

TOWN CLERK'S FINANCIAL REPORT

2009 DOG LICENSES ISSUED

		EACH	TOTAL
63	MALES/ FEMALES	\$10.00	\$ 630.00
341	SPAYED/ NEUTERED	6.00	2046.00
4	KENNEL \$25.00	25.00	100.00
5	KENNEL \$50.00	50.00	250.00
4	KENNEL \$75.00	75.00	300.00
		TOTAL	\$3326.00

2009 FISHING & HUNTING LICENSES ISSUED

2	RESIDENT FISHING MINOR	\$ 11.50	\$ 23.00
12	RESIDENT FISHING	27.50	330.00
4	RESIDENT FISHING (65-69)	16.25	65.00
2	NON-RESIDENT FISHING	37.50	75.00
2	NON-RESIDENT FISHING (3 DAY)	23.50	47.00
4	RESIDENT CITIZEN HUNTING	27.50	110.00
1	RESIDENT HUNTING (65-69)	16.25	16.25
1	NON-RESIDENT HUNTING, LG	99.50	99.50
16	RESIDENT SPORTING	45.00	720.00
4	RESIDENT SPORTING (65-69)	25.00	100.00
9	ARCHERY STAMP	5.10	45.90
21	PRIMITIVE FIREARMS STAMP	5.10	107.10
2	WATERFOWL STAMP	5.00	10.00
		TOTAL	\$1748.75

MISCELLANEOUS \$1615.34

PAYMENTS TO:

TOWN TREASURER \$6690.09
COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS \$1721.75

REGISTRARS REPORT

The Town Clerk's office was open Wednesday, March 4th from 9:00 AM to 8:00 PM to register new voters Special Town Meeting held Saturday, March 14, 2009.

A registration session was held on Tuesday, April 7th from 9:00 AM to 8:00 PM to register new voters for the Annual Town Election held April 27, 2009.

Wednesday, April 22, a voter registration was held in the Town Clerk's office from 9:00 AM to 8:00 PM to register new voters for the Annual Town Meeting held May 2, 2009.

The Town Clerk's office was open Wednesday, May 27, 2009 from 9:00 AM to 8:00 PM to register new voters for the Special Town Election held June 16th.

Wednesday, November 18, 2009, a voter registration was held in the Town Clerk's office from 9:00 AM to 8:00 PM to register new voters and for voters to change parties for the Special State Primary held December 8, 2009.

A voter registration session was held in the Town Clerk's office on Thursday, November 19, 2009 from 9 AM to 8 PM to register new voters for the Special Town Meeting held November 22, 2009.

Wednesday, December 30th, a voter registration was held in the Town Clerk's office from 9:00 AM to 8:00 PM to register new voters for the Special State Primary held January 19, 2010.

Lorraine Pease, *Town Clerk*

RECORD OF MARRIAGES 2009

		RESIDENCE	PLACE OF MARRIAGE
Mar 21	Earl H. Collins Alison Paula Swank	Rock Island, IL Ashby, MA	Ashby, MA
May 23	Randy Thomas Stacy Stacey Lynn Campbell	Ashby, MA Ashby, MA	Ashby, MA
July 4	Timothy James Suokko Megan Lynn Sunderland	Fitchburg, MA Fitchburg, MA	Sterling, MA
July 9	Nicholas Peter Austin Summer Lynn Pufont	Kenosha, WI Kenosha, WI	Ashby, MA
July 24	Brian Jairo Meza Melissa Susan Ojala	Orlando, FL Orlando, FL	Ashby, MA
Sept 6	Benjamin Derrel Smith Christine Marie Washburn	Holladay, UT Holladay, UT	Ashby, MA
Nov 3	Daniel William Harju Jessica Alison Holland	Ashby, MA Ashby, MA	Ashby, MA
Nov 9	Richard A. Lavargna, Jr. Lisa A. Marini- Brennan	Ashby, MA Ashby, MA	Ashby, MA

ELECTED TOWN OFFICIALS
2009

	TERM
MODERATOR	
Peter S. Rourke	2010
TOWN CLERK	
Lorraine D. Pease	2010
SELECTMEN	
Peter McMurray	2010
Daniel Meunier	2011
Joseph Casey	2012
ASSESSORS	
Jodi Szczesuil	2010
Dona Sue LaRue, res	2011
Oliver H. Mutch	2009
TREASURER	
Kate Stacy	2010
COLLECTOR	
Beth Ann Scheid	2012
NORTH MIDDLESEX SCHOOL DISTRICT COMMITTEE	
Kenneth Brown	2010
NORTH MIDDLESEX SCHOOL DISTRICT SCHOOL COMMITTEE AT-LARGE	
Michael Morgan	2011
Tamara Leclerc, res	2011
Anne Buchholz	2011
LIBRARY TRUSTEES	
Maureen Davi, res	2010
David Jordan	2010
Dwight F. Horan	2011
Martha Morgan	2011

Prudence Brennan	2011
John Mickola	2012
Michelle Thomas	2012
Mary O’Friel	2012
Diane Lundin, res	2010
CONSTABLE	
William A. Davis	2010
TREE WARDEN	
William A. Davis	2010
BOARD OF HEALTH	
Cedwyn Morgan	2010
Bruce Adams	2011
Nicholas A. Murray	2009
PARK COMMISSIONERS	
Peter McMurray	2011
Stephanie B. Lammi	2010
April Tammone	2012
CEMETERY COMMISSIONERS	
Daniel Harju	2012
Alan Murray	2010
John Mark Tiilikkala	2011
PLANNING BOARD	
Alan W. Pease	2012
Jean Lindquist	2013
James H. Hargraves	2014
Wayne A. Stacy	2010
Andrew Leonard	2011

APPOINTED TOWN OFFICIALS
2009

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR	Linda Sanders, res
TOWN ADMINISTRATOR'S ASST.	Jennifer Collins
ASSISTANT TOWN CLERK	Barbara Faulkenham
TAX COLLECTOR'S CLERK TOWN HALL CLERICAL	Gail Farley
TOWN ACCOUNTANT	Nancy Haines
REGIONAL ASSESSOR	Harald Scheid
ADMINISTRATIVE ASSESSOR	Dona Sue LaRue, res.
ADA COORDINATOR	Anthony Ammendolia, res. Peter Niall
AGRICULTURAL COMMISSION	John Mickola Tom Cason William Duffy, Jr. Paula Bogue Paula Packard Kyrie Martin Heather Leonard Sue Chapman, alt. Charles Perna, alt. Nadine Callahan, alt.
ASHBY CULTURAL COUNCIL	Denise Foresman, res Amy Meunier Francis Steffian Sandra Schippers Tamara Leclerc Michelle Blake Dorothea Rourke Ann Marie LaBollita

COMMUNICATION COMMISSION	Thomas Moylan, citizen
CONSERVATION COMMISSION	Tim Bauman, chair Robert Leary Roberta Flashman Cathy Kristofferson Michael Harrison, res
CONSTABLE-SPECIAL MUNICIPAL APPOINTED	Paul Lundin, Police Chief, res.
COUNCIL ON AGING	Gary Leonard, chair Rosemary Wayrynen Oliver Mutch Johanna Grutchfield Susan Suokko Lee Mikkola Linda Stacy Angie Godin, alt Nancy Catalini Patricia Wayrynen, alt. Jan Miller Kathryn Becker, outreach coor.
CMEMSC-FIRST RESPONDER REP	Scott Florio
CMEMSC-GOVERNMENT REP	Mary Krapf
DOG OFFICER / ANIMAL ENFORCEMENT OFFICER	Mary Letourneau
E-911 COORDINATORS	Elmer S. Fitzgerald, Jr. Alan Pease
EARTH REMOVAL BOARD	Daniel Meunier Cedwyn Morgan James Hargraves Tim Bauman Frederick Stacy

ELECTION OFFICERS

Waldemar Tiilikkala, res
Amy Meunier
Bertha Tiilikkala, res
Rachel Patnaude
Betty Tiilikkala
Rosemary Wayrynen
Wendy Baird
Marja LePoer
Patricia Beauregard

EMS DIRECTOR

William Seymour, Jr.

