

TOWN OF AVON



**2007–2008 ANNUAL REPORT
2009 CALENDAR**

**TOWN OF AVON, CONNECTICUT
ANNUAL REPORT for 2007-2008 and
CALENDAR YEAR 2009**

Accounting, Division of.....	31
Assessment, Board of Appeals.....	34
Assessor's Office.....	32
Avon Day Committee.....	34
Avon Facts and Information in Brief.....	1
Avon Free Public Library.....	14
Avon Historical Society.....	24
Avon Public Schools.....	8
Avon Volunteer Fire Department, Inc.....	20
Avon Water Pollution Control Authority (AWPCA).....	30
Budget Summary FY 2008/2009.....	35-36
Building Department/Fire Marshal.....	28
Collector of Revenue.....	32
Committee on Aging.....	4
Department and Division Heads, Board of Education.....	IFC
Department of Planning and Community Development.....	26
Elected and Appointed Officials.....	IBC
Farmington Valley Health District.....	24
Farmington Valley Visiting Nurse Association.....	22
Finance, Board of.....	6
Finance Department.....	31
Human Resources.....	4
Information Technology.....	20
Inland Wetlands Commission.....	29
Natural Resources Commission.....	22
Police Department.....	10
Probate Court.....	30
Public Works.....	12
Recreation and Park Department.....	16
Registrars of Voters.....	18
Social Services Department.....	33
Social Services Senior Center Division.....	33
Telephone Numbers.....	IFC
Town Attorney.....	34
Town Clerk.....	18
Town Council.....	2
Town Engineer.....	30
Town Manager.....	4
Town of Avon Organizational Chart.....	1
Town Planner and Planning & Zoning Commission.....	26
Zoning Board of Appeals.....	29
Zoning Enforcement and Environmental Compliance.....	29

DEPARTMENT AND DIVISION HEADS

Town Manager.....	Philip K. Schenck, Jr.....	409-4300
Assistant Town Manager.....	Blythe C. Robinson.....	409-4377
Assessor.....	Harry DerAsadourian.....	409-4335
Avon Volunteer Fire Department.....	James E. Speich.....	673-6718
Building Official.....	James Sansone.....	409-4316
Chief of Police.....	Mark Rinaldo.....	409-4214
Collector of Revenue.....	Kathleen H. Roth.....	409-4306
Director of Finance.....	Margaret M. Colligan.....	409-4339
Town Accountant.....	Charles M. Lucas, Jr.....	409-4339
Deputy Town Engineer.....	Lawrence E. Baril.....	409-4322
Director of Health (Farmington Valley Health District).....	Richard H. Matheny, Jr.....	676-1953
Director of Human Resources.....	William F. Vernile.....	409-4300
Director of Recreation and Parks.....	Glenn M. Marston.....	409-4332
Director of Planning & Community Development.....	Steven M. Kushner.....	409-4328
Director of Public Works.....	Bruce C. Williams.....	673-6151
Director of Social Services.....	Alan E. Rosenberg.....	409-4346
Emergency Management Director.....	Philip K. Schenck, Jr.....	409-4300
Superintendent of Operations.....	Alexander M. Trujillo.....	673-6151
Fire Chief/Fire Marshal/Emer. Mgmt. Deputy Dir.....	James W. DiPace.....	409-4316
Library Director.....	Virginia G. Vocelli.....	673-9712
Probate Judge.....	Cynthia C. Becker.....	409-4348
Public Works Foreman (Buildings and Grounds).....	C. Michael Shea.....	673-6151
Public Works Foreman (Roadways).....	Michael J. Arnold.....	673-6151
Town Clerk.....	Ann L. Dearstyne.....	409-4310
Town Engineer.....	Thomas A. Daukas.....	409-4322

BOARD OF EDUCATION

Superintendent of Schools.....	Dr. Richard Kisiel.....	404-4700
Assistant Superintendent of Schools.....	Jody Goeler.....	404-4700
Finance Director, Avon Public Schools.....	Gary Franzl.....	404-4707
Director of Pupil Personnel Services.....	Dr. William Hickey.....	404-4710
Principal, Avon High School.....	Jason Beaudin.....	404-4745
Assistant Principal, Avon High School.....	James Pappa.....	404-4746
Assistant Principal, Avon High School.....	Leonard Fenelon.....	404-4746
Principal, Avon Middle School.....	Marco Famiglietti.....	404-4770
Assistant Principal, Avon Middle School.....	Dr. Barbara Hartigan.....	404-4770
Principal, Roaring Brook School.....	Dr. Crisanne Colgan.....	404-4810
Assistant Principal, Roaring Brook School.....	Lawrence Sparks.....	404-4810
Principal, Pine Grove School.....	Gail Dahling-Hench.....	404-4790
Assistant Principal, Pine Grove School.....	Debra Grainsky.....	404-4790
Principal, Thompson Brook School.....	Anne Watson.....	404-4870
Assistant Principal, Thompson Brook School.....	Joyce DeFrancesco.....	404-4870

About the Front Cover

Avon High School – New Classroom Wing Addition
Photo Courtesy of KBA Architects

About the Back Cover: Renovations to Buildings 5, 6, & 7

AVON - FACTS AND INFORMATION IN BRIEF

SETTLED - Avon, formerly Northington or North parish of Farmington, was settled about 1645. In 1830, after the construction and opening of the Towpath Canal, Avon was incorporated as a separate Town and took its name from the Avon River in England. The official Town Seal utilizes the Towpath Canal as its main theme. Physical evidence of the Canal can still be seen near the former site of the Towpath School and along the easterly side of Old Farms Road. In 1830, the population numbered 1,025 residents, increasing to 1,057 in 1880 and 3,171 in 1950. In 1960, the population numbered 5,273; in 1970, 8,352; 1980, 11,201; 1990, 13,937; 2000, 15,832; 2005, 17,082; and in 2008, 17,800.

GOVERNMENT - Avon's local government organization is established by Home Rule Charter, adopted in 1959, and amended in 1962, 1969, 1975, 1980 and 1998. Effective November 5, 1998, the revised Charter provided for a Town Manager, Town Council, Board of Finance and Town Meeting. Local elections are held every two years in odd numbered years on the first Tuesday after the first Monday of November. The Town has three voting districts with three polling places.

SCHOOLS - September 2008, school population numbered students: 1077 attended Avon High School; 591 attended Avon Middle School; 560 Thompson Brook Grade 5/6 School; 750 Roaring Brook School and 596 in the Pine Grove School. The Avon Old Farms School, a private school for boys, is located in Town and has an enrollment of 405 students.

LIBRARY - The Avon Free Public Library is located on Country Club Road. Its collection includes 80,085 books (print and other media); 2,275 music CD's; 2,112 DVD's; 3,675 videos; 2,335 books on CD or cassette, and 268 magazine and newspaper subscriptions. Annual circulation for 2007-2008 was 305,843. There are 25 computer workstations for the public plus Wireless access throughout the building. Use of its 44 online databases continues to increase, both in the library and from home or office. More than 9,600 children and adults participated in 392 programs last year. 52% of Town residents have a library card. There are 7 full-time staff and 28 part-time. The library is open throughout the week, with Sunday hours from November through March. The library is responsible for maintaining its website (www.avonctlibrary.info) and for overseeing the Town website (www.town.avon.ct.us).

PLANNING AND ZONING - Avon has a full-time professional Town Planner and an active Planning and Zoning Commission composed of seven members appointed by the Town Council for four-year overlapping terms. A Plan of Conservation and Development adopted in 2006, is utilized to assure orderly growth and development.

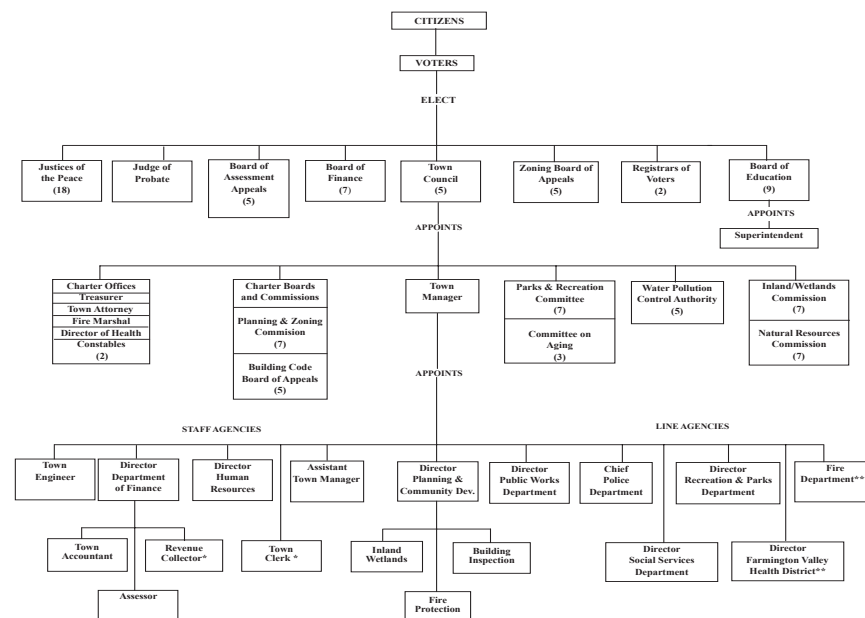
FIRE DEPARTMENT - The Avon Volunteer Fire Department is a State of Connecticut non-profit corporation chartered by the State to provide fire protection for the Town of Avon. Its roster lists 60 firefighters; 15 fire police; 22 administrative members; 13 explorers; 19 active veterans, 14 senior veterans, and 5 associate members. Membership is open to any Town resident, or anyone who works in Town, that is 18 years or older. Fire equipment is housed in four strategically located firehouses. AVFD is committed to remain a Volunteer Fire Department.

POLICE DEPARTMENT - The Avon Police Department has a full-time authorized force of 35 sworn Officers. The organization, a Para-military structure, consists of a Chief, three Lieutenants, a Detective Sergeant, a Communications/Training Sergeant, six Patrol Sergeants, three Detectives, and seventeen Officers assigned to the Patrol Division, with three vacant patrol positions at present. Officers may also be temporarily reassigned from the Patrol Division to special assignments which include Community Relations and the Narcotics Task Force. The Department participates in many Federal, State and Regional programs which include the Connecticut Computer Crimes Task Force at the FBI in New Haven. The average education level of the Officers exceeds three years of college, and there are two FBI National Academy graduates in supervisory positions. The Department also has four Police Dispatchers, with two vacancies at present, one Executive Secretary, one full-time and one part-time Records Clerk. The Department is equipped with marked and unmarked police vehicles. All patrol vehicles are equipped with Mobil Data Terminals, enabling Police Officers instant access to information from the CT Motor Vehicle Department, the National Crime Information Center (NCIC) in Washington, D.C., the CT Corrections Department, and twenty-eight towns in the capitol region. All patrol vehicles also carry Automatic External Defibrillation Devices to provide first responder emergency medical care.

INFORMATION DIRECTORY

POLICE AND FIRE EMERGENCY	911
Police (Routine Calls).....	409-4200
Avon Chamber of Commerce.....	675-4832
Avon Historical Society	678-7621
Avon Post Office.....	678-0525
Avon Senior Center	675-4355
Canine Control Officer	409-4200/409-4205
CT Transit (Route 44 to Hartford)	525-9181
Datto Bus Company (School)	404-4728
Department of Motor Vehicles	263-5700
Dial-A-Ride (Managed Transportation Services)	793-3444
Elderly Nutrition Program	675-4355
Energy Assistance	409-4346
Farmington Valley Visiting Nurse Association.....	651-3539
First Company Governor's Horse Guard	673-3525
INFO-LINE	211
Landfill	673-3677
Meals-on-Wheels (McLean Home)	658-3700
Registrars of Voters	409-4350
Social Security Department - Hartford Office	860-493-1857
State of Connecticut Department of Social Services	860-723-1000

ORGANIZATIONAL CHART FOR THE TOWN OF AVON



* Recommended by Manager, approved by Council

** The Town participates in a Regional Health District

*** The Town funds the Avon Volunteer Fire Department

REPORT OF THE TOWN COUNCIL

JOHN F. CARLSON, *Chairperson*

The Annual Report for the 2007-2008 fiscal year is a summary of the activities of the Town's Departments, Boards and Commissions.

During the 2008/2009 budget deliberations we included \$70,000 for schematic drawing and cost estimates for the expansion and renovation of the Avon Free Public Library. In October we appointed a seven member Building Committee. They are working with the architect and town staff to develop a plan which can be presented to the citizens for approval. The Library Board has retained a consultant, who will be paid from their private funds, to do a feasibility analysis, in their effort to develop a capital campaign that seeks private donations. In November, we established a Youth Services Bureau and contracted with the Town of Farmington to provide services for our youth, family counseling, assistance and youth programming. The State of Connecticut advised the Town that we were the recipient of a grant award of \$14,000. A seven member Youth Services Advisory Board was established to carry out the goals of the Bureau.

In October we received a Recreation Facilities Master Plan that was developed by the members of the Parks and Recreation Committee with the assistance of an architect. The plan deals with the facilities that we have in place today and how they can be utilized or added to in order to meet the needs of the town for the next 10 – 15 years. All of these ideas will have to come before the Town Council and the public through the Capital Improvements Program. The maintenance of our 107 miles of town roads is a significant investment for the town. Because of this large commitment of funds for roads, the Town Council, working with a consultant, embarked on a pavement management plan. The consultant and the Engineering Department developed a database to permit tracking of roadway conditions that will be used to extend the life expectancy of the roadways by implementing different types of repair strategies.

We have begun to expend funds for the 2008 revaluation project. Legislative changes in the frequency of revaluations have caused Avon to adopt a five-year cycle which started in 2003. The actual revaluation notices will be mailed in November, 2008.

This year, because of an impasse in the teachers' contract negotiations, we did go to the State Arbitration Panel for a decision. After the decision from the panel, we requested that the Board of Education present to the Council and the residents the economic impact of the contract award. It is our hope that all would better understand the entire process from local negotiations to a State Arbitration Award. The Town Council unanimously voted to approve the Arbitrators' decision.

The Garden Club of Avon, as part of their 60th anniversary celebration, undertook the beautification of the Town Hall gardens between Buildings 1 and 2. They secured the services of an architect and developed a plan that was endorsed by the Planning and Zoning Commission and the Town Council. Over the years the Garden Club, with assistance from the Public Works department, has been active

in the beautification of the Town Hall gardens, the Honor Roll and the entrance of the Town Hall. During the summer the Garden Club performs all of the maintenance of these gardens and we are most appreciative of their continued efforts. In February the State of Connecticut presented to the Town Council an update on 27-year old road project which includes portions of Route 10, replacing the Old Farms Road bridge over the Farmington River, road renovations from the bridge to Tillotson Road, and the realignment of Old Farms Road. Avon Old Farms School and the Town of Avon are the major property owners within this project. We anticipate the project will be funded with state, federal and local funds and will require extensive environment studies, alignments, analysis and modifications. We will attempt to retain as much of the rural character of the road that many townspeople want to protect.

The Town Manager negotiated with Hartford Hospital, to build a 15,000 sq. ft. Cancer Center in Avon Park North. For those of us who have had a loved one go through cancer treatments being able to deal with treatment locally is really a great service.

On March 17, 2008 the Town Council, Board of Finance and Board of Education met in a budget work session to share information, ideas and questions amongst the three boards. This was an opportunity for each of the three boards to examine each others budget and explore ways that we can work together. The meeting was primarily for the boards to advise each other about what was driving their budget requests. An audience was present and questions and answers were permitted after the presentations.

I would be remiss if this report did not touch on the events of this budget session. This was the first time that our budget was not passed through referendum and the decision had to be made by the Town Council.

As Trustees of the Town, the Charter contemplates, that the Council would look at the needs of the Town as a whole, without prejudice and adopt a budget that meets the Town's needs. Early on in our deliberations the Town Council was adamant that Public Safety, Social Services and roadways would not be sacrificed to make budgetary reductions. The budget request, at this point, had already been reduced \$2,200,000. The budget decision encompasses more than questions about class size and teachers' salaries or brush pick-up, it is about who we want to be as a community. I would like to express my gratitude to my fellow Council members, the Board of Finance, the Board of Education and the employees who spent so much time on this budget. It was an arduous process, one that was much longer than all of us wanted.

This report addresses some of the issues the Town Council studied or took action on this past fiscal year. If you review our minutes, which are on the internet, you will note there have been many issues that were resolved, but space does not permit us to report all of our actions in this report. We invite your attendance and input at our meetings.



