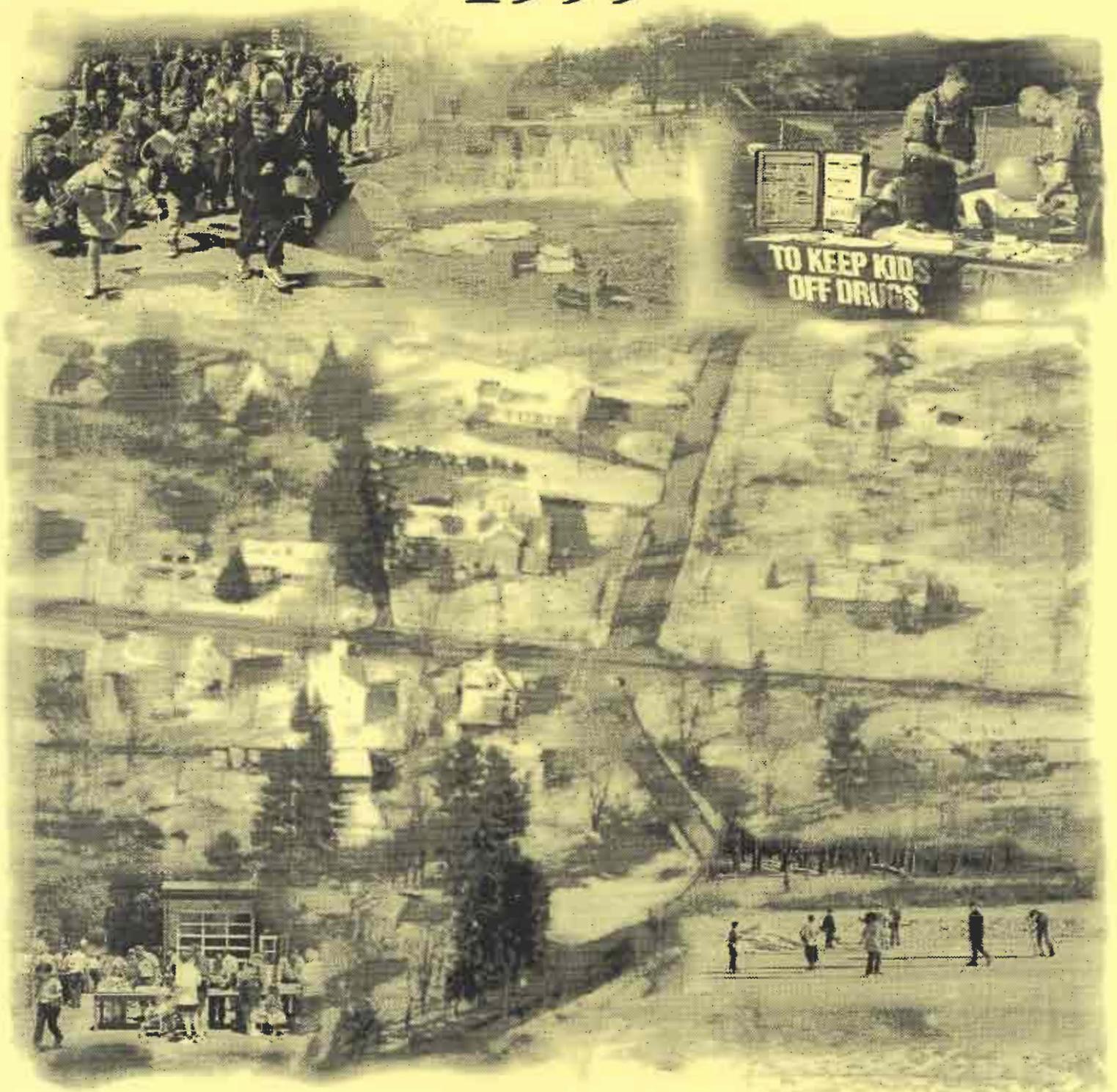


# Annual Town Report 1999



HAMPDEN, MASSACHUSETTS

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## IN MEMORIAM

**Paul A. Bouchard**  
Town Constable, Police Officer

**Neil R. Kibbe**  
Highway Department

**Vivian Marchette**  
Hampden Scantic Senior Club

**Lester B. Munsell**  
Volunteer Fire Department

**William P. Patullo**  
Board of Selectman  
Plumbing Inspector

**Charlotte H. Audren**  
Republican Town Committee

**Helen R. Kennedy**  
Hampden Garden Club



## INFORMATION FOR NEW RESIDENTS

<b>POPULATION OF HAMPDEN</b>	<b>Federal Census</b>	<b>1/1/91</b>	<b>4,709</b>
	<b>State Census</b>	<b>1/1/85</b>	<b>4,762</b>
	<b>Town Census</b>	<b>1/1/98</b>	<b>4,995</b>

**GEOGRAPHIC AREA** 19.64 square miles

**COUNTY** Hampden County

**TAX RATE** \$17.57 for Fiscal Year 2000

**ANNUAL TOWN MEETING** Last Monday in April at 7:00 p.m.

**ANNUAL ELECTION TOWN OFFICERS** First Monday in May, 8am-8pm

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### **GOVERNOR**

Argeo Paul Cellucci  
Office of the Governor  
Boston, MA 02133  
Phone: 617-727-9173

### **U.S. SENATORS**

Edward M. Kennedy  
U.S. Senate  
Russell Senate Office Bldg. Room 315  
Washington DC  
Phone: 202-224-4543

**OR**

2400 JFK Building, Room 409  
Boston, MA 02203  
Phone: 617-565-3170

John F. Kerry  
U.S. Senate  
Russell Senate Bldg. Room 421  
Washington DC 20510  
Phone: 202-224-2742

**OR**

145 State Street, Room 504  
Springfield, MA 01103  
Phone: 413-785-4610

### **CONGRESSMAN**

Richard E. Neal  
437 Cannon House Office Building  
Washington DC 20515  
Phone: 202-225-5601

**OR**

District Office:  
Federal Building, Room 309  
1550 Main Street  
Springfield, MA 01103  
Phone: 413-785-0325

### **STATE SENATOR**

Brian P. Lees, Hampden District  
State House, Room 308  
Boston, MA 02133  
Phone: 617-722-1291

**OR**

District Office: 527 Main Street  
Indian Orchard, MA 01151  
Phone: 413-543-2167

### **REPRESENTATIVE**

Mary S. Rogeness, 2nd Hampden District  
State House, Room 237  
Boston, MA 02133  
Phone: 617-722-2305  
Residence: 22 Warren Ter, Longmeadow  
Phone: 413-567-5480

**INFORMATION FOR HAMPDEN RESIDENTS**  
**BUSINESS HOURS OF TOWN OFFICES & COMMITTEES**

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN**

Office Hours: Monday-Friday, 9am-4pm  
Meet every Monday at 7:00pm  
Phone: 566-2151,2152

**ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Monday each month

**TOWN CLERK - Rita A. Vail**

Office Hours: Monday-Thursday, 9am-1pm  
Phone: 566-3214

**TOWN TREASURER - Donna Easton-Vicalvi**

Office Hours: Monday-Thursday, 9am-1pm  
Phone: 566-2401

**TAX COLLECTOR - Rita A. Vail**

Office Hours: Monday-Thursday, 9am-1pm  
Phone: 566-2206

**BOARD OF ASSESSORS**

Office Hours: Monday-Thursday, 9am- 3pm  
Meet 2nd Tuesday 7:30pm to 9:00pm  
Phone: 566-3223

**CONSERVATION COMMISSION**

Meet 2nd Monday at 7:00pm  
Phone: 566-2206

**PLANNING BOARD**

Meet 2nd & 4th Wednesday at 7:00pm  
Phone: 566-2403  
566-8591 for appointment

**RIDGELINE & HILLSIDE COMMITTEE**

Meet 2nd Wednesday each month at 7:00pm

**PARK COMMISSION**

Meet 2nd & 4th Thursday at 7:00pm  
Office Hours: Call 566-4950

Memorial Park Hours:8am-9pm, Apr1-Oct31

**BOARD OF APPEALS**

Meet 4th Tuesday at 7:30pm  
Applications available from Town Clerk

**VETERANS' SERVICES – Arthur A. Booth,Jr.**

Office: 200 Main Street, Monson  
Phone: 267-4140

**HAMPDEN-WILBRAHAM**

**REGIONAL SCHOOL COMMITTEE**

Meet 1<sup>st</sup> & 3rd Tuesday  
Phone: 596-3884

**CEMETERY COMMISSION**

Meet 2nd Tuesday of January, April, July  
& October at 7:30pm  
Phone: 566-3304, 3357, 3963

