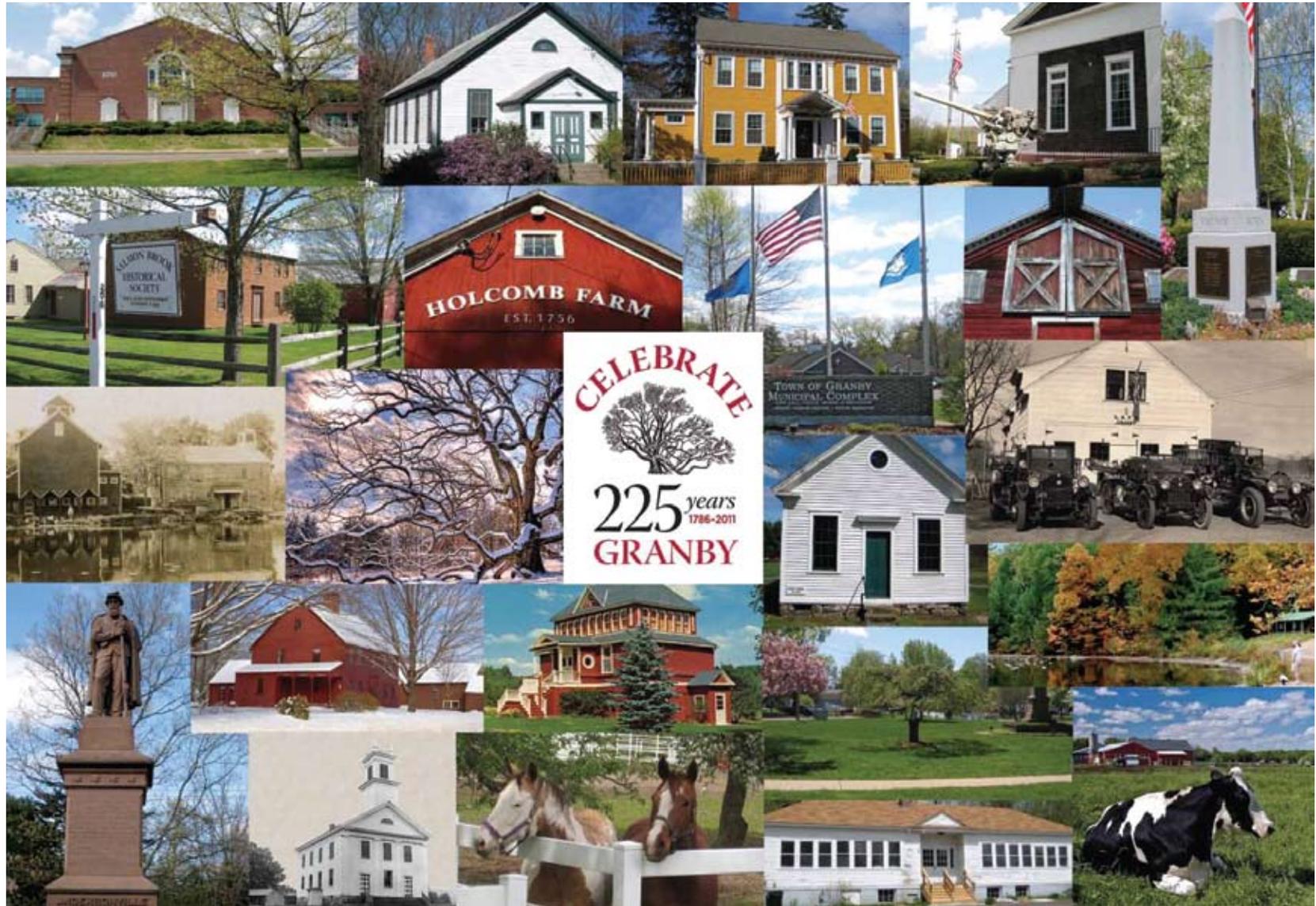


# TOWN OF GRANBY



**2011 CALENDAR**  
**2009-2010 ANNUAL REPORT**



TOWN OF GRANBY  
Incorporated 1786

15 NORTH GRANBY ROAD  
GRANBY, CONNECTICUT 06035-2125  
(860) 844-5300

WILLIAM F. SMITH, JR.  
TOWN MANAGER

Dear Resident,

In 1986, Granby celebrated its Bicentennial Anniversary. A few years prior, the Board of Selectmen appointed a Bicentennial Anniversary Committee. The Park and Recreation Board served as the coordinating agency for what was to become a yearlong event. The year 1986 proved to be very busy in Granby. An appointed Steering Committee met regularly, working with individuals and local organizations to: work on a bicentennial calendar, organize a parade, raise money with the sale of commemoratives, and prepare for a picnic and fireworks display. All in all, the year proved to be very successful. Today our Town Hall Meeting Room proudly displays a Bicentennial Quilt, depicting various scenes and many of the town's volunteer organizations. Salmon Brook Park also has a band shell, largely paid for from a generous contribution from the Granby Chamber of Commerce's fundraising efforts during our Bicentennial.

Now, nearly twenty-five years later, Granby is preparing to celebrate its 225<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. Many of the activities and events being planned ring similar. Again, the Board of Selectmen designated the Park and Recreation Board to help lead the way for the celebration themes. Those who remember the Bicentennial still cherish fond and long lasting memories. The "**CELEBRATE GRANBY - 225 years**" is well on its way to becoming a success. A parade, picnic, and fireworks display is scheduled for October 1, 2011. Since 1986, Granby has added hundreds more houses and has several thousand more residents. Hopefully, all will partake in some of the many events.

Fortunately, there are some modern tools to assist this hard-working Committee. We have a town and **CELEBRATE GRANBY - 225 years** web site ([www.granby-ct.gov](http://www.granby-ct.gov)) for speedy information distribution, and of course, communication devices including cell phones will be in use. These modern conveniences will contribute to making 2011 a wonderful 225<sup>th</sup> year.

As you review the messages in this year's ANNUAL REPORT from town departments and agencies, please remember to mark some dates to celebrate Granby's 225th Anniversary in order to build upon your own fond and long lasting memories.

Very truly yours,

William F. Smith, Jr.  
Town Manager



TOWN OF GRANBY  
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Dear Neighbors,

I would like to invite you to the biggest event to be held in the Town of Granby in 225 years. On October 1, 2011, Granby will celebrate its 225th birthday with a number of fantastic events, culminating with an evening of fireworks planned by the Celebrate Granby 225 Committee. Many volunteers are required to assist with these events. You can get involved by contacting the Granby Park and Recreation Department.

The Town of Granby is looking toward the next 225 years and has taken a number of measures to green our community. These measures include the purchase of 20% of our electricity from renewable sources, replacement of high-energy consuming equipment with more efficient components, and the renovation of buildings using high performance materials. We continue to practice organic lawn care in our parks and promote its use by our residents. The Public Works Department has reduced the use of sand and salt for snow and ice control during the winter months. The town utilizes environmentally friendly cleaning agents and processes to maintain our public buildings.

Granby recycles almost 25% of our municipal solid waste stream. With the introduction of single stream recycling last year, our recycling rate increased by more than 26% over the previous year. To achieve compliance with the State Solid Waste Management Plan, Granby will need to more than double our recycling rate in the next 14 years. Each small action taken by Granby's residents continues to protect and preserve our environment.

Thank you for your individual efforts in making Granby's future greener. If you have any questions concerning our efforts or what you can do to help, please contact the Town Manager's office.

Respectfully submitted,

John E. Adams  
First Selectman

# JANUARY 2011

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<p>DECEMBER 2010</p> <p>S M T W T F S</p> <p>1 2 3 4</p> <p>5 6 7 8 9 10 11</p> <p>12 13 14 15 16 17 18</p> <p>19 20 21 22 23 24 25</p> <p>26 27 28 29 30 31</p>	<p>FEBRUARY 2011</p> <p>S M T W T F S</p> <p>1 2 3 4 5</p> <p>6 7 8 9 10 11 12</p> <p>13 14 15 16 17 18 19</p> <p>20 21 22 23 24 25 26</p> <p>27 28</p>	<p>Calendar of regularly scheduled public meetings. For information on special meetings, contact the Town Clerk's Office.</p>				<p>1</p> <p>New Year's Day</p>
2	3 GPC BOS	4 P&R	5 BOE	6 CC	7	8
9	10 COA GDC GLB	11 P&Z	12 YSBAB IWWC AC	13	14	15
16	17 SR MFC Martin Luther King Jr. Day	18 ZBA BOS Early Release K-12	19 BOE Early Release 9-12	20 CC Early Release 9-12	21 Early Release 9-12	22
23	24 BOF	25	26	27	28	29
30	31	P&Z				

**TOWN MEETING KEY:**

AC..... Agricultural Commission..... 7:00 p.m. Police Dept Community Rm.  
 Board of Assessment Appeals .....Call Town Hall for dates & times  
 BOE ... Board of Education..... 7:00 p.m. Central Office  
 BOF ... Board of Finance ..... 7:30 p.m. Police Dept. Community Rm.  
 BOS ... Board of Selectmen ..... 7:30 p.m. Town Hall

COA... Commission on Aging..... 1:30 p.m. Sr. Ctr. & Youth Svcs. Bldg.  
 CC..... Conservation Commission ..... 7:30 p.m. Police Dept. Community Rm.  
 GDC ... Granby Development Commission..... 7:00 p.m. Town Hall  
 GLB.... Granby Library Board ..... 7:30 p.m. Granby Public/Cossitt Libraries  
 GPC.... Granby Prevention Council..... 6:00 p.m. Sr. Ctr. & Youth Svcs. Bldg.

IWWC.....Inland Wetlands & Watercourses Commission..... 7:00 p.m. Town Hall  
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 ZBA.....Zoning Board of Appeals ..... 7:30 p.m. Town Hall

MFC = Municipal Facilities Closed      SR = School Recess

## TOWN CLERK

Mandated by the Connecticut General Statutes and the Granby Charter, the Town Clerk is responsible for the following services: Recorder of Deeds, Administrator of Elections, Registrar of Vital Statistics, Custodian of Public Records, Agent for State License, and Clerk-Town Meetings.

Fees collected and paid to Revenue Collector	\$303,439
Land Records	\$68,022
Conveyance Tax	\$124,667
PA-02-229	\$79,200
Historic Preservation	\$2,200 (Town) \$4,400 (State)
Documents Recorded	2,200
Transfers Recorded	302
Maps Filed	29
Vital Statistics	\$9,215
State Surcharge (44 Surcharges collected)	\$836
(Marriage Licenses, Copies, Burial Transfers, Cremation Cert.)	
Maps (filing fee)	\$250
Copies (Land Records & maps)	\$11,339
Filing Fees (misc.)	\$519
Burn Permits Issued	\$875
Hunting & Fishing Licenses	
Town fees collected -	\$335
State fees collected -	\$14,529
Licenses issued by Town Clerk -	457
Duplicate licenses issued -	5
Handicapped license -	12
Lifetime licenses issued -	120
Deer tags issued -	12
Pheasant tags issued -	23
Connecticut Bird Stamps issued -	15
HIP permits issued -	15

Dog Licenses - 1,275 issued  
 Town fees collected - \$1,302  
 State fees collected - \$10,727  
 (62 Surcharges)  
 Kennel licenses issued - 11  
 Fidelco dogs licensed - 2  
 Transfers - 0 Replacement tags - 7  
 Late fees collected - \$455

Voters sworn in by Town Clerk - 145  
 Absentee Ballots Issued - 59

### ELECTIONS:

11/03/2009 – Municipal Election  
 Electors qualified to vote 7,068  
 Electors checked as voting 1,549

### SPECIAL TOWN MEETINGS:

09/21/2009 – Special Town Meeting to Consider A RESOLUTION to Approve the transfer of property and all associated easements to the South Congregational Church. RESOLUTION Approved

12/14/2009 – Special Town Meeting to Consider A RESOLUTION to Approve the AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE GRANBY BOARD OF EDUCATION AND THE GRANBY EDUCATION ASSOCIATION dated July 1, 2010 – June 30, 2012. The contract was approved.