Town Council Members (Left to Right): David Pena, Mark Zacchio, John Carlson (Chairperson), Pamela Samul, William Shea

January 2009

DECEMBER 2008

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
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FEBRUARY 2009

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22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29						

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Year 2009 Sporting Licenses Available January 1, 2009				1 NEW YEAR'S DAY Taxes Due TOWN HALL, LANDFILL LIBRARY, SCHOOLS CLOSED	2 LIBRARY OPEN CHRISTMAS TREE PICK-UP: 1/2/09 - 1/30/09	3 Library Regular Saturday Hours 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
4 Library Special Sunday Hours 1:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. Music at the Library 3:00 p.m.	5	6 Inland Wetlands Commission	7	8 Town Council Natural Resources Commission AWPCA	9	10 Library Regular Saturday Hours 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
11 Library Special Sunday Hours 1:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.	12	13 Planning & Zoning	14	15	16	17 Library Regular Saturday Hours 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
18 Library Special Sunday Hours 1:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.	19 MARTIN LUTHER KING DAY TOWN HALL, LANDFILL, LIBRARY, SCHOOLS CLOSED	20 Library Board Board of Education	21	22 Zoning Board of Appeals	23	24 Library Regular Saturday Hours 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
25 Library Special Sunday Hours 1:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. Music at the Library 3:00 p.m.	26 Board of Finance	27 Planning & Zoning	28	29	30	31 Library Regular Saturday Hours 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

REPORT OF THE TOWN MANAGER

PHILIP K. SCHENCK, JR., *Town Manager*

According to the provisions of the Town Charter, I am pleased to convey herewith the reports of the Boards, Commissions, Departments and Agencies of the Town of Avon for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2008. Some of the more significant events occurring during the past year have included:

- ❖ After three defeated referendums the Town Council set the FY 2008/2009 Budget on June 26, 2008 at \$70,529,148 a 6.05% budget increase requiring a 3.84% tax increase from 25.55 to 26.53 mills;
- ❖ The formal dedication of the Renovations to the Avon Town Hall campus on May 1, 2008;
- ❖ The Appointment of a seven person Avon Free Public Library Renovation Additions Building Committee in November 2007;
- ❖ Acceptance of a \$309,595 STEAP (Small Town Economic Assistance Program) grant for sidewalk, lighting and other improvements to Avon Center;
- ❖ The awarding of a \$350,000 contract for replacement of the Public Works garage roof;
- ❖ The awarding of a \$135,000 contract for replacement of the Senior Center roof;
- ❖ Acceptance of 2.56 miles of new Town Roads;
- ❖ Notification by the U.S. Post Office of their intention to reduce the size and relocate the Avon Post Office;
- ❖ Creation of the Police Officer's Meritorious Service Fund through a generous contribution of an Avon resident;
- ❖ Reconstruction by the Town of the sidewalk from the Avon High School entrance to Sudbury Way;

The creation of the Police Officer's Meritorious Service Fund through a generous donation by a town resident of \$25,000 is indicative of the strong support and sense of caring of Avon citizens. The fund, authorized, supported and managed by the Town of Avon, seeks to reward Avon Police Officers for exceptional performance and bravery in the line of duty under exceptionally arduous circumstances. In agreeing to accept the donation, establishing the fund and managing its operation, the Town made a commitment to not only support our Police Officers, but also to encourage and lend support to other voluntary efforts to improve our community. The opportunities to support Town activities are numerous. For more information about the Police Officer's Meritorious Service Fund or other Town and school activities, contact our office through the Town's website, www.town.avon.ct.us, or call 409-4300.

REPORT OF THE HUMAN RESOURCES DEPARTMENT

WILLIAM F. VERNILE, *Director of Human Resources*

The Director of Human Resources plans, organizes and administers the personnel, benefits, labor relations, occupational safety and risk management programs of the Town and provides related consultive services to the Town Manager and Department Heads.

The Human Resources Department administers personnel programs including: recruitment, examination, classification, compensation, orientation, employee benefits and employee development and training. In addition, the Department administers equal employment, affirmative action, workplace safety and the practical application of State and Federal laws pertaining to employment practices. The Department is also responsible for the Town's Risk Management program including analysis, procurement, implementation and administration of liability, property, and casualty insurance as well as workers compensation.

The Director of Human Resources is also responsible for Town labor relation's activities including negotiations and administration of collective bargaining agreements and may serve as the principal representative of the Town in grievance, arbitration and workers or unemployment compensation hearings.

PERSONNEL PROGRAM STATISTICS

Activity	FY 03/04	FY 04/05	FY 05/06	FY 06/07	FY 07/08
Full-Time Hires	5	9	6	9	8
Part-Time Hires	12	4	6	8	1
Promotions	1	1	8	9	9
Exit Interviews	8	7	7	7	11
Safety Committee Meetings	5	5	5	6	6
Grievances	5	1	2	5	4
MPPs	1	0	0	0	1
Negotiation Meetings	4	9	0	3	6

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON AGING

ALICE HERRMANN, *Chairperson*

The Committee on Aging is charged with evaluating the conditions and needs of the elderly and making recommendations to the Avon Town Council regarding programs and resources to support areas of need. The committee reviewed the programs and activities provided at the Senior Center. The Committee was highly supportive of the new programs and services being offered, and was especially pleased with the ongoing outreach efforts, which have resulted in a marked increase in Center activity involving new participants. In addition, the Committee reviewed current programs and services such as the Senior Meal Program and the Dial-A-Ride Program. The Committee unanimously supported a new program which was designed to assist local elderly homeowners within certain income guidelines, to receive additional property tax relief.

February 2009

JANUARY 2009

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
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18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

MARCH 2009

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
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22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 Library Special Sunday Hours 1:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.	2 Tax Payment Deadline	3 Inland Wetlands Commission	4	5 Town Council	6	7 Library Regular Saturday Hours 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
8 Library Special Sunday Hours 1:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. Music at the Library 3:00 p.m.	9	10 Planning & Zoning Library Board Board of Education	11	12 Natural Resources Commission AWPCA	13	14 Library Regular Saturday Hours 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. VALENTINE'S DAY
15 Library Special Sunday Hours 1:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.	16 PRESIDENT'S DAY TOWN HALL, LANDFILL, LIBRARY, SCHOOLS CLOSED	17	18	19	20	21 Library Regular Saturday Hours 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
		Mid-Winter Recess - Avon Public Schools - February 16 - February 20				
22 Library Special Sunday Hours 1:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. Music at the Library 3:00 p.m.	23 Board of Finance	24	25 ASH WEDNESDAY	26 Zoning Board of Appeals	27	28 Library Regular Saturday Hours 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

REPORT OF THE BOARD OF FINANCE

THOMAS F. HARRISON, *Chairperson*

The Board of Finance oversees budget and tax matters for the Town, serving as a bridge between the Town Council and Board of Education and between these governmental entities and the taxpayers. Under Chapter 9 of the Town Charter, the principal role of the Board of Finance is to recommend the annual operating budget for town government functions and the schools for approval at a referendum and then, upon a favorable vote, to set the property tax mill rate for the next fiscal year. Neither the Town Council nor the Board of Education has the legal authority to establish a tax rate. The Board of Finance also reviews and if appropriate approves budget adjustments during the fiscal year to reflect increases in revenues from grants or other sources and increases in expenditures due to unanticipated conditions or events. Another function of the Board arises under Chapter 5 of the Charter, to designate an independent public accountant or firm to audit the Town's financial records and accounts. In addition, the Board of Finance is heavily involved in the tax impact and debt management aspects of proposed bonding for construction and other capital projects for the Town or its schools. In carrying out these functions the seven elected members of the Board of Finance are sensitive to balancing the needs of a growing community and the continually increasing enrollment in the school system with the ability and willingness of residents and local businesses to provide tax dollars to support those needs.

Avon residents are well aware that the spring 2008 budget development and approval process was lengthy and controversial. The original spending requests submitted to our Board would have required an 8.02% increase in the mill (tax) rate. Following the public hearing at which residents expressed concern about a tax increase of that size we reduced the spending requests and recommended a modified budget that required a 5.75% tax increase. The voters defeated that budget by a significant margin. After additional public hearings two subsequent budget recommendations, calling for tax increases of 4.5% and 3.84% respectively, were also defeated. The Avon Town Charter limits the number of budget votes to no more than three, but does not address what happens if all three result in negative votes. The Town Attorney provided a legal opinion stating that in that situation basic state law allows the governing legislative body (in Avon's case the Town Council) to set the spending and tax rates without further hearing or referendum. The Council thereupon voted to adopt a budget retaining the 3.84% tax increase that the Board of Finance had recommended but also added about \$180,000 to the Capital Improvement Program to cover increased costs of replacing the Roaring Brook School boiler.

Our Board will certainly study these events and be guided by them as it works with the Town Council and Board of Education to develop next year's budget. We all have to be conscious of the condition of the economy and of the fact that the effects of the state-mandated five year property revaluation will impact that process. One of the lessons from the recent budget cycle is a greater awareness of the pressure placed on the operating budgets by the ever increasing costs of capital improvements and equipment acquisitions. To deal with this the three boards are working together to develop and implement a comprehensive approach to deciding the "lease v. purchase" question and to possible "bundling" of multiple small-to-medium size construction projects into a single

bond package. We know that Avon residents -- and the three boards -- all want the next budget exercise to work cooperatively and smoothly.

The now-completed actions over the past few years to expand Avon High School to accommodate its steadily growing enrollment and the renovations of other Town Buildings have highlighted our Board's role in debt management and planning. Working very closely with the Town Manager, the Director of Finance, the Assessor and an independent financial consultant, the Board of Finance oversees the management of existing debt and reviews the Town's ability to take on new borrowing. In order to assist residents with their decision about proposed capital projects the Board of Finance develops a "tax impact statement" that provides an estimate of the additional tax payments that would be required each month to cover their costs.

Even in the face of increasing operating costs for both the Board of Education and the Town

government, Avon has been able to maintain an adequate surplus in its General Fund. To further manage this surplus, the Board of Finance has adopted a policy on the use of surplus funds. The Board will approve the use of such funds if there is a demonstration of substantial support by the requesting authority and a finding that "such use will meet an extraordinary need or unusual opportunity." This policy along with the high level of skill and professionalism of all of our public employees is a key factor in enabling the town to retain its coveted "AAA" credit rating. Avon is very fortunate to have a solid and mixed tax base and fiscally conscious management, all of which contribute to its relatively stable tax rate and excellent credit rating.

The firm of Blum, Shapiro & Company, P.C. is preparing the annual auditor's report of the Town of Avon for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2008, and this should be available for inspection in the Town Clerk's office by December 31, 2008.

Our Board will continue to follow what it believes to be a positive approach to budgeting: the formal public hearings and informal public workshops that are held every spring should involve a "conversation" among local residents and businesses about Avon's overall budget philosophy and

priorities on a broad basis, and not simply a debate about how much to increase spending and tax levels over the current year's budget. The Board believes that this approach will make the budget process much more open and responsive to the needs and desires of everyone in Avon.

Our Board experienced two personnel changes during this Fiscal Year. After eight years of distinguished service to the community, Mike Monts retired from the Board at the end of December 2007. We will greatly miss Mike's wise counsel and calming temperament. And we are pleased to welcome Brett Eisenlohr to the Board. Brett has served Avon for many years as a member of the Police Department, and we look forward to his contributions to our Board.

The Board of Finance welcomes comments and suggestions from Town residents, whom we invite to attend our meetings hearings and workshops. Regular meetings are held on the fourth Monday of every month at 7:30 PM. in the Selectmen's Chamber at Town Hall. We actively seek your input on how best to match fiscal demands with fiscal realities.



Board of Finance Members: (Left to Right) Margaret Bratton, Catherine Durdan, James Speich, Thomas Harrison (Chairperson), Thomas Gugliotti, William Hooper, Brett Eisenlohr

March 2009

FEBRUARY 2009

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
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15	16	17	18	19	20	21
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29						

APRIL 2009

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
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5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 Library Special Sunday Hours 1:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. Music at the Library 3:00 p.m.	2	3 Inland Wetlands Commission	4	5 Town Council	6	7 Library Regular Saturday Hours 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
8 Library Special Sunday Hours 1:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. DAYLIGHT SAVINGS	9	10 Planning & Zoning	11	12 Natural Resources Commission AWPCA	13	14 Library Regular Saturday Hours 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
15 Library Special Sunday Hours 1:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. Music at the Library 3:00 p.m.	16	17 Library Board Board of Education ST. PATRICK'S DAY	18	19	20	21 Library Regular Saturday Hours 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
22 Library Special Sunday Hours 1:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.	23 Board of Finance	24	25	26 Zoning Board of Appeals	27	28 Library Regular Saturday Hours 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
29 LAST LIBRARY SPECIAL SUNDAY HOURS FOR THE SEASON 1:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. Music at the Library 3:00 p.m.	30 Board of Finance Public Hearing Senior Center	31 Planning & Zoning	IMPORTANT NOTICE TO RESIDENTS FROM YOUR PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT The Town of Avon is not responsible for any damaged sprinkler, landscaping, fences, or other such intrusions into the Town's Right of Way. Thank you for your cooperation.			

REPORT OF THE AVON PUBLIC SCHOOLS AVON BOARD OF EDUCATION

RICHARD W. KISIEL, Ed.D. *Superintendent of Schools*

The major highlights and accomplishments during the 2007/2008 school year included high levels of students achievement on standardized test results, a focus on several curriculum initiatives, management of the operating budget within an expected fund shortfall, formation of an ad hoc committee to study elementary school facility needs, the settlement of the teacher contract in arbitration, and the completion of the additions and renovations to Avon High School.

The results of the 2008 Connecticut Mastery Test (CMT), a statewide assessment aligned with the Connecticut curriculum frameworks in mathematics, reading, writing, and science, showed that students in grades 3 through 8 continue to sustain high levels of achievement in these subject areas. Of special note, a science assessment, added this year to the CMT's indicates that our 8th grade students performed best in the state while our 5th graders scored in the top half of comparative districts. In addition, results from the 10th grade Connecticut Academic Performance Test (CAPT) indicate that Avon students scored 8th in the state on the science portion of this assessment. While math and reading scores remained stable on the CAPT, our writing scores showed a 7.6% decline.

Avon student performance on the Scholastic Achievement Test showed a significant increase from 2007 to 2008 with a fourteen point gain in critical reading, a twelve point gain in mathematics, and a sixteen point gain in writing. To provide a context of our students' outstanding performance gains, the state and national scores remained flat over the same time period. Finally, two hundred and thirty-five students took four hundred and eighty Advanced Placement exams in May of 2008. The overall trend indicates that our Advanced Placement courses and tests administered continue to grow along with the number of students enrolled in these courses. A comprehensive report on all standardized test results is available on the district website at www.avon.k12.ct.us.

Seven Avon High School seniors were named National Merit Scholar Semi-Finalists and thirteen others were commended as a result of their performance on the Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test taken in their junior year. The Avon High School Robotics team achieved first place status both in regional and international competition.

In the area of curriculum development, administrators and teachers continued several important initiatives. Our district's librarians and teachers, with the assistance of our Educational Technology Coordinator, are mapping student research skills and outcomes in all grades corresponding with the newly approved Technology Literacy Curriculum. This new curriculum provides our teachers a framework for ensuring that students utilize technology as a tool for critical thinking and research, thus preparing them for success in our changing world. K-8 reading teachers continue to meet to develop screening tools to identify children with reading deficits and develop strategies to bring students to grade level. In addition, reading teachers participated in training with K-8 teachers and

assistant principals to learn about and begin planning for Scientific Based Research Interventions (SBRI), a state initiative to ensure struggling learners are identified and provided with effective intervention strategies. Other professional development focused on developing inquiry-based science units at the elementary level, developing greater continuity and transitions among secondary subjects, and developing common assessments and grading procedures.

As a member of the Tri-State Consortium, our district's K-12 language arts program completed a comprehensive program review. As part of this process, Avon received a three-day visit from a team of "critical friends" from Consortium schools. On this visit, the team examined evidence related to our curriculum, instructional strategies and practices, instructional supports, curriculum writing process, and the use of assessment data in informing instruction to support continued growth.

For the past several years, to help reduce operating budget increases, the Board of Education has implemented cost avoidance and saving initiatives through collective bargaining, cooperative purchasing, and shared resources with the Town and other school districts. Despite these ongoing efforts, the Board ended the 2007/2008 fiscal year in deficit. The critical expense drivers contributing to this budget shortfall were unplanned staffing and program requirements in special education, increases in utility costs, and enrollment growth that exceeded enrollment projections and required more funding for instructional materials and supplies. As an interim measure, the administration implemented a spending cap of 80 percent on all non-contractual obligations or other legally required expenses.

In response to a growing increase in elementary school population in grades K-4, particularly at Roaring Brook School, the Board of Education took several actions. It formed an ad hoc committee to study elementary school facility needs and

operational capacities of the elementary schools, included funding for modular classroom space in its capital budget proposal for 2009-10, and directed the Superintendent to prepare a plan for voluntary school redistricting between Roaring Brook School and Pine Grove School. The Board eventually did not adopt the plan proposed by the Superintendent.

The Town Council voted to accept a new three year contract for teachers, which included the decision of a panel of arbitrators regarding a general wage increase. The Board of Education and the teachers entered into binding arbitration because they were unable to come to agreement on several issues, including the general wage increase.

Finally, the construction work on the addition and renovations to Avon High School proceeded on timely basis and under budget through the diligent effort of the Building Committee, FIP Construction, and the school and district administration. The school was ready for student occupancy as planned.



*(Seated Left to Right) Michael Eagen, Angela Shelton, Peggy Roell (Chair), & Bernadette Mayer
(Standing Left to Right) Lindsey Racz, Kenneth Notestine, Douglas Evans, William Stokesbury, Houston Putnam Lowry, & Catherine Broadbent*

April 2009

MARCH 2009

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
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MAY 2009

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31						

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
STREET SWEEPING BEGINS APRIL 20, 2009			1	2 Town Council	3	4 Library Regular Saturday Hours 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
5 PALM SUNDAY	6	7 Inland Wetlands Commission	8	9 PASSOVER	10 GOOD FRIDAY <div>TOWN HALL, LANDFILL, LIBRARY, SCHOOLS CLOSED</div>	11 Library Regular Saturday Hours 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Spring Recess - Avon Public Schools - April 6 - April 10						
12 EASTER	13	14 Planning & Zoning Library Board	15	16 Natural Resources Commission AWPCA Library: Treasures in your Attic Antiques Roadshow Appraiser	17	18 Library Regular Saturday Hours 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Recreation & Parks Annual Fishing Derby
19	20 STREET SWEEPING BEGINS	21 Board of Education	22	23 Zoning Board of Appeals	24	25 Library Regular Saturday Hours 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
26	27 Board of Finance	28	29	30		

REPORT OF THE CHIEF OF POLICE

MARK RINALDO, *Chief of Police*

The Avon Police Department continues to serve the citizens of Avon with dignity, equality and compassion while providing the highest level of public service. The office of the Chief of Police is responsible for the overall operations of the Police Department and is under the command of Chief Mark Rinaldo. The Avon Police Department is nationally accredited by the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies, Inc. (CALEA). We are proud to have held this certification since 1993.

The Avon Police Department authorized work force is 35 sworn Officers; as of August 2008 we have one opening and are actively recruiting. Department personnel comprise a diverse work force with 29% classified as minorities. There are five women, one in executive management, one as a Detective Sergeant, who in addition is assigned to the FBI Connecticut Computer Crimes Task Force and is deputized as a Special Deputy-US Marshall, one trained in truck inspections, and two assigned to Patrol.