**COUNCIL ON AGING**

Office Hours:Mon-Friday,8:30am-4:00pm  
Meet 2nd Monday of month at 9:00am  
Phone: 566-5588

**HAMPDEN HOUSING AUTHORITY**

Meet 3rd Thursday each month, 8:30am at  
Centennial Commons  
Phone: 566-8157

**BUILDING INSPECTOR**

Office Hours: Every Wed 6-8pm  
Phone: 566-2204

**HAMPDEN PUBLIC LIBRARY TRUSTEES**

Meet 3rd Wednesday each month  
Phone: 566-3047

**HAMPDEN PUBLIC LIBRARY HOURS**

Monday,Wednesday-11:00am – 8:00 pm  
Tuesday,Thursday- 11:00am – 5:00 pm  
Saturday: - 10:00am—3:00pm  
Library **CLOSED** Saturday from June 15th  
thru September 15

**HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT**

Monday-Friday, 7:30am-4:00pm  
Phone: 566-8842

**SANITARY LANDFILL**

Saturday:7:00am-5:00pm,Tuesday,1pm-6pm  
**RECYCLE;** 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Sat each month

**LAUGHING BROOK HOURS**

Tuesday-Saturday, 10:00am –5:00pm  
Phone: 566-8034, 566-8035

**HAMPDEN CULTURAL COUNCIL**

Meet as Posted

## ELECTED TOWN OFFICIALS -- 1999

### BOARD OF SELECTMEN/HEALTH

James D. Smith, Chairman	2000
Mark Casey, Chairman Health	2001
Austin G. McKeon	2002

Administrative Assistant to  
Board of Selectmen/Health  
Katharine D. Ashe

Secretary to Board of Selectmen/Health  
Doreen M. Rauch

### MODERATOR

Richard Patullo	2000
-----------------	------

### TOWN CLERK

Rita A. Vail	2001
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### TOWN TREASURER

Donna Easton-Vicalvi	2001
----------------------	------

### COLLECTOR OF TAXES

Rita A. Vail	2001
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### BOARD OF ASSESSORS

Richard Jalbert, Chairman	2002
Henry P. Baush	2000
Stanley W. Witkop	2001

Clerk to Assessors  
Susan Raucsher

### HAMPDEN-WILBRAHAM REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT COMMITTEE

Ronald Thomson	2000
MaryAnne Morris	2003

### TRUSTEES, HAMPDEN PUBLIC LIBRARY

Beth E. Burger, Chairman	2002
Kathleen Hutchison	2001
Elaine Kingsbury	2000

### HAMPDEN HOUSING AUTHORITY

William G. Joy, Chairman	2001
Dalton Philpott, Vice Chairman, and State Appointee	
Mildred E. (Betsy) Grant	2003
Aline Burt	2000
Miles Hapgood	2004

### CONSTABLES

George K. Stone Jr.	2001
Miles M. Hapgood, Jr.	2001
Leo McMullen	2000

### CEMETERY COMMISSIONERS

Henry W. Dunwoody, Chairman	2001
Renate Oliver	2000
David Quill	2002

### PLANNING BOARD

John D. Flynn, Chairman	2004
Joseph Kruzel, Vice Chairman	2000
Duane Mosier	2001
Joseph A. Dolben	2003
Joseph Mascaro	2002

Pioneer Valley Planning Commission  
Representative, Duane Mosier  
Alternate-Joseph A. Dolben  
Clerk to Planning Board  
Judith M. Jackson

### PARK COMMISSIONERS

James Morris, Chairman	2001
Kathleen Duquette	2000
Robert Majkut	2000
Glennice Flynn	2002
Honor Takorian	2002
Peter Murray, Director	

## APPOINTED TOWN OFFICERS -- 1999

### TOWN ACCOUNTANT

Clifford Bombard 2001

### DOG OFFICERS

Thomas J. O'Connor Animal Control 2000

### FIRE CHIEF/FOREST FIRE WARDEN

Thomas Poulin 2000

### INSPECTOR OF ANIMALS

Shelly Sears 2000

### SUPT. OF INSECT PEST CONTROL

Dana Pixley 2000

### BOARD OF HEALTH AGENT

Lorri McCool 2000

### VETERANS' GRAVE OFFICER

Richard Wiencek 2000

### VETERANS' BENEFITS AGENT

Arthur A. Booth, Jr. 2000

### ACTING CIVIL DEFENSE DIRECTOR

James D. Smith 2000

### SUPT. OF STREETS

Dana Pixley 2000

### TREE WARDEN

Dana Pixley 2000

### FENCE VIEWERS

John H. Field, II 2000

William H. Patric 2000

### TOWN COUNSEL

Bruce D. Clarkin 2000

### PARKING CLERK

Rita A. Vail 2000

### ASSISTANT TREASURER

Patricia Smith 2000

### COMPUTER STUDY COMMITTEE

John D. Flynn 2000

Richard Rediker 2000

James Moriarty 2000

### BUILDING INSPECTOR

Mark Feeney 2000

### ELECTRICAL INSPECTOR

Robert Lague 2000

### PLUMBING INSPECTOR

Michael Ford 2000

### ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Yorke P. Phillips, Chairman 2000

Richard J. Fadus 2001

Elizabeth DeSousa 2002

Peter Nossal 2000

### BOARD OF APPEALS

L. Jed Berliner, Chairman 2003

Richard Patullo, Vice Chairman 2002

Kenneth Lefebvre 2002

Dalton Philpott 2001

Mary C. Cesan 2001

Judith Jackson, Clerk

### BOARD OF APPEALS ALTERNATES

David Scott 2001

James E. Stone 2001

Frank Kotomski 2001

### HAMPDEN CULTURAL COUNCIL

Heather Beattie, Chairman 2000

Aline Burt 2000

Linda Plourd 2000

Barbara MacKenzie 2000

Carol Smith 2000

Virginia Blake 2000

Carolyn Siano 2000

Carol Gauthier 2001

Betsy Ethier 2000

### INSURANCE COMMITTEE

John Bethel 2000

Robert L. Burger 2000

Samuel Hanmer 2000

### RIDGELINE & HILLSIDE COMMITTEE

John D. Flynn, Chairman 2000

Jim Moriarty 2000

Robin Warner 2000

**APPOINTED TOWN OFFICERS -- 1999**

**CONSERVATION COMMISSION**

Bonnie Geromini, Co-Chair	2000
Camilla J. Desmarais, Co-Chair	2002
Richard Gouvan	2002
Jack Matthews	2001
Wayne Meisner	2002
Arthur Thiboutot	2000
Patricia Smith, Clerk	

**CONSERVATION, ASSOCIATE MEMBERS**

Michael Raimer	
Patricia Smith	2000
Peter Choquette	2000

**COUNCIL ON AGING**

Brian MacLeod, Chairman	2002
Dalton Philpott, Vice Chairman	2001
Albert L. Ouimet, Treasurer	2000
Diane Hildreth	2001
William T. Olmstead	2000
Patricia Clark	2001
George Lavallee	2000
Virginia Schneider, Secretary	2001
Rita Vail	2002

George Ingle, Hampden Rep to Board  
of Directors, Greater Springfield  
Senior Services Inc.

**COUNCIL ON AGING DIRECTOR**

Carolyn Brennan	2000
-----------------	------

**ELECTRIC COMMITTEE**

George K. Stone, Jr.	2000
Richard Hatch	2000
Raymond Shankel	2000
Guy Bartolucci	2000

**ENERGY COMMISSION**

Walter Johnson	2000
Brian McQuillan	2000
Toi Graham	2000
Al Perusse	2000

**BOARD OF REGISTRARS**

Arthur A. Booth, Jr.	2000
Elizabeth M. Wells	2000
Janet M. Redin	2000
Rita A. Vail, Clerk	

**POLICE DEPARTMENT, CHIEF**

Philip J. Adams	2000
-----------------	------

**SERGEANTS**

James Collins	2000
Jeff Farnsworth	2000
Anna Mascaro	2000

**POLICE OFFICERS**

Scott Trombley	2000
Michael J. Cooney	2000
William Joy	2000
Todd Ely	2000
Joseph Henry	2000
John DiMaio	2000

