

TOWN WHERE A U.S. FLAG WAS FIRST  
RAISED OVER A PUBLIC SCHOOL, MAY, 1812

# Town of Colrain 2016 Annual Report



The G. William Pitt House preserved as a museum by the Colrain Historical Society.

*The Town of Colrain is a community of 43.2 square miles located in north central Franklin County. Per the 2016 Street Listing, the population is 1,606, of which 1,209 are registered voters. To the north, Colrain borders two Vermont towns: Halifax and Guilford. Leyden is to the east, Greenfield to the southeast, Shelburne to the south, Charlemont to the southwest and Heath to the west. State Route 112 is the major highway through the town, running roughly north to south along the North River. There are 86.58 road miles in Colrain, the third highest amount in Franklin County. Approximately half of these roads are gravel. Colrain is primarily an agricultural and residential community. We have an open town meeting form of government, with a Board of Selectmen as the governing body*

## **Dedication**

We would like to dedicate this annual Report to Kenneth Avery. Ken was born on May 30, 1930 at his Home (198 Jacksonville Rd). He attended grammar school in the Old Town Hall . Graduated from Arms Academy 1948, University of Massachusetts 1952. He married Elizabeth Cummings on July 23, 1960 and raised three children. Ken enjoys and takes great pride in all his 7 grandchildren and 1 great granddaughter. For 47 Years Ken was an active member on several boards in town. He dedicated his life to bettering the land that he farmed his entire life.



**Vocational school building committee - 1966-1969.**  
**Planning Board - 1971 – 2013**

**CT Avery & Sons Poultry Farm – 1952 –  
Late 70's**  
**Fort Morrison Jersey Farm Late 70's -  
Present**

**Farm Bureau Cooperative of Greenfield  
(Feed Company) Member**  
Vice president and President one each in late  
70's

**East Deerfield Rod & Gun**  
**Franklin County Farm Bureau 50+ yrs.**  
Vice president and President two terms each  
in late 80's

**State Farm Bureau**  
as member and a Delegate  
**State Farm Bureau Dairy Committee - 90's**  
**United Co-Operative Farmers, Inc.**  
1984-1990 Board of Directors  
1986-1988 Vice President  
1989 -1990 President

**Franklin County ASC Committee system 12  
yrs. service**  
Chairman 1986-1987  
**Massachusetts Jersey Club 40+ yrs.**  
Director, Vice President, President one term  
each  
**New England Jersey Association**  
40+ yrs.  
Director, Vice President, President one term  
each  
**National Jersey Cattle Assoc. 40+ yr**  
**Agrimark Milk Cooperative**  
served as vote representative for region for  
many years

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# Colrain Transfer Station Information/Hours

Located on Charlemont Road  
Saturdays 8:00 am—4:00 pm  
Summer hours 1st Tues in May—1st Tues in September  
5:30 pm—7:30 pm

## General Information

All trash bags must have stickers  
13 gallon stickers-\$1.00/each  
33 gallon stickers—\$2.00/each

Stickers are available at the Transfer Station

***Bulky Waste open 3rd week in April until it is full in October***

## General Recycling

Paper and Plastics

## Other Recyclables Collected

Scrap Metal	Free
White Goods and CFCs	\$10 each
Tires	\$2.00 each with no rims
Bulky Waste	\$5.00 to \$10.00
CRTs and TVs	\$0.25/lb
Construction/Demolition	\$40/cubic yard (\$20 minimum)
Donations	Salvation Army Box

## Hazardous Materials Collected

Motor oil	\$0.50/gal
Oil Filters	\$0.75/each
Auto Batteries	Yes
Anti-Freeze	\$1.00/gallon
Paint	\$5.00 per gallon, \$1.50 per qt. <b>No Latex</b>
Flourenscent	\$0.50/4 ft or shorter or compacts, \$1 per 8 ft.
House Batteries	Yes
Ballasts	\$5.00 each
Thermometer	Free
Thermostats	Free
Switches	Free
20 lb BBQ Tanks	\$5.00
1 lb LP Tanks	\$1.00
Larger LP Tanks	\$10.00

Items not accepted: leaves/yard waste, Christmas Trees, Brush Textiles

## Town Officers, Boards, & Committees – Contact Information

	<u>Phone #</u>	<u>E-mail Address</u>
Agricultural Commission Chair, Kenneth P. Herzig	624-0215	
Board of Assessors, Assistant Alice Wozniak	624-3356	assessors@colrain-ma.gov
Board of Health Clerk, Alice Wozniak	624-3356	assessors@colrain-ma.gov
Building Inspector, Shawn Kimberley	624-4728	shawnkimberley@hotmail.com
Conservation Commission Clerk, Alice Wozniak	624-3356	assessors@colrain-ma.gov
Council on Aging, Richard Herzig	624-8818 624-3417	
Dog Officer Jack Cavolick	624-3238	
Emergency Manager Director Jack Cavolick	624-3454	
Finance Committee Chair, Charles Lappen	624-3454	
Fire Chief, Nick Anzuoni	624-5528	
Griswold Memorial Library Betty Johnson, Librarian	624-3619	<a href="mailto:biblib3@aol.com">biblib3@aol.com</a>
Highway Superintendent, Scott Sullivan	624-5500	<a href="mailto:hwysupt@mtdata.com">hwysupt@mtdata.com</a>
Historical Commission Chair, Robert Ramirez	624-3090	
Open Space Committee Chair, Ellen Weeks	624-5137	eweeks@umext.umass.edu
Personnel Committee Chair, Ellen Weeks	624-5137	eweeks@umext.umass.edu
Planning Board Chair, Sara Wik		
Police Chief - Business Only Jason Haskins	624-3038	police@colrain-ma.gov
Tax Collector Paula Harrison	624-5549	taxcollector@colrain-ma.gov
Town Accountant, Justin Cole, BayState Municipal Accounting	413-930-4024	support@bmaginc.com
Town Clerk Robin Hartnett	624-3454	townclerk@colrain-ma.gov
Selectmen/Town Coordinator, Kevin Fox	624-6306	bos@colrain-ma.gov
Transfer Station	625-9012	
Treasurer Paula Harrison	624-5549	treasurer@colrain-ma.gov
Tree Warden Michael Friedlander	624-3643	
Zoning Board of Appeals Chair, Rockwell Lively	624-3210	

# Elected Town Officers

## **BOARD OF SELECTMEN**

(Three year term)

	<u>Term</u>
Eileen D, Sauvageau	2015 - 2018
Mark A. Thibodeau	2014 - 2017
Jack Cavolick    Chair	2016 - 2019

## **TOWN CLERK** (Three year term)

Robin Hartnett	2016 - 2019
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## **BOARD OF ASSESSORS** (Three year term)

Nicholas M. Anzuoni, Chair	2016 - 2019
James J. Slowinski	2015 - 2018
Jonathan Lagreze	2014 - 2017

## **MOHAWK TRAIL REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT COMMITTEE**

(Three year term)

Joseph M. Kurland	2014 - 2017
Nina Martin-Anzuoni	2016 - 2019

## **GRISWOLD MEMORIAL LIBRARY TRUSTEES** (Three year term)

Michelle F. Hillman	2016 - 2019
Chelli Mennella                      6/01/2015	2015 - 2017
Jill Horton-Lyons	2014 - 2017
Michael Friedlander	2016 - 2019
Cynthia McLaughlin	2015 - 2018
Nancy Rich Turkle	2015 - 2018

## **CONSTABLES** (Three year term)

Michael Friedlander	2016 - 2019
Scott F. Sullivan	2014 - 2017
Melinda A. Herzig	2015 - 2018

## **MODERATOR** (Three year term)

Megan McDonough	2016 - 2019
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# Board of Selectmen Appointments

<b>Agricultural Commission</b>	<b>Term Expires</b>
Kenneth P. Herzig, Chair	2017
Robert P. Ramirez	2018
Joseph S. Hillman	2018
Haynes Turkle	2019
<b>Animal Control Officer</b>	
Jack Cavolick	2017
Alternative, Ed Grinnell	2017
<b>Block Grant Housing Rehabilitation Program</b>	
David W. Nims	2017
<b>Board of Health</b>	
Michael Friedlander	2017
Timothy P. Slowinski	2017
Jason Ferenc, Chair	2018
Jack Cavolick	2018
Diana Ditmore	2017
<b>Board of Registrars</b>	
Colleen Worden	2018
Karen M. Devine	2017
Eugenia M. Shearer	2017
Amy J. Herzig	2018
Paula Harrison	2017
<b>Building Inspector (Three year term)</b>	
Shawn Kimberley	2019
<b>Carl H. Nilman Scholarship Representative</b>	
Michelle F. Hillman	2017
<b>Colrain Arts Council</b>	
Janice Jones	2019
Suzanne Conway-Lagreze	2017
Eugenia M. Shearer	2018
Donna Cusimono -Chairman	2019
Paula J. Harrison	appointed January 27, 2016 – 2018
Julie Moran	appointed Nov. 11, 2016 2019
<b>Conservation Commission</b>	
Clarence E. Wheeler, Chair	2017
Matthew G. Slowinski	2017
David W. Nims	2017
Carl A. Herzig	2017
Paul C. Lagreze	2017
William H. Dornbusch	2018
Marshall L. Denison, Jr.	2018
<b>Council on Aging</b>	
Joan C. McQuade	2017
Richard R. Herzig	2018
Amy J. Herzig	2018
Bing Waldsmith	2018
Carl Herzig	2019
Mary York	2017

Russell Barnes	2017
Janice Barnes	2017
Kathleen A. Phelps	2017
Valeda R. Peters	2017
Jane Johnson	2020
Bob Marscher	2018
<b>Emergency Management Director</b>	
Jack Cavolick	2017
<b>Fire Chief</b>	
Nicholas M. Anzuoni	2017
<b>Franklin Regional Transit Authority Representative</b>	
Mark Thibodeau	2017
<b>Franklin Regional Council of Governments Representative</b>	
Eileen D. Sauvageau	2017
<b>Franklin Regional Planning Board Representative</b>	
Eileen D. Sauvageau	2017
<b>Highway Department Liaison</b>	
Mark Thibodeau	2017
<b>Highway Superintendent</b>	
Scott F. Sullivan	2017
<b>Historic Commission</b>	
Robert P. Ramirez, Chair	2017
Joan C. McQuade	2017
Edward S. Stamas	2017
David W. Nims	2017
Jack Cavolick	2017
David B Rodgers	2017
Amy Herzig	2017
<b>Inspector of Animals</b>	
Jack Cavolick	2017
<b>Memorial Hall Park Committee</b>	
Phil Sherburne	2017
Rusty Barnes	2017
Joan Rockwell	2017
<b>Moth Superintendent</b>	
Scott Sullivan	2017
<b>Office Clerk</b>	
Colleen Worden	2018
<b>Personnel Committee</b>	
Kathleen A. Phelps	2017
Valeda R. Peters	2017
Christine L. Beausoleil	2018
Ellen A. Weeks, Chair	2018
Leslie Fraser	2019



**Plumbing & Gas Inspector**

Timothy J. Hartnett	2017
Herb Hohengasser	2017

**Police Chief**

Jason D. Haskins	resigned Jan. 11, 2016
Chris Lannon	appointed April 19, 2016 2017

**Interim Police Chief**

Chris Lannon	appointed Jan. 11, 2016 – April 19, 2017
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**Police Officers**

Roger P. Williams, Jr.  
 Gary Downer  
 Rylan Baronas  
 Jenna Hayes  
 Chris Melcher

**Regional Dog Program Representative**

Jack Cavolick	2017
Alternate, Kevin Fox	2017

**Solid Waste Management District Representative**

Jonathan Lagreze	2017
Alternate, Kevin Fox	2017

**Tax Collector**

Paula Harrison	2019
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**Tree Warden**

Michael Friedlander	2017
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**Town Coordinator**

Kevin Fox	2017
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**Treasurer**

Paula Harrison	Appointed 12/25/2014 - 2017
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**Town Accountant**

Justin L. Cole,	2018
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**Wiring Inspector**

James Slowinski	2017
Clinton Dodge	2017

**Zoning Board of Appeals**

Marshall L. Denison, Jr.	2017
Howard R. Phelps	2017
Rockwell J. Lively, Chair	2018
Mark A. Thibodeau	2017
John Peters	2017
Kevin French	2018

# Moderators Appointment

## **Finance Committee** (a seven member committee)

Marybeth Chichester,	resigned 3/15/2016	
Charles D. Lappen, Chair		2019
Douglas Macleay		2019
Lori Regienus		2017
Lynn DiTullio		2018

## **Franklin County Technical School District Committee Member**

Nicole Slowinski		2018
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## **Planning Board** (a seven member board)

Betsy Corner		2017
Sara Wik - Chair		2017
Tom Griffin		2019
Robert Slowinski	appointed 4/13/2015-2018	
Jack Cavolick	appointed 1/1/2015 – 2018	
Jonathan Lagreze	appointed 1/26/2015 - 2018	

# **Town Office**

## **Board of Selectmen**

Jack Cavolick was re-elected to the Select Board in 2016, and serves as its chair. The Select Board consists of Eileen Sauvageau, Mark Thibodeau, and Jack Cavolick. Our Town Office staff remains the same, which includes Kevin Fox as town coordinator, Robin Hartnett as town clerk, Paula Harrison as town treasurer and tax collector, Alice Wozniak as assistant assessor, Colleen Worden as office clerk, and Karen Lovett as town custodian. Through Kevin Fox's guidance on budgeting and managing daily operations, our team is operating at its highest level yet. Thank you, team!