04/26/2010 – Annual Town Meeting for Budget Approval. Yes Vote - 246 No Vote - 25 Minimum; 2/3 requirement was met. Budget for Fiscal Year 2010-2011 was approved.

### VITAL STATISTICS (as of June 30, 2010)

	Granby	Out-of-Town	Total
Births	0	45	45
Deaths	43	33	76
Marriages	36	22	58

### STAFF DEVELOPMENT

Fall and spring election conferences were attended to keep updated on new developments in election laws. Subject matter covered included absentee ballot application and procedure, along with military and overseas balloting, campaign finance procedure, and procedures to be followed for local referendum. State Statutes and Public Acts are constantly changing and amending the laws and it is absolutely imperative to be kept informed of these changes.

The Town Clerk previously attained the Connecticut State Certification and has recently obtained the designation of Certified Municipal Clerk through the International Institute of Municipal Clerks by attending classes at the New England Municipal Clerks Institute & Academy. Both Assistant Town Clerks are currently attending classes to attain the Connecticut State Certification.

Continuation of courses in governmental relations, government finance, parliamentary procedure, professional development, written communications, personnel management, public speaking, and computer courses assist to maintain a professional level of management.

# FEBRUARY 2011

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<p><b>JANUARY 2011</b> S M T W T F S</p> <p>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</p>	<p><b>MARCH 2011</b> S M T W T F S</p> <p>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</p>	<p><b>1</b></p> <p>P&amp;R</p>	<p><b>2</b></p> <p>BOE</p>	<p><b>3</b></p> <p>CC</p>	<p><b>4</b></p>	<p><b>5</b></p>
<p><b>6</b></p>	<p><b>7</b></p> <p>GPC BOS</p>	<p><b>8</b></p> <p>P&amp;Z</p>	<p><b>9</b></p> <p>YSBAB IWWC AC</p>	<p><b>10</b></p>	<p><b>11</b></p>	<p><b>12</b></p> <p>Lincoln's Birthday</p>
<p><b>13</b></p>	<p><b>14</b></p> <p>COA GDC GLB St. Valentine's Day</p>	<p><b>15</b></p> <p>ZBA</p>	<p><b>16</b></p> <p>BOE</p>	<p><b>17</b></p> <p>CC</p>	<p><b>18</b></p>	<p><b>19</b></p>
<p><b>20</b></p>	<p><b>21</b></p> <p>SR MFC Presidents' Day</p>	<p><b>22</b></p> <p>SR BOS P&amp;Z Washington's Birthday</p>	<p><b>23</b></p>	<p><b>24</b></p>	<p><b>25</b></p>	<p><b>26</b></p>
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## DEPARTMENT OF POLICE SERVICES

July 1, 2009 was the 50th anniversary of the formation of the Granby Department of Police Services as an organized Police Department. When established in 1959 the Department had an annual operating budget of \$9,576, which covered the expense of one full-time officer, rental of a car, rental of radio services, and support for a constabulary force. Times have changed over the past fifty years and the Department has responded to those changes in order to handle the requirements and expectations of the community. There are now 15 full-time sworn members, five full-time and four part-time civilian employees, all working from a budget of \$1,653,965, to provide the highest possible level of public safety service to Granby and its residents. To recognize the significance of the anniversary a committee, led by Sergeant Robert Castle, designed a new shield for the uniforms.

It was also during the past year that two extremely valued members of the Department left the town's service. In July of 2009 Captain Kevin Bennett succumbed to cancer after 34 years of service. In January of 2010 Mrs. Barbara Janeski, the Department's Communication and Records Supervisor, retired after 34 years of service. The loss of such institutional memory in such a short time span presented a hardship for the Police Department and its employees. There was a minor reorganization of responsibilities within the Records Department. This resulted in Patricia Tappenden joining the Department as a part-time Records Clerk and Kathleen Kane becoming a full-time Administrative Assistant.

Since January of 2010, the Department has achieved its authorized staffing complement for the first time in approximately seven years. David Bourque joined the Department as Captain, bringing a strong background in budgeting and computerization. He was previously employed in the same position for the Town of Suffield where he served for 28 years.

This is an appropriate opportunity to address a frequently posed comment from residents who state they no longer "know" who's who amongst the members of the Department. The Communication Division consists of four full-time and three part-time Public Safety Dispatchers. All are required to undergo a training and certification process as well as mandated training updates. The full-time Dispatchers and their years of service to the town are: Nancy Silkey, 25; Louann Hall, 13; Jane Capps, 4; and Michael Joseph, 4 years. The part-time Dispatchers and their years of service are: James Warnke, 33; John Horr, Jr., 24; and Lorraine Morelli, 13.

Supervision of the daily activities of the Department remains with our four Patrol Sergeants. They and their years of service are: Gary Charette, 23; Doreen Mikan, 18; Robert Castle, 17; and Kurt LaFlamme, 9. The Patrol Officers who provide responses to both emergency and non-emergency incidents and their years of service are: Ralph DiLisio, 19; Joe Adams, 12; Mark Garofalo, 10; Jameson Ball, 8; Jeremiah Dowd, 6; Christopher Poehnert, 3; Scott Bergeron, 3; Timothy May, 2; and Steven Vernale, also 2 years. As with our Public Safety

Dispatchers, all of the officers and supervisors are required to maintain their competency in law and service techniques through continuing education training sessions.

The Department continues to be an active participant in the regional police coalition known as the North Central Municipal Emergency Services Team. This collaborative is comprised of the Police Departments from the Towns of Avon, Bloomfield, Canton, Farmington, Granby, Simsbury, Suffield, Windsor, and Windsor Locks. The result is a cadre of personnel trained in special areas of expertise and available to respond as necessary, the areas are: SWAT, Crisis Negotiations, Dive Rescue and Recovery, and Motor Vehicle Crash Reconstruction.

As always the Department of Police Services is ready and capable of responding to the needs and requests for service from our community on a 24 hour, 7 days a week basis.

# MARCH 2011

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY																																																																																				
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## LOST ACRES FIRE DEPARTMENT, INC.

The department responded to a total of 215 incidents, with the calls broken down as follows:

- 26 Fire – building, car, chimney, brush
- 7 Motor Vehicle Extrication/Medical Assist
- 37 Hazardous Materials/Conditions
- 40 Service Calls – smoke, water problem, standby
- 16 Good Intent Calls
- 84 False Alarms
- 5 Severe Weather/Lightning/Special Incidents

The Lost Acres Fire Department, Inc. (LAFD) is a private, non-profit organization that is under contract with the Town of Granby to provide all fire protection and related services. LAFD operates

three fire stations, Center, West Granby, and North Granby; seven pieces of apparatus are kept at the stations and staffing is provided by men and women who volunteer their time. New members are required to attain a State of Connecticut Firefighter I Certification. This requires over 200 hours of training over a one-year period. Annually, LAFD firefighters expend over 2,000 hours on training and skills improvement. During this fiscal year, we are proud to recognize four new members who have completed their State Firefighter I class, Ryan Pugliese, Steve Galuska, Kevin Gelinis, and Jordan Auclair.

LAFD is a member of two regional Task Forces. Numerous drills and disaster simulation events

were held throughout the year, where members practiced extrication, fire suppression, and tanker operations. To provide improved communications with surrounding towns, the LAFD, with assistance from the Town Manager, applied for and attained a grant from the State of Connecticut, which funded the installation of InterCity radios in all of our fire apparatus.

In September 2009 the LAFD acquired a house on East Street and used it to provide training on interior and exterior firefighting, forcible entry, ventilation, and tanker and hose operations. The Connecticut towns of East Hartland, Canton, East Granby, and Granville and Southwick, MA joined us during this great opportunity and the entire process was filmed and broadcast on Granby Community Television (GCTV).

Specialized training was provided for area search and rescue with a member of the State of Connecticut Urban Search and Rescue (USAR) Task Force 1. This weekend class was given at the LAFD Center station in March 2010 and attended by firefighters from area towns. Students were trained in map/compass use, search patterns, working with search dogs, and cold weather considerations.

LAFD members provide many non-emergency services on a completely volunteer basis. During events at the Holcomb Farm Barn, LAFD provides fire protection services by stationing a pumper and crew at all times the barn is in use. LAFD provides lighting and traffic assistance at sporting events, such as 'Soccer Under the Lights'. LAFD members visit schools and deliver home protection tips to over 600 children during fall fire prevention activities.

The Town of Granby is very lucky to have such a group of dedicated men and women providing these services. Anytime you meet one of our members, please thank them for their time and dedication to the protection of Granby, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.



Lost Acres Fire Department Volunteers

# APRIL 2011

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<p><b>MARCH 2011</b> S M T W T F S 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</p>	<p><b>MAY 2011</b> S M T W T F S 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</p>	<p>Calendar of regularly scheduled public meetings. For information on special meetings, contact the Town Clerk's Office.</p>			1	2
3	4 GPC BOS	5 P&R	6 BOE	7 CC	8	9
10	11 Budget 7:00 P.M Public Hearing BOF COA GDC GLB	12 P&Z	13 YSBAB IWWC AC	14	15	16
17 Palm Sunday	18 SR-1 week BOS Passover begins at sundown	19 ZBA	20	21 CC	22 MFC Good Friday	23
24 Easter Sunday	25 Budget 7:00 P.M Town Meeting BOF	26 P&Z	27	28	29	30

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MFC = Municipal Facilities Closed SR = School Recess

## FIRE MARSHAL OFFICE

The Fire Marshal's office has a staff of three part-time employees and is responsible for the protection of lives and property throughout the Town of Granby. The duties and responsibilities of this office are mandated and regulated by the Connecticut General Statutes. These regulations dictate when and where fire safety inspections are required and assigns responsibilities regarding hazardous materials, plan reviews of proposed buildings, and requires that all fires and explosions be investigated to determine cause and origin.

The Fire Marshal's office is the only town agency that is required to perform inspections of the town's commercial and non-commercial properties on an annual basis. This includes all schools, businesses, day care facilities, industrial and commercial occupancies, as well as gasoline service stations, and all public assembly properties. These inspections require a working knowledge of over 100 codes and standards. Our main goal is to work with the property owner to gain a code compliant building, thus providing a safe environment for the public.

The Connecticut General Statutes requires the Fire Marshal's office to inspect and enforce regulations concerning the storage, use, and transportation of liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) and liquefied natural gas (LNG). We issue permits for the purchase, transportation, and the use of explosives.

This office also fields questions on fire related topics such as code compliance, open burning, and fireworks.

As a reminder, **a working smoke alarm is one of the best ways to survive a house fire.** Smoke alarms should be installed in every bedroom, outside of every sleeping area, and on every level of the house including the basement. Batteries need to be replaced annually at a minimum, and smoke alarms should be replaced every ten years. If you have questions about proper placement of smoke alarms, call this office.

Office hours are varied but appointments can be arranged for meetings and inspections by contacting the office of the Fire Marshal at (860)844-5318.

## PARK AND RECREATION BOARD

This seven-member board, appointed by the Board of Selectmen, may advise the Director of Recreation and Leisure Services on matters of policy and planning in the area of leisure services and facilities. The Director of Recreation and Leisure Services has the responsibility of implementing a comprehensive variety of recreation and leisure programs for Granby residents of all ages.

Our youth sports programs emphasize positive fun experiences for ages 5-18 in a recreational atmosphere; which include soccer, basketball, and skiing. For adults, we offer various programs such as adult drop-in basketball, exercise classes, AARP Safe Driving classes, and more. We also coordinate a variety of bus trips throughout the year with East Granby and Suffield.