**DISPATCHERS(full-time)**

Linda J. Ely	2000
Laurie Ryder	2000
Radcliffe Kenison	2000
Verna Caney	2000

**POLICE MATRON**

Linda Ely	2000
Laurie Ryder	2000
Verna Caney	2000

**RESERVE OFFICERS**

Harlan Cross	2000
Laurie Ryder	2000
Robert Robinson	2000

**RESERVE/DISPATCHER**

Christopher Eck	2000
Charles Seder	2000
Ralph Jensen	2000
Avery Lynch	2000
Brett Purchas	2000
Ralph Jensen	2000
Thomas Messier	2000
Bradford Caney	2000
Gary Courtney	2000
John Laplante	2000
Thomas Cortis	2000
Daniel Lowe	2000

**SECRETARY TO POLICE DEPT.**

Kathy Zanetti

## APPOINTED TOWN OFFICERS -- 1999

### VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

Thomas Poulin, Chief	2000
Peter Hatch, Assistant Chief	2000
David Markham, Deputy Chief	2000
Michael Gorski, Captain	2000
Edward Poulin, Lieutenant	2000

### HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT

Dana Pixley, Superintendent  
Patrick Markham  
Robert Richards  
Albert Rosarti  
Matthew Fredericks  
Jason Walbridge

William Brown, Jr.	2000
James Burns, Sr.	2000
James Burns, Jr.	2000
Gordon Casey	2000
Howard Cutting	2000
Donald Dickinson	2000
Edwin Dunlea	2000
Timothy Evans	2000
Joseph Grant	2000
Richard Harris	2000
Lawrence Hatch	2000
Richard Hatch	2000
Harold House	2000
Daniel Isham Sr.	2000
Keith Isham	2000
Albert Jones	2000
William Levakis	2000
Matthew Loveling	2000
Henry Managre	2000
Arthur McCarthy	2000
William Patric	2000
Scott Rumprik	2000
Robert Sazama , Jr.	2000
Robert Short	2000
Michael Sicbaldi	2000
Thomas Smith	2000
David Sutcliffe	2000
Richard Thayer	2000
Irving Witkop	2000

### Auxiliary Firemen

Garrett Brant  
James Brant  
Daniel Isham, Jr.  
Michael Maserati  
Brett Purchas  
Joshua Ross  
Frederick Warren

**IN RECOGNITION FOR THEIR YEARS OF DEDICATED SERVICE  
TO THE TOWN OF HAMPDEN THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
WISH TO ACKNOWLEDGE THEIR APPRECIATION TO THE  
FOLLOWING INDIVIDUALS**

---

Beryl Doten, Historical Society

Richard R. Green, Board of Selectmen

Diane Hildreth, Clerk to Assessors

Douglas F. Boyd, School Committee

Robert F. Sazama Jr, Cemetery Commissioner

David Kingsbury, Parks Committee

Richard Moriarty, Advisory Committee

Mary Ellen Glover, Advisory Committee

Diane Knecht, Hampden Cultural Council

Richard Brown, Hampden Highway Department

Michael Gralinski, Police Dispatch/Reserve Officer

Kristen Marciniac, Police Dispatch/Reserve Officer

Matthew Roman, Police Dispatch/Reserve Officer

Michael Woodard, Police Dispatch/Reserve Officer

Christopher Doyle, Police Dispatch/Reserve Officer

## PROCEDURE FOR OBTAINING A BUILDING PERMIT

The following is an outline of the steps that must be taken in order to secure a building permit, including the necessary supplementary permits or approvals, as may be required. The Board of Selectmen hopes that this procedure will eliminate confusion which might otherwise arise. Specific questions or a more in-depth review of a particular department's requirements may be discussed with each inspector.

1. Application to Building Department: Complete the building permit application and submit to the Building Inspector with 2 sets of site plans prepared by a Professional Engineer or Registered Land Surveyor, along with the application fee, in accordance with Zoning Bylaw 8.1.3. If you have questions, contact: Mark Feeney 566-2204

2. Planning Board: The application and plot plan will be submitted to the Planning Board. Petitioner will verify that this is a registered lot, with the proposed building meeting all zoning requirements (which may include application to the Ridgeline & Hillside Committee, Zoning Bylaw 7.12). Contact the clerk to be placed on the agenda of the next meeting: Judy Jackson: 566-8591. (Home).

3. Highway Department: If the driveway requires the crossing of an open ditch, contact the Highway Superintendent for sizing and proper installation of the culvert. When any new driveway is installed (entering off of a paved roadway), the builder will be required to pave an apron from the edge of the pavement back to the front property line (usually 7-10 feet) at the driveway entrance. If you have questions, contact Dana Pixley at 566-8842.

4. Conservation Commission: Verify with this Board if you are near or part of your property is in or near the Wetlands Area. If you have questions contact the clerk, Pat Smith 566-2206.

5. Percolation Test: Year round testing. The owner/engineer arranges appointment for percolation with the Board of Health Agent and pays fee. Percolation test is valid for two (2) years from date of issue.

6. Well Permit: Well installer submits to the Board of Health a permit and plan of property with well, septic system and house shown, at the time of application and with the permit fee.

7. Well Installation: After the well is installed the installer must file a Well Water completion report with the Board of Health. Property owner must then have the water tested with results sent to the Board of Health before a building permit will be issued.

8. Septic Application: Engineer must submit septic design application to the Board of Health, signed stamped and with the fee paid. A septic permit which is approved shall expire three years from the date of issue unless construction of the approved system is begun before the expiration date.

9. Septic Installation: Septic Installer must be licensed by the Town of Hampden and must advise Board of Health before installation starts. Installation must be inspected by Board of Health Agent and Design Engineer before system is covered.

10. Septic Compliance: Engineer and installer must sign Certificate of Compliance after the final inspection.

11. Building Department: Building plans must be submitted for review by the Building Inspector. A building permit will not be issued until all prior steps have been successfully completed. The permit is valid for three (3) years from date of issue. Construction work must begin within six months of receiving building permit and work must be finished within three years. If you have questions contact: Mark Feeney-566-2204.

12. Electrical, Plumbing, Gas, Oil Burner, Smoke Detector, and Wood Stove Permits: Requests for the above permits are to be submitted to the Building Department, with the necessary Building Permit fee. The applicant contacts the appropriate inspector with the inspection request. An Occupancy permit will be issued only after the Building Inspector checks with other inspectors to make sure all the above procedures have been completed as well as insuring that the house number is permanently found on the property and easily readable from the street.

If you have questions or if the Board of Selectmen may be of service, please contact us at the Town House 566-2151. ALL FEES ARE PAYABLE TO THE TOWN OF HAMPDEN



## BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Putting pen to paper (actually, fingers to keyboard) to come up with an annual report offers the writer an opportunity to quietly reflect on the past and think about the future. Where have we been, where are we going, and how can this be summarized in a few short paragraphs?

One of the most significant impressions that come to mind when considering the past is that there has been a lot of recent transition in elected and appointed positions in the town. The Board of Selectmen has seen a complete turnover in three years and the same is true for Hampden's two members of the Regional School Committee. During the same period of time some long-standing members of the Advisory Committee have moved on and new people have assumed the chair positions of Parks and Recreation, the Planning Board and the Council on Aging to name a few. Yet, despite this transition, the character of the town, the high quality of education, the high caliber and diversity of other services, and the town's solid financial position has remained virtually unchanged. This is a tribute to the hard work and foresight of the outgoing officials and to the dedication and creativity of the new officials.

So, where are we going? In this writer's view, basically in the same direction we have been going in all along but with gradual nudging and tugging and prodding fueled by new people, new ideas and a changing culture.

In the past year the Board of Selectmen has had the privilege of sharing in the realization of goals set in motion by our predecessors years ago. We participated in the groundbreaking for the Senior Center -- culminating years of efforts by countless individuals to make the goal a reality. We are working on Phase 2 of the Mill Pond Restoration, and we have continued working with our staff and other departments to perpetuate programs, like our annual Memorial Day hot dog social, that set Hampden apart from other communities.

As we have moved from the past to the present we have nudged and tugged and prodded our own ideas into motion. We have embraced new communications ideas like expanding and enhancing our meeting minutes and posting them in the library. And, we have instituted a program of written notifications mailed out prior to any Special Town Meetings as a means of keeping the residents informed and involved. Hopefully these ideas will guide our successors as inevitable transitions continue.

To keep our town employees motivated and delivering high quality service we are working with an appointed committee and an outside consulting firm to bring updated job classifications and internal salary equity to the town's employees. And, this same committee of volunteers is generating ideas towards updating our employee handbook and proposing employee evaluation methods.

In closing, the Board of Selectmen would like to thank all the countless people that have contributed to make our community what it is today. We meet on Monday nights and welcome visitors. If you have any new ideas that you want to nudge, tug or prod into action please join us at one of our meetings.