Purchases and services for 2016 include:

*Town Office and town properties improvements and grants:*

- Illuminated sign in front of the Town Office
- Trees removed around the Town Office
- New furnace in the Fire House
- New generator, IT wiring, and phone system in the Fire House
- Painting of the Pitt House
- Contract awarded in 2017 to build a new Town Garage, with an expected spring start date
- \$5,000 Commonwealth Community Compact grant awarded for town broadband and IT wiring
- Purchases as well as the preparation of a long-term capital and fixed asset plan

*Improvements and infrastructure developments:*

- Heath Road bridge reconstruction, scheduled to begin in the summer of 2017
- Adamsville Road bridge at Tissdell Brook, \$500,000 small bridge grant awarded
- Church Street Community Development Block Grant
- Colrain village center realignment of Route 112 begun, expected to continue into 2019
- Colrain broadband buildout pole count roughly 80% complete in 2016
- Sewer project (\$2.5 million grant secured, project ongoing)
- Jacksonville Road bridge reconstruction on Route 112 in Colrain village center, state funded, roughly 50% complete by May 2017

*Town equipment:*

- Purchase of a used tractor
- Purchase of a glider kit

The Select Board meets every other Wednesday. Meeting notices are posted in the Town Office entranceway and online at the town website <http://colrain-ma.gov>. The town website also offers information about town government committees' meeting times, agendas, minutes, and notifications of town activities.

Colrain depends on the involvement of its citizens to keep our programs and projects going. That's what makes us a great community and ensures democratic participation in our town's priorities. Please consider participating in town boards and committees

Respectfully submitted,

Jack Cavolick Eileen Sauvageau Mark Thibodeau

**Accountants Reports  
2016 General Fund Revenues.**

<b>Account Name</b>	<b>Collected</b>
Rollback/Supplemental Taxes	4,820.50
Personal Property Taxes 2015	220.15
Personal Property Taxes 2016	368,574.80
Real Estate Taxes 2015	88,643.27
Real Estate Taxes 2016	2,663,471.24
Tax Liens Redeemed	92,628.38
Tax Foreclosures	40,000.00
Motor Vehicle Excise Prior Years	259.17
Motor Vehicle Excise 2011	33.75
Motor Vehicle Excise 2012	21.25
Motor Vehicle Excise 2013	65.14
Motor Vehicle Excise 2014	2,048.37
Motor Vehicle Excise 2015	42,390.55
Motor Vehicle Excise 2016	135,943.10
Penalties & Int on Taxes	18,209.35
Penalties & Int on Excise	2,296.82
Penalties & Int on Tax Liens	41,795.45
Sewer Liens Added to Tax 2015	1,952.40
Assessors Departmental Fees	45.00
Collector Departmental Fees	4,143.00
Clerk Fees	839.29
Planning Board Departmental Fees	325.00
Zoning Departmental Fees	300.00
Police Departmental Fees	360.50
Highway Curb Cut Fees	75.00
Transfer Station Disposal Fees	12,587.15
Board of Health Departmental Fees	323.00
Library Fines & Copies	984.70
Collector MARK Registry Fines	5,280.00
Transfer Station Bag Fees	26,196.55
Selectmen Liquor Licenses	789.71
Selectmen Other Licenses	1,200.00
Building Permits	2,832.46
CS State Owned Land	42,770.00
CS Chapter 70	5,145.00
CS Unrestricted Govt Aid	266,057.00
CS Veterans Benefits	2,950.00
CS Exempt VBS and Elderly	3,221.00
CS Assess MV Nonrenewal	(1,880.00)
CS Assess Air Pollution District	(450.00)
CS Assess Regional Transportation	(195.00)
Oth. State Revenues	270.00
Transfer Station FCSWMD Recycling	2,429.38
RMV Fines	1,320.00
Fines District Court	25.00
Earnings on Investments	1,567.51
Misc Non Recurring Rev	49,638.35
Premiums from the Sale of GO Bonds & Notes	16.39
Disposition of Town Assets	1,800.00
Interfund Operating Trans. In	38,133.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>3,972,472.68</b>

## 2016 General Fund Expenses

Account Name	Allocated	Expended	EndBalance
Moderator Stipend	85.00	(85.00)	-
Moderator Other Expenses	60.00	-	60.00
Personnel Committee Expenses	100.00	-	100.00
Selectmen Salaries	9,696.00	(9,696.00)	-
Selectmen Advertising	1,000.00	(81.29)	918.71
Selectmen Training	260.00	(68.00)	192.00
Selectmen Licenses/Dues	540.00	(537.00)	3.00
Town Coordinator	54,080.00	(54,080.00)	-
Town Coordinator Business Travel	400.00	(354.50)	45.50
Town Coordinator Licenses/Dues	100.00	(30.00)	70.00
Finance Committee Training	50.00	-	50.00
Finance Committee Licenses/Dues	130.00	(129.00)	1.00
Reserve Fund	439.00	-	439.00
Accounting Salaries	-	-	-
Accounting Services	14,000.00	(14,000.00)	-
Assessors Salary	27,040.00	(27,040.00)	-
Assessors Stipends	9,420.00	(9,420.00)	-
Assessors Appraiser	2,000.00	-	2,000.00
Assessors Software/Technology	2,500.00	(2,500.00)	-
Assessors Advertising	50.00	(30.89)	19.11
Assessors Mapping	3,700.00	(3,450.00)	250.00
Assessors Training	1,450.00	(693.00)	757.00
Assessors Supplies/Bookbinding	850.00	(1,679.77)	(829.77)
Assessors Registry of Deeds	30.00	(19.00)	11.00
Assessors Business Travel	150.00	(90.56)	59.44
Assessors Licenses/Dues	100.00	(65.00)	35.00
Treasurer Salary	22,770.00	(21,894.98)	875.02
Collector Salary Differential	22,734.40	(22,734.40)	-
Tax Title Custodian	5,000.00	(875.00)	4,125.00
Treasurers Prof Services & Payroll	2,500.00	(3,198.49)	(698.49)
Treasurers Supplies	4,683.00	(2,411.17)	2,271.83
Treasurers Bank Fees	-	(3,174.29)	(3,174.29)
Treasurers Business Travel	500.00	(772.63)	(272.63)
Treasurers Licenses/Dues	100.00	(50.00)	50.00
Office Clerical Salary	20,530.29	(20,530.29)	-
Boards & Committee Clerical	1,800.00	(1,740.00)	60.00
Office Rentals & Leases	1,949.00	(2,035.28)	(86.28)
Grant Writing Services	3,500.00	-	3,500.00
Town Office Technology/Software Services	13,238.00	(12,138.00)	1,100.00
Office Postage	1,200.00	(1,425.95)	(225.95)
Office Telephone/Int	4,700.00	(4,616.33)	83.67
Office Other Professional Services	4,441.00	(2,544.80)	1,896.20
Office Professional Development	4,560.00	(1,681.50)	2,878.50
Office Supplies	4,503.64	(6,342.45)	(1,838.81)
Town Counsel	5,000.00	(1,861.26)	3,138.74
Tax Title Taking	35,000.00	(34,919.67)	80.33
Clerk Salary	18,325.00	(18,324.80)	0.20
Election/Town Meeting Workers	3,450.00	(932.50)	2,517.50

Clerk Prof Services	800.00	(743.03)	56.97
Elections Expense	1,380.00	(309.28)	1,070.72
Open Space Professional Services	100.00	-	100.00
Conservation Commission Expenses	100.00	(83.00)	17.00
Planning Board Expenses	1,300.00	(344.16)	955.84
Town Office Custodian	3,439.00	(2,398.76)	1,040.24
Town Office Electricity	3,600.00	(2,649.41)	950.59
Town Office Heating	6,300.00	(3,373.01)	2,926.99
Town Office Other Utilities	-	(75.00)	(75.00)
Town Office Maintenance	104.00	(2,400.34)	(2,296.34)
Town Office Contractual Services	900.00	(628.13)	271.87
Town Reports	-	-	-
Police Chief Salary	-	(7,106.00)	(7,106.00)
Police Salaries	54,314.00	(35,546.15)	18,767.85
Police Administration	2,000.00	(216.00)	1,784.00
Police Training	-	(986.00)	(986.00)
Constable Stipend	583.00	(431.00)	152.00
Police Traffic Control	5,810.00	(1,391.50)	4,418.50
Police Vehicle Maintenance	2,850.00	(2,166.64)	683.36
Police Prof Services	1,308.00	(1,250.00)	58.00
Police Software/Technology	2,700.00	(1,255.00)	1,445.00
Police Training	7,818.00	(748.95)	7,069.05
Police Supplies	1,716.00	(984.49)	731.51
Police Fuel	8,500.00	(4,222.14)	4,277.86
Police Uniforms	1,400.00	(2,327.40)	(927.40)
Police Dues	2,370.00	(650.00)	1,720.00
Police Equipment	5,950.00	(4,406.24)	1,543.76
Fire Chief Salary	1,521.00	(86.46)	1,434.54
Firefighter Salaries	28,165.00	(35,783.44)	(7,618.44)
Fire Electricity	3,000.00	(3,160.48)	(160.48)
Fire Building Heat	6,500.00	(3,486.55)	3,013.45
Fire Other Utilities	-	(675.00)	(675.00)
Fire Building Maintenance	6,845.53	(3,495.05)	3,350.48
Fire Vehicle Maintenance	13,860.00	(16,104.22)	(2,244.22)
Fire Prof Services	6,000.00	(3,700.82)	2,299.18
Fire Telephone/Internet	300.00	(2,797.35)	(2,497.35)
Fire Training	8,500.00	(2,983.48)	5,516.52
Fire Supplies	300.00	(3,298.69)	(2,998.69)
Fire Fuel	1,000.00	(857.94)	142.06
Fire Licenses/Dues	800.00	(340.00)	460.00
Fire Equipment	22,225.00	(15,089.86)	7,135.14
Building Inspector Salary	8,369.00	(8,369.00)	-
Building Inspector Supplies	200.00	(184.70)	15.30
Building Inspector Dues/Certification	870.00	(416.00)	454.00
Emergency Management Stipend	1,749.00	(1,749.00)	-
Emergency Management Expenses	200.00	(179.40)	20.60
FRCOG REPC Assessment	150.00	(84.41)	65.59
Animal Control Salary	1,560.00	(1,560.00)	-
FC Regional Dog Control Program	700.00	(350.00)	350.00
Animal Control Expenses	-	-	-
Tree Warden Stipend	51.00	(51.00)	-

Mohawk Trail Regional	1,771,332.00	(1,771,332.00)	-
Franklin County Technical	290,738.00	(290,738.00)	-
Smith Vocational & Aggie Transportation	28,000.00	(7,716.01)	20,283.99
Smith Vocational & Agricultural	-	(17,556.00)	(17,556.00)
Highway Salaries	253,303.85	(225,648.16)	27,655.69
Highway Overtime	-	(11,033.52)	(11,033.52)
Highway Electricity	4,956.00	(4,181.31)	774.69
Highway Building Heat	15,750.00	(5,486.81)	10,263.19
Highway Other Utilities	50.00	(400.00)	(350.00)
Highway Building Maintenance	4,275.00	(2,424.30)	1,850.70
Highway Machinery Maintenance	45,000.00	(44,816.87)	183.13
Highway Bridge Inspections	2,000.00	(370.00)	1,630.00
Highway Contractual Services	1,500.00	(789.00)	711.00
Highway Telephone/Internet	420.00	(1,051.30)	(631.30)
Highway Training	1,000.00	(750.00)	250.00
Highway Supplies	30,650.00	(28,104.05)	2,545.95
Highway Fuel	67,800.00	(48,104.60)	19,695.40
Highway Road Maintenance	51,821.00	(52,274.12)	(453.12)
Highway Uniforms	2,800.00	(2,939.69)	(139.69)
Highway Licenses/Dues	-	(105.00)	(105.00)
Winter Equip Maintenance	26,401.00	(9,820.00)	16,581.00
Winter Salt	30,000.00	(34,648.00)	(4,648.00)
Winter Sand	30,000.00	(41,768.30)	(11,768.30)
Street Lights	4,300.00	(4,252.15)	47.85
Transfer Station Salaries	14,217.29	(14,217.29)	-
Transfer Station Electric	1,050.00	(647.09)	402.91
Transfer Station Maintenance	-	(1,579.90)	(1,579.90)
Transfer Station Hauling	40,885.00	(38,423.13)	2,461.87
Transfer Station Insp/			
Landfill Post Closure Monitoring	4,075.00	(3,625.00)	450.00
Transfer Station Sanitary	1,488.00	(1,464.00)	24.00
Transfer Station Trash Stickers/Bags	1,915.00	(2,081.07)	(166.07)
Solid Waste District Assessment	4,813.00	(3,609.75)	1,203.25
Transfer Station Roll off Containers	1,200.00	-	1,200.00
Cemetery Maintenance	475.00	(475.00)	-
Animal Inspector	383.00	(383.00)	-
Board of Health Salaries	2,500.00	(2,405.01)	94.99
Board of Health Expense	3,850.00	(262.50)	3,587.50
Council on Aging Space Rentals	3,600.00	(4,095.00)	(495.00)
Council on Aging Professional Services	5,000.00	(3,640.00)	1,360.00
Council on Aging Telephone/Internet	300.00	(223.08)	76.92
Council on Aging Food & Food Services	10,500.00	(8,705.08)	1,794.92
Council on Aging Expenses	600.00	(784.30)	(184.30)
Veterans Services	3,234.00	(3,234.00)	-
Veterans Benefits	6,581.00	(6,235.10)	345.90
Librarian Salary	24,230.00	(25,261.62)	(1,031.62)
Asst Librarian Stipend	6,717.00	(5,685.18)	1,031.82
Library Electricity	3,500.00	(2,437.07)	1,062.93
Library Building Heat	6,300.00	(2,713.07)	3,586.93
Library Other Utilities	290.00	(40.00)	250.00
Library Building Maintenance	2,600.00	(2,915.00)	(315.00)