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT
DIRECTOR

Michael Bussell

DEPUTY MANAGEMENT DIRECTOR

David Rainville

FIELD DRIVER

Mary Letourneau

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Lillian Whitney, chair
John Steffian
Melissa Coyle
Martha Svedberg
Joseph Casey, res
Suzanne Caron, res
Tom Dorward, res
Lisa Granquist Dorward, res

FIRE CHIEF

William Seymour, Jr.

FULL TIME FIREFIGHTER/EMT

Scott Florio

FOREST FIRE WARDEN

William Seymour, Jr.

HAZARDOUS WASTE COORDINATOR

Elmer S. Fitzgerald, Jr.

HEALTH AGENT,
Nashoba Board of Health

Rick Metcalf

HIGHWAY SUPERINTENDENT

William A. Davis

HISTORICAL COMMISSION	Claire Hutchinson-Lavin Florence Bryan, res Sally Bauman David Boutwell
HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION	Claire Lavin Michael Reggio Paul Lieneck, chair Mark Haines Florence Bryan, res
INSPECTORS:	
ANIMAL	Mary Letourneau
BUILDING/ZONING OFFICER	Anthony Ammendolia, res. Richard Hanks Peter Niall
BUILDING INSP. ALTERNATE	Richard Hanks
ELECTRICAL	Paul Lessard Harry Parviainen, res
ASS'T ELECTRICAL	Stephen Dubois
PLUMBING & GAS	Richard Kapenas
PLUMBING & GAS ALTERNATES	Gary Williams
KEEPER OF THE TOWN CLOCK	Richard Foresman
LAND USE AGENT	Andrew Leonard
LEGAL COUNSELS	
TOWN COUNSEL	Kopelman & Paige
LAND USE COUNSEL	Kopelman & Paige
LABOR COUNSEL	Kopelman & Paige
LIBRARY DIRECTOR	Mary Murtland

MART ADVISORY BOARD	Mary Krapf
MONTACHUSETT JOINT TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE	Mary Krapf
MONTACHUSETT METRO PLANNING ORG. (MRO)	Mary Krapf
MONTACHUSETT REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION	Alan Pease Wayne Stacy, alt.
MONTACHUSETT REGIONAL TECH SCHOOL COMMITTEE	Warren Landry
MOTH SUPERINTENDENT	Charles E. Perna
MUNICIPAL GROUNDSKEEPER	George Beauregard Stephanie Lammi William Davis
MUNICIPAL HEARINGS OFFICER	vacant
PEG BROADCAST TECHNICIANS	John Pankowsky Katherine Bogue
POLICE FIRE SIGNAL OPERATOR MANAGER	Marilyn Cronin
POLICE FIRE SIGNAL OPERATORS	Joyce Hopkins Priscilla Carter Kathy Bezanson Marilyn Cronin Anthony Montesion Glen Casey Cathy Whitney
POLICE CHIEF	Paul Lundin, res Edward Drew, Interim Police Chief

POLICE CHIEF SEARCH COMMITTEE	Steve McLatchy Tim Bauman Mary Krapf Sally Tracy, res Melissa Doig Janet Flinkstrom Chris Haynes Sarah Leonard Fred Alden David Money Anne Hayes
REGISTRARS OF VOTERS	Lorraine Pease Carlton Mountain Donna Leonard Gail Farley Sarah Leonard, alt.
RIGHT-TO-KNOW-LAW COORDINATOR	William Seymour, Jr.
SENIOR TAX WORK-OFF PROGRAM	Oliver Mutch Joan Chandley Marja LePoer
SOLID WASTE DEPARTMENT SUPERVISOR	John Pankowsky
SOLID WASTE DEPARTMENT ATTENDANT	Frank McCarter
RECYCLING COORDINATOR	William Stanwood
SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS	Dr. Maureen Marshall
TELLERS	
Nancy Peeler	Deborah Pillsbury
Elaine Kielty	Shaun Kielty
Janet Flinkstrom	Pamela Peeler

VETERANS' AGENT	Theryn Blauser, Sr.
VETERANS' GRAVES AGENT	William Seymour, Sr., res Christopher Travers
BACKUP VETERANS' GRAVES AGENT	Lorraine Pease
WASTE OIL COORDINATOR	Elmer S. Fitzgerald, Jr.
WIITA CONSERVATION LAND MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE (BLOOD HILL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE)	Cedwyn Morgan Matthew Leonard Roberta Flashman Oliver Mutch Kenneth Brown Judith Judge
ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS	Frederick Stacy, Chair David Martin James Stacy Garry Baer, alt.
ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:	
ASHBY'S JUSTICE OF THE PEACE	Carleton J. Mountain

ASHBY POLICE DEPARTMENT

In 2009 the Ashby Police Department responded to 3,542 incidents (including directed patrols). The Officers made 32 arrests, filed 37 additional criminal complaints and completed 1324 motor vehicle violation stops of which 971 resulted in citations. We conducted patrol services, investigations, licensing and crime prevention activities.

In 2009 the Ashby Police Department saw changes in staffing. Officer Brian Vautour was laid off July 1, 2009 due to a budgetary shortfall. This caused the police department to eliminate the midnight patrol shift and rely on the State Police to answer emergency calls in Ashby after midnight. Chief Paul Lundin resigned and returned with his family to New York. We wish him and his family well and thank him for three years of dedicated service to the Town of Ashby.

I was sworn in as the Interim Chief of Police on August 19, 2009 and will continue to serve in that capacity two days a week until a full time Chief is hired. I have received valuable assistance from all the staff of Officers and Police Fire Signal Operators during my time here. I received particular assistance from Officer Fred Alden with a myriad of administrative responsibilities as well as sharing his wealth of police department historical knowledge. Also PFSO Bezanson and Cronin assisted me with administrative duties as well which was much appreciated. This town is served well by all the dedicated public safety personnel who work here.

We received two grants for traffic enforcement and equipment purchases. The first was for \$6,800.00 to be used in 2008-2009 and the second was for \$7,500.00 to be used in 2009 -2010. With each award we are authorized to spend \$3,000.00 for equipment. With the first award we purchased stop sticks which are to be deployed in the event of a motor vehicle pursuit; this device immobilizes a fleeing car by puncturing its tires. Also we purchased pedestrian yield signs, sound meter and a portable flexible barricade. The second award will allow us to buy additional stop spike strips, barricades, motor vehicle lock-out kits and traffic safety signage. The department received another grant for \$2,500.00 to assist us in drug offense enforcement.

Most importantly we received notice in December that we were awarded a staffing grant in the amount of \$70,859, which will allow us to rehire Officer Vautour with a start date of January 10, 2010. This grant covers his salary and benefits for one year and his reinstatement will allow us to patrol the Town after midnight once again.

We continued to work with other communities and regional task forces to combat common problems such as drug trafficking, burglaries, theft, juvenile crime and domestic violence. We remain active in the Ayer District High Risk Domestic Violence Team.

