 6 and Grade 4 English Language Arts and Mathematics, and in Grade 5 Science, Engineering and Technology. The number of students in Grade 3 scoring in the top two levels decreased in both English Language Arts and Mathematics. The percentage of Grade 5 students scoring in the top two categories on the English and Mathematics exams remained the same over the two years. These test results, along with other assessments of students' learning, were used by the teachers to set improvement goals in their Professional Learning Teams. At grade 3, this included beginning use of structured challenging daily calendar math activities at the opening of each day.

As part of the federal No Child Left Behind (NCLB) education reform initiative, all schools are expected to help their students to become proficient in reading, writing and mathematics by 2014. In Massachusetts, the MCAS results are used to measure each school's progress toward this goal. The state measures how well the entire student population is progressing toward the goal of 100% proficiency, as well as how well individual subgroups, such as socio-economic groups and students receiving special education services, are progressing toward the performance goal.

The Helen R. Donaghue School again met the state's expectations for Annual Yearly Progress in English Language Arts for the entire student population. It did not this goal as a school in Mathematics for the entire student population. Students with identified special needs did not meet the performance goal in either English Language Arts or Mathematics. The staff will refocus its efforts to provide individual students, particularly students in this last group, with the additional instruction they might need as indicated by both MCAS results and classroom assessments. Staff will also modify units of study and individual lessons to meet students' learning needs.

Once again, the PTO purchased a variety of educational resources for the schools. These included: Learning A-Z memberships, recess supplies, a Brain Pop classroom subscription, books for classroom libraries, musical instruments, and Sixth Grade and Field Day T-shirts. The PTO also organized After School Exploration programs at both schools, presented a graduating Pentucket senior with a PTO Scholarship, coordinated teacher appreciation events, planned family fun nights, produced a student yearbook, and supported our classroom programs by volunteering in our schools every day. In addition, the PTO sponsored many cultural arts programs for students and helped defray the costs of sixth grade student attendance at Nature's Classroom in Ocean Park, Maine.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank the PTO for their continued outstanding commitment to the children of Merrimac. With their help, we continue to encourage and foster a strong home-school-community partnership, parent volunteer program, curriculum information nights, sponsor-a-classroom program, and the Holiday Helper Program.

Our Before and After School Program continues to provide tuition-based services to over 90 children daily at the two schools. On early release Wednesdays, they also offer care for additional students immediately after the early dismissal.

The Helen R. Donaghue School said good bye to one teacher, Ms. Cecelia Doyle, on her retirement in June. Ms. Doyle helped many Merrimac children become more proficient and confident fourth grade students in her many years as a teacher. Her colleagues also learned much from her through their collaborative work. Her contributions will be missed in the school.

Both schools also bid Ms. Judy Kroner farewell on her retirement in June. Ms. Kroner served as guidance counselor for the schools for many years. She provided students a welcome person to talk to, a trusted counselor, and a strong advocate for their well-being in the schools. The students of Merrimac will miss her daily presence in the schools.

In closing, the staffs of the Dr. Frederick N. Sweetsir School and the Helen R. Donaghue School wish to extend its appreciation to members of the Merrimac community for their support throughout the year. We value public education and believe it is the cornerstone of our community, a major resource for enhancing the quality of life for our current and future citizens.

**PENTUCKET REGIONAL MIDDLE SCHOOL
ANNUAL REPORT
FISCAL YEAR 2009-2010**

The 2009-2010 school year was productive at Pentucket Regional Middle School. Student enrollment was 541 and comprised of 129 from West Newbury, 191 from Groveland, 202 from Merrimac, and 19 students through the school choice program.

Teachers at Pentucket Regional Middle School worked closely with a consultant from the Center for Collaborative Education (CCE) in order to bring the Habits of Learning to life. The consultant, along with building administration, began to build team leader capacity through the use of protocols in sharing work while developing a strong purpose through essential questions. Teachers worked collaboratively and continued to explicitly teach the Habits of Learning; *thinking, communication, collaboration, independence, and creative exploration* in concert with content. Additionally, the PRMS staff continues to develop lesson plans that incorporate the 5 Common Elements of Powerful Learning; *experiential, ownership, forces one out of comfort zone, multi-faceted support, and reflective*. We encourage families to be a part of this process by engaging their children in ongoing conversations about what they learn at PRMS.

Respectfully submitted,

Dr. Debra Lay, Principal

**PENTUCKET REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL
ANNUAL REPORT
FISCAL YEAR 2009-2010**

The 2009-2010 school year was productive at Pentucket Regional High School. Student enrollment was 803 and comprised of 161 from West Newbury, 290 from Groveland, 314 from Merrimac, and 38 students through the school choice program.

Below is a summary of activities that took place in the areas of curriculum, instruction, assessment, professional development and the community.

Curriculum:

Team Leaders, Department Chairs and another member of each department received training for the use of the new curriculum software ATLAS, this will support our ongoing work of capturing and refining curriculum in every area.

Grade 9 and 10 ELA and Social Studies teachers worked during PLC and Summer Academy time to align their curriculum to support each other's work.

Health, Physical Education and Guidance worked together to develop a new Wellness curriculum that will be implemented for grade 9 students this year.

Teachers across curriculums developed Habits of Learning lessons.

Instruction:

Pentucket became a member of the Virtual High School (VHS) program. Two high school teachers taught four, semester length, courses in the Virtual High School course catalogue which allowed 64 PRHS students a chance to take courses that are not a part of the PRHS course catalogue.

Assessment:

A team of teachers developed high school specific rubrics to enable teachers to assess student learning around Habits of Learning.

100% of the class of 2012 passed the ELA MCAS assessment and 90% scored Advanced or Proficient.

98% of the class of 2012 passed the Math MCAS and 88% scored Advanced or Proficient on their Grade 10 Math MCAS assessment, including 64% of the class scoring Advanced.

96% of the class of 2012/12 passed the Biology MCAS and 82% scored Advanced or Proficient.

Professional Development:

5 ELA teachers in grade 9 and 10 worked with consultants from DESE (Department of Elementary and Secondary Education) and CCE (Center for Collaborative Education) along with educators from schools across Massachusetts to develop authentic and performance based assessments for use school wide and statewide. This work is ongoing.

Staff collaborated to create solutions targeting challenges associated with students at risk for failing and dropping out.

A task force of teachers and students worked together to prepare structure and documents that will guide our steps toward a public demonstration of HOL mastery in June of 2011.

Community:

High school teachers taught a two week session of MCAS preparation for entering grade 9 students who had scored Needs Improvement on prior MCAS tests.

Grade 9 team planned and led a first day of school for grade 9 students, which was successful in welcoming and orienting freshman to the high school.

A group of students planned and facilitated a week of Drug and Alcohol Awareness activities from grades 6-12.

The foreign language club hosted a group of 20 exchange students from Austria for 2 weeks in March.

The GAPP club sponsored a group of Pentucket students who traveled to our partner school in Germany for 3 weeks in June.

The marching band represented the school and the state at the Washington DC, Memorial Day parade.

Other:

The High School Council created a three year school improvement plan.

Numerous students received awards for their talent and hard work through musical and artistic competitions.

10 Interscholastic Athletic teams received coveted Team Sportsmanship Awards from their Cape Ann League peers, in addition the Girls Indoor Track Team received the State Track and Field Sportsmanship Award.

Respectfully submitted,

Jonathan P. Seymour

MERRIMAC GRADUATES

Danielle Baier
Matthew Barry
Deana Baumert
Michael Brennan
Zachary Brickett
Shannon Briggles
Meghan Carpenter
Nicholas Cazmay
Jacob Clement
Jody Cody
Kevin Dacey
Hillary Dandurant
Amy Dickinson
Sarah Dillon
Haley Dodier
Kate Dubois
Raven Foss
Amanda Francis
Donald Frost
Benjamin Garrett-Levine
Seamus Gildner
Meghan Gonet
Shannon Gregory
Edward Guerra
Kelsey Hamerstrom
Charlotte Koolian
Lahlali Salem
Travis Larson
Alyssa Ledoux
Samantha Ledwich

Sarah Lewis
Brandon Lozier
Bruce Martin
Kaela McLaughlin
Christopher Meuse
Evan Miller
Nicholas Moustafa
Kelly Moynihan
Calyn O'Conner
Austin Perreault
Jordon Pinzone
Megan Power
Kasey Preston
Byron Quinn
Jason Rodriguez
Jared Roy
Lindsey Schmidt
Danielle Simmons
Stephen Sinibaldi
Colin Sirois
Shane Sloban
Sarah Soucy
Cameron Spofford
Samantha St. Pierre
Mark Taylor
Connor Tribble
Erin Troy
Jonathan Troy
Meghan Weakley
Hayleigh White

WHITTIER SCHOOL ANNUAL OPERATIONAL REPORT

TO: The Honorable Board of Selectmen

Whittier offers 20 vocational technical career areas designed to provide the necessary training and skills for further education or work force success.

Whittier's academic program is designed to offer students the fundamental skills through its core curriculum in English, Math, Science and Technology, Social Studies, World Languages, Physical Education/Health, and Elective subjects. Courses are aligned with the Massachusetts Curriculum Frameworks in order to achieve success on the MCAS.

Courses are offered in a sequential format and are integrated with the vocational-technical areas, wherever practicable and mutually beneficial. All academic courses offer advanced sections for students who desire to further their education. We offer honors courses in English, science, and math to lead toward advanced placement courses. Moreover, a Tech Prep program is offered to eleventh and twelfth grade students which parallels the College Prep program and provides students with the opportunity to earn college credit and/or advanced college placement.

Since all programs are open to both females and males, we encourage our students to explore and to specialize in non-stereotyped, non-traditional vocational-technical areas and to strive for the maximum realization of their goals and potential.

Whittier Regional Vocational Technical High School is entering its thirty-seventh year. To date we have graduated 9,165 students from the day school.

The enrollment for the Evening School from Merrimac: 19

The October 1, 2009 Day School Enrollment:

	<u>Boys</u>	<u>Girls</u>
Grade 9	8	6
Grade 10	10	11
Grade 11	4	3
Grade 12	10	4
Total -		56

2010 Graduates - 14

The cost to Merrimac for the school year 2009-2010 was \$546,462.00.

Respectfully yours,

Paul Tucker, Merrimac Representative
William P. DeRosa, Superintendent

**ANNUAL REPORT
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
MERRIMAC PUBLIC LIBRARY
FOR THE YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2010**

To the citizens of Merrimac:

Simply stated, the year 2010 has been one of growth, challenge, and creative problem solving for Merrimac Public Library. All aspects of library use by our enthusiastic patrons have steadily continued to grow. At the same time, fiscal resources have not been proportionately increased and, in one instance, have been reduced substantially. The board of trustees applauds our dedicated and hard working professional library staff for coping so admirably with the many demands of the past year.

The statistical data indicates a 5 percent increase in the circulation of library materials over the prior year. All of the other library services – from computer sign-up to use of the meeting room – have increased in usage even more dramatically.

Due to state cuts to the Massachusetts Regional Library System, the Northeast Region did not renew our Supplementary Collection contract. This has caused Betty Emery, our award winning collection manager, to retire. We sincerely thank Betty for her years of congenial and conscientious service. Loss of the contract also negatively impacts our staff salary budget and will present even more of a financial burden in the coming year.

On the brighter side, the board of trustees is pleased to report several expanded features that have enhanced the library without cost to the Merrimac tax payer. For some time now, the library has been in need of an exhibits coordinator to organize and oversee our display cases and the embellishment of public wall space. Well-known area artist Ann Tucker was appointed to the part-time position which is entirely funded by a grant from the Merrimac Cultural Council and by monthly sponsorships paid for by local businesses.

We are also grateful to David Grant for volunteering two hours each week to keep the Special Collections room open and available to researchers and genealogists on a regular basis. Likewise, we are just as appreciative of our many other dependable volunteers who have contributed more than 828 hours this year and have performed a variety of necessary projects that would otherwise be impossible for the full-time staff to keep up with. Last, and certainly not least, we sincerely thank the Friends of the Library for their perennial support and material contributions.

The theme of the 2010 summer reading program was “Go Green at Your Library”. The programs were extremely well attended and appealed to a variety of ages from two-year-olds to teens. The younger children enjoyed such programs as Creative Movement, Green Apple Kids Band, and UNH’s Little Red Wagon Theater and Dance. Older children were pleased with programs such as the Traveling Tide Pool, Mosaic Workshop, Silk Painting and a Frisbee show.