Library Technology/Online Services	-	(30.00)	(30.00)
Library Other Services	2,024.00	(668.36)	1,355.64
Library Supplies	400.00	(429.48)	(29.48)
Library Books	6,495.00	(10,461.02)	(3,966.02)
Library Business Travel	500.00	(928.13)	(428.13)
Library Dues & Memberships	2,424.00	(2,452.00)	(28.00)
Historical Commission Expenses	100.00	-	100.00
Memorial Day Celebration	700.00	(427.28)	272.72
LT Debt Principle Payments	24,667.00	(24,667.00)	-
LT Debt Interest Payments	11,563.00	(11,562.50)	0.50
Interest on Short Term Debt	7,500.00	(5,635.09)	1,864.91
FRCOG Procurement Services	2,648.00	(3,457.75)	(809.75)
FRCOG Fuel Purchasing	-	-	-
FRCOG Core Assessment	10,921.00	(9,923.25)	997.75
Franklin Regional Retirement	72,565.00	(72,565.00)	-
Line of Duty/IOD Insurance	8,000.00	(7,376.00)	624.00
Workers Comp Insurance	7,500.00	(7,038.86)	461.14
Group Health/Life Insurance	120,883.00	(115,661.57)	5,221.43
Medicare	7,315.00	(8,575.51)	(1,260.51)
Town Building Repairs and Maintenance	10,000.00	(6,500.00)	3,500.00
Property & Casualty Insurance	29,700.00	(29,970.71)	(270.71)
Public Officials Insurance	1,500.00	(1,356.00)	144.00
Inter fund Operating Trans. Out	192,000.00	(192,000.00)	-
<b>Totals</b>	<b>3,868,727.00</b>	<b>(3,722,883.22)</b>	<b>145,843.78</b>



## 2016 General Ledger Other Funds

AccountName	Balance; 6/30/2015	Revenue	Interest	Transfers In/OFS	Expenses	Transfers Out/OFU	Outstanding Debt	Balance; 6/30/2016
Wetlands Protection Receipts Reserved	4,038.61							4,038.61
Fire Inspections 53E1/2	-	965.42			(585.00)			380.42
Demolition Program 53E1/2	-	949.00						949.00
Plumbing Inspection 53E1/2	-	3,782.00			(3,079.71)			702.29
Electrical Inspector 53E1/2	-	1,660.00			(2,015.00)			(355.00)
Animal Control 53E1/2	6,332.94	2,432.29			(40.00)	(4,500.00)		4,225.23
Health Inspections 53E1/2	100.00	6,603.76			(880.00)			5,823.76
Town Clerk Donations	42.04							42.04
Barnhardt Fire Gift	2,247.12							2,247.12
Colrain Fireman's Association Rescue Equip Gift	150.00							150.00
Slowinski Fire Supplies Donation	500.00							500.00
Fire Donations	920.01	4,050.00			(2,173.71)			2,796.30
2011 VY Community Support	1,465.10				(1,465.10)			-
2012 VY Community Support	7,500.00				(7,500.00)			-
2013 VY Community Support	2,468.12				(2,468.12)			-
2014 VY Community Support	4,489.08				(4,489.08)			-
2015 VY Community Support	260.09	4,266.69			(4,526.78)			-
Council on Aging Gifts	11,390.64	5,056.05			(4,772.41)			11,674.28
Gates Library Computer Gift	1,829.52							1,829.52
Friends of the Library Donations	3,000.00	3,600.00						6,600.00
Library Donations	2,511.78							2,511.78
A.A. Smith Gift	22,386.77							22,386.77
A.A. Smith Gift II	5,984.71							5,984.71
Insurance Proceeds Under \$20k	827.60							827.60
SSRP	29,319.88	730.75	15.20					30,065.83
Planning Board 53G Revolving	3,221.56							3,221.56

Transfer Station MSW Disposal	82.50	1,171.00			(1,246.25)			7.25
TS Irene 2012	(178,478.78)						178,605.20	126.42
TS Irene NRCS EWP	(57,883.49)						57,883.49	-
TS Irene Fed Hwy Adamsville	(21,511.31)						21,511.31	-
CDBG Highway Garage Renovation	-	15,520.00			(32,194.15)			(16,674.15)
WPAT Griswoldville	500.00							500.00
CSMP	40,369.01		18.95			(3,174.29)		37,213.67
Solarize Mass Program of DOER & CEC	-	2,500.00			(1,467.65)			1,032.35
Clerk Extended Polling Hours	-	366.00						366.00
Emergency Management Prep Grant (EMPG)	(2,124.94)	10,810.00			(650.00)			8,035.06
Mass Works Jacksonville Rd Reclaim & Repave	(458.80)	1,000,000.00			(944,136.26)	(55,404.94)		(0.00)
MA Recycling Dividends Program	1,400.00	2,869.40			(1,182.09)			3,087.31
Board of Health Mini Grant	385.08							385.08
Council on Aging Formula Grant	-	6,000.00			(1,200.00)			4,800.00
State Aid to Libraries LIG/MEG	19,255.64	2,742.44			(1,838.38)			20,159.70
Colrain Local Cultural Council	6,500.92	4,400.00	26.08		(5,900.30)			5,026.70
Ch90 Projects	(84,755.24)	422,278.54		55,404.94	(463,508.38)			(70,580.14)
General Stabilization	277,834.72	100,000.00	509.12					378,343.84
Davenport Relief Fund	6,093.87		25.72					6,119.59
Colrain Beautification Project	-	480.00						480.00
Audit Stabilization	10,055.70		49.15	4,000.00				14,104.85
Assessors Stabilization	8,028.69		47.52	4,000.00				12,076.21
Technology Stabilization	4,005.65		19.16	1,000.00				5,024.81
Police Vehicle Stabilization	20,037.84		23.39	15,000.00		(20,000.00)		15,061.23
Fire Vehicle Stabilization	129.85		67.96	20,000.00				20,197.81
Quintas Allen Education Fund	3,633.39	1,988.68				(3,633.00)		1,989.07
Highway Vehicle Stabilization	222.90		110.65	40,000.00		(10,000.00)		30,333.55
Transfer Station Stabilization	9,034.61		65.24	8,000.00				17,099.85
Meeting House Cemetery Perp Care	203.57		0.90					204.47
East Colrain Cemetery Perp Care	1,019.11		3.61					1,022.72
Miller Dennison Perp Care	203.57		0.90					204.47

Annie Browning Lot Perp Care (Brick Cemetery)	203.57		0.90					204.47
Grace A. Tenney Lot Perp Care (Christian Hill)	102.56		0.94					103.50
Martha Babbitt Lot Perp Care	761.50		0.38					761.88
	<b>175,837.26</b>	<b>1,605,222.02</b>	<b>985.77</b>	<b>147,404.94</b>	<b>(1,487,318.37)</b>	<b>(96,712.23)</b>	<b>258,000.00</b>	<b>603,419.39</b>

**Governmental Fund Types**

**Fiduciary Funds Memo Group Rev 1/15/2017**

	<u>General Fund</u>	<u>Special Revenue Funds</u>	<u>Capital Projects Funds</u>	<u>Trust &amp; Agency Funds</u>	<u>General Long Term Debt Fund</u>	<u>(Memorandum Only)</u>
<b>Assets and Other Debits</b>						
Cash:						
Unrestricted checking	1,022,436	226,072	(126,985)	546,692		1,668,215
-						
Total cash and investments	1,022,436	226,072	(126,985)	546,692	-	1,668,215
Taxes and Excises Receivable:						
Personal property taxes receivable	3,861					3,861
Real estate taxes receivable	65,028					65,028
Rollback Taxes					-	
Deferred Real Estate	1,612					1,612
Tax liens	109,355					109,355
Tax Possessions	141,369					141,369
Excise taxes	39,983					39,983
Total taxes and excises receivable	361,208	-	-	-	-	361,208
Inter Government Receivables:						
State aid - grants and contracts	3,282	17,002	71,636			91,920
Departmental Receivables						-
Total government receivables	3,282	17,002	71,636	-	-	91,920
Amounts to be provided for the Repayment of LT Debt					361,143	361,143
<b>TOTAL ASSETS AND OTHER DEBITS</b>	1,386,926	243,074	(55,349)	546,692	361,143	2,482,486
<b>Liabilities and Other Credits</b>						
Warrants payable	(49,282)					(49,282)
Payrolls Payable	(7,665)					(7,665)
Abandoned Propoerty & Tailings	(9,078)		1,000			(8,078)
BANs		(258,000)				(258,000)
Deferred Revenue						
Real estate and personal property taxes	(22,073)					(22,073)
Provision for abate. & exempt.	(39,804)					(39,804)
Deferred Real Estate						-
Tax Liens	(118,421)					(118,421)
Tax Liens and Possessions	(141,369)					(141,369)
Excise Taxes	(39,983)					(39,983)
Departmental Receivables						-
Due from State & Federal	(3,282)	(17,002)	(71,636)			(91,920)
Total Deferred Revenue	(364,933)	(17,002)	(71,636)	-	-	(453,571)

Long-term bonds						(361,143)	(361,143)
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES AND OTHER CREDITS</b>	(430,958)	(275,002)	(70,636) -	-		(361,143)	(1,137,740)
<b>Fund equity:</b>							
Fund balance							
Fund Balance Reserved for Petty Cash							-
Fund Balance Reserved for Expenditures	(301,404)						(301,404)
Designated for Encumbrances	(455)						(455)
Designated for Appropriation	(84,219)						(84,219)
Undesignated	(569,889)	31,928	125,985	(546,693)			(958,669)
<b>Total Fund Equity</b>	(955,967)	31,928	125,985 -	(546,693)	-		(1,344,747)
	-	-	-	-			-
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCES</b>	(1,386,926)	(243,074)	55,349 -	(546,693)	(361,143)		(2,482,487)

## 2016 Special Articles

Account Name	Allocated	Expended	End Balance
STM 6/15 Art 4 3 Main Rd Demolition	28,882.12	-	28,882.12
ATM 2014 Demolition of Town Owned Buidling STM 6/15 Art 2 & 3 3 Main Road Property Acquisition	21,117.88 15,000.00	- -	21,117.88 15,000.00
Clerk Restoration of Records 2015	2,000.00	(2,000.00)	-
Clerk Restoration of Records 2016	2,000.00	(2,000.00)	-
Clerk Shelving Fiscal 2016 ATM Art49	15,000.00	(14,275.00)	725.00
Town Office Repairs FY2016	30,000.00	(22,339.83)	7,660.17
Police Cruiser Replacement Fiscal 2016 ATM Art46	51,800.00	(45,050.00)	6,750.00
Fire Propane Conversion Fiscal 2016 ATM Art48 Fire/EOC Computer Upgrades Fiscal 2016 ATM Art41	3,500.00 2,578.00	(3,500.00) (2,578.00)	- -
Highway Bucket Truck STM Oct 2015 Art2	10,000.00	(9,945.00)	55.00
Highway All Seasons Dump Body Fiscal 2015	12,616.79	(12,385.53)	231.26
Highway Pickup Fiscal 2016 ATM Art44	8,726.69	-	8,726.69
Transfer Station Ramp Fiscal 2016 ATM Art35	3,000.00	(1,053.03)	1,946.97
Giswold Memorial Library HVAC Fiscal 2015	3,058.69	(3,058.69)	-
G. William Pit House Fiscal 2016 ATM Art31	2,500.00	(623.74)	1,876.26
<b>Totals</b>	<b>211,780.17</b>	<b>(118,808.82)</b>	<b>92,971.35</b>

## Board of Assessors

The New Year started out with the Assessors conducting inspections of building permits, demolitions and properties on the town's cyclical inspection list. The Department of Revenue (DOR) requires the Assessors of Massachusetts to visit every property in each town once every nine years. About 6 years ago, the Assessors started a rotation of visiting the properties themselves rather than hiring an outside contractor at a substantial fee to the town. Since many of the contractors are from outside the area, the board felt that keeping the work "in house" would give them a better handle on errors for the future.