The Avon Police Department comprises three major divisions: Patrol, Operations and Administrative, each headed by a Division Lieutenant. This organizational structure provides for efficient and effective management of the Police Department. Community policing is the philosophy of the Department.

The Patrol Division, currently commanded by Lieutenant Christina Barrow, is the “backbone” of the Department. There are 6 Patrol Sergeants, 18 Patrol Officers, and three Supernumerary Officers. Avon Police Officers are the 1st responders for medical calls and all Patrol Officers hold certification as Medical Response Technicians. During FY 2007/2008, Officers responded to 25,383 calls for service, compared to FY 2006/2007 with 23,838 calls for service. Patrol Officers routinely meet with students in grades K-4 at Roaring Brook, Pine Grove Schools and nursery schools concerning personal safety and teach the DARE program to 6th grade students. In partnership with Avon/Canton Rotary Club we participate in the AMBER Alert Program. Selected Patrol Officers are assigned as community liaison in the larger communities of Pond Place, Secret Lake, Farmington Woods and Whispering Pines. Officers Todd Akerley and Ryan Dery graduated from a weeklong training school for the National Honor Guard Academy. The Honor Guard Officers volunteer and march in the Memorial Day Parade, open national sporting events such as the Boston Celtics and are prepared for funeral details. Regional initiatives are conducted with the north central towns of Avon, Bloomfield, Canton, Farmington, Granby, Simsbury, Suffield, Windsor and Windsor Locks. Those initiatives are the North Central Municipal Emergency Services Team (aka SWAT), Accident Reconstruction Team, Hostage Negotiation Team, Scuba Team, Narcotics Team, Traffic Enforcement Team and the Gator Team.

In response to traffic and truck issues on Avon Mountain, two Officers are certified by the State of Connecticut Dept. of Motor Vehicles as Commercial Vehicle Safety Alliance (CVSA) Inspectors that conduct detailed truck inspections. During the period July 1, 2007 to June 30, 2008, stopped a total of 2,004 vehicles on Avon Mountain for various violations. There were 34 non-injury accidents and 9 with injuries during this same period.

The Detective Division provides support services to the Patrol Division. The Detective Division is comprised of a Detective Sergeant, three Detectives, and the Regional Narcotics Officer. A specialized computer crime lab has been established under the direction of Detective Sergeant Kelly Walsh and Officer Jason Reid. They are both assigned to the FBI Connecticut Computer Crimes Task Force and are trained in computer forensic investigation. The following is a summary of some of the activities the Detective Division performs:

	FY 06/07	FY 07/08
Administrative Detail	52	18
Assist Other Agency	10	8
DARE	82	62
Background Investigation	7	9
Court Detail	68	54
Fingerprints	120	117
Pistol Permits	12	19
Arrest	64	36
Assault	0	1
Burglary	0	1
Computer Forensics	5	4
Disorderly Conduct	1	4
Larceny	9	8
Robbery	0	1
Sex Offenses	2	2

The Operations Division is led by Lieutenant Rob Whitty. It encompasses the Records, Training and Communications Units. The Communications Unit operates 24 hours a day, seven days a week to provide continuous telecommunications service to the community. The Unit dispatches the Avon Volunteer Fire Department. The Training Unit is responsible for the coordination of Police Officer certification through the State of Connecticut, Police Officer Standards and Training Council (POST).

The Administrative Division is led by Lieutenant Ronald Welch. The Administrative Division is responsible for the Department’s accreditation program, inspections and budget analysis. The Administrative Division assisted in obtaining over \$50,000.00 in grant monies to support additional police activity and purchase equipment necessary to fulfill our mission. The grant monies are a small percentage when compared to the Department’s overall budget, but they do provide economic relief for our citizens and reduce our need for larger budget increases.



Avon High School robotics team recognized for their 1st place finish in international competition

May 2009

APRIL 2009

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			1	2	3	4
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JUNE 2009

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14	15	16	17	18	19	20
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Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	<p align="center"><u>NOTICE</u></p> <p align="center">Landfill Permits for Fiscal Year 2009/2010 will go on sale Monday, May 18, 2009 at the Landfill</p>				<p>1</p> <p>Friends of the Library Annual Book Sale - Senior Center 6:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.</p>	<p>2</p> <p>Friends of the Library Annual Book Sale - Sr. Ctr. 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.</p> <p>Library Regular Saturday Hours 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.</p>
<p>3</p> <p>Friends of the Library Annual Book Sale - Senior Center Noon - 3:00 p.m.</p>	<p>4</p> <p>Annual Town & Budget Meeting Senior Center - 7:30 p.m.</p>	<p>5</p> <p>Inland Wetlands Commission</p>	<p>6</p>	<p>7</p> <p>Town Council</p>	<p>8</p>	<p>9</p> <p>Library Regular Saturday Hours 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.</p>
<p>10</p> <p>MOTHER'S DAY</p>	<p>11</p>	<p>12</p> <p>Planning & Zoning</p>	<p>13</p> <p>Budget Referendum</p>	<p>14</p> <p>Natural Resources Commission</p> <p>AWPCA</p>	<p>15</p>	<p>16</p> <p>Library Regular Saturday Hours 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.</p>
<p>17</p>	<p>18</p> <p>Board of Finance</p>	<p>19</p> <p>Library Board</p> <p>Board of Education</p>	<p>20</p>	<p>21</p>	<p>22</p>	<p>23</p> <p>Library Regular Saturday Hours 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.</p>
<p>24</p>	<p>25</p> <p>MEMORIAL DAY</p> <div>TOWN HALL, LANDFILL, LIBRARY, SCHOOLS CLOSED</div>	<p>26</p>	<p>27</p>	<p>28</p> <p>Zoning Board of Appeals</p>	<p>29</p>	<p>30</p> <p>Library Regular Saturday Hours 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.</p>
<p>31</p>						

REPORT OF THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

BRUCE C. WILLIAMS, *Director of Public Works*

ALEXANDER M. TRUJILLO, *Superintendent of Operations*

ROBERT J. MARTIN, *Superintendent of Solid Waste*

C. MICHAEL SHEA, *Public Works Foreman (Buildings & Grounds)*

MICHAEL ARNOLD, *Public Works Foreman (Roads)*

MICHAEL MORAN, *Public Works Foreman (Machinery & Equipment)*

The goal and mission of the Public Works Department is to keep our roads clean, trimmed and smooth riding; to keep the Town's vehicles safe and well maintained; to keep our parks, grounds and ball fields mowed, landscaped and playable; and to keep our Landfill/Transfer Station open and providing service to the public. Our motto is quality service and our goal is improved performance.

BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS

The Division has many responsibilities including routine maintenance and technical repairs of all Town-owned buildings. In addition, the division performs renovation and new construction projects through out the town. Buildings and Grounds support all departments and respond to an average of over thirty service calls each month. The Division also provides all of the technical expertise, and routine maintenance of the lawns, public spaces, and athletic fields. This includes turf management, mowing and trimming, shrubbery, and gardening of certain areas in town. The athletic fields are routinely prepared, lined, and renovated as to accommodate the sports needs and activities of the town.

The Division strives to improve the quality and appearance of all Town-owned facilities. Every member of the Division contributes to this goal. Ideas and plans for possible projects are prioritized and completed as funding and time allow.

AVON LANDFILL

The Town of Avon is one of the highest recycling towns in our region. We continually strive to recycle more of our waste stream.

Permit Sale History				
	FY 04/05	FY 05/06	FY 06/07	FY 07/08
Resident (includes 1 day & replacement permits)	1150	1227	1211	1134
Senior	530	565	561	531
Recycling	50	71	57	58
TOTAL	1730	1863	1829	1723

The station processes 1,125 tons of household waste annually. This waste is then shipped to the Connecticut Resource Recovery Facility in Hartford. We also have a Salvation Army Clothing bin and a very popular exchange shed for disposing and pick up of usable items. Also at the Transfer Station is a paint drop off facility that is open between April 1 and October 1 and accepts water based paints and stains only. A user Fee is in effect to cover the cost of transportation and processing of most of the other materials other than household waste and recyclables.

HIGHWAY DIVISION

Avon Public Works Highway Division is staffed with ten full-time maintainers. They are responsible for the maintenance and repair of 107 lane miles of road. Snow plowing, storm drain maintenance, street sweeping and heavy construction are primary functions of the division. They are also responsible for care and control of trees on town owned property.

Snow Storm History			
	FY 05/06	FY 06/07	FY 07/08
Number of Storms	17	18	20
Average Cost Per Storm	\$16,465	\$11,662	\$ 14,782

The Highway Maintainers today come from a multi-skilled and sometimes diverse background. They are generally knowledgeable in many phases of construction, including masonry, asphalt, heavy and light equipment, and must maintain a Commercial Drivers License, and receive further training via Connecticut's Transportation Institute. Other special licenses and training include a State Roadways Chemical Applicators License; Landfill and Transfer Station operator license.

It is the goal of the Highway Department to provide quality service to the residents in a timely and safe manner. We are often faced with prioritizing our workload based on many factors such as seriousness and overall importance. We enthusiastically look forward to serving our community.

MACHINERY & EQUIPMENT DIVISION

The Division of Machinery & Equipment responsibilities includes procurement, maintenance, and liquidation of the Town's vehicles and equipment. Primary functions include the maintenance and repair of emergency service vehicles for Police and Fire, emergency generators, and snow removal equipment. In addition, the Division is responsible for Town Managers', Buildings and Grounds, Parks, Landfill, Board of Education, and Engineering Department's vehicles and equipment.

The objective of the Division of Machinery & Equipment is to have a well maintained prepared fleet of equipment and vehicles to service the Town's needs at all times. The Division works cooperatively with all of the Town's Departments to meet these needs.

Goals of the Division are to be progressive in the introduction of equipment and machinery to improve cost efficiencies, safety, and longevity of the Town's machinery, equipment, and work force.

Special Dates to Note:

Christmas Tree Pick-Up - January 2 – January 30, 2009

Street Sweeping - Begins April 20, 2009



*Minute Man Car
Wash on Rt. 44
(Open October
2008)*

June 2009

MAY 2009

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
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JULY 2009

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19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2 Inland Wetlands Commission	3 Budget 2nd Referendum (if necessary)	4 Town Council	5	6 Library Regular Saturday Hours 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
7	8	9 Planning & Zoning	10	11 Natural Resources Commission AWPCA	12	13 Sycamore Hills Pool Opens Library Regular Saturday Hours 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
14 FLAG DAY	15	16 Library Board Board of Education	17 Last Day of School (180th Day) June 24th (185th Day)	18	19	20 Library Regular Saturday Hours 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
21 FATHER'S DAY	22 Board of Finance Swim Lessons & Playground Programs Begin SUMMER HOURS BEGIN	23 Planning & Zoning	24 Budget 3rd Referendum (if necessary)	25 Zoning Board of Appeals	26	27 Library Saturday Summer Hours Begin 10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.
28	29	30	TOWN HALL SUMMER HOURS June 22nd - August 28th Monday - Thursday 8:00 a.m. - 4:45 p.m. Friday 8:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.		REMINDER TO ALL DOG OWNERS: JUNE IS THE MONTH TO RENEW YOUR DOG LICENSES Animal Control Officers Phone: 409-4205 Beverly LaPlume, Animal Control Officer Luciene Witkowski, Richard LaPlume & Andrew Cole, Asst. Animal Control Officers	

REPORT OF THE AVON FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY

VIRGINIA VOCELLI, *Library Director*

Something for everyone! Those three words say it all about the programs and services of the Avon Free Public Library. The community has demonstrated through its use of the Library that AFPL is considered the center of the community, a public place and destination. Within the bounds of budgetary, staffing, and building constraints, the Library has responded to the needs of its community and can report that the past year has been an exciting and productive one and that there has been *Something for everyone*.

Our residents continue to change the way they use their library and this statistical fact verifies that they see the library as a necessary destination. Circulation statistics declined this past year but library visits are up. Downloadable audiobooks, enjoyed a 21% increase in circulation over last year. The self checkout station accounts for 11.5% of the total circulation for the year. The Library launched their newly designed library card in September 2007, featuring a handy key card in addition to the traditional card.

What's going on? This is the question we receive from residents who have come to depend on the Library as a center for cultural enrichment and entertaining programs. The adult programming throughout the year included book discussion programs on Vietnam, a "Green Thursday" series, "Healthy Lifestyle", a "Love Letters" play and special visit by "Queen Elizabeth". Music concerts were held on four fall Friday evenings and throughout the winter and spring on Sunday afternoons. Eight successful programs were held during the day in collaboration with the Avon Senior Center. A seminar on homebuying and selling was held in the spring.

Information Services staff provided assistance to senior citizens, students and teachers, job seekers, book groups, business patrons, and the entire community throughout a busy year. They designed cultural displays for Black History Month, Women's History Month, Earth day, a photo display of the evolution of Rt. 44, and hosted an "artist in residence" who painted in the library. New and updated services included upgraded wireless technology, "Ancestry"- a genealogy database, "D&B Million Dollar Total U.S."- a business database, a new Interlibrary Loan service for book clubs, and entries of West Avon Cemetery records into a national open source genealogy website, www.findagrave.com.

As part of our collaboration effort with the Avon school system, library staff attended faculty meetings, distributed an electronic newsletter to all Avon teachers and school personnel and met with school librarians during the school year to discuss cooperative services. Staff in the adult and children's services continually supported students needing research assistance for homework assignments on the elementary level, AP and English classes, Senior Mastery Projects, Middle School "Big 6" assignments, individual assignments, and instruction with computers and online databases. Staff promoted library services by attending meetings of the Chamber of Commerce, Avon Historical Society and the Senior Center Health Expo. Children's librarians visited day care centers and nursery schools to provide special storytimes for their students.

In **Children's Services**, storytimes were available for children ages 12 months to 5 years. Preschoolers attended storytimes in impressive numbers, and the quest to refine early development programming kept staff pursuing new literature concepts and applications. Book discussions for grades 1 – 8 continued to have strong interest, and special events provided by the Friends were a rage of popularity. Volunteerism hit a new high, with over 40 students mentored and supervised by the staff, at the rate of an average of 20 hours per week year-round. Despite our small area dedicated to **Young Adult** services, more and more teens and pre-teens participated in library activities and events. The Teen Advisory Board was created to involve every aspect of library life: programming, volunteering a vast number of hours, holding book discussions, and even winning a movie trailer contest, the prize being a Nintendo Wii. Teen book circulation has been steadily increasing for years, and teens from the Middle School still flock to the Library after school.

Our 212 volunteers are an important part of the Library's operation and range in age from 8 to 80+. The countless hours they contribute represent not only a tremendous monetary worth to the Library but an immeasurable value in service to the Avon community. Volunteers are the backbone

of services such as Volunteer Income Tax Program, Homebound Program, Marian Hunter History room, and the Garden SWAT Team. Other duties are answering the telephone, preparing children's crafts, shelving and processing books. The Friends of the Avon Library, with membership over 750, provided volunteer and financial support in sponsoring the music series, five-times-a year newsletter, children's and adult programming, the annual book sale, the summer intern and items for the collection. To honor our indispensable volunteers who help the library regularly, a recognition ceremony was held during National Volunteer Week in April 2008.

The most exciting happening this past year was the selection of Tuthill and Wells architects who have developed the building expansion concept and schematic designs for our renovation and addition. We are on our way to an enlarged building which will allow more of *Something for Everyone!*

LIBRARY STATISTICS			
Library Use	FY 05/06	FY 06/07	FY 07/08
Resident Card Holders	9,113	9,045	9,014
% of Population	52%	52%	50%
Library Visits (door count)	216,426	220,899	221,229
Visits per capita	12.48	12.74	12.76
Circulation			
Adult Collection	183,440	190,664	179,855
Children's Collection	113,393	113,811	111,321
Young Adult Collection	10,828	13,425	14,667
Total	307,661	317,900	305,843
Circulation per capita	17.74	18.33	17.64
Library Programs	406	437	392
Attendance	11,470	11,891	9,635
Public Meeting Room Reservations	406	454	476
Reference Questions	46,907	47,737	48,324
Internet Usage	18,855	21,366	24,418
Database Searches*	128,419	90,187	94,955
Website Visits	N/A	N/A	145,273
Library Collection			
Print Collection	79,079	80,174	80,085
Non-print Collection	11,396	10,773	10,233
Added to the Collection			
Print Collection	7,437	7,785	8,943
Non-print Collection	1,004	1,215	1,116
Magazine Subscriptions	260	274	268

*ICONN.org changed the way they configure their numbers in 2007.

July 2009

JUNE 2009

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
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28	29	30				

AUGUST 2009

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23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 Tax and Sewer Use Payments Due	2 Town Council	3 TOWN HALL, LANDFILL, LIBRARY, SCHOOLS CLOSED	4 INDEPENDENCE DAY LIBRARY CLOSED
5	6	7 Inland Wetlands Commission Planning & Zoning	8	9 Natural Resources Commission AWPCA	10	11 Library Saturday Summer Hours 10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.
12	13	14	15 Library Annual Ice Cream Social 1:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m.	16	17	18 Library Saturday Summer Hours 10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.
19	20	21 Planning & Zoning	22	23 Zoning Board of Appeals	24	25 Library Saturday Summer Hours 10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.
26	27 Board of Finance	28	29	30	31 Tax Office Open 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.	

REPORT OF THE RECREATION AND PARK DEPARTMENT

GLENN M. MARSTON, *Director*

The Recreation and Park Department, in close cooperation with the Avon Public School System, other Town agencies, and various civic and social organizations, has the responsibility of providing active and passive recreational opportunities for Avon residents. Through long and short term planning, which includes program, facility, and budget considerations, the department seeks to arrange quality activities of common interest in park, school, and private facilities. In addition to serving as the Town's liaison to the Avon Day Committee, the department is linked to national, regional, and state-wide Recreation and Park Associations, each of which provides updated information and techniques to facilitate improved offerings and facilities to the community. The Recreation and Park Department staff presently consists of a full-time Director and Administrative Coordinator, a part time Secretary, a part time Senior Center Coordinator, and a part-time Administrative Secretary for the Senior Center; along with two (2) part-time, contractual Program Consultants. The Department supervises approximately 225 independent contractors and seasonal employees who provide the direct recreation service.