Salmon Brook Park provides a focal point for major town events as well as picnic areas for family outings. The Park also provides tennis courts, a Children's Memorial Garden, the Veteran's Memorial, hiking and horse trails, areas for soccer, basketball, baseball, volleyball, horseshoes, bocce, two playscapes, and a fenced dog area. Each summer we present a "Sounds of Summer" concert series

sponsored entirely by our local business community.

Summer programming at Salmon Brook Park includes a public swim area (pond) for those who want to enjoy an old-fashioned swimming pond. We provide American Red Cross swimming lessons and a quality day camp experience for children in kindergarten through 9th grade, including a two-year training program for teens to provide them the opportunity to learn valuable skills and provide us with a list of well-qualified lifeguards and counselors.

**The Celebrate Granby 225 Committee is moving ahead with plans for our October 1, 2011 celebration.** Completely run by volunteers, this committee has already had a number of fundraisers to pay for the day's activities including a parade, a country fair, and fireworks. To find out more information on Celebrate Granby 225, visit the town's website at: [www.granby-ct.gov](http://www.granby-ct.gov)

We continue to coordinate program planning with neighboring communities to provide more of a variety of leisure activities that the Recreation Department could not provide on its own.

# MAY 2011

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## OFFICE OF ANIMAL CONTROL

*Reminder – DOG LICENSES ARE DUE IN JUNE*

The Municipal Animal Control Officer (MACO) functions as a part-time service of the Department of Police Services. Hours of availability for routine matters are Monday through Friday from 6:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. The MACO is assigned the responsibility of investigating and taking any appropriate enforcement action regarding incidents involving domestic animals. Matters involving wildlife are referred to the State of Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection (CTDEP) or Nuisance Wildlife Operators licensed by the CTDEP.

The MACO operates the Granby Animal Shelter located at 166 Salmon Brook Street. The shelter provides a safe haven primarily for roaming dogs, which have been recovered or as a holding area while investigations are conducted.

The shelter continues to receive donations of food, crates, bedding, and other supplies, which are greatly appreciated. These items help to facilitate the care and welfare of the animals

housed at the shelter. Arrangements can be made for picking up or dropping off donations by contacting the MACO through the Police Department at 860-844-5335.

For the period of July 1, 2009 through June 30, 2010 the MACO handled the following types and numbers of calls for service:

<b>Type of Complaint</b>	<b>Incidents</b>
Roaming Dogs .....	121
Barking Dogs .....	11
Nuisance Dogs .....	73
Vicious Dogs* .....	2
Dog/Cat Bites .....	7
Dogs vs. Automobiles .....	3
Cat Complaints.....	216
Cruelty Complaints .....	2
Impounded Animals.....	105
Redeemed by Owners .....	81
Rabies Cases .....	2
Total number of complaints investigated .....	622

\* Vicious dogs are those deemed by the MACO to be excessively aggressive in their behavior as a result of repetitive incidents.

## INLAND WETLANDS AND WATERCOURSES COMMISSION

The Inland Wetlands and Watercourses Commission is charged with establishing boundaries of wetlands and watercourses, with reviewing applications for activities that may impact wetlands and watercourses, and with granting permits for such activities when they do not have adverse impacts to wetlands or watercourses. Generally, the Commission reviews activities within wetlands and watercourses, and activities within 100 feet of wetlands and 200 feet from watercourses.

Several new members were appointed to the Commission in the 2009-2010 Fiscal Year. New members are: Wayne J. Cahoon, Aurelle S. Locke, Craig W. Perry, and Deborah A. Sheahan. The Commission's longest serving member, Charlie Katan, stepped down from the Commission this year along with three others. Mr. Katan began his service in 1974, the year that the Commission was formed and served as its chairman for all but the past two years. Charlie oversaw the initial establishment of the Commission, the development of the original regulations, and the preparation of the first wetlands map. His extensive knowledge, based on 36 years of service, can never be replaced and his wise leadership will certainly be

missed. Dr. Richard Martindale served on the Wetlands Commission for 30 years, beginning his service in 1980. Barry Avery served on the Wetlands Commission from 1996 to 2010. And, Eric Lukingbeal served on the Commission from 2001 to 2009. The Town of Granby greatly appreciates the incredible volunteer service that these members have provided to their community for so many years.

David Tolli continues to serve as the Chairman of the seven-member Commission. The town continues to contract with the North Central Conservation District, Inc. to provide services as the consulting Wetlands Agent. The agent, David Askew, is a certified Soil Scientist who lives in Granby.

In Fiscal Year 2009-2010, ten actions were taken by the Commission, including approval of three amendments to wetland boundaries and seven permit approvals for activities within wetlands or upland review areas. The Commission did not deny any permit applications, but restricted and regulated activities to minimize wetland impacts. The Commission also reviewed 18 Requests for Review that were delegated to the Wetlands Agent for approval.

# JUNE 2011

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## OFFICE OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

The Office of Community Development serves as staff for the Planning and Zoning Commission, Zoning Board of Appeals, and Development Commission; and assists the Inland Wetlands and Watercourses Commission and the Conservation Commission. The department also provides information as requested by other boards and commissions and regularly assists the Town Manager. The Office of Community Development is responsible for the administration of the town's overall land use and development process and the Director oversees the activities of the Building Department, Engineering, and Wetlands staff. The office administers the town's Small Cities Programs, particularly the Housing Rehabilitation Program, is responsible for the Flood Insurance Program, and serves as a liaison with the Capitol Region Council of Governments (CRCOG), the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP), and others.

In Fiscal Year 2009-10, the Director worked to update the town's Geographical Information System (GIS). The town's GIS system integrates hardware, software, and data for capturing, managing, analyzing, and displaying all forms of geographically referenced information. The system, is used daily to prepare information for the town's Land Commissions, answer citizens questions, understand land use patterns, display flood zones, obtain sewer information, clarify property boundaries, and a host of others uses. During this fiscal year CRCOG made available to the town high resolution, color, aerial photographs, which have been fitted into the town's GIS system.

During this fiscal year the Director of Community Development prepared a GIS based zoning map. Unlike a hand drawn map, the digital zoning

map contains a unique zoning layer. With GIS, the zoning layer can be seamlessly displayed over other map layers such as property line maps, street line maps, and many others. Using this technology property lines, streets, buildings, and other layers can be changed and displayed on the zoning map without affecting the specific zoning layer. Additionally, when displayed digitally you can zoom into the zoning map to more clearly identify the specific boundary lines of a zone. This fiscal year the Planning and Zoning Commission adopted the GIS digital map as the town's official zoning map. It is now available for viewing on the town's web site, under Public Documents.

In this fiscal year 194 acres of land were permanently preserved as open space. Of this total acreage, 122 acres were preserved for agricultural use. The most significant of these preserved acres are the 70 acres that make up the Bushy Hill Orchard. The Director of Community Development facilitated the preservation by working with the State Department of Agriculture, the town, and the Granby Land Trust. The Granby Land Trust raised over \$40,000 through donations from Granby citizens and contributed an additional \$40,000 to help make this preservation possible. The town contributed \$80,000 and the state contributed \$290,000 in the successful effort to permanently preserve the orchard.

This year the Director worked on a wide variety of subdivision and zoning applications. These included two subdivision applications, which proposed a total of 19 lots. The Director also continued working on a plan to extend a sewer line along Canton Road. The sewer line was completed and became fully operational in this fiscal year.

## COLLECTOR OF REVENUE

The Collector of Revenue is responsible for the billing and collection of property taxes, sewer use charges, and sewer assessments. The office also processes most deposits to the General Fund from other town departments.

Tax collections for July 1, 2009 through June 30, 2010 were as follows:

- Total number of tax bills issued was 18,295. At the end of the fiscal year, 433 bills were not paid in full.
- The 2008 Grand List adjusted levy was \$30,507,400 and the net collections on the current levy were \$30,242,388.
- During the 2009-2010 fiscal year, 99.13% of the adjusted grand levy was collected.
- Total uncollected taxes as of June 30, 2010 (including back taxes) was \$415,001.

# JULY 2011

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## REGISTRARS OF VOTERS

Voters in districts one and two vote at one central polling site, located at Granby Memorial High School's Community Gym, for all primaries and elections. The optical scan voting system reads paper ballots, which are filled out by voters just like a lotto ticket, by filling in the ovals next to their chosen candidates. The results are tallied by the voting machine and the paper ballots provide a hard copy of these results. The high school polling site also has a handicapped accessible "vote by phone" system, which is used exclusively at the polls.

The Registrar's office is diligently working to make sure that all eligible residents can register to vote, check their address, party affiliation, or voter status quickly and easily. During Fiscal Year 2010, we added 176 new voters, changed 932 records, and removed 697 voters from our official voter registry. There are currently 6,979 active registered voters in Granby: 2,806 Unaffiliated, 2,210 Republican, 1,906 Democrat, 47 Independent, 4 Green, and 6 Libertarian. The Independent party has been newly recognized for minority party status by the State of Connecticut after running Ralph Nadar as their presidential candidate in 2008. During the past fiscal year, there was a municipal general election in November and the annual town meeting in April.

Identification is now required on all voter registration forms, which are

provided at all state offices, libraries, town halls, Department of Motor Vehicles, and social services offices. State voter registration forms can also be used to report changes in address, name, or political party, as well as to register as a new voter. Absentee ballot applications need to be filed with the Town Clerk's office if you are going to be away for an election. Please allow time for the ballot to be mailed and returned. Voter registration forms and absentee ballot applications are also available on the web at: [www.sots.ct.gov](http://www.sots.ct.gov)

If you need to reach the registrar's office for any reason, you can stop by or call on Wednesdays - our office hours at the Town Hall are from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. In addition, you can send an e-mail: [vr.granby@po.state.ct.us](mailto:vr.granby@po.state.ct.us) at any time, leave a phone message using voicemail: 860-844-5322; or use our mailing address: Town of Granby, Registrars, 15 North Granby Road, Granby, CT 06035.

The current registrars are Peter Goff (Republican) and Laura Wolfe (Democrat). Their duties include registering new voters; overseeing all elections, primaries and referenda; and certifying the official voter list. The registrars are also responsible for hiring and training all election poll workers and they are actively seeking new volunteers.

## GRANBY PUBLIC SCHOOLS



CAS 2010-2011 Middle School of the Year

The school system had another challenging, yet very productive, school year. A flat budget, a changing administrative team, a new mission, and impressive student achievement were some of the events that characterized the year.

The Board's approval of a new district vision, 21st century mission statement, and long-term student performance goal will provide powerful leverage, accountability, and focus for school improvement and increased student achievement. The daily practice of the schools was characterized by teachers and administrators working collaboratively as members of a professional learning community doing whatever it takes for Granby students to be successful. The success of the district's accomplishments as a professional learning community was noted in two *Solution Tree* publications (*Revisiting Professional*

*Learning Communities at Work & Raising the Bar*).

Student performance on the state CMT and CAPT tests continue to be impressive. Students placed first or second in the Demographic Educational Reference Group (DERG) in five different categories and were in the top 25th percentile of the DERG in 50% of tests administered in grades 3-10.

Students also placed first in the state in 4th grade mathematics. The 2009 edition of the *Connecticut Magazine* rated Granby second in the state in the education category for towns with a population from 10,000 to 15,000 and the June 2010 edition of the *Hartford Magazine* recognized Granby Memorial High School as one of the top four high schools in the greater Hartford area.

In the rich tradition of Granby being a volunteer town, the staff and students raised tens of thousands of dollars for charities and participated in hundreds of hours of community service activities. The year finished with the exciting announcement that Granby Memorial Middle School was recognized as a 2010-2011 Connecticut Association of Schools' Middle School of the Year! The strong reputation of the school system is another reason why Granby continues to be a great place to live, work, and raise a family.