In the spring, Nicholas Anzuoni ran unopposed for Assessor and was re-elected to the position in the May election. The Board of Assessors is the only elected board that is required within two years of taking office to successfully complete a 30 hour course and pass an examination. Failure to do so jeopardizes the DOR approval of the town's tax rate.

In Fiscal Year 2016, the office granted 6 abatements in the amount of \$300,000 of value which translates into \$5,604.00 of tax dollars. There were no appeals filed at the Massachusetts Appellate Tax Board (ATB) for Fiscal Year 2016. Many of the properties in town have been inspected over the last few years, which have greatly reduced our number of abatements. This does not mean that the property record cards are flawless-some can go undetected for years. We encourage all residents to check the information on their property record cards periodically, especially after any building permit or demolition work has been completed.

In early spring, the office was readying to set the Fiscal Year 2017 tax rate. This year was a revaluation year which entailed much more work than usual. By late September, the Town of Colrain was the 20<sup>th</sup> town in the Commonwealth to set their tax rate and the Colrain Fire District was approximately the 20<sup>th</sup> district in the Commonwealth to set their rate.

The Colrain tax rate for fiscal year 2017 was \$19.70/per \$1,000.00 of valuation.

The Colrain Fire District tax rate for Fiscal Year 2017 was \$4.23/per \$1,000.00 of valuation.

The Town of Colrain's parcel count, total assessed values for each major class of properties and their percentage of the Levy Limit is as follows:

<u>Classification</u>	<u>Valuation</u>	<u>%</u>
• Residential [1,087 parcels]	\$142,562,760	83.2145
• Commercial [299 parcels]	\$ 4,917,395	2.8703
• Industrial [14 parcels]	\$ 3,388,200	1.9777
• Personal Property [37 accounts]	\$ 20,451,250	11.9375
Total amount of 2017 Property Tax Levy	<b>\$171,319,605</b>	<b>100.00%</b>

This year our office was able to get our property record cards online. They are located on the town's website [www.colrain-ma.gov](http://www.colrain-ma.gov) under the Assessors page. Please check them out, this is another way to verify the accuracy of your assessments.

There are several property tax exemptions for the elderly varying in amounts from \$175 to \$500. Each exemption is based on income guidelines and as economic times become more difficult, we encourage the elderly to contact the office to see whether you may qualify. Any information that is provided to qualify for these exemptions is strictly confidential and is not available to the general public. Also available are exemptions for the blind and veterans.

We want the general public to know that assessing is a very complicated field and the DOR sets forth very strict guidelines with which our office must comply. With that said, our office is open to the public for any questions Tuesdays and Thursdays 9:30-4:00 p.m. and our board meets on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of every month at 6:30 p.m. in the Assessor's office. If you would like to set up an appointment to meet with the Board please call the office at 624-3356.

Respectfully submitted,  
Board of Assessors  
Nicholas Anzuoni, Chairman  
James Slowinski  
Jonathan Lagreze  
Alice Wozniak, MAA & Assistant Assessor

**Tax Collector's Report**  
**July 1, 2015 – June 30, 2016**

**REAL ESTATE**

2016	Real Estate		\$ 2,770,963.70
	Payments to Treasurer		\$(2,666,524.25)
	Abatements/Exemptions	\$ (15,578.16)	
	Refunds	\$ 10,446.41	
	Transfer to Tax Title		<u>\$ (38,555.42)</u>
	Balance as of June 30, 2016		<u>\$ 60,752.28</u>
2015	Real Estate forwarded from June 30, 2015	\$ 108,930.30	
	Payments to Treasurer		\$ (90,305.99)
	Refunds	\$ 876.82	
	Transfer to Tax Title		<u>\$ (19,393.24)</u>
	Balance as of June 30, 2016		<u>\$ 107.89</u>

**PERSONAL PROPERTY**

2016	Personal Property		\$ 369,565.11
	Payments to Treasurer		\$ (368,769.90)
	Abatements		<u>\$ (175.40)</u>
	Refunds	<u>\$ 59.77</u>	
	Balance as of June 30, 2016		<u>\$ 679.58</u>
2015	Personal Property forwarded from June 30, 2015	\$ 220.15	
	Payments to Treasurer		\$ (220.15)
	Balance as of June 30, 2016		<u>\$ 0.00</u>
2014	Personal Property forwarded from June 30, 2015	\$ 67.44	
	Payments to Treasurer		<u>\$ (0.00)</u>
	Balance as of June 30, 2016		<u>\$ 67.44</u>
2013	Personal Property forwarded from June 30, 2015	\$ 130.72	
	Payments to Treasurer		<u>\$ 0.00</u>
	Balance as of June 30, 2016		<u>\$ 130.72</u>
2012	Personal Property forwarded from June 30, 2015	\$ 136.38	
	Payments to Treasurer		<u>\$ 0.00</u>
	Balance as of June 30, 2016		<u>\$ 136.38</u>
2011	Personal Property forwarded from June 30, 2015	\$ 380.84	
	Payments to Treasurer		<u>\$ 0.00</u>
	Balance as of June 30, 2016		<u>\$ 380.84</u>
2010	Personal Property forwarded from June 30, 2015	\$ 382.12	
	Payments to Treasurer		<u>\$ 0.00</u>
	Balance as of June 30, 2016		<u>\$ 382.12</u>
2009	Personal Property forwarded from June 30, 2015	\$ 487.29	
	Payments to Treasurer		<u>\$ 0.00</u>
	Balance as of June 30, 2016		<u>\$ 487.29</u>
2008	Personal Property forwarded from June 30, 2015	\$ 523.48	
	Payments to Treasurer		<u>\$ 0.00</u>
	Balance as of June 30, 2016		<u>\$ 523.48</u>



2007	Personal Property forwarded from June 30, 2015	\$	607.05
	Payments to Treasurer		<u>\$ 0.00</u>
	Balance as of June 30, 2016		<u>\$ 607.05</u>
2006	Personal Property forwarded from June 30, 2015	\$	712.70
	Payments		<u>\$ 0.00</u>
	Balance as of June 30, 2016		<u>\$ 712.70</u>

### **MOTOR VEHICLE AND TRAILER EXCISE**

2016	Balance as of June 30, 2015		\$ 180,818.61
	Payments to Treasurer		\$(145,389.01)
	Refunds	\$	1,226.03
	Abatements		<u>\$ (1,844.35)</u>
	Balance as of June 30, 2016		<u>\$ 34,811.28</u>
2015	Balance as of June 30, 2015		\$ 40,799.10
	Payments to Treasurer		\$ (36,766.76)
	Refunds	\$	1,543.12
	Abatements		<u>\$ (2,059.21)</u>
	Balance as of June 30, 2016		<u>\$ 3,516.25</u>
2014	Balance as of June 30, 2015		\$ 5,080.87
	Payments to Treasurer		\$ (2,048.37)
	Balance as of June 30, 2016		<u>\$ 3,032.50</u>
2013	Balance as of June 30, 2015		\$ 2,361.88
	Payments to Treasurer		<u>\$ (396.78)</u>
	Balance as of June 30, 2016		<u>\$ 1,965.10</u>
2012	Balance forwarded from June 30, 2015	\$	1,607.08
	Payments to Treasurer		<u>\$ (141.25)</u>
	Balance as of June 30, 2016		<u>\$ 1,465.83</u>
2011	Balance forwarded from June 30, 2015	\$	1,030.74
	Payments to Treasurer		<u>\$ (33.75)</u>
	Balance as of June 30, 2016		<u>\$ 996.99</u>
2010	Balance forwarded from June 30, 2015	\$	953.44
	Payments to Treasurer		<u>\$ (0.00)</u>
	Balance as of June 30, 2016		<u>\$ 953.44</u>
2009	Balance forwarded from June 30, 2015	\$	1,214.59
	Payments to Treasurer		<u>\$ (0.00)</u>
	Balance as of June 30, 2016		<u>\$ 1,214.59</u>
2008	Balance forwarded from June 30, 2015	\$	891.25
	Payments to Treasurer		<u>\$ (0.00)</u>
	Balance as of June 30, 2016		<u>\$ 841.25</u>

## Town Clerk's Report

In efforts to continue preservation of our historical documents, we had several books professionally bound. This year Kevin Fox applied for and the town was awarded a Compact IT Grant. Dog, Boards and Committees IT program has been implemented.

- 7 - voter registration sessions held in 2016
- 4 - Special Town Meetings
- 2 - Presidential Primaries and State Elections
- 1 – Annual Town Election

13 Businesses renewed or opened a new business in town this year

18 Births, 16 Deaths and 5 Marriages in 2016.

I would like to thank all the Election Workers for their dedication and hours worked. It was a busy Year. This year was also the first Presidential Election that the State allowed voters to vote early in the November Elections. Thank you everyone for embracing the changes. A success in our small town.

We also have a new facelift on our side of the office. Come in and see the changes. Thank you.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Robin Hartnett

**Treasurer's Report  
July 1, 2015 – June 30, 2016**

Location of Funds:

People's Bank	General	\$ 1,709.03
People's Bank	SSRP	\$ 30,069.68
People's Bank	CSMP	\$ 38,537.54
People's Bank	Covered Bridge	\$ 22,399.85
People's Bank	Katywil	\$ 43,761.91
People's Bank	Deputy Collector	\$ 2,212.84
Berkshire Bank	General	\$ 1,052.54
MMDT	General	\$ 2,070.02
MMDT	Arts' Council	\$ 7,003.23
Unibank	General	\$ 582,858.82
Unibank	Bond	\$ 1,433.90
Unibank	Payables	\$ 14,518.54
Unibank	Payroll 2015	\$ 10,545.79
Unibank	AP 2015	\$ 69,484.53
Unibank	Clerk Online	\$ 12.00
Unibank	Collector Online	\$ 0.02
Unibank	CDBG	\$ 2.40
Greenfield Co-operative Bank	General	\$ 290,198.23
Balance as of June 30, 2016		\$ 1,117,870.87

**TRUST FUNDS ANNUAL REPORT  
July 1, 2015 – June 30, 2016**

Location of Funds:

People's United Bank		
Martha Babbitt Fund		\$ 761.94
MMDT		
Meetinghouse Cemetery Fund		\$ 204.53
Annie Browning Trust Fund		\$ 204.53
Miller-Denison Lots		\$ 204.53
Grace A Teney Fund		\$ 103.57
East Colrain Cemetery Fund		\$ 1,023.08
Davenport Relief Fund		\$ 6,121.97
Stabilization Fund		\$ 407,308.33
Stabilization Audit Fund		\$ 14,108.56
Stabilization Fire Fund		\$ 40,197.81
Stabilization Highway Fund		\$ 80,337.71
Stabilization Assessors Fund		\$ 16,079.24
Stabilization Transfer Station		\$ 25,103.29
Greenfield Co-operative Bank		
Stabilization Technology		\$ 6,015.44
Stabilization Police Vehicle/Equipment		\$ 30,078.30
Total Trust Funds June 30, 2016		\$ 627,852.83

# Annual Reports

## Animal Control Officer and Animal Inspector

The dynamics of animal control follow a fairly predictable pattern. There are high levels of lost and roaming dogs in the spring and the fall, along with an increase of bites involving both domestic and wild animals. Be especially watchful at these seasonal transitions. Your animals are “being animals.”

Rabies has not been a problem in Colrain in 2016. We follow a strict state-mandated quarantine procedure when animals have been bitten, to make sure that possible rabies contagion does not spread. Thank you, owners of bitten animals, for your cooperation in following this quarantine.

All lost or roaming dogs will be transported to the Franklin regional dog kennel in Montague, and are not kenneled in Colrain. There is a pick up and transportation fee, as well as kennel fees and municipal fines whenever a lost or roaming dog is picked up. I always try to locate the owner prior to transporting a dog to the kennel, but without tags—it goes to the kennel. It is wise to keep identification attached to your dog—tags for rabies, dog license, and name tags with a phone number are what most dog owners use to identify their dogs—so that when I pick them up I can locate their owners. Keep your animals identified, healthy, legal, and safe.

Please keep your rabies vaccinations and dog license renewals up to date. Under Massachusetts General Law, Chapter 140, Section 145B, all dogs *and cats* must have a current rabies vaccination. There is a \$50 fine for unvaccinated animals. Check the Colrain town website for information about all regulations and fees for dogs and cats.

The annual inspection of livestock that I make each year gives our state agriculture department important information regarding health and disease trends. Once again, I thank all the owners of livestock in Colrain for their care and effort to keep the creatures that are in our care safe and healthy.

