

# CHESHIRE

## MASSACHUSETTS

ANNUAL REPORT 2017

# Federal, State and County Officials

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## United States Senators

### Elizabeth Warren

2 Russell Courtyard - Washington, DC 20510  
1-202-224-4543

Springfield Office: Springfield Federal Building  
1550 Main St., Suite 406 - Springfield, MA 01103

Website: [Warren.senate.gov](http://Warren.senate.gov)

Facebook: [facebook.com/senatorelizabethwarren](https://facebook.com/senatorelizabethwarren) - Twitter: @ElizabethforMA, @SenWarren

### Edward J. Markey

218 Russell Senate Office Building - Washington, DC 20510  
1-202-224-2742

Springfield Office: Springfield Federal Building  
1550 Main St., 4th Floor - Springfield, MA 01103-1427

1-413-785-4610

website: <http://markey.senate.gov>

Facebook: [facebook.com/EdJMarkey](https://facebook.com/EdJMarkey) - Twitter: @SenMarkey

## Massachusetts Representative In Congress

### Richard Neal

2208 Rayburn House Office Building - Washington, DC 20515  
1-202-225-5601

Pittsfield Office: Federal Building  
78 Center Street - Pittsfield, MA 01201

442-0946 - website: <http://neal.house.gov>

Facebook: [facebook.com/Congressman-Richard-Neal-325642654132598/](https://facebook.com/Congressman-Richard-Neal-325642654132598/) - Twitter: @RepRichardNeal

## Governor of Massachusetts

### Charles Baker

Office of the Governor

The State House, Room 280 - Boston, MA 02133

1-617-725-4005; (888) 870-7770

TTY: (617) 727-3666

Springfield Office: State Office Building  
436 Dwight St., Suite 300 - Springfield, MA 01103

413-784-1200 - website: [www.mass.gov/governor](http://www.mass.gov/governor)

Facebook: [www.facebook.com/CharlieBakerMA](https://www.facebook.com/CharlieBakerMA) - Twitter: @MassGovernor

## Members of the Massachusetts General Court

### Senator Adam Hinds

100 North St., Suite 410 - Pittsfield, MA 01201

413-344-4561

Email: [adam.hinds@masenate.gov](mailto:adam.hinds@masenate.gov) - Facebook: [www.facebook.com/SenatorAdamHinds](https://www.facebook.com/SenatorAdamHinds)

Boston Office: State House, Room 309 - Boston, MA 02133

1-617-722-1625, Fax: 1-617-722-1523

## Representative

### John Barrett

District Contact: Adams Town Hall, 8 Park Street - Adams, MA 01220

1-413-743-8320

Boston Office: Boston State House, Room 134 - Boston, MA 02133

1-617-722-2400

Email: [john.barrett@mahouse.gov](mailto:john.barrett@mahouse.gov)

On the Net: [www.mass.gov](http://www.mass.gov) (informational site for Massachusetts)

*Town of*  
**CHESHIRE**

MASSACHUSETTS



*Annual Report*  
**2017**



# *In Memoriam*



## *Gailanne Cariddi*

*The Town of Cheshire,  
as well as all of Northern Berkshire,  
mourns Gailanne Cariddi's passing.*

*We shall truly miss her presence  
and dedication to her District.*

# Town Elected Officials

	<i>Term Expires</i>		<i>Term Expires</i>
<b>Selectmen</b>		<b>Constables</b>	
Robert S. Ciskowski	2018	Ralph Biagini	2019
Carol A. Francesconi	2019	C.J. Garner	2019
Edmund St. John IV	2020	Alison Warner	2019
<b>Moderator</b>		<b>Planning Board</b>	
Edmund St. John IV	2019	Shannon Plumb	2018
		Peter Traub	2019
<b>Board of Assessors</b>		Ronald DeAngelis	2020
Everett L. Martin	2018	Donna DeFino	2021
Barbara Astorino	2019	Francis Griswold	2022
Laurie Charon	2020		
<b>Board of Health</b>		<b>Adams-Cheshire Regional School District School Committee Member Cheshire</b>	
Richard Salvi	2018	Darlene Rodowicz	2018
Michael Biagini Jr.	2019	Peter Tatro	2019
Jeffrey Warner	2020	Adam Emerson	2020
<b>Water Commissioners</b>		<b>Adams-Cheshire Regional School District School Committee Member Adams</b>	
Ricky Gurney	2018	Steven Vigna	2018
Francis Waterman Jr.	2019	Paul Butler	2019
Donald Rueger	2020	Jennifer Andrews	2019
<b>Cemetery Commissioners</b>		Regina Hill	2020
Jack Girard	2018		
Josephine Lewis	2019	<b>Northern Berkshire Vocational School Committee Member Cheshire</b>	
Neil Baker	2020	William Craig	2019
<b>Tax Collector</b>			
Rebecca Herzog	2018		
<b>Town Clerk</b>			
Christine B. Emerson	2018		

# Town Appointments

APPOINTMENT	NAME	TERM	APPOINTMENT	NAME	TERM
Town Administrator Procurement Officer BRTA Representative	Mark Webber	Yearly	Director of Veterans Services Veteran Burial Agent	Roseanne Fieri	Yearly
Selectmen's Secretary Adm. Asst. Town Adm. Planning Board Secretary	Carol Hilderbrand	Yearly	Right to Know Co-ordinator	Richard Francesconi	Yearly
Superintendent of Streets Tree Warden Measurer of Wood and Bark Inspector of Ditches	Peter LeFebvre	Yearly	Farm Commission	<i>Three Year Appointments</i>	
Treasurer	Rebecca Herzog	Yearly		Kenneth Egnaczak	2020
Accountant	Lynne Lemanski	Yearly		Michael Balawender	2020
Building Commissioner ADA Co-ordinator Zoning Enforcement	Gerald Garner	Yearly	Fence Viewers Members of Farm Commission	Mark Warner	2018
Local Building Inspector	Mark Kruzal	Yearly		Kim Martin	2019
Inspector of Wiring	George Sweet	Yearly		Eric Whitney	2019
Asst. Wiring Inspector	Leslie Rhinemiller	Yearly		Joseph Wrenn	2019
Inspector of Gas/Plumbing	Bruce LaPerle	Yearly	Greylock Advisory Board	Karmen Field-Mitchell	Yearly
Asst. Gas/Plumbing	John Burzimati	Yearly	Vocational School Program	James Pasquini	Yearly
Emergency Management Co-ordinator	Corey Swistak	Yearly	Representatives Arts Lottery Council North Berkshire Arts Council	<i>Three Year Appointments</i>	
Asst. Emergency Management	Fred Balawender	Yearly		Peter Traub	2017 term expired
Animal Control Officer Animal Inspector	Myron Proper	Yearly		Maureen Riley-Moriarty	2018
Keeper of the Pound	Everett Martin	Yearly		Shannon Badorini	2020
			Recreation Committee	Robin Poirot	Yearly
				Heather Emerson	Yearly
				Andrew Kachel	Yearly
			Delegate to Northern Berkshire Solid Waste Management Program	Richard Salvi	Yearly
			Northern Berkshire Cable Representative		Yearly
			Rent Control Board Memorial Day Parade	Board of Selectmen	
			Conservation Commission	Carol Francesconi	Yearly
				Leah Kruszyna	Yearly
				Raymond Killeen	Yearly

APPOINTMENT	NAME	TERM
<b>Emergency Management Committee</b>		
	Carol Francesconi	
	Paul Astorino	
	Robert Ciskowski	
	Richard Salvi	
	Francis Waterman	
	Travis Delratez	
	Peter LeFebvre	
	Timothy Garner	
	Thomas Francesconi	
	Corey Swistak	
<b>School Crossing Guards appointed by ACRSDistrict</b>		
<b>Council on Aging</b>	<i>Three Year Appointments</i>	
	Anna Farnam	2019
	Peter Traub	2018
	Elsie Zaleski	2018
	Harrison King	2019
	Margaret Gwozdz	2019
	Helen Dargie	2018
	Donald Pulver	2020
<b>Historical Commission</b>	<i>Three Year Appointments</i>	
	Diane Hitter	2019
	Elaine Daniels	2018
	Vern Emerson	2018
	Robert Hitter	2019
	Dawn Daniels	2020
	Barry Emery	2020
	Gus Martin	2020
<b>Board of Registrar of Voters</b>	<i>Three Year Appointments</i>	
	Gary Herzog	2019
	Diane Hitter	2018
	Elizabeth King	2020
<b>Election Official</b>	Alison Warner	<i>Yearly</i>
<b>Asst. Election Official</b>	Ronald Lancia	<i>Yearly</i>
<b>Fire Chief</b>	Thomas Francesconi	<i>Yearly</i>
<b>Police Chief</b>	Timothy Garner	<i>Yearly</i>
<b>Police Staff Sergeant</b>	Alison Warner	<i>Yearly</i>
<b>Police Officers</b>	Michael Alibozek	
	Joseph Charon	
	David Tarjick	
	Trisha Carlo	
	Corey Demary	

APPOINTMENT	NAME	TERM
<b>Special Police Officers</b>		
	Peter Mazzaco	<i>Yearly</i>
	Paul Maloney	<i>Yearly</i>
<b>Harbor Master</b>	<i>Lifetime Appointment</i>	
<b>Zoning Board of Appeals</b>		
	Thomas Zappula	<i>Yearly</i>
	Gale Grimshaw	<i>Yearly</i>
	Stephen Marko	<i>Yearly</i>
<b>Alternate Zoning Member</b>	Ronald Tenczar	<i>Yearly</i>
<b>Master Plan Implementation Committee</b>		
	Peter Traub	
	Atalanta Sungeroff	
	Misty Sarkis	
	Blair Crane	
	Robert Daugherty	
	Barbara Chaput	
	Christine Emerson	
<b>Complete Streets Committee</b>		
	Mark Webber	
	Diane Hitter	
	Blair Crane	
	Peter Traub	
	Christine Emerson	
<b>School Use Committee</b>		
	Carol Francesconi	
	Mary Ellen Baker	
	Heather Emerson	
	Bethany Demarco	
	Peter LeFebvre	
	Sandra Sloane	
	Christine Emerson	

## Appointments by the Moderator

<b>Advisory Board</b>		
	Kathleen Levesque	2018
	Ralph Biagini	2018
	Denise Gregoire	2017 <i>resigned</i>
	E. Richard Scholz	2018
	John Tremblay	2018
	Justin Kruszyna	2018
	Jeremy McLain	2018



# Board of Selectmen

Greetings to the Residents of Cheshire:

In concert with the Advisory Board, the Board of Selectmen will present a balanced and reasonable spending budget for the upcoming year. Although not yet finalized, the FY 2019 budget is expected to reflect an increase of approximately 3% over the current year. Notable increases are shown in the Vocational School Education line item (+\$61,535) because of increased Cheshire student enrollment. Another increase is the projected cost of maintaining and insuring the Cheshire Elementary School for the coming year. Finally, as the current Town Administrator transitions towards retirement, we are proposing an increase in the administrator salary line item to reflect a greater time commitment that we feel is necessary and warranted for the position.

The Board has been actively seeking grant funding to both offset operating costs and fund important initiatives. Among these are: the recently submitted Complete Streets grant application, which, if successful, will provide up to \$400,000 in construction cost for the redevelopment of Depot Street and a pending Housing Assistance grant application which will provide up to \$600,000 for qualified Cheshire residents to make safety, sanitary and energy efficiency improvements to their primary homes. Other initiatives include a current effort to replace the Town's street lights with lower operating cost LED lights and an anticipated application to obtain Green Community status which has provided hundreds of thousands of dollars to neighboring communities to help reduce municipal energy costs and increase efficiency.

The Board is in the process of reviewing responses to a Request for Proposals for the re-use of the Cheshire Elementary School or portions thereof. None are happy with the closing of our school but we are now charged with making the best of a difficult situation. The school was handed back to us and some people see it perhaps as a great opportunity and some people see it as an anchor around our neck. The Board is taking an active approach and is interested in figuring out the best future use while retaining options for future Town needs and community utilization.

Finally, the Board is pleased and honored to be working on the Town's behalf and we encourage all comments and suggestions that might help us serve you better. We meet each Tuesday evening beginning at 6:30 PM at the Town Hall and all are welcome to attend. In closing, we thank all of our dedicated volunteers and elected and appointed officials who serve us all with pride and professionalism.

Respectfully yours,

Cheshire Board of Selectmen  
 Robert Ciskowski, Chair  
 Carol Francesconi  
 Edmund St. John IV

# Town Clerk

## VITAL RECORDS RECORDED

<b>Births</b> .....		<b>31</b>
Male	17	
Female	14	
<b>Deaths</b> .....		<b>27</b>
Male	12	
Female	15	
<b>Marriages</b> .....		<b>5</b>
<b>Census</b> .....		<b>3,304</b>
16 years and over	2,928	
0 to 15 years	376	
<b>Registered Voters</b> .....		<b>2,391</b>
Democrat	604	
Republican	224	
Libertarian	3	
United Independent	20	
Other	5	
Unenrolled	1,535	

## GASOLINE STORAGE PERMIT RENEWALS

Bedard Bros.	\$ 25
H.D. Reynolds	25
Hoosac Valley Middle & High School	25
MGE Realty	25
Republic Services	25
Whitney Farm Market	25
	<hr/>
	\$150

## BUSINESS CERTIFICATES

New	9
Renewals	3
	<hr/>
<b>\$20 for a four year period</b>	<b>\$240</b>

## SALE OF DOG LICENSES

License period 4/1/2017-3/31/2018	
Males	33
Neutered Males	149
Females	15
Spayed Females	201
4 Dog Multi Unit	6
10 Dog Multi Unit	4
	<hr/>

**Amount turned over to  
 Treasurer (includes Late Fees) \$4,980**

Appreciation goes out to the Town Officials and Boards for their continued support and help. A thank you and job well done goes to the Registrars, Election Officials, Poll Workers, and Counting Crew for their ever present dedication to the Elections. Thank you to the Cheshire Residents who make this position enjoyable.

I hereby submit my twenty-fourth Annual Town Report.

Christine B. Emerson

# Town Accountant

To the Board of Selectmen and the Residents of the Town of Cheshire:

I hereby submit to you my 15th Annual Town Accountant's report for Fiscal Year 2017.

I am happy to report that the Massachusetts Department of Revenue certified the Town of Cheshire's free cash balance as of July 1, 2017 in the amount of \$416,620. This is a decrease of 34% from the prior year, July 1, 2016, balance of \$626,834, however, the amount is much higher than we have seen in past years. This is due to the town's consistency in maintaining a cost effective budget and also monitoring expenditures continuously.

I am submitting the Schedule A Revenues and Expenditures which summarize the FY2017 receipts and expenditures along with the General Fund Balance sheet as of June 30, 2017.

In closing, I would like to thank the Selectmen and the town officials who have supported me throughout the year.

Sincerely,

Lynne M. Lemanski  
Town Accountant

## Town of Cheshire - Balance Sheet

JUNE 30, 2016  
(GENERAL FUND)

ASSETS		LIABILITIES & RESERVES	
CASH	1,082,970.37	OVERLAY RESERVE FOR ABATEMENT	
ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE TAXES		Levy of 1999	(1,164.39)
PERSONAL PROPERTY		Levy of 2003	(745.00)
Levy of 2003	744.05	Levy of 2006	(1,315.00)
Levy of 2004	763.46	Levy of 2009	(3,224.00)
Levy of 2005	659.29	Levy of 2010	215.45
Levy of 2006	588.77	Levy of 2011	(1,003.56)
Levy of 2007	184.84	Levy of 2012	(4,132.00)
Levy of 2008	366.23	Levy of 2013	(11,486.55)
Levy of 2009	84.55	Levy of 2014	(7,263.70)
Levy of 2011	199.16	Levy of 2015	(6,820.91)
Levy of 2012	193.01	Levy of 2016	(15,854.23)
Levy of 2015	<u>458.46</u>	Levy of 2017	<u>(3,497.73)</u> (56,291.62)
	4,241.82	CURRENT LIABILITES	
REAL PROPERTY		Accrued Payables	(3,731.84)
Levy of 1999	1,127.88	Payroll Deductions	(933.17)
Levy of 2004	5.43	Police Comp Time	788.00
Levy of 2005	449.38	Deputy Collector Fees	(1,439.00)
Levy of 2006	1,314.95	NOI Revolving Account	(376.81)
Levy of 2008	0.69	Town Clerk Dog Fees Retained	(70.00)
Levy of 2009	2,860.70	Tax Title Revolver Account	<u>(70.00)</u>
Levy of 2010	-5.37		(5,832.82)
Levy of 2011	-2.12	Edwin Wells Revolving Fund	(1,000.00)
Levy of 2012	1,294.67	Special Donations Account	(431.86)
Levy of 2013	3,953.80	Donation - Skating Rink	(230.47)
Levy of 2014	10,876.15	Scholarship Fund	(15.00)
Levy of 2015	32,598.42		
Levy of 2016	48,663.00		
Levy of 2017	<u>121,435.86</u>		
	224,573.44		

# Town of Cheshire - Balance Sheet *(continued)*

## (GENERAL FUND)

ASSETS		LIABILITIES & RESERVES	
<b>MOTOR VEHICLE &amp; TRAILER EXCISE</b>		<b>REVENUE RESERVED UNTIL COLLECTED</b>	
Levy of 2010	30.00	Real Estate &	
Levy of 2011	595.84	Personal Property	(172,523.63)
Levy of 2012	1,015.60	Motor Vehicle Tax	(54,804.02)
Levy of 2013	2,436.04	Tax Titles	(37,196.64)
Levy of 2014	1,385.62	Tax Possessions	<u>(15,357.29)</u>
Levy of 2015	3,231.28		<b>(279,931.58)</b>
Levy of 2016	10,546.61		
Levy of 2017	<u>35,613.02</u>		
	<b>54,854.01</b>	<b>FUND BALANCE</b>	
<b>TAX POSSESSIONS</b>	<b>15,357.29</b>		
<b>TAX TITLES</b>	<b>37,196.64</b>	<b>APPROPRIATION BALANCES</b>	
		Board of Health	(6,829.93)
		Town Clerk	(908.97)
		Assessors	(1,311.96)
		Library	(962.68)
		Highway	(11,736.97)
		Treasurer	(10,000.00)
		Selectmen	<u>(7,500.00)</u>
			<b>(39,250.51)</b>
		<b>UNRESERVED FUND BALANCE</b>	
		<b>(SURPLUS REVENUE)</b>	<b>(641,208.71)</b>
		<b>FUND BALANCE RESERVED FOR</b>	
		<b>FY 2018 EXPENDITURES</b>	<b>(395,000.00)</b>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>1,419,193.57</b>	<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES &amp;</b>	
		<b>FUND BALANCE</b>	<b>(1,419,193.57)</b>

**Schedule A All Parts**  
 Fiscal Year 2017

**Schedule A Part I**  
**General Fund Revenues and Other Financing Sources (Fund 01)**

ACCOUNT NUMBER	ITEM DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT (Omit Cents)
	<b>A. Taxes</b>	
4110	Personal Property Taxes	96,351
4120	Real Estate Taxes	3,597,494
4150	Excise Taxes	545,316
4179	Penalties and Interest	26,623
4180	In Lieu of Taxes	
4191	Other Taxes - Hotel/Motel	
4198	Urban Redevelopment Excises	
4199	Other Taxes	5,264
	<b>A. TOTAL TAXES (NET OF REFUNDS)</b>	<b>4,271,048</b>
	<b>B. Charges for Services / Other Departmental Revenues</b>	
4211	Water Charges	
4212	Other Utility Charges	
4229	Other Charges	
4243	Parking Charges	
4244	Park and Recreation Charges	
4246	Sewerage Charges	
4247	Trash Collection Charges	99,893
4248	Transit Charges	
4370	Other Department Revenue	39,939
	<b>B. TOTAL CHARGES FOR SERVICES/ OTHER DEPARTMENTAL REVENUES</b>	<b>139,832</b>
	<b>C. Licenses, Permits and Fees</b>	
4322	Fees Retained from Tax Collection	10,425
4400	Licenses and Permits	69,021
	<b>C. TOTAL LICENSES, PERMITS AND FEES</b>	<b>79,446</b>
	<b>D. Federal Revenue</b>	
4540	Unrestricted - Direct	
4580	Unrestricted - Through the State	
	<b>D. TOTAL FEDERAL REVENUE</b>	
	<b>E. Revenues From State</b>	
4600	State Revenue	765,265
	<b>E. TOTAL REVENUES FROM STATE</b>	<b>765,265</b>

**Schedule A Part I**  
**General Fund Revenues and Other Financing Sources (Fund 01)(continued)**

ACCOUNT NUMBER	ITEM DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT (Omit Cents)
	<b>F. Revenues From Other Governments</b>	
4695	Court Fines	\$ 1,050
4720	Received From the County for Services Performed	
4730	Received From Other Municipalities for Services Performed	
	<b>F. TOTAL REVENUES FROM OTHER GOVERNMENTS</b>	<b>1,050</b>
	<b>G. Special Assessments</b>	
4750	Special Assessments	15,384
	<b>G. TOTAL SPECIAL ASSESSMENTS</b>	<b>15,384</b>
	<b>H. Fines and Forfeitures</b>	
4770	Fines and Forfeitures	
	<b>H. TOTAL FINES AND FORFEITURES</b>	
	<b>I. Miscellaneous Revenues</b>	
4800	Miscellaneous Revenues	
4820	Earnings on Investments	3,077
	<b>I. TOTAL MISCELLANEOUS REVENUES</b>	<b>3,077</b>
	<b>TOTAL GENERAL FUND REVENUES</b>	<b>5,275,102</b>
	<b>J. Other Financing Sources</b>	
4990	Other Financing Sources	
	<b>J. TOTAL OTHER FINANCING SOURCES</b>	
	<b>TOTAL GENERAL FUND REVENUES AND OTHER FINANCIAL SOURCES</b>	<b>5,275,102</b>
	<b>K. Interfund Operating Transfers</b>	
4972	Transfers from Special Revenue Funds	
4973	Transfers from Capital Projects Funds	
4975	Transfers from Enterprise Funds	1,705
4976	Transfers from Trust Funds	
4977	Transfers from Agency Funds	
	<b>K. TOTAL INTERFUND OPERATING TRANSFERS</b>	<b>1,705</b>
	<b>TOTAL GENERAL FUND REVENUES, OTHER FINANCING SOURCES, AND INTERFUND OPERATING TRANSFERS</b>	<b>\$ 5,276,807</b>

Schedule A

Part II General Fund Expenditures and Other Financing Uses (Fund 01) Fiscal Year 2017

GENERAL GOVERNMENT (100)												
Account Number	Object of Expenditure	Legislative	Executive	Accountant Auditor	Collector	Treasurer	Law Dept. Town/City Counsel	Public Building Properties Maintenance	Assessors	Operations Support	License & Registration	Conservation Commission
5100	Salary and Wages		37,626	23,308	22,687	22,000		5,114	26,046		29,601	
5700	Expenditures		3,395	2,900	9,201	6,966	3,236	45,789	23,621	34,992	7,292	244
5800A	Construction											
5800B	Capitol Outlay											
	<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>41,021</b>	<b>26,208</b>	<b>31,888</b>	<b>28,966</b>	<b>3,236</b>	<b>50,903</b>	<b>49,667</b>	<b>34,992</b>	<b>36,893</b>	<b>244</b>

PUBLIC SAFETY (200)						
Account Number	Object of Expenditure	Police	Fire	Emergency Medical Services	Inspection	Other
5100	Salary and Wages	90,452	2,773		31,052	
5700	Expenditures	28,428	30,048	3,635	4,003	17,176
5800A	Construction					
5800B	Capital Outlay					
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>118,880</b>	<b>32,821</b>	<b>3,635</b>	<b>35,055</b>	<b>17,176</b>

EDUCATION (300)						
Account Number	Object of Expenditure	Education	Regional School Assessment 1	Regional School Assessment 2	Regional School Assessment 3	Regional School Assessment 4
5100	Salary and Wages					
5700	Expenditures	2,970,757				
5800A	Construction					
5800B	Capital Outlay					
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>2,970,757</b>				

PUBLIC WORKS (400)									
Account Number	Object of Expenditure	Highway/Streets Snow & Ice	Highway/Streets Other	Waste Collection & Disposal	Sewer Collection & Disposal	Water Distribution	Street Lighting	Other	
5100	Salary and Wages		259,983	25,796				19,802	
5700	Expenditures	176,350	262,267	94,933			47,000	21,850	
5800A	Construction								
5800B	Capital Outlay								
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>176,350</b>	<b>522,250</b>	<b>120,729</b>			<b>47,000</b>	<b>41,652</b>	

HUMAN SERVICES (500)						
Account Number	Object of Expenditure	Health Services	Clinical Services	Special Program	Veterans Services	Other
5100	Salary and Wages	11,972		14,003	1,948	
5700	Expenditures	6,275		5,300	10,850	
5800A	Construction					
5000B	Capital Outlay					
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>18,247</b>		<b>19,303</b>	<b>12,798</b>	

CULTURE AND RECREATION (600)							
Account Number	Object of Expenditure	Library	Recreation	Parks	Historical Commission	Celebrations	Other
5100	Salary and Wages	11,956					
5700	Expenditures	11,527	5,263		398		
5800A	Construction						
5800B	Capital Outlay						
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>23,483</b>	<b>5,263</b>		<b>398</b>		

DEBT SERVICE (700)					
Account Number	Object of Expenditure	Retirement of Debt Principal	Interest on Long Term Debt	Interest on Short Term Debt	Other Interest
5900	Debt Service	126,337	33,619	5,637	
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>126,337</b>	<b>33,619</b>	<b>5,637</b>	

UNCLASSIFIED (900)										
Account Number	Object of Expenditure	Workers Compensation	Unemployment	Health Insurance	Other Employee Benefits	Court Judgements	Other Insurance	Intergovernmental Assessments	Retirement	Other
0001	Unclassified			217,962	9,176		74,432	28,276	87,788	17,921
	<b>TOTAL</b>			<b>217,962</b>	<b>9,176</b>		<b>74,432</b>	<b>28,276</b>	<b>87,788</b>	<b>17,921</b>

TRANSFERS/OTHER FINANCING USES (0001)	
Account Number	Object of Expenditure Amount
5960	Transfers to Other Funds 40,000
5690	Other Financing Uses
	<b>TOTAL 40,000</b>

TOTAL ALL GENERAL FUND EXPENDITURES		Total
Account Number	Object of Expenditure	
	<b>Expenditures</b>	
5100	Salary and Wages	636,119
5700	Expenditures	3,833,696
5800A	Construction	
5800B	Capital Outlay	
5900	Debt Service	165,593
0001	Unclassified	435,555
	<b>TOTAL GENERAL FUND EXPENDITURES</b>	<b>5,070,963</b>
	<b>Other Financing Uses</b>	
5960	Transfers to Other Funds	40,000
5990	Other Financing Uses	
	<b>TOTAL TRANSFERS AND OTHER FINANCING USES</b>	<b>40,000</b>
	<b>TOTAL GENERAL FUND</b>	<b>5,110,963</b>