# AUGUST 2011

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY																																																																																				
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MFC = Municipal Facilities Closed      SR = School Recess

## DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

The Development Commission is a six-member board of Granby citizens, appointed by the Board of Selectmen to assist in the direction of the town's economic growth.

In this fiscal year the Commission met numerous times to discuss Granby's commercial climate and to provide advice to the Director of Community Development and the Planning and Zoning Commission. The Commission discussed the state of the economy and made recommendations and suggestions regarding development activities.

The Commission regularly discusses the town's identity. The Commission feels that it is very important that the town maintain its reputation as an exceptional place to live. Granby is known as a rural, well run, family friendly town with an excellent school system. The town is also known for its abundant open space and farmland, which nicely blends with the residential environment. This year Chairman Murtha asked that each member prepare a presentation of a creative idea that would benefit our community. John Krug provided the Commission members with a power point presentation on Pocket Parks. The parks are small green areas that are designed to add interest, beautify, and enhance areas that are underutilized and unsightly. Mr. Krug showed photos of the Granby Center and suggested areas where Pocket Park concepts could be utilized. He also identified pedestrian linkages between various Center businesses. Rob Rome discussed how local athletic activities could benefit the long-term health and sustainability of the town. He discussed the athletic field and related facilities master plan created by the Granby Athletic Field Advisory Committee (GAFLAC). Mr. Rome envisioned changes to the plan that would make it more efficient and where it could result in increased economic activity for the town. Ken Kuhl discussed ways to market the Center properties. He suggested creating a

comprehensive vision for how the Center Zones could look in the future. This would require hiring a consultant to prepare drawings to help visualize future development. Mr. Kuhl suggested identifying specific areas and having visual drawings prepared to show possibilities. These drawings could help prospective developers visualize the best use of properties. Marty Schwager made a presentation on "The Center of Our Town". He began by asking a series of questions on how the town might take better control of the Center's future and how we might better influence deficiencies, problems, and issues. He also explored how to enhance the existing business base. Mr. Schwager defined the Center area, referencing the newly adopted Center Zone. He outlined the formation of a type of Economic Development Corporation for the purpose of planned community business development, re-development, and preservation of our Center Zone area. Mr. Schwager described the particulars of the idea and outlined a series of 15 benefits that the plan could have.

The Commission members had lively discussions about all of the ideas and are now focusing on specific recommendations primarily within Granby Center.

## BOARD OF ASSESSMENT APPEALS

The Board of Assessment Appeals in each Connecticut municipality is charged with the duty of hearing appeals on the assessments from aggrieved taxpayers and reviewing valuations set by the Assessor. This Board provides an opportunity for review and adjustment, before appeal is made to the courts. In exercising its functions as an appeal agency, the Board may reduce or increase a taxpayer's assessment through valuation change. The Board may also add to the Assessor's list the names of any property owners omitted and make supplemental lists of any taxable property omitted by the Assessor.

The Board of Assessment Appeals for the Town of Granby is comprised of three elected Granby residents: Chairman Lowell C. Johnson, James R. Sansone, and Celia Eggert.

The Board reviewed eleven appeals during the course of their meetings held in April of 2009. Of the properties reviewed, seven received an adjustment and four were not changed.

Section 12-111 of the Connecticut General Statutes requires taxpayers who wish to contest the assessment of their properties to file written appeal notices with the Board of Assessment Appeals by February 20th. The Board will notify appellants of their hearing dates at least seven days before they are held.

# SEPTEMBER 2011

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<p><b>AUGUST 2011</b> S M T W T F S 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</p>	<p><b>OCTOBER 2011</b> S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23/30 24/31 25 26 27 28 29</p>	<p>Calendar of regularly scheduled public meetings. For information on special meetings, contact the Town Clerk's Office.</p>		<p>1  CC</p>	<p>2</p>	<p>3</p>
<p>4</p>	<p>5  SR MFC Labor Day*</p>	<p>6  P&amp;R GPC BOS</p>	<p>7  BOE</p>	<p>8</p>	<p>9</p>	<p>10</p>
<p>11</p>	<p>12  COA GDC GLB</p>	<p>13  P&amp;Z</p>	<p>14  YSBAB IWWC AC</p>	<p>15  CC</p>	<p>16</p>	<p>17</p>
<p>18</p>	<p>19  BOS</p>	<p>20  ZBA</p>	<p>21  BOE</p>	<p>22</p>	<p>23</p>	<p>24</p>
<p>25</p>	<p>26  BOF</p>	<p>27  P&amp;Z</p>	<p>28  Rosh Hashanah begins at sundown</p>	<p>29  SR</p>	<p>30</p>	

\* Pickup of solid waste and recycling will be one day following regular day until end of the week

MFC = Municipal Facilities Closed SR = School Recess

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## PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT



Town crews building the new Ahrens Park Pavilion and restrooms. The structure was designed by a local architect and constructed by town crews last winter and spring.

Tough economic times have continued to hurt the residents of Granby and the rest of the country. The Public Works Department is always looking for ways to reduce costs and improve efficiency in all areas of our operations. The use of the State of Connecticut bidders list saves money and time in procuring supplies and equipment. Our Capital Improvement program replaces older, inefficient vehicles and tools with new and innovative equipment and hardware that saves manpower and uses less energy. Evolving winter snow and ice control methods reduce salt and sand use while improving overall

change to optimize its effectiveness.

Street sweeping mileage totaled 93.2 miles, with 900 catch basins being cleaned annually. The street sweeping program has seen savings due to the reduction in sand use during winter snow removal operations. In 2006, we used 1,450 cubic yards of sand in plowing operations. This year we used 187 cubic yards of sand.

Building maintenance activities have remained busy as residents continue to take advantage of the many programs and facilities the town offers. Our full and part-time staff is dedicated and profes-

sional. We have skilled carpenters and irrigation specialists on staff, along with crewmembers who have knowledge in general electrical, HVAC, and plumbing skills. Our certified part-time employees, who are helpful and always willing to lend a hand to residents, man the town Transfer Station.

snow melting and clearing performance. And the town's recycling and trash collection program has seen a significant increase in recycling rates, and reduction in trash disposal costs. These are a few of the things we are doing to continue to provide excellent service to the residents while maintaining a cost effective department.

Public Works crews managed 18 storms last winter to keep roads open and safe. Over 47 inches of snow fell on town roads. The Department utilized 940 cubic yards of mixed salt and sand on the town's roads. We continue to make changes to our mixture of salt to sand as conditions

sional. We have skilled carpenters and irrigation specialists on staff, along with crewmembers who have knowledge in general electrical, HVAC, and plumbing skills. Our certified part-time employees, who are helpful and always willing to lend a hand to residents, man the town Transfer Station.

New development continues to lag with the slowing economy. Our road rehabilitation program improved .62 of a mile of local roads, and our overlay program improved another two miles last year. Maintenance of the existing road network requires a comprehensive road improvements program. The following streets were rehabilitated and paved last year as part of the Capital program:

Thronebrook Road	East Street (partial)
Stonehedge Way	Gloucester Lane
Sutton Drive	

The ten-year Capital Improvement plan is developed to reconstruct roads that have failed. Thronebrook Road was reconstructed with new catch basins, pavement, and curbing.

Our talented mechanics service over 60 vehicles and numerous other pieces of equipment for the Public Works Department, Police Department, Building Office, Senior Services, and other town agencies. Over 4,000 hours are dedicated to repair and preventive maintenance. The fleet includes dump trucks, police cruisers, senior vans, administration vehicles, excavators, and other assorted equipment.

Additionally, town greens, cemeteries, and municipal complex grounds are mowed, weeded, lined, planted, and watered. Public Works crews clean and maintain 18 public buildings located throughout town. Our crew is proud of the professional work we do for the residents and will continue to do everything we can to keep costs down and service up.

# OCTOBER 2011

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<p>SEPTEMBER 2011</p> <p>S   M   T   W   T   F   S  </p> <p>1 2 3</p> <p>4 5 6 7 8 9 10</p> <p>11 12 13 14 15 16 17</p> <p>18 19 20 21 22 23 24</p> <p>25 26 27 28 29 30</p>	<p>NOVEMBER 2011</p> <p>S   M   T   W   T   F   S  </p> <p>1 2 3 4 5</p> <p>6 7 8 9 10 11 12</p> <p>13 14 15 16 17 18 19</p> <p>20 21 22 23 24 25 26</p> <p>27 28 29 30</p>	<p>Calendar of regularly scheduled public meetings. For information on special meetings, contact the Town Clerk's Office.</p>				1
2	3 GPC BOS	4 P&R Early Release K-12	5 BOE	6 CC	7 Yom Kippur begins at sundown	8
9	10 SR MFC Columbus Day	11 COA GDC P&Z	12 YSBAB IWWC AC	13	14	15
16	17 GLB BOS	18 ZBA	19 BOE	20 CC	21	22
23	24 BOF	25	26	27	28	29
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## HOLCOMB FARM

Holcomb Farm's 367 acres of rich rolling meadows, densely wooded forest, and pristine brooks are located at 113 Simsbury Road in West Granby. The property is town-owned but leased to and run by Holcomb Farm, a nonprofit charitable organization. Today the Farm brings together children, adults, and families in a plan of use that includes caring for this historic property, sustainably and responsibly growing great tasting nutritious food, educating our youth on food, nutrition, and the environment, and engaging and supporting the community.

Holcomb Farm is open to the public daily from dawn-to-dusk and maintains over 10 miles of marked trails for hiking, horseback riding, cross-country skiing, and snowshoeing. We invite you to come and visit our farm animals, take a walk, experience the bio-diversity the property offers, and reflect on the generosity of Tudor and Laura Holcomb.

This year we are pleased to say that effective January 1, 2010 the Holcomb Farm Learning Center and the Holcomb Farm Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) united to become one Holcomb Farm enterprise. The CSA program is one of the oldest and largest in the state, sustainably growing 40 kinds of fresh vegetables without any chemical pesticides on over 20 acres of land. This system grows healthy food, while improving the soils and the watershed. We harvest over 160,000 pounds annually, serving over 600 households and providing over 15,000 pounds of produce to seniors and at-risk families in Granby and Hartford. This program also employs and trains farmer apprentices on best practices to provide us with much needed high nutritional value foods into the future.

The Learning Center's "Link and Learn" and Summer Camp programs partner urban, suburban, and rural schools, bringing over 1,000 students to

the farm for hands-on agricultural, environmental, and teambuilding programs. Our new Children's Garden introduced the children to their very own vegetable garden from soil prep to harvest. We then involved them in the preparation of nutritious snacks and lunches incorporating the vegetables and herbs they had just picked. We also offered 78 additional high quality nature and environmental science programs to over 2,600 participants including adults, school groups, and scouting organizations.

In 2009 Holcomb Farm continued to provide the community with farm-based activities and support. This included the use of our facilities by over 20 different civic and community groups, for over 100 different events, bringing 2,800 people to the farm. Our Hay Loft Concert Series featured spring and fall music concerts in our impressive 4,500 square foot hayloft. The 2009 Fall Festival saw the largest attendance ever (over 800 people!) and was a huge success, featuring music by The McLovins, local artisans, and agricultural items. We provide families with entertaining and informative food and farm related activities and programs throughout the year.

Thanks to the generosity of our friends and supporters in the community, our Capital Campaign enabled us to continue to renovate and improve our campus. Recently completed was the Workshop renovation and repainting of the 1780's Farmhouse. Underway is painting of the Main Barn, painting and reroofing of the garage, and plans to create a teaching kitchen. This new space will enable us to teach food preparation and preserving practices, which promotes a healthy lifestyle utilizing fresh, locally grown produce. We have some really great ideas and instructors lined up and we hope to see both new friends and old at these exciting programs.