In addition to dog control, I also respond to animal complaints regarding ferrets, bats, snakes, and reptiles. I also deal with livestock who roam, including cattle, pigs, goats, horses, llamas, and sheep.

Call me with your concerns and questions regarding your dogs. I am available 24 hours a day/365, to deal with domestic animal needs at 624-3238.

Respectfully submitted,  
Jack Cavolick, Animal Control Officer and Animal Inspector

## Board of Health

2016 was again a relatively quiet year for our board. There were no large events or problems which require special comment.

As is customary, the Board of Health largely draws its officers and agents from among its own members. Currently these positions are:

Health Officer: Jason Ferenc  
Housing Inspector: Jack Cavolick  
Sanitarian: Michael Friedlander  
Food Inspector: Tim Slowinski  
Public Health Nurse: Nina Martin-Anzuoni  
Radiological Officer: Diana Thatcher

The Board issued 44 permits and did 11 inspections.

Disposal system permits:	9
Food service permits:	2
Wastewater haulers permits:	3
System installers permits:	8
Well permits:	13
Food inspections:	2
Septic inspections:	9
Percolation tests:	9

The Board of Health continues to pursue its enforcement program for environmental crime. We will investigate any case of illegal dumping in town, and issue citations or file criminal charges. Any person with information relating to illegal dumping of trash or other materials should report the incident to the Town Hall at 624-3454.

The Board of Health has been sponsoring blood pressure screenings at the Senior Meal and at the Town Hall and Library. Second, Third and Fourth Wednesdays of the Month respectively. All screenings are 11am till 12pm.

The Board of Health meets on the last Wednesday of the month by appointment. Check the town bulletin board for meeting time and dates. To be placed on the agenda for a meeting call 624-3454.

Respectfully submitted,  
Michael Friedlander, Chair

## **Building Inspector**

During the period of January 1, 2016 to December 31, 2016, there were 81 building permits issued in the Town of Colrain.

New Homes	5	Demolition	5
Additions	2	Roof	8
Renovations	16	Insulation	9
Accessory Buildings	4	Sign	2
Wood Stoves/pellet - Stoves/chimneys	10	PhotoVoltaic installations Sprinklers	19 1

The Town collected \$5,033 in permit fees on construction valued at **\$ 1,480,070.80**.

A building permit is required by the State Building Code to construct, reconstruct, alter, repair, remove, or demolish a building or structure, or to change the use or occupancy of a building or structure. If you are not sure whether your project will require a building permit, please call before you begin construction.

This year saw a dramatic increase in the number of photovoltaic installations. They accounted for 42% of the total construction value. I expect this trend to continue into 2017. Other types of construction continued around their historical averages.

An issue that has come to light in the last year has been the establishment of unauthorized Air B&B's. B&B's are regulated by the Colrain Zoning Bylaws as well as the Massachusetts State Building Code. The Zoning Bylaws allow for newly established B&B's with less than 6 bedrooms in rural/agr. districts by right but require a special permit in the village district. The State Building Code requires newly established B&B's (regardless if breakfast is served) to be treated as an R1 or R3. This requires adherence with the base code as opposed to the residential code. All residential uses in the base code require the building to be sprinklered as well as other life protective requirements. If you are considering opening an Air B&B please stop in to my office so that I can point out the requirements for this change of use.

My office hours are every Wednesday night between 6 p.m. and 8 p.m. at the new town hall. My office telephone # is 624-4728, I can also be reached at home, weeknights before 9 p.m. at 624-9621.

Respectfully submitted,

Shawn Kimberley

## **Carl H. Nilman Scholarship Fund**

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

This year the Awards Subcommittee read 77 applications; 28 were from seniors and 49 were from graduates. \$33,350 was our allotment for scholarships which we used 30% for seniors and 70% for graduates. The Committee feels that seniors have multiple scholarship opportunities from other sources while graduates have fewer resources. 23 scholarships totaling \$10,000.00 were awarded to seniors (82% of applicants) 40 scholarships totaling \$23,350 were given to graduates (82%) of applicants.

From 1991-2016 a total of \$909,975.00 has been awarded in scholarships. Mohawk seniors have received \$280,775.00 and \$629,200.00 has been awarded to Mohawk graduates.

The same formula for determining what percentages of the fund should be distributed as scholarships, which had been established by the School Committee and the management firm of Bartholomew and Co., was used again this year.

Once again the applications is available on line to the graduates and seniors can pick up their application at Mohawk

Press releases were published in both the Independent and the Greenfield Recorder in March containing information about the Carl H. Nilman Scholarship Fund.

There are fifteen members on the Carl H. Nilman Scholarship Committee; one from each of the nine member towns in the district, three at large members appointed by the School Committee, plus a past School Committee, current School Committee member and the chairman of the School Committee. Members from the nine towns are: Sheila Graves (Ashfield), Marion Scott (Buckland), Marge Porrovecchio (Charlemont), Michelle Hillman (Colrain), Jonathan Diamond (Heath), Alice Parker (Hawley), Allen Irvine (Plainfield), Marion Taylor (Shelburne) and Rowe (open). Suzanne Crawford is the representative to the School Committee.

Officers are: Marge Porrovecchio and Robin Hartnett, Co-Chairs and Marion Scott is Secretary. Subcommittees are: Finance, Marion Taylor, Robin Hartnett and David Engle/Eric Sumner. Scholarship: Marge Porrovecchio, Sheila Graves, Michelle Hillman, Marion Scott and Allen Irvine.

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

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

Respectfully submitted Marion E. Scott, Secretary

## Colrain Central School

Colrain Central School is growing! We currently serve 115 students, up from 110 last year, and their families in grades preK-6. We have 7 classrooms, plus preschool, and an outstanding support staff of interventionists, therapists, and special education staff to help meet the needs of all of our students.

Academically, teachers have been looking at effective teaching practices and trying to incorporate more project-based learning opportunities in the classroom. They have been working hard to ensure that all of our students are able to access the curriculum and be involved in meaningful educational endeavors. One of the major elements of our school improvement plan this year is writing and implementing new science units to target the new state standards in science. Each classroom will fully implement one new unit this year, and plan for implementation of others next year. We have also continued to focus on teaching math, exploring new ways to ensure that students fully understand deep mathematical concepts and have a strong number sense.

We continue to use our early release days for strong professional development and Professional Learning Communities (PLCs). During this time, teachers are able to meet together to examine student data and plan more effective strategies for helping students learn. They are also able to collaborate and explore new teaching methods that they may incorporate in the classroom.

To address some of the social/emotional needs that we are seeing in our students, we continue to implement weekly “Circle Talks” with the school’s adjustment counselor, as well as most aspects of the Responsive Classroom philosophy. Additionally, this year, some classrooms have been teaching students about the “Zones of Regulation” and helping support them through the use of a variety of mindfulness strategies.

Some of the facility improvements that have happened in 2016 include the removal of old caulking and re-caulking approximately 25 windows on the new wing of the school. The concrete stairs on the east and west sides of the school have been repaired and the old walk-ways that ran parallel to the building on the west side have been removed and three new ones installed that ran from the doors to the parking lot, perpendicular to the building. These new walks were also sealed in November. Finally, some brick repair on the northwest corner of the building has occurred. Additionally, Chris Goddard, our custodian and Eric Deane, the district maintenance manager, had the sewer pumped, replaced the boost for the kitchen dishwasher, installed the new sign in front of the building, painted the kitchen, and performed other various annual maintenance times including checking the boilers, fire extinguishers, smoke/fire alarm systems, and pest control (ticks) on the playground.

As always, I invite you all to come and see the wonderful things happening in our school. Our students are becoming creative problem solvers and will indeed be equipped to face the challenges of the world that awaits them. Our school community is one of caring, engaged students and staff members who are working together to discover the excitement of learning. I remain honored to serve this town as the principal of Colrain Central School.

Respectfully submitted,  
Amy K Looman



## **Colrain Firefighters' Association, Inc.**

2016 was another busy and productive year for the Colrain Firefighters Association. We accomplished numerous feats and goals in our everlasting commitment to provide the Colrain fire department and its members unprecedented abilities to purchase gear and equipment that will enhance the department's capabilities and to assist the fire department's members with unforeseen tragedies and events.

To start off, the association last year acquired a military surplus Humvee that we ended up replacing our brush truck with a truck from Fort Devens MA, as well as buying a \$10,000 pump/skid unit for it. The Colrain Highway department did a very professional and clean job of painting the brush truck and the association paid \$640 to letter the new brush truck and \$1000 for lights. We decided to dedicate it in loving memory of a veteran member and Colrain fire department chief, Perry Johnson. Our new brush truck has already seen service and has been everything we'd hoped it would be.

The fundraising events that the association puts on annually have continually been great successes and pivotal to us accomplishing the goals we have set in the past. In addition to the semi-annual boot drives and pancake breakfasts that we put on, the association started a gun raffle in the fall that was also successful. The Colrain Firefighters Association has spent a total of \$13,652.45 in the past year.

Other expenses that the association helped the Colrain fire department with is supplying 7 firefighters with new uniform pants and paying \$1235.81 to fix rust on the underside of our utility truck and have it fluid filmed underneath. We also hired Joe Hillman to build the fire department another gear and hose rack to accommodate the increase in firefighters and their gear as well as to keep our hose clean, organized, and long lasting. During the last part of 2016 the association looked into making a big capital investment into buying battery operated jaws of life. This investment was a very long and thought out process, which took many meetings and demonstrations in order to find out and make our decision. In the end, the association decided to buy a Holmatro battery operated spreader for \$6923, which came with two batteries, a charger, and a lifetime warranty. The dealer, Industrial Protective Services (IPS) was extremely generous and gave us a top of the line Holmatro battery operated cutter after we had expressed interest in buying one in the future, which we will have paid for by the end of February. These two new tools (totaling over \$14,000) which are some of the only ones around, greatly enhance the Colrain fire department's capabilities to safely and efficiently extricate patients from motor vehicles, which in turn increases patient's survival rates by getting them to the proper facility within the "golden hour".

In conclusion, the Colrain Firefighters Association would like to thank everyone whom has supported us throughout the years, from the members, to the citizens of Colrain and elsewhere. Without your support and thoughtfulness our fire department would not be the progressive, strong, and capable asset as it is now, nor the role model that it is for other fire departments. For all whom have donated to us in the past or have lent their talents and services in support of us, we're extremely grateful and appreciative.

**Thank You**

## **Council on Aging**

The Council on Aging's program has become well established and is flourishing with each passing year. Our principal event occurring each month receives many compliments from seniors attending, is a meal prepared by our own master chef, Sharon Call. There are approximately 125 meals served to those attending, with more than a dozen takeout meals prepared for those unable to leave their homes. During the meal there is printed information available for seniors at each table and several programs with speakers are presented throughout the year that are of interest to seniors in attendance. Our thanks to all who help do the work at each of these meals as it makes them a great success.

The foot clinic by Oni, which occurs normally twice a month is doing very well. Her clients are most appreciative with her help in the care for the feet.

Apple Day held at Pine Hill Orchards in the fall, during "apple picking season", an event attended by many, since we have teamed up with the West County Seniors. This event is enjoyed by all as it gives the seniors a nice day out and a wonderful bag of apples to enjoy.

We have enjoyed a couple trips this year, one being the annual day to the "Big E" and the other a boat ride on the Connecticut River out of South Hadley.

We were able to host another wonderful evening of music with the Shelburne Falls Military Band performing in Colrain for the third year. This we hope will become an annual event for everyone to share. An Ice Cream Social was also incorporated into the evening with a free ice cream sundae to all who wanted to indulge.

Thank you to the Colrain Community Church for the use of the building. Also a thank you to Pine Hill Orchards for allowing the COA to hold the "Apple Day" event, and donation of cider and donuts for the monthly social hour before the meal.

We would like to thank the people of Colrain for their continued support for the Council on Aging which makes everything possible.

## **Cultural Council**

The Colrain Cultural Council is part of the grass roots network of 329 local councils that serve every town and city in our Commonwealth. The State Legislature provides and allocates funding to each local cultural council. Although there has been a tremendous strain on local economies, our Legislators, Governor Charlie Baker and Lisa Simmons, the Massachusetts Cultural Council Programs Coordinator Office of Boston, have displayed tenacious strength and resolve to continue funding arts councils in our local communities. This group of individuals are quite a force and are the reason we, the Town of Colrain, were the recipients of the level of funding we received. During our annual voting meeting in December 2016, the council members reviewed and discussed twenty-four grant applications.

Our council is charged by the Town of Colrain to make the best decisions possible. First and foremost, we care about the needs of the people of Colrain, who deserve the finest arts and cultural inspiration. The following grants are highlights of the twenty we accepted:

- Griswold Memorial Library
- Coop Concerts
- Pothole Pictures Film Series
- The Art Garden
- Arms Library *Imagine That!*
- The Collected Poet Series
- Double Edge Theater
- Pioneer Valley Symphony
- FCTS Spring Production
- Youth Curated Community Art Show

## **Emergency Management Director**

Another year went by without a declared emergency in our community. Good fortune continues to be with us, as we did not have any major weather or natural events that necessitated the opening and staffing of the town's Emergency Operation Center, which is located in the Fire House. Thanks to our first responders and our mutual aid agreements, we remain a strong and safe community.