Other programs popular throughout the year included a Cartoon Workshop with local artist Sean Bixby, a family movie night, and a Lego workshop with some of the young people’s creations displayed at the library.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan M. Coburn, Co-chair.
Ellen Evans, Co-chair.
Jennifer Brown
Yvonne D. Cosgrove
Linda Getz
Jeffrey W. Hoyt

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

The library continues to be a vibrant and relevant destination for the people of Merrimac. Residents seem to appreciate our service and our warm, upbeat attitude. Each year is busier than the last!

I've come up with some interesting facts about how the community made use of library services during the past year. We endeavor to provide what you want and need, and we love requests!

- **Residents checked out or renewed 75,053 items in 2010**, a considerable number since there are only about 6,500 people in town.
- **Patrons checked out 19,807 DVDs**. That translates to families and individuals being able to watch over 19,000 **movies for free!**
- **Residents ordered and picked up 10,735 holds**. These are items that Merrimac may not own but are available from other libraries in the MVLC consortium through the interlibrary loan delivery system. Anyone with a library card can request items online or at the library, and they are generally delivered within the week.
- **Anybody with a library card can download over 1900 of the most popular** - as well as classic - audio or e-reader books.
- **In 2010, the library held 120 children's programs** with 1,781 children attending.
- **136 Merrimac children** under the age of 11 participated in a very successful summer reading program. In addition, 214 Young Adults took part in programs designed specifically for them.
- **Your library possesses 48,185 collection items** including books, DVDs, audio books, CDs, newspapers and magazines. Be sure to come in and check them out!

Respectfully submitted,

Martina Follansbee
Library Director

**TOWN OF MERRIMAC
INSPECTIONAL SERVICES**

2 School Street Merrimac, MA 01860
Ph. (978) 346-0525 Fax (978) 346-0522

2010 ANNUAL REPORT

BUILDING PERMITS ISSUED	CALENDAR YEAR		+/-	
	2010	2009		
New 1+2 Family Dwellings (R4)	13	10	3	
Residential: Addition/Remodel (R4)	184	192	-8	
Accessory Building / Barn / Detached Garage	3	2	1	
Fireplace & Wood/Coal/Pellet Stove (independent)	7	6	1	
Swimming Pools: In-ground + Above-ground	14	5	9	
New/Replacement Manufactured Housing (M.H.)	1	2	-1	
Permit for Temporary Housing Unit	0	0	0	
Trench Permits	15	6	9	
Commercial: New / Addition / Remodel	7	4	3	
Multi-family Dwelling: R3, R2, R1 (Building, not dwelling units)	0	0	0	
Municipal Project	2	3	-1	
Demolition Permit	3	5	-2	% Change
NUMBER OF BUILDING PERMITS ISSUED	249	235	14	6%

Amount collected from building permits issued	\$42,092.00	\$39,431.00		
Addendum to open building permit, fees collected	\$20.00	\$1,069.00		
Trench permits, fees collected	\$450.00	\$180.00		
Plan review / building permit transfer, fees collected	\$200.00	\$0.00		
Request for Zoning Bylaw opinion, fees collected	\$0.00	\$100.00		
Copy and miscellaneous, fees collected	\$15.00	\$37.53		
Occupancy and Use certificate	\$425.00	\$330.00		
Inspections: 780CMR, §106 and MGL c.138, § 11E	\$360.00	\$120.00	+/-	% Change
Total Building Permit Fees	\$43,562.00	\$41,267.53	\$2,294.47	6%
Total Wiring Permit Fees	\$11,309.00	\$9,543.00	\$1,766.00	19%
Total Plumbing Permit Fees	\$5,608.00	\$4,115.00	\$1,493.00	36%
Total Gas Permit Fees	\$4,650.00	\$3,685.00	\$965.00	26%
Total Enforcement Action Fees	\$130.00	\$135.00	-\$5.00	-4%

TOTAL DEPARTMENT FEES	\$65,259.00	\$58,745.53	\$6,513.47	11%
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Fees Waived by Selectmen	\$361.00	\$543.00		
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TOTAL COLLECTED REVENUE	\$64,898.00	\$58,202.53	\$6,695.47	12%
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Submitted By: Robert S. Sinibaldi, Building Commissioner / Zoning Enforcement Officer -(D.W.)

**ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MERRIMAC WATER DEPARTMENT
FOR THE YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 2010**

NEW CONNECTIONS: During FY2010 there were 10 new homes connected to the town's water system, bringing the total number of connections to 1,797.

PRIVILEGE FEE: \$17,600.00 was collected during FY2010 from individuals and developers for new service connections and deposited to Water Department Privilege Fee account. MWD utilizes this funding for various improvements to our distribution system.

SURPLUS FUNDS: MWD ended FY10 with a surplus of \$ 87,754.80. Those funds will be added to our Water Capital account which is used for capital improvements.

WELL CLEANING: Wells at both East Main and Bear Hill well fields were cleaned. The well cleaning, completed by F.G. Sullivan Co. is performed to improve pumping capacity and water quality.

ANNUAL PUMPING STATISTICS:

Gallons pumped from Bear Hill and East Main	129,935,200	an increase of 3,649,600 from 2009
Gallons sold to customers	114,421,600	an increase of 2,709,965 from 2009
Gallons plant backwash	1,626,700	
Gallons unaccounted for	13,886,900	- 11% of all water pumped could not be accounted for. Causes: Fire protection, flushing, inaccurate meters, water theft and minor leaks not detectable.

IN THE FUTURE: The town will be completing the engineering design of improvements to the Sargent Pit Wellfield that will restore the reliability of pumping and treatment facilities for this critical source of potable water for the community. The town is also looking into other areas of the town's water infrastructure to implement improvements. These improvements are under evaluation and include the rehabilitation of the Bear Hill Water Storage Tank and the West Main Street Water Storage Tank. Additionally the system experiences low water pressures under various flow condition that can create undesirable water quality and quantity concerns. The provision of several water booster pump stations in several key location of the town to remedy these low water pressure issues are also under consideration.

The governing rules of the EPA and DEP are always changing and to keep up we have to implement new rules and procedures to comply. Without the support of the employees of the Water Department this would not be possible. My sincere thanks to all employees for their efforts and commitment to water quality throughout the year.

Respectfully submitted,

Richard J. Spinale

**MERRIMAC WATER DEPARTMENT
INCOME STATEMENT
JULY 1, 2009 - JUNE 30, 2010**

REVENUE

Residential, Commercial, Municipal Rates	\$	817,833.42
Water Sprinklers	\$	4,465.00
Water Micsellaneous	\$	12,207.85
Fiscal Year Liens	\$	13,779.62
Interest	\$	2,915.62

TOTAL REVENUE COLLECTED **\$ 851,201.51**
Misc. Revenue-Lawsuit

EXPENSES

DPW Director's Salary	\$	25,064.33
Office Salary	\$	25,014.00
Water Dept. Wages	\$	176,129.34
Overtime	\$	30,583.80
Longevity Pay	\$	950.00
Clothing/Boot Allowance	\$	2,700.00
Benefit Reimbursement	\$	81,927.98
In Lieu of Taxes(Direct Overhead)	\$	21,032.00
Stock	\$	45,292.51
Real Estate Taxes (NH)	\$	3,480.00
Engineering	\$	32,564.50
Vehicle Expense	\$	8,700.35
Fuel Heat	\$	10,993.73
Purchased Power(Electric)	\$	38,847.13
Office Supplies	\$	31,511.87
Chemicals	\$	63,163.28
Water Testing	\$	6,452.07
Testing Supplies	\$	2,428.92
Well Cleaning	\$	22,600.00
Cross Connection	\$	870.00
Water Conservation	\$	-
Building Maintenance	\$	4,929.09
Roadway & Excavation	\$	7,399.76

TOTAL DIRECT EXPENSES **\$ 642,634.66**

TOTAL WATER BOND EXPENSE \$ 120,812.05

TOTAL DIRECT AND BOND EXPENSE **\$ 763,446.71**

GROSS PROFIT **\$ 87,754.80**

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE SEWER DEPARTMENT

The sanitary sewer system was extended to seven houses on Ridgefield Road and one house on Billings Road.

In 2010 many manholes and lines were repaired throughout the system. Ongoing maintenance was performed and the pump stations, with replacement of pumps.

Twelve units were connected to the sanitary sewer system in 2010.

REVENUE FISCAL YEAR 2010

INVOICED USER FEES	\$1,110,289.58	*(104,178.86)
Collected:		
User Fees	1,082,433.54	
Liens	25,559.42	
Betterments	54,226.19	
Misc. Revenue	117,302.54	
Inflow & Infiltration Fees	25,062.80	
Interest	2,583.20	
Balance from FY09	239,930.60	
TOTAL COLLECTED		1,547,098.29
Expenditures:		
O&M	785,524.76	
Debt Service	333,484.01	
TOTAL SPENT		1,119,008.77
GAIN		428,089.52
DEVELOPMENT FUND		
Balance end of Fiscal Year 2009	\$79,566.76	
Collected Fiscal Year 2010	12,761.46	
Total		92,328.22
Expended		0
Balance End of Fiscal Year 2010		92,328.22

*Uncollected user fees

Respectfully submitted

Richard J. Spinale,
Director of Public Works

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MERRIMAC MUNICIPAL LIGHT DEPARTMENT YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2010

The Board of Light Commissioners and Manager are pleased to submit the Annual Report of the Merrimac Municipal Light Department for the year 2010.

NEW SERVICES: During 2010 there were a total of 16 new electrical services added to the town's electric distribution system. The total number of electric meters in service at year's end was 2,785.

SYSTEM UPGRADES: We are looking to reconfigure our existing transmission source by adding a second supply line to the Burnside substation in Merrimac. The line will be a backup source of electricity in case the existing line goes down for any reason. The new line will start at the Amesbury town line on Middle Street, run to Emery Street, run down Emery Street to the Burnside substation. The line will be a 23,000 volt line supplied from the new National Grid substation in Amesbury, which was finished earlier this year. We feel this line is necessary to improve our reliability to the Merrimac residents and businesses we supply with electricity.

POWER SUPPLY: We are constantly looking for new sources of electricity at lower prices to keep the cost of electricity lower to our customers and still be environmentally conscious. One of those opportunities is wind power. Merrimac has signed a long term contract with a wind farm for lower cost electricity to be supplied to Merrimac starting in 2012. The wind farm will produce 20 MW of intermittent power of which Merrimac will take 1.45%.

Buying into generation plants, whether they are renewable or fossil fueled, at a low cost will reduce the amount of energy Merrimac will have to buy in the ISO, Day Ahead or Real Time energy market, at significantly higher prices. Owning generation also gives you opportunities to be paid by the market instead of paying into the market.

The new world of power supply is quite interesting and complicated. We will do our best as a municipal light department to bring you, our customers, the lowest possible electric rates and the best service.

CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE TOWN:

In Lieu of Tax Payment: \$15,000.00
Unbilled Streetlight Usage: \$18,261.77

COMMUNITY: The Merrimac Light Department is a Public Utility, that means it is owned by its rate payers and not by a board of directors like the investor owned utilities. That means that when you call or come into the office you get to talk to a person, someone who will help you with questions that you may have about your bill or your electric service. We at the Merrimac Light and Water Department are here to serve the community.

The people who make this utility work for you, the employees and Commissioners, are the people who made this year work for all of us. They deserve our praise and my gratitude.