Find out more at [www.holcombfarm.org](http://www.holcombfarm.org)

## ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS

During the past fiscal year, the Zoning Board of Appeals handled twelve requests for variances to the Zoning Regulations. The Board granted ten and denied two.

# NOVEMBER 2011

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<p>6  Daylight Saving Time Ends</p>	<p>7  GPC BOS</p>	<p>8  SR P&amp;Z Election Day</p>	<p>9  YSBAB IWWC AC</p>	<p>10</p>	<p>11  MFC Veteran's Day</p>	<p>12</p>
<p>13</p>	<p>14  COA GDC GLB</p>	<p>15  ZBA</p>	<p>16  BOE Early Release 7-12</p>	<p>17  CC</p>	<p>18  Early Release K-6</p>	<p>19</p>
<p>20</p>	<p>21  BOS Early Release K-6</p>	<p>22  P&amp;Z Early Release K-6</p>	<p>23  Early Release K-12</p>	<p>24  SR MFC Thanksgiving Day*</p>	<p>25  SR MFC</p>	<p>26</p>
<p>27</p>	<p>28  BOF</p>	<p>29</p>	<p>30</p>			<p>Calendar of regularly scheduled public meetings. For infor- mation on special meetings, contact the Town Clerk's Office.</p>

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## DEPARTMENT OF LIBRARY SERVICES

### Mission Statement

*“We support intellectual freedom and the right of individuals to read, learn and gather together in a safe, friendly, welcoming environment. We provide free access to a diversity of ideas, resources, and experiences. We strive to enhance the quality of life in our community by providing and encouraging life-long learning with a variety of resources.”*

In Fiscal Year 2009-2010, \$472,119 was appropriated for library services provided by Granby Public Library and the Frederick H. Cossitt Library branch. The nine-member Granby Library Board, chaired by Lynn Lochhead, meets the second Monday of each month and welcomes public attendance. On February 18, 2010 the library participated in “Snapshot Day”, a statewide effort to measure the impact that Connecticut libraries have on their communities, on a typical day. On that day 280 adults, teens, and children came to Granby’s libraries and borrowed 707 items. A survey indicated that while most came to borrow something, many came to use computers, do research, or simply to find a quiet place to study. The Granby Library Board, working in conjunction with the Granby Library Association, the Friends of Cossitt Library, and the Friends of Granby Public Library coordinated a fundraising effort in support of the Hartford Foundation for Public Giving Grant for Cossitt Library renovations. In March, Cossitt Library moved to a temporary location at Holcomb Farm to prepare for the construction work.

### Circulation and Collections

Patrons borrowed 165,780 items. Although most categories of materi-

als showed a decline, there was an increase in the circulation of books and use of computers by adults and teens. Rapid Reads and the “Un-Book Club” readers borrowed more than 1,700 items. Sunday openings continue to be popular with residents – an average of 90 people use the library each Sunday. Once again, the number of books requested through interlibrary loan increased. The library participated in a pilot program, which extended interlibrary loan searches to out-of-state libraries. Collection development focused on home improvement and ‘do-it-yourself’ projects. The Children’s Room offered a new collection of puzzles and games for young children to borrow.

### Services for Children, Teens and Adults

“Be A Star,” the 2009 summer reading program officially began on the last day of school. Summer programs included magician Dan Bowen who dazzled kids with magical tricks, Storytimes at Salmon Brook Park, Snakes Alive from Roaring Brook Nature Center, Rocky the Rock Cat, Mother Goose, and Teddy Bear Picnics filled the summer with activities. At summer’s end, a special series of “Read for the Stars” story and craft programs were presented by a Girl Scout work-

ing for her Silver Star award. Kids of all ages enjoyed a “Howlari-ous Halloween” program of stories and songs and a visit from Red Blox Robotics. In the Teen Zone, kids could “Read like a Rock Star” though no music or singing ability was required! Girls, ages ten to twelve, read and met monthly at the Really Rockin’ Reading Girls Book Club. The Connecticut Humanities Council helped fund the Keep It Green Book Club for elementary school students with books that talked about the importance of being green. Chinese New Year was celebrated with local residents explaining the holiday’s history and offering traditional foods and crafts. The Children’s Librarian visited school classrooms and promoted library cards to first-graders. The libraries continue to purchase multiple copies of Nutmeg and Acorn books in support of school reading programs. The Teen SF/Fantasy Book Club continued its monthly meetings to talk about books and watch movies, and in the spring teens and adults



Snap Shot Day - Catching up on the news

attended “Let’s Talk Twilight.” Other regular programs included drop-in crafts in both the Children’s Room and the Teen Zone.

Adult programming introduced “Parlons Français”, led by a volunteer, which offered people a chance to practice their French language skills. The monthly selections offered through the Un-Book Club gives busy patrons the opportunity to read and

share their thoughts about popular fiction and non-fiction titles without attending meetings. Since its first meeting in 2002, Something About the Author (SATA) has discussed the lives and works of 81 authors. The library worked with Holcomb Farm to present the Holcomb Farm Book Club, a series of discussions featuring both fiction and non-fiction titles all with a ‘farm theme.’ Once again the Connecticut Forum came to Granby, this year offering “Explorers and Adventurers”, a video presentation followed by audience discussion. This year’s Big Read focused on Mark Twain and

*Continued on page 24*

# DECEMBER 2011

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<p>NOVEMBER 2011</p> <p>S   M   T   W   T   F   S</p> <p>1 2 3 4 5</p> <p>6 7 8 9 10 11 12</p> <p>13 14 15 16 17 18 19</p> <p>20 21 22 23 24 25 26</p> <p>27 28 29 30</p>	<p>JANUARY 2012</p> <p>S   M   T   W   T   F   S</p> <p>1 2 3 4 5 6 7</p> <p>8 9 10 11 12 13 14</p> <p>15 16 17 18 19 20 21</p> <p>22 23 24 25 26 27 28</p> <p>29 30 31</p>	<p>Calendar of regularly scheduled public meetings. For information on special meetings, contact the Town Clerk's Office.</p>		<p>1</p> <p>CC</p>	<p>2</p>	<p>3</p>
<p>4</p>	<p>5</p> <p>GPC BOS</p>	<p>6</p> <p>P&amp;R</p>	<p>7</p> <p>BOE</p>	<p>8</p>	<p>9</p>	<p>10</p>
<p>11</p>	<p>12</p> <p>COA GDC GLB</p>	<p>13</p> <p>P&amp;Z</p>	<p>14</p> <p>IWWC AC</p>	<p>15</p> <p>CC</p>	<p>16</p>	<p>17</p>
<p>18</p>	<p>19</p> <p>BOS</p>	<p>20</p> <p>ZBA Hanukkah begins at sundown</p>	<p>21</p> <p>BOE</p>	<p>22</p>	<p>23</p> <p>Early Release K-12</p>	<p>24</p> <p>Christmas Eve</p>
<p>25</p> <p>Christmas Day</p>	<p>26</p> <p>SR-1 week MFC Christmas Day Observed</p>	<p>27</p> <p>BOF P&amp;Z</p>	<p>28</p>	<p>29</p>	<p>30</p>	<p>31</p> <p>New Year's Eve</p>

**TOWN MEETING KEY:**

AC..... Agricultural Commission..... 7:00 p.m. Police Dept Community Rm.  
 Board of Assessment Appeals .....Call Town Hall for dates & times  
 BOE ... Board of Education..... 7:00 p.m. Central Office  
 BOF ... Board of Finance ..... 7:30 p.m. Police Dept. Community Rm.  
 BOS ... Board of Selectmen ..... 7:30 p.m. Town Hall

COA... Commission on Aging..... 1:30 p.m. Sr. Ctr. & Youth Svcs. Bldg.  
 CC..... Conservation Commission ..... 7:30 p.m. Police Dept. Community Rm.  
 GDC ... Granby Development Commission..... 7:00 p.m. Town Hall  
 GLB.... Granby Library Board ..... 7:30 p.m. Granby Public/Cossitt Libraries  
 GPC.... Granby Prevention Council..... 6:00 p.m. Sr. Ctr. & Youth Svcs. Bldg.

IWWC.....Inland Wetlands & Watercourses Commission..... 7:00 p.m. Town Hall  
 P&R .....Park & Recreation Board ..... 7:30 p.m. Sr. Ctr. & Youth Svcs. Bldg.  
 P&Z.....Planning & Zoning Commission ..... 7:00 p.m. Town Hall  
 YSBAB ...Youth Service Bureau Advisory Board ..... 4:00 p.m. Sr. Ctr. & Youth Svcs. Bldg.  
 ZBA.....Zoning Board of Appeals ..... 7:30 p.m. Town Hall

MFC = Municipal Facilities Closed      SR = School Recess

**LIBRARY SERVICES** *continued from page 22*

*The Adventures of Tom Sawyer* with a book discussion and a discussion of authors “Twain and Stowe: Effecting Social Change” presented by the Mark Twain House and Harriet Beecher Stowe Center. Author visits this year featured Louis Arthur Norton who spoke about his books *Captains Contention* and *Stormalong*, Briann Greenfield who talked about



Snap Shot Day - Picking out a book

her new book *Out of the Attic: Inventing Antiques in Twentieth Century New England*, and Amy Liptak Caruso who gave the back-story of her first book *The Black Squirrel Mystery*. Other programs for adults were: “More Than One Way to Escape a Courtroom: Finding Balance in Life Through the Great Outdoors,” with civil litigator Sally Roberts and “You Wrote a Book—Now What?” with literary agent Jan Kardys. Local resident Ames Swartsfager brought sea-faring music and stories to the library during the summer. In December, Cossitt Library had a Gingerbread House contest and continued its long-time Book Tree tradition to gather new books for distribution in holiday baskets.

**Connections: People and Technology**

Using a valid Granby library card, residents can access and manage

their Granby library accounts, check due dates, renew materials, reserve titles, and request items through interlibrary loan. Interlibrary loan allows patrons to request items not available in Granby from other libraries. The items are delivered to Granby, where patrons can pick them up, saving personal and travel time. Interlibrary loan also serves local book

groups, providing multiple copies of titles for all of their members to borrow and read. Public computers are available in the Children’s Room, Reading Room, and Teen Zone at Granby Public Library and in both the adult and children’s areas at Cossitt Library. This year, the library introduced “Job Now,” which provides free online live career coaching, resume assistance, and career resources. The statewide catalog and reference tools, available at [www.iconn.org](http://www.iconn.org) continue to be a valuable free resource.

The libraries receive cooperative discounts for library materials, supplies, and educational opportunities with memberships in the Connecticut Library Consortium, Connecticut Library Association, and American Library Association. Staff members participate in regional roundtables for interlibrary loan and children’s services. The libraries continue to cooperate

with schools, town departments, town businesses, and area libraries to develop services to the Granby community. Staff and volunteers make monthly book deliveries to senior housing units and the Granby Senior Center. Granby welcomes patrons from other towns and Granby borrowers can use all other public libraries in Connecticut.

**Friends, Volunteers and the Library Community**

Volunteers contributed over 1,000 hours of service to the libraries, assisting with programs, publicity, bar coding of materials, book processing, book deliveries, and helping prepare Cossitt Library for its temporary relo-

cation at Holcomb Farm. The Friends of Granby Public Library, Friends of Cossitt Library, and the Granby Library Association add hundreds of additional hours of volunteer time, which includes membership drives, fundraising activities, and used book sales. These events raise funds that supplement the library budget and allow for special programs and purchases. Local businesses support the annual Summer Reading Program with prizes and supplies. High school students work at the library to complete their high school community service requirements. Each year, the Granby Library Board holds a Volunteer Recognition Tea at Cossitt Library to thank these valuable volunteers for their contribution.