In close cooperation with the Public Works Department, the Town's Park and Open Space areas are inspected and reviewed on a regular basis to provide information for short and long term improvements to each of the areas. Each of the areas is unique in its capacity for active and passive recreational activities and opportunities. Those activities and opportunities range from walking to active field sports. A map and listing of all areas and the activities available can be obtained upon request from the Recreation Office and is available on the Town's website, www.town.avon.ct.us. Program information and registration forms are available in the Recreation & Parks Section of the Town of Avon's website. The department can also be contacted via email at avonrec@town.avon.ct.us. Detailed flyers describing program options are routinely distributed by the Avon Public School system, are available at the Avon Free Public Library, and will also be posted on the website. Residents can receive all Recreation and Park information (flyers, announcements, cancellations, etc.) via email on a regular basis by subscription to the service in the appropriate area on the web page. Registration can now also be done On-Line.

The department's philosophy is to provide quality recreation and park activities to as many residents, at all age levels and variety of interests, as possible. Members of the community are encouraged to contact the Recreation Office with ideas, suggestions for improvement, new programs, and constructive critique. The staff has been and will continue to be receptive to resident communication and welcomes constructive input. Participation and cooperation between the department and the people it serves are a priority, valued, and greatly appreciated.

Significant Dates for 2009

April 18	-	Annual Fishing Derby
June 13	-	Sycamore Hills Pool Opens
June 22	-	Swim Lessons and Playground Programs begin
August 31	-	Sycamore Hills Pool Closes
October 31	-	Halloween Parade
December 5	-	Holiday Breakfast

RECREATION STATISTICS		
	FY 06/07	FY 07/08
Summer Playground		
K5	412	489
Extended Care (included in above)	154	127
Pre-School (a.m.)	95	68
Little Tykes (p.m.)	47	55
Pool Activities		
Household Memberships	457	380
Individual Memberships	19	17
Senior Memberships	54	46
Daily Attendance	17,539	13,254
Swim Lessons	414	351
Swim Team	112	107
Recreation Activities		
Youth Basketball (Grades 2-8)	535	546
Biddy Basketball (Grades K & 1)	138	140
Winter Swim Team	67	74
Ski Sundown	215	201
Halloween Parade	351	267
Administrative		
Charge Card Revenues	171,263	175,125
General Fund Revenue	118,980	102,780



Avon Day – September 2007

August 2009

JULY 2009						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			1	2	3	4
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SEPTEMBER 2009						
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Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
SANITARY LANDFILL - 281 Huckleberry Hill Road (860) 673- 3677 The Landfill/Transfer Station is CLOSED on all legal holidays as well as Good Friday and the Friday following Thanksgiving. Regular Hours of Operation: Monday, Wednesday, Friday7:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m. Tuesday and Thursday..... CLOSED Saturday.....7:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.						1 Library Saturday Summer Hours 10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.
2	3 Tax and Sewer Use Payment Deadline	4	5	6 Town Council	7	8 Library Saturday Summer Hours 10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.
9	1 0	1 1	1 2	1 3 AWPCA	1 4	1 5 Library Saturday Summer Hours 10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.
1 6	1 7	1 8	1 9 Library Annual All-Kids Craft Fair & Tag Sale 10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.	2 0	2 1	2 2 Library Saturday Summer Hours 10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.
2 3	2 4 Board of Finance	2 5 Board of Education	2 6	2 7	2 8 TOWN HALL SUMMER HOURS END	2 9 Library Saturday Summer Hours 10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.
3 0	3 1 Sycamore Hills Pool Closes					

REPORT OF THE TOWN CLERK

ANN L. DEARSTYNE, *Town Clerk*

The Town Clerk's office is responsible for the recording of Avon's records which includes land records, registration of trade names, vital statistics, veterans discharges, recording and certification of Notaries Public, as well as the issuance of various permits such as burial, liquor, resident landfill disposal, Dial-A-Ride tickets and the issuance of licenses for marriage, civil union, sporting and dogs. The Town Clerk is responsible for the issuance of absentee ballots for elections, primaries, referenda and assists with voter registration.

This year the volume of documents recorded decreased, however the number of pages recorded increased. The conveyance receipts were lower from the previous year due to a slow down in home sales. The office collected \$1,055,515.82 in Conveyance Tax that was forwarded to the State. Public Act 08-01 extended the current municipal conveyance tax for another two years to expire June 30, 2010.

This office assisted in the election process with the preparation of poll ballots and the issuance of absentee ballots. A Municipal election took place on November 6, 2007 and a Presidential Preference Primary on February 5, 2008. The Annual Town Meeting held on May 5th on the FY 2008/2009 budget was adjourned to a referendum on May 14th, 2008. There were three defeated budget referendums conducted on May 14th, June 4th and June 25th. A combined total of 767 absentee ballots were issued during this fiscal year.

The following represents a summary of the activities of this office for the past two years;

ACTIVITIES	FY 06/07	FY 07/08
Revenues Collected	\$ 927,086.66	\$ 818,506.40
State Conveyances	\$1,263,938.55	\$1,055,515.82
TOTAL	\$2,191,025.21	\$1,874,022.22
Pages of Land Records	20,390	20,758
Documents Recorded	4,740	4,448
Maps Recorded	80	65
Veterans Discharges	14	23
Births Recorded	137	126
Marriages Recorded	125	128
Civil Unions Recorded	2	2
Deaths Recorded	158	192
Burial Permits	89	128
Dog Licenses Sold	1,567	1,640
Dial-a-Ride Tickets Sold	2,380	2,612
Sporting Licenses Sold	1,068	979
Pages of Minutes Transcribed & Recorded	548	1,124

Our Land Records Index is on-line and made available through the Town of Avon Web-Site. This feature allows the public to search the land records by owner's name from their home or office. The website is: landrecords.town.avon.ct.us.

The Connecticut State Library Historic Preservation Account, through Public Act 00-146, implemented in 1999, allows for collection of a \$3.00 fee for each document recorded, with \$2.00 of the fee forwarded to the State Library and \$1.00 per document retained by the Town to be used for historic document preservation. Approximately \$4,181 was retained this year for our continued document preservation efforts. Through the Historic Preservation Grant Program, the Town applied for the funding and received a \$7,000 grant in July 2007, which was used to scan

older maps onto CD to install on a office computer for easy access, replaced covers to the older Grantor books and began back file conversion of forty volumes which allows the public to view the documents from our office computer.

Community Investment Act, Public Act 228, provides funding for municipal capital improvements, open space matching grants, farm viability grants and farmland preservation activities, and new and existing affordable housing programs. Continuing with the Community Investment Act, Public Act 228, the Town Clerk's office continued to collect a \$30.00 fee for each document recorded in the land records. Of that, the Town Clerk's office retains \$1.00, the Town retains \$3.00, and the remaining \$26.00 per document is remitted to the State Treasurer's Office. This generated for the Town \$12,543 to be used in accordance with Public Act 228 and \$108,706 for the State.

We would like to make our residents aware that this office is a source of a great deal of information, most of which is public. The only restriction by state law is birth records. We are always available to assist people in locating records maintained by this office.

REPORT OF THE REGISTRARS OF VOTERS

GENEVIEVE A. CLARK & ANN J. TILSON, *Registrars*

At the beginning of the FY 2007/2008 there were 11,089 registered voters in the Town of Avon, of these 3,715 were Republicans, 2,873 Democrats and 4,501 were Unaffiliated. A Municipal Election was held on November 5, 2007 in all three voting Districts at which 3,297 voters cast their ballots. At this election the new electronic scanning machines were used with 29% of the electorate voting. On November 29, 2007, an audit was held by request of the Secretary of State for District #3, Roaring Brook School, at the Avon Town Hall. On February 5, 2008, a Presidential Primary was held in all three districts. At this primary 851 Republicans (44%) and 1,100 Democrats (30%) voted.

On May 14, 2008, the first Budget Referendum was held at the Senior Center with 3,463 voting; a total of 30%. The second Referendum was held on June 4, 2008, with a total of 3,248 or 29% voting. The third Referendum was held on June 25, 2008, with a total of 2,753 voting, or 24%. All three referendums rejected the budget.

The Registrars conducted the annual Voter Canvass from February 1, 2008, to May 31, 2008, using information provided by the National Change of Address File. On June 10, 2008 the Registrars went to Avon High School where 53 students were added to the Registry List. The Registrars also attended fall and spring conferences held by the Secretary of the State. Class training for certification and information on all new laws is provided at these two day Conferences.

As of June 31, 2008, there were 11,297 registered voters of the Town of Avon, of these 3,764 were Republican, 3,246 were Democrat and 4,287 were Unaffiliated.



New Media Center at the Avon High School

September 2009

AUGUST 2009

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
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OCTOBER 2009

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
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18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 Inland Wetlands Commission FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL	2	3 Town Council	4	5 LIBRARY CLOSED LABOR DAY WEEKEND
6	7 LABOR DAY TOWN HALL, LANDFILL, LIBRARY, SCHOOLS CLOSED	8	9	10 Natural Resources Commission AWPCA	11	12 Library Regular Saturday Hours 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
13	14	15 Planning & Zoning Library Board Board of Education	16	17 Zoning Board of Appeals	18	19 Library Regular Saturday Hours 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. ROSH HASHANAH
20	21 Board of Finance	22	23	24	25	26 Library Regular Saturday Hours 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
27	28 YOM KIPPUR	29	30	AVON PUBLIC SCHOOLS PHONE NUMBERS High School: Jason Beaudin 404-4740 Middle School: Marco Famiglietti 404-4770 Thompson Brook: Ann Watson 404-4870 Roaring Brook: Dr. Crisanne Colgan 404-4810 Pine Grove: Gail Dahling-Hench 404-4790		

REPORT OF THE AVON VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

JAMES SPEICH, *President*
JAMES DiPACE, *Chief*

Incorporated in 1943, the Avon Volunteer Fire Department proudly protects more than 17,800 people living in the 22.6 square mile area that makes up the Town of Avon. The Department's mission is to provide fire suppression and prevention, life safety and rescue support, as well as other emergency community support to the citizens of the Town of Avon. The Department also provides mutual aid support to those surrounding communities that, in time of need, may request such assistance.

Staffed entirely by volunteers, the Department prides itself on the selflessness and dedication of its 150 members – 100 firefighters, 13 fire police, 22 administrative members, 11 Explorers, and four associate members, all of whom play a vital role in the safety of Avon. The Department operates six companies and 15 pieces of apparatus, including a brush truck, ladder truck, tanker, rescue vehicle, boat, and pumpers. Four stations are located throughout Town – Company 1 on Darling Drive, Company 2 on Secret Lake Road, Company 3 on West Avon Road, and Company 4 on Huckleberry Hill Road. Since 2005, volunteers have dedicated more than 90,000 hours to the Avon Volunteer Fire Department. That's an average of 642 40-hour work weeks per year.

Over the past few years, the Department has experienced an increase in call volume. In 2006, the Department responded to 616 calls and in 2007 that rose to 671 calls. As of August 2008, the Department had already logged more than 550 calls, placing it on track to receive and respond to more than 800 calls before the end of the year – everything from fires to hazardous materials incidents to motor vehicle accidents and other emergencies. AVFD volunteers spent nearly 45,000 hours answering those calls.

The AVFD trains its firefighters to the same standards as professional fire fighters. Depending upon the level of training completed, firefighters fall into one of three categories: Support, Entry Level, and Team Leaders. Support firefighters assist in firefighting and rescue operations. Entry level firefighters perform firefighting and rescue operations. Team Leaders supervise and provide firefighting and rescue services.

Each member of the Department is professionally trained to respond to incidents ranging from fires to hazardous materials incidents, motor vehicle accidents, and other related emergencies. Over the past three years, AVFD volunteers have dedicated nearly 19,000 hours to training. Firefighters are trained up to the Firefighter II level, and are encouraged to continue on with advanced training. Weekly in-house classes teach firefighters everything from CPR to ladder safety. Some firefighters receive additional training to provide medical assistance. Fire police train to provide firefighters with an environment that is protected from additional hazards such as automobile traffic. They offer assistance at motor vehicle accidents and other emergency incidents.

Explorer members are high school students between the ages of 14 and 17. They train and prepare to fight fires while learning leadership skills. Many Explorers become regular members when they turn 18, and maintain their commitment while attending college.

AVFD volunteers are out in the community giving back in other ways. In addition to fighting fires and responding to other emergencies, members are actively involved with various education and fire prevention programs in the community. For the past four years, members of the Department have offered a Citizens Fire Academy giving those who live or work in Avon have an opportunity each year to learn firsthand what firefighters must learn and be prepared to handle. The next Citizens Fire Academy will run for eight weeks on Wednesdays from 6:30-9:00 p.m. Classes begin April 1, 2009 and culminate with a Saturday session in which student join AVFD firefighters in a mock automobile accident drill.

Fire Safety programs are part of the curriculum at Pine Grove and Roaring Brook elementary schools and are also presented at fairs, sporting contests, daycare centers, and nursery schools

throughout Town. As part of the Avon Day festivities, not only does the Department oversee the safety of the fireworks display, but it also provides fire safety information for all ages.

The AVFD is funded primarily through the Town's operating budget. The Department also conducts an annual raffle. Proceeds from ticket sales help provide volunteer recognition events for the membership. In 2008, the 65th annual raffle had its most successful year to date, raising more than \$40,000.

Over the past 65 years, more than 600 Avon residents have donated their time with the Avon Volunteer Fire Department, and the Department is constantly looking for dedicated volunteers to help with fire fighting, rescue, and administration. All personnel must pass a medical physical provided prior to the posting of their application. Upon acceptance of an application each member goes through a six month probationary period. To learn more, please call 677-2644 or stop by the Company 1 firehouse located at 25 Darling Drive any Monday evening after 7:00 p.m.

REPORT OF THE INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY PROGRAM

MARGARET COLLIGAN, *Chairperson*

The Information Technology Committee reports to the Town Manager and currently consists of the Finance Director, CAD/GIS Manager, Assistant Town Manager, Library Director, Assistant Library Director, Police Chief, Director of Public Works, and the Fire Chief. This Committee recommends information technology policy, interacts with users, and directs consultants to design, implement and maintain the Town's information technology operations with a continued emphasis on providing "24/7" government information via the Town's website at www.town.avon.ct.us using a user-friendly "citizen-centric" webpage layout. The Town's website features a "tax impact calculator", assisting residents in determining their property taxes, budgets, annual audits, RFP's, job opportunities, agendas, minutes, ordinances, Recreation program on-line registration, and payment of taxes on-line. The Committee will continue to manage all forms of remote access to the Town's computer systems, including Internet and Geographic Information Systems.

TOWN OF AVON WEBSITE STATISTICS			
	FY 05/06	FY 06/07	FY 07/08
Total Hits	3,735,679	4,010,824	1,805,591*
Visitor Sessions	228,942	463,115	429,484
Unique Visitors*	9,317	11,763 (June)	15,556 (June)
Avg. Session Length (secs.)	4.52	3.21 (June)	7.23 (June)
No. of Pages Viewed	663,208	1,562,732	1,802,922
Down-loaded Adobe Files	48,531	89,478	104,520
No. of Subscribers			
Agendas	211	260	357
B. Board	--	471	596
Employment	145	186	248
Rec. B. Board	408	521	672
Library Notices	240	370	766
Totals	1,004	1,808	2,639

*A "unique" visitor is counted once/month without regard to number of days he/she visits the website.

October 2009

SEPTEMBER 2009

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
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NOVEMBER 2009

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29	30					

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
School Closings: Stations that announce school closing or delays are: WTIC, Channel 3, 8 & 30 Announcement Line: 404-4729				1 Town Council	2	3 Library Regular Saturday Hours 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
4	5	6 Inland Wetlands Commission	7	8 Natural Resources Commission AWPCA	9	10 Library Regular Saturday Hours 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
11	12 COLUMBUS DAY TOWN HALL, LANDFILL, LIBRARY, SCHOOLS CLOSED	13 Planning & Zoning	14	15	16	17 Library Regular Saturday Hours 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Voter Registration Session Avon Town Hall 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.
18	19	20 Library Board Board of Education	21	22 Zoning Board of Appeals	23	24 Library Regular Saturday Hours 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
25	26 Board of Finance	27 Planning & Zoning Voter Registration Session Avon Town Hall 9:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m.	28	29	30	31 Library Regular Saturday Hours 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Recreation & Parks Halloween Parade HALLOWEEN

FARMINGTON VALLEY VISITING NURSE ASSOCIATION, INC.

INCY S. MUIR, *Executive Director*

2008 marks the 100th anniversary of community service to Avon residents by the Farmington Valley Visiting Nurse Association. Our organization is extremely proud of this tremendous milestone. Very few organizations, especially non-profit home health care providers, share this distinction. Although so much has changed in health care delivery during the past century, the FV-VNA's mission of caring for any individual, regardless of ability to pay or other hardship, has remained intact and unwavering. Our organization carries out this mission on a daily basis and serves as the community's foundation of compassion. So many people have been positively touched in some way by our organization. Preschool vision and hearing testing, blood pressure screenings, flu immunizations, in-home health services following an illness or injury, educational programs at locations throughout the community, and the special support needed when caring for a terminally ill loved one in the home ~ these are just a few examples of the way the Farmington Valley VNA has benefited local residents of all ages.

One of the FV-VNA's founding leaders wrote in an early Annual Report, *"With the hearty co-operation of physicians and friends who have made it possible for this work to be carried out over the past year, it is hoped that still further progress will be made in the future so that all suffering humanity in this town may be benefited by the Visiting Nurse Association."* It is our hope that we continue to fulfill this mission and that we make our ancestors proud of all that has been accomplished.

During the past year, the FV-VNA has continued its steadfast commitment to the Farmington Valley and residents of Avon by providing a comprehensive variety of home health care, hospice services and illness prevention programs to residents of all ages. Despite continuing financial and other challenges associated with the delivery of health care, the Farmington Valley VNA is proud to still be one of the few remaining traditional and non-profit visiting nurse associations which is not owned or operated by a hospital or larger health care system. This important distinction assures Avon residents that community needs remain a true priority and that funding is utilized locally for delivery of essential services and programs.