Respectfully submitted,

Daniel Folding, Manager Board of Light
Commissioners

Norman Denault	Term Expires 2011
Jim Young	Term Expires 2012
Louis Bibeau	Term Expires 2013

**MERRIMAC ELECTRIC LIGHT DEPARTMENT
STATEMENT OF INCOME FOR THE YEAR 2009**

	Current Year	Increase or (Decrease) from Preceding Year
OPERATING INCOME		
400 Operating Revenue	4,632,027.29	462,126.65
OPERATING EXPENSES		
401 Operation Expense	3,999,522.18	74,272.60
402 Maintenance Expense	279,504.66	22,309.74
403 Depreciation Expense.....	252,410.31	26,816.87
Total Operating Expenses	4,531,437.15	123,399.21
Operating Income.....	100,590.14	338,727.44
OTHER INCOME		
415 Income from Merchandising, Jobbing and Contract Work		
419 Interest Income	115,661.94	55,605.91
421 Miscellaneous Nonoperating Income		
Total Income	216,252.08	394,333.35
INTEREST CHARGES		
427 Interest on Bonds and Notes	50,700.00	(2,250.00)
431 Other Interest Expense.....		
Total Interest Charges.....	<u>50,700.00</u>	<u>(2,250.00)</u>
NET INCOME	<u>165,552.08</u>	<u>396,583.35</u>

	Debits	Credits
208 Unappropriated Earned Surplus (at beginning of period)		3,766,161.60
433 Balance Transferred from Income		165,552.08
434 Miscellaneous Credits to Surplus		
435 Miscellaneous Debits to Surplus	83,597.11	
436 Appropriations of Surplus	15,000.00	
437 Surplus Applied to Depreciation		
208 Unappropriated Earned Surplus (at end of period)	<u>3,833,116.57</u>	
	<u>3,931,713.68</u>	<u>3,931,713.68</u>

**MERRIMAC ELECTRIC LIGHT DEPARTMENT
COMPARATIVE BALANCE SHEET 2010**

<u>ASSETS</u>	Balance Beginning of Year	Balance End of Year	Increase or (Decrease)
UTILITY PLANT			
101 Utility Plant - Electric	4,518,813.11	4,569,280.85	50,467.74
FUND ACCOUNTS			
125 Sinking Funds	719.17	719.17	-
126 Depreciation Fund	1,598,600.03	1,775,818.68	177,218.65
126 Rate Stabilization Fund	406,188.18	369,069.96	(37,118.22)
126 Bond Fund	271,381.98	271,381.98	-
CURRENT AND ACCRUED ASSETS			
131 Cash	32,574.47	(136,350.05)	(168,924.52)
132 Special Deposits	50,999.28	57,249.28	6,250.00
132 Working Funds	200.00	200.00	-
142 Customer Accounts Receivable	204,614.89	233,059.24	28,444.35
143 Other Accounts Receivable	25,026.20	(88.56)	(25,114.76)
146 Receivables from Municipality			
151 Materials and Supplies	15,001.94	15,001.94	-
165 Prepayments	25,020.00	21,614.00	(3,406.00)
165 Prepayments ENE	400,649.81	400,707.48	57.67
DEFERRED DEBITS			
183 Other Deferred Debits	(55.44)	71.48	126.92
Total Assets and Other Debits	<u>\$ 7,549,733.62</u>	<u>\$ 7,577,735.45</u>	<u>28,001.83</u>
 <u>LIABILITIES</u>			
SURPLUS			
206 Loans Repayments	1,291,707.96	1,366,707.96	75,000.00
207 Appropriations for Construction Repayments	8,889.05	8,889.05	-
208 Unappropriated Earned Surplus	3,766,161.60	3,833,116.57	66,954.97
LONG TERM DEBT			
221 Bonds	1,350,000.00	1,275,000.00	(75,000.00)
231 Notes Payable	-	-	-
CURRENT AND ACCRUED LIABILITIES			
232 Accounts Payable	244,136.68	204,372.28	(39,764.40)
235 Customer' Deposits	50,999.28	57,249.28	6,250.00
242 Miscellaneous Current and Accrued Liabilities	(55.44)	71.48	126.92
DEFERRED CREDITS			
252 Customer Advances for Construction	1,220.67	1,220.67	-
RESERVES			
260 Reserves for Uncollectable Accounts	19,151.86	13,586.20	(5,565.66)
CONTRIBUTIONS IN AID OF CONSTRUCTION			
271 Contributions in Aid of Construction	817,521.96	817,521.96	-
Total Liabilities and Other Credits	<u>\$ 7,549,733.62</u>	<u>\$ 7,577,735.45</u>	<u>28,001.83</u>

2010 MERRIMAC PLANNING BOARD ANNUAL REPORT

In calendar year 2009, the Planning Board did not see many new applications or rapid development of existing sub-division projects due to the continued national slump in the housing market. This slow period provided the Board the opportunity to focus on other aspects of its role of overseeing land use and development. The Board received approval from Town Meeting to change the Earth Removal By-law to update it to current standards. The Board approved the Housing Production Plan developed by the Merrimac Affordable Housing Board of Trustees and it was accepted by the state Department of Housing and Community Development. The Board has also begun to review properties around town for application of the Stormwater Management and Land Disturbance By-law which the Board was designated to enforce by Town Meeting.

There are three subdivisions in Merrimac that continue to be under construction and monitored by the Board: Madison Way, Quail Ridge, and Lakewoods Drive. Monitoring of the Madison Way development included securing the "fee in Old Rd" to protect the McLaren Trail. One new Approval Not Required (ANR) and one re-endorsed ANR were granted by the Board; Conceptual Plans for a proposed development on East Main Street were reviewed; and there is an ongoing Site Plan Review on Broad Street. The Board collected \$550 in filing fees and \$592.30 in sale of Zoning By-law booklets and copies.

Raymond Gingras, then chair of the Board, chose not to run for re-election in April after serving 10 years. During that time, Ray provided a great service to the Board and the Town. At the annual election Robert Atwood was voted to the Board. The Board reorganized in May and voted John Thomas as MVPC Commissioner, Robert Atwood as the alternative MVPC Commissioner, Ronald Barnes as Vice Chair, and Sandra Venner as Chair. Sandra Venner also continues to serve as chair of the Affordable Housing Board of Trustees.

As always, the Board is grateful for the professionalism and dedication of its secretary, Patricia True, who not only serves the Board well but the entire community.

Respectfully submitted by
Sandra Venner, Chairperson
Merrimac Planning Board

Dennis Brodie	Term expires 2011
John Thomas	Term expires 2012
Ronald Barnes	Term expires 2013
Sandra Venner	Term expires 2014
Robert Atwood	Term expires 2015

**TOWN OF MERRIMAC
FINANCE DIRECTOR**

4 School Street
Merrimac, MA 01860
Phone (978) 346-0524
Fax (978) 346-8863

E-Mail: cmcleod@townofmerrimac.com

**Honorable Board of Selectmen
Town of Merrimac
Massachusetts, 01860**

Honorable Selectmen,

In accordance with the requirements of the Massachusetts General Laws, the Annual Financial Report of the Town Accountant for the Town of Merrimac, for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2010 is herewith submitted.

The data represents a fair and accurate presentation in all material aspects of the Town's financial position and the results of its operations. Disclosures necessary to enable the reader to gain an understanding of the Town's financial affairs have been presented. Included are schedules on debt issue and servicing, a detailed listing of revenues and expenditures, a balance sheet for all fund types and account groups, and a combined statement of cash flows.

The reports are based on information recorded using the Uniform Municipal Accounting System (UMAS) of the Massachusetts Department of Revenue. The same information is used to prepare the Schedule A.

An audit of the Town's financial records by Bill Fraher, C.P.A., has been completed and the results of this audit are available in my office for public inspection. The books of the Town are also open for public inspection during normal business hours.

Respectfully submitted,

Carol A. McLeod
Finance Director

**TOWN OF MERRIMAC
STATEMENT OF REVENUES AND EXPENDITURES
BUDGETARY BASIS - GENERAL FUND
FOR FISCAL YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 2010**

	Original Budget	Final	Actual (Budgetary Basis)	Variance Favorable (Unfavorable)
Revenues:				
Property Taxes	\$ 9,363,239	\$ 9,363,239	\$ 9,402,181	\$ 38,942
Excise Taxes	\$ 600,500	\$ 600,500	\$ 699,583	\$ 99,083
Payments in Lieu of Tax	\$ 1,300	\$ 1,300	\$ -	\$ (1,300)
Departmental Charges for Services	\$ 314,000	\$ 314,000	\$ 375,795	\$ 61,795
Licenses and Permits	\$ 80,000	\$ 80,000	\$ 85,827	\$ 5,827
Intergovernmental	\$ 1,252,151	\$ 1,252,151	\$ 1,240,815	\$ (11,336)
Fines	\$ 55,000	\$ 55,000	\$ 58,232	\$ 3,232
Investment Income	\$ 20,000	\$ 20,000	\$ 9,594	\$ (10,406)
Other	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 57,281	\$ 57,281
Transfers from other funds	\$ 55,996	\$ 55,996	\$ 98,071	\$ 42,075
Total Revenue	\$11,742,186	\$11,742,186	\$12,027,379	\$ 285,193
Expenditures:				
General Government	\$ 597,203	\$ 584,059	\$ 549,104	\$ 34,955
Public Safety	\$ 1,337,748	\$ 1,386,308	\$ 1,368,765	\$ 17,543
Education	\$ 6,743,670	\$ 6,744,853	\$ 6,744,853	\$ -
Public Works	\$ 716,834	\$ 752,082	\$ 747,823	\$ 4,259
Human Services	\$ 250,814	\$ 251,873	\$ 242,851	\$ 9,022
Culture and Recreation	\$ 282,898	\$ 277,333	\$ 273,726	\$ 3,607
Debt Service	\$ 1,071,138	\$ 1,071,138	\$ 1,071,138	\$ -
Intergovernmental	\$ 120,997	\$ 120,997	\$ 122,437	\$ (1,440)
Employee Benefits	\$ 495,884	\$ 495,884	\$ 440,466	\$ 55,418
Insurance	\$ 125,000	\$ 125,000	\$ 119,130	\$ 5,870
Transfers to other funds	\$ -	\$ 2,000	\$ 2,000	\$ -
Total Expenditures	\$11,742,186	\$11,811,527	\$11,682,293	\$ 129,234
Excess of Rev over Exp	\$ -	\$ (69,341)	\$ 345,086	\$ 414,427
Fund Balance Allocation	\$ -	\$ 69,341		
Excess(Deficiency) of Revenue over Expenditures	\$ -	\$ -		

TOWN OF MERRIMAC
COMBINING STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES
NON-MAJOR GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS -- FOR FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2010

	Special Revenue			Capital Projects	Permanent	Total
	Stabilization	Other	Grants			
Revenues:						
Department Charges for Services	\$ -	\$ 168,800	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 14,600	\$ 183,400
Intergovernmental	\$ -		\$ 77,304	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 77,304
Investment Income	\$ 5,422	\$ 83	\$ 27	\$ -	\$ 33,929	\$ 39,461
Other	\$ -	\$ 169,264	\$ 19,714	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 188,978
Total Revenues	\$ 5,422	\$ 338,147	\$ 97,045	\$ -	\$ 48,529	\$ 489,143
Expenditures:						
Current						
General Government	\$ -	\$ 109,359	\$ 16,003	\$ -	\$ 311	\$ 125,673
Public Safety	\$ -	\$ 106,412	\$ 18,156	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 124,568
Public Works	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 13,178	\$ -	\$ 11,059	\$ 24,237
Human Services	\$ -	\$ 51,139	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 51,139
Recreation and Culture	\$ -	\$ 17,300	\$ 21,241	\$ -	\$ 250	\$ 38,791
Capital Outlay	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 42,164	\$ 13,649	\$ -	\$ 55,813
Total Expenditures	\$ -	\$ 284,210	\$ 110,742	\$ 13,649	\$ 11,620	\$ 420,221
Excess (Deficiency) of Revenues over Expenditures	\$ 5,422	\$ 53,937	\$ (13,697)	\$ (13,649)	\$ 36,909	\$ 68,922

Other Financing Sources (Uses)

	Special Revenue			Capital Projects	Permanent	Total
	Stabilization	Other	Grants			
Proceeds from Bond Issues					\$	-
Operating Transfers In	\$ -	\$ -	2,000	\$ -	0	\$ 2,000
Operating Transfers Out	\$ -	\$ (71,471)	-	\$ -	0	\$ (71,471)
Total Other Financing Sources (Uses)	\$ -	\$ (71,471)	2,000	\$ -	-	\$ (69,471)
Net Changes in Fund Balances	\$ 5,422	\$ (17,534)	\$ (11,697)	\$ (13,649)	\$ 36,909	\$ (549)
Fund Balances, Beginning of Year	\$ 633,413	\$ 670,996	\$ 129,548	\$ 149,848	\$ 378,436	\$ 1,962,241
Fund Balances, End of Year	\$ 638,835	\$ 653,462	\$ 117,851	\$ 136,199	\$ 415,345	\$ 1,961,692

**TOWN OF MERRIMAC
COMBINING BALANCE SHEET
JUNE 30, 2010**

	<u>Special Revenue</u>					Total
	Stabilization	Other	Grants	Capital Projects	Permanent	
Assets:						
Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$ 638,835	\$ 662,570	\$ 117,851	\$ 137,671	\$ 126,609	\$ 1,683,536
Investments	\$ -		\$ -	\$ -	\$ 299,795	\$ 299,795
Receivables:						\$ -
Departmental	\$ -	\$ 61,188	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 61,188
Due From other Governments						
Total Assets	\$ 638,835	\$ 723,758	\$ 117,851	\$ 137,671	\$ 426,404	\$ 2,044,519
Liabilities and Fund Balances						
Liabilities:						
Warrants and Accounts Payable	\$ -	\$ 9,108	\$ -	\$ 1,472	\$ 11,059	\$ 21,639
Deferred Revenue	\$ -	\$ 61,188	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 61,188
Total Liabilities	\$ -	\$ 70,296	\$ -	\$ 1,472	\$ 11,059	\$ 82,827
Fund Balances:						
Reserved for:						
Other Specific Purposes	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 415,345	\$ 415,345
Unreserved	\$ 638,835	\$ 653,462	\$ 117,851	\$ 136,199	\$ -	\$ 1,546,347
Total Fund Balances	\$ 638,835	\$ 653,462	\$ 117,851	\$ 136,199	\$ 415,345	\$ 1,961,692
Total Liabilities and Fund Balances	\$ 638,835	\$ 723,758	\$ 117,851	\$ 137,671	\$ 426,404	\$ 2,044,519

**ANNUAL REPORT OF
THE BOARD OF ASSESSORS**

The Board of Assessors respectfully submits the following report for the calendar year 2010.