The fleet of police vehicles has been depleted drastically by the loss of two cars and the need to replace them is great as one of the remaining four cars is nearly nine years old.

Respectfully submitted,
Edward J. Drew
Chief of Police

POLICE FIRE SIGNAL OPERATORS

The Dispatch (PFSO) Department experienced significant changes in 2008. Joyce Hopkins resigned as the Dispatch Manager in early July, but remains as a Full-Time Dispatcher. Marilyn Cronin was appointed as the Dispatch Manager in August. The Department is now staffed with three Full-Time and four Part-Time Dispatchers.

Two new Part-Time Dispatchers, Heidi Delorme and Anthony Montesion, began training in late August and were up and running in October, after attending a two-day E911 training certification program in Westboro and several weeks of on-the-job training. Heidi is a lifelong Ashby resident and Anthony lives and works in Fitchburg. Glenn Casey is from Leominster and he joined the team earlier in the year. We are fortunate and thankful to have them.

In early June, the Board of Selectmen began working on a wage increase for the Dispatchers and the increase was approved at the Town Meeting. On behalf of the Dispatchers, I would like to thank the Board, Town Administrator, Chief Lundin and the voters of Ashby for their efforts and approval in supporting this wage increase. It is greatly appreciated.

No one will forget the infamous "\$900 chair". After watching the Selectmen's meeting and hearing the need for a new chair, Resident Larry Awtry called his son in Chicago and Mr. Mason Awtry donated a very expensive "Aeron" 24/7 task chair to Dispatch. We cannot thank him enough for his generosity.

In December, the ice storm of all storms slammed through Ashby and surrounding towns like a tornado. It was a crippling storm, like no other seen in many years, if ever. No one wants to be reminded of the hardship it caused. I would like to take this opportunity to commend the Residents of Ashby for their unrelenting determination to take care of others during this extremely difficult time. Working in Dispatch, we had the opportunity to see first hand how the community united during that storm and the never ending days after. There were so many incidents of people helping people, and neighbor helping neighbor. Some showed up with their chain saws in hand, others delivered food to the elderly or took them to the shelter, others helped set up generators, and others interrupted out of state utility workers, literally working outside on the lines, to the Townsend House Restaurant for a Christmas Dinner that the Dickhaut family of Ashby, cooked for them for free. It was amazing to see and experience. It cannot be stated enough, what a tremendous job the Public Safety Departments in town did, including Police, Fire, EMS, Highway, Emergency Management, Dispatch, and the Selectmen. An "Operations" center was manned at the Fire station and 24/7 at the Police station and Dispatch. The Operations center handled every type of call imaginable, from pumping water

from basements, wires on fire, Ambulance calls, a house fire, and literally hundreds of calls for service, emergency and non-emergency. Our 911 system went down and all 911 calls automatically transferred to the Town of Ashburnham. They are to be commended as well, for handling their own emergencies and some of our calls too. Thank you Ashburnham.

Some Resident's saw National Guard Troops on their doorsteps checking to see if they were okay or needed something in particular. If it wasn't one of the Troops, it was a Firefighter, Police Officer or a volunteer, literally trying to check on every home in town. Truly commendable.

Thank you to all.

Respectfully Submitted,
Marilyn Cronin
PFSO Dispatch Manager

FIRE DEPARTMENT

Ashby Firefighters responded to 143 calls for assistance during the 2009 calendar year. Motor Vehicle accidents continue to be the most responded to type of incident. There were twelve regular scheduled training sessions as well as several special sessions. Topics of training varied from several water pumping exercises, to fire attack, auto extrication, gas emergencies and electrical safety. Many of our members attended outside the department training as three members, Ashton Bosch, Scott Florio and Tim Seymour, have accomplished Firefighter 1+2 certification at the state level. Next year we are planning driver safety training with the hope of getting as many members CDL Licensed as possible. A grant from the town's insurance company will get this program under way in the spring.

We have completed the conversion to all 5" supply hose using the 2008 Assistance to Firefighters Grant. We can now reach all buildings in town with one continuous lay of 5" hose to provide ample water for fire extinguishment. Also included in the grant were the adapters, appliances and smaller hand held hose lines.

This past year marked five year anniversaries for three members. Paul Rekos, 5 years, Randy Stacy, 10 years and Elmer (Chief) Fitzgerald a remarkable 45 years of service.

The Ashby Firefighters would like to remind all homeowners that Carbon Monoxide (CO) Detectors are required by law since 2006. If you need assistance with placement in your home please let us assist you. CO Detectors save lives just as Smoke Detectors do.

I would like to thank the Firefighters and EMT's for their continued support and professionalism, as well as all other town departments and committees.

Respectfully Submitted,
William T. Seymour Jr.

EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES

Ashby EMT's responded to 227 calls for assistance during the 2009 calendar year. We currently have 22 EMT's on staff with two students that have almost completed an EMT class. In February they will be ready for State examination which involves both a written and practical exam. Good luck to both.

The combination Fire and EMS type of department continues to show positive results. Both EMTs and firefighters work and train together and know what each other is capable of on the scene of an emergency. Monthly training sessions are held to for continuing education of all members.

The Ashby Fire Dept strongly promotes the use of "File of Life" folders, especially for senior citizens. These folders are usually placed on a refrigerator and contain vital information in the event a patient is unable relay the info themselves during an emergency situation.

I would like to thank the EMT's and Firefighters for their continued support as well as all other town departments and committees.

Respectfully submitted,
William T. Seymour Jr.

FIRE DEPARTMENT AND EMT ROSTER

Chief/EMT	William Seymour Jr	EMT	Travis Rixford
Asst Chief	David Joseph	F.F./EMT	Timothy Seymour
Asst Chief/EMT	Paul Lasorsa	F.F.	Randy Stacy
Asst Chief	David Pillsbury	F.F.	Joshua Swenor
Captain	Michael Bussell	F.F./EMTP	Shawn Walker
Captain	William Davis	EMT	Donna Williams

Captain	Craig Irish	
Captain	James Joseph	<i>Auxiliary Members</i>
Captain	Peter McMurray	Jeffrey Atherton
Captain	David Rainville	William Baro
Captain/EMT	Kari Rantala	Maureen Cauvel
Chaplain/F.F.	Wayne Stacy	Allan Dawson
F.F.	Steven Beauregard	Patrick Dickhaut
EMT	Lesley Bergquist	Walter Hansen
EMT	Sarah Berlinger	Katie Kiluk
F.F.	Daniel Bigwood	Jeffrey Martin
F.F.	Christopher Borneman	Kevin McMurray
F.F./EMT	Ashton Bosch	Bryant Shepard
EMT	Linda Brooke	Donna Williams
F.F.	John Cauvel	Matthew Williams
EMT/Aux FF	Kimberly Cochlin	
EMT	Susan Cudmore	
F.F.	Elmer Fitzgerald	
EMT	Lisa Florio	
F.F./EMTP	Scott Florio	
EMT	Eileen Fredrickson	
F.F./EMT	Paul Fredrickson	
F.F./EMT	Christopher Haas	
F.F.	David Lammi	
F.F./EMT	Donald Lane	
F.F./EMT	Melinda Lemay	
F.F./EMT	Michelle Martens	
F.F.	James Martin	
EMT	Jean Nichols	
F.F.	Wayne Patnaude	
F.F.	Gerald Phelan	
F.F./EMTP	Paul Rekos	
F.F.	Adam Rivard	

ASHBY HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT

This report covers work performed by the Ashby Highway Department between January 1, 2009 and December 31, 2009.