As Vermont Yankee continues its decommissioning and shut down operations, funding was discontinued in 2016 for the town emergency sirens and Code Red telephone alert system for weather and public health emergencies. We are presently restructuring and seeking financial support for an automatic telephone emergency notification system, similar to the previous Code Red system. The Town of Colrain hopes to have this new system up and operating by the summer of 2017, so that, in the event of a possible weather emergency, road closure, or public alert, we will have an automatic telephone notification system to alert all subscribers of the emergency event.

Respectfully submitted,  
Jack Cavolick, Emergency Management Director  
Kevin French, Assistant Emergency Management Director

## Finance Committee

During the past year the Finance Committee worked collaboratively with the Board of Selectmen to develop the 2017 Fiscal Year Budget. We were able to make solid contributions to our various stabilization funds, ensuring that large expenses can be gradually saved up for. We were able to complete a planned purchase of a pickup truck for the highway department and a new trash compactor for the transfer station, along with much needed upgrades to the town offices.

Thanks to our Town Treasurer/Tax Collector for her diligence in collecting back taxes, enhancing our free cash balance. Together with other funding this has given us the capability to build our new Town Garage without additional taxes. We continued to work with the Personnel Committee to ensure our employees are being paid fairly and so that we can retain the outstanding talent we have and attract good people going forward.

All of these efforts ensure that the town is adequately funded and we're properly planning for future large capital needs in a sustainable fashion. These measures will enhance our standing as we pursue municipal bond funding for broadband infrastructure in the next few years.

While the town is in good financial shape, we are challenged by our ever-increasing tax rate. Our underlying realities include a tiny commercial base, lack of broadband internet, a high percentage of land in Chapter 61, and an aging population. Our town center is in need of major public and private infrastructure upgrades in order to lay the basis for economic development. While these challenges are daunting, town officials and residents are working diligently to address these issues. Plans have been laid for sewer and road upgrades at the Center of town, our Last Mile broadband committee is working hard to bring in broadband, and the BEST committee and Mohawk School Committee have taken up the huge challenge of finding a way forward that works for both our students and our residents. Long term efforts by the School District to gain control of the ever-increasing school budget are encouraging but these well thought-out plans will take several years to implement. We encourage all town residents to get involved as this work unfolds - the future of Colrain is at stake.

Respectfully submitted,

Charles Lappen - Chair

Lynn DiTullio

Doug MacLeay

Rachel Glick

## Fire Department

The Colrain Fire Department experienced another very active year. Shelburne Control dispatched 212 calls for the fire department from January 1, 2016 to December 31, 2016. These incidents are sorted as follows:

Structure fires	2	Vehicle accidents	15
Vehicle fires	0	Brush fires	5
Power lines down	21	Medical assistance	87
Hazardous material	2	Non-permitted fires	5
Mutual Aid given	31	Chimney Fires	2
Miscellaneous	8	Mutual aid Lucas calls	13
Rescues	2	Fire/CO alarm	3
Investigations/Assist	9	ATV/Bike/Snowmobile MVA	4
Search	1	Lifelight LZ	1
Station Staffed	1		

The 2014 HME rescue pumper continues to be our first out engine and has been a valuable addition to the fleet. The Firefighters' Association raised funds to purchase a set of Holmatro extrication tools, which adds increased auto extrication capability to the HME. The Association has also purchased a skid unit for our HUMVEE and it is now our front line brush truck. The Federal Excess Property Program provided this vehicle free of charge to the town.

Franklin County has experienced several tragic structure fires last year and we encourage all residents to maintain smoke detectors and carbon monoxide detectors. It is mandatory that all residential homes that heat with combustible fuels, such as wood, oil, coal or gas, to have carbon monoxide detectors on all inhabited floors. Real estate transactions require a carbon monoxide and smoke detector inspection prior to closing. This "silent killer" has resulted in numerous fatalities and narrow escapes throughout Massachusetts, and Colrain is no exception. Detectors are inexpensive and easy to install. Please contact the fire department or the Massachusetts Fire Marshall's office for more information or assistance. We have expanded our inspection staff so please feel free to contact us with any questions.

Please note that with the coming of winter it is important to have your house number visible to emergency responders. This is important to homes with long driveways that may be difficult to see, especially at night.

We have over twenty-four active members on our roster and many of them are Emergency Medical Technicians. Firefighters require mandatory first aid, CPR, and hazardous material training in addition to basic the Firefighter 1 class. The fire department also has an active junior firefighter program for members 14-17 years of age. This program allows juniors to receive first aid and CPR training in addition to an opportunity to observe and train with the regular firefighters. Five of our junior firefighters become members of the Colrain Fire Department this year when they turned 18 years of age. The department continues to train aggressively and has had several opportunities to use live fire drills. These enable our firefighters to be proficient in fire suppression and lifesaving skills.

The online burning permit system will be available again at [www.fcburnpermits.com](http://www.fcburnpermits.com). The open burning season usually runs from January 17 to May 2017. Trash or construction materials are not permitted under the Massachusetts open burning laws. You may also contact Shelburne Control at 625-8200 to obtain a permit. Please use caution when burning and keep the fire a minimum of 75' from any structure, maintain a clean fire break around the burn area and keep at least 5 gallons of water on the site.

In closing, we thank the Selectmen, town office staff, finance committee, personnel committee, Colrain Ambulance Association, Colrain Firefighter's Association, police department and the highway

department for their continued support throughout the year. Our gratitude also goes out to the residents of Colrain for your continued support of the Fire Department in so many ways. We wish you all a safe 2017.

Respectfully,  
Nicholas Anzuoni  
Fire Chief

## **Franklin County Regional Council of Government**

The Franklin Regional Council of Governments provides a variety of services and programming to the municipalities of Franklin County and to the greater Franklin County region. The FRCOG's 2016 Annual Report, which will be available in April of 2017 and on [www.frcog.org](http://www.frcog.org) shortly thereafter, will highlight our work over the past year. Specific services to the Town of Colrain in 2016 included the following.

### **Administration and Special Projects**

- Colrain participated in the regional sign-making program, sharing equipment with ten other towns in Franklin County.
- Staff worked with the Town Administrator to develop a long-range capital plan as part of the Baker-Polito Community Compact Program. By formally accepting the plan, the Town has earned points toward future state grant opportunities.

### **Collective Bidding & Purchasing Program**

- Colrain contracted with the FRCOG to receive cooperative bid pricing for up to 24 different Highway Products and Services. Total estimated highway needs for FY17 is \$463,227.
- Colrain participates in the #2 Fuel and Diesel Fuel bids.
- Colrain participates in the Dog Tags and Licenses collective bid program.

### **perative Public Health Service Health District**

Colrain is not a member of the CPHS health district, but receives some benefits through the staff's regional work at the Shelburne Falls Senior Center.

### **Partnership for Youth**

- Staff conducted a Teen Health Survey to assess teen attitudes and behavior among middle and high school students. Staff reported to Mohawk Trail Regional School administrators on results from 137 Mohawk students, representing 63% of the 8th, 10th, and 12th grade classes. Survey data meets federal requirements for the school and is valuable for grant-writing and program planning.

### **Planning and Development Department**

- Staff developed and implemented a tri-town community food assessment survey, working with the Colrain Agricultural Commission in collaboration with the Towns of Heath and Charlemont.

- Staff prepared a Draft Business Plan and Legislation for the Mohawk Trail Woodlands Partnership Project for 11 West County towns including Colrain, with specific recommendations and projects to support Natural Resource Based Economic Development, Forest Conservation & Municipal Financial Sustainability.
- Staff continued to work the Town and MassDOT to advance the Village Center Complete Streets project through the regional Transportation Improvement Program.
- Staff conducted traffic counts as requested on Adamsville Road, South Green River Road, Greenfield Road, and Route 112.

### **Regional Preparedness Program**

- Staff conducted quarterly contact drills and a site notification drill to test the *Mohawk Emergency Dispensing Site Plan*.
- One EMT attended Regional Emergency Planning Committee meetings.
- Colrain entered into a Memorandum of Understanding with the FRCOG to recognize the Multi-Agency Coordination Center as the official organization to assist them with emergency management needs.

### **Workshops & Training**

The following list represents the FRCOG workshops and training sessions that Colrain public officials, staff, and residents attended and the number in attendance.

#### **Municipal Official Continuing Education Series**

Public Records Law — 1

Municipal Farmland Leasing and Protection — 1

#### **Partnership for Youth**

Advanced LifeSkills — 1 representative of the Mohawk Trail Regional School District

#### **Planning, Conservation, and Development**

Historic House Care — 2

#### **Western Regional Homeland Security Advisory Council**

Active Shooter Symposium — 3

#### **Cooperative Public Health Service**

ServSafe/Choke Saver/Allergen Training Series — 1

#### **Regional Emergency Preparedness**

Emergency Preparedness for People with Access and Functional Needs — 1

Sudden Unaffiliated Volunteers — 1

Intro to Public Health Emergency Preparedness Capabilities — 1

## Franklin County Technical School District

We submit this annual report for 2016 on behalf of the Franklin County Technical School District and its administration, faculty, staff and students.

Total enrollment as of October 1, 2016 was 437 students with town breakouts as follows:

Bernardston	21	Erving	33	Montague	59	Sunderland	6
Buckland	9	Gill	10	New Salem	3	Warwick	9
Colrain	21	Greenfield	109	Northfield	35	Wendell	7
Conway	7	Heath	12	Orange	61	Whately	9
Deerfield	16	Leyden	7	Shelburne	3		

Franklin County Technical School awarded 117 diplomas to our seniors in June of 2016. Massachusetts students are required to pass the MCAS in order to receive a high school diploma and once again our students were very successful in meeting this high academic standard. FCTS has maintained Level 2 Accountability status for the last four years. Our overall Progress and Performance Index (PPI) moved from 17% in 2012 (Level III) to 31% in 2014 (Level II) and have maintained Level II status ever since, with nearly 30% growth each year. Additionally, the district met the goals set by the Department of Education for passing rates of students of high risk with disabilities.

98.3% of FCTS students receive a high school diploma and vocational certificate with 69% planning to join the regional workforce, while others plan to join the military or attend post-secondary or trade/technical schools. FCTS dropout rate is also significantly below the state and regional average. We are proud of the accomplishments of the Class of 2016.

On June 23, 2015 Franklin County Technical School District was fortunate to have received approval from all nineteen member towns to participate in a bond authorization which allowed FCTS to fund the MSBA 73.89% reimbursed Window and Door Replacement Project, as well as afford FCTS the opportunity to repair its twenty year-old roof and ensure paving upgrades of its forty year old driveway, track, parking lot and associated areas, which were original to the school in 1976. Payment for the bond will not impact member towns until FY19. FCTS now has state-of-the-art exterior energy efficient doors and windows, new parking lot paving and lights, track, basketball courts and a new silicone roof coating. In addition, FCTS will be adding new interior doors and handles to bring us into ADA compliance. FCTS students were instrumental with landscaping associated with the projects, digging conduits to lay wire for lighting, and supporting installation of parking lot lights to save the district tens of thousands of dollars.

Franklin County Technical School's technical programs have been busy with community-based projects that are used as learning opportunities. This year, as in the past, students embrace the authentic work that is done in the communities and truly engage in building their skills while out on work sites. Project work is treated as an immersive activity, with guidance and professional direction by instructors. Due to the instructional nature of the work, duration of a project may increase, but costs associated with a project to our cities and towns are significantly decreased. Within the walls of FCTS, students from Electrical, Plumbing, Carpentry, Landscaping/Horticulture, Auto Technology, Welding and Collision Repair are involved in repair and upgrading activities that save FCTS money as compared to associated costs with hiring contractors. What follows are some examples of the ways in which we serve our communities: FCTS faculty, staff and students donate to food drives for needy families and organizations throughout Franklin County. Our Culinary Arts program donates to the Franklin County Sheriff's Office Regional Dog Shelter and FCTS instructors and students within specific shop areas visit veterans at the Veterans Hospital on Veterans Day. Our Pre-Employment or (PEP) program provides specialized instruction and training for students with disabilities, donates to the Dakin Animal Shelter



and Ronald McDonald House. In Bernardston, Electrical instructors and students provided electrical maintenance work at the Bernardston Library, while Carpentry instructors and students completed the roof over a handicap ramp at the Bernardston Veterans Clubhouse. Electrical instructors and students wired/retrofitted the Colrain Fire Station for a network; as well as having provided work on the Colrain Fire Station's emergency generator. In Conway, Programming & Web Design instructors and students planned to create a website on Field Memorial Library; and in Deerfield, Carpentry and Electrical instructors and students worked on a new electric service enclosure on Deerfield's Town Common. Culinary Arts instructors and students help with the Schuetzen Verein Senior Expo and Senior Center functions in Gill/Montague.