# Town of Cheshire FY2017 Expenditure Report

Account Number	NAME	BUDGETED	EXPENDED	UNEXPENDED
<b>MODERATOR</b>				
01-5-001-001	Moderator Salary	50.00	-50.00	0.00
01-5-001-002	Moderator Expenses	25.00	0.00	25.00
	<b>Total</b>	<b>75.00</b>	<b>-50.00</b>	<b>25.00</b>
<b>SELECTMEN</b>				
01-5-002-001	Selectmen Salary Chair	2,563.00	-2,563.00	0.00
01-5-002-002	Selectmen Clerk	2,563.00	-2,563.00	0.00
01-5-002-003	Selectmen Third Mem.	2,563.00	-2,563.00	0.00
01-5-002-004	Selectmen Secretary	5,685.00	-5,685.00	0.00
01-5-002-005	Selectmen Expenses	3,400.00	-3,030.47	369.53
01-5-002-009	Select Conserv Consult S.	500.00	0.00	500.00
01-5-002-010	Select Conserv Expenses	2,400.00	-244.22	2,155.78
01-0-002-011	Selectmen Town Council	7,500.00	-3,236.00	4,264.00
01-5-002-012	Select Clean Lake Program	14,000.00	-13,000.00	1,000.00
01-5-002-013	Selectmen Administrator	20,910.00	-20,910.00	0.00
01-5-002-014	Selectmen Admin Expenses	300.00	-166.65	133.35
01-5-002-015	Selectmen Group Purchasing	600.00	0.00	600.00
01-5-002-016	Town Audit	7,500.00	0.00	7,500.00
01-5-002-018	Town Administrator Assistant Salary	4,458.00	-3,292.29	1,165.71
	<b>Total</b>	<b>74,942.00</b>	<b>-57,253.63</b>	<b>17,688.37</b>
<b>ACCOUNTANT</b>				
01-5-003-001	Accountant Salary	23,308.00	-23,308.00	0.00
01-5-003-002	Accountant Expenses/Dues	1,700.00	-1,700.00	0.00
01-5-003-004	Accounting Software	1,200.00	-1,200.00	0.00
01-5-003-005	Art 6 ATM FY2011 Accounting/Treasurer Software	0.00	0.00	0.00
	<b>Total</b>	<b>26,208.00</b>	<b>-26,208.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>
<b>TREASURER</b>				
01-5-004-001	Treasurer Salary	22,000.00	-22,000.00	0.00
01-5-004-002	Treasurer Expenses Postage	5,200.00	-4,791.89	408.11
01-5-004-003	Treasurer Mileage & Trips	200.00	-196.32	3.68
01-5-004-004	Treasurer Education	200.00	-125.00	75.00
01-5-004-005	Treasurer / Accountant Software	1,250.00	-1,297.00	-47.00
01-5-004-006	Treasurer / Tax Title Fees	16,728.72	-556.00	16,172.72
	<b>Total</b>	<b>45,578.72</b>	<b>-28,966.21</b>	<b>16,612.51</b>
<b>TAX COLLECTOR</b>				
01-5-005-001	Tax Collector Salary	22,687.00	-22,687.00	0.00
01-5-005-002	Tax Collector Postage	4,000.00	-4,001.01	-1.01
01-5-005-003	Tax Collector Office Expense	4,200.00	-4,200.00	0.00
01-5-005-004	Tax Collector Contract Serv.	1,000.00	-1,000.00	0.00
01-5-005-005	Tax Collector Tax Title / Fees	4,000.00	0.00	4,000.00
	<b>Total</b>	<b>35,887.00</b>	<b>-31,888.01</b>	<b>3,998.99</b>

Account Number	NAME	BUDGETED	EXPENDED	UNEXPENDED
<b>ASSESSORS</b>				
01-5-006-001	Assessors Salary Chairman	3,246.00	-3,246.00	0.00
01-5-006-002	Assessors Clerk	2,705.00	-2,705.00	0.00
01-5-006-003	Assessors Third Member	2,705.00	-2,705.00	0.00
01-5-005-004	Assessors Admin. Assessor	17,483.00	-17,390.00	93.00
01-5-006-005	Assessors Supplies	1,500.00	-823.77	676.23
01-5-006-007	Assessors Computer	1,700.00	-145.00	1,555.00
01-5-006-008	Assessors Education	500.00	-435.00	65.00
01-5-006-011	Assessors Contracted Svcs	35,100.00	-22,217.08	12,882.92
	<b>Total</b>	<b>64,939.00</b>	<b>-49,666.85</b>	<b>15,272.15</b>
<b>ADVISORY BOARD</b>				
01-5-007-001	Advisory Board Expenses	50.00	-42.78	7.22
01-5-007-002	Advisory Board Dues	155.00	-155.00	0.00
01-5-007-003	Advisory Board Meetings Mileage	500.00	0.00	500.00
	<b>Total</b>	<b>705.00</b>	<b>-197.78</b>	<b>507.22</b>
<b>TOWN CLERK</b>				
01-5-008-001	Town Clerk Salary	17,460.00	-17,460.00	0.00
01-5-008-002	Town Clerk Expenses	1,950.00	-1,766.79	183.21
01-5-008-003	Town Clerk Dog License Exp	500.00	-385.15	114.85
01-5-008-004	Town Clerk Education	1,200.00	-601.43	598.57
01-5-008-005	Town Clerk Book Repair	3,000.00	-2,522.00	478.00
01-5-008-006	Town Clerk Copy Machine	850.00	-625.52	224.48
01-5-008-007	Town Clerk Service Contract	1,000.00	-945.00	55.00
01-5-008-008	Town Clerk Census / Lists	3,500.00	-1,998.54	1,501.46
	<b>Total</b>	<b>29,460.00</b>	<b>-26,304.43</b>	<b>3,155.57</b>
<b>BOARD OF REGISTRARS</b>				
01-5-009-001	Board of Registrars Registrars	8,000.00	-2,141.02	5,858.98
	<b>Total</b>	<b>8,000.00</b>	<b>-2,141.02</b>	<b>5,858.98</b>
<b>ELECTIONS</b>				
01-5-010-000	Elections	10,000.00	-10,000.00	0.00
	<b>Total</b>	<b>10,000.00</b>	<b>-10,000.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>
<b>VITAL STATISTICS</b>				
01-5-011-000	Vital Statistics	100.00	-18.00	82.00
	<b>Total</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>-18.00</b>	<b>82.00</b>
<b>TOWN REPORTS</b>				
01-5-012-000	Town Reports Printing	3,000.00	-2,097.47	902.53
	<b>Total</b>	<b>3,000.00</b>	<b>-2,097.47</b>	<b>902.53</b>
<b>PLANNING BOARD</b>				
01-5-013-001	Planning Board Expenses	2,000.00	-475.36	1,524.64
01-5-013-002	Planning Board Berksh. Reg. Plan. Comm.	2,394.00	-2,393.51	0.49
01-5-013-003	Planning Board Contracted Serv.	2,000.00	-1,333.31	666.69
01-5-013-005	FY17 Master Plan	15,000.00	-13,750.00	1,250.00
	<b>Total</b>	<b>21,394.00</b>	<b>-17,952.18</b>	<b>3,441.82</b>

Account Number	NAME	BUDGETED	EXPENDED	UNEXPENDED
<b>ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS</b>				
01-5-014-000	Zoning Board of Appeals	900.00	-516.63	383.37
01-5-014-001	Zoning Board - Contract Svcs	800.00	-142.60	657.40
	<b>Total</b>	<b>1,700.00</b>	<b>-659.23</b>	<b>1,040.77</b>
<b>BERKSHIRE CTY RETIREMENT</b>				
01-5-015-000	Berkshire Co. Retirement Syst	87,788.00	-87,788.00	0.00
	<b>Total</b>	<b>87,788.00</b>	<b>-87,788.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>
<b>HEALTH INSURANCE</b>				
01-5-016-000	BC/BS	264,167.00	-217,961.57	46,205.43
	<b>Total</b>	<b>264,167.00</b>	<b>-217,961.57</b>	<b>46,205.43</b>
<b>MEDICARE ER SHARE</b>				
01-5-017-000	MEDC Employer Share (SS Tax)	8,300.00	-9,175.82	-875.82
	<b>Total</b>	<b>8,300.00</b>	<b>-9,175.82</b>	<b>-875.82</b>
<b>TOWN BUILDINGS</b>				
01-5-018-001	Town Building Town Hall	19,990.00	-15,381.42	4,608.58
01-5-018-002	Town Building Fire Dept	10,200.00	-9,434.45	765.55
01-5-018-003	Town Building Town Shed	5,100.00	-7,221.27	-2,121.27
01-5-018-004	Town Building Senior Center	4,300.00	-3,343.98	956.02
01-5-018-005	Town Building Telephone System	9,000.00	-12,711.63	-3,711.63
01-5-018-006	Town Building Janitor	4,617.00	-5,114.25	-497.25
	<b>Total</b>	<b>53,207.00</b>	<b>-53,207.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>
<b>SPECIAL REPAIRS</b>				
01-5-519-000	Special Repairs Town Building	11,000.00	-10,408.76	591.24
01-5-019-003	FY16 STM: ART 1. Northeast Energy Project	0.00	0.00	0.00
	<b>Total</b>	<b>11,000.00</b>	<b>-10,408.76</b>	<b>591.24</b>
<b>INSURANCE</b>				
01-5-020-000	Insurance	65,188.00	-61,358.82	3,829.18
	<b>Total</b>	<b>65,188.00</b>	<b>-61,358.82</b>	<b>3,829.18</b>
<b>POLICE DEPT</b>				
01-5-022-501	Police Dept Chief Salary	2,705.00	-2,705.00	0.00
01-5-022-082	Police Dept Officers Salaries	97,500.00	-87,747.16	9,752.84
01-5-022-003	Police Dept General Expenses	4,000.00	-3,185.87	814.13
01-5-022-004	Police Dept Auto Expenses	19,557.54	-19,612.10	-54.56
01-5-022-005	Police Dept Equipment	4,500.00	-5,630.31	-1,130.31
	<b>Total</b>	<b>128,262.54</b>	<b>-118,880.44</b>	<b>9,382.10</b>
<b>ANIMAL CONTROL</b>				
01-5-023-001	Animal Control Officer Salary	3,152.00	-3,152.00	0.00
01-5-023-002	Animal Control Expenses	600.00	-248.18	351.82
01-5-023-003	Animal Control Trans / Disposol	450.00	-124.84	325.16
01-5-023-005	Animal Control Train / Meetings	300.00	0.00	300.00
01-5-023-006	Animal Control Cell Phone	600.00	-442.15	157.85
	<b>Total</b>	<b>5,102.00</b>	<b>-3,967.17</b>	<b>1,134.83</b>

Account Number	NAME	BUDGETED	EXPENDED	UNEXPENDED
<b>FIRE DEPT</b>				
01-5-024-001	Fire Dept Chief Salary	2,773.00	-2,773.00	0.00
01-5-024-002	Fire Dept Expenses	34,079.00	-30,048.41	4,030.59
01-5-024-004	Fire Dept EMS Supplies	4,000.00	-3,634.70	365.30
01-5-024-008	Fire Dept Rescue Veh Loan	9,817.00	-9,817.00	0.00
	<b>Total</b>	<b>50,669.00</b>	<b>-46,273.11</b>	<b>4,395.89</b>
<b>POLICE / FIRE INSURANCE</b>				
01-5-025-000	Police / Fire Dept Accident Ins.	7,933.00	-7,933.00	0.00
01-5-025-002	Police / Fire Disability Ins.	6,306.00	-5,140.00	1,166.00
	<b>Total</b>	<b>14,239.00</b>	<b>-13,073.00</b>	<b>1,166.00</b>
<b>COMMUNICATIONS CTR</b>				
01-5-026-000	Communication Center	17,176.00	-17,175.99	0.01
	<b>Total</b>	<b>17,176.00</b>	<b>-17,175.99</b>	<b>0.01</b>
<b>BUILDING INSPECTOR</b>				
01-5-027-001	Building Inspector Salary	12,300.00	-12,300.00	0.00
01-5-027-002	Building Inspector Exp / Mileage	1,000.00	-516.79	483.21
01-5-027-003	Building Inspect Meetings / Train	1,000.00	-882.00	118.00
01-5-027-004	Building Inspector Assistant	4,100.00	-4,100.00	0.00
	<b>Total</b>	<b>18,400.00</b>	<b>-17,798.79</b>	<b>601.21</b>
<b>GAS/PIPING</b>				
01-5-028-001	Gas / Piping Inspector Salary	1,538.00	-1,538.00	0.00
01-5-028-002	Gas / Piping Inspector Expenses	200.00	-200.00	0.00
01-5-028-003	Gas / Piping Inspector Travel Exp	200.00	-200.00	0.00
01-5-028-004	Gas / Piping Inspector Assistant	502.00	-502.00	0.00
	<b>Total</b>	<b>2,440.00</b>	<b>-2,440.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>
<b>WIRE INSPECTOR</b>				
01-5-029-001	Wire Inspector Salary	6,000.00	-6,000.00	0.00
01-5-029-002	Wire Inspector Expenses	300.00	-629.35	-329.35
01-5-029-003	Wire Inspector Travel Exp	625.00	-360.00	265.00
01-5-029-004	Wire Inspector Assistant Solar	420.00	420.00	0.00
	<b>Total</b>	<b>7,345.00</b>	<b>-7,409.35</b>	<b>-64.35</b>
<b>TREE WARDEN</b>				
01-5-030-003	Tree Warden Tree / Stump Removal	15,000.00	-15,420.00	-420.00
01-5-030-004	Tree Warden Tree Replacement	1,000.00	-1,000.00	0.00
	<b>Total</b>	<b>16,000.00</b>	<b>-16,420.00</b>	<b>-420.00</b>
<b>CIVIL DEFENSE</b>				
01-5-031-001	Civil Defense Expenses	500.00	0.00	500.00
01-5-031-002	Civil Defense Supplies	500.00	0.00	500.00
	<b>Total</b>	<b>1,000.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>1,000.00</b>

Account Number	NAME	BUDGETED	EXPENDED	UNEXPENDED
<b>BOARD OF HEALTH</b>				
01-5-032-001	Board of Health Chairman Salary	3,500.00	-3,500.00	0.00
01-5-032-002	Board of Health 2nd Member	3,500.00	-3,500.00	0.00
01-5-032-003	Board of Health 3rd Member	3,500.00	-3,500.00	0.00
01-5-032-004	Board of Health Expenses	3,580.00	-2,463.97	1,116.03
01-5-032-005	Board of Health Software	150.00	0.00	150.00
01-5-032-006	Board of Health Equipment	500.00	0.00	500.00
01-5-032-007	Board of Health Secretary	3,100.00	-1,472.24	1,627.76
01-5-032-008	BOH Maven Reporting	3,718.00	3,811.00	-93.00
	<b>Total</b>	<b>21,548.00</b>	<b>-18,247.21</b>	<b>3,300.79</b>
<b>ANIMAL INSPECTOR</b>				
01-5-033-001	Animal Inspector Salary	831.00	-831.00	0.00
01-5-033-002	Animal Inspector Expenses	150.00	0.00	150.00
01-5-033-003	Animal Inspector Rabies Testing	540.00	0.00	540.00
	<b>Total</b>	<b>1,521.00</b>	<b>-831.00</b>	<b>690.00</b>
<b>PLUMBING INSPECTOR</b>				
01-5-034-001	Plumbing Inspector Salary	1,691.00	-1,691.00	0.00
01-5-034-002	Plumbing Inspector Expense	200.00	-200.00	0.00
01-5-034-003	Plumbing Inspector Travel Exp	200.00	-200.00	0.00
01-5-034-004	Plumbing Inspector Assistant	518.00	-518.00	0.00
	<b>Total</b>	<b>2,609.00</b>	<b>-2,609.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>
<b>TOWN COMPACTOR</b>				
01-5-035-001	Town Compactor Caretaker Salary	26,403.00	-25,489.64	913.36
01-5-035-002	Town Compactor Bd of Health Collection	1,00.00	-305.68	694.32
01-5-035-003	Town Compactor Oper Exp	89,000.00	-63,801.46	25,198.54
01-5-035-004	Town Compactor Site Maint	2,600.00	-2,473.05	126.95
01-5-035-005	Town Compactor Bags / Stickers	8,500.00	-6,812.50	1,687.50
01-5-035-006	Town Compactor Training / Edu	150.00	-245.00	-95.00
	<b>Total</b>	<b>127,653.00</b>	<b>-99,127.33</b>	<b>28,525.67</b>
<b>RECYCLING</b>				
01-5-036-000	Recycling Account	33,000.00	-21,600.96	11,399.04
	<b>Total</b>	<b>33,000.00</b>	<b>-21,600.96</b>	<b>11,399.04</b>
<b>STREET LIGHTS</b>				
01-5-037-000	Street Lights	47,000.00	-47,000.00	0.00
	<b>Total</b>	<b>47,000.00</b>	<b>-47,000.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>
<b>HIGHWAY ADMIN</b>				
01-5-039-001	Highway Salaries	227,937.00	-223,967.49	3,969.51
01-5-039-002	Highway Vacation & Fringe Bene	27,308.00	-36,016.21	-8,708.21
01-5-039-003	Highway Dues & Meetings	500.00	-1,353.35	-853.35
	<b>Total</b>	<b>255,745.00</b>	<b>-261,337.05</b>	<b>-5,592.05</b>
<b>HIGHWAY TOOLS / GAS / OIL</b>				
01-5-040-000	Road Machinery Tool / Gas / Oil	120,000.00	-135,026.38	-15,026.38
	<b>Total</b>	<b>120,000.00</b>	<b>-135,026.38</b>	<b>-15,026.38</b>

Account Number	NAME	BUDGETED	EXPENDED	UNEXPENDED
<b>SNOW &amp; ICE REMOVAL</b>				
01-5-041-000	Snow & Ice Removal	180,000.00	-176,350.48	3,649.52
	<b>Total</b>	<b>180,000.00</b>	<b>-176,350.48</b>	<b>3,649.52</b>
<b>HIGHWAY MAINTENANCE</b>				
01-5-042-001	Highway Dept Repair Town Roads	36,600.00	-32,622.47	3,977.53
01-5-042-002	Highway Dept Town Roads / Bridges	35,000.00	-14,881.93	20,118.07
01-5-042-003	Highway Dept Street Repair	32,000.00	-28,757.97	3,242.03
01-5-042-004	Highway Dept Curbing & Culverts	5,000.00	0.00	5,000.00
01-5-042-005	Highway Dept Guard Rails	10,000.00	-10,000.00	0.00
01-5-042-006	Highway Dept Blacktop	54,000.00	-19,891.19	34,108.81
01-5-042-007	Highway Dept Engineering Serv	7,500.00	0.00	7,500.00
01-5-042-008	Highway Dept Stream Cleaning	6,000.00	-1,880.00	4,120.00
01-5-042-009	Highway Dept New Truck Payment	40,170.00	-40,170.00	0.00
01-5-042-025	Heavy Equipment Rental	10,000.00	-1,435.00	8,565.00
	<b>Total</b>	<b>236,270.00</b>	<b>-149,638.56</b>	<b>86,631.44</b>
<b>RECREATION</b>				
01-5-043-000	General Recreation Expense	6,920.00	-4,395.89	2,524.11
	<b>Total</b>	<b>6,920.00</b>	<b>-4,395.89</b>	<b>2,524.11</b>
<b>MEMORIAL DAY</b>				
01-5-044-000	Memorial Day	1,000.00	-866.86	133.14
	<b>Total</b>	<b>1,000.00</b>	<b>-866.86</b>	<b>133.14</b>
<b>LIBRARY</b>				
01-5-045-001	Library Salary	13,360.00	-11,955.50	1,404.50
01-5-045-002	Library New Books Magazines	8,900.00	-7,937.32	962.68
01-5-045-003	Library Insurance	950.00	-725.00	225.00
01-5-045-004	Library Exp Supplies Misc.	1,500.00	-1,463.67	38.33
01-5-045-087	Library ILL Loan Replacemts	100.00	0.00	100.00
01-5-045-008	Library Education	200.00	0.00	200.00
01-5-045-009	Library Programs	700.00	-453.78	246.22
01-5-045-010	CWMARS Annual Fee	2,000.00	-947.32	1,052.68
	<b>Total</b>	<b>27,710.00</b>	<b>-23,482.59</b>	<b>4,227.41</b>
<b>VETERANS</b>				
01-5-046-001	Veterans Agents Salary	1,948.00	-1,948.00	0.00
01-5-046-003	Veterans Benefits	10,000.00	-10,850.00	-850.00
01-5-046-005	Veterans Cemetery Flags	800.00	0.00	800.00
01-5-046-006	Veterans Dues for Assoc.	50.00	0.00	50.00
	<b>Total</b>	<b>12,798.00</b>	<b>-12,798.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>
<b>CEMETERY</b>				
01-5-047-001	Cemetery Chairman Salary	772.00	-772.00	0.00
01-5-047-002	Cemetery 2nd Member Salary	772.00	-772.00	0.00
01-5-047-003	Cemetery 3rd Member Salary	772.00	-772.00	0.00
01-5-047-004	Cemetery Labor	24,954.00	-17,486.13	7,467.87
01-5-047-006	Equip Mowers Loam Tools	6,149.48	-8,699.87	-2,550.39
01-5-047-007	Cemetery Admin & Supplies	1,060.00	-149.99	910.01
	<b>Total</b>	<b>34,479.48</b>	<b>-28,651.99</b>	<b>5,827.49</b>

Account Number	NAME	BUDGETED	EXPENDED	UNEXPENDED
<b>RESERVE FUND</b>				
01-5-048-000	Reserve Fund	20,000.00	-17,921.30	2,078.70
01-5-048-001	Capital Equipment Stabilization Account	20,000.00	-20,000.00	0.00
01-5-048-025	Stabilization Fund	20,000.00	-20,000.00	0.00
	<b>Total</b>	<b>60,000.00</b>	<b>-57,921.30</b>	<b>2,078.70</b>
<b>COUNCIL ON AGING</b>				
01-5-050-001	Council on Aging Gen Exp	500.00	-667.27	-167.27
01-5-050-002	Council on Aging Van Exp	5,900.00	-2,210.49	3,689.51
81-5-050-003	Council on Aging Van Oper Sal	12,724.00	-14,003.28	-1,279.28
01-5-050-004	Council on Aging Contracted Services	3,259.00	-2,422.75	836.25
	<b>Total</b>	<b>22,383.00</b>	<b>-19,303.79</b>	<b>3,079.21</b>
<b>HISTORICAL COMMISSION</b>				
01-5-051-000	Historical Commission	500.00	-397.95	102.05
01-5-051-001	Cheshire Agricultural Commission	500.00	0.00	500.00
	<b>Total</b>	<b>1,000.00</b>	<b>-397.95</b>	<b>602.05</b>
<b>INTEREST ON NOTES</b>				
01-5-052-000	Interest on Anticipated Notes	5,000.00	-1,000.00	4,000.00
01-5-052-001	Well Bond Payment	109,969.00	-109,968.76	0.24
01-5-052-003	New Fire Truck FY2016 Yr 1	3,366.00	-3,365.62	0.38
01-5-052-004	New Highway Truck Loan (FY2016)	1,271.00	-1,271.46	-0.46
	<b>Total</b>	<b>119,606.00</b>	<b>-115,605.84</b>	<b>4,000.16</b>
<b>ACRSD</b>				
01-5-058-001	ACRSD Foundation Budget	1,987,506.00	-1,987,506.00	0.00
01-5-058-002	ACRSD Transportation	170,426.00	-170,426.00	0.00
01-5-058-003	ACRSD Over-Foundation	255,659.00	-255,659.00	0.00
01-5-058-011	ACRSD Bldg Project Interest Only	226,473.00	-215,757.50	10,715.50
	<b>Total</b>	<b>2,640,064.00</b>	<b>-2,629,348.50</b>	<b>10,715.50</b>
<b>VOCATIONAL</b>				
01-5-061-000	Vocational School	346,559.00	-341,407.15	5,151.85
	<b>Total</b>	<b>346,559.00</b>	<b>-341,407.15</b>	<b>5,151.85</b>
<b>STATE ASSESSMENTS</b>				
01-5-100-001	State Assess -Air Pollution	0.00	-855.00	-855.00
01-5-100-002	State Assess - RMV Nonrenewal	0.00	-2,620.00	-2,620.00
01-5-100-003	State Assess - Regional Transi	0.00	-24,801.00	-24,801.00
	<b>Total</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>-28,276.00</b>	<b>-28,276.00</b>
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>		<b>5,370,137.74</b>	<b>-5,110,964.96</b>	<b>259,172.78</b>

# Town of Cheshire Water Enterprise Fund FY2017

EXPENSES	BUDGETED	EXPENDED	UNEXPENDED
<b><u>WATER DEPT OPERATING AND MAINTENANCE</u></b>			
Chairman Salary	2,899.00	-2,899.00	-2,899.00
2nd Member Salary	2,899.00	-2,899.00	-2,899.00
3rd Member Salary	2,899.00	-2,899.00	-2,899.00
Superintendent	55,000.00	-55,000.00	-55,000.00
Collector	10,000.00	-10,000.00	-10,000.00
Licenses Operator	7,000.00	-7,005.31	-7,005.31
Operating Expense	40,000.00	-47,313.50	-47,313.50
Overhead Allocation from Town	45,000.00	-1,705.00	-1,705.00
Maintenance Costs	26,800.00	-31,004.54	-31,004.54
<b>Total</b>	<b>192,497.00</b>	<b>-160,725.35</b>	<b>31,771.65</b>
<b><u>IMPROVEMENTS WATER DEPT</u></b>			
Improvements Pipe Replacement	23,000.00	-5,516.00	-5,516.00
Improvements Debt Service	55,000.00	-23,237.48	-23,237.48
<b>Total</b>	<b>78,000.00</b>	<b>-28,753.48</b>	<b>49,246.52</b>
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 270,497.00</b>	<b>\$ (189,478.83)</b>	<b>\$ 81,018.17</b>



# Treasurer's Report

To the Board of Selectmen and the Town of Cheshire:

The Annual Report of the Town Treasurer for FY 2017 is hereby submitted:

Departmental Receipts	Receipt Detail	Total Receipts	Departmental Receipts	Receipt Detail	Total Receipts
<b>Board of Assessors</b>			<b>Interest</b>		
Copy charges	273.00	273.00	General Fund	3,077.32	
<b>Board of Health</b>			Trust Funds	3,097.10	6,174.42
Bags & Stickers	99,893.00		<b>Police Dept</b>		
Transfer Station - Demo	5,797.00		Details	33,582.00	
Permits	2,240.00		Permits	11,487.50	
Perc Tests	1,637.50	109,567.50	Fees/Fines	4,701.75	49,771.25
<b>Board of Selectmen</b>			<b>Refunds</b>	1,652.21	1,652.21
Licenses/Fees	16,432.11		<b>Tax Collector</b>		
Misc Receipts	5,251.85	21,683.96	Taxes/Interest/Fees	4,315,845.40	4,315,845.40
<b>Building Inspector</b>			<b>Town Clerk</b>		
Permits	23,051.43	23,051.43	Dog Licenses	5,045.00	
<b>Cemetery</b>			Fines/Late fees	495.00	
Grave Openings	5,700.00		Rental Town Buildings	375.00	
Misc Work/Weekend	2,100.00		Miscellaneous	472.25	6,387.25
Equipment Use	300.00		<b>Treasurer</b>		
Deed Fees	80.00		Health Insurance Premiums	54,442.00	
Sale of Lots	2,875.00		Tax Titles	5,263.61	
Perpetual Care Fund	4,700.00	15,755.00	Tax Title Interest/Fees	2,079.69	
<b>Commonwealth of MA</b>			Miscellaneous	5,132.65	66,917.95
CMVI - RMV Infractions	11,302.50		<b>Water Department</b>		
General Government (Lottery)	562,400.00		Rents	205,444.64	
State owned land	108,806.00		Work Permits	10,236.19	
Elderly/Blind Exemption Reimbursements	33,582.00		Interest/fees	367.44	216,048.27
N. Berkshire District			<b>Wire Inspector</b>		
Court Reports	1,050.00		Permits	26,189.50	26,189.50
EMPG Grant	2,451.92		<b>Zoning Board</b>	400.00	400.00
Other State Revenue	160.00		<b>TOTAL RECEIPTS</b>		
Elder Affairs Grant	7,861.00		<b>FY 2017:</b>	<b>5,779,413.23</b>	<b>5,779,413.23</b>
Elder Affairs Incentive Grant	7,369.53				
Library Grant	4,039.11				
CCC Grant (IT)	3,750.00				
PILOT	888.00				
<b>Board of Health</b>					
Recycling Program	500.00				
Police Bullet Proof Vests	828.00				
Veteran Services	19,095.60				
Extended Polling	780.00				
Master Plan Grant	11,250.00				
Chapter 90	112,656.43	888,770.09			
<b>Council on Aging</b>					
Van Receipts	1,198.00	1,198.00			
<b>Plumbing Inspector</b>					
Permits	4,270.00	4,270.00			
<b>Fire Dept</b>					
Grants	22,858.00				
Permits	2,600.00	25,458.00			
			<b>Balance June 30, 2017</b>		<b>\$ 839,434.81</b>