The Board would like to thank the citizens of Merrimac for their continued cooperation during our cyclical and permit inspections.

Property cards and maps my now be viewed and printed by going to the Town website at www.merrimac01860.info go to Assessors' board and following the link for the cards on Webpro.

Board of Assessors

Edward R. Davis Term expires 2012
Joyce E. Clohecy Term expires 2011
Louise Lingerman Term expires 2013

Tax Rate Recapitulation Fiscal 2011

1. Tax rate summary	
A. Total Amount to be Raised	\$14,674,358.66
B. Total Estimated Receipts/Revenue	4,995,946.91
C. Net Amount To be Raised by Taxation/Levy	9,968,411.75
D. Classified Tax Levies	
1. Residential	94.8932%
2. Open Space	0
3. Commercial	2.8023
4. Industrial	1.1393
5. Personal Prop.	1.1652
2. Amounts to be Raised	
E. Appropriation	\$14,404,971.91
F. Total Cherry Sheet offsets	6,984.00
G. Other	3,110.00
H. State & County Cherry Sheet Charges	10,094.00
I. Allowance for Abatements & Exemptions	100,610.75
Total Amount to be Raised	\$14,674,358.66
3. Estimated Receipts and Other Revenue	
J. State	\$ 1,190,520.00
K. Local	3,433,694.00
L. Revenue Sources Appropriated	371,632.91
Total Estimated Receipts	4,995,946.91

ANNUAL REPORT - OFFICE OF THE TOWN CLERK

To the Honorable Board of Selectmen

As the Town Clerk of the Town of Merrimac, I hereby submit my annual report for the year ending December 31, 2010.

BIRTHS

Number of Births Recorded	33
Males	20
Females	13
Father Native Born	30
Mother Native Born	30
Both Parents Native Born	28
Both Parents Foreign Born	1
Mixed Parentage	2

MARRIAGES

Number of Marriages Recorded	19
First Marriage, Male	13
First Marriage, female	11
Male Native Born	19
Female Native Born	15
Average Age, Male	40 yrs
Average Age, Female	36 yrs

DEATHS

Number of Deaths Recorded	37
Males	19
Females	18
Under 5 years	--
Males, Native Born	36
Females, Native Born	16
Parents, Native Born	25
Parents, Foreign Born	9
Mixed Parentage	3
Average Age	77 yrs
Oldest Person	103

LICENSES

Total Dog Licenses	647
Male	27
Female	21
Spade	289
Neutered	310
Kennel Licenses	--
Sporting Licenses	125
Minor's Sporting Licenses	2

Respectfully Submitted,

**Patricia E. True
Town Clerk**

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE ANIMAL CARE AND CONTROL OFFICER

To the Honorable Board of Selectmen: Activities from January 2010 to December 2010.

The number of dogs licensed for the license year 2010, was 647. Under MA General Law CH 140 Sec 137 all dogs over six months are required to have rabies shot and licensing.

Ten dogs were picked up or dropped at Police Department, three dogs returned to owners, seven dogs kenneled at Bed and Biscuit. Five dogs were picked up at Bed and Biscuit, dogs released upon paying fines. One dog was surrendered. Two dogs were never claimed they were fostered and placed in good homes. Several complaints concerning dogs running at large did not find.

Six lost cats, only three found. Keeping cats indoors is the best avenue in keeping your pet alive and well.

Quarantine for animal bites, three dog bites, three quarantined for ten days. Two of the dogs had all shots to date, one did not the animal was tested and came back negative after the quarantine. One dog had been euthanized while on quarantine, animal had been brought to Nevins MSPCA. Rabies shots are required by MA General Law Ch140 Sec 145 for the protection of pets and people.

Barking complaints, nuisance, dogs running at large, several warnings and fines given.

Always having your animal on a leash is the safest situation for everyone.

Wild life, many calls on raccoons, skunks, squirrels, and other small wildlife that were found to be a nuisance suggested to leave them be, remove any food in your yard and keep garbage cans sheltered. Several calls investigated concerning coyote sightings. Had officers assist me in shooting a raccoon and a fox both which had been wounded.

Livestock complaint had a turkey that had its beak ripped off and had to be shot. Had an ongoing issue with domestic geese on Birchmeadow, seems to have been resolved after several months of no one claiming them. Had an investigative complaint of neglect of turkeys and dogs, situation was resolved, animals were given away.

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa Young-Carey, ACCO

MERRIMAC TV ANNUAL REPORT

In March of 2010, Merrimac Public Access Television was launched on Channel-18. After creating the station, installing video playback equipment, editing computers, and cameras, Merrimac's Public Access channel has been airing original programming, town government meetings, bulletins and announcements for non-profits and schools, and town groups for nearly a year.

Residents wishing to learn how to create original programs of their own for the channel should e-mail cableaccess@townofmerrimac.com for more information on how to get started.

Respectfully submitted,

Chris Liquori
Merrimac Television
Channel 18

2010 ANNUAL REPORT OF THE CAPITAL PLANNING COMMITTEE

As in other years, departments were asked to submit forms documenting their capital requests for FY'11 and the next five years. For consideration as a capital item the request must have a life duration of at least five years and an initial cost of \$10,000 or more. In February and March the committee met with the departments and reviewed supporting documents to determine its recommendations. The criteria applied for developing recommendations in order of priority are: a) necessary to respond to state or federal mandate; b) public health and/or safety consideration; and c) operational necessity.

At the Special Town Meeting on April 26, 2010, the CPC recommended a transfer of \$129,000 from the Wastewater Retained Earnings for manhole repairs and purchase of two generators and a new boiler. From Water Retained Earnings, \$55,000 was recommended for engineering and repairs for the Bear Hill pumping station and to purchase an air compressor. Also, \$35,000 was recommended be taken from Free Cash to purchase a police cruiser. All recommendations were voted affirmatively.

No additional expenditures were recommended due to severe budget constraints. There was no transfer from Free Cash to the Stabilization Fund as the certified Free Cash amount was very small with the remainder needed to cover the cost of Snow and Washout.

Respectfully submitted,

Sandra Venner, Chairperson
Janet Bruno, Vice Chairperson
Patricia Dillon, Representing the Finance Committee
Ed Madden
Carol Traynor, Representing the Board of Selectmen

MERRIMAC CONSERVATION COMMISSION 2010 ANNUAL REPORT

The primary function of the Conservation Commission is to protect and preserve wetland resource areas as defined in the Massachusetts Wetland Protection Act and the Merrimac Wetland Protection Bylaw. Since Colonial times, Massachusetts has lost nearly one third of its wetlands to development. The loss of wetlands means the loss of the vital benefits they provide. These benefits include the protection of water quality for Merrimac's surface and ground waters, stormwater and flood damage protection, and the protection of wildlife and plant habitat.

The Commission works to protect the Town's natural resources in accordance with the Act and the Town Bylaw. The Conservation Commission is composed of seven members who serve as unpaid volunteers, who are assisted by a part-time Wetland Agent. The Commission generally meets once a month on the second Wednesday of the month to conduct regular business and public hearings on proposed projects under the Commissions' jurisdiction. When necessary, the Commission schedules special meetings and site visits to review projects. During the course of this year ten regular meetings were held, seven site visits were conducted, and the Commission held one special meeting. There were twenty-eight projects filed with the Commission, primarily involving construction of subdivision roads and utilities, new single-family homes, and additions to existing buildings throughout Merrimac. In addition to reviewing proposed projects submitted by property owners, the Commission addresses work that affects wetlands conducted without the required permits. In 2010, thirteen enforcement orders were issued to property owners regarding work undertaken in violation of the Act.

This year the Commission continued to implement the additional protection measures provided in the Merrimac Wetland Protection Bylaw and the Merrimac Wetland Protection Regulations when considering proposed projects in Town. The Bylaw was adopted at Town Meeting in the fall of 2003, and it became effective in late 2003. The regulations include a number of provisions to strengthen protection of Merrimac's wetlands beyond what is addressed in Massachusetts Wetland Protection Act including:

1. Provide added protection to wetlands with no or limited protection by state law such as isolated wetlands and vernal pools--wetlands that hold water in the spring long enough to provide critical breeding habitat for frogs, salamanders and other aquatic life and most dry up by mid-summer. Vernal pools are rare in the landscape. Many vernal pools are small, isolated wetlands that have little or no protection under the Massachusetts Wetland Protection Act.
2. Establish a no-disturb zone surrounding wetlands to protect wetlands from new development and encroachment from existing development.
3. Allow the Commission to issue fines to irresponsible property owners who ignore orders issued by the Commission and damage wetland resources.
4. Allow the town to charge reasonable application fees to defray the cost of administering the Bylaw.

If you are contemplating any work within 100 feet of a wetland or within 200 feet of any river or stream that flows year-round (such as the Merrimack River and Cobblers Brook), you need to consult with the Commission prior to undertaking any work.

Wetlands are an important resource to Merrimac. They protect, filter, and provide the high quality of water in our wells. They protect and support fish and wildlife in Lake Attitash, the Merrimack River, and other water bodies in town. They provide habitat and food sources for the birds, reptiles, amphibians and other animals that make Merrimac a unique place to live. They provide large tracts of open and undeveloped land that make up the quality of life we all enjoy in Merrimac. The Commission is eager to assist landowners in their decisions about whether and how to proceed with a project near wetlands. We encourage all residents to contact us regarding any questions or concerns related to the Towns wetland resources. The Commission is always looking for interested citizens that may want to become involved in working to protect the valuable wetland resources we all share in Merrimac. The Commission is currently looking for a seventh member, so if you have an interest or expertise in protecting wetlands please contact any of the Commission members, or just attend one of the meetings, to get involved.

Respectfully Submitted,

Merrimac Conservation Commission
Robert Prokop, Chairman
Ellis Katz
Jon Pearson
Tim Simmons
Janet Terry
Arthur Yarranton

BOARD OF HEALTH, 2010 ANNUAL REPORT

The Board of Health meetings are scheduled at 6:30 PM on the first and third Thursdays of each month. We may be contacted at 978-346-4066 or at BOH@townofmerrimac.com. The office is staffed on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM.

During 2010, the Board of Health has continued to participate in Homeland Security, the Emergency Preparedness Plan, Pandemic Flu Plan and Regional Coalition. Deborah Ketchen, Health Agent, and Charlotte E. Stepanian, Public Health Nurse, are our primary representatives and contacts in this program.

Health Emergency Preparedness

Deborah Ketchen has been our Health Inspector since March 2006. She inspects food establishments, schools, rental units and disposal system installations, reviews septic designs, witnesses percolation and deep hole tests, responds to health-related complaints from occupants or owners, and performs many other Title V and health-related duties.

Deborah is an active participant in Homeland Security, Emergency Preparedness and Pandemic Flu Plan and attends numerous seminars related to septic and well criteria, and updates on food regulations, etc. She regularly attends meetings of the NE Region 3A Coalition where plans are formulated for training and networking. She assists in the immunization clinics and the disbursement of KI pills. Conditions in restaurants and rental units have improved, and complaints have lessened because owners and landlords have maintained compliance with the health regulations. Our health agent acts as our representative during cases that are litigated at the Housing Court. She is responsible for the ultimate enforcement of the Code of Massachusetts Regulations as they pertain to the minimum standards of health and safety.

Battis Road: The health agent coordinates private well samples with homeowners, the lab and the environmentalist. These samples are collected from the private wells in close proximity to the former landfill. Sampling will continue at quarterly intervals over a period of years or until the standards of the Department of Environmental Protection are met.