Respectfully Submitted,  
James D. Smith, Chairman  
Mark Casey  
Austin G. McKeon

Board of Selectmen/Board of Health fees, licenses, permits, etc.	\$126,630.24
Building Department fees	\$15,356.18
Police Department permits, reports, etc.	\$ 3,779.50
Fire Department smoke alarm inspections, oil burner permits, etc.	\$ 1,824.00
Town Clerk Fees	\$ 11,050.60

## BOARD OF HEALTH

During 1999, The Board of Health was active on many fronts. Completion of the Public Water Supply, maintenance and improvement of our recycling program/transfer operation, Title V disposal system inspection and approvals, and ground water issues were among the areas of our major work.

Construction of a water supply system was completed in 1999. The Scantic Valley Water District began supplying top quality drinking water to 9 homes in the Scantic Rd. and Cross Rd. area. 2 wells, a pumping station, and control station are located within the Laughing Brook Sanctuary. The Board thanks the members of the Hampden Highway Dept for their construction skills in building the well house and access road, and the Massachusetts Audubon Society for its help in the location and installation of the well area facilities.

Hampden's recycling program continues with high marks from state and federal evaluators. Both recycling and transfer station areas have operated without problems throughout the year. Thanks to our residents, and on-site volunteers for their participation in the recycling program, and for their understanding of the recycling guidelines.

Title V septic design and implementation present a thorn in the side to some homeowners. The Board of Health has worked with applicants to solve problems in well and disposal areas. Our office has a list of licensed inspectors. Quite often, a call to our office or a word with Lorri McCool, our Health Agent, will help in the understanding and/or solution of a Title V issue. We will continue to support state legislation to grant relief for existing systems under Title V.

Ground water quality has emerged as an area of increasing concern. The board offers annual water testing to residents at a low cost. For many residents, these tests are the first ever for their wells, and some tests have come back with low levels of contaminants. Most problems can be traced back to either a shallow well and/or a septic system within 100 feet of a well. It is a wise decision to look at the well and septic placements on your lot and adjacent lots before construction of an addition or outbuilding. The board has also been active in mitigating problems with water table levels due to beaver dams.

The Board of Health thanks the many residents who volunteer their time to make the rabies clinic, flu clinic and water testing programs a success. Our programs would not be possible without the hard work and volunteer efforts of Selectman's Administrative Assistant Kate Ashe and Board of Health Secretary Doreen Rauch.

Please do not hesitate to call the Board of Health office for information or help with a health or sanitation issue.

Respectfully submitted,

Mark Casey  
James D. Smith  
Austin McKeon

### Annual Activities provided by the Board of Health

Activity	1998	1999
Annual Flu Clinic (11-7-99)	250	230
Pneumonia Clinic	NA	NA
Annual Rabies Clinic (Dog & Cat)	24	56
Water Tests Taken (10/21/9)	106	132
Percolation Tests Taken	95	67
Septic Systems Installed and/or repaired	65	82
Installer Permits Granted	23	26
Septic Haulers Permits Granted	6	5
Well Permits	33	43
Health Complaints	15	12
Court Actions	2	0
Food Service Permits	33	35
Public Swimming Pool Permits	2	2
Food Establishment Inspections	-	twice yearly for established businesses

#### Recycled during 1998 under the volunteer program

	1998	1999
Newspaper		
Combined cardboard, plastic, tin cans, glass bottles & jars, metal and white goods		
Bulk item Collection		
Hazardous Collection		
<u>Total tons</u>	350	490

Board of Health Telephone Number: 566-2151

Board of Health Hours: 9 A.M. to 4 P.M.

<b>LANDFILL</b>	<b>PERCOLATION TESTS</b>
Hours are Saturday, 7AM to 5PM Tuesday, 1PM to 6PM Recycling is the second and fourth Saturday of each month.	Perc Season Year Round testing. Percolation tests require an appointment with the Board of Health agent and the property owner's engineer performing the test.



## REPORT OF THE BOARD OF APPEALS

- |          |   |         |
|----------|---|---------|
| Case -1  | Special Permit, Section 4. 3 to allow the building of an addition to a non-conforming building affecting the west side and rear setbacks. Building was in conformance with 1942 Zoning Bylaw. | Granted |
| Case - 2 | Special Permit, Section 7.8 to allow the removal of earth to improve the land for agriculture. This was a repetitive petition.  | Granted |
| Case - 3 | Special Permit, 7, section 7.14 to allow the construction of a wireless communications facility consisting of a hundred fifty foot monopole with accompanying base equipment.                 | Granted |

Respectfully submitted,

BOARD OF APPEALS

L. Jed Berliner, Chair  
Richard E. Patullo, Vice Chair  
M. Chris Cesan  
Kenneth E. Lefebvre  
Dalton E. Philpott

Alternates:  
Francis Kotomski  
David R. Scott  
James E. Stone  
Judith M. Jackson, Clerk

## HISTORICAL SOCIETY

The Historical Society presented some very interesting programs this year. Among them were "The History of the Hampden Police Department", "The History of the Hampden Fire Department" and a presentation on the Frederick Law Olmstead Preservation Commission. We have more excellent programs planned for the future. There is always so much to learn and listen to.

As always our Memorial Day tag and flag sale was a huge success! Our open houses and annual dinner were excellent and enjoyable.

There have been many new acquisitions to our historical museum. Displays of these items are being planned for the future.

This year's most important project was getting a beautiful replica made of our Boston Post Cane. This has been presented to our town's oldest citizen. It is now possible to have the original under lock and key.

Academy Hall looks really nice with the porch repaired and the building painted. Please stop by and look inside as well. There is a lot to see! We have regular museum hours and the research center is available by appointment at other times. The public is always welcome, so please come and enjoy our programs!

Respectfully Submitted,

Linda Krawiec, President  
Nancy Ayers, Secretary

## REPORT OF THE HISTORICAL COMMISSION

At Town Meeting last spring you gave us an overwhelming vote of support by creating a Historical Commission in Hampden. The Board of Selectmen appointed five commissioners in August and we immediately set to work.

Our first major order of business was to coordinate an area survey of the Village Center. This was accomplished with a \$4,000 gift from the Massachusetts Historical Commission. They hired a professional preservation consultant to write the survey and take photographs. This was supplemented with additional information and photographs provided by us. A copy of the survey is available in the library and the original is stored in the town archives. Massachusetts Historical Commission holds a copy of the survey in Boston. The survey should be of interest to students doing historical research, homeowners within the survey area, or any resident with a curiosity about our old (and not so old) homes. The survey also becomes a resource for Town officials when they are met with planning decisions within the area. This survey should be of assistance in meeting the goal of "maintaining the historic character of Main Street" as stated in the town's master plan.

We are thankful for the donations of time, money and materials we have received. These donations, along with our limited funds, has made it possible to begin extracting information on Hampden houses and their occupants from the Hampden Library scrapbook collection. This will assist in our ongoing survey efforts.

We have had several exhibits at the Town House in the glass case outside the library, which had been empty for many years. Exhibits included "Can You Identify This House?" and "Backyard Archeology" (in conjunction with Mass. Archeology Week). Chrissy Cesan has done a very professional job of planning and installing these exhibits. Other activities included attendance at a statewide preservation conference, participation in Mass. Community Preservation Day and lecturing at U. Mass-Amherst on "Volunteers in Preservation".

We are proud of what we have accomplished in a few short months but we will not "rest on our laurels"! We have just embarked on an area survey of the Scantic Area (Allen St., Somers, East Longmeadow, Wilbraham and Mill Roads). We have lots of energy and enthusiasm for our work and hope you will give us your support in our endeavors.

We wish to thank Ellen Bump, Rita Vail, the Board of Selectmen and other Town officials for their valuable assistance during our inaugural year.

Our meetings are held the first and third Tuesdays of each month. We welcome your attendance and hope you will tell us what the Historical Commission can do for you in the 21<sup>st</sup> century.

Connie Chapin Witt, Chairman  
Dorothy Bradway Hill, Secretary  
Nancy Quill, Cemetery Coordinator  
Noreen Couture, Publicity/Computer Coordinator  
Chrissy Cesan, Archeology Coordinator

Our concerns are not just old buildings and archeological sites. We are also concerned about maintaining our rural heritage through scenic roads, preservation of farmlands, conservation protection and smart growth. WE WORK IN THE PRESENT TO PERSERVE THE PAST FOR THE FUTURE.