## SCHEDULE OF TRUST FUNDS:

Stabilization	\$ 486,589.37
Capital Equipment Stabilization	32,279.08
Cemetery Dept. - Perpetual Care	168,173.65
Cemetery Dept. - Sale of Lots	26,867.90
Cemetery Dept. - Whipple and Harkness	32,369.47
Cemetery Dept. - Dumont	6,117.46
Cemetery Dept.- Benjamin & Phyllis Bissell	1,450.59
Cemetery Dept. - John L. Brown	1,593.51
Cemetery Dept. - Lorraine N. Braund	52,293.06
Philip Burns Public Library	6,694.58
Philip Burns Public School	19,733.38
Westminster Chime	1,466.81
Veteran's Memorial	3,805.95

**SCHEDULE OF GRANT FUNDS**

Police Dept.- Bullet Proof Vests	\$ 848.00
Council on Aging – Elder Affairs	101.13
Library	22,988.46
Council on Aging Incentive	(2,630.85)
MA Technology Collaborative	584.77
EMPG Grant	2,451.92
CCC Grant (IT)	3,750.00
MArtap	357.94
Board of Health Recycling Program	2,706.36
<b>Balance June 30, 2017</b>	<b>\$ 31,157.73</b>

**LOANS**

**BOND ANTICIPATION NOTE –  
DEPARTMENTAL EQUIPMENT**

**Easthampton Savings Bank**

Loan Amount (RENEWAL)	\$ 620,000.00
Loan Amount (NEW)	125,000.00
<b>Total Loan Amount</b>	<b>\$ 745,000.00</b>
Highway Truck I:	\$ 170,000.00
Fire Truck:	450,000.00
Highway Truck II:	125,000.00
Issue Date – February 3, 2017	
Due Date – February 2, 2018	
Interest Rate – 1.15%	
Balance July 1, 2016	0.00
Annual Payment Amount	0.00
Interest Expense	\$ 0.00
<b>Balance June 30, 2017</b>	<b>\$ 745,000.00</b>

**BOND ANTICIPATION NOTE –  
DEPARTMENTAL EQUIPMENT**

**Greenfield Co-operative Bank**

Loan Amount	\$ 620,000.00
Highway Truck:	\$ 170,000.00
Fire Truck:	450,000.00
Issue Date – February 4, 2016	
Due Date – February 3, 2017	
Interest Rate – 0.75%	
Balance July 1, 2016	620,000.00
Annual Payment Amount	620,000.00
Interest Expense	\$ 4,637.08
<b>Balance June 30, 2017</b>	<b>\$ 0.00</b>

**WATER SYSTEM IMPROVEMENTS BOND ISSUE**

<b>USDA RUS Loan:</b>	<b>\$ 455,000</b>
<b>USDA RUS Grant:</b>	<b>150,440</b>
Amount of Bond Issue at Inception	\$ 455,000.00
Issue Date – April 28, 2016	
Term of Bond – 35 years	
With interest payable annually	
Interest Rate – 2.25%	
Balance July 1, 2016	455,000.00
Annual Payment Amount	13,000.00
Interest Expense	\$ 10,237.50
<b>Balance June 30, 2017</b>	<b>\$ 442,000.00</b>

**HIGHWAY DEPT. TRUCK LOAN**

**Hampden Bank**

Loan Amount	\$ 195,000.00
Issue Date – March 7, 2013	
Due Date – March 7, 2018	
Interest Rate – 1.50%	
Balance July 1, 2016	78,000.00
Annual Payment Amount	39,000.00
Interest Expense	\$ 1,170.00
<b>Balance June 30, 2017</b>	<b>\$ 39,000.00</b>

**LAND ACQUISITION BOND ISSUE**

Amount of Bond Issue at Inception	\$ 1,158,925.00
Issue Date – December 15, 2009	
Term of Bond – 15 years	
With interest payable semiannually	
Interest Rate – 2.75%	
Balance July 1, 2016	725,000.00
Annual Payment Amount	80,000.00
Interest Expense	\$ 29,968.76
<b>Balance June 30, 2017</b>	<b>\$ 645,000.00</b>

**FIRE DEPT. – EMERGENCY RESCUE VEHICLE  
BOND ISSUE**

**USDA Rural Development**

Issue Date – March 11, 2008	
Due Date – March 11, 2023	
Total vehicle cost	\$ 165,000.00
Less Grant award	57,750.00
Loan Amount	107,250.00
Interest Rate – 4.25%	
Balance July 1, 2016	58,359.76
Annual Payment Amount	7,336.71
Interest Expense	\$ 2,480.29
<b>Balance June 30, 2017</b>	<b>\$ 51,023.05</b>

Respectfully submitted,

Rebecca Herzog

# Tax Collector

To the Board of Selectmen and the Town of Cheshire:

The Annual Report of the Tax Collector for FY 2017 is hereby submitted:

**Outstanding Taxes as of July 1, 2016:**

Real Estate	\$ 175,661.52
Personal Property	4,242.84
Motor Vehicle	44,408.53
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 224,312.89</b>

**Committed to collect:**

Real Estate	\$ 3,672,382.83
Personal Property	98,153.54
Motor Vehicle	569,029.63
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 4,339,566.00</b>

**Turned over to the Treasurer:**

Real Estate Taxes	\$ 3,601,088.40
Personal Property Taxes	98,153.54
Motor Vehicle Excise Taxes	553,235.19
Mobile Home Excise	15,384.00
Interest	24,618.27
Registry Marking Fees	2,700.00
Municipal Lien Fees	2,000.00
Tax Collector Fees	8,425.00
Deputy Collector Fees	10,241.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 4,315,845.40</b>

**Abateements/Exemptions:**

Real Estate	\$ 25,977.92
Motor Vehicle	13,298.22
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 39,276.14</b>

**Refunds:**

Real Estate	\$ 3,594.35
Motor Vehicle	7,919.37
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 11,513.72</b>

**Outstanding Taxes as of June 30, 2017:**

Real Estate	\$ 224,580.13
Personal Property	4,242.84
Motor Vehicle	54,824.12
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 283,647.09</b>

**Hoosac Lake District**

Outstanding Taxes July 1, 2016:	\$ 3,608.45
Committed to collect:	13,860.43
Turned over to Treasurer:	-14,442.69
<b>Outstanding Taxes June 30, 2017:</b>	<b>\$ 3,026.19</b>

Respectfully submitted,

Rebecca Herzog

# Board of Assessors

The annual report of the Board of Assessors for Fiscal Year 2017 is hereby submitted.

Fiscal year 2017 Real Estate and Personal Property taxes were committed to the Tax Collector on September 27, 2016.

The elected Board of Assessors is required to value all property in the town annually, at full and fair cash value (market value). Much of our direction comes from Chapter 59 of the Massachusetts General Laws.

The Department of Revenue is charged, by statute, with the responsibility of certifying every three years that the Assessors are complying with the statutes and that they do so, fairly and equitably.

Market value of property is generally determined by using the sales price of similar properties from the preceding year. These sale prices are extrapolated into previous cost tables, to then be applied to all parcels.

FY 2017 was an interim adjustment year. Sales were analyzed and no changes were made to the cost or land tables.

The tax rate increased from \$12.26 to \$12.39

The Hoosac Lake District tax rate changed from \$0.53 to \$0.55.

## Real Estate & Personal Property Commitments and Abatements

### Commitments

Type	No. of Bills	Tax	Valuation
Real Estate	1,618	\$ 3,672,382.83	\$ 296,398,879.00
Personal Prop	29	98,153.54	7,921,997.00
Hoosac Lake Dist	108	13,860.43	25,200,400.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,755</b>	<b>\$ 3,784,396.80</b>	<b>\$329,521,276.00</b>

### Abatements & Exemptions

Abatements	4	\$ 2,005.94
Verizon PP FY 2010	1	928.45
Verizon PP FY 2011	1	874.44
Elderly Exempt	19	4,625.00
Veteran Exempt	24	18,146.98
Blind Exempt	2	875.00
Clause 18 Exempt	1	325.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>51</b>	<b>\$ 27,380.81</b>

## Motor Vehicle Excise Commitments & Abatements

### Commitments

Year	No. of Bills	Tax
1997	1	\$ 12.50
2016	572	56,452.24
2017	3,976	512,564.89
<b>Total</b>	<b>4,549</b>	<b>\$ 569,029.63</b>

### Abatements

Year	No. of Abatements	Tax Abated
2014	1	\$ 42.50
2016	82	5,406.40
2017	85	7,849.32
<b>Total</b>	<b>168</b>	<b>\$ 13,298.22</b>

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara Astorino  
Everett Martin  
Laurie Charon

# Board of Health

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May 8, 2017

To the citizens of the Town of Cheshire, the Board of Health hereby submits the annual report for 2018.

Our recycling efforts have been very good this year. We always feel that there is more room for improvement. We would like to thank everyone for their efforts and keep up the good work.

The Board would like to let the Town know we will be turning back \$69,102 to the Town for the sale of bags, stickers, demo and permits. Sticker and Bag sales changed from calendar year to fiscal year.

Two Grants were awarded to the Town for the recycling, in the amount of \$2100.00 and another for \$500.00, which was shared with the district for the purchase of a new recycling container.

The Board would also like to thank the Cheshire Highway Department for all of their continued assistance whenever we need anything.

We would like to remind any and all Rental Property owners that you need to have your properties inspected annually or reinspected anytime the rental becomes vacant.

Respectfully submitted,

Richard Salvi  
Jeffrey Warner  
Michael Biagini

# Cemetery Commission

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FY 2017 Annual Report

To the Board of Selectmen and the Citizens of Cheshire:

The fiscal year started with the replacement of the lowering device for full burials. The existing unit, purchased about 40 years ago, failed during a service in the last days of June 2016. Fortunately, there was no catastrophe. After an exhausting whirlwind search, the Commissioners were able to order a new unit.

The year ended with a similarly harrowing situation: the largest mower – the SCAG – in service for over 20 years, gave up the ghost shortly before Memorial Day 2017. Thanks to H.D. Reynolds General Merchandise, Inc. – in the persons of George and Jim Reynolds, the Cemetery Crew were able to continue mowing operations generally, and especially for the Memorial Day program. Because the Cemetery Department could not purchase a replacement mower until the beginning of FY18, H.D. Reynolds provided a rental unit for the six weeks until July 1st. The Cemetery Department did purchase a new “Zero Turn” SCAG from them, and George and Jim chose to eliminate the six weeks’ rental charge for the Cemetery. The Commissioners wish to publicly thank them for their generosity.

During the year, there were 20 burials at the Cemetery, including 11 full burials and 9 interments of cremains. The Cemetery Department sold 19 lots. The Crew, led by Ralph Biagini, and including Dave Lazarczyk, Dave Hilchey and Ted Dzbenski, worked their magic throughout the season to again make Cheshire Cemetery one of the best maintained for miles and states around. As well as regularly maintaining the West Mountain and North Street cemeteries, the crew also mow the several ancient cemeteries in outlying parts of town. The Commissioners would again like to thank the Cheshire Highway Department for its service of opening graves, a vital contribution for all concerned.

While technically not part of the fiscal year, there were other significant incidents during the summer of 2017. The Berkshire County Trial Court, through its program of Community Service, brought crews to the cemetery and painted the one-fifth of a mile metal boundary fence and gates at the entries to the Old Section, as well as the wrought iron fences on three large lots there. On August 26, the foreman of the crew, Ralph Biagini, passed away. His passing stunned many people in town. Ralph dedicated nearly all of his adult life in service to the Town of Cheshire in many capacities. Finally, on a snowy April 10, 2018, this is the last report to be submitted by the current Cemetery Commissioners; Josie Lewis has served the town for 32 years, Neil Baker for 7 years and Jack Girard for 22 years.

Respectfully submitted,

Neil W. Baker  
Josephine A. Lewis  
Jack Girard

# Council on Aging

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## FY 2016/2017 Annual Report

The following services were provided by the Cheshire Council on Aging (COA) between July 1, 2016 and June 30, 2017:

- The Senior/ Community Center has provided a place to serve over 3,503 hot lunches on Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays.
- Over 950 person/hours of exercise classes.
- Over 400 “Brown Bags” (staples supplied by the Food Bank each month) have been prepared by Cheshire volunteers in Adams and distributed from the Senior/Community Center.
- Over 500-foot clinic appointments have taken place.
- Over 215 person/hours of quilting time.
- Over 200 person/hours of Sewing time on Wednesday evening.
- 2 special lunches have been provided. One included music by Anne Kane for St. Patrick’s Day. A 90th Birthday party was held for the seniors 90 and over.
- 115 people attended the annual intergenerational Children’s Christmas party, held at the Senior/Community Center with refreshments being provided by the COA.
- Christmas cookies were provided to 25 Cheshire senior shut-ins.
- 6 seniors were provided with Computer instruction.
- 30 “File of Life” cards will be given to people wanting them.
- Over 2,500 hours of volunteer work was donated. Thanks to everyone involved.
- 320 hours paid for a Senior Aid/Outreach person.

Michelle A. Dargie was our senior aid and was able to assist in meals, Cheshire Chatter, and paper work.

Kerry Lahey, Outreach worker, will help with events, referrals and paper work as needed.

Senior Housing has been put on hold, until funds become available.

Elsie Zaleski resigned from the COA. Gene Gebrowski was appointed to the COA.

### The Members of the Cheshire Council on Aging are :

Anna Farnam, Chairman  
Helen Dargie  
Gene Gebrowski  
Peter Traub  
Don Pulvar  
Butch King  
Mel Gwozdz

# Historical Commission

We begin this report by honoring the memory of our long-time Chair, Eileen Wells Nuttall, who died on Easter Sunday, 2017, at the age of 104. Eileen was the guiding spirit of the Cheshire Historical Commission for many years. She will never be forgotten.

Our first Fall 2016 meeting had an exciting start with a visit from prominent local artist Leonard Stomski. Len showed us detailed views of his beautiful 4 foot by 8 foot painting titled "The Cheshire Cheese Goes to Washington" which highlights that very important event in our town history.

Len's generous plan was to donate this valuable gift to the town under the sponsorship of the Cheshire Historical Commission. This was accomplished with a moving presentation to the Select Board. Later, Len's formal unveiling of the painting, with a reception for visitors following, was hosted by the Commission at the Community Center.

The Commission also arranged for a Program unveiling the painting once again, at Cheshire School. There, Mr. Stomski discussed his work with an enthusiastic assembly. Every grade had decorated the auditorium with special art work.

The Commission then provided the painting with a special wood frame and fittings. It is now displayed in Town Hall and will be a prominent part of Cheshire's 225th Anniversary Celebration.

This year we also had, as a guest, young Cheshire author Eric Socha who shared very interesting reflections on life in India from his book "Kaleidoscopes in Travel."

In honor of Cheshire's 225th Anniversary in 2018, the Historical Commission will introduce a custom new to Cheshire, but practiced elsewhere in the Commonwealth. That is the awarding of an Honorary Cane to celebrate the town's oldest citizen. The first recipient will be Juliette Campbell, 105, who looks forward to participating in the upcoming festivities. Congratulations.

We remind Cheshire residents, especially in our 225th year, to research the age of your home. If it has passed its 100th birthday, call us for a free plaque, carved with the year of construction. **Be Cheshire Proud.**

Respectfully submitted,

Diane Hitter, Chair

Dawn Daniels  
Vern Emerson  
Bob Hitter

Elaine Daniels  
Barry Emery  
Gus Martin



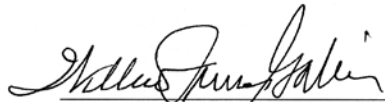
*Cheshire Town Hall Complex*

*Cheshire, Massachusetts*

was accepted on *March 7, 2017* for inclusion in the

*National Register of Historic Places*

The National Register is the nation's official list of buildings, districts, sites, structures, and objects that retain their historical character and are important to our local, state, or national history. The National Register was established under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 and is administered in the Commonwealth by the Massachusetts Historical Commission.

  
William Francis Galvin  
Secretary of the Commonwealth  
Chairman, Massachusetts Historical Commission

  
Brona Simon  
State Historic Preservation Officer

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION  
A Division of the Secretary of the Commonwealth

# Cheshire Library Association

Our patron count has reached 807 and we are always happy when our numbers increase. We had \$126,898.90 worth of materials circulated from our library, including \$27,835.63 of material borrowed from other libraries and \$11,209.59 of our materials shared with other libraries through the Inter-Library Loan Program of CWMARS. We have thousands of dollars of materials for loan, including books, DVDs, audiobooks, children's materials, periodicals and even cake pans! If we don't have what you are looking for, please ask and we'll see if we can get it.

Passes for Berkshire Museum, MoCA, Hancock Shaker Village, Historic Deerfield Village, Clark Art Institute, Magic Wings Butterfly Conservatory and Gardens for reduced entrance fees are available for Cheshire residents. Also, DCR parking passes. Adding in 2018 the Albany Institute of History and Art.

Our Library Director, Amy Emerson-Inhelder, holds story hour for preschoolers on Tuesdays from 10 to 11 am. The stories and activities are a fun way to get future readers engaged and interested in reading. She also runs Cabin Fever Buster reading program and a CWMARS summer reading program for all ages. The Summer Reading Program is an eight week program, where children, tweens, and adults keep a record of the number of the books they read. Tickets are given for participating, the tickets are then put into a drawing for prizes. The 2017 "Build a Better World" Summer Reading Program had 29 children, 18 tweens and 24 adults participate. An Ice Cream Social ended the program.

Through a Northern Berkshire Arts Council Grant, the library was able to sponsor the following programs: Rockachusetts by Christy Butler, Mother's Day Painting with Cheryl Sykes, two beading jewelry programs with local crafter Michelle Smith, Sugar Pumpkins and Easter Eggs and Christmas Cookie decorating with local pastry chef Susanna Thomas, and the Mammoth Cheese with local historian Barry Emery.

Through the Library Commissioners Grant the library was able to sponsor "Rockets: There and Back Again" presented by Boston Museum of Science Traveling Program. Also, with this grant children's non-fiction books are purchased.

For Fiscal Year 2018, the Summer Reading Program is "Libraries Rock." This year the Museum of Science will be "Planetarium" program. Northern Berkshire Arts Council Grant has been awarded and many programs are planned. First ever, Halloween Trick or Treat, take a craft event was attended by over 98 children.

Sadly, we would be remiss if we did not acknowledge the passing of our library friend, State Representative Gailanne Carridi. Gailanne was a library champion. She graciously came and held two roundtable programs for the Cheshire Library. The Library has purchased four books in her memory, one being *Grace for President*, that Gailanne was to read at her next program with us.

Respectfully submitted,  
Cheshire Library Trustees

Mary Ellen Baker, President  
Inez Jepson                      Diane Hitter  
Heather Emerson              Jack Girard  
Suzanne Boyle                  Joanne Pasquini  
Ruth Andrew                    Doris Perrault  
Christine Emerson, Treasurer

*The Trustees note Doris Perrault, long time Library Trustee passed this year. Our sincere sympathies to her husband Raymond.*



*Gailanne Carridi*

Notices and happenings are posted on our Facebook page. Also, posted on the Fire Department sign.

Through the CWMARS site, you can find out what is going on at the library, or reserve your next book, DVD, etc. from the comfort of your home and then pick them up at the Cheshire Library.

**Library cards are free and open a whole world of reading, viewing and listening!  
Come in and register.**



# Building Inspector

The Building Inspection Department ensures that all new construction, alterations, renovations, repairs and demolitions are in conformance with 780 CMR, the Massachusetts State Building Code, Massachusetts General Laws, Town of Cheshire Zoning By-Laws and all other applicable Codes and Statutes enforced by the Building Inspector.

A total of 114 permits were issued for FY 17.

## Job Code

1	New Residential Homes .....	4
1A	Foundation only.....	1
2	Additions/Alterations-Residential .....	44
3	Accessory Buildings.....	3
4	Pools.....	4
5	Demolition.....	1
6	Other.....	15
7	Additions and Alterations Commercial.....	0
8	Garage Residential.....	1
9	Signs.....	2
10	Stoves.....	5
11	Fences .....	0
12	Commercial / New.....	1
13	Solar.....	33

Total Job Values .....\$ 3,152,861.00

Total Fees Collected .....\$ 23,702.00

The new Massachusetts State Building Code was adopted on January 1, 2018 and is based on the 2015 **International Building Code (IBC)**, 2015 **International Residential Code (IRC)**, 2015 **International Existing Building Code (IEBC)**, and all appurtenant ICC reference volumes with Massachusetts Amendments. Implementation of this code was delayed from its January 1, 2017 take-off date due to pending legislation.

I would like to thank the Board of Selectman for their appointment to this position and all of the departments for their cooperation and dedication of service. I again look forward to working with the citizens of Cheshire and assisting them in their endeavors to make this an enjoyable community.

Respectfully submitted,

Gerald W Garner  
Building Commissioner /  
Inspector of Buildings

# Wire Inspector

To the Board of Selectmen and the Town of Cheshire

As Wire Inspector of the Town of Cheshire I submit this Report from January, 2017 to December, 2017.

4	New Homes
2	Modular Homes
2	Garage Wiring
5	Additions
4	New Heating Systems
6	Service Upgrades
1	Service Upgrade & Minor Wiring
1	Service & Barn Wiring
1	Service Change/Equip. Garage
1	Service & Addition
6	Alarm Systems
1	T.W. Power Supply
2	Meter & Riser Changes
2	Trailer Park New Services
1	Hot Tub/PNL. Change
2	Kitchen Remodels
2	Bathrooms
1	Panel Change
1	Adams Well Pumping Station Renovation/ Stand-By Generator
27	Solar Electric Photovoltaic (PV) Systems
1	Five Power Receptacle Systems at Bedard's
1	Fire Station New PNL., Stand-By Generator
1	Generator Receptacle
1	Water Damage
2	Complete Rewire
1	Well
1	Security Camera System
3	Above Ground Pools
1	In Ground Pool
5	Sewer Systems
1	Rewire Electrical PNL.
1	Data/Power at High School
3	Apartment Renovations
1	Stand-By Generator
1	Replacing of Knob & Tubing Wiring
1	Sun Room
1	Lighting Retrofit at Cheshire Highway Facility

Number of Permits ..... 98

Number of Inspections..... 209

Total Fees Collected ..... \$ 25,338.50

Respectfully submitted,

George Sweet  
Wire Inspector  
Les Rhinemiller  
Assistant Wire Inspector

# Police Department

To the Board of Selectman and the residents of the Town of Cheshire.

As Chief of Police, It is my pleasure to submit to you my annual report for fiscal year 2017.

This year was a year of yet another change in our Department. Our new full-time Officer, Mike Alibozek, graduated from the full-time academy classes after six months of grueling training in May of 2017. With one week left in training, Mike injured his knee and after graduating, set an appointment for surgery and had the damage repaired. He has been our full-time Officer since returning from surgery and has been well received within the community. Mike is our contact point for issues involving the schools and courts. I would like to thank our other part-time Officers for stepping up and covering all the shifts needed to maintain patrols during Mike's training and surgery. Much appreciated.

We have been using the IMC programming that we initiated two years ago. It has been working very well for the Department, with a huge amount of information at the Officers fingertips with laptops installed in both cruisers. I would like to thank the Sherriff's office IT expert, Jason Breault, for his continued help and support on the new system. We are using it in both cruisers and in the office.

This year at our annual Town Meeting, I had requested funding for a much needed new Police cruiser. The voters overwhelmingly approved funding for the purchase of a 2017 Ford Interceptor SUV. The new cruiser was ordered and is expected in by November 2017. As part of the vote to purchase a new cruiser, I had asked for voter approval to donate the 2008 Ford Crown Vic we were replacing, to Massachusetts Special Olympics Law Enforcement Torch Run. It will be used for events locally that involve law enforcement agencies from all over Berkshire County and beyond that support Special Olympics and their athletes. This request was approved and will make some special athletes very happy when it shows up at events.

Our Department has its own Facebook page and we encourage all who use Facebook to like our page, Cheshire Police . We post whatever we feel important for you to know such as safety concerns, school closings, storm updates, community events and much more.

I would continue to ask residents who see anything suspicious to please call the cruiser cell phone at 413-446-3920. If a suspicious vehicle is seen, get a plate number first, and then if time permits, get a good description. We will follow up on any call we receive even if it turns out to be nothing. Thank-you for any assistance.

***"If you see something, Say something."***

Our department members continue to take training and refresher courses as they become available. Some are mandatory and others are taken to further educate our members. We will continue to do the best job possible for the residents of the Town of Cheshire.

I would like to thank my Officers who continue to step up to the plate and volunteer for the various functions in Town that come up that require a police presence such as the Steel Rail Half Marathon that runs through town, various parades that are held, Memorial Day and Halloween as well as many other functions. My thanks.

At this time I would like to thank the members of the Cheshire Police Department for your continued dedication and professionalism. My thanks to the Board of Selectman for your continued support of our Department. Also to the members of the Cheshire Fire Department and E.M.S. squad for your outstanding hard work and assistance when needed. My thanks to the Mass. State Police and surrounding Departments for assistance when needed. And as always, last but not least, My thanks to the residents of the Town of Cheshire for your much appreciated continued support of the Police Department. **THANK-YOU.**

Respectfully submitted,

Chief Tim Garner

## CHESHIRE POLICE DEPARTMENT ROSTER

**CHIEF OF POLICE**  
TIM GARNER

**STAFF SERGEANT**  
ALISON WARNER

**SERGEANT**  
STEVE CHARON

**OFFICER**  
JOE CHARON

**OFFICER**  
DAVID TARJICK

**FULLTIME OFFICER**  
MIKE ALIBOZEK

**OFFICER**  
COREY DEMARY

**OFFICER**  
TRISH CARLO



**BOAT AND HARBORMASTER DUTIES**  
PAUL MALONEY

# Police Department *(cont.)*

## TOTAL CALLS FOR FY 2017

Calls on Police Line -----	119	Motor Vehicle Accidents-----	27
Miscellaneous Calls-----	175	A.T.V. Accidents -----	0
Assist Other Police Depts.-----	74	Snowmobile Accident -----	1
B & E Complaints -----	2	Stolen Motor Vehicle -----	0
Disturbances -----	15	D.M.V.-----	16
Assault and Battery-----	1	Harassing Phone Calls -----	0
A & B / Dangerous Weapon -----	0	Harassment -----	3
Domestic Disturbances-----	15	Abuse Complaints -----	0
Drunk Persons-----	0	Alarm Calls-----	25
Missing Persons -----	2	911 Calls -----	2
Prowler Complaints -----	0	Abandoned 911 Calls -----	10
Shooting Complaints-----	2	Fire Calls -----	3
Repo Motor Vehicle-----	0	M.V. Lockouts-----	2
Larceny Under -----	0	Arrest Without Warrant -----	3
Larceny Over -----	2	Arrest by Warrant -----	7
Vandalism-----	3	Illegal Dumping -----	2
Animal Complaints -----	35	Credit Card Fraud -----	1
Medical Calls-----	94	Bomb Threat -----	0
Unattended Deaths-----	0	Suspicious Activity-----	1
Hit and Run -----	0	Recovered Stolen M.V. -----	1

## SUMMARY OF ACTIVITIES FOR FY 2017

### Returned Fines to the Town of Cheshire

District Court Fines -----	\$ 1,050.00
Registry of Motor Vehicle Infractions -----	\$ 11,302.50

### Motor Vehicle Infractions

Citations Issued -----	100
Warnings Issued-----	48
Civil Citations Issued -----	37
Criminal Applications -----	12
Arrests Made -----	3

### Fees Returned to the Town of Cheshire

Pistol Permits-----	\$ 4,361.75
Report Fees -----	\$ 1,500.00
Parking Ticket Fines-----	\$ 365.00

### Cruiser Mileage Logged

3130 - 2008 Crown Victoria Sedan -----	1,958
3131- 2013 Ford Interceptor Suv-----	18,547

**Total Returned Fines and Fees to the Town Generated by the Police Department----- \$ 18,579.25**

# Cheshire Fire Department - Hoosac Hose Co.

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To the Board of Selectmen and the residents of the Town of Cheshire, it is my pleasure to submit the annual report of the Cheshire Fire Department for 2017.