Donaghue School: Since being alerted to a mold condition at the Helen R. Donaghue School in early November 2010, the Board of Health and Health Agent expended insurmountable hours of time in discussions and meetings. The health agent would be on site daily, monitoring the progress of the mold remediation and carpet removal. During the week of December 2010 this project was followed by emergency asbestos abatement. Again, insurmountable hours were expended in monitoring, closing the school to students because of odors/irritants, reopening, then closing again because of the continued decline in air quality. We maintained continued contact with the DPH and the DEP, seeking guidance in our endeavor to provide a healthy and safe environment. On February 10, 2011, the Board of Health declared the school air quality to be free of odor, and school reopened on St. Valentine's Day 2011.

Eileen Hurley, Chairperson of the Board and Office Administrator, is MAHB Certified, and assists contractors and the general public by responding to their questions and requirements. She also oversees the Title V Program and maintains central records and minutes of meetings. Eileen also updates information regarding well installations and tests throughout the town.

Carol Traynor has been a Board member since May 2008. She has a background and training in many aspects of the health-related field, including emergency preparedness programs. Carol is also a member of the Board of Selectmen where she has become well acquainted with the various town departments and their responsibilities and interaction with each other.

Dr. Mark Sofia was elected to a three-year term on the Board of Health in May 2010. Mark is the owner of an established chiropractor business and brings helpful health information to the table. He is very enthusiastic when relating how we can best serve the town in various new ways. One is in offering that the Board of Health act as a liaison to accept payment and water samples from Merrimac residents and forwarding this to the lab to test their private well water to determine if there is any arsenic content and to assist them in a decision as to whether to install a filtration system. Merrimac is located where there are some areas of naturally occurring arsenic, and the arsenic level in the private drinking water may be elevated in the areas where artesian wells are drilled through bedrock.

**Board of Health
Annual Licenses or Permits**

Annual application forms and regulations may be obtained at the Board of Health office or on our web site at merrimac01860.info. Applications and notification of expiration are no longer mailed. License fees are payable by January 2 each year. License and Permit income in 2010 totals \$9,465 as follows:

BUSINESS LICENSES			WORK PERMITS		
Qty.	Category	Fee	Qty.	Category	Fee
14	Restaurant	\$ 820	9	Disposal System Permit	\$ 2,975
1	Non-PHF Food	50	4	System Abandonment	200
5	Common Victualler	265	4	Deep Hole Test & Perc	1,400
1	Mobile Food Service	50	4	Well & Pump Permit	600
1	Catering Service	50			
6	Milk Products	75			
4	Temp. Food Service	110			
16	Installers	2,125			
7	Haulers	365			
1	Tanning	50			
4	Tobacco Sales	230			
2	Mfrd. Homes Park	100			
Total:		\$ 4,290	Total:		\$ 5,175

Respectfully submitted,

Merrimac Board of Health
 Dr. Mark Sofia Term expires 2013
 Carol Traynor Term expires 2012
 Eileen Hurley Term expires 2011

MOSQUITO CONTROL PROGRAM INFORMATION

SURVEILLANCE and **LARVICIDING** are of the utmost importance, and they comprise the greatest portion of the program cost. This is the regular testing of mosquitoes and birds for the virus, and the application of larvicides to mosquito breeding areas to kill or inhibit the growth of mosquito larvae (the early stage of the mosquito) from developing into the adult form. Continued annual surveillance is an early intervention or preemptive action to prevent a potential mosquito breeding site from becoming an actual mosquito breeding site.

ADULTICIDING is a term used by mosquito control to describe spraying for adult or flying mosquitoes. There are two kinds of adulticiding: Aerial, done by aircraft only in the event of a public health emergency; and Ground, sprayed from trucks selectively in accordance with the individual municipality's Best Management Practice Plan (BMP).

Ground Adulticiding is used in today's programs to control the mosquito populations in their aquatic or larval stages. This is accomplished by means of a truck-mounted Ultra Low Volume (ULV) aerosol sprayer. ULV sprays up to six ounces of insecticide per acre, creating a 300- to 400-foot swath. Depending on wind direction this swath will drift off the road; and tiny droplets will impinge on mosquitoes, effectively controlling the mosquitoes in the area.

Insecticide: The District uses Anvil (EPA Reg. No. 1021-1688-8329) for ULV applications. The active ingredient, Sumithrin, has a very low toxicity to mammals. This product is registered for use by the US EPA and the Mass. Pesticide Bureau. All District personnel are certified applicators and annually attend seminars to obtain recertification credits.

Most people are not expected to experience any adverse health effects after pesticide spraying for adult mosquito control. This includes pregnant women and unborn children. If a person has any concerns, the Board of Health may be contacted to request that spraying be excluded from the specific property.

Ground sprays do not pose an unreasonable risk to birds or mammals. Since spraying is done in the late evening, the bees and other flying insects are not foraging at that hour and will not be affected.

West Nile Virus: The primary mosquito carrier of WNV, *Culex Pipiens*, usually breeds in artificial containers such as catch basins, storm water structures, industrial parks and commercial or agricultural livestock facilities. Regularly empty any water-holding containers on your property such as garbage cans, flower pots, swimming pool covers, watering troughs and birdbaths, and dispose of old tires.

Merrimac will continue to work closely with the MDPH Arbovirus Surveillance Program and the NE Massachusetts Mosquito Control Agency on mosquito control and surveillance efforts. Decisions regarding spraying will be made by the Board of Health in cooperation with the Mosquito Control Agency. As long as this program is continued annually, we remain protected from severe outbreaks.

2010 PUBLIC HEALTH NURSE REPORT

After the furor of the 2009-2010 influenza season; what would evolve for the 2010-2011 season would prove to be another of the annual mysteries. Part of the mystery was the inclusion of all children from the age of six (6) months and older were recommended to receive seasonal influenza vaccine. One would expect a rush of parents to protect their children. Hopefully the pediatric practitioners answered the call as only a handful of children appeared with their parents at the public flu clinics held in the community.

This flu season was dramatically different than any in previous years. There is often a delay in receiving an adequate supply of our annual state allotment. However, this year every pharmacy and super market was scheduling or holding in-house flu clinics in August, weeks before vaccine supplies ever reached local health departments. Influenza vaccine has now become a commodity for the opportunist in the open market.

This coming flu season will be another adventure with the deep budget cuts at the state level. Local health has been told that the allotments for the next flu season will be cut in half. Do we purchase additional vaccine privately to make up for the shortfall? With the poor attendance at public clinics across the country this flu season, one must wonder if there must be a pandemic crisis for a better response. The national death rate for complications of influenza continues at approximately 36,000 people each year. A flu shot is the best prevention! Vaccine remains available at health departments.

This decline in attendance at flu clinics is counter-intuitive to the regional emergency preparedness activity in the Northeast Public Health Coalition- Region 3A comprised of 14 communities here in the northeast corner of the state. Merrimac is an active member in this group that would be responsible for establishing emergency dispensing sites for the administration of biologics to all community residents in the event of an infectious disease outbreak. The H1N1 responses last year were essentially preparatory drills for such an event.

I am sad to report that Lyme disease continues to be the most commonly reported infectious disease in Merrimac. All areas of the community have been impacted. This is a disease that the individual can prevent by practicing personal protection from exposure when involved in outdoor activities during the spring and summer months when the risk of exposure is highest. Visit the Department of Public Health website at <http://www.mass.gov/dph> for further information.

The Board of Health sharps disposal program continues for residents to bring used household medical sharps waste to the Senior Center during regular business hours for safe disposal. All material, used lancets and syringes must be in a heavy gauged sealed plastic container or a traditional Sharps container.

Weekly blood pressure and health maintenance clinics continue at the Senior Center and Merri Village. I precepted an RN to BS UMass Lowell student during the 2010 spring semester for her Leadership course field experience. Her project was a Health Fair that was held during Public Health Week – the first week in April. It was the first such event held at the Senior Center and may be the forerunner of others to come in the future.

I am continuing with my online doctoral coursework at the University of Massachusetts Amherst in the Public Health Nursing Leadership track for the Doctorate in Nursing Practice (DNP). A few more semesters and it will finally be done. I also earned recertification this fall with the American Nurse Credentialing Center (ANCC) for another 5 years in Public/Community Health Nursing. This is represented by the RN-BC after my name.

I can be reached at my office at the Senior Center during business hours. The phone number is 978-346-9549.

Respectfully submitted,

Charlotte E. Stepanian, MSN, RN-BC
Merrimac Public Health Nurse

MERRIMAC COUNCIL ON AGING FY10 ANNUAL REPORT

For the second year, the COA has been defined by the state of the economy and the effects it has had on the municipal budget. All town departments were asked again to streamline and conserve spending to make up deficits that Merrimac was facing with cuts from the state. Last year we reduced the purchase of supplies, or used the Council on Aging Gift Account. However, there is no surplus of money in the Gift Account. The COA relies on the generous donations from the Friends of the COA. Due to the lack of funding, many things that need to be done on an annual basis, such as replacing old or broken chairs, building repairs, and annual cleaning of rugs and windows, were not accomplished and will need to be addressed. This is the second year we have not been able to fund cleaning which diminishes the overall life of the rugs.

TRIAD, a partnership with Essex County Sheriff's Department and local officials including the COA and seniors, completed another very successful year. The TRIAD committee continued to provide "File of Life®" which is a magnet folder that contains medical and emergency contact information that is placed on the refrigerator and is intended to alert emergency responders were distributed and updated. "Grab & Go" bags, which are designed to be used in the event of an emergency and are filled with things you might need if you are forced to leave in an emergency, were given out. A "Yellow Dot" program was planned for the fall in FY09 to alert emergency responders that medical information can be found in the glove compartment of the car. The yellow dot is placed on the rear window of the vehicle.

The Senior Food Pantry team continues to serve a significant number of people with food packages the 2nd and 4th Fridays of the month. On average, 32-35 bags are delivered on Wednesdays to the frail and homebound and 18-20 bags are picked up during the open pantry on Fridays, providing food for 61 unduplicated people throughout the year. The food pantry is maintained through the generosity and support from the Boys Scout & Girl Scout troops, the Merrimac Post Office, Merrimac Congregational Church, Merrimacport United Methodist Church, Holy Redeemer Church, the Lions Club, the Couplings, the Merrimac Garden Club, Merrimac Police, Merrimac Savings Bank, Dr. and Mrs. St. Germaine, and many citizens and families from the community at large. West Newbury Food Mart has been very supportive by providing food at discount/cost as well deliver the food to the pantry. Although the Food Pantry serves Merrimac residents 55 and older, the pantry has also provided emergency food packages for younger families in need by request of Community Action who we also work with.

Anyone wishing to participate in the Merrimac Senior Food Pantry may contact Peggy Casazza or Laura Dillingham-Mailman by calling the Senior Center. Donations of non-perishable food items for the Pantry or "Our Neighbors' Table (ONT)," can be dropped off at the Senior Center during operational hours, or by special arrangement. Our Neighbor's Table provides a meal every Wednesday evening in Amesbury at the Congregational Church and is open to the public. ONT provides food packages to Merrimac residents the last Saturday at the Congregational Church in Amesbury. ONT Mobile Food Pantry also provides food packages for Merrimac residents on the 1st and 3rd Saturday of the month at Pilgrim Congregational

Church. Free Sunday Soups Supper is held at Pilgrim Congregational Church on the last Sunday of the month, from 4-5:30.

Our general programs were very busy this year, with an 8% increase in participation serving 954 unduplicated people, in 20,317 duplicated event registrations. The Nutrition Program provided 6805 meals to 253 unduplicated people, serving on average 35-50 seniors per meal with up to 85-100 for holiday and special events. The Friends of the Merrimac COA and donations to the COA Gift account supplement the cost of meals helping to keep the requested meal fee affordable for seniors. The Outreach Nurse, Peggy Casazza managed 121 cases, assisted the Public Health Nurse, Charlotte E. Stepanian with Blood Pressure Clinics, co-supervised the Senior Food Pantry with Board Member, Nancy Bachelder and their team of assistants. Transportation requests continues to rise steadily, this year the COA provided 1,381 rides were provided to 59 unduplicated seniors, bringing them to medical appointments, grocery shopping and to the senior center. *Please note: these numbers may actually be higher, as the statistics are only as good as the people are at scanning their cards when they come!*

In April Emma Bindi, a RN, BS student of Public Health Nurse Charlotte Eileen Stepanian MSN, organized a Health Fair that was very well received. A special 8-week course aimed at preventing falls, "A Matter of Balance" was offered by Angels at Home Healthcare. A Reverse Mortgage seminar was given by Merrimac Savings Bank to provide information on this service that is now available to seniors.