**CIRCULATION 2009-2010**

Item Type	Granby	Cossitt	Total
Adult Books	33,451	3,366	36,817
Teen Books	3,147	311	3,458
Children’s Books	21,354	5,656	27,010
Adult Magazines	7,797	1,810	9,607
Teen Magazines	420	16	436
Children’s Magazines	529	106	635
Adult CDs/CD Books/Tapes	5,670	321	5,991
Teen CDs/CD Books/Tapes	325	33	358
Children’s CDs/CD Books/Tapes	849	129	978
Adult CD-ROM and Software	3	0	3
Teen CD-ROM and Software	15	0	15
Children’s CD ROM and Software	104	34	138
Adult Video and DVDs	16,702	2,952	19,654
Teen Video and DVDs	2,513	82	2,595
Children’s Video and DVDs	8,153	1,285	9,438
Realia, Puppets, Toys	182	25	207
Museum Passes	176	86	262
Adult Computers	3,936	61	3,997
Teen Computers	1,187	168	1,355
Children’s Computers	829	45	874
<b>Total</b>	<b>107,342</b>	<b>16,486</b>	<b>123,828</b>

*Continued on page 25*

**LIBRARY SERVICES** *continued from page 24***COLLECTION 2009-2010**

Item Type	Granby	Cossitt	Total
Adult Books	34,676	4,423	39,099
Teen Books	2,652	504	3,156
Children's Books	15,936	7,565	23,501
Adult CDs/CD Books/Tapes	2,079	298	2,377
Teen CDs/CD Books/Tapes	205	34	239
Children's CDs/CD Books/Tapes	546	220	766
Adult CD-ROM and Software	2	0	2
Teen CD-ROM and Software	11	0	11
Children's CD ROM and Software	88	36	124
Adult Video and DVDs	2,360	1,021	3,381
Teen Video and DVDs	1,318	17	1,335
Children's Video and DVDs	440	583	1,023
Realia, Puppets, Toys	89	29	118
Museum Passes	35	13	48
Adult Computers	5	2	7
Teen Computers	4	1	5
Children's Computers	5	2	7
<b>Total</b>	<b>60,451</b>	<b>14,748</b>	<b>75,199</b>
<b>Subscriptions</b>	<b>Granby</b>	<b>Cossitt</b>	<b>Total</b>
Adult Magazines	149	63	212
Teen Magazines	19	1	20
Children's Magazines	20	5	25
Newspapers	9	5	14
<b>Connecticard Loans</b>	<b>Granby</b>	<b>Cossitt</b>	<b>Total</b>
Loans to Out-of-Town Patrons	18,583	0	18,583
<b>Interlibrary Loans</b>	<b>Granby</b>	<b>Cossitt</b>	<b>Total</b>
Loans to Other Libraries	811	0	811
Loans from Other Libraries	2,243	0	2,243
<b>Programs</b>	<b>Granby</b>	<b>Cossitt</b>	<b>Total</b>
# Adult Programs	29	0	29
# Teen Programs	11	0	11
# Children's Programs	117	25	142
# Family Programs	42	5	47
<b>Total Programs Offered</b>	<b>199</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>229</b>
<b>Attendance at Programs</b>	<b>Granby</b>	<b>Cossitt</b>	<b>Total</b>
Adult Programs	378	0	378
Teen Programs	93	0	93
Children's Programs	1,674	239	1,913
Family Programs (+museum#)	642	262	904
<b>Total Programs Attendance</b>	<b>2,787</b>	<b>501</b>	<b>3,288</b>

**SOCIAL SERVICES**

The focus of the Social Services Department is to coordinate existing federal, state, regional, and local services, to increase community awareness of these services, and to develop new programs to meet the needs of Granby residents. Services offered directly through this office include:

**INFORMATION AND REFERRAL** – Over 1,150 personal and telephone inquiries were responded to with referrals being made to agencies for a wide range of services, including mental health counseling, substance abuse treatment, day care, home health and nursing services, medical care, housing, and entitlement programs.

**ENERGY ASSISTANCE** – Applications were accepted for the State Fuel Assistance Program, Operation Fuel, and the Granby Emergency Fuel Bank. These programs provided financial assistance to 144 households to assist with over \$72,013 in heating and utility bills. The Granby Emergency Fuel Bank received \$8,345 in donations from individual donors, civic groups, and churches.

**ELDERLY AND DISABLED RENTERS' TAX RELIEF** – Forty applications were processed for this state administered tax relief program resulting in rebates of over \$15,990 to qualified applicants.

**HOLCOMB FARM PRODUCE PROJECT** – Over 80 participants enjoyed fresh organic vegetables from an organizational share at the Holcomb Farm. Donations and Senior Center membership dues fund this project.

**EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE** – Through the generosity of many individuals, families, churches, businesses, civic organizations, and youth groups, the Local Assistance Fund received over \$17,100 in donations for specific uses including: Holiday Sponsorships, Camperships, Summer Shoe Program, Housing Assistance, Child Care Subsidies, Prescription and Medical Care, and Crisis Assistance. Seventy-four households were provided with emergency assistance. The Holiday Sponsorship Program, a town-wide effort of concern and generosity provided food baskets at Thanksgiving and Christmas to 48 households, and holiday gifts to 58 children.

## SENIOR SERVICES

The mission of the nationally accredited Granby Senior Center *is to maximize the social, physical and educational well being of older adults, nurture relationships and foster independence through involvement in the Senior Center community.*

The Center offers a wide variety of social, educational, recreational, and health related programs as well as professional assistance where needed. The Granby Senior Center is a focal point of services and activities for the seniors in the community. A variety of programs are offered including: a Congregate Meal Program, exercise classes, computer classes, billiards league, camera, art and needle working groups, educational and health programs, Men’s Breakfast, Women’s Breakfast, and the Senior Club. Other special programs include AARP Drivers’ Course, Medicare counseling, and tax preparation assistance. Senior Services also provides assistance in the areas of transportation, benefit counseling, and referrals.

There are seven staff members in this department including the Transportation Coordinator, Senior Center Program Coordinator, Administrative Assistant, three Senior Van Drivers, and the Congregate Meal Preparer.

### Senior Services Statistics

Senior Center Participants .....	917
Outreach and Benefit Counseling.....	178
Congregate Meal Program	
Participants .....	80
Congregate Meals Served .....	4,610
Exercise Class Participants.....	174
Tax Preparation Assistance.....	153

Senior Services operates two senior vans to transport riders to activities at the Senior Center as well as for medical and personal care appointments, grocery shopping, health clinics, educational, and

social programs. The vans frequently travel for day trips to special events, recreational activities, sites of interest, and exhibits. Donations from riders, the Granby Community Fund, and the Connecticut Department of Transportation assist with funding the van service.

### Senior Van Statistics

Number of Registered Riders .....	150
Hours of Operation.....	2,260
Miles Traveled .....	20,437
Number of Passenger Trips .....	7,333

### HIGHLIGHTS OF THE YEAR

- Introduced a new program, Mind Sharpener, to give participants an opportunity to exercise their minds. The series of classes gradually increase in challenge, providing a full mental workout targeting six major cognitive domains. The activities incorporate fun, variety, and creative approaches in a comfortable and enjoyable small group-learning environment.
- A new senior van was purchased through a Federal Transit Administration Grant and the generosity of private donors, Granby Senior Citizen’s Club, Inc, the Lions Club, and The Granby Community Fund. The 14-passenger van was put on the road in August 2009. In its first year, the van travelled 14,500 miles taking passengers to medical appointments, points of interest, museums, historic homes, and a variety of fine eating establishments.

## ENGINEERING SERVICES

Operating under the Office of Community Development, Engineering Services are provided by Consulting Engineer, Kevin Clark, P.E. Mr. Clark recently completed his first year as Town Engineer. The duties of the Town Engineer were significantly redefined following the retirement of former Town Engineer Edward Sweeney, who had served the town for 30 years. The Town Engineer reviews development applications and advises the Director of Community Development. He attends Planning and Zoning Commission meetings as necessary. He reviews the engineering details of various projects and conducts field inspections, assuring that the construction of new roads comply with engineering standards and road specifications. The Town Engineer also inspects private roads to assure compliance with specific town approvals.

In Fiscal Year 2009-2010, the Town Engineer assisted the Department of Public Works with a variety of projects involving roads, bridges, septic systems, parks, state permits, and landfill and ground water monitoring. He also inspected construction sites, sewer lateral installations, and reviewed bond estimates.

This year the Town Engineer designed a new sewer line that extended south along Canton Road to service portions of Burleigh Drive and Archie Lane. He prepared complete plans and specifications, took part in the bid process, and oversaw the construction. This was the first significant sewer expansion that the town has undertaken since 1980. The sewer installation was completed, as designed, without unforeseen difficulties and residents have begun connecting to the system.

## YOUTH SERVICES

The Director of Human Services administers the Granby Youth Service Bureau (YSB) with support from the Youth Service Bureau Advisory Board. The Bureau receives income from many sources including municipal funding, grants from the State of Connecticut Department of Education, and the Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services, user fees, and donations.

The Youth Service Bureau employs a Clinical Coordinator and two part time Youth and Family Counselors. In addition, the Youth Service Bureau sponsored three Master’s level interns to allow for more complete counseling services. The staff is available for consultation, therapy, and referrals about parenting, family communication, youth concerns, emotional/behavioral issues, and support. The YSB also provides programming for positive youth development, leadership training, and prevention programs.

### HIGHLIGHTS OF THE YEAR

The Granby Youth Service Bureau/Local Prevention Council contracted with Consultant, John Daviau to assist in developing a strategic plan to increase developmental assets and decrease risky behaviors in Granby youth. John Daviau assisted the YSB/LPC Board in:

- Analyzing the results of the Search Institute, Attitudes and Behaviors Survey conducted in November of 2008.
- Conducting a brief scan of the town’s prevention capacity and assisting the group with conducting a comprehensive resource assessment.
- Developing a three-year Strategic Prevention Plan for the Granby Prevention Council.

### PROGRAMS INCLUDED:

- ❖ **Youth Action Council (Y.A.C.)** sponsored two 6th grade dances, enjoyed by approximately 275 youth. The proceeds provided two \$500 Y.A.C. scholarships to two graduating seniors.
- ❖ **Adventures In Living**, an intergenerational program for children in grades 4-6 offered by the Senior Center and the YSB. Adventures bring children together with senior citizens for a rousing weekly afterschool program.
- ❖ **W.O.W.! (Women on the Way!)**, an experiential group for high school age girls, provided approximately 50 hours of challenges, education, social experiences and community service endeavors.
- ❖ **B.O.W, (Boys Only Weeknights)** introduces 7th and 8th grade boys to a social group that allows guys to talk, play, and socialize, without fear of failure.
- ❖ **Preschool Music & Movement** provided a fun and creative outlet for 18 month to five-year-olds and their caregivers.

Program	Number Served
Clinical Services	
Total Granby children served.....	278
Total clinical hours .....	2,200
After school programming .....	83 youth
Preschool programming .....	40 children

## CONSERVATION COMMISSION

The Conservation Commission is a seven member appointed board that is charged to be an environmental watchdog and conscience for the town. Although the Commission has no regulatory powers, it makes recommendations to the Board of Selectmen and the Planning and Zoning Commission, as well as reviewing development plans.

Over the past year the Commission has focused primarily on two objectives. The first objective is the promotion of Granby’s Clean Energy Community Program. The Town of Granby is committed to the Connecticut “20% by 2010” campaign, with the goal of 20% of the town’s energy obtained from renewable resources, along with as many residential and business properties as possible. Achieving this goal will result in a photovoltaic electricity generation system for the community. The Conservation Commission has taken a lead role in this endeavor. The Commission hosted a public meeting to educate the public on solar electricity, and has promoted the program at town events. The second objective is the creation of a Natural Resource Inventory List. This list will address the town’s natural resources, including open space, farmland, forestland, geology, waterways and aquifers, and unique flora and fauna. The list is intended to be a resource for town officials to use when making development decisions; for residents to use to find information about Granby; and to provide recommendations to ensure the preservation and conservation of natural resources.