In Greenfield our Health Technology instructors and students are involved in community service learning sites at: Community Action Parent/Child Development Center; Poet's Seat Healthcare Facility; GVNA Adult Day Health; Arbors Assisted Living Facility; NELCWIT/GVNA; Recovery Project; Buckley Nursing Facility. Electrical instructors and students retrofitted LED lighting at Greenfield Community College. Cosmetology instructors and students have been involved with the Girl's Day Out at the YMCA; and have provided beautician services at local nursing homes. Culinary Arts instructors and students have also been involved in Girl's Day Out at the YMCA; provide cookie donation to the GCC's golf tournament; and the Soups & Game Night at Hope & Olive. Machine Technology students help set up for the Relay for Life at the Greenfield Fair Grounds. Carpentry students installed 50 new window boxes at Greenfield Housing Authority's Elm Terrace; and frame enclosed a new athletic storage building at Greenfield High School. In Montague, Health Technology instructors and students are involved in community service learning at Community Action Parent/Child Development Center. FCTS Automotive Technology and Collision and Repair programs painted brackets for Judd Wire, repaired a trailer for the Turners Falls Police Department, and completed pin and bushing repair for the Turners Falls Police Department.

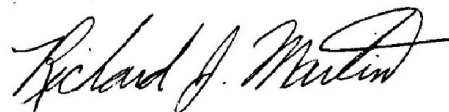
Electrical students worked on the Shelburne Trolley Museum's car barn and also have work pending on the Sunderland Library. Additionally, they have been involved with an LED lighting retrofit for the Warwick DPW; and have worked on the Warwick Police & Fire Department's emergency generator. Plumbing and Heating students installed a multi-head heat pump Mini-Split system for the Warwick Police Department, and Electrical students completed work on that system, as well. The Town of Whately invited our Collision shop and Repair and Refinishing shop to restore a Chevy Silverado for the Whately Fire Department; and our Electrical students have finished wiring the Wendell town kitchen.

Our partnerships with our communities are important for our programs, and we thank those who allow our students the opportunity to practice their trades out in the field.

Respectfully,



Mr. Richard J. Kuklewicz  
School Committee Chairman



Mr. Richard J. Martin  
**Superintendent-Director**

**Franklin County Technical School District Committee 2016**

Bernardston-Lloyd J. Szulborski; Buckland-Laura J. Earl; Colrain-Nicole Slowinski;  
Conway-Brian Kuzmeskus; Deerfield-Katherine James; Erving-Robert F. Bitzer; Gill-Clifford C.  
Hatch;  
Greenfield-Paul R. Doran, Christopher L. Joseph, Mark Leonard, Mark M. Maloney;

Heath-Arthur A. Schwenger; Leyden-Gerald N. Levine; Montague-Richard J. Kuklewicz,  
Chairperson;  
Dennis L. Grader; New Salem-Angela Fournier; Northfield-Scott Milton;  
Orange-Clifford J. Fournier, Secretary; Linda R. Chapman;  
Shelburne-Angus Dun, Vice-Chairperson; Sunderland-James Bernotas; Warwick-A. George Day, Jr.;  
Wendell-Richard E. Drohen; Whately-Donald C. Sluter

## **Franklin County Solid Waste Management District**

To the Residents of the Solid Waste District:

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

A review of recycling tonnage for 2016 shows almost an identical amount of recycling tonnage since 2014. District residents recycled almost 1,700 tons of paper and just over 1,100 tons of mixed containers, which were processed at the Springfield Materials Recycling Facility.

In 2016, the District sponsored spring and fall “Clean Sweep” collections for bulky items, electronics, tires, appliances, and anything too big to fit into a trash bag. Over 62 tons of material were recycled or disposed of from the two collections. A total of 550 households participated in these collection events.

We held our annual household hazardous waste collection in October 2016. This event allows residents to properly dispose of toxic cleaners, automotive products, pesticides, and other toxic products. A total of 313 households participated in this event. 50% of participants were using the collection for the first time.

We applied for and received grants from the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection worth \$88,350 for District towns. Some grant funding relates to the town’s successful waste management infrastructure. Other grants include equipment to make a town’s transfer station more efficient.

We continued to bale wood pellet bags and agricultural plastic in our second year of this recycling program. We manage the recycling and composting program at the Franklin County Fair and assist other events with waste reduction efforts. We work in each school system helping with waste management bids and with fostering sustainable waste reduction programs.

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

Jan Ameen - *Executive Director*  
Chris Boutwell, Montague - *Vice-Chair*

Jonathan Lagreze, Colrain - *Chair*  
MA Swedlund, Deerfield - *Treasure*

## **Griswold Memorial Library**

Did you know that there is Wi-Fi available at the library 24/7? The Broadband speed was just increased so it is quicker to download files. Unless there has been a recent electrical outage, Wi-Fi is available every day, even from the parking lot.

The trustees held their annual candidates night in April allowing patrons and candidates to meet and informally discuss town issues.

The adult book discussion group continues to meet through the year. New members are always welcome. Book choices are made by members and books are provided in any available format through interlibrary loan. Delicious snacks are shared.

“On Your Mark, Get Set, Read!” was the theme of this year’s summer reading program. The Colrain Cultural Council and the Friends of the Library funded a six week craft series attended by a total of 71 children and 50 caregivers. Our summer reading program finale this year was funded by the Friends, co-hosted by the Colrain PTO and included a yummy ice cream party.

Pre-school story hour with stories, snack, and craft continues from late September through May. Total attendance was 57 children and 33 adults.

Circulation for FY16 was 16536 books, magazines, audio books on CD and cassette, videos, DVDs, and music CDs. Approximately 5628 patrons visited the library. The Massachusetts Library System (MLS) delivers interlibrary loan (ILL) materials to Colrain three times a week. Colrain provided 1889 items to other libraries through ILL. If a specific title is not in our library, interlibrary loan usually can locate items for use. Colrain patrons borrowed 3399 items from other libraries through ILL. Patrons can use their library card to log in at <http://bark.cwmars.org> to request materials, renew items, and search databases. eBooks, eAudio, and eVideo are available through the library network. Log in and download materials for your Tablet, Kindle or Nook! All you need is your library card.

Library hours are Monday and Friday 3-8 pm, Wednesday 10 am-8 pm, and Saturday 10 am-1 pm.

## Highway Superintendent

We received another CDBG (Community Development Block Grant) this year. These funds were used to reconstruct Church Street. Besides repaving the street, there were drainage upgrades and new guardrails were installed.

We didn't get a lot of snow this year but we did get a lot of ice. This makes traveling much more difficult than snow. I appreciate your patience. Please take a minute this fall to make sure your mailbox is secure and reinforced for winter. Heavy, wet snow can do a number on them when the snow is discarded from our plows.

Using funds from our Transfer Station Stabilization Account, we purchased a new trash compactor for the Transfer Station.

Our Over the Guardrail mower tractor had transmission issues this fall. The repairs were going to cost more than the tractor was worth. We purchased another used tractor in November using funds from the Highway Stabilization Account. The town's mechanic is going to take the mower off the old tractor and put it on the new tractor during the winter months.

We are continuing to cut brush over and on the sides of the roads in town. We are also trying to cut dead branches and dead trees that could be a hazard to the motoring public. I am also working with Eversource helping them to identify dangerous trees near their powerlines that are too dangerous for my crew to cut. They cut nearly one hundred trees this year, ranging from twelve inches to forty inches in width.

I would like to thank my crew for their continuing support and dedication to the Town of Colrain.

Respectfully Submitted,

Scott F. Sullivan

**Mary Lyon Foundation, Inc.**  
**2016 Annual Report**  
**Innovative Support of Local Education**

This year was highlighted by a gala celebration of the Mary Lyon Foundation's auspicious 25th anniversary. On August 6 at the Mary Lyon House in Buckland 25 doves were released to commemorate the 25 successful years that the foundation has provided services, programs, scholarships, mini-grants for school district staff, and professional development opportunities to enhance local education. Opening remarks were given by Dr. Bruce Willard, and Susan Daniels, a Mount Holyoke graduate, delivered the keynote speech. Bruce Willard, Jack Williams and David Newell were honored for their vision and early support of the Mary Lyon Foundation. The launch of the Putnam Hill Legacy Society with 15 founding members was officially announced. Our annual George Needham Business Award for extraordinary support of local education was presented to Blackmer Insurance Agency, and the Mohawk Outstanding Graduate Award was presented to Danny Field, formerly of Shelburne Falls, for his community contributions.

In September with our library partner, Arms Library, we distributed thousands of bookmarks at the Franklin County Fair and parade to kick-off our NEA Big Read of Luis Urrea's *Into the Beautiful North*. Funded by MassHumanities and the Community Foundation of Western Massachusetts' Franklin Fund, in October our Big Read hosted a vibrant *Spirit of Place Community Day* at Greenfield Community College (GCC). With support from GCC, Holyoke Community College (HCC), and generous cultural partners, we engaged families with music, storytelling, dance, art, poetry, a Dia de los Muertos altar, and a community meal. Afternoon panel discussions began with dynamic keynote speaker Sienna Wildfield of *Hilltown Families*. We also brought Mariachi Mexico Antiguo and the 1960 film version of "The Magnificent Seven" to Memorial Hall in Shelburne Falls and will host the author at GCC and HCC in April 2017. We were the only organization in MA to receive one of the 77 coveted grants awarded this year by the National Endowment for the Arts.

The Mary Lyon Foundation once again raised significant funds for mini-grants for innovative, educational projects in our local schools. The 11th annual Community Spelling Bee was held on November 10 at Mohawk Trail Regional School; 30 teams representing public and private schools, youth groups, senior citizens, civic organizations and businesses were led by Master of Ceremonies Jill Connolly and Spell Master Art Schwenger. A warm welcome was provided by Superintendent Michael Buoniconti, and Shelburne selectman Joe Judd convened a prestigious panel of judges. Winning the Grand Championship was the Cash Cow spelling bee team comprised of Samantha Rutz, Anneka Dunnington and Lauren Binger.

We greatly appreciate the support of the Myrtle Atkinson Foundation, TransCanada, Mayhew Steel Products, local financial institutions and businesses. We continue to provide warm clothes, food, eyeglasses, and other basic necessities for children in need through our ongoing Harper Gerry Student Assistance Fund, and we are grateful for the support of the United Way of Franklin County, the generous payroll deductions of school district staff, People's United Community Foundation, and many individual contributions that help us support children and their families.

Members of the Board of Directors for 2016 were Marion Taylor (Past President), Sylvia Orcutt (President), Hugh Knox (Vice President), Sharon Hudson (Corresponding Secretary), Katherine McKay (Recording Secretary), Karen Fairbrother (Treasurer), Susan Schuman, Peter Stevens, Robin Morgan Huntley, Joanne LaCour, Lawrence Wells, Mohawk Trail Regional School student representatives Eli Shearer and Lilly Wells. Business Manager is Gina Sieber, and volunteer Office Manager is Sandy

Gilbert. The Board of Directors joins us in thanking the many generous individuals, businesses and organizations in our community for making 2016 a highly successful year. The Mary Lyon Foundation is a 501(c)(3) community-based, non-profit organization that provides innovative support for education in our nine West County towns. Named in honor of Buckland-born educator Mary Lyon, who founded Mount Holyoke College in 1837, the organization continues to provide programs and services that greatly enhance the quality of local education.

Sheila Damkoehler and  
Susan Samoriski, Co-Executive

## **Annual Report of the Co-Principals Mohawk Trail Regional High School**

Mohawk was recognized by *U.S. News and World Report* as a Silver Medal school in 2016. Schools are ranked based on student performance on state testing as well as other factors (including attendance and graduation rates) that indicate how well they prepare students for college. Using a variety of measures, *U.S. News and World Report* places Mohawk in the top 21% of schools in Massachusetts and top 9% of schools in the country. Two key principles inform this ranking process: that a great high school must serve all of its students well, not just those who are college-bound, and that it must be able to produce measurable academic outcomes to show it is successfully educating its student body across a range of performance indicators.

Mohawk educators innovate to create rich learning experiences for our students. One example is the new Integrated Arts and English course collaboration between visual arts teacher Rachel Silverman and English teacher Rachel Hoogstraten. Ninth-grade students had the option to select the English 9 section that was partnered with an arts course so that they examine connections with the visual arts as they engage in exploration of literary works as diverse as Elie Wiesel's *Night*, Marjane Satrapi's memoir *Persepolis*, and John Steinbeck's novella *Of Mice and Men*.