In 2017, the Cheshire Volunteer Fire Department responded to 374 calls for service. These calls for service required either a fire department or an EMS response, both of which are provided by the Cheshire Volunteer Fire Department. Additionally, the Command Staff of the department issued 225 burning permits, 5 certificates of compliance, 15 oil burner installation permits, 36 propane tank installation permits, 1 underground storage tank permits, 1 new oil tank installation, 1 fireworks display permit, and 94 smoke and carbon monoxide compliance permits.

This year, the department was the recipient of several fire service grants through the Federal government. Some of these grants were for equipment while some were for training. The largest grant that we received was for forcible entry training as well as an entry-training prop that will serve the fire department for years to come. Forcible entry is a skill that firefighters are taught at the fire academy, however it's one area we could not continually train on until now. Until this grant was awarded, we did not have the training prop available to do this training. Now that we have obtained this grant, this training will be available to us for years to come. This training and prop will make our jobs as firefighters easier in time-is-life situations and will allow us to have this knowledge base when seconds count.

Also, this year our emergency generator was installed at the fire station. This generator will power our entire fire station in the event of a power outage. The importance of this generator is immeasurable. It will not only keep the fire station up and running during a severe storm or power outage, but it will also enable us to be an emergency evacuation shelter for residents to use in the event of a major storm or event. Thank you to the townspeople for purchasing this new, critical generator.

The department continues to train every Thursday night. During these training drills we practice many skills that are essential to a modern day fire department. Some of those skills are water supply, interior firefighting operations, driver training, as well as emergency medical skills. Our members attend training through the Massachusetts Firefighting Academy in Stowe, MA, throughout the year to keep their certifications and their skills up to date. All of our members on the department are certified emergency medical first responders, hazardous materials operators, as well as certified in cardiopulmonary resuscitation and the use of automated external defibrillators or AED's. Cheshire also belongs to a County-wide mutual aid system where we give and receive aid from other local fire departments in times of emergency and/or need. We also train with our neighboring departments to keep a positive working relationship with our neighboring brother and sister firefighters and EMT's.

The fundraising arm of the Cheshire Fire Department, the Hoosac Hose Company, continues to give back to our community. We donate money to several high school and middle school sports teams, youth programs as well as scholarships to local youth going on to pursue a college degree.

The department is always looking for new volunteers who are willing to join. We offer excitement, camaraderie, as well as giving back to the residents of the town of Cheshire and to neighboring communities. New members are always welcome!

In closing, I would like to thank the men and women of the Cheshire Volunteer Fire Department. Their commitment and dedication to the department and to the residents of Cheshire is second to none. They continually give up time away from their families and often put themselves in danger to help a stranger, and all for no money at all. **Thank You!!**

Respectfully,

Thomas Francesconi  
Fire Chief



**CHESHIRE FIRE DEPARTMENT  
(Hoosac Hose Company)**



**CHIEF**

Thomas Francesconi

**ASSISTANT CHIEFS**

Michael Biagini

Jason Mendonca

**CAPTAINS**

E. Shawn Martin

Kim Martin

Corey Swistak

**EMS CAPTAINS**

Fred Balawender

Kathie Baier

**FIREFIGHTERS**

Mark Biagini

Andy Kachel

Ralph Biagini

Del Krzeminski

Craig Comstock

Brent Lancia

Joseph Deckro

Brian Lancia

CJ Garner

William Lewis

Tim Garner

Fred Martin

Fran Gwozdz

Gary Russell

Andy Heath

Quinn Whitney

Trevor Swistak

**EMERGENCY MEDICAL TECHNICIANS**

Sandy Martin

Allison Biagini

Trevor Swistak

**APPRENTICES**

Erin Paris

Joshua Pettit

Christopher Smith

Daniel Barnes

**RETIRED RESERVES**

Stanley Tracy

Ed Gwozdz

**HONORARY MEMBERS**

Michael Biagini

Les Rhinemiller

George Sweet

**HOOSAC HOSE COMPANY FIRE COMMITTEE**

Robert Belini

Gary Lamb

Ralph Biagini

Paul Astorino

**HOOSAC HOSE COMPANY OFFICERS**

Tim Garner - Secretary

Mark Biagini - Treasurer

**AUXILLARY MEMBERS**

Joseph Wilk

Barry Emery

## Recreation Committee

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The Recreation Committee continues to support all organized sport teams. We reached teams at all age levels, servicing youth and teens as well.

Our Memorial Day Services were held inside this year. Children still attended and were given gold coins as a remembrance.

During the summer, Terry A La Berry continued his weekly Children's Concerts every Wednesday for 5 weeks on the Cheshire School grounds. It has been a huge success over the years and families attend and enjoy his interactive concerts.

In October, the Recreation Committee teamed with the Cheshire Police Department to sponsor a Halloween Parade. Our very own Hoosac Valley Middle and High School dressed in costume and led our little ones. Over 75 children participated in the parade that ended at the Police Station, where they had snacks and a drink. Also offered were other prizes. The police department was totally transformed into a Haunted House. A big "Thank you" goes out to them for their work.

The Recreation Committee helped sponsor the Mother/Son Pie Making Night organized by Bethany DeMarco. It was well attended and memories were made by all.

In the Spring, the Recreation Committee supported the town's 225th Anniversary by gathering work from Cheshire students that reflected their thoughts about our special little town. Help was given in the form of monetary support and hours working for the actual event.

Respectfully submitted,

Mrs. Robin Poirot  
Mrs. Heather Emerson  
Mr. Andrew Kachel

## Water Department

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**Mission Statement adopted  
by the Board of Water Commissioners:  
*To provide safe drinking water to our customers,  
be in compliance with all current and new drinking  
water regulations, be fiscally sound,  
and be sensitive to our customers needs.***

**Annual Report  
July 1, 2016 – June 30, 2017**

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The Board of Water commissioners are pleased to submit their Annual Report for the year 2017.

The Board of Water commissioners meets at the Town Hall every Tuesday evening at 6:30 p.m.

The Cheshire Water Department continues to look for efficiencies in operating your water system.

The Cheshire Water Department is also looking to find ways to conserve the land which we care for. We believe that land conservation, wildlife protection and preservation are part of our watershed area. We vow to protect these resources, as well as, our most basic need for life, water!! We are currently working with a State Forester to manage our forest.

Listed below are the projects completed  
by the Water Department in 2016/2017.

- Consumer Confidence Report compiled and delivered to water users.
- Statistical Report completed and submitted to Mass DEP.
- Serviced Emergency Generator.
- Completed all mandatory water quality testing including lead, copper, Arsenic, and nitrates.
- Updated our Operation and Maintenance Plan & Master Plan.
- Storage tank inspection completed and professionally documented.
- Fixed 5 leaks and replaced 1 gate.
- GPS all shutoffs and gate valves for system.
- Painted Fire hydrants.
- Rehabbed Well #2.

Please feel free to stop in any Tuesday evening if you have any comments or suggestions.

Respectfully submitted,

The Cheshire Water Department

**Board of Water Commissioners**

Francis A. Waterman, Jr., Chairman/Commissioner

Rick Gurney, Commissioner

Donald F. Rueger, Commissioner

# Northern Berkshire Solid Waste Management District

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[www.nbswmd.com](http://www.nbswmd.com)

## The Town of Cheshire CY17 Annual Report

For Calendar Year 2017, 882.11 tons of paper, glass, cans and plastic were recycled District-Wide, a 3.1% increase from last year. The Town of Cheshire recycled 60.35 tons of paper and 36.84 tons of glass, cans and plastic.

Six paint collections were held from May until the end of June. What we did differently this calendar year was to no longer accept Latex Paint. As Coordinator of the district, I worked closely with Mass DEP Municipal Assistance Coordinator on this recent change. Latex Paint is not a Hazardous Waste. Handouts were distributed educating district residents on reuse options / dry it up dispose in trash. We shipped out 1,270 gallons of oil-based paint & stain and (4) 55-gallon drums of spray paint (220 gallons) at a cost of \$8,174.31. Box packing the oil-based paints is a messy job. Special thanks to Transfer Station attendants, Shawn Wright, Assistant Court Services Coordinator Trial Courts Office of Community Corrections Commonwealth of Massachusetts, and crew for their volunteer efforts and hard work. Thanks also to the Cheshire, Hinsdale and Williamstown DPW crews who provide us with assistance and storage space for our Supplies

We began the Paint Program in 1998 to meet a need. It is now consuming more and more of our program budget. We are currently working with Paint Care (paint manufacturers group), the Product Stewardship Institute and Massachusetts Product Stewardship Committee to pass legislation that would have the paint manufacturers pay for paint collection, either at retail stores or municipal transfer stations. We are actively advocating its passage.

The District has six Mercury Product Sheds for member towns to utilize, funded throughout the years by Mass DEP. This program has increased with collections; the locations of sheds are in Adams, Cheshire, Hinsdale, Peru, Windsor and Williamstown Transfer Station. NLR, Inc. is the designated facility for the districts recycling. To stay in compliance with Mass DEP, all sheds must be cleaned and packed for shipping on a yearly basis. A big Thank you again to Shawn Wright and Crew Commonwealth of Massachusetts, Office of Community Corrections, for their volunteer efforts and hard work. The District recycled 383 NI-CAD, 287 Lithium and 169 Alkaline batteries. It also recycled 1,546 CFL Compact PL, 35 CLFL Circle line, 50 U style, 105 8-foot, 2,611 4-foot, and 65 2-foot Fluorescent Lamps at a cost of \$4,230.49.

This year NBSWMD filed grant applications and the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection awarded "Small Initiative Grants" to nine towns in the District and NBSWMD. The Commissioners voted to pool the grants and purchase a Roll-Off Container. This container will rotate among the towns and every town will benefit. There were four towns in the district that received Mass DEP Recycling Dividends Program. Each of the member towns contributed \$500, with NBSWMD contribution of \$1,500.

Cheshire, Williamstown, Windsor and Savoy were again recognized and awarded funds under the Mass. DEP Recycling Dividends Program. This program awards points for achievements. Cheshire was awarded \$2,100, Williamstown \$2,800, Windsor \$2,450, and Savoy \$2,450. The funds have to be reinvested to promote recycling education, new equipment or projects.

The waste stream continues to evolve and our programs will continue to evolve as well. Our efforts in the coming year will be aimed at collecting textiles, clothing and household linens, and keeping them out of the trash, reducing waste and increasing recycling.

Thank you for a great year, to all of the Members Commissioner's and Town officials for your support and guidance within my first year as Program Coordinator. I welcome questions and suggestions as to how I can help improve programming.

A Household Hazardous Waste Collection is to be held on June 2, 2018, for all District member Towns. See Website for details or please feel free to contact me with any questions at 413-743-8208. An average cost of a HHW event for the district to host is \$10,000. There will be no cost to residents, pre-registration will be required which will start in May.

***Reuse, Recycle, Donate, Re-think***

Linda Cernik  
NBSWMD Program Coordinator

Rick Salvi  
NBSWMD Commissioner  
for the Town of Cheshire

# Peter LeFebvre

## THANK YOU PETER LEFEBVRE!!!!

Cheshire Highway Superintendent, Peter LeFebvre retired April 7, 2017.

Pete began working for the Town Highway in October 1979. In 1987 Highway Superintendent Stanley Krutiak became ill and Pete took over as foreman. Stanley retired the end of 1987 and Pete was named superintendent.

Thirty years has been devoted to the Cheshire roads and bridges. Many hats have been worn by Pete; Tree Warden and newly established Inspector of Ditches are just a few. He also served on the Cheshire Cemetery Committee for a number of years.



Some of Pete's accomplishments include the construction of the new highway garage, replacement of the Main Street bridge, working on the War Memorial at Town Hall, the new boat ramp at Cheshire Lake and the timely repair of a portion of Windsor Road when the washout occurred.

Thank you doesn't begin to cover the appreciation of his dedication to his hometown.

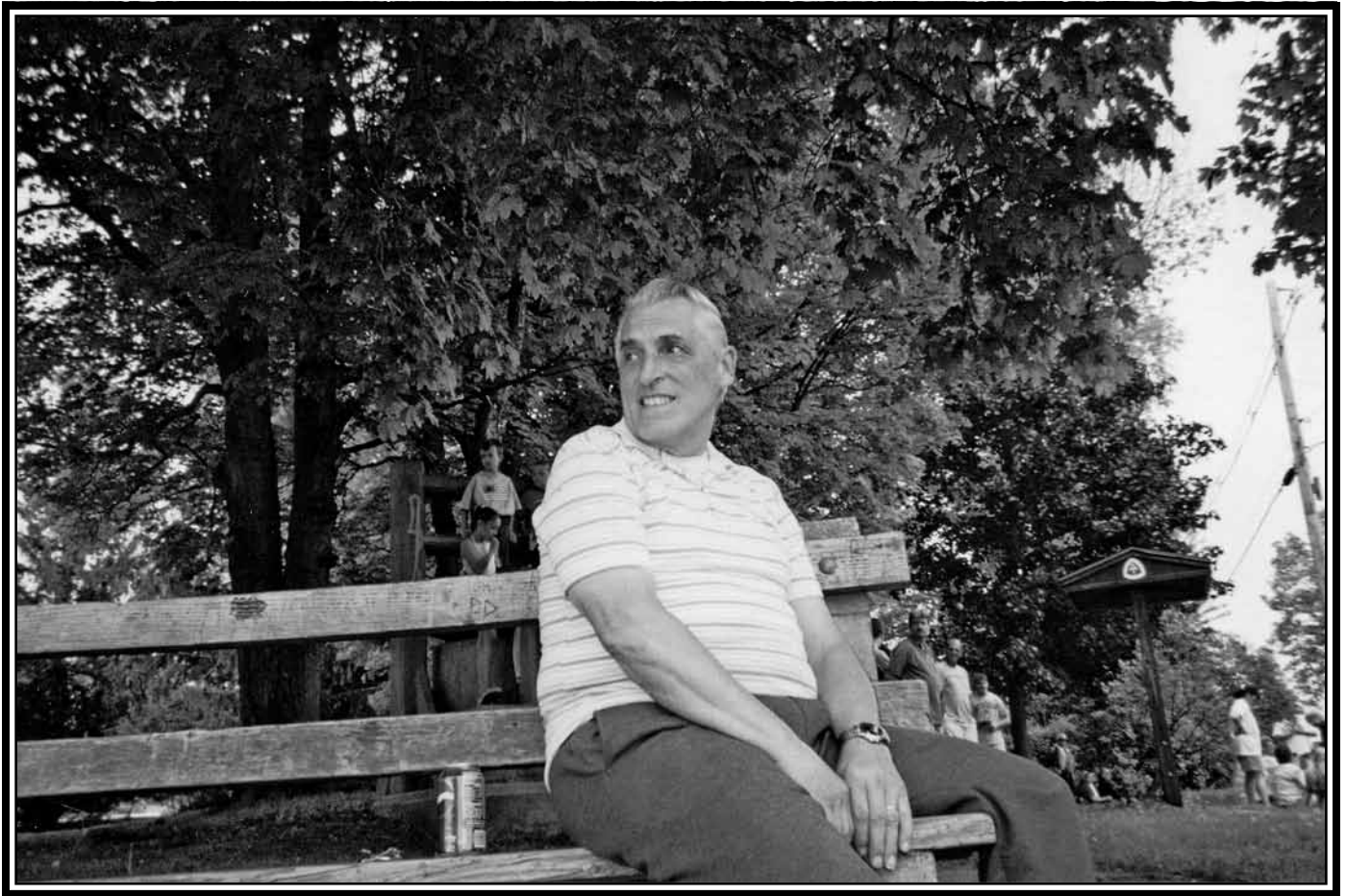
Pete was honored at the 2017 Annual Town Meeting with a plaque denoting his over thirty years service.





# Ralph Biagini

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## Ralph Carmen Biagini, or as others called him, “Radar Ralph”

Ralph Biagini wasn't just a Cheshire resident, he was so much more. Ralph served on the Town Police Department as a Captain for thirty years running radar in our small town. He wasn't just a Police Captain, he was also on the Fire Department for fifty years as a volunteer firefighter. Ralph has done so much in our community that everyone in town knew and loved him. He loved going to Chic's Auto Shop and chatting with the guys, going to Town Hall to visit and watching baseball whenever he could. He worked at the Cheshire Cemetery for eleven years and just before his passing was the superintendent of the crew. He wasn't just all these things, he was a loving husband, father, grandfather, uncle and friend to many, and not a day goes by that we all don't think about him. He was a great man to his generation and the generation after that. As the Fire Department and Police Department has said, “Rest easy, brother, we'll take it from here.”

So, rest easy Papa, you are missed.

*Written by Ralph's granddaughter, Sarah Biagini*

I would like to add my farewell to Ralph. Not only was he the Constable who posted all the warrants for my twenty-five years, but for many before that, he was a good and valued friend. So many do not know just how integral he was to the fabric of Cheshire. From working Elections to serving on the Advisory Board, he was dedicated to his home town. My hope is that people in Cheshire really realize who we have lost.

*Christine B. Emerson*



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts  
**Town of Cheshire**  
Massachusetts 01225

OFFICE OF THE  
TOWN CLERK

The Town of Cheshire held the following Special Election.

**DEBT EXCLUSION**

Monday, July 11, 2016

Cheshire Community/Senior Center

119 School Street

Polls open: 9:00 am to 7:00 pm

Total votes cast: 176      Registered voters: 2,318

Question 1. "Shall the Town of Cheshire be allowed to exempt from the provisions of Proposition two and one-half so called, the amounts to pay for the bond in order to purchase a new model year Highway Department dump truck with related plow and sanding equipment?"

Yes 99

No 77

Passed

Question 2. "Shall the Town of Cheshire be allowed to exempt from the provisions of Proposition two and one-half so called, the amounts required to purchase a new model year Police Cruiser for the use by the Cheshire Police Department?"

Yes 84

No 90

2 blanks

Failed

Attest: True Copy:

Christine B. Emerson

Cheshire Town Clerk

# Annual Election Warrant - May 1, 2017

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## The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

Berkshire SS.

To either of the Constables of the Town of CHESHIRE in the County of BERKSHIRE

### GREETING.

In the Name of THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS, you are hereby directed to notify and warn the inhabitants of said Town, qualified to vote in elections and in Town affairs, to meet at said Cheshire at:

Cheshire Community/Senior Center  
119 School Street, Cheshire, MA  
Monday, May 1st, 2017  
Polls open: 9:00 am to 7:00 pm

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### To elect:

- One Selectmen for a term of three years
- One Assessor for a term of three years
- One Board of Health Member for a term of three years
- One Cemetery Commissioner for a term of three years
- One Water Commissioner for a term of three years
- One Planning Board Member for a term of five years
- One Planning Board Member for a term of three years
- Adams Cheshire Regional School District School Committee Member from Cheshire
- Adams Cheshire Regional School District School Committee Member from Adams

### HEREOF FAIL NOT,

and make due return of this Warrant, with your doings thereon, to the Town Clerk at the time and place of meeting as aforesaid.

Given under our hands this 11th day of April in the year of our Lord two thousand seventeen.

Paul F. Astorino \_\_\_\_\_

Robert S. Ciskowski \_\_\_\_\_

Carol A. Francesconi \_\_\_\_\_

### A true copy: Attest:

\_\_\_\_\_ Ralph Biagini, Constable

# Cheshire Annual Election Results - May 1, 2017

Cheshire Community / Senior Center, 119 School Street  
 Monday, May 1, 2017 Polls open: 9:00 am to 7:00 pm

487 Ballots Cast                      2,389 Registered Voters

	Votes
<b>Selectmen</b>	
Edmund St. John IV	376
E. Richard Scholz	110
Blanks	1
<b>Assessor</b>	
Laurie J. Charon	405
Blanks	82
<b>Board of Health Member</b>	
Jeffrey B. Warner	366
Blanks	121
<b>Cemetery Commissioner:</b>	
Neil W. Baker	428
Blanks	59
<b>Water Commissioner:</b>	
Donald F. Rueger	398
Blanks	89
<b>Planning Board Member: 5 Year Term</b>	
Francis M. Griswold	401
Blanks	86
<b>Planning Board Member: 3 Year Term</b>	
Donna M. Defino	374
Blanks	113
<b>Adams Cheshire Regional School District Committee Member from Cheshire:</b>	
Adam B. Emerson	436
Blanks	51
<b>Adams Cheshire Regional School District Committee Member from Adams:</b>	
Regina Hill	149
Michael Mucci Jr.	261
Blanks	77

## Kindergarten Election

26 Children Voted	
Moana	3 votes
Batman	2 votes
Robin	4 votes
Elena	3 votes
Pikacu	10 votes ***** Winner
Belle	4 votes

The Kindergarten Election has been one of the best parts of the Annual Election Day for seven years. The children are so eager to learn the voting process. Hopefully, they will remain eager voters when they reach voting age.

# Annual Town Meeting - June 12, 2017

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## The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

Berkshire SS.

To either of the Constables of the Town of CHESHIRE in the County of BERKSHIRE

### GREETING.

In The Name of THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS, you are hereby directed to notify and warn the inhabitants of said Town, qualified to vote in elections and in Town affairs, to meet at said Cheshire at:

Cheshire Elementary School Auditorium  
191 Church St., Cheshire  
Monday, June 12, 2017  
7:00 pm  
Voter check-in to begin at 6:30 pm.  
**CHESHIRE ANNUAL TOWN MEETING**

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Meeting called to order by Moderator St. John at 7:10 pm.

Pledge of Allegiance was said.

**Voters present: 242**

**Non-voters present: 6**

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Moderator read the warrant heading.

Motion to waive the reading of the balance of the warrant and the return of service made by Mrs. Francesconi; seconded by Mr. Ciskowski.

Voice vote taken.

**Unanimous.**

Peter LeFebvre, newly retired Highway Superintendent was asked to come forward. Peter received a standing ovation. Mr. Ciskowski on behalf of the Town presented Peter with a plaque marking his over thirty years of service.

The Moderator introduced the Selectmen, Mrs. Francesconi and Mr. Ciskowski; Town Administrator Mark Webber, Town Clerk Christine Emerson; Town Counsel Edmund St. John III; and Advisory Board Co-chairs E. Richard Scholz and Justin Kruszyna.

Master Plan flyer will be available at the Town Hall.

The Planning Board is looking for an Alternate Member, if interested please call the Town Hall.

**Article 1.** To hear the Annual Report of the Selectmen and the other officers and to act thereon.

Mr. Ciskowski addressed the meeting with the state of the Town. Thanked all for coming this evening.

Tonight's meeting has nineteen warrant articles for voter consideration.

Article 2 is the Town's Fiscal Year 2018 spending article which has been developed in close consideration between the Board of Selectmen and the Advisory Board. The Selectmen greatly appreciate the cooperative effort with the Advisory Board, which has recommended approval of all but one of the spending articles.

This year's operating budget is \$5,924,375 which is a 6% increase or \$328,421 over the current fiscal year.

Approximately half of that increase is in the Education line items. There is also a sizable increase in debt service, reflecting the first year of principle payments on two equipment purchases approved at previous town meetings, both of which are Prop 2 1/2 debt excluded.

Article 3, we are proposing use of \$170,000 in available funds from Certified Free Cash to balance the budget and to stay under the Town's Proposition 2 1/2 Levy Limit. If Article 3 is approved and all other items in Article 2 are approved as presented, the Town will be approximately \$60,000 under its levy limit.

Articles 5-8 seek Free Cash appropriations for a replacement emergency generator at the Fire Station; a new Police Cruiser to replace the 2008 cruiser; a dump body and sander replacement for a 2011 Highway truck and; the Town share of participating in a housing partnership which provides funding to qualified Cheshire residents for housing rehabilitation and repairs.

Certified Free Cash: \$626,834 before Town Meeting; \$231,834 after Town Meeting if all non-petition articles are approved as presented.

Stabilization Fund is \$486,412 and Capital Stabilization Fund is \$32,250.

Article 9 seeks to codify the historic Town practice of plowing of the Town's non-accepted roads to ensure access by public safety vehicles.

Articles 10-14 appear by voter petition.

Article 15 seeks funding for the upcoming year's maintenance and security of Cheshire Elementary School. The \$100,000 figure is a best estimate as this is the first year since the Regional Agreement that the Town is responsible for the building.

Article 16 spells out the procedure and gives authority to petition the Commonwealth to change the Board of Selectmen from three to five members.

Article 17 seeks to sue available Cemetery receipts to purchase a replacement mower and equipment repairs with no impact to the tax levy.

Article 18 asks to rescind a 1995 bylaw which establishes Town Clerk's fees, which is now obsolete.

Again thank you for coming and I now turn the meeting back to the Moderator.

Article 1 is the presentation of the 2016 Annual Town Report.

Motion to accept the report as presented made by Mrs. Francesconi; seconded by Mr. Ciskowski.

Voice vote taken. **Unanimous.**

**Article 2.** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate from available funds in the Treasury such sum or sums of money as may be necessary to defray the ordinary expenses of the Town for the ensuing year, and to pay interest on loans maturing in this year, or take any other action in relation thereto.

*[NOTE: The Cheshire Advisory Board approves this article.]*

Moderator explained that he would read through the budget, anyone who wished to discuss an item should state "set-aside" and the item will be voted after the balance of the budget is voted. Set-asides: Advisory Board meetings and mileage; Employee expenses; Wire Inspector Assistant Salary; Town Compactor Operator Salaries; Highway Department Snow and Ice Removal; ACRSD budget and Vocational School budget.

Moderator called for a voice vote on the balance of the budget.

No discussion. **Unanimous.**

**Set-asides:**

**Advisory Board, Meetings and Mileage.**

Motion by John Tremblay to increase the Meetings and Mileage line item by \$500; seconded by E. Richard Scholz.

**Discussion:** Explanation to have the funds to attend Finance Meetings.

Voice vote taken. **Unanimous.**

**Assistant Wiring Inspector Salary.**

Motion to increase the Assistant Wire Inspector Salary by \$80 made by George Sweet; seconded.

**Discussion:** None

Voice vote taken. **Unanimous.**

**Compactor Salaries.**

Motion to increase the salary line item by \$500 made by Mal Gwozd; seconded.