Road Mileage Breakdown for the Town of Ashby:

Unaccepted .84, State 11.62, Local 53.21, Total 65.67.

Road Maintenance and Construction:

General cold patching was done on all town roads this year as many times as potholes made it necessary. Spring, midsummer and fall gravel road grading was done on most gravel roads.

Guard Rail Replacement:

Location: Jones Hill Road – 60 linear feet repaired, cost \$710.

General Brush Cutting:

General brush cutting was performed in various locations throughout town. No roadside mowing was performed this year.

Equipment:

A snowplow setup was purchased to equip the new one ton 4x6 dump truck purchased for the department last year (thru state funds). The plow cost the town \$5,475.00.

Personnel:

We currently have four full time employees down from six which is considered fully staffed.

Note: We need to restore two positions and look into adding another. With new housing and developments adding roads and vehicles to the town's infrastructure we need to expand road services not cut them back.

Winter Operations

All town snow removal equipment was repaired and prepared for service during the summer months. The town expended \$42,448.75 on plow contractors this year. We have also stockpiled 3,814.45 tons of winter sand in anticipation of storms this year.

Note: The types and numbers of storms may make it necessary to bring in more materials. Winter sand pile breaks down as follows:

<i>Materials</i>	<i>Quantity</i>	<i>Costs</i>
Sand	2,981.52 tons	\$39,475.32
Salt	832.93 tons	\$53,723.99
Total Stockpile	3,814.45 tons	\$93,199.31

Cross Culverts Replaced, Installed:

Elliot Road one replaced. (12" diameter)
 Mason Road one replaced (20" diameter)
 Jones Hill Road two replaced (60" diameter)
 Wheeler Road one replaced (18" diameter)

Bridge Repairs:

The Bernhardt Road bridge has been removed as directed by Mass DOT. The following costs were incurred during the process.

- A) removal of bridge super structure \$6,400
 - B) trap rock for bridge abutment stabilization \$885.87
 - C) temporary safety fencing \$33.90
 - D) permanent guardrail installation \$2,952
 - E) site study with consultant in regards to replacement options \$1,692
- The total cost for removal is \$11,963.77

Note: Mass DOT has agreed to help the Town of Ashby acquire a temporary replacement bridge in 2010. There is currently \$3,036.23 remaining in the bridge removal account. These funds will be used as part of that project.

Catch Basin and Dropped Inlet Structure Repairs, Replacements, New Installations:

Structure	Quantity	Location	Action
Catch Basin	1	Jewett Hill Road	Installed

New Side Drain Installations:

None

Drainage Maintenance:

All town drainage structures were cleaned. Total number of drainage structures are 369. Total cost for cleaning \$6,600.

Road Shimming:

- A section of Bernhardt Road was shimmed using 50 tons of hot top at a cost of \$2,900.
- A section of Davis Road was shimmed using 20 tons of cold mix at a cost of \$1,160.

Road Sealing:

No town funds were spent on pavement preservation this year.

State Funded Chapter 90 Projects:

There is a project in process for 2010 to reclaim and pave a section of Mason road (including some drainage improvements). The project is estimated at \$173,576.14

Town Resurfacing Projects:

None

General Information:

The Ashby Highway Department is now operating with fewer personnel and with less town funding for roadwork than was expended in 1987 (23 years ago). I cannot stress hard enough the fact that we need to replace personnel in the department! Lack of personnel affects us greatly year round for both snow removal and road repairs.

At this time, I extend my thanks to all local contractors who have assisted the town this year by loaning the Highway Department equipment which it does not possess. I thank all Town “Boards and Departments” for their cooperation throughout the year. I also thank the Highway Personnel, themselves for their year of service.

Respectfully,

William A. Davis

Highway Superintendent

DOG OFFICER/ANIMAL ENFORCEMENT OFFICER

Another Busy Year! Wildlife issues were top of the list again this year, followed closely by “Stray” or “Dumped” cats and kittens. The shelters are overflowing with cats of all ages, Please get your pets Spayed/Neutered. Millions of pets are euthanized every year because of over breeding by Back Yard Breeders and Puppy Mills. There are programs out there to help with the cost, Contact me for a list of programs. Another option to a veterinarians office visit for routine vaccinations is the “Luv My Pet Clinics” at Petco in Leominster and Nashua at least twice a month, Tuesday evenings and Sunday mornings. Rabies vaccines are under \$20.00 and no office visit. The clinics are for dogs and cats. Bring you current Rabies Certificate in order to get a 3 year certificate for the same price. Call your local store for the schedule.

As the economy gets tighter, more pets will be left without families and/or homes. If I can be of any assistance, or if you know someone who might need help with their animals please don't hesitate to contact me.

Respectfully Submitted,
Mary L. Letourneau

LAWS GOVERNING DOGS

The owner or keeper of a dog which is six months old or over shall annually, on or before the thirty-first day of December, cause it to be registered, numbered, described, and licensed for one year from the first of January following. If kept in any town, in the office of the Clerk thereof. The owner or keeper of a licensed dog shall cause it to wear around its neck a collar distinctly marked with the town's name and its registered number.

The owner or keeper of a dog may at any time have it licensed until the first day of January following; and a person who becomes the owner or keeper of a dog after January first which is not duly licensed, and the owner or keeper of a dog which becomes six months old after December thirty-first in any year shall, when it is six months old, cause it to be registered, numbered, described, licensed, and collared as required in the preceding section.

Whoever is the owner or keeper of a dog six months of age or older shall cause such dog to be vaccinated against rabies by a licensed veterinarian using a vaccine approved by the Board of Health.

Unvaccinated dogs acquired or brought into the Commonwealth shall be vaccinated within thirty days after acquisition or entry into the Commonwealth or upon reaching the age of six months, whichever comes later.

Vaccinated dogs shall be revaccinated periodically in accordance with rules and regulations adopted and promulgated by the Department of Health.

Whoever violates the provisions of this section shall be punished by a fine of not more than fifty dollars.

PLANNING BOARD

During 2009 the Planning Board signed two plans showing two lots. This is the same as 2008. It is down from four plans showing three new lots in 2007 and 18 plans showing 27 lots in 2006.

The Board brought the Small-Scale Wind Energy Facilities bylaw before the 2009 Annual Town Meeting. The bylaw was approved. The Board also recommended and the Town approved not to extend the Rate of Development Bylaw.

The Board, working with the Montachusett Regional Planning Agency, initiated a feasibility study of public sewer in the center of town along Main Street. This initiative is intended to address the constraints of small lots along Main Street and to provide infrastructure to encourage business in the center.

The Board continued to work with the residents of Daley Drive to get the final details of the road resolved. We intend to bring acceptance of the road before the 2010 Annual Town Meeting.

We have been working on an Agricultural Recreation zoning bylaw and expect to bring it before the Town Meeting in 2010. This bylaw would expand allowable commercial activities in parts of the Residential Agricultural District.

We have worked with the Land Use Agent to complete the update of the Open Space and Recreation Plan. Many thanks for all the work he has done.

Respectfully submitted,
James Hargraves, *Chairman*
Alan W. Pease, *Clerk*
Jean Lindquist
Wayne A. Stacy
Andrew Leonard

LAND USE AGENT

During 2009, the Land Use Agent role covered a variety of tasks including assisting the boards, preparation of the Open Space and Recreation Plan, bylaw writing, grant coordination, reporting to the State, review of tax title properties, mapping, and planning. I was given the following tasks by the Land Use Department in order of priority.