The Conservation Commission also promoted the purchase of rain barrels and compost containers, and endorsed both the purchase of property by the Granby Land Trust for open space conservation and the Wild and Scenic River Designation for the Lower Farmington River and Salmon Brook.

## FARMINGTON VALLEY VISITING NURSE ASSOCIATION, INC.

Consistent with our 100-year history, the Farmington Valley VNA continues to maintain its commitment to provide home care, hospice, and illness prevention services to the residents of Granby and other Farmington Valley communities. Services are provided to any individual regardless of ability to pay, insurance limitations, or other hardship. This mission has remained intact and unwavering for over a century and our organization continues to serve as the community's foundation of compassion. The Farmington Valley VNA is the only non-profit, independent visiting nurse association in the Farmington Valley despite the rising competition with out of area, larger, and for profit home health providers who are entering this region. This

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.

Services available to Granby residents include:

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

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 contemporary remote telemonitoring of patients' cardiac and respiratory status.

Our outstanding in-home Hospice Program has also continued to support many individuals and families who are 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. Many of our own friends and neighbors have been helped. Hospice services are provided in the patient's place of residence including their home, skilled nursing facility, or assisted living community. Hospice, as a care concept, is consistently growing due to greater acceptance of Hospice care intervention with non-cancer diagnoses such as Alzheimer's disease and end stage

cardiac and respiratory conditions. The Farmington Valley VNA's Hospice Program has also expanded as a result of Connecticut's recent enactment of the Hospice Medicaid Benefit.

The Farmington Valley VNA is unique in that it operates a distinct and separate Community Programs Department with a focus on illness prevention, health promotion, and education. Due to lack of funding and the need to reduce expenses, most home health care providers have eliminated virtually all illness prevention services. Remarkably, over 4,300 Granby residents attended one or more community wellness programs last year. Although a variety of services were provided, the Food Bank and H1N1 flu immunization programs were exceptional. Due to the continued economic pressures, there has been a significant increase in Food Bank participation. The Food Bank saw 925 individuals visit and 1,752 bags of groceries were distributed, compared to 872 individuals and 1,362 bags of groceries for the same period last year. The Food Bank relies exclusively on donations of food, money, and volunteer time in order to operate. The Farmington Valley VNA remains as one of the rare health organizations that still operates a food bank as a community program. Food banks in most other areas are managed and operated by town social service departments or churches.

This year the Farmington Valley, like the rest of the Nation, felt the impact of the H1N1 Pandemic and the initial shortage of the seasonal influenza vaccine. The Agency collaborated closely with the Farmington Valley Health District in distribution and administration of the H1N1 vaccine. Approximately 23 H1N1 clinics were held throughout the Farmington Valley from October 2009 through March 2010. The Agency helped to administer over 4,700 doses of vaccine to children six months and older and to the adult and senior populations. The Granby Me-



The Farmington Valley VNA Food Bank

important distinction assures Granby residents that community needs remain a true priority and that funding is utilized locally for delivery of essential services and programs.

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

*Continued on page 29*

**FV-VNA** *continued from page 28*

morial High School, Granby Senior Center, and the Farmington Valley VNA Granby office hosted H1N1 clinics, which facilitated vaccination of 1,064 Granby residents. The unforeseen delay and shortage of the seasonal flu vaccine this year resulted in a marked and unfortunate reduction in the administration of these vaccinations to residents 65 years of age and older, and to individuals with chronic illnesses. We anticipate no shortage in vaccine in the Fall 2010, and have already received an early shipment to meet the community's needs.

In addition, the Farmington Valley VNA is very pleased to maintain a contract with the Granby Board of Education to provide School Health Services in the Granby Public School System. This has been a long-standing and very positive arrangement, which assures that students and Board of Education employees receive high quality health care services during the school year.

As a local, freestanding, non-profit organization, continued financial support from community residents, area businesses, and service organizations is critical for our future survival. Reimbursement from state and most private insurance payors is remaining flat in the upcoming year, and we anticipate a decrease in Medicare reimbursement due to the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, despite normal increases in basic operating costs. The Farmington Valley VNA is very pleased to be an integral and vital part of Granby's community.

For additional information about the Farmington Valley VNA and its programs, please call 860-651-3539 or visit [www.farmingtonvalleyvna.org](http://www.farmingtonvalleyvna.org)

**BUILDING DEPARTMENT**

The Building Department issued 690 permits with a total constructed value of \$7,581,633 during Fiscal Year 2009-2010. This represented a small increase in constructed value from the previous year. Although new home construction was down, consistent with national trends, residential remodeling and additions continued at a steady pace. Many homeowners who previously would have purchased larger or smaller homes have chosen to improve their existing homes instead. In addition to the services provided to Granby residents, the Building Department also provides inspection services to the Town of Hartland. During this fiscal year, the Building Department issued 124 permits in Hartland. The Building Department also participates in a mutual aid agreement with the East Granby and Suffield Building Departments. This mutual agreement provides valuable support during vacations or emergencies.

In addition to administering and enforcing the provisions of the Connecticut State Building Code, our department provides administrative support to the Community Development Office, Town Engineer, Fire Marshal, and several of the land use boards and commissions. The Building Official also serves as the Zoning Enforcement Officer, and is responsible for reviewing applications for compliance with the Zoning Regulations and responding to complaints regarding these regulations.

The Building Department encourages residents and contractors to contact us to discuss plans for proposed projects and with any building code questions. The department's page on the Town of Granby's website has valuable information on construction projects and how to choose a competent contractor. The goal of our department is to ensure a safe-built environment for all of Granby's residents.

<i>Building Permits Issued</i>	<i>Number of Permits</i>	<i>Total Construction Cost</i>
1. New Houses	6	1,107,670.00
2. All other Building Permits	391	4,164,472.00
3. All Mechanical Permits	<u>293</u>	<u>2,309,491.00</u>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>690</b>	<b>7,581,633.00</b>

<b>Year</b>	<b>BUILDING PERMITS</b>							
	<b>Houses</b>		<b>Residential</b>		<b>Commercial</b>		<b>Total</b>	
	<b>#</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>#</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>#</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>#</b>	<b>\$</b>
2009-10	6	1,107,670	621	5,027,334	63	1,446,629	690	7,581,633
2008-09	3	569,290	704	5,313,463	44	724,037	751	6,606,790
2007-08	6	1,177,285	672	5,404,050	22	212,245	700	6,793,580
2006-07	20	2,905,140	682	5,850,575	34	783,502	736	9,539,217
2005-06	37	5,839,856	813	5,754,353	45	2,037,160	895	13,631,369
2004-05	63	9,328,082	821	5,461,451	50	415,503	934	15,205,036
2003-04	64	10,782,035	526	3,966,996	23	697,235	613	15,446,266
2002-03	61	9,798,067	753	4,046,033	41	6,684,747	855	20,528,847
2001-02	65	10,977,652	757	3,374,941	18	6,678,833	840	21,031,426
2000-01	77	10,610,853	876	2,444,463	10	1,176,575	963	14,231,901
1999-00	58	7,918,747	749	4,394,096	7	169,765	814	12,482,608
1998-99	65	7,025,900	773	4,814,532	14	502,278	852	12,345,710

## FARMINGTON VALLEY HEALTH DISTRICT

The major event for our small health district staff of seven fulltime and two part time employees, was the H1N1 Influenza Pandemic and effort to control the spread of the virus by vaccination. The vaccine was supplied by four manufacturers; purchased



Dianne Harding, RS and Elaine Milardo, RS greet the public with a smile

by the federal government; shipped from one vendor to pre-registered physicians, and local health departments. For several months there was not sufficient vaccine available to vaccinate the identified priority groups, therefore most of the clinics had to “prioritize” the priority groups. We set up two separate Hot Line Style phone lines to answer questions from the public and make appointments for vaccinations at our clinics.

We hired the Farmington Valley Visiting Nurse Association to staff the vaccination clinics with nurses and their regular volunteers. For many of the clinics, we hired additional individual nurses to assist in the vaccinations. Our district employees not only answered the hot lines and scheduled vaccination appointments, but staffed all of the clinics providing the needed administrative support to the nurses. We also made changes to our website, [www.fvhd.org](http://www.fvhd.org), to provide information about both the pandemic and the vaccination clinics. From the first clinic on October 7, 2009 through

April 1, 2010, **6,000 people were vaccinated at the 23 clinics held throughout the district.**

We continued to plan for emergency public health responses with our regional partners in both the Hartford area (region 3), and Litchfield County (region 5). Planning regionally allows us all to better utilize our resources in times of an emergency, whether natural or manmade. Particular emphasis is being placed on having the ability to distribute countermeasures from the Strategic National Stockpile to the public in a timely manner. Additionally, the district has refined its own emergency response plan in coordination with the emergency response plans of the district towns. The district has its own two-way radio system with a repeater on Avon Mountain; all field staff have cell phones; we have pre-packed portable “go kits” that will allow our staff to function outside of our office in an emergency; and we have all the necessary materials to set up and operate two mass vaccination clinics for 48 hours.

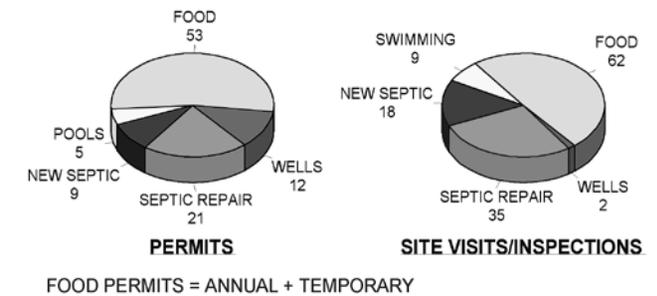


Lori Hoover, RN prepares a vaccination

Finally, in our effort to become more efficient and be better able to share information with the public, we have been part of a regional effort to develop a “Digital Health Department.” Funded by the Connecticut Office of Policy and Management and managed by the Capitol Region Council of Governments through a contract with the Connecticut Association of Directors of Health, this effort will allow us to transition away from using paper forms and make much of our information readily available to the public via the internet.

Our environmental health professionals additionally provided these services to the residents of Granby:

### ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH ACTIVITIES (FY 09-10)



## PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION

In Fiscal Year 2009-2010 the Planning and Zoning Commission held 14 regular meetings. At these meetings the members considered, deliberated, and acted on special permit and zone change applications, requests for site plan approvals and modifications, subdivision applications, and Board of Selectmen referrals. The Commission conducted informal discussions and acted on road and security agreements and bonds.

During this fiscal year, member Daniel P. (Put) Brown ended his many years of service as a member of the Commission. Put was the longest serving member, having served on the Planning and Zoning Commission for 36 years. At the meeting of November 10, 2009, the Commission expressed its sincere gratitude and appreciation to Mr. Brown for his volunteer service to the town as a member of the Planning and Zoning Commission. The Commission welcomed Eric Lukingbeal as a new member.

In this fiscal year the Commission took in 20 new applications. The revenue generated from these applications was \$9,730. This fiscal year, two subdivision applications were filed seeking the approval for a total 19 new residential building lots. All were approved.

Also in this fiscal year the Commission took action and:

- Approved a special permit to construct a garage in excess of 1,000 square feet for property located at 261 Silver Street.
- Approved a special permit to construct a garage in excess of 600 square feet for property located at 157 North Granby Road.
- Approved a site plan for property located at 541 Salmon Brook Street.