**Discussion:** Mal stated that she believed Andy should be given this raise.

Board of Health Member, Mickey Biagini disagreed stated that Andy would receive the same cost of living increase as the rest of the Town employees.

Statement made that if this raise was given, would Andy be nicer to people?

Motion to make the line item \$26,903 made by Mrs. Francesconi; seconded by Mr. Ciskowski.

Voice vote taken. **Motion carried.**

(This \$500 is added to the salaries line item for the Compactor)

**Highway Snow and Ice Removal line item.**

Motion to amend this line item by \$20,000 and to reduce line item by this amount by Marya LaRoche;

Jan Kuniholm addressed the meeting stating that the so-called camp roads are permanent ways so therefore the Town is not plowing private roads.

Marya LaRoche stated that there are other private ways that may come forward if this Chapter is accepted.

Peter LeFebvre suggested that if the line item was amended or reduced this would be insufficient to plow and salt. The line item should remain the same to insure proper snow and ice removal. Any amount over would have to go to Special Town Meeting to be voted to cover any deficiency in costs.

**Motion failed.**

Motion for the Highway line item to remain the same made by Mrs. Francesconi; seconded by Mr. Ciskowski.

Voice vote taken. **Motion carried.**

**Adams Cheshire School Budget and Vocational School Budget.**

Cheshire School Committee members explained the ramifications to the school district if the budget for ACRSD failed. Vocational School Budget passed.

\*\*\*\*\*

**Discussion continued for over forty-five minutes.**

ACRSD Foundation Budget, Over Foundation Budget, Transportation and Building Project Interest:

Card vote: **Yes 115 No 86**  
**ACRSD Budget Failed.**

**Vocational School Budget:**

Motion to reject the Vocational School budget made by Kurt Daignault; seconded.

**Discussion:**

William Craig, Cheshire Vocational School Committee Member from Cheshire, addressed the meeting. The budget is up by 2.76% over FY 2017, simply Cheshire has between 32-44 students at McCann.

Motion to approve the Vocational School Budget as presented made by Mrs. Francesconi; seconded by Mr. Ciskowski.

Voice vote. **Motion carried.**

**Article 3.** To see if the Town will vote to appropriate from certified free cash the sum of \$170,000 (one hundred seventy thousand dollars) to reduce the tax rate, or take any other action in relation thereto.

*[NOTE: The Cheshire Advisory Board approves this article.]*

Motion to accept the article as read made by Mrs. Francesconi; seconded by Mr. Ciskowski.

**Discussion:** None

Voice vote taken. **Unanimous.**

**Article 4.** To see if the Town will vote to borrow and appropriate any additional sum or sums of money which will be reimbursed by the Commonwealth under any applicable State Aid Highway Programs for construction or improvements to Town roads and bridges as requested by the Selectmen, or take any other action in relation thereto.

*[NOTE: The Cheshire Advisory Board approves this article.]*

Motion to accept the article as read made by Mr. Ciskowski; seconded by Mrs. Francesconi.

**Discussion:** None.

Voice vote taken. **Unanimous.**

**Article 5:** To see if the Town will vote to appropriate from certified free cash the sum of \$14,000 (fourteen thousand dollars) for the purpose of purchasing and installing an emergency power generator to be located at the Cheshire Fire Department, or take any other action in relation thereto.

*[NOTE: The Cheshire Advisory Board approves this article.]*

Motion to accept the article as read made by Mr. Ciskowski; seconded by Mrs. Francesconi.

**Discussion:** None

Voice vote taken. **Unanimous.**

**Article 6:** To see if the Town will vote to appropriate from certified free cash the sum of \$40,000 (forty thousand dollars) for the purpose of purchasing a new model year 4-wheel drive police cruiser and to donate the current 2008 Ford Crown Victoria cruiser to the charitable organization "Law Enforcement Torch Run for Special Olympics Massachusetts," or take any other action in relation thereto.

*[NOTE: The Cheshire Advisory Board approves this article.]*

Motion to accept the article as read made by Mr. Ciskowski; seconded by Mrs. Francesconi.

**Discussion:** None

Voice vote taken. **Unanimous.**

**Article 7:** To see if the Town will vote to appropriate from certified free cash the sum of \$11,000 (eleven thousand dollars) for the purpose of purchasing and installing a new dump body and sander for

the Town Highway Department's 2011 Ford F350 vehicle, or take any other action in relation thereto.

*[NOTE: The Cheshire Advisory Board approves this article.]*

Motion to accept the article amending the F350 to F550 made by Mr. Ciskowski; seconded by Mrs. Francesconi.

**Discussion:** None

Voice vote taken. **Unanimous.**

Motion read with the amended vehicle model number made by Mr. Ciskowski; seconded by Mrs. Francesconi.

Voice vote taken. **Unanimous.**

**Article 8:** To see if the Town will vote to appropriate from certified free cash the sum of \$60,000 for the purpose of funding the Town's share of the Department of Housing and Community Development Housing Rehabilitation grant, or take any other action in relation thereto.

*[NOTE: The Cheshire Advisory Board approves this article.]*

Motion to accept the article as read made by Mr. Ciskowski; seconded by Mrs. Francesconi.

**Discussion:**

One question as to the purpose of this article. Answer for rehabilitation of homes for residents meeting the criteria. Grant to be awarded in July.

Voice vote taken. **Unanimous.**

**Article 9:** To see if the Town will vote to adopt the provisions of MGL Chapter 40, Section 6C, which allows the Town to plow snow and ice on private roads within its limits and open to the public use, or take any other action in relation thereto.

*[NOTE: The Cheshire Advisory Board approves this article.]*

*[NOTE: The following article appears on the warrant via certified citizen petition.]*

Motion to accept the article as read made by Mrs. Francesconi; seconded by Mr. Ciskowski.

Town Counsel addressed this article stating that this article only accepts MGL Chapter 40 section 6C and that the section 6D will require a ballot vote at a special election.

**Discussion:**

Questions as to what the Town will do until the vote for the rest of this chapter. Answer, the Town will continue to plow the unaccepted roads.

**More discussion for five to ten minutes.**

Voice vote taken. **Unanimous.**

**Article 10:** To see if the Town will vote to act on an Emergency Amendment Pursuant to Section VII(B) of the Agreement between the towns of Adams and Cheshire, Massachusetts Allowing the Town of Cheshire to Pay Additional costs to keep Cheshire Elementary School open, as follows: Amendment

pursuant to Section VII(B) of the Agreement between the Towns of Adams and Cheshire, Massachusetts, with respect to the formation of a regional school district, to allow the Town of Cheshire to fund continued operation of the Cheshire School without contribution by the Town of Adams, notwithstanding any provision in the agreement regarding apportionment and payment of costs incurred by the district, which provisions shall be considered amended consistent with this petition. This petition is for an emergency amendment to our district agreement. It will allow the Town of Cheshire to pay any additional costs to keep Cheshire School open for grades pre-K - 5th grade without any additional costs to the Town of Adams.

[NOTE: The Cheshire Advisory Board approves this article.]

[NOTE: The following article appears on the warrant via certified citizen petition.]

Town Counsel addressed this article, stating that the way the article is written is illegal. The Town can not vote the article as written and also that the Town of Adams would have to vote to pass this article also.

An amended version had been handed to the Moderator prior to the opening of this meeting.

Again, Town Counsel addressed the meeting stating that the amendment had flawed language also. Stating also that DESE would disapprove this amendment as well as the original article.

Moderator read the amended article .

Motion to accept the article as amended made by John Tremblay; seconded by Mr. Scholz.

Voice vote taken.

**Too close to render a decision by the Moderator.**

**Card vote.** Yes 54 No 62  
**Failed.**

**Article 11:** To see if the Town will vote to appropriate from certified free cash the sum of \$150,000 to fund continued operation of the Cheshire Elementary School grades pre-K through 5 for FY 17-18 only.

[NOTE: The Cheshire Advisory Board approves this article.]

[NOTE: The following article appears on the warrant via certified citizen petition.]

Motion to accept the article as presented made by Mrs. Francesconi; seconded by Mr. Ciskowski.

**Discussion:**

Voice vote. **Motion carried.**

**Article 12:** To see if the Town will vote to appropriate the sum of \$150,000 from the Stabilization Fund to fund continued operation of the Cheshire Elementary School grades pre-K through 5 for FY 17-18 only.

[NOTE: The Cheshire Advisory Board approves this article.]

[NOTE: The following article appears on the warrant via certified citizen petition. "Articles 1 & 2" refer to Articles 11 and 12 above.]

Motion to accept the article as read made by Mr. Ciskowski; seconded by Mrs. Francesconi.

**2/3 vote required.**

**Discussion:** None.

**Card Vote.** Yes 25 No 87  
**Failed.**

**Article 13:** To see if the Town will vote to appropriate the sum of \$300,000 to keep Cheshire Elementary School open from grades pre-K through 5 for FY 17-18 only. If articles 1 & 2 on this petition are approved, this article will not be necessary.

[NOTE: The Cheshire Advisory Board approves this article.]

**No Motion Made.**

[NOTE: The following article appears on the warrant via certified citizen petition.]

**Article 14:** To see if the Town will vote to allow outside fundraising to offset and reduce the cost of continued operation of the Cheshire Elementary School grades pre-K through 5.

[NOTE: The Cheshire Advisory Board approves this article.]

Motion to table this article; seconded.

**Article tabled.**

**Article 15:** To see if the Town will vote to appropriate from certified free cash the sum of \$100,000 (one-hundred thousand dollars) for the purpose of funding the fiscal year 2018 annual maintenance and safe-keeping costs of the Cheshire Elementary School, or take any other action in relation thereto.

Motion to accept the article as read made by Mrs. Francesconi; seconded by Mr. Ciskowski.

**Discussion:** None.

Voice vote taken. **Unanimous.**

**Article 16:** To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to petition the General Court for special legislation to increase the size of the Board of Selectmen from three to five members, as set forth below; provided, however, that the General Court may make clerical or editorial changes of form only to the bill, unless the Board of Selectmen approves amendments to the bill before enactment by the General Court which are within the scope of the general objectives of this petition, or to take any other action relative thereto.

[NOTE: The Cheshire Advisory Board approves this article.]



**An Act Relative to the Board of Selectmen of the Town of Cheshire.**

Section 1. Notwithstanding the provisions of any general or special law to the contrary, there shall hereby be established in the Town of Cheshire a 5-member Board of Selectmen. Each Selectman shall serve for a 3-year term, with no more than 2 Selectman's terms to run concurrently.

Section 2. At the first annual town election following at least 64 days after the effective date of this act, one additional Selectman shall be elected to a 2-year term. The terms of those members currently serving as Selectmen at the time of the adoption of this act shall be unchanged by adoption of this act.

Section 3. This act shall be submitted to the voters of the Town of Cheshire at a regular or special town election to be held in said town in the form of the following question which shall be placed on the official ballot: "Shall an act passed by the General Court in the year 2017, entitled "An Act Relative to the Board of Selectmen of the Town of Cheshire," be accepted? Below the question shall appear a summary of the act prepared by Town Counsel and approved by the Board of Selectmen. In the event that a majority of those voting on the question vote in the affirmative, sections 1 and 2 of this act shall take effect in the Town of Cheshire, but not otherwise.

Section 4. This act shall take effect upon passage.

Motion to accept the article as read made by Mr. Ciskowski; seconded by Mrs. Francesconi.

**Discussion:**

Mr. Astorino, newly retired Cheshire Selectmen, stated that only one other town in the Commonwealth with our size population has five member boards. That this could increase the Town budget if the new members went on Town insurance.

Town Counsel Ed St. John III stated that this would be a three step process, voting the article at the Annual Town Meeting, a ballot question at an Election and Attorney General approval.

Mrs. Francesconi stated that she felt three members were sufficient.

Mr. Ciskowski stated that he felt five members were needed.

Voice vote taken. **Moderator could not made a judgment.**

**Card vote.** Yes 53 No 49  
Passed.

**Article 17:** To see if the Town will vote to appropriate the sum of \$11,514 (eleven thousand five hundred fourteen dollars) from the Cemetery Sale of Lots Account available funds for the purpose of purchasing a replacement lawn mower and burial lowering device equipment, or take any other action in relation thereto.

*[NOTE: The Cheshire Advisory Board approves this article.]*

Motion to accept the article as read made by Mrs. Francesconi; seconded by Mr. Ciskowski.

**Discussion:** None.

Voice vote taken.

**Unanimous.**

**Article 18:** To see if the Town will vote to rescind Article 34 of the Town Bylaws, which sets fee schedules for the Town Clerk, or take any other action in relation thereto.

*[NOTE: The schedule of fees charged by the Town Clerk were approved in 1995 and have become obsolete.]*

*[NOTE: The Cheshire Advisory Board approves this article.]*

Motion to accept the article as read made by Mr. Ciskowski; seconded by Mrs. Francesconi.

**Discussion:** None.

Voice vote taken.

**Unanimous.**

**Article 19:** To do and transact any other business that may properly come before this meeting, or take any other action in relation thereto.

Motion to dissolve the meeting made by Mrs. Francesconi; seconded by Mr. Ciskowski.

**Discussion:** None.

Voice vote taken.

**Unanimous.**

Meeting dissolved at 10:40 pm by Moderator St. John. Moderator thanked everyone for coming and their patience.

**ATTEST: True Copy**

Christine B. Emerson  
Cheshire Town Clerk  
June 29, 2017

# Special Town Meeting - July 17, 2017

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## The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

### Berkshire SS.

To either of the Constables of the Town of CHESHIRE in the County of BERKSHIRE

### GREETING.

In The Name of THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS, you are hereby directed to notify and warn the inhabitants of said Town, qualified to vote in elections and in Town affairs, to meet at said Cheshire at:

Cheshire Elementary School Cafeteria

Monday, July 17th, 2017

7:00 PM

SPECIAL TOWN MEETING

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Voter check-in begins at 6:30 PM.

Then and there to act on the following articles:

Moderator St. John opened the meeting at 7:00pm.

Asked for non-voters to identify themselves.

Voters: 124      Non-voters: 9

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Pledge of Allegiance was said.

Welcome all to this meeting.

Read the warrant heading.

Motion to waive the reading of the balance of the warrant and the return of service made by Mrs. Francesconi; seconded by Mrs. Emerson.

**Article 1.** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate from available funds in the Treasury to fund the following:

Adams Cheshire Regional  
Foundation Budget (FY 2018)      \$ 1,984,517

Adams Cheshire Regional  
Over Foundation Budget (FY 2018)      312,815

Adams Cheshire Regional  
Transportation (FY 2018)      183,294

Adams Cheshire Building Project,  
Interest (FY 2018)      239,639

**Adams Cheshire Total      \$ 2,720,265**

*or to take any other action in relation thereto.*

Motion to accept the article as read made by Mrs. Francesconi; seconded by Mrs. Emerson.

### Discussion:

Mrs. Francesconi addressed the meeting stating she was a lifelong resident of Cheshire, had attended Cheshire School as did her children and is just as much saddened as everyone at the closing of our school. However, the ramifications of not passing the Adams-Cheshire Regional School budget not only affects the schools but also the Town of Cheshire. Not passing the budget means that a tax rate for the Town cannot be set, tax bills cannot be sent and therefore the revenue does not come into the Town. I ask your consideration to pass this budget.

Mr. Scholz, Stafford Hill, requested a secret ballot be taken for the vote on this article.

Motion for secret ballot by Mr. Scholz; seconded by Mr. Tremblay.

**Discussion:** None

Voice vote taken.

**Too difficult to declare.**

**Card Vote taken.**

**Yes 75      No 49  
Motion carried.**

**Discussion on article began:**

Mr. Scholz disagreed with Mrs. Francesconi, stating that the penalties were not as drastic as stated. He stated that the Town should be able to borrow funds with interest. Recommends not passing this budget, as of December 1st, the State would take over the school and we could be able to bargain and explain Cheshire's frustration with the Adams-Cheshire Agreement.

Gary Trudeau, Outlook Avenue, asking to vote down the budget. Record low enrollment and record high budget.

Justin Kruszyna, Stafford Hill, stated that he is tired of Adams ruling what the budget is for the school. Vote down the budget, regain independence.

Jason Mendonca, Dean Street, Question for Mrs. Francesconi, why is the budget so high? Stating that the city of North Adams budget is lower than ours.

ACRSD Superintendent Dr. Putnam, explained that a city budget for a school is quite different from a regional school budget.

Darlene Rodowicz, ACRSD School Committee Member, said that the budget should actually be higher to provide the quality of education that our children deserve. Both Cheshire and Adams are reaching their tax levies. The scores for grades are not what we would like, but we also have accomplished students in our system.

Support this budget.

Mr. Scholz, again stated that Adam exploits Cheshire. Dr. Putnam presented a good budget and he is a brilliant man.

Use leverage to Adams, vote down this budget.

Denise Gregoire, Church Street, asked for an explanation, if the budget is voted down tonight, what does the District Wide Meeting entail?

John Tremblay, Church Street, stated that he thought it a good idea for a District Wide Meeting.

Dr. Putnam, explained the process for the District Wide Meeting. The process is quite involved.

The School Committee chooses a date and venue. The moderator is chosen by the Committee using Adams' or Cheshire's moderator or a moderator of their own choosing.

The Adams and Cheshire Town Clerks must be ready for either a voice vote, standing vote, card vote or secret ballot vote.

The vote of District Wide Meeting is the budget for the school district.

George Reynolds, Mill Hill Road, questioned the exodus of the students from ACRSD. Has the enrollment dropped with the closing of Cheshire Elementary?

Dr. Putnam, stated that to date thirty students have been school choiced out of the district.

Michelle Whitney, Ingalls Road, asked how will the Town carry on if the budget passes, what changes will the Town make about the future of the schools.

Mrs. Francesconi stated that a meeting to look into the Agreement for the District is definitely on the agenda for the Selectmen.

Edmund St. John, said that to work on the Agreement all the parties must come to the table.

Paul Astorino, Meadowview Drive, asked what the cost of each school choice student was?

Dr. Putnam stated \$5,000 per student.

Mr. Astorino, continued that the Town can not straighten out the school mess in one year. To try to strong arm Adams is nuts!

Applause.

Dr. Putman said the numbers of students leaving was around 77 and 45 coming in. This budget will begin to provide a good education.

Bethany DeMarco, Richardson Street, if the State takes over then what? How would the State fix and create a wonderful system?

Dr. Putnam, stated that the State is governed by Massachusetts General Law Chapter 71 and the steps are clearly spelled out. The State takes fiscal control of the school system.

Bethany DeMarco, does that mean minimum expenditures for the school?

Dr. Putman, that would depend on the State.

Darlene Rodowicz said school choice is a reality. However, the consolidation of the schools was the way to provide more educational benefits to the school children of the district.

Christine Merlet, Shadowland Cove, asked how the district reconciled the safety of the students on a busy main street school versus Cheshire school. Concerned about the safety of her grandchildren that will be going to Adams. Also, the size of the classes.

Dr. Putnam, class sizes at CES had been roughly 13 to 15 students and Plunkett had been 20 to 24 students. Now the class size should be around 19 students in the Pre-K to 5th grade. Hoosac Valley Elementary School will strive for the safety of the students which will number around 425.

Carleen Butler, School Street, stated that her teaching career was spent in CES and Plunkett schools. Safety at Plunkett has been stringent, literally each child was put on the bus by a staff member. Parking has been increased in the last couple of years. You should have peace of mind with your children at the Adams school.

Applause.

Misty Sarkis, School Street, voiced concern that going up in grade level, would the class size increase?

Dr. Putnam stated that the class size in the upper grades has been discussed. Looking at reframing the teacher to student ratio to obtain optimum class size.

Gary Trudeau, Outlook Avenue, asked why 11 new employees were hired over the last year?

Dr. Putnam, the positions were those of paraprofessionals that were hired after the school year began, as the State required for new “special needs” students.

Moderator ended the discussion period after there were no more questions from the floor.

Secret Ballot Process was explained.

The Town Clerk with Registrars Diane Hitter and Elizabeth King rearranged the hall to allow the voters to recheck-in and receive the yes/no slip to cast their vote.

About two rows of voters had completed the process, when the complaint arose that having two boxes, people could see how others were voting. At this point, Registrars and Town Clerk made the decision to have only one box for the votes and one for the discards.

Process took roughly half an hour.

Police Officer David Tarjick did a great job of counting the ballot slips.

Vote was recorded and the numbers given to the Moderator.

Yes 85      No 37  
**Adams-Cheshire Regional School Budget  
for FY 2018 was passed.**

**Article 2.** To transact any other business that may properly come before this meeting.

Motion to dissolve this meeting made by Mrs. Francesconi; seconded by Mrs. Emerson.

**Discussion:** None

Voice vote taken.

**Unanimous.**

Meeting dissolved at 8:35 pm.

**ATTEST: True Copy**

Christine B. Emerson  
Cheshire Town Clerk  
July 18, 2017

# Special State Election Primary - October 10, 2017

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The Commonwealth of Massachusetts  
WILLIAM FRANCIS GALVIN  
SECRETARY OF THE COMMONWEALTH

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Berkshire SS.

To either of the Constables of the TOWN of CHESHIRE in the County of BERKSHIRE

GREETING.

In the name of THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS, you are hereby directed to notify and warn the inhabitants of said Town, qualified to vote in elections and in Town affairs

## SPECIAL STATE ELECTION PRIMARY

Date: Tuesday, October 10, 2017  
Place: Cheshire Community/Senior Center  
119 School Street  
Polls: 7:00 am to 8:00 pm

To cast their votes for the candidates of political parties for the following office:

**Representative in General Court..... First Berkshire District**

And you are directed to serve this Warrant, by posting up attested copies thereof at 4 places in said Town, seven days at least before the time of holding said election.

Cheshire Town Hall, Cheshire Town Hall Annex, Cheshire Post Office, H.D. Reynolds General Merchandise and Cheshire Community/Senior Center

HEREOF FAIL NOT, and make due return of this Warrant, with your doings thereon, to the Town Clerk at the time and place of election, as aforesaid.

Given under our hands this Nineteenth day of September in the year of our Lord two thousand and seventeen.

\_\_\_\_\_ Robert S. Ciskowski  
\_\_\_\_\_ Edmund St. John IV  
\_\_\_\_\_ Carol A. Francesconi

Cheshire Board of Selectmen

A true copy. ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Constable

Berkshire, ss.

### PURSUANT TO THE WITHIN WARRANT,

*I have notified and warned the inhabitants of the Town of Cheshire by posting up attested copies of the same at:*

*Cheshire Town Hall, Town Hall Annex, Cheshire Post Office,  
H.D. Reynolds General Merchandise and Cheshire Community/Senior Center.*

*\_\_\_\_\_ days before the date of the meeting, as within directed.*

\_\_\_\_\_ Constable of Cheshire

# Special State Election - November 7, 2017

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## The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

WILLIAM FRANCIS GALVIN  
SECRETARY OF THE COMMONWEALTH

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Berkshire SS.

To either of the Constables of the TOWN of CHESHIRE in the County of BERKSHIRE

GREETING.

In the name of THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS, you are hereby directed to notify and warn the inhabitants of said Town, qualified to vote in elections and in Town affairs

### SPECIAL STATE ELECTION

Date: Tuesday, November 7th, 2017  
Place: Cheshire Community/Senior Center  
119 School Street  
Polls: 7:00 am to 8:00 pm

To cast their votes for the candidates of political parties for the following office:

**Representative in General Court.....First Berkshire District**

And you are directed to serve this Warrant, by posting up attested copies thereof at 4 places in said Town, seven days at least before the time of holding said election.

Cheshire Town Hall, Cheshire Town Hall Annex, Cheshire Post Office, H.D. Reynolds General Merchandise and Cheshire Community/Senior Center

HEREOF FAIL NOT, and make due return of this Warrant, with your doings thereon, to the Town Clerk at the time and place of election, as aforesaid.

Given under our hands this Twenty-fourth day of October in the year of our Lord two thousand and seventeen.

\_\_\_\_\_ Robert S. Ciskowski  
\_\_\_\_\_ Edmund St. John IV  
\_\_\_\_\_ Carol A. Francesconi

Cheshire Board of Selectmen

A true copy. ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Constable

Berkshire, ss.

**PURSUANT TO THE WITHIN WARRANT,**

*I have notified and warned the inhabitants of the Town of Cheshire by posting up attested copies of the same at:*

*Cheshire Town Hall, Town Hall Annex, Cheshire Post Office,  
H.D. Reynolds General Merchandise and Cheshire Community/Senior Center.*

*\_\_\_\_\_ days before the date of the meeting, as within directed.*

\_\_\_\_\_ Constable of Cheshire

ANNUAL REPORTS  
OF THE  
ADAMS-CHESHIRE REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
CHESHIRE, MA 01225



FOR THE FISCAL YEAR  
July 1, 2016 - June 30, 2017



*Adams-Cheshire Regional School Committee*

*(Standing Left to Right):*

*Regina Hill, Vice-Chair Steven Vigna, Superintendent Robert Putnam, Darlene Rodowicz, Peter Tatro,  
(Sitting Left to Right): Chairman Paul K. Butler, Jennifer Gageant, missing from photo: Adam Emerson*

# Report of the Chairman

## Adams-Cheshire Regional School District

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Paul K. Butler, Chairman  
Darlene Rodowicz, Vice-Chair  
Regina Hill  
Steve Vigna  
Peter Tatro  
Jennifer Gageant  
Adam Emerson

Adams, appointed 9/00, elected 5/01, re-elected 5/04, 5/07, 5/10, 5/13, 5/16  
Cheshire, appointed 09/04, elected 5/06, re-elected 5/09, 5/12, 5/15  
Adams, appointed 09/10, elected 05/11, re-elected 05/14, 05/17  
Adams, appointed 06/11, elected 05/12, re-elected 05/15  
Cheshire, elected 05/16  
Adams, elected 05/16  
Cheshire, elected 05/17

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The Adams-Cheshire Regional School Committee membership for this year has seen one change. Edmund St. John of Cheshire left the committee and ran successfully for a seat on the Cheshire Selectboard. The input that Mr. St. John gave to the committee during his tenure was much appreciated and we wish him well in his new role on the town board. In his place we welcome newly elected member Adam Emerson who joined the committee in May of 2017. Already he has shown to be a tremendous asset to the school system and we look forward to his presence in the coming years. Along with Mr. Emerson we have 2 members first elected in 2016, and 4 members who have been on the committee since at least 2011. The membership represents both towns and has a wide range of backgrounds and skill sets that allow each member to bring his or her unique perspective to the table.

The 2017/2018 school year is certainly one of enormous change. Berkshire County as a whole has seen declines in population and student enrollment. Demographic makeup of communities has shifted with many towns seeing the average age of its population on the increase. The challenges in providing quality education here in the North Berkshire region are compounded by a more transient population and a higher poverty rate than many other areas have seen. As we have been saying for a number of years, State Chapter 70 funding, which makes up roughly 60% of our school budget, has seen virtually no increase over the past decade. However, the cost to run our schools has continued to increase. Salaries, heat & utilities, maintenance, and especially health insurance costs have continued to put upward pressure on school budgets over the years. The net effect of this is that more and more of the school budget must be absorbed by the towns, or services to education must be cut.

The school committee has tried to be sensitive to the taxpayers and to the realities of town budgets over the years when developing the school budget and formulating assessments to the towns. Prior to last year's budget process, the findings of the Collins center study were released. The overall goal was to help improve the quality of education for our district while at the same time putting the district in a more financially sustainable position. Every recommendation that was put forth by the Collins Center was reviewed by the school committee. Some were instituted immediately. Some required contract negotiation which has since occurred. And some were deemed not appropriate for specific reasons.