Services available to Avon residents through the FV-VNA's home care program include:

- Skilled Nursing
- Physical Therapy
- Occupational Therapy
- Speech Therapy
- Medical Social Services
- Homemaker/Home Health Aide Services
- Private Duty Aide Services
- Intravenous Therapy
- Nutritional Counseling
- Companion Services
- Telemonitoring

A variety of specialized services are also provided including complex wound care management and digital photography for more accurate and timely treatment, prothrombin time testing, pulse oximetry, cardiac nursing, early rehabilitation programs after total joint replacements, diabetes education and management, and remote monitoring of patients' cardiac and respiratory status.

The FV-VNA's excellent home Hospice Program has also continued to support many individuals and families who need this specialized care when dealing with a life limiting illness. Highly trained and compassionate staff have made a positive difference in the quality of many patients' lives and in the lives of their loved ones through this special program.

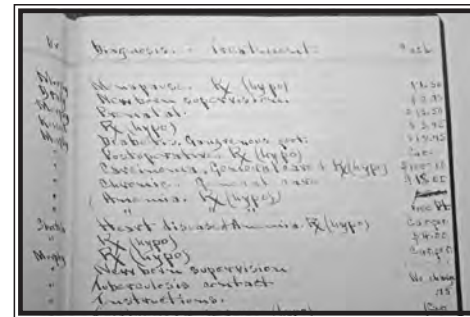
The Farmington Valley VNA continues to be unique in that it operates a distinct and separate Community Programs Department with the goals of illness prevention, health promotion and education. As an expense reduction measure, many home health care providers have eliminated virtually all illness prevention services due to cost and realignment of service priorities. Community Programs remain a cornerstone of the FV-VNA, particularly due to its historic roots as a public health

nursing organization. Multiple services are offered which focus on maintaining healthy lifestyles, illness prevention and health education. Over 1600 Avon residents attended one or more community wellness programs last year. Many programs are offered at little or no cost thanks to funding from the Town of Avon which include:

- Blood Pressure Screenings
- Foot Care Clinics
- Wellness Walking Programs
- Health Screenings for Businesses and Groups
- Ear Assessment/Irrigation Programs
- Vision and Hearing Testing
- Tuberculosis Screenings
- Flu/Pneumonia Clinics
- Health Care Education Programs
- CPR, AED and First Aid Courses for groups

As a local, free standing, non-profit organization, continued financial support from community residents, area businesses and service organizations is absolutely essential for the FV-VNA's future survival. Reimbursement from State, Federal and private insurance payors is remaining flat in the upcoming year, and is actually decreasing from Medicare, despite sharp increases in many operating costs. The Farmington Valley VNA is very pleased to be a vital and essential health care organization serving Avon residents as we look ahead into the next century of health care delivery.

For additional information about the Farmington Valley VNA and its programs, please call 651-3539 or visit www.farmingtonvalleyvna.org



FV-VNA Historic Log Book



Sharyn - RN

REPORT OF THE NATURAL RESOURCES COMMISSION

MARIANNE CLARK, *Chairperson*

The Natural Resources Commission researches and makes recommendations on matters affecting the preservation and protection of Avon's natural resources. The Commission is composed of seven members appointed by the Town Council. During FY 2007/2008, the Commission conducted 4 regular meetings and 1 special meeting.

The Commission reviewed grant applications for several projects including the Avon Town Center walkways, modifications to "Rails to Trails" through Avon Park South, and trail development along the Farmington River. In May, the Commission participated in an environmental fair, at Thompson Brook School, called "No Child Left Inside".

The Commission, with the support of the Department of Public Works, also conducted its annual tree sale in May. Approximately 65 trees were preordered by residents, at a reduced cost. This year, the Commission presented the Natural Resources Award to Robert Hunt, Jr. for his foresight and initiatives regarding the preservation of open space. Mr. Hunt was instrumental in facilitating the acquisition of numerous properties, to include: Fisher Meadows, Huckleberry Hill Found Land, Hazen Park and the Talcott Mountain Science Center.

November 2009

OCTOBER 2009

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
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DECEMBER 2009

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
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20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 Library Resumes Sunday Hours 1:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. DAY LIGHT SAVINGS TIME ENDS	2	3 Election Day Polls Open 6:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m. (Schools Closed)	4 Recreation & Parks Ski Registration	5 Town Council Recreation & Parks Ski Registration	6	7 Friends of the Library Birthday Party Library Regular Saturday Hours 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
8 Library Special Sunday Hours 1:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.	9	10 Inland Wetlands Commission	11 VETERANS DAY <div>TOWN HALL, LANDFILL, LIBRARY, SCHOOLS CLOSED</div>	12 Natural Resources Commission AWPCA	13	14 Library Regular Saturday Hours 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
15 Library Special Sunday Hours 1:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.	16	17 Planning & Zoning Library Board Board of Education	18	19 Zoning Board of Appeals	20	21 Library Regular Saturday Hours 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
22 Library Special Sunday Hours 1:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.	23 Board of Finance	24	25	26 THANKSGIVING DAY <div>TOWN HALL, LANDFILL, LIBRARY, SCHOOLS CLOSED</div>	27 LIBRARY OPEN 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. <div>TOWN HALL, LANDFILL, SCHOOLS CLOSED</div>	28 Library Regular Saturday Hours 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
29 Library Special Sunday Hours 1:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.	30					

REPORT OF THE AVON HISTORICAL SOCIETY

TERRI WILSON, *President*
RUTH WOODFORD, *Secretary*

2009 35TH ANNIVERSARY

Since 1974 the mission of the Avon Historical Society is to identify, collect, preserve, utilize, publish, display, promote and preserve the history and heritage of Avon. The Society maintains three properties. Two are open to the public, free of charge, in the summer months or by appointment.

Pine Grove Schoolhouse - corner of West Avon and Harris Roads. A restored one-room school, built in 1865 when Avon's 7th school district was established by the State. The school was in use until 1949, then restored for the U.S. Bicentennial in 1976. Open Sundays, 2:00 – 4:00, May – September.

The Living Museum – 8 West Main St. (Rt. 44). Originally Avon's Schoolhouse No. 3. In 1984, the town moved the building from its original location on the site of the present Library to its current location. Its exhibits represent Avon from 1830, the year the town was incorporated. The building is handicapped accessible. Open Sundays, 2:00 – 4:00, May – September.

The Derrin House – 249 West Avon Rd. A farmhouse built in c. 1747, was used for the caretaker of the First Co. Governor's Horse Guard. The Society leased it from the state in 1996 and has restored it substantially, although it is still undergoing renovations. It is open by appointment.

The society faces many challenges:

We have a docent (tour guide) crisis. Many of our most loyal docents are no longer able to welcome visitors to the Living Museum or Pine Grove Schoolhouse. We need your help! It is easy and only takes a couple of hours on a Sunday afternoon. We'll match you with an experienced guide and give you a handbook with information about our museums. If you are interested, please call Ben Isaacson (678-1160) and he can tell you more.

Another challenge is the increased expenses we have for general maintenance, insurance, heating, and electricity at our two main properties including the Derrin House. You are certainly experiencing the same and we understand that. But as we grow, so do our needs to keep our museums open for the enjoyment and enrichment of public. We cannot do this without your membership and contributions.

The 35th year is going to be a fun year for the Society. We are in the process of planning many new events. We will have a series of programs this coming year on historically significant topics. Please watch for upcoming notices on the Town's website for details. These kinds of events are good networking opportunities to meet our Board and other members of the Society that share the same interest as you. And, we always welcome your ideas on future topics and/or speakers.

We have six newly-elected members of the Board of Directors who join with the others to forge a new direction for the Society. The Avon Historical Society encourages you to join and participate with us in our activities. In addition, you are welcome to attend our Board meetings which are held on the 2nd Wednesday of the month at 7:30pm at the Living Museum.

Avon Historical Society Board of Directors

Terri Wilson, President

Monte Hopper, Treasurer

Pam Fahey, Vice President

Ruth Woodford, Secretary

Trustees: Ben Isaacson, Caroline LaMonica, Liz Neff, Mark Nolan, Kathleen Ogle, Herb Pandiscio, Peter Wright, and Wendy Zacchera

REPORT OF THE FARMINGTON VALLEY HEALTH DISTRICT

RICHARD MATHENY, *Director*

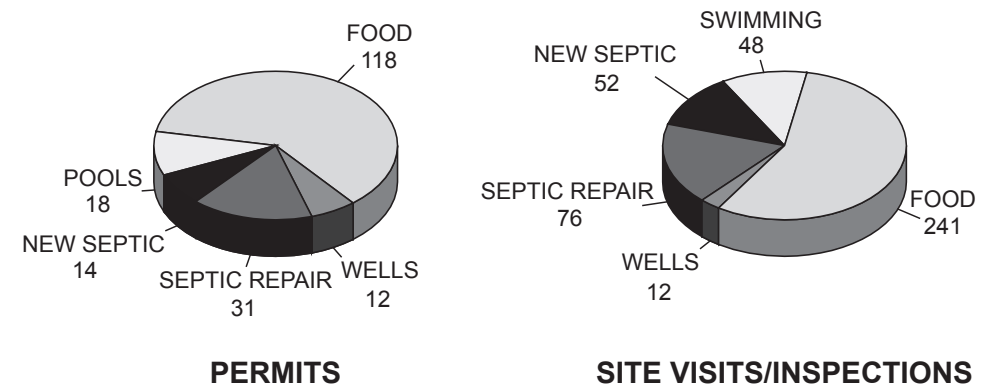
There were a number of changes at the Farmington Valley Health District during this past year. Mary Rocco, a valuable member of our administrative staff, retired, and Todd Christopher, RS, one of our sanitarians, left to pursue another line of work. Due to a sustained slowdown in the level of our environmental health workload associated with the economy, they have not been replaced.

The district and its staff continued its efforts in planning for emergencies, particularly those associated with bioterrorism and pandemic influenza. We are active participants in the Capitol Region Emergency Planning Committee (CREPC), and the district's staff participated in several regional exercises. Thanks to the cooperation of the Town of Avon, the health district moved its antenna and repeater for the two-way radio communication system to the top of Avon Mountain where it will better help us communicate in the event of an emergency. We hired Kerry Flaherty to work as an independent contractor to coordinate our emergency preparedness efforts with our federally funded emergency preparedness grant.

We also began working with the Asthma Center of the Connecticut Children Medical Center on their Easy Breathing Program through a grant, and hired Keri Gilford, MSPH to be the coordinator. The district also worked with Teresa Dotson, RD utilizing our preventive health block grant, to develop a Building Healthy Families Program that helps families to adopt heart healthy diets and practices.

Please visit our website <http://www.fvhd.org>.

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH ACTIVITIES (Fiscal Year 2007-2008)



FOOD PERMITS = ANNUAL + TEMPORARY

December 2009

NOVEMBER 2009

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

JANUARY 2010

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 Inland Wetlands Commission	2	3 Town Council	4	5 Recreation & Parks Holiday Breakfast Library Regular Saturday Hours 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
6 Library Special Sunday Hours 1:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.	7	8 Planning & Zoning	9	10 Natural Resources Commission AWPCA	11	12 Library Regular Saturday Hours 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. HANNUKKAH BEGINS
13 Library Special Sunday Hours 1:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.	14	15 Library Board Board of Education	16	17 Zoning Board of Appeals	18	19 Library Regular Saturday Hours 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. HANNUKKAH ENDS
20 Library Special Sunday Hours 1:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.	21	22	23	24 Town Hall Closed 12:30 p.m. Library Open 10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.	25 CHRISTMAS DAY TOWN HALL, LANDFILL, LIBRARY, SCHOOLS CLOSED	26 Library Regular Saturday Hours 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
27 Library Special Sunday Hours 1:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.	28 Board of Finance	29	30	31 NEW YEAR'S EVE Town Hall Closed 12:30 p.m. Library Open 10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.		

REPORT OF THE DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

STEVEN KUSHNER, AICP, *DIRECTOR*

The Department of Planning and Community Development is comprised of the divisions of Zoning Enforcement and Environmental Compliance, Building Inspection, and Fire Prevention. These three divisions combined with planning are responsible for the review of all new commercial and residential construction projects which includes providing professional and technical assistance to the Towns four land use agencies (Planning and Zoning Commission, Inland Wetlands Commission, Zoning Board of Appeals, and Natural Resources Commission), permitting and inspection of all approved projects in accordance with applicable zoning, building, and fire codes, as well as a comprehensive program of inspection aimed at fire prevention.

This organizational structure is a result of the merger, as of April 1, 2008, of the Planning and Building Departments. Due to budget constraints, one full-time building inspector position has been eliminated and the full-time position of Assistant to the Town Planner has been reduced to a part-time position. Despite these reductions, we will be able to deliver quality service through increased efficiencies and coordination. The Fire Marshal is certified as a building official and the Building Official is certified as both a fire inspector and a zoning enforcement officer. In addition, the process, which often begins with an application to one of the Town's four land use regulatory agencies, will now be coordinated with permitting and inspection.

The Department also provides professional and technical assistance to the Planning and Zoning Commission as well as applicants, the general public, and design consultants (engineering, architectural, law, and landscape architecture, and surveying). During the past year this was done in association with 56 applications. For a more detailed description please see The Report of the Planning and Zoning Commission.

A number of special projects were also undertaken during the past year. They include:

- ❖ Applied for and received a recreational trails grant from the State Department of Environmental Protection in the amount of \$44,000 to construct a continuation of the Farmington Valley Greenway through Avon Park South along Darling and Security Drive. This project will begin construction - fall 2008.
- ❖ Provided project management for construction of new 3.5 mile trail on the Town owned 317-acre Fisher Farm. This trail runs along the Farmington River as well as a well preserved section of the Farmington Canal. Project made possible through a \$24,000 trail grant from the State Department of Environmental Protection.
- ❖ Conducted comprehensive review of floodplain regulations to meet new standards of the Federal Emergency Management Agency. Adoption expected in fall of 2008.
- ❖ Enhanced department web page. Meeting agendas and application forms are available online. Subscription service to agendas available to all at no cost.
- ❖ Codified Zoning, Subdivision, Inland Wetland, and Aquifer Protection Regulations working with private vendor – Municode. Provides online searchable database.
- ❖ Adopted new "Aquifer Overlay Protection Zones" as a result of detailed mapping prepared by the Avon Water Company. All residents whether served by public water or individual supply depend on underground aquifers for drinking water.

REPORT OF THE PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION

DUANE STARR, *Chairman*
HENRY FREY, *Vice-Chairman*

STEVEN KUSHNER, AICP, *Director of Planning and Community Development*

The Planning and Zoning Commission, acting under authority granted by the Connecticut General Statutes, regulates the development of land in Avon. The Planning and Zoning Commission consists of seven members and three alternates appointed by the Town Council. The Commission's actions are guided by the Plan of Conservation and Development, Zoning Regulations, and Subdivision Regulations. The Director of Planning provides professional and technical assistance to the Commission and serves as the Zoning Enforcement Officer.

Commercial site plan approvals included a 2,200-square-foot addition to Avon Marketplace; a 3,500-square-foot addition for an MRI facility at the Hartford Wellness Center; and the renovation of an abandoned gas station to permit automobile rental.

Subdivision/resubdivision approvals resulted in new building lots located on Lofgren Road, Terrace Drive, Old Farms Road, Huckleberry Hill Road, and New Road. Each approved subdivision/resubdivision must contribute, per State law, a portion of the total property value to the Town as dedicated open space. As an alternative, an applicant may make a payment to the Town in lieu of this land dedication; these funds are deposited into a special account to be used solely for future open space acquisition.

Applications for special exceptions included requests for rear lots, accessory apartments, Class III restaurants, outdoor dining, cemetery expansion, automobile rental, and commercial signs.

PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION STATISTICS					
	FY 03/04	FY 04/05	FY 05/06	FY 06/07	FY 07/08
Meetings Held	18	16	18	15	17
Applications:					
Subdivisions	15	9	18	3	7
Site Development Approvals	28	24	21	19	12
Special Exceptions	39	34	27	24	19
Special Exceptions - Signs	9	13	15	8	4
Staff Approvals	11	8	13	7	8
Zone Change	1	2	1	1	1
Regulation Changes	7	6	12	5	5
Miscellaneous Info:					
Site Plan Square Footage	29,773	174,267	112,674	39,600	5,700
Fees in Lieu of Open Space	\$16,100	\$31,250	\$71,250	\$31,500	\$25,000
Acres of Open Space Acquired	13	1	0	3	3
Subdivision Lots Approved	91	76	18	19	68
Pages of Meeting Minutes	310	314	289	220	189

January 2010

DECEMBER 2009

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

FEBRUARY 2010

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28						

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1 NEW YEAR'S DAY Taxes Due <div>TOWN HALL, LANDFILL, LIBRARY, SCHOOLS CLOSED</div>	2 Library Regular Saturday Hours 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
3 Library Special Sunday Hours 1:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.	4	5 Inland Wetlands Commission	6	7 Town Council	8	9 Library Regular Saturday Hours 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
10 Library Special Sunday Hours 1:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.	11	12 Planning & Zoning	13	14 Natural Resources Commission AWPCA	15	16 Library Regular Saturday Hours 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
17 Library Special Sunday Hours 1:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.	18 MARTIN LUTHER KING DAY <div>TOWN HALL, LANDFILL, LIBRARY, SCHOOLS CLOSED</div>	19 Library Board	20	21	22	23 Library Regular Saturday Hours 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
24 Library Special Sunday Hours 1:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.	25 Board of Finance	26	27	28 Zoning Board of Appeals	29	30 Library Regular Saturday Hours 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
31 Library Special Sunday Hours 1:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.						

REPORT OF THE DIVISION OF BUILDING INSPECTION

JAMES SANSONE, *Building Official, Fire Inspector, Deputy Zoning Officer*

The Division of Building Inspection is charged with the responsibility of ensuring compliance with the Connecticut State Building Code. The purpose of this Code is to protect the Public's health, safety and welfare in all buildings and structures. We accomplish this by assisting residents, building contractors, and the design community with code interpretation and guidance throughout the permitting, plan review, and construction process.