## REPORT OF THE BUILDING COMMISSIONER

### BUILDING PERMITS & INSPECTIONS

Signs:	2
Dwelling	27
Additions:	19
Garage:	8
Sheds:	7
Alterations	7
Barns:	7
Pools:	16
Stove permits:	10
Demolition:	4
New Commercial:	2
Senior Center:	1
TOTAL	110

### TOTAL PERMITS & INSPECTIONS

Building	110
Electrical	116
Plumbing & Gas	122

Respectfully submitted  
Mark J. Feeney, Building Commissioner

## HAMPDEN LAND PROJECT

Hampden Land Project (HLP), a 501 © 3 non-profit land trust, is dedicated to the permanent protection of critical areas of open space in Hampden. As we enter this new millennium, it is essential that we recognize the vital importance of balancing new growth with conservation, thus protecting our scenic views, our environmental quality, and our wildlife. HLP provides information to interested landowners about conservation options, and the economic benefits of land protection. HLP also works with town boards, on land protection issues. In 1999, HLP members served on a Conservation Commission subcommittee to update the town's Open Space Plan, Hampden is now eligible for major funding from state agencies for the next five years, for land acquisition and conservation projects.

HLP members also served on a Planning Board subcommittee that drafted the proposed FROSD (flexible residential/open space development) bylaw, that won the majority, but narrowly missed the needed two-thirds vote at Town Meeting. This bylaw is an alternative developments. A Planning Board Task Force will be working on this bylaw, along with other zoning revisions, for presentation at a Fall 2000 Special Town Meeting.

Through its memberships in the Mass Assn of Land Trusts, and the Western Mass Land Trusts, HLP has access to experts in the fields of land management and estate planning, and contracts with state and non-profit agencies, for the latest information about funding opportunities for land protection.

HLP always welcomes new members, and all meetings are open to the public. Please direct inquiries to: HLP, P.O. Box 455, Hampden, MA

Respectfully submitted,

Sherry Himmelstein

## HAMPDEN COUNCIL ON AGING

November 11<sup>th</sup>, 1999 was the Groundbreaking Ceremony for the Hampden Senior Center. It was the beginning of the actual building process but it has been preceded by two years of extensive preparation and planning. The role of the Council on Aging for 1999 was not only providing services and programs for elders and their caregivers but also program management for the senior center.

Construction throughout the spring will continue with completion anticipated for early summer. The COA has been very fortunate to have the assistance and expertise of Arthur Bilodeau to serve as our volunteer Clerk of the Works. Mr. Bilodeau has faithfully attended weekly construction meetings, interviewed construction employees for wage compliance and provided daily logs on the weather and building conditions to the executive director of the COA. Grant compliance for the Department of Housing and Community Development requires specific and detailed documentation and his assistance has been invaluable.

Because of the support from town residents, the grant from DHCD, the Scantic Senior Citizen's Club and especially from the **Friends of Hampden Seniors, Inc.** the Town Accountant was able to certify enough money to fund the construction of the Senior Center. Fundraising, under Bill Olmstead's leadership, continues to faithfully and persistently follow every opportunity to raise the remaining funds necessary to adequately furnish the new Senior Center.

In 1999 the Council on Aging provided the following services to Hampden elders and their caregivers: Information and Referral, transportation, fuel assistance, caregiver support, educational seminars, legal and tax assistance, health insurance counseling (SHINE), congregate and home delivered meals, health screenings & clinics, exercise & recreation, housing assistance, advocacy, the Senior Pharmacy Program, File of Life, durable medical equipment loan closet and home care information.

### New Programs/Services offered:

- ❖ A grant from Greater Springfield Senior Services funded an Outreach Coordinator to provide home visits, information and referral and case management.
- ❖
- ❖ Community Policing projects: Reserve Officers Gary Courtney and Averil Lynch from the Hampden Police Department assisted the COA in registering elders with the File of Life Program and will continue until the majority of elders are on file. Sergeant Jeff Farnsworth spearheaded a "Movie Night" and dinner fundraiser to benefit the Hampden Senior Center. Our special thanks to the Hampden Police Department for all of their support.
- ❖
- ❖ Weight Training & Line Dancing: Two popular programs that include adults of all ages and abilities.

Our challenge this year will be to provide a smooth but exciting transition of our programming to the new Senior Center. New classes, health screenings and services are planned for the fall of 2000 and we continue to be dependent on the 130+ volunteers who's assistance sustains the COA and enables this department to serve over 1,000 people each year.

On behalf of our meal site manager, Janis DeGrandpre and the Board of the Hampden Council on Aging, we would like to extend our gratitude to the Hampden Housing Authority and the tenants of Centennial lane for allowing the Congregate Meal Site to operate the "Lunch Bunch" and home-delivered meal program there for the past five years. Almost 25,000 congregate and home delivered meals were distributed and served from the community room since 1995.

For the past 20+ years, local businesses, schools, churches and municipal departments have opened their doors to the senior citizens of Hampden and allowed the COA to use their space for our programs and classes. We greatly appreciate your support. This summer, we look forward to welcoming all of you through our doors to enjoy Hampden's newest landmark.

Respectfully submitted:  
Carolyn F. Brennan, Executive Director  
Hampden Council on Aging

**COA Board Members:**

Patricia Clark  
Diane Hildreth  
George Lavallee  
Brian MacLeod, Chairman  
Bill Olmstead  
Al Ouimet, Treasurer  
Dalton Philpott, Vice Chairman  
Virginia Schneider, Secretary  
Rita Vail

**COA Staff:**

Helena Nossal: Administrative Assistant  
Tiny Burt: Senior Aide  
Lissa Fontaine: Outreach Coordinator  
JanisDeGrandpre: Activities Coordinator  
& Meal Site Manager

**COA Senior Center Sub-Committee Chairs:**

Duane Mosier, Building Committee  
Bill Olmstead, Fundraising Committee  
Rita Vail, Public Relations/Recognition Committee

## **GREATER SPRINGFIELD SENIOR SERVICES, INC. (GSSSI)**

In 1999 Hampden's seniors received services provided thru GSSSI at the same total value as in 1998, \$8,500. Decreases in home-delivered and congregate meals were offset by increases in home-care services and in outreach by the Council on Aging. Accordingly, Hampden's Match Fund", as stipulated in the reauthorized Federal "Older Americans Law", was \$302, as in 1998, a contribution to GSSSI. Hampden's share of the total GSSSI funding (\$9 million) is stable at about 1.4%.

Continuing economic improvement in the greater Springfield area helps the several cities and towns pay part or all of their "Match Funds", as does Hampden. This is a modest share of the total GSSSI funding, but is a needed source of funds to manage requests for the several categories of services.

While Federal support for Medicaid-supported services was reduced in the "Balanced Budget Amendment", state funding has recently compensated for this reduction by providing \$16 million additional for home care and other community-based services to frail elders. As a result, GSSSI expects a modest surplus for 2000, in contrast to recent deficits.

GSSSI remains committed to improving the lives of seniors in many ways, in-home care, crisis intervention, housing options, nursing home ombudsman, respite care, emergency shelter, health clinics, legal assistance and protective services. Seniors and their caretakers should contact the Hampden Council on Aging for information about these services.

Respectfully submitted, George W. Ingle Hampden's  
Representative to the GSSSI Board of Directors.

## **HAMPDEN HOUSING AUTHORITY**

The Hampden Housing Authority meets on the third Thursday of each month in the Community Building at 26 Springmeadow Lane. Meetings are usually held at 8:15 AM. All meetings are posted with the Town Clerk and are open to the public.

Elected members of the Authority are as follows:

William Joy, Chairperson, Miles Hapgood, Treasurer, Mildred Grant, Assistant Treasurer, Aline Burt, Secretary and Dalton Philpott serves as the Governor's Appointee to the Housing Authority, Housing Authority Staff members are: Christine Evans, Executive Director, Carole Robert, Site Manager, Gary DePace, Fee Accountant, Frank Hull, Maintenance Supervisor, Reginald Temple, Maintenance Aide.

As has been the case since its inception, the mission of the Hampden Housing Authority continues to be to provide decent, safe and sanitary housing to our residents at a rate which is based on 30% of their household net income. Admission is accomplished following an application process. Applications are available by mail or in person at our office at 26 Springmeadow Lane. Maximum net income limits are currently as follows: 1 person - \$26,100; 2 persons - \$29,800. All eligibility and occupancy standards are in keeping with the Department of Housing and Community Development and HUD guidelines. Our agency is subject to state audit every two years by the Office of the Auditor of the commonwealth.

As always, we express our thanks to the Police, Fire and Highway Departments who are always ready and willing to assist our residents and staff in keeping our environment here so safe and secure.