The Council on Aging would like to thank the volunteers who play a vital role in the Senior Center operations. With only 2 full time staffers, volunteers fill in the gaps. Many volunteers come with experience that allows us to benefit from their expertise. They can be found in many roles: driving seniors to appointments, receptionist, dispatcher, kitchen assistants, food pantry organizers, trip leaders, group leaders, tax assistance, craft fair organizers and craft shop, and handy men & women. Over 80 people provided nearly 4,000 hours of volunteer service to the Senior Center. This does not take into account the countless volunteer hours from members of the Friends of the Council on Aging who have held many fundraisers, including an annual Senior Golf Scramble to raise funds that help support programs and activities at the Senior Center. The Senior Center Crafters Showcase and annual Holiday Fair have provided local talented seniors with a way to sell their wares, and support the Senior Center by giving 10%.

The Director is a strong advocate on the behalf of seniors in our community. She is on the Board of Elder Services of Merrimac Valley, a member of the Executive Committee and Secretary, and also serves on several other committees. She is a former President of Massachusetts Councils on Aging, currently serving as Secretary and is a member of the Executive Committee and Formula Grant Committee Chair.

Food for Thought:

In a recent article, *Baby Boomers and the New Demographics of America's Senior's* (Journal of the American Society on Aging: The Future of Aging Vol. 34-No.3), the question is asked: "We know baby boomers are quickly approaching age 65, but how will their tendency to age in place affect the makeup of our cities and suburbs, and the approaching generational ethnic divide?" How this will affect the financial picture of our town and the state of Massachusetts is one of great discussion. If the "Boomers" age in place or move to warmer climates will directly impact

everything from voting districts to funding. "...slow growing metropolitan areas, mostly in the Northeast and Midwest, will also have greater aging populations, but with slow growth or even declines in their younger populations. These areas will be home to disproportionately older seniors who are less financially affluent and in poor health. The populations may require greater social support, along with affordable private and institutional housing and accessible healthcare providers."

Respectfully Submitted,

Laura Dillingham-Mailman
Executive Director

FY10 Council on Aging Board of Directors:

Colleen Ranshaw-Fiorello, Chairwoman	(June '10)
Charles Hackett	June '12)
Carol Ranshaw, Secretary	(June '10)
Irene Kimbrell	(June '11)
Nancy Bachelder	(June '12)
Dorothy Lumsden	(June '11)
Mary Cheney,	(Resigned March 2010)
James Murphy	(June '11)
David Dutton	(June '12)
Victor Perreault	(June '10)
Dave Vance	(Appointed April, 2010)

Statistics

Transportation
85 Volunteers providing Hours 5,115

**MERRIMAC HOUSING AUTHORITY
52 MERRI VILLAGES
MERRIMAC, MASSACHUSETTS 01860**

Annual Report of the Merrimac Housing Authority
To the Merrimac Board of Selectmen for Fiscal Year Ending September 30, 2010

To : The Honorable Members of the Merrimac Board of Selectmen:

The Merrimac Housing Authority owns and manages 52 units of housing in the Town of Merrimac. Occupied in 1973, the Merri-Village project located on Middle Street contains forty-eight units, of one bedroom housing funded under the Chapter 667 program. This program serves individuals and couples who are elderly or disabled. In addition to the 48 one-bedroom units, (he MHA owns and manages two duplex units. These are multi-bedroom units, intended for families. Merrimac residents receive a priority for occupancy into these programs. The Merrimac Housing Authority collected \$188,862 in rental and other income during the Fiscal Year ending September 30, 2009 for the 52 units under management. Annual expenses amounted to \$206,939.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts provided \$26,416 in operating subsidy during this 12 month operating period through the Department of Housing and Community Development. Average monthly rent for the Merrimac Authority Housing units is \$296. The average monthly cost of operation is \$321 per unit month.

The Merrimac Housing Authority had three Vacancies during the 2010 calendar year. Those vacant units are filled by utilizing a waiting list that has been developed and managed using protocols established by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD) The average waiting list time can vary from three months to three years for a one-bedroom unit Merrimac Residents and veterans who reside in Merrimac receive the highest priority under the existing selection system.

Changes to family program

The family unit's waiting list can range from 3 to 8 years. The MHA Board has decided to close the four family units, convert them and allow them to be managed for veterans' and their families in partnership with the North East Veteran's Center in Haverhill. Merrimac Housing Authority Board of Commissioners as of Dec, 31. 2010.

Name	Position	Term Expires
Shirley Jones	Treasurer	2011
Stephen True	Vice Treasurer	2013
Altha E. Ottman	Member at Large	2012
Anthony Pretti	Member at Large	2014
State Appointee	position	vacant

Management Summary:

The Merrimac Housing: Authority operates two separate housing programs, which account for 52 units of affordable housing for Merrimac residents. In addition, the Authority staff administers 9 other separate housing programs, for the Amesbury Housing Authority for a combined total of 315 units of public housing and 108 units of federal subsidy. The staff also monitors all modernization work and is charged with applying for additional capital improvement funds when they become available.

The Merrimac Housing Authority has pledged to work closely with the Merrimac Board of Selectmen and The Town Planning Board in their attempts to bring more local control to affordable housing development in Merrimac and to be in compliance with the housing development goals contained in MGL Ch. 40B and Executive Order 418.

Under its existing by-laws, the Merrimac Housing Authority holds regular monthly meetings on the third Wednesday of every month at 52 Merri Village at 4:00pm. Merrimac Housing Authority's annual meeting schedule is posted annually at Merrimac Town Hall at Town Clerk's Office. Special meetings are announced and posted at least 48 Hours in advance. The Annual Meeting is held on the 3rd Wednesday in June. Housing Authorities in Massachusetts are incorporated under Massachusetts General Laws 121B.

Residents at the 48-unit State-Aided Merri-Village project on Middle Street pay 30% of their adjusted monthly income for rent; all utilities are included and the units are heated electrically and water is heated electrically. Residents only pay for telephone and any cable TV service.

Budget Woes Affect All Affordable Housing in the Commonwealth

In the past 30 months, and consistent with the economic downturn we have seen for the nation, we have also seen a steady reduction in financial support from the Commonwealth. This reduction is in the midst of increases in energy costs, water and sewer rate increases and the cost of materials. The MHA has been making changes and implementing austerity programs where it is able to do so in order to reduce our operating costs.

Sadly, due to the withering state supports and lack of modernization funding, we still have seen a significant reduction in our project reserves to the point that they are almost exhausted. Such a loss will greatly curtail our ability to make replacements or pay for significant repairs. Instead, delays in repairs will become longer and in some cases vacant units requiring significant outlays of funds will not be re-rented, but will be "mothballed".

Once begun such an unfortunate occurrence will herald the onset of what could become the ultimate dismantling of our inventory of affordable housing in Massachusetts. We have reached a turning point in Massachusetts. Since WWII, the Commonwealth developed 50,000 units of affordable housing without the assistance of the federal government. Of that total 75% were one bedroom units, like Merri-Village (approximately 450 sq. ft.) designed for single individuals or couples.

Massachusetts is unique. No other state in the union has made the commitment to create such an asset.

Unfortunately the zeal that allowed Massachusetts to become a leader in providing a myriad of affordable housing options to its citizens has waned over the past decade. That leadership is no longer evident. With many years of neglect and under-funding, this remarkable asset is rapidly becoming a liability.

It has been a challenge to manage these units, especially in these troubled financial times. The legal requirements, expectations and reporting requirements get more and more demanding with every passing year, as reserves and funding levels wane.

There is no reason for optimism. The Commonwealth cannot find the funding available through taxation or bond financing to provide adequate funds for modernization. On average it costs \$321 per month to operate these units and we see \$296 in monthly income per unit. If the State does not have the resources or resolve to make up difference, we can expect no good outcome.

Energy Expenses, Water and Sewer

Our monthly average electric bill is almost \$5,200 for Merri-Village for the past year ending October 2010 totaled almost \$62,000. That means that each unit is using an average of \$108 worth of electricity every month.

Now this amount also includes site lighting and the electricity used in the Community Building for lighting and laundry machines. In 2008, the cost of electricity increased by 4% over 2007. In 2009, the cost of electricity increased by 14% over 2008. We saw the price of a kilowatt Hour increase every month in 2009. We rely heavily on electricity at Merri-Village as in addition to lighting, it is the primary heating source for unit heat and hot water.

Meanwhile, our annual consumption for Water & sewer is about 760,800 gallons per year. We have seen water and sewer costs grow to the present \$26,541 per year. That is about \$40 per unit per month. Once again the water used in the Community Building is considered as part of these totals. In 2004 we installed all new water saver toilets. These new toilets use 1.5 gallons per flush versus the 3.0 gallons that the older toilets used.

Increasing Water & Sewer Expenses will Require a Change in 2010

We must limit the use of exterior water for gardens next year. The additional cost has become prohibitive. In the Spring of 2010 we will be turning off the hose bibs and installing rain barrels for resident gardeners to use.

We installed one rain barrel per building. They are connected to a downspout with a diverter. These barrels are sealed and do not offer a breeding opportunity for mosquitoes. Of course if there is a drought, the rain barrels will not be full to provide adequate water for plants. We encourage tenants to select plants for next year, that will best tolerate a lack of water.

Part of the Community

Merri-village has been part of the Merrimac Community since 1973. In those 38 years, over 21,000 unit months of affordable housing have been provided to Merrimac residents. From their inception, state-aided public housing programs in Massachusetts (like Merri-village) rely on a close cooperation and support between the municipality and local housing authority. The MHA has always enjoyed a good working relationship with a vast majority of town officials, elected, appointed and employees. Many of which have consistently exhibited high levels of professionalism and competency in the course fulfilling their duties for the Town of Merrimac.

Housing Authority Personnel

Name	Position	Start Date
Mr. Robert J. Mazzone	Executive Director (part-time)	employed 2/01/2000
Ms. Jeanne Koch	Administrative Assistant (part-time)	employed 4/18/1995
Ms. Ruth Simon	Leased Housing Admin. (part-time)	employed 5/01/2004
Ms. Mary Beth Damon	Leasing Clerk (part-time)	employed 11/05/2005

Respectfully Submitted.

Robert J. Mazzone
Executive Secretary to the
Merrimac Housing Authority Board

2010 ANNUAL REPORT OF THE AFFORDABLE HOUSING BOARD OF TRUSTEES

The Affordable Housing Board of Trustees was established in June 2009 in accordance with the Town By-Law voted in May 2008. The Board's primary order of business in the past year was the revision of the Town's Housing Production Plan with the assistance of Merrimack Valley Planning Commission. The plan was approved by the Planning Board and Board of Selectmen, then submitted to the state Department of Housing and Community Development in October 2010. Notification has been received from DHCD that the plan is approved and will expire effective December 11, 2015. It is available at the Town website.

The Board also began a dialogue with Emmaus, Inc., Haverhill about the possibility of the development of affordable housing units in Merrimac. Janine Murphy, Executive Director of Emmaus, Inc. reports there is a need for housing for female veterans who would benefit from living in a quiet environment. The Board will continue to pursue this and to also work with other Boards and Committees in Town to explore affordable housing opportunities.

Respectively submitted by:

Sandra Venner, Chairperson
Ray Gingras, Vice-Chairperson
Earl Baumgardner,
Representative of the Board of Selectmen
Laura Dillingham-Mailman
Joseph Moran
Phillip Parry
Collen Ranshaw-Fiorello

**TRUSTEES OF CEMETERIES
2010 ANNUAL REPORT**

To the Honorable Board of Selectmen:

The Trustees meet the third Tuesday of the month at the Cemetery Office, 2 Locust Grove Road.

The Trustees would like to thank Gordon Rines for his nine years of service to the Board. At the May election Carol Ranshaw was elected to fill the three year term.

In July the Cemetery Department was incorporated into the Department of Public Works.

During the past year all cemeteries were well maintained by the Highway Department. A senior volunteer working under the tax write-off program provided additional support.

A wind storm brought down a mature spruce tree at the Church Street Cemetery. Many thanks to the Highway Department for their prompt attention to the clean-up.

An asphalt overlay was applied to the main entrance road at Locust Grove and an adjacent road prone to frequent washouts was paved.

New signs were installed at Locust Grove, Church Street and Lower Corner Cemeteries.