This year John Willnauer, Building Official for the past 10 years, retired and Assistant Building Official James Sansone was appointed as the new Building Official. In April 2008, the Department was merged with the Planning Department. This new organization has resulted in greater efficiencies and provides for a more coordinated approach throughout the permitting and inspection process.

Avon is still experiencing a slowdown in the number of new home permits. When reviewing the chart you will see a bubble in the number of new single family dwelling permits for years FY 2003/2004, FY 2004/2005, and FY 2005/2006. This was due to the 200 house Buckingham Development which is now complete. Although the number of new homes has been lower, the size and complexity of these homes continues to increase. The average value of a single family residence was reported as \$624,961 (this figure represents building construction costs only). The average house size was 6,472 square feet. The number of both commercial and other types of residential permits remained steady. A few of the commercial projects permitted this year include a 5000 sq. ft. mixed use building at 427 West Avon Road; a 3500 sq. ft. office building at 33 Dale Road; a 20,000 sq.ft. Hartford Hospital Oncology Center at 80 Fisher Drive; and a 6620 sq. ft. Carwash Building at 265 West Main Street. When reviewing the charts for more detailed reporting, please be aware that included in the number of Building Permits are all types of permits such as construction, electrical, plumbing, mechanical, demolition, and fire protection.

This year the Division of Building Inspection was once again evaluated by the Insurance Services Office Inc (ISO). This evaluation, conducted every five years, is used to establish a new Building Code Effectiveness Grading Classification (BCEGC) rating. The new BCEGC rating is used by some Insurance Companies when underwriting both commercial and residential properties within Avon and may have an impact on insurance premiums. I am pleased to report that Avon's rating improved significantly from the 2003 rating. This was a direct result of improvements in the operation of the department and the State of Connecticut updating to newer editions of both the residential and commercial Building Codes.

BUILDING DEPARTMENT STATISTICS

Fiscal Year	FY 03/04	FY 04/05	FY 05/06	FY 06/07	FY 07/08
# New Single Family Dwellings	84	110	88	25	19
# New Commercial Bldgs.	2	5	3	2	7
# Building Permits Issued	2,030	1,920	1,935	1,659	1,790
# Building Inspections Conducted	3,991	3,186	3,268	2,526	2,546
\$ Building Permit Fees Collected	\$556,891	\$749,862	\$742,216	\$457,510	\$474,169
\$ Value Building Permits Issued	\$42,560,715	\$57,443,226	\$63,657,408	\$30,592,573	\$33,200,171

REPORT OF THE DIVISION OF FIRE PREVENTION

JAMES DIPACE, *Fire Marshal & Assistant Building Official*

The Division of Fire Prevention provides fire code safety inspections (for new and existing buildings), plan reviews, fire investigation, and public fire prevention programs.

This year we have experienced some organizational changes within our Division. Along with being reassigned to the new Planning and Community Development Department, we have seen the retirement of the Deputy Fire Marshal.

The Division has other responsibilities as well. James DiPace is also the Deputy Director of Emergency Management and an Assistant Building Official. He serves on the Town's Safety, Facility, IT, and Avon Day committees. In a volunteer capacity, Mr. DiPace is the Chief of the 130 member Volunteer Fire Department. Fire Inspector, Thomas Post, primary responsibilities are performing annual inspections of all public buildings and implementing Public Fire Education Programs.

Future goals include improving the Insurance Services Office Municipal Fire Protection Rating. (This has the potential to lower costs of Fire Insurance to Avon Residents); and developing a computerized fire code inspection system linked to the Avon Volunteer Fire Department.

FIRE PREVENTION – ACTIVITY REPORT - FY 07/08

7	Apartment Buildings	3	Misc
33	Assembly Halls/Restaurants	2	Municipal Buildings
5	Blasting Permits Issued	10	Nursery Schools/Day Care Centers
5	Blasting Sites – Inspected	1	Garages & Gas Stations
1	Bulk Oil Storage & Tanks	1	Churches
10	Business	2	Clubs
1	Open Burning Permit	1	Wood Stoves
18	Complaints Received & Checked	50	Plan Review - Bldg & Site (In House)
23	Professional Development (Educ)	70	Plan Review Mtgs. - Bldg & Site (On Site)
2	Convalescent homes	92	Reinspections
3	Factory Inspections	5	Rehab Centers/Group Homes
5	Fire Investigations	5	School Buildings - Public & Private
78	Incident responses	41	Stores/Retail Shops
71	Construction inspection	16	Public Education



Deercliff Road (Under Construction)



Deercliff Road
Construction Completed Summer 2007

REPORT OF THE INLAND WETLANDS COMMISSION

CLIFF THIER, *Chairman*

The Inland Wetlands Commission, pursuant to General Statutes, regulates certain activities within areas in Avon designated as inland wetlands and watercourses. During FY 2007/2008, the Commission held 10 regular meetings at which 20 applications were reviewed. Of these, 5 applications were judged to include significant activities, and formal public hearings were conducted. Conservation restrictions were required as a condition of approval on several applications, resulting in the permanent protection of 4.74 acres of wetlands and regulated areas. The Commission also conducted an enforcement hearing for regulated activities which occurred without the required approval from the Commission.

The applications reviewed by the Commission included:

- ❖ **Weatherstone of Avon, LLC** – Activities associated with road construction, installation of utilities and house construction. (proposed 60-lot subdivision)
- ❖ **Avon Self Storage expansion** – Activities associated with the proposed construction of two new storage buildings and related parking.
- ❖ **The Avon Water Company** – Activities associated with improvements to the water distribution systems in the Lovely Street area.

SUMMARY OF INLAND WETLANDS COMMISSION ACTIVITIES

	FY 03/04	FY 04/05	FY 05/06	FY 06/07	FY 07/08
Meetings	11	10	11	9	10
Applications reviewed	36	22	18	24	20
Public Hearings	4	6	6	6	5
Applications approved	36	17	14	18	16
Pages of meeting minutes	151	95	125	78	91
Acres protected through conservation restrictions	21	6	23	5	4.74

REPORT OF THE ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS

JOHN E. DREW, *Chairperson*

The main function of the Zoning Board of Appeals, pursuant to General Statutes, is to hear requests for variances from requirements of the Zoning Regulations. Additionally, the Board hears appeals relating to decisions of the Zoning Enforcement Officer and reviews applications for automobile dealers' and repairers' licenses as agent for the Connecticut Motor Vehicle Department.

The Zoning Board of Appeals consists of five elected regular members and three appointed alternate members. During FY 2007/2008, the Commission held eight meetings at which seventeen applications were reviewed.

In reaching its decisions, the Board evaluates requests for variances based on a determination of hardship and ensures that buildings and land uses remain in harmony with the general purpose and intent of the Zoning Regulations. Variances included requests to reduce front, side and rear yard setbacks and the expansion of non-conforming buildings for construction of garages, sheds, decks, detached buildings and additions. The Department of Planning and Community Development provides staff assistance to the Board.

SUMMARY OF ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS ACTIVITIES

	FY 03/04	FY 04/05	FY 05/06	FY 06/07	FY 07/08
Meetings	10	11	9	7	8
Applications	39	39	27	14	17
Granted	34	29	22	10	16
Denied	2	8	2	2	0
Withdrawn	3	2	3	2	1
Pages of meeting minutes	84	96	85	38	25

REPORT OF THE DIVISION OF ZONING ENFORCEMENT AND ENVIRONMENTAL COMPLIANCE

JOHN E. McCAHILL, *Planning and Community Development Specialist*

The division of Zoning Enforcement and Environmental Compliance performs administrative duties and provides professional and technical assistance to assure that all activities on residential, commercial and other properties throughout the Town comply with the Town's land use regulations; as well as applicable state statutes and regulations. The Division routinely performs permit reviews, plan reviews, and site inspections; conducts investigations for compliance related matters, and cites violations to gain compliance with local regulations. The Division provides staffing to the Inland Wetlands Commission, the Natural Resources Commission, and the Zoning Board of Appeals. It also provides technical assistance to various departments and agencies regarding environmental compliance issues and regulatory programs.

During the FY 2007/2008, routine compliance inspections were conducted on 23 active sites. Other activities included:

SUMMARY OF THE DIVISION OF ZONING ENFORCEMENT AND ENVIRONMENTAL COMPLIANCE ACTIVITIES

	FY 07/08	FY 06/07	FY 05/06	FY 04/05	FY 03/04
Certification of Zoning Compliance	428	367	472	481	422
Temporary Sign Permits	117	121	91	78	97
Enforcement Activities:					
Sign Violations	177	202	184	198	201
Zoning Violation	11	14	19	11	16

Additionally, the Division provided administrative and technical assistance for a comprehensive review and update of the Inland Wetlands and Watercourse Regulations, and adoption of new Aquifer Protection Regulations and mapping.

REPORT OF THE TOWN ENGINEER

THOMAS A. DAUKAS, P.E., *Town Engineer*

The Engineering Department provides technical advice to other Town departments, boards and commissions, as well as to the public. The Department is responsible for preparing engineering designs and specifications for the construction of municipal public works improvements. Construction plans for roadways, drainage, and sanitary sewer systems constructed by private developers are reviewed to ensure compliance with Town standards. The department also provides inspection of these projects during construction.

During FY 2007/2008 the Engineering Department was involved with the following projects:

- ❖ Thompson/Old Farms Road Project - ConnDOT and Federal agencies have authorized the Town to proceed with the Environmental Assessment for this project.
- ❖ Old Farms Road Bridge Replacement - Application was made through the Federal Local Bridge Program for the replacement of the bridge over the Farmington River on Old Farms Road. The existing bridge is functionally obsolete. The bridge and Old Farms Road to Rt. 10 will be relocated approximately 150' to the north. The old bridge will be kept open to traffic while the new bridge is being constructed. WMC Consulting Engineers, the company selected as design engineers for this project, are currently in the final design phase. Construction is anticipated to start in the summer of 2010.
- ❖ In conjunction with the Old Farms Bridge Project, Old Farms Road from Tillotson to Rt. 10 is to be reconstructed. Included in this project is a section of Rt. 10 northerly and southerly of Old Farms Road that will also be improved. The Town is designing this project with construction being funded by the State and Federal Governments. This project is in final design and is being reviewed by the State. Construction is anticipated to start in 2010 and will be included in part of the Old Farms Bridge Contract.
- ❖ The Planning & Zoning Commission approved seven (7) residential subdivisions, and twelve (12) site plans which required public works inspection by the Engineering Department.
- ❖ Renovations to Buildings 5 & 6 at the Town Hall have been completed. This project included connecting Buildings 5, 6 & 7, installing an elevator to make all departments handicapped accessible and reconfiguring the office layout. This project was completed in March, 2007.
- ❖ Development of the GIS (Geographic Information System) base maps for the Town has been completed. The Assessing Tax maps are now available on the Town web site - www.town.avon.ct.us. The Town is moving forward in creating a municipal GIS web site which is important in making other Town related GIS information available to many users in the Town through a user friendly interface.
- ❖ Deercliff Road Reconstruction – Approximately 2,000 feet of Deercliff Road was reconstructed. This work eliminated the last section of Deercliff Road where the vertical alignment was poor and as a result was the scene of numerous accidents. Formal drainage and new cross culverts were included.
- ❖ Hickory Hill Road – The entrance from Waterville Road to Hickory Hill Road has had curbing and drainage installed and the sightline has been improved.
- ❖ The Town of Avon worked with the Connecticut DOT on the Final Design of the Avon Mountain Project. The truck ramp on Route 44 was substantially completed. Preliminary plans for a new intersection for Route 10/Route 44 have been developed. These plans provide for grade separation to eliminate the existing traffic signal.
- ❖ Plans for the reconstruction of Verville Road, including sanitary sewer as well as formal drainage, were completed. Bids were received in June, with construction scheduled for the summer of 2008.

REPORT OF THE AVON WATER POLLUTION CONTROL AUTHORITY

JOHN ERNST, *Chairperson*

The Avon Water Pollution Control Authority, in accordance with Sec. 7-247 through Sec. 7-273a of the Connecticut General Statutes, is responsible for planning, design, construction and operation of the public sanitary sewerage system within the Town of Avon. Avon does not have its own Sewer Treatment Plant and, therefore, relies on Inter-town Agreements with the towns of Canton, Farmington and Simsbury to provide for treatment of sewage generated in Avon.

During FY 2007/2008, 25 sewer permits were issued and approximately 4.49 miles of sanitary sewer lines were accepted by the AWPCA increasing Avon's public sewer system to approximately 79.56 miles. In addition to this growing collection system, Avon maintains four sewage pump stations with four associated force mains. This system provides sewer service to 7,099 residences which represents 49% of the residential homes in Avon. Public sewers also provide service to the majority of commercial developments as well as the industrial park areas north and south of the Route 44 corridor.

Other matters requiring action by the AWPCA during FY 2007/2008 were as follows:

1. Approval of two (2) Developer's Sewer Permit Agreements providing public sewer extensions to service sixty-three (63) lots.
2. The Town accepted the Town's Master Sewer Facilities Plan. The State of Connecticut DEP accepted the Plan in the summer of 2007.
3. The SCADA project continues to be developed and the implementation of proprietary software to gather additional operating information is in progress. The central computer can now be accessed remotely to assess malfunctions and alarms after hours.
4. As of July 1, 2008, the Sewer Use Fee charged per dwelling unit increased to \$300.00 from the present rate of \$275.00.
5. The AWPCA levied two (2) Service Charges totaling \$10,000.00 and (1) Supplemental Assessment totaling \$247.26.

REPORT OF THE PROBATE COURT

CYNTHIA C. BECKER, *Probate Judge*

The Probate Court is primarily concerned with the administration of estates of deceased Avon residents. In addition, the Court has jurisdiction over Conservatorships, Guardianships of minors and the mentally handicapped, termination of parental rights, finalization of adoptions, drug, alcohol and psychiatric commitments, name changes, emancipation of minors, administration of testamentary trusts and limited jurisdiction over inter vivos trusts. The Court also processes passport applications.

During the past year, 67 applications were accepted for probating decedent's estates. In addition, 47 small estate affidavits and tax purposes only estates were filed. The Court also processed several applications for Conservatorships, Guardianships of the estate and person of minors, Guardianships of the mentally retarded, termination of parental rights, approval of adoptions, name changes, inter vivos trust matters and 351 passport applications.

The Probate Court is located in Building 1 of the Town Hall and is open Monday and Thursday from 9:15-3:30, and Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday from 9:15-2:15. The Avon Probate Court has a Web Page at www.town.avon.ct.us.

REPORT OF THE FINANCE DEPARTMENT

MARGARET COLLIGAN, *Director of Finance*

The Department of Finance includes Finance Administration, Accounting, Assessing, and Revenue Collection. The Director of Finance provides general oversight and approval for their activities, coordinates the preparation of the Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR) assembling data provided by the three divisions, other Town Departments, the Board of Education, and the Town's independent auditors. This office coordinates with the Town Manager's office in the preparation of the annual budget offering detailed budgetary information throughout the annual budget process at the Town's website, with which taxpayers can inform themselves about the Town's revenues and expenditures. The Director also coordinates the bond rating and sale processes, which involve the efforts of many, including both elected and appointed officials, and the support of the Town's bond advisors and counsel. The Town's bonds are currently rated Aaa by Moody's Investors Service and AAA by Standard & Poor's.

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS	
Finance Administration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ► Issued notes of \$26,422,000 on 10/26/07 to temporarily finance improvements to: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Avon High School (1,300 student capacity facility) 2) Buildings 5 and 6 at the Avon Town Hall Campus ► Developed formal debt policies as part of the FY 08/09 budget deliberations.
Accounting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ► Phased-in mandatory Automated Clearing House (ACH) enrollment for employee reimbursements. ► Promoted electronic payments to new and existing vendors. ► Evaluated cash management products that safeguard assets and protect against identity theft and fraud. ► Implementing ACH blocks & filters, & "Positive Pay" services on disbursement accounts.
Assessing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ► Provided easy accessibility to real estate property information & ability to print Town maps from the web, which is available to the public via a desktop kiosk in the Assessor's Office, or at http://www.avonassessor.com. ► Individuals have the ability to see what their personal taxes will be by entering assessment data into the Tax Calculator Form on the Town's web site. ► Begun the 2008 revaluation, which will continue in the upcoming fiscal year, and will be used to determine the Town's mill rate for the July 2009 tax bills.
Revenue Collection	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ► Promoted the use of electronic means to transfer data internally and externally, including payments and transfers. ► Issued a RFP for on-line collection of tax payments by credit card or e-check and implemented for July 2008 tax bills ► Created a database & automated Sewer billing & collection process.

PERFORMANCE MEASURES	FY 06/07	FY 07/08
# of years "GFOA Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Finance Reporting" received	25	26
# of years "Distinguished Budget Presentation Award Program" received	25	26
% of Current Tax Levy Collected	99.81%	99.93%

DIVISION OF ACCOUNTING

CHARLES LUCAS, *Town Accountant*

The Division of Accounting is responsible for maintaining and controlling the financial records of the Town, and processes all payments for Town expenditures. The Division maintains the general ledger and prepares reports, schedules, and balance sheets for the Annual Independent Audit, for the award winning Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR), and for state and federal audits. The Town's last audited CAFR is available for review on the Town's web page, www.town.avon.ct.us.

Activity Indicators	FY 03/04	FY 04/05	FY 05/06	FY 06/07	FY 07/08
Payroll Checks Issued	875	974	698	451	164
Payroll Direct Deposit	3,701	3,831	3,896	4,293	4,509
Regular Payrolls	26	27	26	26	26
Exception Payrolls	9	3	3	0	2
Employee W-2s Issued	347	409	366	378	386
Health Insured Retirees/COBRAS	41	44	48	52	56
Leave Requests Processed	5,594	5,865	5,801	5,951	6,140
Retirements Processed	4	6	6	7	8
Vendor Accounts Active	3,891	2,392	2,925	3,404	3,679
Expenditure Transactions	21,947	21,852	21,359	23,403	22,169
Manual Checks Issued	270	278	270	287	208
Regular Checks Issued	4,491	4,528	4,598	4,754	3,944
Encumbrance Accounts Maintained	109	113	122	60	16
Revenue Transactions Processed	4,676	4,628	4,909	4,808	4,729
Average Pooled Investment (millions)	22.3 M	23.8M	33.8M	37.2M	31.7M

During the year the Division actively pursued management initiatives to increase use of Electronic Fund Payment (EFT) and reduce check issuance for payroll and vendor payments.