The Hampden Housing Authority office hours are : Monday – 9:00am – 12 Noon; Tuesday – 8:00am – 2:00pm, Wednesday – 9:00 – 11am, Thursday - \*am to 2pm. The office is closed on Fridays. We can be reached by calling 566-8157.

Respectfully,

Christine Evans  
Executive Director

## **TENANTS ORGANIZATION**

1999 begins our twenty-second year here at Centennial Commons and there are still a few of us left who came here early in the spring of 1978.

The Tenants Organization was off and running in 1979 and has been active ever since. Our agenda hasn't changed. We meet quarterly to enact old and new business with a well rounded group of tenants.

Our community is a very safe and pleasant place to live, as attested by those who live here and many a happy occasion takes place in the dining area of the community room. Tenants have enjoyed birthday parties, card games, bingo, Thursday night cards, Monte Carlo Whist, showers and a host of other activities, tag and bake sales, and last but not least the Christmas Party and dinners.

Respectfully submitted,

Aline Burt, Secretary

## CONSERVATION COMMISSION

The Hampden Conservation Commission is comprised of six full time members and three associate members. We meet the second Monday of the month. We also have special meetings when necessary. Our purpose is to protect the resource areas in town from abuse and development. The guidelines we use are the Massachusetts Wetland Protection By-laws as well as the Town of Hampden Wetland Protection By-laws.

This year we had twelve regular meetings and four special meetings. Site inspections are held prior to each meeting. We received seven Notices of Intent, fourteen Requests for Determination and four Requests for Partial Certificates of Compliance. We also issued six enforcement orders.

We attended a training meeting conducted by Susan Gillan, the regional wetlands circuit rider for D.E.P. The meeting focused on the River Protection Act and the role of the conservation commissions. Along with Hampden, Monson, Brimfield and Wales participated in the meeting. The four towns are going to strive to periodically meet throughout the year.

This coming year Mill Pond will be dredged to provide more open water. The plan is to connect the two existing bodies of water. The fire department has received paperwork from the commission to install a dry hydrant at Mill Pond. This will help service that end of town.

The Council on Aging, Sprint, and Southwood Estates came through the Commission this year. We issued paperwork on all these projects to protect any resource areas within our jurisdiction.

The Conservation Commission also worked with the Hampden Land Project to update the towns open space plan. This project was completed this past summer. Copies are available in the library.

We are always anxious to meet people interested in joining. Please contact our clerk, Pat Smith, at the Town House, if you have any questions. We need proactive people interested in preserving our Town's natural resources.

Respectively submitted

Bonnie Geromini, Co-Chairman  
Camilla Desmarais, Co-Chairman  
Richard Gouvan  
Jack Matthews  
Wayne Meisner  
Art Thibotot

Peter Choquette, Associate Member  
Pat Smith, Associate Member

**Thomas J. O'Connor  
Regional Dog Control Center**

701 Center Street  
Chicopee, MA 01013  
Tel. 781-1484

The year 1999 brought continued improvements and positive transition to the Thomas J. O'Connor Regional Dog control Center. From staff changes to increased finances and supplies for the center, and a heightened awareness of our presence in the community, we are proud of our accomplishments as we look back on the last year of the twentieth century.

In July of 1999, our goal of putting two new vehicles on the road was reached. A third will be added in the coming months, bringing our total fleet to four. In addition, we were able to improve our existing laundry facility with the addition of an industrial sized washer and dryer. The summer of 1999 also provided the Center with opportunities for increased public presence, as we had a booth both at the Spirit of Springfield's Pancake Breakfast and the Taste of Springfield, where we were able to give out literature concerning the Center, and take in donations. Also, a Millennium Mutt campaign was sponsored by the Spirit of Springfield, in which winners of a contest were able to walk their dogs in the Balloon Parade with us. All of these activities have given the Center a much needed boost in donations, which in turn enables us to better care for the dogs.

In addition, 1999 brought many staff changes to the Center. The following is a list of the present staff members at Thomas J. O'Connor. Robert C. Larocque; Director; Michelle Downie; Kennel Manager; Felix Lisojo; Veterinarian Technician; Nick Dominik; Dog Officer; George Roberts; Dog Officer; Fred Golba; Dog Officer; John Magni; Night Dog Officer; Christine Higgins; Office Assistant; Sarah Keily; Assistant to the Kennel Manager; and Daniel Griffin; Maintenance.

The following list indicates duties conducted by the staff of the Thomas J. O'Connor Regional Dog Control Center for period of January 1, 1999 to December 31, 1999.

Investigation of loose dog complaints	38
Investigation of barking dog complaints	17
Stray dogs captured and impounded at Center	16
Dog bite investigations	4
Vicious/loose dog complaints	4
Stray dogs brought to the Ctr from Hampden	0
Stray dog complaints	29
Sick and or injured dogs	4
After-hour emergency calls	20
Impounded dogs	16
Returned to owners	7
Adopted	9
Euthanized	0
Transported to Rowley Animal Hospital	1
Follow-up calls	32
Licenses sold at center	8
Board of Selectmen's meetings	6
District Court appearances	0

The staff of the Thomas J. O'Connor Regional Dog Control Center would like to thank the Town of Hampden for their continued involvement and support in this program, and we look forward to serving you in the new millennium.

Submitted by Robert C. Larocque, Director

## ANIMAL INSPECTOR

As the Animal Inspector for the Town of Hampden, I would like to report the following for 1999.

	<u>Adult</u>	<u>Young</u>	
Cattle: (Adult= 2 years & over)			
Dairy	3	2	
Beef	38	16	
Steers/Oxen	5	0	
Goats	24	1	
Sheep	15	0	
Swine			
Breeders	0	0	
Feeders	11	0	
Equines			
Horses	157	6	
Ponies	29	3	
liamas	5		
Poultry	# of chickens 183	#of turkeys 1	# of ratites 0
	# of gamebirds 0		# of waterfowl 25
Rabbits	15		
Other animals	1 Burro		

There was one raccoon that tested positive for rabies, seven domestic animals quarantined, three due to wildlife encounters and four due to bites to humans reported.

Respectfully submitted,

Shelley Sears,  
Animal Inspector

## HAMPDEN CULTURAL COUNCIL

The Hampden Cultural Council is responsible for distributing funds allocated by the Massachusetts Cultural Council. Applications for funds are submitted to the local council in October of each year. The council then meets to consider those requests. The applicants who are rejected are given time to appeal and under the new streamlined granting process, those who are approved are notified by the local council of their approval in December following a brief review by the Massachusetts Cultural Council. The actual funds to approved applicants are then available for distribution by the end of January pending budget passage by the state legislature.

Local groups or individuals who would like to request funds can get more information and the grant applications from the Selectman's office. It should be noted that the council gives preference to projects sponsored by town organizations or residents. Due to limited funds, requests are rarely granted in full.

In the spring of 1999, the Hampden Cultural Council participated again in the Matching Fund Incentive program sponsored by the Massachusetts Cultural Council. Our local council raised funds through the *Business Friends of the Hampden Cultural Council Program* by contacting business owners who either reside in town or conduct their business in town and asking them for a donation. This program was successful, as it has been in the last few years, and we would like to publicly thank the following businesses and business owners:

Dr. John Hennessy  
Bilton's Orchard  
Spruce Hill Veterinary  
Hampden Liquors  
New England Harp  
Meurise Co.  
Hampden Center of Performing Arts  
Village Food Mart  
Orr Cadillac  
The Bagel Nook  
Casey Glass

Council members also collected donations at Town Hall on Election Day and from donation cans placed around town in area establishments. These activities were also very successful and the Hampden Cultural Council would like to publicly thank the many individual contributors for their generosity. We are pleased to announce that a total of \$1384.32 was collected. This was added to our budget for 1999-2000 and the Massachusetts Cultural Council matched \$692.00 of this amount in addition to our yearly allocation of \$3,300.00. The local council also had \$544.00 of unencumbered money remaining from the 1998-1999 fiscal year, giving us a total of \$5920.00 to have available for granting in year 1999-2000.

Projects and activities that have been awarded grants for 1999-2000 include:

- A 2d grade field trip to Norcross Wildlife Sanctuary
- A town mural creation project for grades 4, 5 & 6
- A 1<sup>st</sup> grade field trip to a blacklight puppet show
- A trip to Symphony Hall for 3<sup>rd</sup> graders
- A Music Matters program for 4<sup>th</sup> graders
- Several music concerts to be co-sponsored by the Library, the Parks & Recreation Department, and the Council on Aging for various town events

## HAMPDEN CULTURAL COUNCIL P2

- A hip-hop dance performance and a performance by the Wilbraham Hampden Falcon Dance Troupe to delight the teens & others in town
- A dramatic historical presentation of the Revolutionary War to Green Meadow students
- Support for the Senior Woodworking Shop
- Bravo Newspaper distribution
- Support to the Hampden Public Library summer reading program
- A senior collaborative quilt project for the residents, family and staff at the Mary Lyon Nursing Home

We have experienced great pleasure and satisfaction in being able support these cultural events and hope to continue to support cultural education and enjoyment of town residents of all ages.