An additional water spigot for use by visitors to Locust Grove Cemetery has been installed. The new spigot is located between the maintenance building and the newer road.

The ventilation of the septic system at the office/maintenance building has been updated.

The members spent a significant amount of time drafting a proposed set of bylaws for all town cemeteries.

In cooperation with the DPW Director the repair of the Church Street Cemetery Stone Wall is under active consideration.

The Trustees wish to thank Harold White II, the Highway Department and the DPW Director for their cooperation throughout the year.

Members:	Elizabeth Emery	Term Expires 2011
	Patricia Casey	Term Expires 2012
	Carol Ranshaw	Term Expires 2013

Respectfully submitted,

Elizabeth L. Emery, Clerk

ACTIONS TAKEN AT ANNUAL TOWN MEETING, APRIL 26, 2010

Article 1. The Town voted to fix the salary and compensation of all elective officers of the Town as provided by Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 41, Section 108 as amended: Town Clerk, Three Assessors, Three Commissioners of Municipal Light; and raise, appropriate or transfer sums of money therefore and to determine sums of money to be raised to be transferred to defray the necessary and usual charges and expenses of the Town for the fiscal year commencing July 1, 2010 and make appropriations for the same, said sums of money so raised, appropriated or transferred to be expended for specific purposes as follows:

Maturing Debt	\$ 803,322
Interest on Debt	215,404
Unclassified	788,711
General Government	466,542
Public Safety	1,373,599
Health & Sanitation	70,882
Highway	470,469
Public Assistance	195,598
Whittier	571,838
Pentucket	6,266,084
Library	259,250
Recreation	12,300
Cemetery	<u>45,667</u>
Total Omnibus	11,539,666

The sum of money will be raised as follows:

Raise & Appropriate	\$ 11,528,566
Appropriate from Water Pollution Abatement Trust	\$ 11,100
Hand Vote	
Motion Approved	

Article 2. The Town voted to raise and appropriate, or transfer from available funds, a sum of money to operate the Wastewater Department Enterprise

Salaries:	\$ 387,079
Expenses:	\$ 510,791
<u>Debt Service</u>	<u>\$ 341,116</u>
Total	\$1,238,986

And that \$1,238,986 be raised as follows:

Departmental Receipts:	\$1,188,986
Wastewater Betterment Funds	\$ 50,000

Hand Vote

Motion Approved May 10, 2010

Article 3. The Town voted to raise and appropriate, or transfer from available funds, a sum of money to operate the Water Department Enterprise.

Salaries;	\$ 272,579
Expenses:	\$ 396,948
<u>Debt Service:</u>	<u>\$ 116,559</u>
Total	\$ 786,086

And that \$786,086 be raised as follows:

Departmental Receipts: \$ 786,086

Hand Vote

Motion Approved May 10, 2010

Article 4. The Town voted to transfer from available funds a sum of money in the amount of \$6,882.26 (six thousand eight hundred eighty-two and twenty six) from the Electric Light Operating Balance said money to be used by the Assessors to reduce the Tax Rate for the Fiscal Year commencing July 1, 2010

Hand Vote

Motion Approved May 10, 2010

Article 5. The town voted to raise and appropriate a sum of money in the amount of \$9,000 (nine thousand) to be expended by the Board of Assessors to perform duties and incur expenses relating to any equalization or revaluation of the Town; to authorize the Board of Assessors to hire themselves at the rate of \$20.00 per hour and to hire such necessary assistance as the Board of Assessors may deem necessary and convenient.

Hand Vote

Motion Approved May 10, 2010

Article 6. The Town voted to raise and appropriate a sum of money in the amount of \$10,740 (ten thousand seven hundred forty) to be expended by the Board of Assessors to hire a consultant to perform an independent revaluation

Hand Vote

Motion Approved May 10, 2010

Article 7. The Town voted to transfer from available funds known as "Sale of Cemetery Lots", a sum of money in the amount of \$8,300 (eight thousand three hundred), such sum or part thereof, to be expended under the direction of the Cemetery Trustees for the care, improvement and embellishment of said cemeteries, in accordance with M.G.L. Chapter 114, Section 15 and Section 25.

Hand Vote

Motion Approved May 10, 2010

Article 8. The Town voted to accept the State Grant of Chapter 90 Highway Funds and authorize the Board of Selectmen to expend said funds for Highway purposes in accordance with the terms of said grants.

Hand Vote

Motion Approved May 10, 2010

Article 9. The Town voted to raise and appropriate, or transfer from available funds, a sum of money in the amount of \$185,000 (one hundred eighty-five thousand) for Solid Waste Recycling and Disposal and Leaf Collection.

And that \$185,000 be raised as follows:

Raise and appropriate:	\$ 85,000
Transfer from Trash Offset Receipts:	<u>\$ 100,000</u>
Total	\$185,000.

Hand Vote

Motion Approved May 10, 2010

Article 10. To see if the Town will vote pursuant to M.G.L., Chapter 44, Section 53E1/2, to establish revolving funds for the following departments for the specific purpose outlined below for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2010 and ending June 30, 2011; or take any other action relative thereto

a. Police Firearms Revolving Fund

Fees received for firearms licenses and permit fees to be used to pay the state share of such fees and similar departmental needs, said expenditures to be approved by the Police Chief; and not to exceed \$5,000 during the Fiscal Year 2011

b. Zoning Board of Appeal Revolving Fund

Fees received for applicants requesting appeal of zoning decisions to be used to pay for advertising, mailings, legal and administrative costs, said expenditures to be approved by the Zoning Board of Appeals; not to exceed \$4,000 during the Fiscal Year 2011

c. Board of Health Town Nurse Revolving Fund

Fees received for nursing programs and services to be used by the Town Nurse to pay for materials and technical services for nursing programs and health promotion programs, said expenditures to be approved by the Board of Health; not to exceed \$10,000 during Fiscal year 2011.

d. Parks and Recreation Revolving Fund

Fees received for Summer Playground Program and Fundraising Events to be used to pay seasonal staff and related costs associated with the summer playground program and costs associated with the maintenance and enhancement of the Town's parks and fields, said expenditures to be approved by the Playground Commissioners; not to exceed \$50,000 during the Fiscal year 2011.

e. Zoning By-law and Building Code Compliance Enforcement Revolving Fund

5% of all fees received from building, wiring, plumbing and gas permits plus 100% of all fines and monetary judgments received as a result of Inspectional Services Department compliance enforcement actions to be used by Inspectional Services Department for legal fees and administrative costs relative to Zoning Bylaws and Building Code

compliance enforcement actions; said expenditures to be approved by the Building Commissioner; not to exceed \$5,000 during Fiscal year 2011.

f. Board of Health Project Revolving Fund

50% of all permit fees received for the Bear Hill Road and Quail Ridge/Battis Road Subdivisions to be used by the Board of Health to pay for tests and inspections for these two projects; said expenditures to be approved by the Board of Health; not to exceed \$2,500 during the Fiscal Year 2011.

g. Assessors Map Update Revolving Fund

Fees received from the creation of new lots to be used by the Assessors to pay for updates of the Town maps; said expenditures to be approved by the Board of Assessors; not to exceed \$5,000 during the Fiscal Year 2011.

h. Village of Merrimac Project Revolving Fund

Fees received from developers for the Village of Merrimac applications to be used to pay for plan reviews, inspections and related legal and administrative costs, said expenditures to be approved by the Board of Selectmen; not to exceed \$50,000 during Fiscal year 2011.

i. Merrimac Commons Project Revolving Fund

Fees received from developers for the Merrimac Commons applications to be used to pay for plan reviews, inspections and related legal and administrative costs, said expenditures to be approved by the Board of Selectmen; not to exceed \$50,000 during Fiscal Year 2011.

j. Board of Health Revolving Fund

80% of fees received from pre-rental inspections to be used to pay for the Health Agent's inspections, the remaining 20% of fees, and 100% of all fines and monetary judgments received as a result of Board of Health compliance enforcement actions to be used by the Board of Health for legal fees and administrative costs relative to the Board of Health Regulations and Health Code compliance and enforcement actions. Expenditures are to be approved by the Board of Health and are not to exceed \$4,000 during the Fiscal Year 2011.

Article 10. The Town voted pursuant to M.G.L Chapter 44, Section 53E ½, to establish revolving funds for the departments for the specific purpose outlined above for the Fiscal Year beginning July 1, 2010 and ending June 30, 2011.

Hand Vote

Motion Approved May 10, 2010

Article 11. The Town voted to raise and appropriate a sum of money in the amount of \$20,000 (twenty thousand), to be used to establish an "Ambulance Stabilization Fund", pursuant to MGL Chapter 40, Section 5B.

2/3 Vote Required

Unanimous

Motion Approved May 10, 2010

Article 12. The Town voted to raise and appropriate a sum of money, in the amount of \$132,080 (one hundred thirty two thousand eighty) for the construction and engineering of a sewer main in Ridgefield Road (#1,2,6,8,9 and 12) and Billings Road (#1) for which the residents have signed a petition to provide full repayment plus interest for all associated work to fund said appropriation through betterments assessed on such property by the Board of Selectmen; that the Treasurer, with the approval of the Board of Selectmen, is hereby authorized to borrow up to an amount not to exceed \$132,080 and to issue bonds and notes therefore in accordance with MGL 44 Section 7 (1) or any other enabling authority, and that the Board of Selectmen is hereby authorized to take any other action necessary to carry out such project.

2/3 Vote Required

Unanimous

Motion Approved May 10, 2010

Article 13. The Town voted to raise and appropriate a sum of money in the amount of \$300,000(three hundred thousand), to fund a portion of its share of the Pentucket Regional School District Budget for Fiscal year 2011, contingent upon the successful passage of a levy limit override question in the amount of \$3000, 000 on May 3, 2010 under Mass. General Laws Chapter 59, Section 21C

Hand Vote

Motion Approved April 26, 2010

Article 14. The Town voted to approve the debt authorized by the Whittier Regional Vocational Technical High School District, (District) on March 10, 2010 in the amount of \$3,294,627 (three million two hundred ninety four thousand six hundred twenty seven) for a roof repair project for the Whittier Regional Vocational Technical High School, located at 115 Amesbury Line Road, Haverhill, MA 01830, which proposed repair project would materially extend the useful life of the school and preserve an asset that otherwise is capable of supporting the required educational program, said sum to be expended under the direction of the Whittier Regional Vocational Technical High School Building Committee, and to meet said appropriation, the Whittier Regional Vocational Technical High School District is authorized to borrow said sum under MGL Chapter 71, Section 16 (d), or any other enabling authority; that the Town of Merrimac acknowledges that the Massachusetts School Building Authority's ("MSBA") grant program is a non-entitlement, discretionary program based on need, as determined by the MSBA, and any project costs the District incurs in excess of any grant approved by and received from the MSBA shall be the sole responsibility of the District and assessed annually during the term of outstanding debt to the Town of Merrimac pursuant to its Regional Agreement; provide further that any grant that the district may receive from the MSBA for the Project shall not exceed the lesser of (1) 66.18 percent of eligible, approved project costs, as determined by the MSBA, or (2) the total maximum grant amount as determined by the MSBA.

2/3 Vote Required

Unanimous

Motion Approved May 10, 2010

Article 15. To see if the Town will vote to amend the Merrimac Zoning By-law by changing Section 23.7.3 **Removal Standards** by amending a) to read “Two (2) foot contour intervals of the entire LOT area with elevations relating to United States Geological Survey (USGS), Mean Sea Level datum;” e) To Read “Log of soil borings taken to the depth of at least 10ft. below the proposed excavation;” g) To read “Two (2) foot contour lines indicating proposed final grades of the entire LOT area with elevations relating to USGS datum”; h) to read “location of mapped bordering vegetated WETLANDS, vernal pools, river front areas, natural streams, brooks and natural drainage features and all manmade drainage structures;” and the addition of m) to read “Baseline Total Suspended Solids (TSS) discharge of surface water leaving the existing site”; and by changing Section 23.7.5 **Restoration Standards** subsection 23.7.5.2 by striking the entire second sentence; subsection 23.7.5.5 after the words “not increased”, the addition of the following “and water quality standards, including TSS is not increased above the background, or baseline conditions as measured prior to construction.” ; or take any other action relative thereto.

Article 15. The Town voted to amend the Merrimac Zoning By-law as written above.