- Approved a special permit for personal service (dog grooming) for property located at 565 Salmon Brook Street.
- Approved a special permit and site plan modification for the development of a restaurant for property located at 335 Salmon Brook Street.
- Denied a special permit to construct a barn/garage in excess of 1,000 square feet for property located at 157 North Granby Road.
- Approved a special permit for a farm store for property located at 192 Salmon Brook Street.
- Approved a special permit to construct a barn in excess of 1,000 square feet for property located at 4 Powder Mill Lane.
- Approved a special permit to construct a barn in excess of 1,000 square feet for property located at 219 Loomis Street.
- Approved an open space modification for the Clemons Spring Subdivision, 100 Lost Acres Road.
- Approved a special permit for a farm store for property located at 87 Notch Road.
- Re-approved a special permit to use a portion of an existing barn in support of a home occupation for property located at 134 Day Street.
- Approved a special permit for earth excavation for properties located at 133 and 125 North Granby Road.
- Approved a special permit to expand a commercial recreational service for property located at 557 Salmon Brook Street.
- Approved a nomination for the official designation of the Salmon Brook as a State Greenway.
- Approved a special permit for a non-profit commercial use for property located at 281 Salmon Brook Street.
- Approved a nine lot FRD special permit and subdivision for property located at 95 Day Street.
- Approved a special permit for a garage in excess of 1,000 square feet for property located at 504 Cider Barrel Way.
- Approved a renewal of an Earth Excavation Permit for property located at 359 North Granby Road.
- Approved a 10 lot FRD special permit and subdivision for property located at 100 Lost Acres Road.
- Approved a special permit for signs for property located at 21 Hartford Avenue.
- Approved the GIS digital version of the zoning map, as updated to 2009, as the Town's Official Zoning Map.

## ASSESSOR

It is the responsibility of the Assessor to discover, list, and value all taxable real estate, motor vehicles, and personal property in the Town of Granby. It is important that no property is omitted, that each property is assessed to the correct person or persons, and that each property is assessed uniformly and according to law. These values, subject to a 70% ratio, result in the Gross Grand List. The Assessor then applies various exemptions as mandated by the Connecticut State Statutes and local ordinances, including veterans, elderly, disabled, blind, farm, forest, open space, etc. The final total, after exemptions are deducted, is the Net Grand List. It is this figure, coupled with the local, state, and federal revenue, which is used to compute the local tax rate.

The decrease in the net taxable assessment from the 2007 Grand List to the 2008 Grand List was -3,592,610, a -.34% decrease. This is the first time in many years the Town of Granby has experienced a decrease in the Grand List. It appears to be the result

of difficult times in the economy and many people being unsure of what the future holds and therefore reluctant to spend any extra money. It seems because of the high gas prices many people have traded in their bigger and more expensive trucks and SUV's for less expensive and more economical vehicles. Thus, we saw a drop in our Motor Vehicle List of -6.52%. This was not specific to the Town of Granby but seen throughout the State of Connecticut.

Subsequent to producing the Grand List in February, a supplemental list of motor vehicles purchased between October 1, 2008 and September 30, 2009 was established. This supplemental Grand List totaled 7,797,507 generating \$229,700 in revenue.

The Connecticut State Law has changed, requiring all real property to be revalued every five years. Granby implemented a revaluation in 2007 and its next scheduled revaluation will be effective October 1, 2012. Public access to assessment data may be obtained at [www.visionappraisal.com](http://www.visionappraisal.com).

	<b>2007 Grand List Fiscal Year 2008-2009</b>	<b>2008 Grand List Fiscal Year 2009-2010</b>
REAL ESTATE	949,133,430	950,788,580
MOTOR VEHICLES	79,545,660	74,359,520
PERSONAL PROPERTY	17,366,340	17,304,720
<b><i>Net Grand List</i></b>	<b>1,046,045,430</b>	<b>1,042,452,820</b>
<i>MV Supple. Grand List</i>	9,268,917	7,797,507
<i>Tax Exempt Real Estate</i>	72,726,850	72,806,020

## AGRICULTURAL COMMISSION

The Granby Agricultural Commission is a seven-member board of Granby citizens appointed by the Board of Selectmen to support, promote, and encourage agriculture and agricultural pursuits. It serves as a conduit between non-profit agencies and persons engaged in agriculture locally. The Commission also supports opportunities for young farmers; new farmers; and local, regional, and state vocational agricultural education programs. This year, the Agricultural Commission sponsored a number of programs.

Under a North East Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education Grant applied for in 2009-10, the Agricultural Commission introduced the Granby Sampler. The objective of the Sampler is to provide consumers with local farm products while supporting sustainable agriculture in Granby. Twenty-five consumers [our first year maximum] paid a subscription fee upfront and will be provided with 12 food baskets over a six-month period. The Sampler baskets present the range of products available from farmers right here in Granby and provide the farmers with an additional market. The Sampler will keep over \$17,000 from our 25 subscribers here with our local farmers.

With each basket, consumers also receive a newsletter giving information about the products and the farms where they were produced. Other



Granby Sampler

details provide the amount paid to the farmers for the goods and the box total.

Our website, [www.granbyag.org](http://www.granbyag.org), provides information on over 30 local farms. A description of each farm, location, hours, and products are included on the website, as well as a product page, which allows the user to find local farms by products.

The Granby Farm Map was produced this year and is available at local farms and businesses. The farm map lists 23 farms that are open to customers and visitors. It is helpful in planning your visits to our Granby farms and agricultural businesses.

## PROBATE COURT

During the past year, 64 new estates were opened, 25 of which involved the short form of probate, i.e. either with assets of less than \$40,000 or assets declared as jointly owned for tax purposes only. Also, nine 4a-16 estates (State Aid) were handled.

Eleven review hearings on Trust Accounts were held. There were four appointments of Guardians of the Estate of a minor, one review hearing, one Compromise of Claim, one Removal of Guardian, two Temporary Guardian hearings, two Temporary Custody hearings, and six Allowance on Account (Guardian) hearings. There were four appointments of Conservators of the person and/or estate, six review hearings, and seven Allowance of an Account hearings. There was one appointment of a Guardian of a Mentally Retarded Adult and twelve review hearings. We also handled five Name Changes, four Adoptions, one Termination of Parental Rights, and processed forty-five Passport Applications.

All Probate records (other than tax returns and other confidential records) are open to the public, with the exception of Adoptions, Termination of Parental Rights, Removal of Guardians, and files for the Mentally Retarded Adults. Fees to the court are set by law and retained by the Judge, who is responsible for paying most of the expenses of the court.

Office hours are: Monday 8:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m., Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. and Friday 9:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

**Probate Consolidation Update:** On January 5, 2011, the face of Connecticut's probate system will change dramatically. Here in Granby, the new regional court called Simsbury Regional Probate District will serve a population of 62,266 encompassing the four communities of Avon, Canton, Granby, and Simsbury. Simsbury Regional Probate District will be located at the Simsbury Town Hall, 933 Hopmeadow Street, Simsbury, Connecticut 06070. The phone number is 860-658-3277. **Our newly consolidated court will open in Simsbury on January 5, 2011.**

## APPOINTED TOWN OFFICIALS

Administration Finance Officer  
Barbarajean C. Scibelli

Animal Control Officer  
Jennifer Abalan

Assessor  
Susan J. Altieri

Building Official/Zoning Enforcement Officer  
William R. Volovski

Chief of Police  
David L. Watkins

Collector of Revenue  
Lauren C. Stuck

Director of Community Development  
Francis G. Armentano

Director of Health  
Richard H. Matheny, Jr.

Director of Human Services  
KerryAnn O. Kielbasa

Director of Library Services  
Joan M. Fox

Director of Recreation and Leisure Services  
Kay A. Woodford

Fire Chief  
John E. Horr, Jr.

Fire Marshal  
Joseph R. Killen

Director of Public Works  
James R. Klase

Town Clerk  
Karen I. Hazen

Town Engineer  
Kevin W. Clark

Town Manager  
William F. Smith, Jr.

Treasurer  
Roger A. Hensdorf

## ELECTED OFFICIALS

**Board of Selectmen**  
John E. Adams, Chairman  
Ronald F. Desrosiers  
Sally S. King  
B. Scott Kuhnly  
Mark C. Neumann

**Board of Finance**  
Michael B. Guarco, Jr.  
Chairman  
Gordon C. Bischoff  
Francis J. Brady  
Robert F. Clark  
Frederick A. Moffa, OD  
Alfred G. Wilke

**Board of Education**  
James C. Heminway, Jr.  
Chairman  
Marie A. Nicholls  
John P. O'Connor  
Edward E. Ohannessian  
Deborah Torgersen  
Ronald S. Walther  
Matthew T. Wutka

**Planning & Zoning Commission**  
Paula H. Johnson, Chairman  
Margaret A. Chapple  
Charles O. Kraiza  
Paul R. Lambert  
Eric Lukingbeal  
James R. Sansone  
Linda C. Spevacek

**Town Moderator**  
William J. Simanski

**Zoning Board of Appeals**  
Wayne E. Chapple,  
Chairman  
Ann Crimmins  
Judy A. Goff  
William L. Percival  
Kelly O. Rome

**Zoning Board of Appeals Alternates**  
Robert M. Lindeyer  
Dianne M. Maher  
Suzanne L. Yucha

**Board of Assessment Appeals**  
Lowell C. Johnson, Chairman  
Celia Eggert  
James R. Sansone

**Registrar of Voters**  
Maureen F. Wolf  
Laura A. Wolfe

**Judge of Probate**  
Cynthia C. Becker

**State Representative**  
William J. Simanski,  
62nd District

**State Senator**  
John A. Kissel, 7th District  
Kevin D. Witkos, 8th District

**United States Representative**  
John B. Larson, 1st District

**United States Senators**  
Richard M. Blumenthal  
Joseph I. Lieberman

## APPOINTED BOARDS

**Agricultural Commission**  
Michelle A. Niedermeyer  
Chairman  
Katherine B. Bogli  
Don H. Butler  
Stanley A. Hayes  
Stephen Hayes  
Lois H. Neumann  
Anne E. Wilhelm

**Commission on Aging**  
Peter E. Barwick, Chairman  
George L. Bronsord, Jr.  
Helen N. Decher  
Karen H. Hood  
Mary T. Keating  
Neil W. Kraner  
Incy S. Muir  
Bruce W. Sullivan  
John H. Vanderbilt

**Conservation Commission**  
Neil J. Hornish, Chairman  
Susan F. Dwyer  
Carolyn R. Flint  
Michael L. Lengvarsky  
Rochelle J. Reuben  
Joseph J. Zafian

**Development Commission**  
Bruce E. Murtha, Chairman  
Edward Guarco  
John J. Krug  
Kenneth O. Kuhl  
Robert J. Rome  
Martin F. Schwager

**Inland Wetlands and Watercourses Commission**  
David W. Tolli, Chairman  
Wayne J. Cahoon  
Neil W. Kraner  
Aurelle S. Locke  
Craig W. Perry  
Deborah A. Sheahan  
Richard J. Van Nostrand

**Library Board**  
Lynn G. Lochhead, Chairman  
Shawn E. Ball  
Carol Y. Bressor  
Robert P. Donna  
Judy A. Goff  
Judith A. Guarco  
Patricia M. Jones  
Richard J. Lydon

**Park & Recreation Board**  
Edward N. Allen, Chairman  
Jennifer Bilodeau  
L. Squire Bressor  
Wayne E. Chapple  
Brigid R. Gunn  
Kathy D. Ungerleider  
Suzanne L. Yucha





As required by Town Charter, the 2009-2010 Annual Report and 2011 Calendar of Events has been prepared by the Town Manager. The 2010 Report was designed and edited by Barbarajean C. Scibelli, Administration Finance Officer, Patricia I. Chieski, Executive Secretary to the Town Manager, and Susan B. Christian, Administrative Assistant.

Cover design highlights the upcoming 225th Anniversary of the Town of Granby. This picture has been made into a puzzle, which shows several notable places throughout the town. It is available for sale at the Recreation Department.