Respectfully submitted,

Heather G. Beattie, Chairperson  
Carol Winters Smith  
Aline Burt  
Virginia Blake  
Carolyn Siano  
Barbara McKenzie  
Linda Plourd  
Carol Gauthier

**TOWN OF HAMPDEN**  
**Annual Town Report**  
**District of Eastern Hampden County Veterans Services**  
**Serving Brimfield, Holland, Hampden Monson and Wales**

Since the time of Abraham Lincoln to the twenty first century the philosophy of caring for those who have borne the battle and their widows and orphans has not changed. The Commonwealth of Massachusetts has set the standard of care for its veterans, widows and orphans through the Department of Veterans Services and subsequently Massachusetts General Law Chapter 115. Directors and Agents of the Department of Veterans Services must be veterans themselves and must undergo specialized training in the law and human services to assure our veterans receive the care and support they deserve.

Under the Law each town is required to establish a budget entitled "Veterans' Benefits" and when those benefits are disbursed as approved by the Veterans Agent, 75% of dollars expended are reimbursed to the town. Your Veterans Agent has been diligent in the past year to assure that all veterans and their dependents have been cared for not only in compliance with the law but also with compassion and dignity.

Activity during this report period included many instances of home visits for those veterans that are house bound in Hampden, scheduling of doctors visits, assisting in VA problems and or concerns and generally assuring that the veteran is served. The Veterans Agent has attended funerals of deceased veterans, obtained honor guard services for those requesting them and presented the American Flag to the survivors of the veteran on behalf of a "Grateful Nation." At the same time correspondence and verbal communication are held with the surviving spouse and or children to inform them of benefits that are available to them either from Veterans Services or Veteran Affairs (Federal). Counseling and other forms of advise and direction, such as Social Security Benefits and unemployment requirements are common in most contacts. In addition, four (4) Veterans Outreach Clinical Assessment Programs were sponsored by this office resulting in access to benefits and services for our veterans.

In addition to benefits provided from Hampden, the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) awarded Federal benefits to Hampden residents in excess of \$170,000. This office works tirelessly on behalf of the veteran to assure that all benefits earned and due the veteran are in fact provided.

Respectfully submitted,

Arthur A. Booth  
Director/Agent

## REPORT OF THE BOARD OF REGISTRARS

The number of registered voters on January 1, 1999 was 3202. On December 31, 1999 the number was 3266. Voter attendance during the year 1999:

Republican Party Caucus, March 25, 1999	27
Democratic Party Caucus, March 26, 1999	39
Special Town Meeting, April 26, 1999	196
Annual Town Meeting, April 26, 1999	196
Annual Town Election, May 3, 1999	806
Special Town Meeting, May 24, 1999	81
Special Town Election, June 7, 1999	359
Special Town Meeting, July 26, 1999	254
Special Town Election, July 27, 1999	775
Special Town Meeting, October 25, 1999	62

### INSPECTORS AND TELLERS

Republican	Democratic	Unenrolled
Beth Burger	Brenda Ahlberg	Mary Lou Black
Edith Casey	Arthur Booth Jr	Carolyn Brennan
Andree Crowley	Ann Burian	Aline Burt
Irene Cutting	Joan Cady	Mildred Davis
Beryl Doten	Mary Cesan	Robert Dieckmeyer
Mary Dunklee	Carol Collins	Catherine Herchel
Barbara Dunwoody	Sophie Davenport	Diane Hildreth
Kathleen Duquette	Nancy Downey	Nancy Joy
Beth Fatse	Gloria Fabbri	Deborah O'Brien
Rebecca Gibb	Kathleen Flynn	Doris Ouimet
Mary Hamel	Sheila Flynn	Doreen Rauch
Miles Hapgood	Richard Gouvan	Donna Easton-Vicalvi
Dorothy Hill	Shirley Gouvan	Lynn Zanolli
Joyce Libby	Sandra Gray	William Zanolli
David Kingsbury	Judith Jackson	
Elaine Kingsbury	Sally Kealy	
Chesley Metcalf	Dorothy Kibbe	
Nancy Salerno	George Lavallee	
Philip Schneider Jr	Ronald Lech	Respectfully submitted,
Sheila Slawiak	Gail Lefebvre	
Thomas Slawiak	Janet Redin	Board of Registrars
Patricia Smith	Kathleen Rochford	Arthur Booth Jr
Elizabeth Wells	Margaret Rochford	Janet Redin
Robert Wells	Evelyn Schmidt	Elizabeth Wells
Carolyn Whipple	Rita Southworth	Rita Vail, Clerk
Richard Willis	George Walsh	

## **Report of the Planning Board**

1999 was a busy year for the Planning Board, as we saw the acceptance of two new roads, the beginning of the PURD project on Stony Hill Road, and the first submission to the Zoning Board of Appeals for the Communications Tower bylaw.

In addition, we received word in December that our grant application to the State for funding to work on the Zoning Bylaws was accepted. We will be working closely with community members on this project and hope to bring this before the Town in the Fall of 2000.

The Board would like to thank Mark Feeney, Building Inspector, and Judy Jackson, Planning Board Clerk, for their tireless efforts.

The Board meets every second and fourth Wednesday of each month and welcomes the input of Town residents.

Respectfully submitted

John D. Flynn, Chair  
Joseph Kruzel, Vice-chair  
Duane Mosier, PVPC representative  
Joseph A. Dolben  
Joseph Mascaro

## **REPORT OF THE RIDGELINE AND HILLSIDE COMMITTEE**

The Ridgeline and Hillside Committee provide an advisory function to the Planning Board. Applications for development in this overlay district are reviewed by the members; site visits and progress reviews are held; and a recommendation is then passed to the Building Inspector.

All residents are welcome at any meeting and any volunteer help is greatly appreciated. We encourage all residents to make suggestions and comments.

Respectfully submitted,

Robin Warner  
John D. Flynn  
Jim Moriarty

## REPORT OF THE COMPUTER STUDY COMMITTEE

The Computer Study Committee is an ongoing task committee organized by the Board of Selectmen in 1986. Since that time, it has assisted the Town departments in purchasing, installing, and maintaining their computer systems. We have stressed a practical and consistent approach to implementing these systems with an emphasis on productivity and good value. The Committee was involved in providing assistance to Town departments concerned with the Year-2000 date change and at year's end, all departments were in compliance.

We would also like to remind the residents that the Town continues to expand its public communications through the Town's Web page at <http://www.hampden.org>. We would like to thank Springfield Public Access ([www.the-spa.com](http://www.the-spa.com)) for their generous donation of unlimited Internet access for all Town departments. We would also like to extend our gratitude to those individuals in Town who have donated computer hardware.

The Committee has a master plan that we feel represents a prudent, fiscally responsible path for the Town to follow. In these tough economic times, it is sometimes difficult to recognize the advantages of capital investment in computers and software. We are always available to respond to any questions or inquiries that residents may have. We wholeheartedly welcome any suggestions and advice.

Respectfully submitted,

John D. Flynn, Chair  
Jim Moriarty  
Richard Rediker

## Recreation Association of Hampden

[RAH]

The Recreation Association of Hampden's primary focus is to provide a youth sports program which fosters participation, skill development, and most importantly fun for the youth of Hampden. The youth sports program offered enrollment in the traditional sports of soccer, basketball, baseball, and softball.

The overall financial position of the RAH program at year end was positive, with the RAH account totaling \$5,435.38. The year end balances by sport are submitted below for consideration. Participation fees, sponsorships, and town line items generate the income; while equipment, league fees, officials, and uniforms dominate the expense side of the individual operating budgets.

Soccer	Basketball	Baseball	Softball	General
\$3,043.94	\$539.81	\$1,385.46	\$164.13	\$302.04

The Recreation Association of Hampden wishes to thank the sports coordinators [Mike Barse-Soccer, Al Struthers-Basketball, John Flynn-Baseball, Mary Kay Theoharides-Softball], and all coaches, board members, parents, sponsors, town departments, and volunteers for their time, energy, and dedication. To what better end, than The Youth of our Town!!