2/3 Vote Required

Unanimous

Motion Approved May 10, 2010

Article 16. To see if the Town will vote to amend the Merrimac Zoning By-law by changing Section 23.7.4 **Operation Standards**, Subsection 23.7.4.4 by striking the word “oil” in the first sentence and the addition of the following sentence to the subsection, “Only potable water shall be used for dust control during active excavation and trucking of material”; amending Subsection 23.7.4.5 to now read “All trucking routes, times and methods and proposed truck loads shall be subject to approval of the Merrimac Chief of Police and Department of Public Works (DPW).”; amending Subsection 23.7.4.7 to now read, “Gravel shall not be removed closer than four (4) feet to the estimated seasonal high water table (ESHWT) or any other distance that would preclude its subsequent re-use according to existing public health standards. The estimated seasonal high water table (ESHWT) shall be determined by a Title 5 Licensed Soil Evaluator by logging at least six (6) test pits per acre and the level related to a permanent monument on the property. This information shall show on the topographic plan. An alternative to defining ESHWT could be the installation of at least three observation wells and monitoring water levels throughout the spring, every three weeks. ESHWT can be predicted using the Frimpter Method, by the Registered Professional Engineer preparing the submittal documents.”; amending Subsection 23.7.4.8 by the addition of the following sentence at the beginning “OSHA Trenching rules and regulations as referenced under 29 CFR 1926.650 through 652 shall be followed for excavations exceeding six (6) feet and sloped according to the soil type and consistency.” And changing the remainder of this subsection to read “During operations, when an excavation is located closer than 200 feet to a residential area or a public way, and where the excavation will have a depth of more than six (6) feet with a slope in excess of one (1) horizontal to one (1) vertical (1:1), if the soils are suitable in accordance with the OSHA Standards, a suitable fence or barrier at least six (6) feet high shall be erected to prohibit unauthorized access to this area.”; and Subsection 23.7.4.9 to now read “No LOT shall be excavated so as to cause accumulation of freestanding water, siltation of existing drainage features or illicit discharge to stormwater management systems. Temporary erosion control measures and permanent drainage shall be provided as needed in accordance with accepted

conservation standards and Best Management practices, in accordance with Massachusetts Stormwater Handbook. The Stormwater Management Standards including Standards 4,5,6,8 and 9 as contained in the Massachusetts Stormwater Handbook shall be complied with to the maximum extent possible, as dictated by the approving authority. Drainage shall not lead directly into perennial or seasonal streams, ponds, the public way or onto adjacent properties. No excavations shall be allowed closer than 200 feet from a natural stream, or within the buffer zone of a bordering vegetated WETLAND resource." Or take any other action relative thereto.

Article 16. The Town voted to amend the Merrimac Zoning By-law as written above.

2/3 Vote Required

Unanimous

Motion Approved May 10, 2010

Article 17. The Town voted to accept all right, title and interest in that portion of the "Old Road" (Abandoned 1872), between Bear Hill Road and the McLaren trail as shown on Plan Sheet 3 of 17, on a plan of land entitled, "Definitive Subdivision Under Special Permit Application, Open Space Residential Development at Bear Hill in Merrimac, MA", as recorded at the Essex South District Registry of Deeds at Plan Book 414, Page 55, reserving to the Trustees of the Bear Hill OSRD Trust, a right of way to pass and re-pass over said "Old Road", for all purposes for which such rights of ways are used in the Town of Merrimac.

2/3 Vote Required

Unanimous

Motion Approved May 10, 2010

ACTIONS TAKEN AT SPECIAL TOWN MEETING, APRIL 26, 2010

Article 1. The Town voted to transfer a sum of money in the amount of \$5,564.88 (five thousand five hundred sixty- four and eighty-eight) from Line #94. Parks and Recreation Salaries, to Line #81, snow and Washout, of Article 1 of the April 27,2009 Annual Town Meeting.

Hand Vote
Motion Approved

Article 2. The Town voted to appropriate from Free Cash, a sum of money in the amount of \$ 68,158 (Sixty-eight thousand one hundred fifty eight) for the following specific purposes outlined below.

- a. \$ 33,158 to be transferred to Line # 81 of Article 1 of the April 27, 2009 Annual Town Meeting Article, Snow & Washout, to reduce the deficit in this line item.
- b. \$ 35,000 for the purchase of a new police cruiser.

Hand Vote
Motion Approved

Article 3. The Town voted to transfer a sum of money in the amount of \$4,000 (four thousand) from Article 9 of the 4/27/09 Annual Town Meeting, Solid Waste, Recycling & Disposal, to have an actuarial study performed, per the requirements of GASB 45.

Hand Vote
Motion Approved

Article 4. The Town voted to transfer a sum of money in the amount of \$4,500 (four thousand five hundred) from Article 9 of the 4/27/09 Annual Town Meeting, Solid Waste, Recycling & Disposal, to replace the lighting in the apparatus bay and the meeting room at the Fire Station.

Hand Vote
Motion Approved

Article 5. The Town voted to transfer a sum of money in the amount of \$1,183 (one thousand one hundred eighty- three) from Article 3g of the 4/28/08 Special Town Meeting, Replace Asbestos Tile at the Sweetsir School, to Article 3e of the 4/28/08 Special Town Meeting Replace the Bathroom Floor Tiles at the Donaghue School.

Hand Vote
Motion Approved

Article 6. The Town voted to authorize the Planning Board to pay prior years invoices in the amount of \$3,500 (three thousand five hundred)

9/10 Vote Required
Unanimous
Motion Approved

Article 7. The Town voted to appropriate from Wastewater Retained Earnings, a sum of money in the amount of \$24,000 (twenty four thousand) for the engineering and construction for repairs of manholes within the sanitary systems.

**Unanimous
Motion Approved**

Article 8. The Town voted to appropriate from Wastewater retained Earnings, funds a sum of money in the amount of \$60,000 (sixty thousand) for the purchase of two generators and all associated items including installation.

**Hand Vote
Motion Approved**

Article 9. The Town voted to appropriate from Wastewater Retained Earnings a sum of money in the amount of \$45,000 (forty five thousand) for the purchase and installation of a new boiler at the Wastewater Treatment Plant.

**Hand Vote
Motion Approved**

Article 10. The Town voted to appropriate from Wastewater retained Earnings a sum of money in the amount of \$40,000 (forty Thousand) for the engineering and design to upgrade the Bear Hill Station.

**Hand Vote
Motion Approved**

Article 11. The Town voted to appropriate from Water Retained Earnings, a sum of money in the amount of \$15,000 (fifteen Thousand Dollars) for the purchase of an air compressor for the water department.

**Hand Vote
Motion Approved**

Article 12. The Town voted to appropriate, from Water Retained Earnings, a sum of money in the amount of \$100,780, (one hundred thousand seven hundred eighty) for the construction and engineering of a water main in Ridgefield Road.

**Hand Vote
Motion Approved**

Article 13. The Town voted to transfer the balance of the borrowing and the appropriation in Article 2 of the 10/15/2007 Special Town Meeting, Mill St. Substation, a sum of money in the amount of \$271,381.98, (two hundred seventy one thousand three hundred eighty- one and ninety-eight) for costs associated for a second transmission source and connection to Burnside Substation.

**Hand Vote
Motion Approved**

ACTIONS TAKEN AT SPECIAL TOWN MEETING, OCTOBER 18, 2010

Article 1. The Town voted to reduce the amount raised and appropriated in Article 1, line #59 of the April 26, 2010 Annual Town Meeting, Police Salaries, in the amount o \$2,600 (two thousand six hundred).

Hand Vote
Motion Approved

Article 2. The Town voted to reduce the amount raised and appropriated in Article 1, line 67 of the April 26, 2010 Annual Town meeting, Inspectional Services Salaries, in the amount of \$12,000 (twelve thousand).

Hand Vote
Motion Carried

Article 3. The Town voted to increase the amount raised and appropriated in Article 1, line #86 of the April 26, 2010 Annual Town Meeting, Veterans' Expense in the amount of \$19,000 (nineteen thousand)

Hand Vote
Motion Approved

Article 4. The Town voted to decrease the amount raised and appropriated in Article 1, Line #87 of the April 26, 2010 Annual Town Meeting, Whittier Assessment, in the amount of \$1,089 (One thousand eighty nine).

Hand Vote
Motion Approved

Article 5. The Town voted to decrease the amount raised and appropriated in Article 1, line #88 of the April 26, 2010 Annual Town Meeting, Pentucket Assessment, in the amount of \$1,162 (one thousand one hundred sixty two).

Hand Vote
Motion Approved

Article 6. The Town voted to reduce the amount raised and appropriated in Article 1, line #92 of the April 26, 2010 Annual Town Meeting, Library Supplemental Collection, in the amount of \$40,000 (forty thousand).

Hand Vote
Motion Approved

Article 7. The Town voted to reduce the amount raised and appropriate in Articl2 2, of the April 26, 2010 Annual Town Meeting, Operating Budget of the Wastewater Department, in the amount of \$50,000 (fifty thousand) as outlined below.

Salaries	(\$ 3,678.00)
Expense	(\$28,840.00)
Debt. Service	<u>(\$17,482.00)</u>
	(\$50,000.00)

The \$50,000. (fifty thousand) be reduced from Departmental Receipts.

Hand Vote
Motion Approved

Article 8. The Town voted to increase the amount raised and appropriated in Article 3, of the April 26, 2010 Annual Town Meeting, Operating Budget of the Water Department, in the amount of \$7,932 (seven thousand nine hundred thirty two) as outlined below.

Expenses: \$7,932

The \$7,932 (seven thousand nine hundred thirty two) be raised from Departmental Receipts.

Hand Vote
Motion Approved

Article 9. The Town voted to raise and appropriate a sum of money in the amount \$50,000 (fifty thousand) for additional closure costs at the Battis Road landfill.

Hand Vote
Motion Approved

Article 10. The Town voted to appropriate a sum of money in the amount of \$518.81 (five hundred eighteen and eighty one) to repair water damage at the Donaghue School, and to fund said appropriation, transfer the balance of \$397.86 from Article 6 of the October 20, 2008 Special Town Meeting, Replace HVAC at the Sweetsir School, and transfer the balance of \$120.95 from Article 3 (e) of the April 28, 2008 Special Town Meeting, Replace Bathroom Floor Tile at the Donaghue School.

Hand Vote
Motion Approved

Article 11. The Town voted to transfer a sum of money in the amount of \$2,591.12 (two thousand five hundred ninety one and twelve) to fund the Provisions for Abatement and Exemptions for the following fiscal years:

FY 2004	\$800.00
Fy2008	\$900.00
<u>FY2009</u>	<u>\$891.12</u>
Total	\$2,591.12

from the Overlay Surplus Account.

Hand Vote
Motion Approved

Article 12. The Town voted to approve the \$10,000,000 (ten million) borrowing authorized by vote of the Pentucket Regional School District, for the purpose of paying costs of making extraordinary repairs to the District's Page Elementary School located at 694 Main Street, West Newbury, Massachusetts, including the payment of all costs incidental or related thereto, which proposed repair project would materially extend the useful life of the school and preserve an asset that otherwise is capable of supporting the required educational program, said sum to be expended at the direction of the School Building Committee. The Massachusetts School Building Authority's grant program is a non-entitlement, discretionary program based on need, as determined by the MSBA, and any costs of the Project that the District incurs in excess of any grant approved and received from the MSBA shall be the sole responsibility of the District, and that the total amount of borrowing authorized by this vote shall be reduced by any grant money set forth in the Project Funding Agreement relating to the proposed repair project that may be executed between the District and the MSBA. All costs of this project, including the debt service on the bonds or notes issued by the District to finance this project, shall be allocable solely to the Town of West Newbury.

2/3 Vote Required
Unanimous
Motion Approved

Article 13. The Town voted to amend the wording to Article 8 of the April 26, 2010 Special Town Meeting and Article 15(a) of the April 28, 2008 Annual Town Meeting to add, "to maintain, repair and purchase parts for existing generators".

Hand Vote
Motion Approved

Article 14. The Town voted to amend the Merrimac Zoning By-law, Article 23 Supplemental Regulations: under Subsection 23.1 Minimum Lot Frontage and Area by striking out the language in item 23.1.3 in its entirety.

2/3 Vote Required
Unanimous
Motion Approved

Article 15. The Town voted to amend the Town By-laws Article XXII, Sewer Use By-law, by the following: Replace all reference to "Board of Commissioners" with "Board of Selectmen".

2/3 Vote Required
Unanimous
Motion Approved

Article 16. The Town voted to amend the Town By-laws Article XXVI, water Use By-law by deleting Appendix D, Cross Connection Control, in its entirety, and replacing it with attachment "A".

2/3 Vote Required
Unanimous
Motion Approved

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