Performance Measurement	FY 03/04	FY 04/05	FY 05/06	FY 06/07	FY 07/08
% Payroll payments made by check	19%	20%	15%	10%	4%
% Payroll payments by EFT	81%	80%	85%	90%	96%
Vendor payments made EFT	379	330	313	308	563
% increase EFT over prior year	1%	-13%	-5%	-2%	83%

REPORT OF THE ASSESSOR'S OFFICE

HARRY DerASADOURIAN, *Assessor*

The Assessor's Office is responsible for the preparation of the Town's annual Grand List, which this year exceeded 2.2 billion dollars. The Grand List is a complete listing of all properties in town, its ownership and assessed value as of October 1st each year. This information is then used by the Board of Finance to help determine the mill rate and in preparing tax bills. The overall increase in this year's Grand List was 1.38% or \$30,917,400. The three categories that make up the Grand List are:

Real Estate increased \$28,452,150 to \$2,022,631,060 or 1.43%. The main cause for this year's increase was the construction of 60 new homes. An average home in Avon has a value of \$496,021. These new assessments along with a revised mill rate are used to determine property taxes for July 2008.

Personal Property increased \$83,470 to \$97,710,430 or .09%. Items that make up personal property include business furniture, fixtures, office equipment, computers, leased equipment, industrial and construction equipment, utility poles, pipes, cables and conduits. Personal Property is assessed each year at 70% of its value.

Motor Vehicles increased \$2,381,780 to \$158,933,670 or 1.52%. This change is attributable to the increase in new car sales. Included in this figure are all motor vehicles registered in the State of Connecticut that are garaged in Avon, which as of October 1 totaled 16,110 vehicles. The average value for a car garaged in Avon is \$15,210. Vehicles are assessed each year at 70% of market value.

In preparation of the Grand List, tax maps are kept current. Extensive fieldwork is completed to update our records for building changes. This office is also responsible for the administration of the State's elderly tax relief programs, veterans, blind and disabled exemption programs.

TOWN OF AVON - TOP TEN TAXPAYERS - 2007 GRAND LIST			
	Name	Nature of Business	Assessed Value
1.	Two Fifty Five West Main LLC	Shopping Center	\$11,385,620
2.	CL&P	Utility	\$11,376,970
3.	Connecticut On-Line Computer	Computer Services	\$9,688,890
4.	Jackson Inc.	Avon Old Farms Hotel	\$9,454,450
5.	Nod Brook LLC	Nod Brook Mall	\$9,186,860
6.	Sixty Four Avonwood Road Assoc. LLC	Apartments	\$9,131,600
7.	Avon Marketplace Investors	Shopping Center	\$8,648,600
8.	Avon Water Company	Utility	\$8,413,190
9.	Avonplace Associates LLC	Condominiums	\$7,859,940
10.	Riverdale Farms LLC	Mix Use	\$7,591,000
	TOTAL	% Of Grand List 4.10%	\$92,737,120
2007 GRAND LIST			
	Grand List	Exemptions	Net Grand List
	2,279,275,160	17,466,950	2,261,808,210
Percent of Grand List by Class			
	2007	2006	
	Real Estate	88.7%	88.7%
	Motor Vehicle	7.0%	7.0%
	Personal Property	4.3%	4.3%

As always, we are ready to explain and review individual assessments with each property owner.

REPORT OF THE COLLECTOR OF REVENUE

KATHLEEN H. ROTH, *Collector of Revenue*

The revenue division is responsible for the overall administration of the Town's revenue collections. Governed by Federal law, state statutes and Town ordinances, the following represents the total collected in each classification:

COLLECTOR OF REVENUE SUMMARY OF ACTIVITIES		
	FY 06/07	FY 07/08
% of current tax levy collected	99.81%	99.93%
% of prior years' tax levy collected	69.89%	93.31%
Current Tax Collection	\$54,715,774	\$57,344,352
Prior Years' Tax Collection	\$ 70,863	\$ 126,689
Sewer Use	\$ 1,255,458	\$ 1,387,154
Sewer Connections	\$ 29,000	\$ 90,058
Sewer Assessments	\$ 29,754	\$ 13,947
Water Main Assessments	\$ 36,215	\$ 20,695
Town Department Revenues	\$ 2,201,663	\$ 2,139,620
Tax Interest	\$ 128,065	\$ 124,776
Sewer Interest	\$ 6,575	\$ 6,276

The office files real estate liens and monitors bankruptcy claims, processes Certificate of Correction and Refunds, updates the Grand List as a result of property transfers from data received from the Assessors office and responds to requests from attorneys, lending institutions and title searches for tax information. The office responds to taxpayers inquiries regarding their account status, issues monthly updates on delinquent accounts and furnishes Income Tax information. This office, in addition to preparing, mailing, and collecting taxes, makes daily bank deposits to ensure maximum investment income. This office is also responsible for the preparation, filing and monitoring of Alias Tax Warrants with a State Marshal, when delinquent notices fail to result in payment. The statutory reports on the Town's levy, owners' benefits, disability and veterans exemptions are filed in conjunction with the Town Assessor. Quarterly reports of the town's collections are filed with the US Bureau of the Census.

Program Activity	FY 06/07	FY 07/08
Certificates of Correction	1,241	1,350
Property Transfers	676	596
Refunds	285	232
Tax Bills Processed	27,773	27,243
Sewer Use Bills Processed	3,601	3,622
# Warrants Collected	302	326

REPORT OF THE SOCIAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT

ALAN E. ROSENBERG, *Director of Social Services*

The Social Services Department is responsible for administration and direct provision of social and human service activities of the Town. Like Avon itself, our services have grown and changed over the years. Today, our major program areas include services to the single adults, families, youth, seniors, and the disabled.

In addition to the services listed below, other programs this past year included:

- ❖ The Avon Police Association and Avon/Canton Rotary Club provided holiday dinners at the Whispering Pines senior housing complex.
- ❖ The Department received substance abuse prevention funding through a State (DMHAS) grant. Funds were used to fund the supplies necessary for Avon Public Schools' participation in Red Ribbon Week, as well as other prevention activities.
- ❖ Through the assistance of an ongoing State grant program, the Department established a Youth Services Bureau to enhance the provision of local services for youth and their families. Services provided include: Programs for substance abuse prevention, parent training, individual and group counseling, and programs that foster positive youth development.

The Department would like to acknowledge the strongly dedicated corps of local volunteers and organizations who help make many of these programs possible.

SOCIAL SERVICES STATISTICS	
Service Provided	FY 07/08
Short-term Counseling	472
Information & Referral (regarding various local, regional, state & federal programs)	681
Energy Assistance Applications	300
Avon Emergency Fuel Bank Expenditures	\$ 9,643
Holiday Gift Basket Program	74
Avon Dial-A-Ride service	1,972 rides
Income Tax Preparation Assistance Program	61
Avon's Special Needs Fund (aids families in crisis situations who do not qualify for public assistance)	135 occasions \$ 17,483
Hartford Dispensary Trust Fund (short-term assistance)	58 occasions \$ 7,430
Elderly/Disabled Renters Rebate Tax Relief Program	55
Salvation Army – Farmington Valley Service Unit (temporary assistance)	45 families \$16,536
Avon United Fund (short-term assistance)	42 families \$5,019
Youth Development Program	6
Youth Mental Health Services	5 cases

REPORT OF THE SOCIAL SERVICES SENIOR CENTER DIVISION

JENNIFER BENNETT, *Program Coordinator*

The Avon Senior Center experienced quite a year. The center won an award from the Connecticut Association of Senior Center Personnel (CASC) in the category of Special Events for the program titled "Brain Olympics". Our programs have expanded with the donation from Healthnet of the Nintendo Wii System. The center also received a grant from the State of Connecticut through the Senior Center Initiative Program. The grant monies will help expand and enhance our programming.

The Avon Senior Center acts as a referral and resource center for seniors and their families seeking information on services available that support older adult's needs. The needs of the senior population have grown over the past few years. There has been a 70% increase in referrals and information requested in the past two years and a 90% increase in the past five years. As the population increases and the economy fluctuates, the needs of the older adult population will also increase. Seniors and their families like to come to one place to have all their questions answered and their needs met. The senior center is that place. It is also a place of recreation and socialization and helps the seniors to be engaged, give them purpose and a place to turn to for answers. The senior center helps seniors with Medicare counseling, housing information, service information, provides support, and has a weekly lunch program. On Tuesdays and Thursdays approximately 50-60 seniors participate in our CRT (Community Renewal Team) lunch program which has prepared more than 5,000 meals this year for seniors.

The Avon Senior Center continues to collaborate with the community for diverse programs for seniors. The collaborations include the Avon Schools, Regional Senior Center Programs, the Avon Library, and the Friends of the Avon Library all offer programs for seniors which they enjoy. The Senior Center continues to promote health, wellness and prevention by offering programs that are sponsored by the Farmington Valley VNA.

WORKLOAD MEASURES					
# of Programs per Year	FY 03/04	FY 04/05	FY 05/06	FY 06/07	FY 07/08
Health Clinics	77	100	140	70	100
Speaker's Programs	38	60	70	38	45
Social Events, Holiday Parties, Dances	20	24	30	39	44
Regional Senior Center Programming	4	6	8	4	6
Senior Citizens of Avon Weekly Meetings	24	44	45	40	45
# of Participants per Year					
Senior Meals Program	6,900	7,500	7,640	5,055	5,242
Information & Referrals	85	90	104	140	175
Outreach	65	63	79	80	95
Advocacy	29	26	33	45	50
Public Relations	28	35	57	65	70
Intergenerational Programming with Avon Public Schools	30	40	52	78	276
Water Color Class	24	36	40	39	45
Computer Lab Use	N/A	75	62	125	130
Senior Volunteer Program	18	20	24	20	28

REPORT OF THE TOWN ATTORNEY

DWIGHT A. JOHNSON, *Town Attorney*

The Town Attorney is the principal legal advisor to the Town and its boards, commissions and departments. He also monitors legal services provided to the Town by other attorneys retained by the Town or by its insurance carriers. The Town Attorney is a member of the law firm of Murtha Cullina LLP. In accordance with the Town Charter, the Town Council appoints other attorneys from Murtha Cullina and from other law firms to assist the Town Attorney.

The year ending June 30, 2008, marked the tenth year that I and my firm, Murtha Cullina LLP, have had the honor to serve as the principal legal advisors to the Town of Avon. During the course of the decade we have advised the Town on a range of legal issues that could fill a law school curriculum. While doing so we have had the good fortune to work with employees and volunteers of the Town who exemplify the term “government service.” It is interesting to note – and professionally satisfying to us – that the Town’s need for legal services has gradually declined over the decade, due in significant part to a reduction in litigation involving the Town and the close working relationship between the Town and the firm.

Although there were no unusually large matters requiring the Town Attorney’s attention during the past year, there are a few matters that merit mention. The first is the budget-making process, which for the first time under the Town’s Charter, as amended in 1998, required the Town Council to set the FY 2008/2009 budget following the rejection by the voters of three proposed budgets. On a more satisfying note, the Town Attorney assisted the Town in the establishment of a Police Officers’ Meritorious Service Fund, which was made possible by the generous contribution of a long-time Town resident. The purposes of the Fund include assisting officers who have suffered a hardship in the line of duty, encouraging scholarly efforts of meaningful value to the Police Department, and recognizing exceptionally meritorious conduct by officers. Other legal services provided by the Town Attorney during the past year included assisting the Avon Volunteer Fire Department in protecting its officers from liability when they provide emergency medical assistance and developing an Animal Control Services Cost Sharing Agreement with the Town of Canton.

During the course of the year we also represented the Town with respect to a number of residential developments, drafted and reviewed contracts for Town purchases and construction projects, updated the Town’s retirement plans, advised the Town concerning labor and employment issues, and assisted the Town’s boards and commissions.

For the second year in a row, most of the Town’s administrative and judicial proceedings during the year can be described as routine, including labor arbitrations, tax and zoning appeals, and foreclosures of properties owned by delinquent tax payers. None resulted in any significant payment or other liability for the Town.

The Avon Volunteer Fire Department requests that homeowners put their house numbers in a visible location on their house and/or mailbox so Public Safety Personnel can locate the house easily during an emergency. Numbers should be at least three inches in height.

Do not forget to change the batteries monthly in the smoke detectors in your house.

Have a Fire Safe Day!

REPORT OF THE AVON DAY COMMITTEE

LEN DEL GALLO, *Chairperson*

AVON DAY was held on September 29, 2007 at the Thompson Brook School athletic field. The day was another success, raising over \$12,000 for local charities. The donation to the Town of Avon Special Needs Fund was \$3,500. Parking and admission to AVON DAY is free to the public.

At the Committee’s wrap-up meeting in October, the Committee was happy to report that the day was a success and the money for local charities was about the same as last year. The AVON DAY weather was terrific, which led to a large attendance and the concluding fireworks were spectacular. As a Committee, we were very proud to be carrying over a balance to the 2008 AVON DAY Committee of a little over \$2,700. The Committee recognized the outstanding work of Laurie Carlson in our Public Works Department for making this year’s event a success.

Avon UNICO, our major Sponsor, continues to support the event with a food booth and the “Citizen of the Year” Award. The AVON DAY Committee is grateful for all of our contributors for without their help this annual event would not be possible. The Committee is grateful for all of the volunteers for their help as well.

Along with 11 “Taste of Avon” booths there were 80 Non-Profit and Corporate booths. Our Avon School’s entertainment, pie-eating contest, clowns, face painting, inflatables, Boy Scouts bridge building, and fireworks made AVON DAY fun for everyone in attendance. Our thanks to the Recreation and Parks Department, the Voluntary Fire Department, the Police Department, and the Board of Education for their participation and cooperation.

The 2007 AVON DAY Committee is recommending we continue AVON DAY and keep the day’s activities in line with this year’s event including the fireworks. With the approval of the Town Council, the 2008 AVON DAY Committee will continue to work and improve AVON DAY in the coming year.

BOARD OF ASSESSMENT APPEALS

RICHARD S. CONNEL, *Chairman*

As required by State law, the Board of Assessment Appeals held one meeting during the month of March to hear appeals concerning the Grand List of October 1, 2007. Any property owner who felt the assessment of their property was inaccurate could appeal to the Board.

One appeal was heard, the result of which was:

Real Estate	0 Granted	1 Denied
Personal Property	0 Granted	0 Denied
Motor Vehicles	0 Granted	0 Denied

Final Grand List after the Board of Assessment Appeals:

<u>Gross</u>	<u>Exemptions</u>	<u>Net</u>
2,279,275,160	17,466,950	2,261,808,210

REVENUES - APPROVED FOR FISCAL YEAR 2008-2009

	ACTUAL FY 06/07	BUDGETED FY 07/08	ADOPTED FY 08/09	\$ INC/(DEC)	% INC-/DEC		ACTUAL FY 06/07	BUDGETED FY 07/08	ADOPTED FY 08/09	\$ INC/(DEC)	% INC-/DEC
Taxes and Assessments:						Charges for Current Services:					
Gross Levy	\$54,582,485	\$56,899,835	\$60,008,305	\$3,108,470	5.46%	Public Safety:					
Uncollectible: Current Levy	(\$612,000)	(\$600,000)	(\$635,565)	(\$35,565)	5.93%	Police Services	\$127,169	\$81,800	\$81,800	0	0.00%
Net Levy	\$53,970,485	\$56,299,835	\$59,372,740	\$3,072,905	5.46%	Accident Reports-Photos	\$1,350	\$1,700	\$1,700	0	0.00%
Supplemental Real Estate	\$195,448	\$207,500	\$130,800	(\$76,700)	-36.96%	Alarm System	\$5,744	\$5,000	\$5,000	0	0.00%
Supplemental Motor Vehicle	\$512,112	\$442,128	\$476,100	\$33,972	7.68%	Animal Pound Fee	\$1,890	\$1,800	\$1,800	0	0.00%
Prior Levies	\$24,126	\$95,000	\$70,000	(\$25,000)	-26.32%						
Interest and Penalties	\$128,065	\$100,000	\$120,000	\$20,000	20.00%	Public Works:					
Sewer Assessments	\$23,254	\$17,000	0	(\$17,000)	-100.00%	Sale: Publications/Materials	0	\$1,900	0	(\$1,900)	-100.00%
Sewer Assessments	\$6,500	\$6,500	\$39,500	\$33,000	507.69%	Sewer Use Charges	\$1,255,183	\$1,166,990	\$1,420,000	\$253,010	21.68%
West Main Street	\$4,503	0	0	0	0.00%	Sewer Connection Charges	\$29,000	\$38,250	\$38,250	0	0.00%
Lakeview Water Ext. Assessments	\$36,215	\$37,000	\$37,000	0	0.00%	Sewer Connection Charges	0	\$23,000	\$13,000	(\$10,000)	-43.48%
Telephone Gross Receipts	\$109,788	\$190,000	\$190,000	0	0.00%	Landfill (Residential) Fees	\$120,152	\$120,000	\$184,000	\$64,000	53.33%
Total Taxes and Assessments:	\$55,010,496	\$57,394,963	\$60,436,140	\$3,041,177	5.30%	Landfill - Bulky Waste/Other	\$40,043	\$36,000	\$57,700	\$21,700	60.28%
Licenses, Fees and Permits:						Health & Social Services:					
Police Protection	\$1,112	\$1,200	\$1,200	0	0.00%	Vital Statistics	\$8,869	\$12,500	\$12,500	0	0.00%
Building, Struct. and Equip.	\$397,067	\$550,000	\$500,000	(\$50,000)	-9.09%						
Hunting and Fishing	\$1,007	\$700	\$700	0	0.00%	Recreation & Parks:					
Animal Licenses	\$10,979	\$5,500	\$5,500	0	0.00%	Organized Summer Programs	\$34,706	\$23,500	\$26,500	\$3,000	12.77%
Street and Curb	\$1,220	\$3,500	\$3,500	0	0.00%	Swim Fees	\$79,771	\$72,000	\$72,000	0	0.00%
Recording and Conveyance	\$720,614	\$600,000	\$769,911	\$169,911	28.32%	Fisher Meadows Land Lease	\$400	\$400	\$400	0	0.00%
Conservation and Development	\$23,429	\$50,400	\$40,550	(\$9,850)	-19.54%	Fees: Non-Reimbursable	\$4,102	\$3,500	\$3,750	\$250	7.14%
Sale:Maps/Publications/Copies	\$22,403	\$32,000	\$32,000	0	0.00%	Fees: Reimbursable	\$293,560	\$307,928	\$322,931	\$15,003	4.87%
LOCAP Recording Fee	\$13,563	\$10,000	\$10,000	0	0.00%	Maintenance Fees	\$32,765	\$31,916	\$34,226	\$2,310	7.24%
Sewer Permits & Inspection Fees	\$4,500	\$2,500	\$2,500	0	0.00%	Senior Recreational Activities	\$22,678	\$18,000	\$21,400	\$3,400	18.89%
Total Licenses, Fees & Permits	\$1,195,894	\$1,255,800	\$1,365,861	\$110,061	8.76%						
						Education:					
Intergovernmental:						Cafeteria Sales	\$913,858	\$885,818	\$884,792	(\$1,026)	-0.12%
State Grants-In-Aid:						Use of School Facilities	\$44,264	\$10,000	\$10,000	0	0.00%
Equalized Cost Sharing (ECS)	\$790,712	\$812,129	\$1,240,632	\$428,503	52.76%						
Pre-Paid Special Educ.	\$1,375,136	\$1,325,489	\$1,365,253	\$39,764	3.00%	Fines & Forfeits:					
School Transportation	\$26,396	\$3,288	\$34,155	\$30,867	938.78%	Courts	\$710	\$1,600	\$1,600	0	0.00%
Adult Education	\$1,164	\$1,046	\$1,419	\$373	35.66%	Public Library	\$22,965	\$22,800	\$40,249	\$17,449	76.53%
School Building Construction	\$415,441	\$401,349	\$386,959	(\$14,390)	-3.59%	Total Charges for Current Services:	\$3,039,179	\$2,866,402	\$3,233,598	\$367,196	12.81%
Public Library	\$1,815	\$1,880	\$1,880	0	0.00%						
Pilot: Mfg. Mach./Equip.	\$285,885	\$299,458	\$261,000	(\$38,458)	-12.84%	Other Local Revenue:					
Pilot: Grants in Lieu of Taxes	\$69,969	\$70,068	\$70,236	\$168	0.24%	Investment Interest	\$1,173,629	\$1,165,761	\$819,400	(\$346,361)	-29.71%
Pilot: Pequot Funds	\$23,812	\$35,348	\$33,822	(\$1,526)	-4.32%	Sewer Use - Interest & Liens	\$7,135	\$900	\$900	0	0.00%
Property Tax Relief-Elderly	\$84,882	\$66,000	\$60,000	(\$6,000)	-9.09%	Sewer Assessments - Interest & Liens	\$228	\$100	\$100	0	0.00%
DUI Enforcement Vehicle Fed.	\$10,329	0	0	0	0.00%	Refunds & Reimbursements	\$225,737	\$110,848	\$177,586	\$66,738	60.21%
Veteran Reimbursement	\$3,370	\$4,000	\$3,000	(\$1,000)	-25.00%	Donations from Private Sources	\$6,030	0	0	0	0.00%
(LOCIP) Local Cap. Improv. Fund	\$102,083	\$101,000	\$102,083	\$1,083	1.07%	Refunds & Reimbursements: Sprint Tower	\$28,588	\$18,000	\$30,000	\$12,000	66.67%
Town Aid Road Fund	\$152,321	\$152,321	\$153,115	\$794	0.52%	AHS CL&P Generator Grant	0	\$100,000	0	(\$100,000)	-100.00%
Cafeteria - Board of Education	\$117,238	\$80,000	\$90,000	\$10,000	12.50%	Miscellaneous	\$1,021	\$4,810	\$4,445	(\$365)	-7.59%
Pilot: Colleges & Hospitals	\$15,162	\$11,278	\$10,919	(\$359)	-3.18%	Sale of Property	\$21,834	\$25,000	\$25,000	0	0.00%
Miscellaneous State Grant Receipts	\$3,905	0	\$7,400	\$7,400	0.00%	Forest, Park Management Sales	\$5,353	\$17,500	0	(\$17,500)	-100.00%
State Reimb. For RBS Roof	0	\$180,000	0	(\$180,000)	-100.00%	Total Other Local Revenue:	\$1,469,555	\$1,442,919	\$1,057,431	(\$385,488)	-26.72%
Total Intergovernmental:	\$3,479,620	\$3,544,654	\$3,821,873	\$277,219	7.82%						
						Other Financing Sources:					
TOTAL THIS PAGE	\$59,686,010	\$62,195,417	\$65,623,874	\$3,428,457	5.51%	Gen. Fund Undesig. Fund Balance	\$795,550	0	0	0	0.00%
						Forest Park Mgt Undesig. Fund Balance	\$15,500	0	\$19,600	\$19,600	100.00%
						Sewer Undesig. Fund Balance	0	0	\$594,645	\$594,645	100.00%
						Use of School Facil. Undesig. Fund Balance	\$40,000	0	0	0	0.00%
						Total Other Financing Sources:	\$851,050	0	\$614,245	\$614,245	100.00%
						GRAND TOTAL MUNICIPAL REVENUES	\$65,045,794	\$66,504,738	\$70,529,148	\$4,024,410	6.05%

EXPENDITURES - APPROVED FOR FISCAL YEAR 2008-2009

	ACTUAL FY 06/07	BUDGETED FY 07/08	ADOPTED FY 08/09	\$ INC/(DEC)	% INC-/DEC		ACTUAL FY 06/07	BUDGETED FY 07/08	ADOPTED FY 08/09	\$ INC/(DEC)	% INC-/DEC
TOWN COUNCIL						CONSERVATION & DEVELOPMENT					
GENERAL GOVERNMENT						Planning & Zoning	\$347,738	\$386,870	\$373,235	(\$13,635)	-3.52%
Legislative	\$60,564	\$73,856	\$74,396	\$540	0.73%	Conserv. Of Natural Resources	\$114,909	\$130,852	\$137,059	\$6,207	4.74%
Executive	\$344,402	\$398,717	\$424,154	\$25,437	6.38%						
Judicial	\$6,768	\$8,020	\$7,384	(\$636)	-7.93%	TOTAL CONSERVATION & DEV'T	\$462,647	\$517,722	\$510,294	(\$7,428)	-1.43%
Elections	\$82,648	\$90,557	\$91,186	\$629	0.69%						
Legal	\$139,605	\$121,500	\$120,000	(\$1,500)	-1.23%	MISCELLANEOUS					
Recording & Reporting	\$331,370	\$315,133	\$332,142	\$17,009	5.40%	Claims & Losses	\$20,355	\$22,500	\$22,500	0	0.00%
Town Hall	\$178,356	\$140,900	\$182,001	\$41,101	29.17%	Municipal Insurance	\$177,943	\$190,384	\$190,390	\$6	0.00%
Human Resources	\$133,176	\$190,274	\$195,862	\$5,588	2.94%	Intergovernmental Expend.	\$30,307	\$41,000	\$43,000	\$2,000	4.88%
Finance	\$1,122,303	\$1,232,254	\$1,281,214	\$48,960	3.97%	Contingency	\$13,368	\$40,000	\$40,000	0	0.00%
TOTAL GENERAL GOVERNMENT	\$2,399,192	\$2,571,211	\$2,708,339	\$137,128	5.33%	TOTAL MISCELLANEOUS	\$241,973	\$293,884	\$295,890	\$2,006	0.68%
PUBLIC SAFETY						SUB-TOTAL TOWN OF AVON	\$17,018,319	\$17,506,758	\$18,244,946	\$738,188	4.22%
Police Protection	\$4,854,526	\$4,978,697	\$5,191,917	\$213,220	4.28%	SEWERS					
Fire Protection	\$1,505,034	\$1,372,228	\$1,505,209	\$132,981	9.69%	Operating Expenses	\$1,018,927	\$1,159,696	\$1,787,233	\$627,537	54.11%
Central Communications	\$506,431	\$599,779	\$614,978	\$15,199	2.53%	TOTAL SEWERS	\$1,018,927	\$1,159,696	\$1,787,233	\$627,537	54.11%
Protective Inspection	\$336,555	\$359,647	\$306,726	(\$52,921)	-14.71%						
Other Protection	\$144,971	\$197,168	\$201,361	\$4,193	2.13%	CAPITAL IMPROV. DEBT SERVICE					
TOTAL PUBLIC SAFETY	\$7,347,517	\$7,507,519	\$7,820,191	\$312,672	4.16%	Bond & Anticipat. Notes	\$5,025,481	\$5,194,093	\$5,416,670	\$222,577	4.29%
PUBLIC WORKS						TOTAL CAP. IMP. DEBT SERVICE	\$5,025,481	\$5,194,093	\$5,416,670	\$222,577	4.29%
Administration	\$198,343	\$210,576	\$304,760	\$94,184	44.73%	CAPITAL IMPROVE. PROGRAM (CIP)					
Highways	\$1,534,908	\$1,531,662	\$1,604,936	\$73,274	4.78%	Capital and Non-Recurr. Exp.	\$100,000	\$220,000	\$125,000	(\$95,000)	-43.18%
Sanitation	\$530,847	\$426,303	\$482,409	\$56,106	13.16%	Capital Facilities & Equip.	\$1,584,740	\$1,892,800	\$1,938,117	\$45,317	2.39%
Machinery & Equipment	\$393,394	\$410,462	\$343,026	(\$67,436)	-16.43%	TOTAL CIP	\$1,684,740	\$2,112,800	\$2,063,117	(\$49,683)	-2.35%
Buildings & Grounds	\$914,898	\$883,331	\$964,013	\$80,682	9.13%						
Engineering	\$300,619	\$332,432	\$295,240	(\$37,192)	-11.19%	BOARD OF EDUCATION					
TOTAL PUBLIC WORKS	\$3,873,009	\$3,794,766	\$3,994,384	\$199,618	5.26%	General Control	\$910,722	\$807,063	\$826,085	\$19,022	2.36%
HEALTH & SOCIAL SERVICES						Instruction	\$24,229,902	\$21,113,130	\$21,663,514	\$550,384	2.61%
Conservation of Health	\$97,870	\$102,120	\$109,469	\$7,349	7.20%	Health Services	\$256,145	\$244,488	\$250,483	\$5,995	2.45%
Social Services	\$237,868	\$273,575	\$281,705	\$8,130	2.97%	Transportation	\$1,472,020	\$1,269,036	\$1,336,390	\$67,354	5.31%
TOTAL HEALTH & SOCIAL SERVICES	\$335,738	\$375,695	\$391,174	\$15,479	4.12%	Operation of Plant	\$2,993,440	\$2,674,787	\$3,319,682	\$644,895	24.11%
RECREATION & PARKS						Maintenance of Plant	\$928,006	\$990,705	\$1,106,641	\$115,936	11.70%
Recreation	\$784,583	\$752,959	\$771,638	\$18,679	2.48%	Fixed Charges	\$4,445,072	\$5,086,036	\$5,632,298	\$546,262	10.74%
Parks	\$204,208	\$255,064	\$257,323	\$2,259	0.89%	Cafeteria Operation	\$1,081,248	\$965,818	\$974,792	\$8,974	0.93%
Senior Citizens	\$54,161	\$76,550	\$79,476	\$2,926	3.82%	Student Body Activity	\$492,095	\$624,860	\$477,250	(\$147,610)	-23.62%
Community Activities	\$68,814	\$78,084	\$83,371	\$5,287	6.77%	Capital Outlay	\$30,050	\$2,400	\$38,000	\$35,600	1483.33%
TOTAL RECREATION & PARKS	\$1,111,766	\$1,162,657	\$1,191,808	\$29,151	2.51%	Expenditures to other Schools	\$695,520	\$15,500	\$20,300	\$4,800	30.97%
CULTURE & EDUCATION						Special Education	0	\$5,412,079	\$6,006,494	\$594,415	10.98%
Library	\$1,246,477	\$1,283,304	\$1,332,866	\$49,562	3.86%	State & Fed. Grants	\$1,374,743	\$1,325,489	\$1,365,253	\$39,764	3.00%
TOTAL CULTURE & EDUCATION	\$1,246,477	\$1,283,304	\$1,332,866	\$49,562	3.86%	TOTAL BOARD OF EDUCATION	\$38,908,963	\$40,531,391	\$43,017,182	\$2,485,791	6.13%
TOTAL THIS PAGE	\$16,313,699	\$16,695,152	\$17,438,762	\$743,610	4.45%	TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$63,656,430	\$66,504,738	\$70,529,148	\$4,024,410	6.05%

ELECTED AND APPOINTED OFFICIALS

(As of June 30, 2008)

TOWN COUNCIL

Carlson, John F., Chairperson
Pena, David
Samul, Pamela V.
Shea, William J., II
Zacchio, Mark W.

BOARD OF FINANCE

Bratton, Margaret H.
Durdan, Catherine M.
Eisenlohr, Brett F.
Gugliotti, Thomas A.
Harrison, Thomas F., Chairperson
Hooper, William R., II
Speich, James E.

BOARD OF EDUCATION

Eagen, Michael J.
Evans, Douglas M.
Lowry, Houston Putnam
Mayer, Bernadette R.
Notestine, Kenneth E.
Roell, Margaret J., (Peggy) Chairperson
Shelton, Angela J.
Stokesbury, William C.
Zuras, Barbara A.

TOWN COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES

Blomstrand, Ebbe C., Lakeview Association
Broadman, Anona A., Senior Citizens
Harrop, Mary C., VNA
Marzano, Peter, Secret Lake Association
Vacancy, Vol. Fire Department

REGISTRARS OF VOTERS

Clark, Marianne L.
Clark, Genevieve A. (Ann)

JUDGE OF PROBATE

Becker, Cynthia C.

COMMITTEE ON AGING

Farrell, Gloria L.
Herrmann, Alice W., Chairperson
Hopper, Cynthia R.

TOWN TREASURER

McCarthy, James R.

DEPOSITORY OF TOWN FUNDS

Bank of America
CT ST Treasury's Short-Term Investment
Fund (STIF)
Citizen's Bank
Farmington Savings Bank
Municipal Investors Service Corporation
People's United Bank
Reich & Tang Funds
The Simsbury Bank and Trust Co.
Sovereign Bank
TD Banknorth, NA
Webster Bank, NA

TOWN ATTORNEY

Johnson, Dwight A.

ASSISTANT TOWN ATTORNEY

Murtha Cullina LLP

CONSTABLES

Hopper, Monte J.
Propiescus, Robert M. Jr.

INSURANCE AGENT OF RECORD

USI Connecticut

NCR MENTAL HEALTH BOARD

Shea, Maura L.

NORTH CENTRAL EMS

Rinaldo, Mark R., Chief of Police

FIRE POLICE

Barton, Jean
Bianchi, Dennis
Bourgard, David C.
Capitani, Louis A.
Diani, Joseph
Dudley, Clifton
Hornish, Alicia A.
Kachmar, Michael
Levine-Shein, Sharon
McGuire, John
Sedlak, Kenneth
Supernaugh, Robert J. Jr.
Theriault, Robert L.

CT CONFERENCE OF MUNICIPALITIES

Carlson, John F., Member
Schenck, Philip K. Jr., Alternate

CAPITOL REGION COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS POLICY BOARD

Carlson, John F., Member
Hines, Richard W., Alternate
Hornaday, Diane S., Alternate
Schenck, Philip K. Jr., Alternate

JUSTICES OF THE PEACE

Atwood, Arthur J.
Chester, Barbra G.
Dumas, Marilyn B.
Harrison, Thomas F.
Kaplan, Ilene D.
Katz, Morton N.
Lewis, Heidi A.
McCall, Richard B.
McCarthy, James R.
Merlin, Linda
Renfrew, Rosalie R.
Rossetti, Christopher J.
Smalley, Viola R.
Tilson, Ann J.
Woodford, Penelope R.
Vacancy

RECREATION & PARK COMMITTEE

Droppo, Donald R., Jr.
Evans, Douglas M.
Jadovich, David A.
Ponziani, Peter J.
Roell, Margaret J. (Peggy)
Thompson, Kathy L.
Trick, Michael F.

PLANNING & ZONING COMMISSION

Cappello, David M.
Clark, Marianne L., Alternate
Freese, David B., Alternate
Frey, Henry R. Jr., Vice-Chairperson
Griffin, Carol K.
Keith, Linda H.
Primeau, Elaine G., Alternate
Starr, Duane E., Chairperson
Thompson, Douglas C.
Whalen, Edward R., Jr.

ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS

Beizer, David B.
Coppola, Jill A.
Drew, John E., Chairperson
Eschert, William E.
Ladouceur, Brian J., Jr.

NATURAL RESOURCES COMMISSION

Breckinridge, Robert H., Jr.
Chester, Barbra G.
Clark, Marianne L., Chairperson
Harrop, Mary C.
Rydberg, Barry H.
Samul, Steven P.
Schwartz, Daniel A.

INLAND WETLANDS COMMISSION

Applefield, Dean S.
Beauchamp, Michael R.
Carney, Diane Lisa
Dean, Martha A.
Logan, John R.
Thier, Clifford S., Chairperson
Usich, Louis N., III

BUILDING CODE BOARD OF APPEALS

Brown, William L.
Eacott, James H., III
Ferrigno, William A.
Hinman, Dana
Magro, Paul C.

BOARD OF ASSESSMENT APPEALS

Chester, Samuel D.
Connel, Richard S., Chairperson
Hunt, Stephen E.
McCarthy, James R.
Peckham, Russell C.

PLAINVILLE CATV ADVISORY COUNCIL (PACTAC)

Primeau, Elaine G.
Renfrew, Rosalie R.
Vacancy (Board of Education)

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