1. Advise and assist the Land Use Boards as appropriate or when requested by the Boards
2. Assist Boards with by-law writing and research
3. Update the Open Space Plan
4. Master Planning
5. Develop the Digital Database of Mapping and Resources for the Land Use Boards and the Citizens

I have advised and assisted the Boards on a variety of tasks including research for citizens on particular Land Use issues, preparing the Commonwealth Capital plan, preparing a report on the status of Ashby's subsidized housing including recommended techniques to improve Ashby's inventory, preparing and coordinating a Local Technical Assistance Grant from MRPC for the feasibility study of sewer service for the Town Center, and on-going communications with Boards and groups focused on protecting the future of Ashby. I have been editing and contributing to proposed bylaws including the Small Scale Wind Energy bylaw, which passed at the Annual Town Meeting, and Agriculture & Recreation Overlay District. The bylaws are focused on preserving Ashby's natural and cultural resources as well as creating opportunities for green technology.

The focus of work for 2009 was the preparation of the Open Space and Recreation Plan for the Town of Ashby. Two public meetings were held to discuss the Plan and drafts of the plan have been available on the Town's website for comment. A final draft is completed and ready for submission to the Commonwealth for approval. The Open Space and Recreation Plan is an important planning tool for open space protection, recreational resources, and grant opportunities. As a by-product of the preparation of the Plan, I was able to update the Town's digital database of mapping and resources for the Land Use Boards.

After three and a half years as the Ashby Land Use Agent, I have resigned from the position but hope the Town continues planning for its future. I appreciate the opportunity given to me by the Town of Ashby's citizens and look forward to continue to be an active member of the community.

Respectfully submitted:
Andrew T. Leonard, ASLA
Land Use Agent

CONSERVATION COMMISSION

The Ashby Conservation Commission is charged with the responsibility for administering the Wetlands Protection Act (Mass General Law Chapter 131, section 40) enacted in 1972 as described in HB Chapter 12 and the text printed in HB 18.34. This information is available to you on line at:

<http://www.state.ma.us/legis/laws/mgl/gl-131-toc.htm>

The underlying task of the Commission is to protect the natural resources of the community. The duties and responsibilities of the Commission are delineated under the Commonwealth of Massachusetts' Conservation Commission Act (HB chapter 18.9) which grants authority for the planning, acquiring, and managing of open space, and monitoring agricultural and conservation restrictions. The responsibility of administering the Rivers Protection Act (HB P18.25) also falls within the purview of the Commission.

Why is this mission of such great importance? Wetlands help clean drinking water supplies, prevent flooding and storm damage, and support a variety of wildlife. These public interests are protected by requiring a careful review of proposed work that may alter wetlands. The law protects not only wetlands, but other resource areas, such as land subject to flooding (100-year floodplains), the riverfront area and land under water bodies, waterways, salt ponds, and fish runs.

The Commission meets regularly on the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays of each month constituting 24 meetings during the year.

Throughout the year 2009, numerous site visits were conducted by the Commission. It is our policy to usually include at least two members although many visits involved the full Commission. This represents over 100 "person-visits." These walks provided informational opportunities for the landowner with suggestions as to how best they protect important aspects of their property. Also, preconstruction visits were arranged with builders and project

managers, while other visits involved following up on complaints received from the citizenry.

The Commission has set up a “Tip Line” on the Ashby Website. This is designed to assist citizen who may have a concern regarding unauthorized activity being conducted within a wetland resource area. The Commission will investigate the complaint and, if determined to be valid, take the necessary action to resolve the problem.

The Commission decides on whether the formal review process is required through a request process that requires only a paragraph or so about what the applicant wants to do (Request for Determination of Applicability). Should the formal review process be required, the application (Notice of Intent) is followed by a hearing, which has its results issued in the permitting document-Order of Conditions - which spells out the conditions under which the project may move forward. The Commission may also issue Emergency Certificates, allowing work to proceed for a limited time under limited, special conditions, and Enforcement Orders (Cease and Desist). Forest Cutting Plans are also reviewed by the Commission.

The Commission is proud to maintain a cooperative working relationship with all boards, agencies, and officers within the town in addition to being active participants in numerous regional and state agencies. We are participating members of the Massachusetts Association of Conservation Commissions, and the Nashua River Watershed Association.

All present members hold certification in Fundamentals for Conservation Commissioners, while the Commission maintains membership in the Massachusetts Association of Conservation Commissions. Additionally, some commissioners have acquired the Advanced Certification status awarded by the Association.

The Commission has also sponsored clean-up day at the Morrison Conservation Property and co-sponsored a community visit to a maple sugar house.

For most of the past year, the Commission was pleased to have Michael Harrison as participating member. We extend our appreciation and best wishes to Mike as he returns to military service.

Ashby's five Commission members serve three-year terms and are as follows:

Robert Leary - Vice Chair
 Roberta Flashman – Secretary
 Cathy Kristofferson - Treasurer
 Tim Bauman - Chair
 Presently there is one vacant seat



CEMETERY COMMISSION

The Cemetery Commission is responsible for the care and management of all public burial grounds in the town. The commission meets periodically throughout the year to discuss and plan cemetery operations. When the need arises for a meeting, time and date are posted at town hall.

At the start of last year the cemeteries were faced with the clean-up from the December 11th 2008 ice storm. Most of the debris from the storm still remained in the cemeteries. So, beginning in March Ashby's emergency management director Mike Bussell, attended two commission meetings and helped organize a volunteer day. The goal being to get as much clean-up done, in one day, as we could. On April 18th the spirit of community that got us through the ice storm four months earlier was still going strong, as a group of about two dozen people came out to the fire station to lend a hand. With local contractors and businesses providing trucks and equipment, and the girl scouts getting everyone a little food. This group worked like only "Ashbians" could, cleaning nearly every fallen tree, branch and twig from all three cemeteries and accomplishing easily two weeks worth of work in about seven hours.

To everyone who came out to help that day, the Cemetery Commission cannot thank you enough for your incredible efforts.

This coming season, in addition to regular grounds work, we hope to continue roadway improvements in Glenwood cemetery, re-roof the equipment shed, and repair and repaint fences at West cemetery. Also, trees damaged severely by the last two winters may need to be pruned, removed and or replaced. Assessments are on-going.

Cemetery maintenance will be operating on an again reduced budget this coming year (\$10,010.04, down from \$11,596.68 in FY09) which will most likely impact the hours of labor we can expend.

Again, thanks to all the people of Ashby and everyone who visits the cemeteries for your interest and involvement. It is greatly appreciated.

Respectfully submitted,
Daniel Harju
Mark Tiilikkala
Alan Murray

TREE WARDEN

This report covers the work overseen by the Ashby Tree Warden between January 1, 2009 and December 31, 2009.

Hazardous trees removed:

Ten trees posing potential hazards to motor vehicle traffic and private property damage have been removed from various locations around town. The trees were taken down by a private contractor properly equipped to do so and were disposed of by the highway department. This allowed tree funds to be used exclusively for taking down the trees and not for disposal.

This year's quote for tree work was \$750 per day which only allows us to perform approximately 1.5 days worth of work when budgeted at \$1,213.64. When you figure that Ashby has 108 miles of roadside trees the amount funded is insufficient.

Due to a scheduling conflict last year we were able to extend the amount of work to 3 days this year. This occurred because we had funding carried over from the last budget to complete the third day. I do not foresee this happening again. Total spent this year on hazardous trees \$2,250.