One of the changes suggested was to move to a 2-building district. This controversial suggestion would mean that either C.T. Plunkett or Cheshire Elementary School would be closed. The idea of closing a building was one that had been looked at and discussed for at least 2 years prior but was then supported by the study. Prior to making any such decision, different budget scenarios were studied, open forums held for the public, building walk-through events were conducted, and many hours were devoted to a very important topic and decision. The school committee felt it important to make changes in operations in order to improve education in the classroom. And the committee did vote unanimously to close a building and go to a 2-building district.

However, the vote to close a specific building was not unanimous and unfortunately was split along town representative lines. In the nearly 20 years I have served on this committee, I have never heard anyone say that they only represent the students from the town that they represent. It is our charge and oath to represent all of our students, regardless of which town they reside. It is understandable that there remains resentment in our communities over this decision. But we should remember how we got here. We didn't get here because one town or another didn't pay their fair share. We got here because we have a problem with declining population, reduced student enrollment, and a state funding formula that has failed to keep pace with the cost to educate our children.

The Berkshire County Education Task Force voted to put forth as their aspiration for Berkshire County the goal of moving toward a single county-wide district over the next 10 years. This can be a very controversial position for many schools and towns that may see this as move to reduce local control over the schools. But the studies and evidence suggest that with the current trends of shrinking populations and student enrollments throughout Berkshire County, there may be few other options that have the potential to reduce costs and improve education for every student in the region. It is important to remember that the task force is merely a recommending body, not a mandating one. However, I would strongly suggest that their work be looked at seriously for the benefits that could be afforded to everyone. For more details on the Task Force anyone can review their website at [berkshireducation.org](http://berkshireducation.org) or look them up on Facebook.



The school district continues to take measures within its available means to enhance performance on standardized testing. We continue to use Bay State Readers initiative in the elementary grades. Time on learning in the classroom is emphasized throughout the district, especially at the middle and high school grades. Investments in technologies have been ongoing for several years in all our schools. The reality is that a higher than average special needs population, an above average poverty rate, and overall lack of economic opportunity in our region all combine to put increased pressures on our schools. Additionally, our district has a below average per pupil spending which limits our ability to add resources to the classrooms.

Nonetheless, students who attend school in the Adams-Cheshire Regional School District can and do succeed. And in order to help them succeed, we have committed to investing in new programs such as PLTW, Project Lead The Way. This program was instituted this past fall in a pilot format in the middle school. It has had such enthusiasm and success that PLTW will be expanded for the fall. The program focuses on technology, bio sciences, engineering, and others. It is important to get exactly this type of theoretic and hands-on education in our schools. When students and teachers alike become excited and enthused, learning happens naturally. Coding is being integrated in our curriculum for nearly all grades in some fashion. Many fields of employment now and in the future will require at least some knowledge of program coding. As I mentioned, students who graduate from Hoosac Valley can and do succeed. We continue to send graduating students to great schools including the U.S. Naval Academy, RPI, Northeastern University, Michigan University, Boston University, UMASS, UCONN, Merrimac College, and many many more. We graduate future physicians, nurses, lawyers, engineers, business professionals, and of course teachers. Despite the stigma of being a Level 2 and 3 school district, we are proud of our accomplishments and are confident of improvement.

Maintenance of both buildings within our district continues to be an enormous task. Hoosac Valley Elementary School is located in the C.T. Plunkett building. While this building was renovated, that project was done over 20 years ago and there were some areas of the building that were not re-worked at the time. Even with that, the facility is a very old one and while it has a very solid foundation, there remain the issues that typically are seen on older properties. The town of Adams has recently finished work on the boiler room roof. And a few other areas of priority are being addressed. The cold snap of late December to early January put a great deal of stress on the heating system which caused some broken pipes. This was quickly resolved with little to no damage to the building.

The Hoosac Valley Middle and High School campus is a much more modern facility. All building systems were updated to current code during the renovation. Nonetheless, a building of that size, which houses roughly 800 students each day, does require maintenance and repairs. With correct attention to these areas the Hoosac building should serve our district well for many years to come. We are committed to have buildings that at the very least offer clean and comfortable environments for our students and staff.

The school committee successfully came to agreement on the contracts for all our bargaining units last year. It is the goal of such negotiations to provide our employees with comparable salaries and benefits to enable the district to attract and retain talent. A number of changes were instituted in contract language to help achieve those goals. We especially appreciate the assistance of the Adams-Cheshire Teacher's Association for their help in finalizing these contracts. We feel that the students, the employees, and the taxpayers are well served by having these contracts finalized and implemented.

The school committee was notified in late December by Superintendent Dr. Robert Putnam of his intent to retire at the end of the fiscal year, June 30th. The school committee has voted to establish a search committee made up of representatives of both member towns to assist in the process. Additionally, the Massachusetts Association of School Committees will be assisting with the search, recruitment, and vetting processes. Dr. Putnam has had as his chief goal the task of raising the district out of Level 3 status with regard to state MCAS standardized testing. He has made a number of changes, improvements, and recommendations to help move our schools toward that goal. We do thank him in advance for the energy and effort he has put into that goal. It will be important to find a replacement who will be able to continue the work of improving education for all our students.

Obviously a school district would not be a district without our students. The school committee has as its number one goal the well-being, safety, and education of every student within our district. Most of the members of the school committee are parents and most of us have children or have had children who attend school here in this district. We are naturally concerned and proud not only of our own children but of all the students in the district as well. There are so many exciting and good things happening in our schools every day. I simply want to say go out and enjoy an event involving students. Perhaps take in a football, baseball, or basketball game. Attend a soccer game or a ski meet. Watch and listen to the band as they march in one of the local parades. Go see the high school musical or one of the concert and jazz band and chorus performances. Support a pancake breakfast or spaghetti supper. Students enjoy being supported by their communities and you will probably be amazed by the level at which our students perform.

Finally, as chairman of the Adams-Cheshire Regional School Committee, I would once again like to thank everyone in the community for their continued support for the school district and for the children who attend class here every day. I know that this has been a particularly difficult year and we are not lost on that fact. But we are committed to making the necessary changes to help improve the education for every one of our students. After all, they represent the future for all of us.

Paul K. Butler, Chairman

Adams-Cheshire Regional  
School District

# Superintendent of Schools

## Annual Report - 2017

The mission of the ACRSD, in partnership with families and community members, is to promote meaningful learning in a safe environment that prepares our youth to be creative thinkers, motivated learners, and positive, productive members of society. Our mission statement acts as a rallying point for people in good times and in bad times. Our mission statement focuses us on the truly important things that will drive success for our students. In difficult times, the mission statement also serves as a reminder to stay on the task at hand.

The 2016-2017 school year was challenging time for the Adams-Cheshire Regional School District. The FY18 budget took the drastic step of closing one of our community schools in order to preserve the majority of existing personnel and programs while adding much needed personnel to provide intervention for regular education students and personnel for the implementation and coordination of Special Education services.

Over the course of the 2017 summer the district was transformed. The PreK-3 Hoosac Valley Elementary School opened in the C.T. Plunkett building, the 4-7 Hoosac Valley Middle School and the 8-12 Hoosac Valley High School opened in the Hoosac Valley Middle and High School building. The restructuring provided opportunities to redefine the district, to attain continuity of programming within and across grade levels, and implement programs that will improve the educational opportunities for all students.

The restructuring of the elementary and middle schools has led to consistent instruction and a more efficient allocation of resources. It has also facilitated greater opportunities, communication and sharing. Both schools have been working closely with our partners at the Bay State Reading Institute (BSRI) to improve instruction in both English language arts and mathematics.

All three schools have been working closely with the District and School Assistance Center (DSAC) to implement the four turnaround practices associated with improved student achievement: Leadership, Shared Responsibility and Professional Collaboration; Intentional Practices for Improving Instruction; Student-Specific Supports and Instruction to All Students; and School Climate and Culture. All three schools have established and trained Instructional Leadership Teams tasked with the job of improving instruction. DSAC will be working with the schools for the next two years.

Project Lead the Way (PLTW) courses are being successfully implemented in grades 4 and 5 of the middle school and in the high school. CodeHS classes have also been implemented in the middle and high schools.

These initiatives are a part of a plan to redefine the district by implementing programming that sets the ACRSD apart from its neighbors. PLTW course will eventually be extended for grades 4-10. Computer coding program, an approach to thinking that will be required in many fields in the future, will eventually be extended to all grade levels. We are in the process of creating pathways in our middle and high schools that will prepare students for success in college and/or careers.

### Adams-Cheshire Regional School Committee:

The School Committee is an elected body that oversees the Adams-Cheshire Regional School District. Members work with the Superintendent to set broad policies, develop a recommended budget for submission to the Towns and monitor the overall operation of the School Department. The Committee is composed of seven elected members for a three year term. Three School committee members live in Cheshire and four members live in Adams.

### Adams-Cheshire Regional School Committee Members:

Paul Butler .....Chairman, Adams  
Stephen Vigna .....Vice Chairman, Adams  
Darlene Rodowicz .....Cheshire  
Regina Hill.....Adams  
Pete Tatro.....Cheshire  
Jennifer Gageant.....Adams  
Adam Emerson .....Cheshire

Respectfully submitted,

Dr. Robert R. Putnam  
Superintendent

# Hoosac Valley High School

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## 2017-2018 Annual Report

### *“Strive for Academic Excellence by Emphasizing Student Responsibility in a Climate of Mutual Respect”*

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This was a big year for Hoosac Valley High School. It marked the rebirth of our high school as a program serving students in grades 8-12. It has been a year filled with change, some challenges and a great deal of success. Throughout the year we have continued to work to build a culture of continuous improvement, achievement and mutual accountability.

We are proud of our rich and rigorous core and elective course offerings at Hoosac. This year we introduced several new and exciting courses, including Human Body Systems, Code High School, and Advanced Engineering. Human Body Systems is part of the Project Lead the Way program. This was our school's first year working with the program. Students in Human Body Systems examine the interactions of human body systems and apply what they learn to solve real-world medical cases. Code High School is part of a larger STEM initiative throughout the district. At the high school, it involves an Advanced Computer Programming course offered to upper-level students and an Intro to Computer Programming class offered to 8th grade students. Advanced Engineering was offered this year in conjunction with MCLA. The course was taught by both a Hoosac faculty member and an MCLA instructor. Participating students received college credit for the class as well as credit toward their Hoosac diploma.

This year we were thrilled to participate in a new program providing free breakfast and lunch to all of our students regardless of financial need. Kids who have time can visit the cafeteria before homeroom for a hot breakfast. Those in a hurry can grab a breakfast-to-go on their way to class. Free lunch is also available to every student, everyday.

Field trips have always been an important part of our curriculum and this year was no exception. Notable trips included a hike up Mt. Greylock, a performance at Barrington Stage Company, Chemistry Labs at Williams College, Career Fair for 8th graders at MCLA, Money Matters at Miss Halls School, a trip to NBCTV in North Adams, a STEM fair at BCC, and a visit to the Berkshire County Sheriff's Office.

During the April break, some students will travel to both England and Scotland for a week-long tour of the region. The trip itself will not extend beyond the April break. Planning, preparations and fundraising, however, started long ago and will continue until the bus pulls away from the school to take our world travelers to the airport. The trip is closely aligned with both our ELA and history curricula.

Also at the end of the year the 8th grade will be traveling to Washington D.C. as a class. Traveling by bus, students will visit many of the sites and institutions discussed in their classes,

including the Smithsonian Museum and the National Holocaust Museum, among others. For many students, a high point of the trip will be a Washington Nationals baseball game.

The High School Concert Band, Jazz Ensemble, Marching Band and Chorus were very busy this year. The marching band played at all home football games, at the North Adams Fall Foliage Parade, at our football playoff games (including a performance at Gillette Stadium!) and at Memorial Day parades in both Adams and Cheshire. Our concert band performed in December and in April, at the Annual Showcase Concert in May and at our school's graduation in June. The Jazz Ensemble played a holiday performance in December, the Art Hathaway Holiday Dinner and at the Berkshire Museum County-wide High School Arts Show. They also participated in our All Band Performance in April and played at Class Night. Chorus performances included the holiday performance in December, the Annual Christmas Tree lightings in Adams and Cheshire and our Showcase Concert in May. Many students from both ensembles participated both vocally and instrumentally in the annual musical - this year it was *“The Addams Family”* produced in March. Additionally, students from both band and chorus participated in the MMEA-WD music festival. We were proud to have two students qualify for an all-state audition with one student auditioning well enough to perform at Symphony Hall in Boston with the All-State Chorus.

Our National Honor Society had a banner year. The NHS inducted 19 new members this fall. The group continues to offer an after school tutoring center which serves many of our students throughout the school year. They also coordinated a book drive over the winter, donating what they collected to local charitable organizations.

The Leo Club welcomed 29 new members this year. In addition to their ongoing recycling program, the group hosted the 8th grade dance, a pancake breakfast, the Halloween dance, and a successful spaghetti supper.

Student Council, now comprised of students in grade 8-12, has been busy since before the school year began. During the summer months members offered tours to new and incoming students in both the middle and high school. Other activities included an ice cream social for students in grades 8 and 9, the Freshmen Reception, the Art Hathaway Dinner and the Snowball Dance. Many of our council members are also involved in the Peer Mentor program, which matches upperclassmen with students in grade 4 and 5 to act as mentors. Hoosac was proud to send three student council members as representatives to the Western Massachusetts Regional Student Advisory Council.

As part of the Adams-Cheshire Regional School District's Turnaround Plan, Hoosac established an Instructional Leadership Team in the fall. The ILT is composed of a handful of teachers from different grade levels and disciplines who work collaboratively to analyze data, observe classroom instruction, and plan and deliver professional development. The make-up of the group will change each year. They work closely with the advisors from the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education and building administrators within a shared leadership model.

Several new faculty and staff members joined us this year. In addition to these new faces, we were thrilled to welcome several new positions, including two math interventionists. Our interventionists work with teachers and guidance counselors to identify students who are struggling at grade level and might benefit from targeted, specialized instruction.

The Hoosac Outing Club was active again in 2017-2018. This year the Club completed several hikes (one up Ragged Mountain, another up Greylock) traveled to the Williams College climbing wall, and enjoyed a rafting trip on the Deerfield River.

We were proud to continue the tradition of Junior Prize Speaking this year. With guidance from teachers and their class advisor, juniors selected, practiced and performed orations on a variety of topics for an audience of students, families and community members. We're proud to continue this tradition and look forward to next year's performance.

We're grateful for all the support we receive in so many forms from parents, families and community members. Our school is blessed with a rich and proud history, filled with individuals who want to see their children and grandchildren benefit from the same quality education they received. We are proud to be a part of the Hoosac Valley tradition.

Respectfully submitted,

Jeremiah Ames  
Principal HVHS

# Hoosac Valley Middle School

2017 Annual Report

**Every Student. Every Day.**

Wow! What a year so far. The newly created Hoosac Valley Middle School had the challenging task of melding staff and students from the previous three schools all while collaborating with Hoosac Valley High School to share one building. As if that was not a large enough challenge, a new administrative team was added just before school opened. It is a credit to the students, families, community members and staff that we have come so far in five short months. We are continuously seeking ways to improve the educational experience for the approximately 400 students in grades 4 – 7.

We have many new features of which the most pleasing are the faculty members who have joined us in 2017: Breanne DeMarco - Cornerstone Program, Kelsey Grey - Music, Shelby Superneau - 6th Grade ELA, and Stefanie Wondriska-Clark - 5th Grade Special Education. Three new paraprofessionals joined our team: McKenzie McNeice, Carla Rougeau and Melissa Turoczy. Also, we are pleased to have additional supports for our students in the form of three new positions: Math Interventionist, ELA Interventionist and 6 - 7 Special Education Coordinator.

We have numerous initiatives for student enrichment such as Project Lead the Way, CodeHS, Botvin Life Skills, Berkshire Theatre Group Plays!, Mentoring Program, Middle School PTG, and the list goes on.

Also, we have several initiatives and collaborations for staff enrichment including Baystate Reading Institute Coaches in ELA and Math, DSAC Team, Instructional Leadership Team, DataWise decision making, etc. all with the goal of refining practices to help increase student outcomes.

During the months of April and May, HVMS students will take a total of Nine MCAS Tests - ELA and Math for all grades, plus Science in grade 5. The new more challenging MCAS tests will be computer based. We are looking forward to the fall when our new school will get its first set of results on student performance on state tests.

Our 4th - 7th grade students are really taking ownership in the school. We have had several students come to administration with several creative ideas and we are working with these students to implement them. Some of these include a dance, student created comics set out for peers to read, a school newspaper, and teacher of the week/month. We are looking into getting a school student council up and running.

Respectfully submitted,

Christopher Sposato  
Interim Principal,  
Hoosac Valley Middle School

# Hoosac Valley Elementary School

*The Mission of the ACRSD is to create a partnership of our schools and communities that develops all of our students into educated, responsible and productive citizens.*

## District Beliefs

- I believe all children are capable of learning.
- I believe all students deserve the best instruction and the best resources.
- I believe a safe, respectful, and organized environment creates the ideal climate for learning.
- I believe that people who share responsibility and accountability enhance success.
- I believe that learning is increased when everyone has high expectations.
- I believe providing a variety of approaches leads to individual success and growth.
- I believe that on-going assessment and adjustment is necessary for growth.

Hoosac Valley Elementary School services students in grades Pre-K - 3. The school is located on Commercial Street in downtown Adams housing five grade levels with between 56-104 students in each. The original building (formally C.T. Plunkett Elementary School) was constructed in 1923 and served as the town's junior high school for almost fifty years. It was then converted to an intermediate elementary school and served as an instructional facility for students in fourth through sixth grades until it underwent a complete renovation. The school reopened as an elementary school with a fourteen-classroom addition constructed on the south side of the building for students in Kindergarten through grade five in September 1994. In Spring 2017, the School Committee closed Cheshire Elementary School and all elementary students in the ACRSD entered the renamed Hoosac Valley Elementary School in Fall of this year.

The information included in this report highlights some of our special accomplishments, provides statistical information on enrollment and staffing, reviews some school-wide projects and initiatives, and tells about some significant changes.

*Special thanks to all of the teachers/staff who contributed submissions for this report; you are truly outstanding!*

### Enrollment Comparisons

Grade	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18
Pre-K					56
K	92	87	68	65	83
1	78	83	78	68	80
2	73	79	80	81	78
3	69	73	84	80	104
4	88	74	71	80	
5	83	85	72	68	
6					
<b>Totals</b>	<b>483</b>	<b>481</b>	<b>453</b>	<b>442</b>	<b>401</b>

### Staffing:

The following people help to provide a high quality educational program and a supportive learning environment for the students at our school:

#### Pre-K

Laura Crane and Kelly Riechers

#### Kindergarten

Kristy Bachli, Heather Emerson, Antoniette Marquis, Robin Poirot and Mara Woolley

#### Grade 1

Mia Alessio, Katie Chenail, Aprilee Mazzeo, Melissa Rusek and Kelly Ryan

#### Grade 2

Elizabeth Alibozek, Laurie Cantarella, Bethany Kelley, Christine Kirchner and Kimberley Trimarchi

#### Grade 3

Dawn Bombardier, Beth Bourdon, Dawn Prokopowicz, Ann Prudhomme and Danielle Taylor

#### School-Wide

<b>Principal:</b>	Michelle S. Colvin
<b>Dean of Students:</b>	Patricia Misiuk
<b>Literacy Coach:</b>	Nicole Dunham
<b>Elementary Coordinator:</b>	Mary Tanner
<b>District Specialist:</b>	Kim Biagini
<b>Special Education:</b>	Nicole Crane, Dawn Daniels, Christine Harrington
<b>Bridges Program:</b>	Caitlin Larabee
<b>Cornerstone Program:</b>	Travis Poirot
<b>Art:</b>	Wendy Lambertson
<b>Music:</b>	Jonathan Rowe
<b>Physical Education:</b>	Kathleen Hill, Dan Wehle
<b>Title I:</b>	Lorry Delmolino
<b>School Adjustment Counselor:</b>	Jennifer Renzi
<b>Speech/Lang:</b>	Diane Arduini, Kelsy Pero, Sara Malloy, Karen Levesque, Brianna Bressett
<b>Occupational Therapy:</b>	Suzanne Harnick, Deb Silveira
<b>Physical Therapy:</b>	Lora McGrath
<b>ESL Specialist:</b>	Joshua Kellogg
<b>Administrative Assistant:</b>	Paula Ciscowski
<b>Main Office Para:</b>	Cheryl Steuer
<b>Library:</b>	Laurie Gavazzi
<b>Nurse:</b>	Kari Ann Delsoldato
<b>Cafeteria:</b>	Cindy Gajda, Denise Moncecchi, Marianne Mirke, Gena Simoneau, Linda Pelczynski, Shirley Deneault, Nadine Sadlowski
<b>Daycare:</b>	Sharon Girard, Miriam Serrano
<b>Custodians:</b>	David Richards, Marc McCarthy, Dennis Pinnsonneault

**Paraprofessionals:** Pat Alibozek, Shannon Badorini, Linda Bonnavier, Kathy Bradbury, Susan Burzimetri, Monica Carpenter, Deb Ciempa, Tanelle Ciempa, Ashley Davis, Lila Fetter, Kim Galli, Judy Gaylord, Amoreena Gazaille, Kelsey Hosley, Karen Isbell, Susan Knapp, Donna LaBonte, Suzanne Lamb, Beth Larabee, Julie Lech, Carrie Lewis, Kathy Malloy, Sue McLearn, Paula Meczywor, Donna Mullany, Susan Randall, Shannon Speed, Emily Thurston, Lisa Waltermire, Clara Wilusz, Kendall Winston, Becky Zaleski, Jackie Ziarnik

#### **ACRS D Partners with Bay State Reading Institute, (BSRI)**

All teachers in K through 3 have been continuing to work with Literacy Coach, Nicole Dunham, on the partnership with BSRI and the goal of improving instruction in English/Language Arts. BSRI Principal's Coach, Judith Fletcher, comments, "BSRI provides the winning combination. We work as a team with school staff to make instructional decisions based on data while providing on-going professional development and coaching for every teacher and principal."

This partnership has been ongoing for the past 4 years and has positively impacted the school's academics and instruction throughout all grades. From kindergarten to grade 3, students have been receiving differentiated instruction and individualized support for their reading and writing needs. This year at HVES, there has been large focus on incorporating more writing into the day and in centers. Teachers have created their own new writing rubrics to assess student work and students have been working on increasing their stamina in writing.

In addition, this year we also have worked to incorporate more novels and texts into the ELA block. While the reading program Scott Foresman's Reading Street provides an amazing amount of practice for students, the school knows that students need to be reading more at their instructional levels. Teachers are beginning to introduce their groups to novels and other books, and having them practice reading these books to increase fluency and foster a love of reading. It is a goal of HVES to work towards having a literacy closet in which teachers will be able to use a variety of books to support their students and to use in conjunction with the Scott Foresman reading program we already have.

As a reminder, here is an outline of the BSRI model and how it is used in our school.

#### **BSRI's model includes:**

- Teaching techniques that emphasize synthesis, analysis, and problem-solving and result in higher-order thinking and deep conceptual understanding
- A focus on reading, writing, and speaking grounded in evidence from texts, both literary and informational
- A content-rich CCSS-aligned core curriculum
- Use of real-time data to guide classroom decision making
- Differentiated, small-group instruction with tiered intervention

#### **Kindergarten Update:**

It's been another fabulous productive year in Kindergarten. We are enjoying that we are all in the same building and being able to collaborate with each other. The children love being able to make new friends.

This fall we were able to take a field trip to Jaeschke's Orchard, in Adams. We were able to learn all about apples and how they grow. We even got to pick our own apples!

For Fire Safety Week we all walked to the Adams Fire Station. While there we were given a tour of the station, learned about fire safety and got to sit in a fire truck! Thank you to the Adams Fire Station for a fun and informative field trip!

This year, each Kindergarten student is assigned a 3rd grade buddy/mentor. These students serve as tutors, friends and role models throughout the year as they get together for various academic and/or creative activities.

We are continuing with our Bay State Readers Initiative (BSRI) to teach reading. The children are learning so much and are challenged on a daily basis. The program has been so successful with Reading that we have implemented it in Math this year. The children are enjoying learning math through differentiated math centers. In addition to our Lexia Core 5 program, we have begun using Symphony Math this year. Both programs challenge students to learn reading and math through engaging computer programs.

Our classes are benefiting from a partnership with MCLA to provide STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Math) lessons that include interactive activities taught by Dana Schildkraut. We look forward to continuing our relationship with Mass MoCA, and will visit the museum in the Spring.

Thanks to the Parent Teacher Group - through their fundraising efforts we are able to go on field trips, enjoy enrichment programs at the school both during the day and in the evening and supplies for our classroom.

Thank you to the support of our townspeople with all Hoosac Valley Elementary activities! You play a key role in our school's success!

#### **Grade 1 Update:**

First grade has been working towards increasing rigor in ELA through our partnership with the Bay State Reading Institute (BSRI). Since fall 2016 we have added the use of ECRI (Enhanced Core Reading Instruction) as part of small group ELA instruction. Two of our team members have been trained to be the trainers. This allows us to continue to receive refresher courses in the strategies for implementing ECRI. We have also been successful in implementing and extending the BSRI small group rotation model into our math block. Student have enjoyed the opportunity to work in small, peer-led math groups in order to further explore their understanding of new math concepts. This model has also allowed for teachers and support staff to work directly with students in smaller groups, resulting in the ability to provide prescriptive instruction that meets the various needs of students.

We are happy to announce that we have continued to increase and strengthen our implementation of STEAM related instruction and activities as a part of daily classroom instruction. We are continuing our partnership with MCLA through funding provided by the ITQ grant. This partnership allows K-2 teachers to have monthly meetings with their grade level and STEAM coach as well as the opportunity to attend STEAM workshops at various Berkshire County locations such as MCLA, Mass MoCA, Clark Art, Berkshire Museum and Miss Hall's School in order to increase understanding and develop curriculum. The first grade teachers are working towards displaying pictures of various STEAM lessons on the ACRSD Facebook page throughout the year.

As part of our desire to maintain strong community involvement we have continued our participation in various family friendly events such as Bingo for Books, Meet the Teacher Night, Literacy Fair, Seasonal Concerts, Trick-or-Treat night, and new to this year; a family Polar Express night! The week before December break, HVES families were invited to participate in a Polar Express themed event (based on the book by Chris Van Allsburg) along the 1st floor hallway. Faculty and staff decorated doorways on the 1st floor and handed out fun items such as hot cocoa packets and cookies to children and families. It was certainly a wonderful event with an incredible turn out! It was a fun filled night for all staff and families who attended. Over 200 families attended both our Trick-or-Treat and Polar Express nights!

#### **Grade 2 Update:**

This year in second grade we have many wonderful changes and additions to our grade level, including a combination of amazing staff. New additions include a Second Grade Book Club funded by an ACE grant and the use of novel studies in our instruction. Our Book Club gives students a free book to read at home and when they return to school we have an engaging book discussion, just as an adult book club would be run. Our goal is share the love of reading with students, to engage in meaningful discussions, to meet new friends, and to participate in an activity that allows for creativity and imagination! Novel studies are also new this year. We are bringing in more high interest texts to show students that reading can be a fun, lifelong skill. This also helps us dig deeper into reciprocal teaching, one of our comprehension strategies.

Again this year second grade will be given the opportunity to visit Mass MoCA to view the newest exhibits and create some artwork of their own. We will also be visiting the Berkshire Museum, and the Clark Art Institute curtsy of the Improving Teacher Quality Grant (ITQ). Many of our second grade teachers attend the ITQ STEAM Workshops offered by MCLA along with the ITQ grant to learn ways to incorporate lessons in the classroom on a regular basis. The students are enthusiastically participating in these activities including coding, technology, engineering, life science, and more. Second grade continues to use Scholastic News to enrich the students' understanding of the world around us. We appreciate PTG funding this valuable resource for the children.