Respectfully submitted, The RAH Board

## PARKS & RECREATION

This year was a pivotal year for the Parks and Recreation Commission. The Town of Hampden is growing and our recreation needs have been growing as well. We determined that a full time Director was needed to adequately serve the residents' recreation and sports programs. Thanks to the support at the Town Meeting, we were able to fund the position of a full time Director. This position will enable the Commission to offer expanded programs and services to all Town residents. Peter Murray was hired as the Parks and Recreation Director in October. One of his first projects was a Town Survey to find out what services and/or programs the residents wanted. The purpose of the survey was to assess the priorities of the Hampden Community for Parks Capital Improvements and new programs. The survey results showed that the highest priority is to improve the soccer fields. The residents expressed strong interest in programs in the areas of arts and crafts, bus trips, computer classes, after school programs, and vacation week programs. We are working to evaluate the surveys and use the information to develop a plan for the facilities and programs for the next few years.

Last spring brought some high quality sports programs to Hampden. Spring soccer, baseball, and softball were offered to children from Kindergarten through 8<sup>th</sup> grade. We encourage residents to stop by the fields and watch the games. Our children consistently put forth tremendous effort while having fun at their chosen sport. Look for schedules on the Town Web Page, [www.hampden.org](http://www.hampden.org).

The Summer Activity Program enjoyed record enrollment this summer. Thanks to our wonderful, hard working staff, Memorial Park is a great place to be. Town residents are welcome to enjoy the terrific facilities at the Park. We will be expanding the programs offered at the Park next summer and hope all members of our community will spend time at the Park.

Some of the other events offered through the Parks and Recreation Commission were Movie Nights, Night Swim, Wrestling, the Fall Festival, and the Fall Festival Fun Run.

The first Saturday in October was the date of the Fall Festival and the first Fall Festival Fun Run. This year the Parks and Recreation Commission put on the Festival. We missed working with the COA and hope that we can once again collaborate in future years. Many people took advantage of the beautiful weather and came out for the crafts, the food, and the games. We would like to thank Tom Crogan, John Donnaruma, and Rick Green for working tirelessly to plan and execute the Fall Festival Fun Run. There were more than 45 runners in all age groups participating. We hope to expand the Fun Run next year and look forward to seeing more runners.

We would like to thank Renee Caverly for all the work she has done on our behalf for the past few years. Thanks to Renee, our Summer Activity Program is a success, and the pool is being used by an increasing number of residents.

As a result of the new Director taking on the job of running the sports programs in Town, RAH members are able to go back to doing what they love; coaching our children. We want to thank all the dedicated volunteers who have worked untold hours to make our sports programs a fun and learning experience for the youth in our community. RAH will continue to work with the Director and the Commission to maintain the high level of quality in our programs and facilities.

We would like to thank the Sports Coordinators who have helped make the transition from RAH-run sports programs to P&R-run sports programs. These hardworking and dedicated coordinators are: Al Struthers, Gary Weiner, Mike Bearse, John Flynn, and Mary Kay Theoharides. The Highway Department and Dana Pixley deserve our thanks for working with us to help maintain the Town facilities.

One of the most exciting events of the past year was the First Night celebration. Rick Green, Tom Crogan, and John Donaruma worked very hard and gave of their time and energy to develop a New Millennium

Celebration for the entire Town. We, as a Town, are very fortunate to have people who are willing to devote their personal time to provide a terrific experience for the rest of us. Approximately 200 people enjoyed the variety of events that were available New Years Eve. Thank you Rick, Tom, and John, for all that you did for the Town!

Our neighbors, our parks and facilities, and our spirit of community are major reasons why people move to Hampden. But some of our facilities are showing signs of age and wear. It is important that we work to ensure that our recreation facilities are safe. We ask the community's support for our requests that not only maintain these facilities, but also allow them to grow to offer more to you, our neighbors.

Respectfully yours,  
James Morris, Chairman  
Glennice Flynn  
Robert Majkut  
Kathleen Duquette  
Honor Takorian  
Peter Murray, Director

### **CEMETERY COMMISSION**

The Commissioners have been active overseeing the maintenance of Prospect Hill and Old Cemetery. Arrangements were made for the excavation and refilling of graves at the time of interment. Twenty interments were made this year. Activities this year also included marking out several graves for the installation of monuments and the repair of a large monument which had fallen over.

Several lots were sold in Old Cemetery and space is still available there. A review of space usage is in progress in Prospect Hill Cemetery with the hope of making some lots available there. This is a long process because of the complexity of the layout and the inadequacy of the records available. The process of getting the available record on the computer has been completed to make them more accessible when needed to locate a grave at time of interment, placing a monument or supplying information for genealogical research. We would appreciate having anyone who is interested come in and review the data we have on the computer for accuracy and to further enhance the records. More research is in process to add to the data currently available. We are also surveying the physical boundaries of both cemeteries and installing markers within the cemeteries to make the work done in the cemeteries more efficient.

The fence in Prospect Hill Cemetery has been repainted with the help of Dana Pixley and the Highway crew. We owe them our thanks for a job well done. Some work was done to restore the cemetery grass with additional work scheduled on a continuing basis.

The commissioners are in the process of formulating a set of rules governing the administration of the cemeteries. Input into this project would be acceptable. Please remember that the maintenance of anything planted in the gravesite is the responsibility of the owner. Plantings which exceed the boundaries of the gravesite should be removed. Please dispose of any trash in the barrels provided at the cemeteries.

David Quill was elected to the board this year to replace Robert Sazama who served many years as a commissioner. Quarterly meetings of the Cemetery Commission are held at the Town House the second Tuesday of January, April, July and October at 7:30 PM. Commissioners may be contacted at this time or by calling an individual commissioners at the phone numbers listed below or calling 566-2204 and leaving a message.

Respectfully submitted,  
Henry W. Dunwoody 566-3357  
Renate Oliver 566-8684  
David Quill 566-3552

## REPORT OF THE LIBRARY

The mission of the Hampden Public Library is to provide materials of popular interest to our adult and juvenile patrons, and to provide materials and services to help local residents satisfy their informational and educational needs.

Perhaps the most significant event that occurred during 1999 was that we successfully entered the new millennium without any computer problems. Follett Software Company, which provides the circulation system for the library, furnished new software, which is Y2K compliant. Thanks to the assistance of the town's computer committee and the support of the Board of Selectmen we were able to acquire new computers to support the system. Many hours went into this process, and we are grateful to everyone who assisted us. Along with these computer upgrades, we have added another Internet workstation for public access.

Children's programming has been very successful under the direction of Monica Tronsky, the children's librarian. Weekly story hours for 3 ½ to 5 year olds were held throughout the school year with 26 children attending each weekly session. The summer reading program, which had the theme of "Funny Things Happen When You Read" was another success. A total of 116 children from preschool to grade 5 participated in the program. The library staff listened to over 1,000 oral book reports from the participants. Weekly entertainment was also provided during July, with total attendance of over 800.

The summer program for young adults was also well attended. Twenty-seven young adults from grades 6 through 8 volunteered one hour each week to work at the library. It was refreshing to see these young, enthusiastic people behind the desk helping the patrons. Twelve young adults also became certified babysitters after attending the summer Red Cross class.

A collaborative effort has resumed between Thornton Burgess Middle School and Green Meadows Elementary School and the public library. Classroom visits from elementary grades introduced students to the library and an art show by students grades 1 through 3 graced the Children's room during April. Librarian visits to TWB were done in conjunction with the Massachusetts Children's Book Award program. We look forward to further cooperative efforts so that we may better serve the needs of the young people of Hampden.

There are many organizations to whom we are grateful for their support over the year. In particular, we would like to thank the Friends of the Hampden Public Library for their continued contributions toward the children's programs and acquisition of videos and CD. The Hampden Lions Club's contribution made it possible for the young adults to attend the babysitting course. We are grateful to the Community Partnership for its grant to purchase much needed supplies for the children's crafts. We are also grateful to the Hampden Garden Club for their generous contribution of time and materials to decorate the library for the holidays.

Finally, we would also like to once again acknowledge the hard work and dedication of our employees, Maria Yacovone, Cindy Rowley, Monica Tronsky, and Kristi Schoolcraft. A special thanks goes to Bea Margeson, who volunteered at the library over the last 8 years. Bea has decided it's time to move on to bigger and better things, but all of the staff and the patrons miss her smiling face.

### LIBRARY HOURS

Monday	11:00 a.m. – 8:00 p.m.
Tuesday	11:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
Wednesday	11:00 a.m. – 8:00 p.m.
Thursday	11:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
Saturday	10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.