Note: The quote for tree work was based on one aerial bucket truck, one brush chipper and two personnel.

Equipment:

None purchased this year.

Sincerely,
William A. Davis, *Tree Warden*

NASHOBA ASSOCIATED BOARDS OF HEALTH

Nashoba Associated Boards of Health continues to serve the local Board of Health in meeting the challenges of environmental and public health needs in Ashby. In 2009 particular efforts were made to respond to continued demands in the Environmental Division while adjusting to changes in the Nursing Division created by national trends in health care. In addition to the day to day public health work Nashoba provides Ashby with the following services.

- Maintaining Nashoba's internet web site to provide information for the public. (See nashoba.org)

- Through our involvement in the Bioterrorism Regional Coalition we are keeping the Ashby Board of Health up-to date on matters of emergency preparedness planning. We are currently working on the Town's Emergency Dispensing Site Plan.
- Nashoba assisted the Board with the H1N1 pandemic by coordinating and administering the H1N1 flu vaccine for the resident of the district with the assistance and support of your school district.
- Response to health related impacts of beavers through coordination with the local Board of Health in the issuance of the necessary permits.
- Response to state mandated changes in regulations requiring more frequent beach sampling through sample collection, submittal for analysis, and follow-up when results were obtained.
- Providing stepped-up enforcement of public health laws through the use of the Housing Court system.

We look forward to continuing our work with Ashby's Board of Health. Included in highlights of 2009 are the following:

- Through membership in the Association, Ashby benefited from the services of the Nashoba staff including: Registered Sanitarians, Certified Health Officers, Registered Nurses, Registered Physical & Occupational Therapists, Licensed Social Workers, Nutritionists, Certified Home Health Aides, and Registered Dental Hygienists.
- Reviewed 20 Title 5 state mandated private Septic System Inspections for Ashby Board of Health. Received, reviewed, and filed these state mandated (but unfunded) Title 5 inspections. Corresponded with inspectors regarding deficiencies; referred deficient inspections to Ashby Board of Health for enforcement action.

By the Ashby Board of Health's continued participation in the Association you can shape your future local public health programs and share in the benefits of quality service at a reason-able cost!

Environmental Health Department

Environmental Information Responses Ashby Office (days) 104

The Nashoba sanitarian is available for the public twice a week at the Ashby Board of Health Office. *(This does not reflect the daily calls handled by the secretarial Staff at the Nashoba office in Ayer.)*

Food Service Licenses & Inspections 6

Nashoba annually mails out and receives application from both restaurants and retail food businesses. Licenses are renewed for existing facilities. Plans are submitted and reviewed prior to initial licensing. All licensees are inspected at a minimum twice a year. Where deficiencies are found, a re-inspection is scheduled to insure compliance. When a complaint from the public is received an inspection is also conducted. During this inspection health factors of food handlers is also investigated, and where appropriate medical consultation and laboratory testing may be required.

Beach/Camp Inspections 10

Camps are inspected at least annually at opening for compliance with State Sanitary Code, Chapter IV, 105CMR430.00. Public swimming beaches are sampled for water quality every week during the summer and more often if a problem is suspected.

Housing & Nuisance Investigations 16

Nashoba, as agent for the Ashby Board of Health, inspects dwellings for conformance with State Sanitary Code, 105 CMR 410.00, issues orders for correction, and re-inspect for compliance. Similarly, complaints from residents concerning unsanitary conditions or pollution events are investigated.

Septic System Test Applications 15

Applications from residents proposing to build or upgrade a septic system are accepted, a file created, and testing dates are coordinated with the applicants engineer.

Septic System Lot Tests 112

Nashoba sanitarian witnesses soil evaluations, deep hole tests, and, usually on a separate date, percolation tests conducted by the applicant's engineer which serve as the basis of the design of the septic system.

Septic System Plan Applications	9
Detailed plans created by engineers hired by residents proposing to build or upgrade a septic system are received, filed, and routed to the Nashoba sanitarian for review.	
Septic System Plan Reviews	15
Engineered plans are reviewed according to state code, Title 5, and local Board of Health regulations and review forms are created and sent to engineer for revision. Subsequent re-submittals by the engineer are also reviewed.	
Septic System Permit Applications (new lots)	7
Septic System Permit Applications (upgrades)	5
Applicants' approved plan submittals and Board of Health requirements are incorporated into a permit to construct the septic system.	
Septic System Inspections	17
Nashoba Sanitarian is called to construction sites at various phases of construction to witness & verify that system is built according to plans.	
Septic System Consultations	36
During all phases of application, design, and construction the Nashoba Sanitarian is called upon for legal details and interpretation.	
Well Permits	7
Water Quality/Well Consultations	39
Private wells are regulated solely by local Board of Health regulations. The Nashoba Sanitarian assist the BOH by reviewing well plans, securing well water samples, and interpreting water quality test results.	
Rabies Clinics - Animals Immunized	0
Nashoba arranges for local clinics with cooperating veterinarians, arranging for dates and location, placing ads in local newspapers, and sending home flyers through local schools. In addition, since the recent raccoon rabies epizootic Nashoba has arranged for delivery of over 500 animal specimens to the State lab in Boston for analysis and has counseled possible exposure victims to seek medical assistance.	

Nashoba Nursing Service & Hospice

Home Health

Nursing Visits 272

Nashoba's Certified Home Health Registered Nurses visits provide skilled services to patients in their home under physician's orders. These services include assessment of physical, psychological, and nutritional needs. Skills include teaching/supervision of medications, wound care, ostomy care, IV therapy on a 24 hour basis, catheter care, case management and referral to other services as needed.

Home Health Aide Visits 69

Nashoba's Certified Home Care Aides provide assistance with daily activities of daily living including bathing dressing, exercises and meal preparation.

Rehabilitative Therapy Visit 178

Nashoba Therapists provide skilled physical, occupational, speech, and dietary therapeutic interventions through assessment, treatment and education. Their integration of client, caregiver, and medical outcomes aims at attaining maximum functional dependence.

Medical Social Service Visits 6

Nashoba Social Workers provide short-term assistance to patients at home for counseling and referral to community resources.

Clinics

Local Well Adult, Support Groups, & Other Clinic Visits 315

Visits include well adult clinics, and immunization, cholesterol exercise, mental health and bereavement clinics.

Number of patients that attended Flu Clinics held in Ashby	168
Number of H1N1 flu vaccination given	54
Number of patients whom received Flu Shots that live in Ashby	131
Number of patients whom received Pneumovax Vaccine	9
Number of patients whom attended Well Adult Clinics from Ashby	78

Communicable Disease

Communicable Disease Reporting & Control

Nashoba's Nursing Service & Environmental Health Department work together to meet the local Board of Health's responsibilities under the law to do the following:

- Investigate and control the spread of communicable diseases within Ashby (MGL Chap111, Sec 6, 7, and 92-116). Nashoba works with the Massachusetts Department of Public Health (MDPH) in this area.
- Receive and process reports from physicians concerning cases of diseases "dangerous to the public health" as defined by MDPH (MGL Chap111, Sec6)
- Notify MDPH Division of Epidemiology and Immunization within 24 hours of receiving notice of any case "dangerous to the public health".
- Receive reports and undertake follow-up as necessary regarding certain food borne and waterborne diseases and diseases being monitored by the MDPH.
- Receives reports, investigates and conducts follow-up on all incidences involving positive rabies results.