During the holiday season, students took a walking field trip to local businesses to see the wonderful festive displays in town. Back in the classroom children participated in "Holidays

Around the World" where we virtually traveled to different countries around the world learning some geography along with how different cultures and countries celebrate the holiday season. We completed holiday activities such as ornament making, gingerbread houses, and holiday literature and math activities corresponding with each country.

Once again second grade will fully participate and host the Literacy Fair - now known as the Celebration of Success, Read Across America, and of course Alex's Lemonade Stand. Celebration of Success is a showcase of hard work, dedication, and love for not only reading, but all areas of the curriculum. Each child is represented with a project to be displayed in the gymnasium for families and friends. Read Across America honors Dr. Seuss's Birthday in which local business owners and townspeople are invited to read to classrooms. The day is dedicated to reading and participating in many literacy activities relating to Dr. Seuss. The Lemonade Stand is an annual event at Hoosac Valley Elementary that allows children to make, serve, and sell lemonade to the rest of the school. This teaches empathy and awareness for childhood cancer.

We are continuing to implement the BRSI Model, which fosters cooperative learning and academic conversations through center-based instruction. This year our focus is to incorporate this model into our math. During this time the students use manipulatives, technology, and activities to enhance student learning. Through Framing Your Thoughts and Scott Foresman, children are learning how to write a variety of styles of paragraphs, for example descriptive, compare and contrast, and narrative. We have begun using "Stop Light Writing" to help formulate our paragraphs along with 6+1 traits to focus on strengthening each writing trait.

Overall second grade is a busy and exiting year for the students. Lots of learning, fun, and academic growth take place!!

#### **Grade 3 Update:**

The new Hoosac Valley Elementary 3rd grades have come together beautifully with our neighboring Cheshire students! Together these students integrate their love for learning, friendship, and excitement about our new school! Third grade continues to enjoy having Gayle Raser from the Massachusetts Audubon Society with us again this school year. Gayle, an instructor with Mass Audubon, teaches our students with hands on instruction in the area of science and shares her experiences about native Berkshire wildlife. Gayle visits and presents lessons in each of the 3rd grade classrooms approximately 2x per month. Third grade teachers, students, and parents, worked hard through the fundraising efforts to help with this program and were able to raise approximately \$1,000. The PTG donated \$1,000; General Dynamics graciously awarded us a grant of \$2,000, and the ACE Grant awarded us \$800. Due to these efforts, all third grade students will benefit from 14 in-house class sessions with Ms. Raser. They will also engage in a culminating field trip to the Pleasant Valley Wildlife Sanctuary in June 2018. This wonderful, hands-on curriculum helps teachers to address many of the topics in the third grade science curriculum.

Third grade continues to work successfully implementing the BSRI approach to teaching and learning reading and math. The model consists of brief whole group teacher led instruction,

followed by small group differentiated instruction for collaborative and independent practice. Students continue to use the Envisions Math Common Core Program, while implementing additional instructional tools with an emphasis on math fact mastery, problem solving, and the everyday applications necessary for continued math growth. Recently we have integrated a new online math program; Symphony Math, which instructs students at their level while allowing them to progress by demonstrating the meaning of numbers in several different ways. We are excited about this new independent math program which can be accessed from home and school!

Social Studies continues to be explored and students are kept up-to-date with current events by engaging in readings and class discussions in Scholastic News. Focus is placed on the state of Massachusetts and our corner of the state; the Berkshires!

Our students will be taking the MCAS test this year in reading and language arts and math. These assessments are taken via computer based testing on Chromebooks. Continued daily use of these Chromebooks allows students to practice their computer skills, learn computer keyboarding, practice LEXIA (an online reading program) and investigate math topics (Moby Max and Symphony Math).

This spring all 3rd grades will continue to plant flowers around Hoosac Valley Elementary School. This project called "Beautification for Education" was started 13 years ago and the funds to support this have always been provided through fundraising efforts of the third grade staff. Mr. John Trimarchi and Michelle Whitney provide help and assistance with the delivery and purchase of the flowers and mulch. It truly is a continued community effort that we are very proud to be a part of.

In conclusion, we would like to continue to recognize Fran Eichorn who devotes her time volunteering for the teachers, staff, and students of Hoosac Valley Elementary! Thank you Fran!

### **Library**

The Hoosac Valley Elementary School Library houses approximately 29,000 books, videos and magazines. The automated circulation and cataloging system makes it possible for students and staff to access the electronic card catalog. Approximately 4,111 items were checked out so far this school year. Students visit the library once a week and have the opportunity to listen to stories and borrow a variety of books, including picture books, fiction, biographies and non-fiction.

Our Library Assistant, Mrs. Laurie Gavazzi, and her team have organized several book fairs themed with special events for our faculty, staff and students. The book fair held in May of 2017 raised \$3,145.32 and our most recent book fair in December of 2017 raised \$3,036.21. These funds help to ensure that our students are reading and working with the most current, award-winning and classic pieces of literature in our school.

### **Parent Group (PTG)**

The Hoosac Valley Elementary School's PTG Group provides extensive support to the children of our school throughout the year. The group meets monthly to discuss ongoing support to the children. Their efforts support the Hoosac Valley Elementary School community in a variety of ways.

### **Arts Enrichment:**

- Performances in music, drama, science, history and dance, both in-house and off-site
- Sponsoring multiple children's authors
- Musician and songwriter for Family Literacy Night

### **Activities**

- Field trips for students at all grade levels
- Give-a-Gift to promote the spirit of holiday giving and donating, from children to children.
- Hoosac Valley Elementary School Yearbook creation
- Holiday cookie decorating night (with help from Big Y staff), Arctic Friends stuffed animal night, 4th Annual Spring Fling Craft and Vendor Fair (partnered with the HVMS PTG), and Family Fun and Food Festival (also with HVMS PTG)
- Audubon science program
- Field Day treats

### **Appreciation Days**

- Staff Appreciation Day in May
- Book Fair breakfast for Faculty and Staff
- Pizza/Ice Cream parties to reward top collectors of BoxTops

### **School Improvements/Equipment Maintenance:**

- Playground fundraising and maintenance
- Purchased and Installed Playground equipment for Ages 2-5 years old
- Purchased and Installed a ADA complaint swing for children with disabilities

### **School Council**

A School Council is a representative, school building-based committee composed of the principal, parents, teachers and community members. School councils are to assist principals in:

1. Adopting educational goals for the school that are consistent with local educational policies and statewide student performance standards
2. Identifying the educational needs of students attending the school
3. Reviewing the annual school building budget
4. Formulating a school improvement plan

The Council meets throughout the school year. Any person can attend school council meetings.

### **Title I**

Title I is a federal entitlement grant supporting school-wide academic support for all Hoosac Valley Elementary students. The grant helps to fund interventionists and instructional assistants as well as materials that supplement and support core instruction. Through Title I funding, classroom teacher and interventionists are able to use assessment data in ELA and math throughout the year to inform instructional routines. In grades 1-3 the interventionist and paraprofessional provide services in both a push-in and pull-out model. In addition, instructional assistants work under the guidance of classroom teacher to reinforce instruction in reading, writing and math through small group differentiated instruction.



This year the staff at Hoosac Valley Elementary School has continued to work closely with consultants from the Bay State Reading Institute (BSRI) to incorporate the most recent research-based methods and strategies to ensure each child's individual needs is addressed. Students who are identified as needing additional instruction receive additional exposure to the core curriculum through Enhanced Core Reading Instruction (ECRI) and direct and explicit instruction models. Within the small group instruction, students also receive differentiated rigorous instruction to meet their individual needs.

Not only are a multitude of supports provided throughout the school day, Title I also provides funding for extended day academic activities through the Homework Help Program for grades 2 and 3. Family involvement is proven to correlate to higher student achievement, so this has been a priority this year. Topics suggested by parents and staff are addressed throughout the year through informational meetings, and workshops as well as during evening programs. This year we have already held events such as a Trick-or-Treat, Polar Express and Bingo for Books. We also hosted Family Reading Night which showcased guest readers and promoted parent/child activities. To end our Family Reading Night, guest performer Odd Bodkins performed for all families in attendance. We are excited to work closely with our families and members of the community to help make these events possible.

#### **Reading Is Fundamental**

RIF is a federally funded program whose goal is to give children access to books and discover the joys and value of reading. Hoosac Valley Elementary School qualifies for this grant due to the percentage of free and reduced lunch students attending. Additional funding is provided by the HVES Library Fund and from the Berkshire Taconic Foundation. One time per year each student can choose a book from a wide selection of books, based on their own interests. The book distributions are enhanced by fun reading-motivational activities. Volunteers are a big part of RIF, helping make bookmarks, stamp and inventory books, and helping on distribution day by reading with students, stocking books, and even handing out hot chocolate and cookies. This program is vital for children who have no books in their homes, have limited access to bookstores, and who, without RIF would not experience the thrill of owning their own books.

#### **Music Program:**

Jonathan Rowe teaches general music at Hoosac Valley Elementary School. In music classes students are introduced to musical notation, musical terminology, families of instruments, and major composers and different musical genres. Students in grades K and 1 focus on singing and movement activities along with hands on experiences with drums, maracas and other classroom instruments while students in grades 2-3 have the opportunity to learn the basics of keyboards and drums.

#### **Art:**

The Hoosac Valley Elementary School Visual Arts Program creates exposure to a variety of artists, materials and techniques for students in Pre-K through 3rd grade. This exposure fosters creativity and increases the students' art knowledge and appreciation. Students develop and expand their Visual Arts skills through a combination of literacy-based art lessons and techniques. Cross-curricular art lessons including language arts, math, science and art history enhance the students' experience of

art techniques such as drawing, painting, printmaking, ceramics, mosaic and collage. Our students are encouraged to "Explore" the manipulation of various art materials such as paint, clay, ink and oil pastel. This art experience enables students to create multi media artwork.

The students' beautiful artwork can be seen decorating the school's hallways throughout the year. The culmination of the students' talents, creativity and knowledge will be on display at our school for the annual Student Art Show on Thursday, May 3, 2018 from 5-7:00 pm. The public is invited to attend this spectacular showcase.

#### **Physical Education:**

Hoosac Valley Elementary physical education classes work to both actively engage a student's mind and body while conveying the importance of a healthy and active lifestyle. Physical education is both fun and challenging to all students, no matter their ability or skill level. A student enrolled in our program learns how to physically perform a skill, the rules involved and the social aspect surrounding that activity or sport.

Students are engaged in a vast array of different activities while participating in physical education. Children in the pre-school and kindergarten levels have been learning many different gross motor skills required to participate in large group activities and non-competitive games. The skills being learned at this level include the overhand and underhand throwing technique, kicking a stationary object, striking a moving object, jumping rope, locomotor movements, and fleeing and dodging type activities. Children in the first through third grade levels learn the skills to many traditional and non-traditional sports including soccer, football, basketball, hockey, volleyball, and badminton. While actively engaged in sport, students also learn how to better communicate and resolve conflicts with classmates.

All students participate in our "Kidnastics" unit, which is an age-appropriate version of gymnastics, the New York Roadrunner's Rising Runner program and our fifth annual Jump Rope for Heart fundraiser event through the American Heart Association. Students are engaged in cross-curricular activities that include mathematics, history, health, and foreign language. Adaptive students have been actively engaged in the physical education program where they receive attention and accommodation focusing on their specific needs through the use of modified equipment and lesson plans.

Students are making progress in understanding the value of teamwork, cooperation, effort, and sportsmanship. Please continue to follow the happenings in physical education by reading the newsletters and by visiting the Hoosac Valley

#### **Technology**

The current District Technology Plan continues to guide decisions in this vital area of educational practice. This year the District was able to increase internet-accessibility throughout the building by adding additional cloud based access points for better coverage. These access points allowed for the creation of a public network for guests of the building to access the Internet, while providing valuable data to monitor and control internet traffic. In addition to improved coverage we increase our bandwidth from 100mbps to 250mbps for improved internet speeds.

We continue to update content and improve communication between school/community/families through our district and individual school webpages. There is more work to be done on individual teacher pages; hopefully we will see greater utilization in the coming months. We see this as an opportunity to give families direct access to homework assignments, classroom calendars, information and upcoming events, classroom policies and procedures.

Our on-line software offerings to students both in and out of school continue to expand. We are excited to be continuing with implementing coding through the use of an online website *code.org*. Students in grades 1-3 have begun using this website to understand the basics of block coding. We are proud to announce the addition of a new on-line software offering for our students in the area of Math, Symphony Math. This new student-use program aligns with the CCSS (Common Core State Standards) and helps students connect the BIG IDEAS in mathematics. Mastery of new math skills is achieved through Conceptual Understanding, Fluency, and Adaptive Branching. It provides all students the opportunity to progress at their own rate of learning while responding to their individual needs as they work through the 26 stages of the program. This program currently covers skills at the K through Grade 5 levels and next year will include Grade 6 skills. Lexia CORE 5 is utilized in grades Pre-K to 5; which is based on the 5 components of reading and is compliant with the CCSS. As with Symphony it meets each student at their own level of learning and allows students to ability to acquire skills above their current grade level. Moby Max continues to be used for practice in all areas of curriculum, (ELA, Math, Science and Social Studies). Classroom teachers can access the data from these programs to guide instruction for individual students. These programs can be accessed at home directly from our school website and used on the Chromebooks, iPad, desktop, or Android, within your web browser. We continue to review our offerings and explore new additions to our technology hardware/software to assist our staff in meeting the educational needs of all learners.

### Community Connections

We continue to maintain excellent working relationships with a number of agencies throughout our neighboring communities as well as those in the town of Adams. We also work closely with the following organizations:

- The Berkshire Humane Society (pet care/classroom lessons)
- The Pittsfield Red Cross Unit (classroom lessons)
- The Counseling Center of the Berkshires (counseling)
- The Department of Social Services (family support)
- McCann Technical High School (hygienists for classroom visits)
- Hillcrest Dental (hygienists for classroom visits)
- The Massachusetts Audubon Society (classroom lessons)
- Adams Police Department (school resource officers, practice safety drills)
- Mass MoCA (Grant funded program for all students K-5 to attend performances/tour spaces)
- The Berkshire Museum
- The Family Place (Backpacked for Success Program)
- Adams Library, Fire Department, and local banks (educational programs)
- Hoosac Valley High School (Leo Club)
- Specialty Minerals, INC. (field trips)
- Berkshire Community College (nursing interns)
- Adams Youth Center (Volunteers and after school child care)
- Adams Visitor Center - Joe Novak (Presentations and visits)
- Massachusetts College of Liberal Arts (practicum students and administrative interns)
- The Police Athletic League who use our gymnasium for basketball games
- REACH Foundation
- The South Adams Savings Bank provides our school with a generous donation of one thousand dollars each year
- The Golden Varsity volunteers continue working in the library, office and classrooms in our school on a regular basis
- Parent volunteers regularly work in classrooms, library and chaperone field trips

***“No dreamer is ever too small; no dream is ever too big.”***

*~ Anonymous*

Hoosac Valley Elementary School is a dynamic, child-centered school where our students' safety and academic achievements are our top priorities. We are so thankful for all of the continued support we receive from our parents, families, volunteers and community friends. The hard work we do each day could not be possible without you as our partner in the education of our children!

Submitted by,

Michelle Colvin,  
Principal,  
Hoosac Valley Elementary School

# Remembering Cheshire Elementary School



# Hoosac Valley High School Athletics

The 2016-2017 Athletic Program has a great deal to be proud of! From successful seasons to championships to demonstration of positive sportsmanship, the student-athletes, coaches and families of Hoosac Valley Athletics work tirelessly to represent their communities.

In general, the Athletic Program includes over 300 participants and 27 varsity and sub-varsity programs. Teams participate in the Berkshire County District G leagues as well as several PVIAC leagues. In addition, we offer several cooperative teams – as the host and guest; these cooperative teams offer more flexibility to increase participation.

In the Fall of 2016, our teams saw success in the regular season as well as with post-season play. The Hoosac Valley Football team finished out their season with a victory over Drury under the lights at Renfrew Field on Thanksgiving Eve, where Brenden Ellsworth was awarded the Annual Mike Rysz Trophy for outstanding performance by a senior in the Hoosac - Drury game. Seniors Austin Mendel and Chris Larabee went on to play in the Senior Bowl All Star Game held at South Hadley High School where the Berkshire County team beat the Pioneer Valley team by a score of 33-10.

*Below, junior Vance Eugene breaks a tackle for a touchdown.*



Our Girls' Soccer team, under the direction of Kathy Budaj, finished 11-8-1 and reached the post-season for the second time, beating Mahar in the first round and then suffering a tough defeat to Monument, losing 2-1. Our Boys' Soccer team continued to rebuild and grow both the JV and Varsity programs under the direction of Coach Mike Russo; senior Steve Crouch led the team in scoring. Cross Country was led by Nick Curelop and saw several runners qualify for Western Mass. Coach Curelop continues to build the Cross Country program and develop a love of running.

In the Winter of 2016-2017, our Girls' Basketball team once again had a successful season under the coaching of Ron Wojcik. They earned their fifth straight Western Mass title and continued their successes by winning the State Semi-final game and earning a trip to States where they fell to Archbishop Wil-

liams. The team was led by Seniors Fallon Field and Kailynne Frederick as well as a slew of talented underclassmen. The Boys' program had a new coach with Mike Larabee, although not new to the Hoosac Valley bench as Coach Larabee was Bill Robinson's assistant for years. Coach Larabee earned his team another trip to the Western Mass tournament. They beat Pioneer in the first round but lost to Drury in an exciting rematch between rival schools. The team finished 12-10 for the season led by Seniors Keagan McGrath, Colin Rousseau and Austin Mendel. Last, Coach Alicia Gwozdz continued to build the Nordic Ski team with a wide range of training opportunities. Her expert knowledge sees positive impacts throughout the season.

In the Spring of 2017, our teams included: Baseball, Softball, Track, Boys' Lacrosse and Girls' Lacrosse. For Baseball, Coach Larabee took over for longtime coach Bob Rivard. The team earned a 14-8 overall record, beating Frontier in the first round of the Western Mass playoffs and losing to Wahconah in the Semi-Finals. Senior Noah Matrigali had the win in the playoff win versus Frontier. Coach Mike Ameen continued on as the Softball Coach. They had a successful season and earned another Western Mass Division 3 spot, losing to Athol. In Track & Field a group of our student-athletes qualified to compete in the Western / Central Mass meet held at Westfield State University. Kayla Garabedian (110 Hurdles) and Shaleigh Levesque (Javelin) both had strong showings in their events. On the Boys side, Nolan Roberts was the only freshman to qualify for the Discus throw and Dominic Acquista finished 10th in the Boys Shot Put. Kayla Garabedian also went on to compete in the Western Massachusetts Girls Heptathlon where she finished in 15th place out of 52 girls competing.

In Girls' Lacrosse, Coach Molly Meczywor and the team earned the program's first ever Western Mass. Playoff spot. The team grew in numbers, hosting several junior varsity games as well. Last, Coach John Alibozek led the Boys' Lacrosse team to another Western Mass playoff spot, losing a tight contest to Pope Francis. The team looks to bring back a majority of their players for the 2018 season.

*Below: Hoosac hurdler runs hurdles.*



# Director of Food Services

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In 2016-2017, the Adams Cheshire Regional School District continues to participate in the National School Lunch Program & the School Breakfast Program, Special Milk Program, USDA Commodity Distribution Program & the Summer Food Service Program. We also are participating in a USDA Program called Department of Defense (DOD) Fresh Fruits & Vegetable Program (FFAVORS), where we can purchase fruits & vegetables with our Entitlement Dollars.

The ACRSD Food Service Department joined a Purchasing Program called Collaborative for Educational Services to purchase groceries for the Food Service Program. The ACRSD Food Service Department is still a member of the Berkshire County Food Service Purchasing Cooperative, that puts out bids for bread, dairy & paper products, yearly, on a county wide basis.

Food Service worked closely with the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) to be able to make Plunkett Elementary School a Community Eligibility Provision school (CEP). That meant that all students at Plunkett Elementary School had a free breakfast and a free lunch everyday for the school year.

Starting 8/31/16, the first day of school, we implemented a Breakfast in the Classroom program (BIC) at Plunkett Elementary School. This program helped increase breakfast participation from 35% to 90% for the school year! Food Service was awarded two grants: one from the New England Dairy Association and one from the Eos Foundation. This grant money was used to help kick off our BIC program by helping us to purchase a new milk cooler for the cafeteria to accommodate the increase in milk consumption, 22 portable, insulated coolers to service each classroom daily with students breakfasts, and equipment for the custodians to help with classroom trash.

The grants also were able to support a two-hour worker to help prepare breakfast for the school year.

Food Service was also awarded a grant to participate in the Fruit & Vegetable program at Plunkett School for the 2016-17 school year. The grant supported a four-hour worker who delivered daily samples of a fruit and a vegetable to each class to help teach the students about choosing healthy snacks.

Food Service was also awarded an equipment grant to replace an antique floor mixer at Plunkett School.

Parent participation in our online payment website continues to be well received. Deposits for the past year were \$32,000.

For the 2016-2017 school year, the Food Service Department had a profit of \$66,863 on revenues of \$698,539. Government subsidies represented 75.9% of total revenue. USDA Commodities valued at \$49,000 were received in 2017.

Participation in the reimbursable School Lunch Program for SY 2016-17 was 57%, a decrease of 2% from the previous year. Participation in the School Breakfast Program for SY 2016-17 was 37%, an increase of 18.7% from the previous year. The percentage of students who qualified for free/reduced meals as of June 2017 was 55%, a decrease of 2% from the previous year. We operated three kitchens in 2016-2017.

There was no price increase for the school year 2016-2017.

Paid Student Lunch (CES & CTP)	\$2.50
Paid Student Lunch (HVMHS)	2.75
Paid Student Breakfast	1.25
Paid Adult Lunch	3.75
Reduced Student Breakfast	.30
Reduced Student Lunch	.40

We had one retirement during SY 2016-17. Ann Conroy retired after many years of dedicated service as a part-time kitchen helper for the Food Service Department. A part-time kitchen helper was hired to fill the vacancy.

Food Service continues to work with DESE to explore CEP possibilities for more schools or the whole district for SY 2017-2018.

Respectfully submitted,

Rosanne Schutz  
Food Service Director

# ACRSD Special Services

## 2017 Annual Report

The ACRSD Special Services Department continues to provide student support and develop educational programs to meet the unique needs of our district. It is the mission of the Adams-Cheshire Special Services Department to provide a free and appropriate public education in the least restrictive setting. We aim to maximize academic achievement, independence, and participation in the classroom and community. The Special Services Department works collaboratively with general education colleagues, administration, community agencies and other educational entities to develop and enhance in-district supports that allow students to access the curriculum successfully. In that regard, we continually explore creative program development and evaluate existing programs to ensure their effectiveness. These intentional efforts are in keeping with the Beliefs and Values of the Adams Cheshire Regional District; specifically, that all of our students develop into educated, responsible, and productive citizens. This year begins a multi-year journey to increase inclusion and universal design for learning in our education system.

The ACRSD Special Services Department offers a full continuum of programs and services. There is a variety of options available for prescribing services for each child. Academic support programs that offer small group, direct, systematic instruction and remediation in content areas including reading and math balance with accommodations provided in the regular classroom setting to promote individual student success. Other services for students are provided by Speech and Language Pathologists, Speech Assistants, Occupational Therapist, Occupational Therapist Assistant, Sign-Language Interpreter, tutors, and an ESL instructor allowing us to provide services on site, thereby ensuring minimal disruption to the academic day for students. We continue to contract the services of a local Physical Therapist, a Teacher of the Visually Impaired, a Teacher of the Deaf from the Willie Ross School for the Deaf as well as Perkins School for the Blind, to provide services on site for students who have the need. We also receive specialized consultation services through United Cerebral Palsy, Communicare, and the Hampshire Collaborative for Educational Services to name a few.

Child Find is an important component of the Special Services Department. We work cooperatively with community agencies, families, educators, and health care providers to help identify students in need of services from an early age to graduation. The Special Services Department conducts preschool and kindergarten screenings annually using a team of early childhood specialists. The results of these screenings inform parents of their child's developmental strengths and weaknesses. If a child indicates the need for further evaluation, our team will refer the child for testing, and if found eligible, a plan will be developed to provide services. In this way, district children are offered early intervention in order to prevent future school failure.

When an older student is referred for special education by a caregiver or teacher, parent consent is sought and an evaluation is conducted. The district has a .4 school psychologist, Michael Vecchia, as well as contracted with Hillcrest Educational Support Services, and Siracusa and Associates to assist in the intake and

identification of students who may qualify for special services and provide recommendations for the teachers working with them. District special education staff is also specially trained in research-based evaluation tools for identification of a disability. Our diagnostic prescriptive specialists and outside evaluators provide the district additional information to determine eligibility and design programming individualized for a student.

The Preschool staff welcomes families and provides preschoolers a half-day of developmentally appropriate activities. The primary purpose of the program is to integrate three and four year old children with special needs in a preschool setting with typically developing (non-special needs) children serving as role models. Students receive therapies and specialized instruction according to their individual plans as developed by a multidisciplinary team which include the parents. The Preschool teachers provide English and Language Arts as well as Math instruction in a centers approach, using the Scott-Foresman OWLS curriculum. Early Childhood staff also serves on various committees for curriculum, community and family outreach, and maintaining high quality programming.

The Elementary Level of Special Services provides experienced special education teachers and support staff to students with special needs in Hoosac Valley Elementary School. This year a special effort has been made to provide each grade level with a dedicated liaison which will improve scheduling and planning opportunities with the regular education staff. Special Education teachers review students' individualized plans with teachers each year, and work with the principals to set up programming to best meet our student needs. Instruction is designed by specially trained staff in order to provide access to the grade level curricula as well as demonstrate progress toward individual student goals. Currently, reading and math remediation services can occur in the classroom as well as in a smaller setting. Paraprofessionals also support students in inclusive classrooms as well as in unstructured settings.

The number of students with significant special needs continues to increase. Two programs have been designed to assist them - Bridges and Cornerstone. Kim Biagini - BCBA, has worked closely with the director of special services and special education teachers to set up Bridges classrooms to provide a therapeutic setting for students requiring a higher level of support and intensive therapies. Travis Poirot, a special educator, also facilitates a substantially separate program, Cornerstone, at Hoosac Valley Elementary School for students with extensive social-emotional and behavioral needs. The special education elementary staff work closely with regular education staff to ensure students are successful academically and supported in all areas of elementary school. Mary Tanner, Early Childhood Coordinator, is an invaluable resource for families and staff alike.

At Hoosac Valley Middle and High School, the addition of Jamie Lamour as the Special Services Coordinator has allowed a point person for staff to consult with and provide ongoing support to our programs. Our middle and high school students'

needs are met through a variety of available programs. Inclusive classrooms provide the opportunity for co-teaching with special and regular education staff and/or paraprofessional support to the classrooms. Other students' individualized plans require remedial reading and math instruction and/or content support. These services occur in a smaller, more structured setting with a special educator and may include paraprofessionals who are trained and supervised by the teachers. For students with a higher level of need, other substantially separate models like Bridges and Cornerstone, continue in this building.

The Cornerstone program which is a safe, structured and predictable environment that provides multiple supports, rigorous social skill training and specific focus on preparing students to successfully transition to post-graduation life including the working world. Therapeutic and behavioral supports augment a case management model that provides significant outreach to home, family and community ensuring a holistic model for educating these youth. We welcome Amanda Brooks-Clemeno and Brianne Caritey-Demarco as Cornerstone special educators. The goal of transitioning students to less restrictive settings through a system of scaffolding supports remains constant in the Cornerstone program. Dr. David Boyer consults with the district to assist constant program improvements.