After several years in development as a pilot course, this year the Senior Capstone Seminar is a graduation requirement for all seniors. Four educators collaborate in offering sections of the course throughout the day: English and History teacher Bill Drake, English teacher Erik Sussbauer, French and English teacher Michelle MacInnes, and Science and Computer Science teacher Downey Meyer. The Capstone course is designed to provide students with structured support as they pursue a substantive project based on their personal interests and passions; in many instances students choose a project that is associated with a field of study or career path that interests them. The following is a sampling of these diverse projects: Max Carr is building a weather balloon; Angela Szewczyk is creating a line of clothing and plans on having a fashion show as her final project; Tyler Rice is conducting a social media experiment about phone usage and people's emotional response to having their phones taken away; Sophie Raphael has been studying how using music can help students learn and retain vocabulary words and she has spent time working in a middle school teacher's classroom to test her theory; Brendan Gerry is working on fabricating a pig roaster; Rebecca Scranton is exploring mathematics teaching by observing math classes; Mahalia Dean is building a web site to share her family's long history in the region; Emma Musante is putting together an art show; Christina Tiberii is documenting her work as an assistant director for the production of the play "The Mouse That Roared" that was staged December 16; Christina Lively is setting up a 4-H club at Mohawk; Torsten Sloan Anderson is working on creating genetically modified bacteria that glows; Adam Hallenbeck, Zeke Rodriguez, and Sarah Paige are writing and recording their own songs to record a CD; and Autumn Smith is developing a business plan for setting up a bakery business.

Mohawk continues to expand offerings in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) with Robotics and Exploring Computer Science available to all high school students. Math teachers increasingly use Inquiry-Based Learning (IBL) approaches to math instruction which emphasize active engagement and problem-solving and high school science teachers use Process Oriented Guided Inquiry Learning approaches. Seventh grade science teacher Samantha Rutz was honored by the Massachusetts Association of Science Teachers (MAST) as the Franklin County Science Educator of the Year.

Mohawk students pursue advanced study in a wide range of subjects. In 2016 students took Advanced Placement exams in the following subjects: Calculus AB, Calculus BC, Chemistry, Comparative Government and Politics, English Language and Composition, English Literature and Composition, European History, Human Geography, Macroeconomics, Physics, U.S. Government, and U.S. History. Members of the Class of 2016 are continuing their education at Brandeis University, Campbell University, Clarkson University, Endicott College, Elms College, Fitchburg State College, Franklin Pierce University, George Washington University, Greenfield Community College, Green Mountain College, High Point University, Holyoke Community College, Keene State College, Mount Holyoke College, Oberlin College, Occidental College, Regis College, Rochester Institute of Technology, Smith College, Stonehill College, Southern Connecticut State, St. Lawrence University, Syracuse University, University of Massachusetts - Amherst, University of New England, University of Advancing Technology, and University of Tampa.

Technology continues to enrich student learning. The Class of 2016 gave 3-D printers as a class gift, and we have expanded our use of Chromebooks in the classroom. This year School Librarian Emily Willis began teaching Digital Literacy courses to middle school students, emphasizing responsible and informed use of online resources and media literacy. Teachers throughout our building focus on critical thinking and literacy skills to prepare students to be informed citizens.

Mohawk's extensive athletic program offers many opportunities. Athletic Director Fred Redeker notes that 79% of the graduating Class of 2016 played at least one sport while at Mohawk. Of those 57 students, 52 played at the varsity level of their respective sports, and 90% of those who played varsity participated in post-season play.

Our school uses Restorative Practices such as restorative circles, mediation conversations, and school-based community service assignments as part of an integrated approach to student discipline. Mohawk teachers and students have engaged in dialogue circles to support conversations regarding school culture and climate, and topics such as the role of technology in students' lives.

At the mid-point of the 2016-2017 school year, enrollment in grades 7-12 is 430. The seventh grade has 81 students and the eighth grade has 93 students. There are 57 students in grade 9, 68 in 10<sup>th</sup> grade, 69 juniors, and 62 seniors. Four students are enrolled in our post-graduate program.

Respectfully submitted,  
Lynn R. Dole and Marisa Mendonsa  
Co-Principals

## **Special Education and Pupil Services Report 2016 Annual Report**

The Mohawk Trail and Hawlemont Regional Special Education Department serves students in the Sanderson, Colrain, Hawlemont, Buckland-Shelburne, and Mohawk Middle and High Schools. The primary function is to ensure that students with an IEP or a 504 are being serviced at a level required to make effective progress with supports outlined in their IEP or 504. According to state data, The Mohawk Trail and Hawlemont Districts have about 19% of their student population receiving special education services. Those services are in several areas: speech and language, occupational therapy (OT), physical therapy (PT), counseling and academics. Every school has at least one special education teacher and an OT and PT who spend about one day a week in each school. Mohawk has a full time Speech Language Assistant and a part time Speech Language Pathologist. BSE has a full time and part time Speech Language Pathologist and Assistant. Colrain and Hawlemont share a full time Speech Language Pathologist and Assistant. Heath has a one day a week Speech Language Pathologist and Sanderson has a four day a week Speech Pathologist. Sanderson has three days of a Clinical School Psychologist. BSE and Colrain share an Adjustment Counselor and each has a School Psychologist. Hawlemont has a three day a week School Psychologist and Heath has a two day a week School Psychologist. The Middle and High Schools have a full time Adjustment Counselor and School Psychologist. The level of services in each building is based on population and the level of services legally required by an IEP.

With the support and initiative of several parents, the district was able to support a SEPAC (Special Education Parent Advisory Council). The council created by-laws, held monthly meetings and reached out to parents looking for support. We hope this year enables us to continue the support those parents created.

Over the last year, the districts had 12 students who were educated outside of the school district. Those students attended a school out of district for several reasons: 1) The district does not have a program that meets the student's level of need or 2) The student attended an out of district school prior to moving to the district and legally then is allowed to continue their placement in the school or 3) The last known address of the parent of the student was in our district and the DCF (Department of Children and Families) has placed the student in a residential school, requiring the district to pay for the educational component of the program.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Leann Loomis  
Director of Pupil Personnel Services



**Superintendent's Report**  
**2016 Annual Report**  
**Mohawk Trail Regional School District**  
**Hawlemont Regional School District**

I have had the good fortune of serving the wonderful communities of the Mohawk Trail Regional School District and Hawlemont Regional School District since 2005. My journey with Mohawk began with severe fiscal crisis, and my journey with Hawlemont soon became a similar challenge. Over the next decade, both Mohawk and Hawlemont underwent organizational transformations that resulted in both districts performing at historically high educational levels in 2016.

In June, Mohawk High School was awarded a silver medal by U.S. News & World Report in their 2016 ranking of the best high schools in the United States. On a national level, U.S. News & World Report ranked Mohawk 2,567 of 28,561 high schools in the United States, which places Mohawk among the top 9% of high schools in the nation. On a state level, U.S. News & World Report ranked Mohawk 74 of 353 high schools in Massachusetts, which places Mohawk among the top 21% of high schools in the Commonwealth. Two key principles underlie the U.S. News comprehensive rankings methodology: (1) that a great high school must serve all of its students well, not just those who are college bound and (2) that the high school must be able to produce measurable academic outcomes to show that it is successfully educating its student body across a range of performance indicators. We are very proud of our students, educators and families who have all contributed significantly to this noteworthy achievement. Congratulations!!

With Mohawk's commitment to pre-school programing district-wide, enrollment of three and four-year olds increased to a new high of 122 students in 2016. The largest increase in preschool enrollment occurred at Sanderson Academy, which now has three preschool classes! We are hopeful that this trend will continue into the foreseeable future, which would bode very well for the district long-term. In 2016, both Buckland-Shelburne Elementary School (BSE) and Colrain Central School (CCS) experienced increases in enrollment. BSE enrollment increased 8% to 279 students, and CCS enrollment increased 13% to 117 students. In contrast, Heath Elementary experienced a precipitous drop in enrollment from 50 to 29 students. As a result, both the Mohawk School Committee and the Town of Heath are exploring the viability of Heath Elementary and are considering closing the school and tuitioning the Heath elementary students to another Mohawk elementary school, Hawlemont Regional Elementary School, or Rowe Elementary School.

In 2016, Hawlemont entered into the equivalent of a school renaissance. With its exciting agriculturally-based curriculum Hawlemont, Agriculture, and You (HAY) just beginning to take shape, Hawlemont's enrollment spiked 23% to 125 students. Most of this growth was due to an increase in parents' choosing to enroll their students into Hawlemont from other districts. In fact, for the first time ever, more students school-choiced into Hawlmont than school-choiced out of Hawlemont. This amazing turnaround from very difficult circumstances only a few years ago is due to the extraordinary efforts of the entire Hawlemont school community. Kudos all around! Another important highlight during 2016 was the installation of a wood pellet heating system in Hawlemont, which is projected to save considerable budget dollars over the long term. This renewable heating system also presents exciting learning opportunities for our students, particularly in the areas of science and math. For example, we will begin tracking Hawlemont's new carbon footprint, which we anticipate dropping considerably from the level previously generated by the former oil-based heating system.

On behalf of our students, I thank the entire Mohawk and Hawlemont school communities for your

dedicated support of our children's education. THANK YOU!

Respectfully submitted,  
Michael A. Buoniconti  
Superintendent of Schools  
Mohawk Trail Regional School District  
Hawlemont Regional School District

## **Police Department**

This will mark my first year as Chief, both acting and appointed and I appreciate all the continuing support from the citizens and town departments. As it has been a smooth transition as the Department has made changes. This year the Selectboard appointed 3 new officers to the department at my request. With call volume continuing to be the same it was necessary to fill the vacant positions. These officers have completed field training and have been working patrol shifts.

This year I have focused on the upcoming changes to training from the Commonwealth for the part time officers, as I try to send Colrain Officers to instructor classes within the state, the department has teamed up with other neighboring police departments to meet training requirements by sharing instructors. This in turn builds stronger relations with mutual aid departments.

Due to the rising costs of equipment and vehicles I am proud to say that we have set up a maintenance program to ensure that all costs for above mentioned are kept at a minimal. The 2013 and 2015 cruisers are maintained by the highway Department on a strict maintenance schedule to ensure being kept in great condition. A big thank you to Nate Gilbert for making sure we make it safely to calls for service. With the Department growing and space shrinking, this year the department obtained another office next to its main office creating a chiefs office and space for more adequate records keeping.

The department continues to work closely with Colrain Elementary school and the other Mohawk Schools training for emergency situations. Massachusetts State Police, Shelburne Police and Buckland officers have conducted lockdown drills throughout the school year with great success. This year along with Colrain Fire and Colrain Ambulance, the department held a public safety day at the school with presentations by all three departments letting the students see our fleet of emergency vehicles.

This year was challenging with issues on the Green River. This department responded to numerous complaints of illegal dumping, parking, unattended fires and accidents. With the help from the Selectboard and Board of Health, a plan has been discussed to mitigate issues in the upcoming year. For 2017 the department will continue to improve its service to the town, including items such as additional patrols, training, and community services will be continuously monitored for improvement. Additionally the department will be looking at establishing "Coffee with an Officer" monthly, allowing the community to meet their officers.

I would like to give a special thank you to Officer Roger Williams for his years of service, help during the transition to Chief and countless hours of dedication to the Police Department.

In closing, I would like to remind citizens in town that "If you see something, say something". Many times the department does not get information until it's too late, which makes investigations more difficult. Please note the Department does not have someone on duty all the time, please call 413-625-8200, Shelburne Control to report a NON Emergency or if you need to speak with the Chief. Office Hours are Monday evening between 6 pm and 8pm, and Chiefs hours are Thursday 8am to 4pm.

The members of the Colrain Police Department wish you all a safe 2017.

Respectfully,  
Chief Christopher Lannon

## **Volunteer Ambulance Association**

Dedication to improving and providing the best in EMS care in Franklin County would sum up 2016 for us here at Colrain Ambulance.

To understand and relate what this dedication involves, I have put together actual numbers along with some conservative estimates of what these amazing people have contributed as volunteers in their community, and to those we serve:

Hours ambulance covered by your volunteers: 8760

Hours specifically covered by Paramedics: 4000 est. (signed in and dedicated to respond or at station)

Hours of required training in addition to running calls: 1040

Hours of optional training: 2000

Hours in required meetings: 576

311 EMS requests (a 14% increase over last year and a new record)

165 transports (an 11% decrease, mainly because they intercepted other services)

84 Paramedic intercept requests (first year of defined tracking)

51 transports as a result of an intercept

13 responses with a LUCAS team, providing equipment and specially trained personnel for cardiac arrest patients

Only 1 call required another ambulance to respond because we lacked 2 EMT's. We have currently responded to 1902 calls out of 1904 since 2008.

In addition, the association as a group approved and funded over \$80,000.00 for capital improvement items including new cardiac care equipment and a state of the art patient handling system that greatly improved their ability to safely deliver a stellar level of care. Going forward, we are planning to replace our ambulance in Fiscal Year 2019.

Education continues to be at the forefront of our mission as non-profit organization, and has helped us to maintain engaged and well trained members to answer your calls for care. We hope to improve and expand our ability to offer educational opportunities to the public as a whole in the coming year.

In closing, we must thank all of our partners including the Towns of Colrain and Heath, Community911 Training, and most importantly the Colrain Fire Department led by Chief Nick Anzuoni, for all they do to help us to remain as your EMS provider.

Gary W. Ponce, Paramedic

CEO/Director

Colrain Volunteer Ambulance Association, Inc.