Number of Communicable Disease cases Investigated	10
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Communicable Disease Number of Cases

- | | |
|------------------------|---|
| • Borellia Burgdorferi | 4 |
| • Hepatitis | 3 |
| • Pertusiss | 1 |
| • Tuberculosis | 2 |

Health Promotion

Nursing visits	2
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Dental Health Department

Examination, Cleaning & Fluoride - Grades K, 2 & 4

Nashoba's Registered Dental Hygienists, operating out of the school nurse's office and records, provide these services to those children whose parents have given written consent.

Students Eligible	115
Students Participating	75
Referred to Dentist	24

Instruction - Grades K, 1 & 5

Nashoba's Registered Dental Hygienists also provide classroom instruction of cleaning and maintaining health teeth to all children in these grades.

Number of Programs	5
Students Participating	90

ASHBY BOARD OF HEALTH

The Board of Health consists of Bruce Adams, Nick Murray and Cedwyn Morgan. The Board of Health meets the 2nd and 4th Mondays at 8:00 pm on the first floor of the Town Hall. Our agent from the Nashoba Board of Health is Rick Metcalf.

2009 saw an increase in permitting activity associated with septic systems when compared to 2008, but the level of activity was still lower than earlier in the decade. The Board took enforcement activities against several homeowners for failing to perform mandated Title V upgrades.

The Board participated in emergency planning and flu clinic planning activities with a state-hired consultant and other town officials. Board members completed FEMA Incident Command System ICS 100 and ICS 200 training.

The Board passed minor changes to waste hauler regulations, reduced the annual waste hauler fee, and initiated enforcement against non-compliant firms. Several orders were issued to property owners to remove solid waste piles from the properties.

The Board has continued to oversee groundwater and landfill gas monitoring and mowing at the closed landfill (current transfer station). No anomalies were noted in the groundwater and landfill gas results. Board members Bruce Adams

and Nick Murray provided labor and equipment at no charge to the Town to replace the well cover on the well at the landfill.

The Board worked with other town officials and local contractors to develop a plan for upgrading the town hall septic system.

Respectfully submitted,
Cedwyn Morgan, *Member*

BUILDING INSPECTOR

The Building Department has issued two less permits than last year, but has done more inspections this year. I also would like to thank the whole town for working so well with me and a special thanks to the town clerk's office for all their hard work.

The following is a summary of the Building Departments 2009 activities.

PERMITS

New homes	2
Garages	2
Barns & Sheds	5
Remodel, repair & additions	45
Wood & Pellet stoves	16
Pools	3
Total Permits	73
Total Permit Fee Revenue	\$15,432.50

Respectively Submitted,
Peter Niall
Building Commissioner

ELECTRICAL DEPARTMENT

The Electrical Department noticed an increase in permits for 2009. The majority of permits are in the areas of remodeling and additions.

Number of permits for 2009 were	79
Revenue generated	\$2705.00

Number of inspections	125
Inspections for Town	2
Inspections for Power Company	30
Inspections for Fire Department	2

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the department heads and town officials for their help and assistance during this year. I am looking forward to working with all of you.

Respectfully submitted,
Paul Lessard
Inspector of Wires

PLUMBING AND GAS INSPECTOR

Number of permits for the year 2009	57
Plumbing permits	28
Gas permits	29
Number of inspections- approximately	85
Total revenue generated	\$3050.00

Respectfully submitted,
Richard Kapenas
Plumbing and Gas Inspector

COUNCIL ON AGING

Our Mission Statement:

The purpose of the Ashby Council on Aging is to assist in the health and general welfare of the town's senior citizens through various services. The Ashby COA provides outreach visits and assessments, meals, health screening, respite care, recreational and fitness programs, telephone assurance, friendly visits, help with yard clean-up, rides to medical appointments, inter-age activities, plus information and referral for Ashby seniors and caregivers.

Outreach/Volunteer Coordinator for the Council on Aging is Kathryn Becker. Kathryn's duties include visiting and assessing the needs and interests of elders,

making appropriate referrals to meet those needs, providing advocacy for elders and developing volunteer programs to provide elder support. Information is available on housing, legal issues, health, safety and financial matters. Please call the office at (978) 386-2424 ext. 27.

The COA Supports:

- Nashoba Nursing Services (800) 698-3307 provides Health Clinics at the American Legion Hall
- Montachusett Home Care Corporation (800) 734-7312 provides plans of care that enable elders to live at home
- SHINE (Serving the Health Information Needs of Elders) (800) 410-5288 provides free health insurance information, assistance and counseling to Medicare beneficiaries and their caregivers
- Senior Lunches are available at the Ashby Elementary School for \$1.25 on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Contact Rosemary Wayrynen at (978) 386-7732 before 9 a.m.
- Volunteers deliver Meals on Wheels Monday through Friday during the school year. Contact Angie Godin at (978) 386-6800 before 9 a.m.
- MART Shuttle Service is available Mon., Wed., Thurs. for medical appointments and shopping. Call Jennifer Collins (978) 386-2501 ext. 11 by 2:30 p.m. the day before travel.
- File of Life magnets are free for all seniors in town and available at the COA office.

Highlights of 2009 include:

- Service Incentive Grant from Executive Office of Elder Affairs supplemented 5 hours per week of Outreach/Volunteer Coordinator for creation of new volunteer programs. Chore program was created to aid seniors with yard clean up after Dec. 2008 ice storm.
- Needs/interests survey was mailed out to help guide Council in determining future goals
- Developed an Emergency Call registration to identify elders who are most vulnerable during power outages.
- Newsletter mailing increased to quarterly

The Council offers its sincere thanks to the American Legion Post #361 for the generous use of their hall.

The Council on Aging meets on the second Tuesday of each month at 3:15 p.m. in the COA office on the 3rd floor of the Lyman Building. Meetings are open to the public.

Respectfully submitted,

Gary Leonard, *Chairperson*

Linda Stacy, *Vice Chairperson*

Nancy Catalini, *Secretary*

Oliver Mutch, *Treasurer*

Rosemary Wayrynen

Kathryn Becker, *Outreach Coordinator*

Lee Mikkola

Johanna Grutchfield

Angie Godin, *alternate*

Patricia Wayrynen, *alternate*

Jan Miller, *alternate*

ASHBY CULTURAL COUNCIL

The Ashby Cultural Council is a committee of at least 5 members appointed by the Board of Selectman to serve three-year terms. The primary responsibility of the Council is to disburse funds received from the Massachusetts Cultural Council for the Arts whose purpose is, “to support public programs that promote access, education, diversity and excellence in the arts, humanities and interpretive sciences in communities across the Commonwealth.”

The members met on November 5, 2009 for preliminary discussions and voting on grant applications. The members met again on December 19, 2009 to revote on all applications when the Local Council was made aware of additional unencumbered monies were available. The members of the Ashby Cultural Council include Chairperson, Denise Foresman; Secretary, Ann-Marie Labollita; Treasurer, Sandra Schippers; Publicist, Frances Steffian, Education Liaison, Michelle Blake; Member at Large, Dorothea Rourke, Amy Meunier. Joanne Boudreau continues to remain active with the Council as an ex officio. Denise Foresman has officially resigned from the Ashby Cultural Council on December 30, 2009. The members will convene in the near future to select or reinstate officers of the Ashby Cultural Council.

The Massachusetts Culture Council granted the allotment of \$4,000 for the year 2010. The Ashby Cultural Council had \$1,225 of unencumbered MCC monies available. The Council members agreed on allocating a total of \$5,225 toward the approved applicants. Twenty-four grant applications were received

and requested funding of \$11,275. Fifteen were approved and voted to receive full or partial funding.

The approved requests and amounts to be disbursed for 2010 are:

1. Joanne Boudreau	Art Forum 3	\$ 400
2. Buck Expeditions	Explorer, Ship Builder	\$ 500
3. Ellen Clegg	Beat Stress Together in Rhythm	\$ 250
4. Bill Duffy	Marketing of Laurel Ridge Farm Store	\$ 360
5. Richard Hamelin	Pied Potter Hamelin's Magical Wheel	\$ 100
6. Hawthorne Brook School	A Knight's Tale	\$ 200
7. Hawthorne Brook School	Animal Adventures	\$ 220
8. Ruth Harcovitz	Performance Singer for Seniors	\$ 575
9. Hawthorne Brook School	Myth Masters	\$ 300
10. Gary Jackson	Contempanissance-flute/guitar	\$ 500
11. Scott Jameson	Contact: The Magic of Communication	\$ 500
12. Dawn Kelley	Music is Love	\$ 200
13. Jay Mankita	The lean Green Cleanup Machine	\$ 400
14. Kim Newcombe	Harmony Hill Farm	\$ 360
15. Frances Steffian	Destination Ashby: Local Food, Farms and Artisans	\$ 360
TOTAL =		\$5,225

Respectfully Submitted by
Denise Foresman, *Chairperson*

ASHBY FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Mission Statement: It is the mission of The Ashby Free Public Library to provide free and equal access to meet the informational, education, and cultural needs of the community in order to support lifelong learning.

The Library continues to develop and grow as the cultural center of the town. Library hours have been maintained at 24 per week with the exception of the summer months, when it is closed on Saturdays. Teen volunteers continue to work at the library in the "Laptop Scholarship Program" program run by Dwight Horan and Dave Jordan. Teens volunteer 70 hours over a 7 month peri-

od to earn a refurbished laptop. The program is so popular that there are nearly two student volunteers for every available volunteer position.

The Trustees distributed scholarships totaling \$12,750 to 33 student applicants, from the various scholarship funds. The funds were augmented this year by a generous donation from the Ashby Masonic Lodge.

Eagle Scout Nick Anderson rebuilt the steps at the front of the building, repainted the lampposts, and painted the lines in the disabled parking lot.

Trustees remain committed to maintaining certification of the library, which means meeting the budget requirements of the MBLC. With continued certification, the library is eligible for grants and programs offered through MBLC, and the library remains a member of the Central/Western Massachusetts Automated Resource Sharing (C/WMARS) system, allowing reciprocal arrangements with surrounding libraries.

Three long-term board members retired from the board this year: Anne Reggio, Sally Bauman and Maureen Davi. The Trustees thank them for their years of dedicated service. Two new Trustees were elected in April: Mary O’Friel and Michelle Thomas. Diane Lundin was a member and Treasurer for a short time before she moved away.

As always, the Trustees would like to thank the many volunteers who give tirelessly so many hours of their time to help keep the library functioning so well, especially Bob Wilt, Doug Leab and the Friends. The Trustees also thank the staff: Director Mary Murtland and assistants Jeanie Lindquist and Angela Lopez for their continued professionalism, diligence and effort.

Martha Morgan
Secretary

Current Trustees are: John Mickola, Chair; Martha Morgan, Secretary; Prudence Brennan, Treasurer; Dwight Horan, Dave Jordan, Mary O’Friel and Michelle Thomas.

LIBRARY DIRECTOR

The Library has had a busy and productive year. Total circulation has increased 23% from last year. Our continued membership as part of the consortium C/WMARS has provided Ashby with access to a much larger variety of materials. *Continued membership is contingent on the AFPL remaining certified by the Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners by meeting established hours and budget requirements.*

We now receive 4 deliveries a week of Inter Library Loans from CMRLS (Central Massachusetts Regional Library System). Use of this system has resulted in an increase in both the number of materials being delivered to the library for Ashby patrons to borrow and the number of items sent out from our library to other CMRLS libraries.

CMRLS awarded the Library a \$1000 Collection Development Grant to be used to purchase books on CD for our patrons.

The Library now has a new book drop at the Main Street entrance and our “old” book drop at the Children’s Library entrance has been refurbished by a student volunteer. The Library also has new people counters at both entrances of the library. They provide the town and the Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners with a more accurate count of the number of people using the facility each day.

Ongoing support by the Senior Tax Work-off program, the Laptop Scholarship Program, and Adult Volunteers has continued to benefit the library. The Friends of the Library has sponsored several popular children’s programs, provided prizes for the summer reading program and purchased museum passes.

We continue to supply the community with an adult reading group, the pre-school craft and story hour, a children’s and teen’s summer reading program, and a knitting club. During the summer of 2009, 105 young people signed up for the Summer Reading Program, ‘Starship Adventure’.

The library also serves as a venue for a variety of community programs. The Library hosted a teen CPR program last summer that was sponsored by the Ashby Free Public Library Fund. The Nashoba Board of Health continues to provide a monthly Wellness Clinic and has also provided Flu Vaccination Clinics. Community groups that are using the library’s facilities include Ashby Scout troops, Ashby Cultural Council, Ashby Playground Committee, Ashby Food Coop, Crossroads for Kids and Friends of the Wapack. The library has provided space for ongoing displays by local artists in the Carole H. Steele Art Gallery.

We would like to thank the Friends of the Library, the AFPL Board of Trustees, the AFPL Fund and the numerous other volunteers who have contributed time, energy, knowledge, and resources to the Library this year.

Circulation statistics for 2009:

Adult and Young Adult Books –6506, Juvenile Books-6178, Audio books – 564
DVDs and Videos –5891, Magazines-169, Museum Passes- 73

Interlibrary Loans sent to other libraries FY 2009 – 2461 (increased 33% from FY 2008)

Interlibrary Loans received from other libraries FY 2009 – 2594 (increased 35% from FY 2008)

Total circulation – 19,381 items

Mary E. Murtland
Library Director

PARKS DEPARTMENT

The Parks Department wants to report that the town should be very proud and thankful to a group of Boy Scouts that have and are working to complete their requirements for their Eagle Scout Award with Scout Master John Varney.

The young gentleman planned and organized the cleaning and landscaping of the John Fitch monument on Richardson and South Road, the painting and repair of the bandstand at Allen Field and the painting and repair of the carriage shed at Allen Field. These are just some examples of the work the Scouts have done over the years for the town.

Parks department wants to thank Ryan Capone, Dylan Baer and Corey Beals and all the Boys Scouts for their dedication to scouting and to their town.

Many thanks to Ashby Little League for replacing the backstop on the minor league baseball field, for replacing some of the fence that needed work and for the dugouts on the major league baseball field.

To Alan Murray and Sons many thanks for supplying the rubbish removal at Allen Field for all the events.

The Town was able to continue the summer concerts, starting with the annual Bonfire at Allen Field, with the help of the Ashby Fire Department. We would also like to thank those who decorated for the Holidays and kept the Christmas spirit alive here in Ashby.

After the Ice Storm 08, the common had branches and debris spread throughout. As a volunteer project David Masse, and his crew raked and hauled all the debris away. Many thanks to David and his team of volunteers.

Once again Stephanie Lammi kept the common mowed and trimmed and has extended her skills to the town hall and areas around the town hall.

The Parks Department would like to thank all of those who donated time to keep the parks clean and to the Highway Department for their help when it's needed.

Submitted by,
Peter McMurray
Stephanie Lammi
April Tammone