The Life Skills Program at Hoosac Valley High School, is now called Bridges. It has evolved into a comprehensive offering for students to develop more independence and functional life skills in a structured, caring setting. The program is dedicated to educating students with developmental disabilities. Vital components of the curriculum include adaptive daily living skills, social skills, health and wellness, cooking, functional academics, pre-vocational instruction and leisure training. The Bridges Program, now led by special educator Alexandria Renton, aims to integrate students into the community to their maximum potential and is actively involved in volunteering at several community sites including the Adams Community Center, Food Pantry, Youth Center Inc., Free Public Library and Town Hall. Most students in the program are engaged and participate in the Special Olympics as well as many of Hoosac Valley's extracurricular functions. The Bridges Program is also completely responsible for operating the school store. Students in the program manage and staff the store. This program has become an integral part of the culture of HVHS.

At the middle and high school levels, special education teachers offer academic support programming. The teachers consult with classroom teachers on a regular basis in order to facilitate success in the most inclusive setting. Additional services are provided as needed for remediation of reading and math skills.

Extended year programs continue to be available during the summer months to assist students who have shown documented substantial regression of their educational progress both academically and socially following vacations and/or long illnesses. A program for our younger students balances academic growth with "camp like" experiential projects to foster social emotional and language development. The summer program for older students combines academic support and pre-vocational skill development with community and recreational outings. Tutoring is also provided on an individual or small group basis to maintain academics. These programs provide diverse offerings for students in Pre-K through age 22.

Our efforts to develop and sustain programs which support students within their communities have had a dramatic impact on reducing the cost of out-of-district residential placements. Nevertheless, we periodically have the need to place a student with intensive needs in an out of district therapeutic setting, where they are monitored by the special services department. The district also offers services to St. Stanislaus Kostka School for those students identified with a disability.

The district welcomes parents to join our joint Special Education Parent Advisory Council (SEPAC). The purpose of the SEPAC is twofold: to help guide the district in making programmatic decisions and to serve as a resource for parents of children with special needs. The SEPAC board has developed and implemented by-laws for their organization and governance. The ACRSD has joined together with neighboring SEPACs in North Adams Public Schools, McCann Technical School, and North Berkshire School Union to share resources and maintain continuity of contact with families. The district has joined the Massachusetts Parent Advisory Council and set up informational workshops with community agencies and Title I to assist families with students with special needs. Anyone interested in joining the SEPAC should contact the ACRSD special services director.

The Special Services Department includes support and monitoring of students who are in transitional housing or have been identified as English Learners (ELs). An (ESL) English as a Second Language teacher, Joshua Kellogg, provides instruction and support to English Language Learners in all district buildings. Mr. Kellogg also works with the Director to maintain compliance and consults with staff to support ELs in the classroom. Our English Language Learner (EL) students participate in "Assessing Comprehension and Communication in English State-to-State (ACCESS)" testing. This assessment is given to students identified as ELs in Kindergarten through 12th grade to identify their English proficiency in reading, writing, thinking, and speaking. Our students worked diligently on this assessment and the data obtained has helped the district better determine the best educational approach for each of the students who participated. Mr. Kellogg also has been trained by the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education to be an SEI endorsed instructor and provide professional development to our teachers.

The Special Services Department is small but hardworking. Mary Ellen Sutliff is the Administrative Assistant to the Director and is an invaluable asset to the district to maximize the department's efficiency and compliance standards. Kim Biagini is the district BCBA-Board Certified Behavior Analyst. Mary Tanner and Jamie Lamour share the responsibilities of Special Services Coordinators. Joshua Kellogg implements EL services. This team assists the director in the consultation and training of staff, attending meetings, and providing input in continual program improvement and compliance. All of the ACRSD Special Services staff and paraprofessionals strive to maximize potential and lead students to successful transitions to be college and career ready.

Respectfully submitted,

Jacquelyn Daniels,  
Director of Special Services

**Special Services- Special Education  
Population as of Oct 1, 2017**

Grade	HV Elementary	HV Middle	HV High	Out of District
PK	22			
K	22			
1	16			
2	20			1
3	31			
4		34		1
5		26		
6		20		
7		21		
8			27	
9			18	1
10			11	
11			20	
12			16	
12+ (to age 22)			5	
<b>Total School</b>	<b>111</b>	<b>101</b>	<b>97</b>	<b>3</b>

**ACRSO SPECIAL SERVICES STAFF**

STAFFING	POSITION	STAFFING	POSITION
Jacquelyn Daniels	Director of Special Services McKinney-Vento Coordinator Foster Care Point of Contact English Language Learner Coordinator Early Childhood Coordinator	Kelly Riechers	Preschool/ Special Education Teacher District
Mary Ellen Sutliff	Administrative Assistant	Brianne Caritey-Demarco	Cornerstone Program HVMS
Mary Tanner	Hoosac Valley Elementary Coordinator PreK - 5	Melissa Marchetti	Special Education Teacher Bridges Program HVMS
Jamie Lamour	Hoosac Valley MHS Coordinator Grades 6 - 12+	Stefanie Wondriska-Clark	Special Education Teacher HVMS
Kim Biagini	Board Certified Behavior Analyst District Specialist	Rebecca Cohen	Special Education Teacher HVMS
Diane Arduini	Speech Language Pathologist	Lisa Folino	Special Education Teacher HVHS
Brianna Bresett	Speech Language Pathologist	Seth Jenkins	Special Education Teacher HVHS
Kelsey Pero	Speech/Language Pathologist Assistant	Brandon Noyes	Transitional Program HVHS
Karen Levesque Assistant	Speech/Language Pathologist	Cathy Abbott	Special Education Teacher HVHS
Sara Malloy	Speech/Language Pathologist Assistant	Michelle Boire	Special Education Teacher HVMS
Suzanne Harnick	Occupational Therapist	Alexandria Renton	<i>Bridges Program</i> HVHS
Deb Silveira	Certified Occupational Therapist Assistant	Amanda Brooks-Clemeno	Cornerstone Program HVHS
Lora McGrath	Physical Therapist	<b>Other Related Services:</b>	
Nicole Crane	Special Education Teacher HVE	Michael Vecchia	School Psychologist
Dawn Daniels	Special Education Teacher HVE	Rick Ely	Teacher of the Visually Impaired
Christine Harrington	Special Education Teacher HVE	Amy O'Brien	Teacher of the Visually Impaired - Perkins School for the Blind
Joann Kingsbury	Special Education Teacher HVMS	Greg Delisle	Willie Ross School for the Deaf – Director of Education
Travis Poirot	Cornerstone Program HVE	Debra Scanlon	Willie Ross School for the Deaf – Educational Audiologist
Caitlin Larabee	Special Education Teacher HVE <i>Bridges Program</i>	Eileen A. Daneri	Teacher of the Deaf
Laura Crane	Preschool/ Special Education Teacher District	Stacey Ellery	ASL Interpreter/Sign Language
		Joshua Kellogg	ESL Program Teacher



# Director of Business

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## OVERVIEW OF FISCAL YEAR 2017

The fiscal year 2017 budget process proved to be no less challenging than the years preceding it. The Adams-Cheshire Regional School District was forced to make hard decisions as minimal increases in state aid and rising operational costs continued to put a strain on funds available for the positions that had been added in the prior year.

The FY2017 operating budget which is comprised of foundation and transportation costs, decreased by .19% over the FY2016 operating budget. The reduction of positions, as well as a reduction to utilities through a net metering credit agreement, largely led to this decrease. There were also significant cuts throughout the budget in an attempt to keep the overall increase to towns within their own spending limits. Increases in operational costs continue to exceed the increases in funding from the state. With an increase in funding not likely, the District is now forced to contemplate a building closure in order to maintain viability going forward.

All challenges aside, the 2017 fiscal year ended financially on a positive note with a surplus of \$540,071 which was then closed out to Excess & Deficiency. The Department of Revenue certified the ACRSD's Excess & Deficiency, or E & D as it's often called, as of July 1, 2017 at \$963,206. This amount was 5% of the total FY2018 budget, which was approved on April 10, 2017 to be \$19,275,538. A regional school district is allowed to retain up to 5% of the succeeding year's budget as their certified E & D. That being said, the ACRSD has consistently used a significant portion of their available E & D to reduce the town assessments each year. In FY2016 this amount was \$300,000, in FY17 & FY18 it was \$350,000 and we anticipate using a similar amount as a funding source for the FY2019 budget. However, this will depend on how the FY18 projected fund balance looks as we proceed through the year.

In FY2017, The Adams-Cheshire Regional School District was run by newly appointed Interim Superintendent Robert Putnam. In his first year as Superintendent he made great strides in supplementing our operating budget by applying to and receiving grant funds which would go a long way in continuing the support for the work done by the Bay State Reading Institute in our Elementary Schools and for Project Lead the Way which would launch in FY2018. These ongoing supports and initiatives were all put into place to help achieve two main goals of retaining /gaining back students in the district and making our way out of Level 3 status.

Going forward we must continue to be innovative, invite and encourage collaboration and keep the priority and focus of our District - the students - in the forefront of our minds. At the end of the day, our goal as a District is to provide our youth with the best possible education. It continues to be my goal as Director of Business, to focus as much of our resources as possible directly in the classroom with the children, and support them as they continue to strive for greatness under the instruction of our extremely dedicated staff.

Respectfully submitted,

Erika M. Snyder  
Director of Business  
January 31, 2018

**Adams-Cheshire Regional School District  
Governmental Funds  
Balance Sheet  
June 30, 2017**

	General	Non-major Governmental Funds	Total Governmental Funds
<b>ASSETS</b>			
Cash and short-term investments	\$ 2,967,212	\$ 997,013	\$ 3,964,225
Intergovernmental receivables	-	3,035	3,035
Inventory	-	32,928	32,928
Other assets	8,000	-	8,000
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>\$ 2,975,212</b>	<b>\$ 1,032,976</b>	<b>\$ 4,008,188</b>
<b>LIABILITIES</b>			
Warrants payable	196,958	22,998	219,956
Accrued payroll and withholdings	1,168,746	41,751	1,210,497
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES</b>	<b>\$ 1,365,704</b>	<b>\$ 64,749</b>	<b>\$ 1,430,453</b>
<b>FUND BALANCES</b>			
Nonspendable	-	32,928	32,928
Restricted	-	935,299	935,299
Assigned	646,304	-	646,304
Unassigned	963,204	-	963,204
<b>TOTAL FUND BALANCES</b>	<b>1,609,508</b>	<b>968,227</b>	<b>2,577,735</b>
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCES</b>	<b>\$ 2,975,212</b>	<b>\$ 1,032,976</b>	<b>\$ 4,008,188</b>

**Adams-Cheshire Regional School District  
General Fund  
Statement of Revenues and Other Sources,  
and Expenditures and Other Uses  
- Budget and Actual -  
for the Year Ended June 30, 2017**

	BUDGETED AMOUNTS			Actual Amounts	Variance with Final Budget Positive (Negative)
	Original Budget	Final Budget			
<b>REVENUES:</b>					
Assessments to member towns	\$ 8,086,772	\$ 8,086,772		\$ 8,086,772	\$ -
Intergovernmental	10,558,990	10,558,990		10,647,518	88,528
Investment income	-	-		18,392	18,392
Miscellaneous	-	-		9,203	9,203
<b>TOTAL REVENUES</b>	<b>\$ 18,645,762</b>	<b>\$ 18,645,762</b>		<b>\$ 18,761,885</b>	<b>\$ 116,123</b>
<b>EXPENDITURES:</b>					
Administration	630,356	697,430		683,286	14,144
Instruction	6,036,524	6,224,243		6,127,695	96,548
Other school services	423,387	408,809		374,902	33,907
Operation and maintenance	1,461,131	1,393,045		1,223,085	169,960
Employee benefits	4,441,886	4,366,096		4,304,028	62,068
Fixed charges	134,187	139,085		136,033	3,052
Special education	2,646,871	2,518,524		2,489,334	29,190
Transportation	887,047	874,047		848,871	25,176
Intergovernmental	1,377,000	1,407,433		1,390,228	17,205
Acquisition	38,200	38,200		77,867	(39,667)
Debt service	919,173	928,850		928,850	-
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURES</b>	<b>\$ 18,995,762</b>	<b>\$ 18,995,762</b>		<b>\$ 18,584,179</b>	<b>\$ 411,583</b>
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over expenditures	(350,000)	(350,000)		177,706	527,706
<b>OTHER FINANCING SOURCES/USES:</b>					
Use of free cash:					
Operating budget	350,000	350,000		-	(350,000)
<b>TOTAL OTHER FINANCING SOURCES/USES</b>	<b>\$ 350,000</b>	<b>\$ 350,000</b>		<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ (350,000)</b>
<b>EXCESS OF REVENUES &amp; OTHER SOURCES OVER EXPENDITURES &amp; OTHER USES</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ -</b>		<b>\$ 177,706</b>	<b>\$ 177,706</b>

**Adams-Cheshire Regional School District  
Assessments to Member Towns  
June 30, 2017**

Town	Minimum Contribution	Contribution Outside Net School Spending	Transportation & Capital Assessments	Total Assessments
Adams	\$ 3,515,077	\$ 729,583	\$ 1,202,047	\$ 5,446,707
Cheshire	1,987,506	255,659	396,900	2,640,065
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 5,502,583</b>	<b>\$ 985,242</b>	<b>\$ 1,598,947</b>	<b>\$ 8,086,772</b>

**Adams-Cheshire Regional School District  
June 30, 2017  
Future Debt Service**

Governmental	Principal	Interest	Total
2018	\$ 575,000	\$ 360,700	\$ 935,700
2019	590,000	343,450	933,450
2020	605,000	325,750	930,750
2021	620,000	307,600	927,600
2022	640,000	289,000	929,000
2023 - 2027	3,315,000	1,146,100	4,461,100
2028 - 2032	3,895,000	554,900	4,449,900
Thereafter	860,000	29,400	889,400
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 11,100,000</b>	<b>\$ 3,356,900</b>	<b>\$ 14,456,900</b>

# Northern Berkshire Vocational Regional School District



The Northern Berkshire Vocational Regional School District, McCann Technical School, students, faculty and staff continued their record of noteworthy accomplishments in fiscal year 2017 and this report highlights some of these accomplishments.

Our mission is to graduate technically skilled, academically prepared, and socially responsible individuals ready to meet the challenges of the 21st century. Our mission and educational philosophy are implemented by adhering to the following core values:

**Communication** strengthens partnership development and teamwork.

**Achievement** is attained through a strong work ethic.

**Respect** from all guarantees a safe learning environment.

**Ethics** ensure a dedication to honesty and integrity.

During the last twenty-two years we have witnessed a dramatic transformation in vocational technical education especially in our application of technology and STEM subjects. We are very proud of the academic and technical achievement of our students and as each succeeding class raises the bar of accomplishment, the next class seeks to surpass it. The integration of our technical and academic curriculum has prepared our graduates well for their future and we appreciate you, our member communities, for your support in making it happen.

The accomplishments of our students reflect the McCann culture of learning:

The Class of 2017 became the fourteenth class in a row to attain 100 percent competency determination on the MCAS tests.

Twenty-nine members of the Class of 2017 earned the prestigious John and Abigail Adams Scholarship awarded through the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education for their academic record and MCAS achievement.

Our 113 2017 graduates saw 57.5% continue their education in a variety of colleges and universities, 39% enter the workforce and 3.5% proudly enter into military service.

The results of the spring 2016 MCAS test once again echoed the continuous progress of our students through their dedication and that of our terrific faculty. Once again McCann posted solid scores highlighted to the right.

## GRADE 10 - ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS

Performance Level	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Advanced	15%	17%	25.7%	24.7%	
Proficient	76%	77%	68.9%	72.6%	
Needs Improvement	8%	6%	4.5%	2.6%	
Failing	1%	1%	.7%	0%	

## GRADE 10 - MATHEMATICS

Performance Level	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Advanced	35%	44%	32.35%	34.5%	
Proficient	39%	29%	46.25%	45.7%	
Needs Improvement	17%	24%	19.2%	17.2%	
Failing	9%	3%	2.3%	2.5%	

## GRADE 10 - SCIENCE AND TECH/ENG

Performance Level	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Advanced	13%	19%	11.3%	24.5%	
Proficient	53%	52%	63.7%	61.8%	
Needs Improvement	24%	27%	23.4%	10.9%	
Failing	9%	2%	1.6%	2.7%	

The McCann Athletics program continues to enjoy success in the Pioneer Valley Interscholastic Athletic Association. Our programs enjoy healthy participation numbers and our student athletes continue to represent our school admirably. League championships were won by our men's basketball and baseball programs. Cooperative teams were formed between Drury and McCann in both cross country and track and field. The lacrosse program, in its second year, continues to draw interest and participation numbers continue to increase as well as the team's season win total.

Our continuous facility improvement program allowed us to upgrade our electrical service in several areas of the building, install new heating and ventilation systems in several classrooms and install new ceiling mounted LCD projectors in several additional classrooms.

The integration of new educational technology continues to be our priority. We received a Massachusetts Skills Capital

Grant for \$131,976.00 which allowed us purchase 6 new CNC lathes to provide our machine technology students with state of the art machining practice in combination with our CNC milling and CNC manufacturing center equipment. We also utilized the Perkins grant funds to purchase a new automotive tire mounting and balancing machine consistent with industry technology requirements and upgraded laptops throughout the school and a MLSC grant to complete equipment requirements for our Robotics program.

Community service projects continue to provide our students with excellent opportunities to display their technical skills while exhibiting the passion and commitment to support their community. Our carpentry students completed the exterior roofs on the Lanesboro town hall, framed an historic painting to be displayed in the Cheshire town hall, and our culinary arts students continue to support a number of community events including the Relay for Life. Our BPA students collected items for the homeless veteran's shelter, placed flags on the graves of veterans on Memorial Day, participated in the Habitat for Humanity Christmas Tree Showcase and assisted with the set-up of the Relay for Life event. Our Skills USA students' community service included the "Buddy Walk of the Berkshires", placing flags on veterans' graves, the Habitat for Humanity Christmas Showcase, Relay for Life, a series of Louison House fundraisers including food drives and Christmas gifts for the children.

McCann continued its ongoing participation in SkillsUSA, a national organization of more than 300,000 members working to ensure America has a skilled work force. McCann is a 100% member of SkillsUSA which has provided the opportunity for our students to earn scholarships, tools for their trade, opportunities for employment and awards in recognition of their accomplishments. At the 2017 SkillsUSA state competition, McCann students earned gold medals in 3-D visualization and animation, automated manufacturing technology, CNC turning specialist, and technical computer applications at the high school level and dental assisting and job interview at the postsecondary level. Silver medals were awarded in freshman sticker design at the high school level and cosmetology and dental assisting at the postsecondary level. Bronze medals were earned in automotive service technology at the high school level. All gold medal winners were able to attend the national competition in Louisville, KY where more than 15,000 people participate in the weeklong event. Competitions included 96 different hands-on trades, technical and leadership fields. Our Automated Manufacturing Technology team of Salvador Alcalá, Madison Gigliotti, and William Kipp won a national gold medal at the high school level and Carey Contini won a national bronze medal at the postsecondary level. McCann is extremely proud of the accomplishments of these students, demonstrating their ability to the extent of national competitions.

Business Professionals of America (BPA) is the leading career and technical student organization for students pursuing careers in business management, office administration, information technology and other related career fields. The organization's activities complement classroom instruction by giving students practical experience through application of the skills learned at school. BPA is contributing to the preparation of a world-class workforce through the advancement of leadership, citizenship, academic, and technological skills. At the 2017 BPA State Leadership Conference held in Framingham, MA, McCann students received a total of eighteen awards in finance; business administration; management information systems; digital communication & design; and management, marketing & communication competitions, bringing home four 1st place, four 2nd place, and one 3rd place award. Additionally, two McCann students were elected to positions on the Massachusetts State Officer Team. In May 2017, nine McCann students traveled to Orlando, FL to join over 6,000 other conference attendees from across the nation to participate in business skills competitions, workshops, general sessions, and intern assignments. Achievements earned at the national competition included a first place finish in Integrated Office Applications, a third place finish in Website Design Team, and top-ten medals in Administrative Support Concepts and Advanced Spreadsheet Applications.

Project Lead the Way is the leading provider of rigorous and innovative Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) education programs in schools across the U.S. Students enrolled in the program take as many as four courses above and beyond their graduation requirements. Since its inception, over 60% of participating students - over one hundred - have become eligible for college credits through Rochester Institute of Technology or New Hampshire Technical Institute as a result of their performance on the national engineering examination. In last year's PLTW cohort, 6 students achieved this eligibility. Additionally, 10 of our PLTW students enrolled in our new computer science principles course, an advanced placement PLTW course. 8 of these students achieved scores on the related AP exam that were high enough to earn college credit.

The success of our student body continues to be measured by our 100% competency determination, high career placement, high college matriculation rate and technical expertise in national skills competitions.

The district continues to operate on sound financial management principals and incorporates technology in this process to ensure maximum benefit for all of our programming. At the end of the fiscal year we returned \$48,291.00 of unused transportation monies to our communities. The district continues to search out grants to support our educational funding to improve instructional services and vocational equipment.

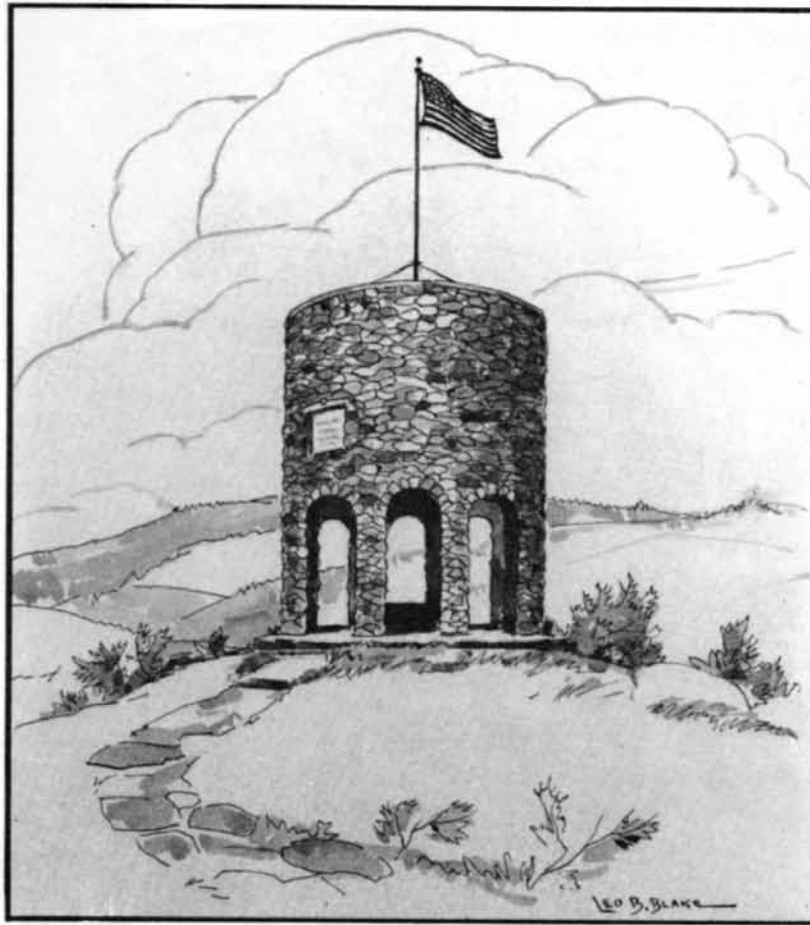
<b>FY17 Budgeted Revenues</b>	<b>Budget</b>	<b>Actual</b>
<b>City &amp; Town Assessments</b>		
Municipal Minimum	\$ 2,766,472.00	\$ 2,766,472.00
Capital	98,438.00	98,438.00
Transportation	161,978.00	161,978.00
Municipal Assessment	353,510.00	353,510.00
Ch. 71 Transportation	244,000.00	292,291.00
Ch. 70 General School Aid	4,650,236.00	4,666,196.00
Tuitions	804,865.00	804,865.00
Miscellaneous Revenue	10,182.00	8,982.00
State Bonus Aid		1,200.00
<b>Total Revenue Received</b>	<b>9,089,681.00</b>	<b>9,137,972.00</b>
Member City & Town Transportation Refunds		(48,291.00)
Misc. Revenue Balance to Surplus E & D		0.00
	<b>\$ 9,089,681.00</b>	<b>\$ 9,089,681.00</b>

<b>Source</b>	<b>Grant</b>	<b>Amount</b>
<b>(Federal Entitlement)</b>		
Fed	Sped IDEA	\$ 115,340.00
Fed	Title I	100,306.00
Fed	Title II A	18,490.00
Fed	Perkins	65,112.00
Fed	Postsecondary Perkins	3,190.00
<b>(Federal Grants Other)</b>		
	REAP	41,502.00
<b>(State Grants)</b>		
	Massachusetts Life Science	20,662.62
	Workforce Skills Capital Equipment	131,976.00
<b>(Competitive/Private)</b>		
Private	Olmsted	5,000.00
Private	BHG Wellness	2,000.00
Private	BCREB: Connecting Activities	1,000.00
Private	City of Chicopee Nurse Grant	2,850.00
Private	MASS MoCA	990.00
Private	Gene Haas Foundation	15,000.00
Private	LRIG – NE	2,069.00
<b>TOTAL GRANTS</b>		<b>\$ 525,487.62</b>

09-12-2017

# Stafford Hill Memorial - 90th Anniversary

Cover of the 1968 Town of Cheshire 175th Anniversary booklet.



175th Anniversary  
of

**CHESHIRE**

MASSACHUSETTS

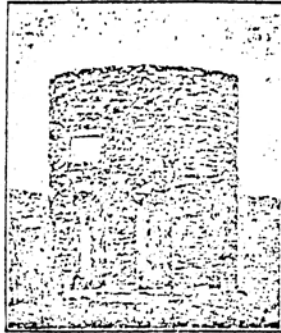
1793

1968



# Stafford Hill Memorial - 90th Anniversary

Cover of the 1933 Memorial Tablet Dedication program



STAFFORD HILL  
(New Providence)  
1765 1933



DEDICATION  
OF  
TWO MEMORIAL TABLETS

Placed in  
Stafford Hill Memorial Tower  
Cheshire, Massachusetts

Saturday Afternoon, October 7, 1933  
At 2:30 o'clock

BERKSHIRE COUNTY CHAPTER  
SONS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION

OFFICERS:

William B. Browne, President  
Clinton Q. Richmond, Eugene H. Wells, Eugene B. Bowen, Vice-Presidents  
William L. Root, Secretary and Treasurer  
The Rev. Charles O. Rundell, Chaplain

COMMITTEE OF ARRANGEMENTS

Eugene B. Bowen, Chairman  
William S. Hart Dr. M. M. Brown Hon. C. Q. Richmond  
Irving H. Gamwell Joseph E. Peirson  
Senator Theodore R. Plunkett

# Stafford Hill Memorial - 90th Anniversary

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1933 Memorial Tablet Dedication program

## THE PROGRAM

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BUGLE CALL—"To the Colors"

RAISING OF THE BENNINGTON FLAG . . . William Davis Hawk  
Mrs. Stuart Stone  
(Descendants of Col. Joab Stafford)

SALUTE TO THE FLAG

"THE STAR-SPANGLED BANNER" . . . Ralph K. Schorge

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON ARRANGEMENTS . . . Eugene B. Bowen

PRESENTATION OF THE TABLETS . . . William B. Browne  
President Berkshire County Chapter  
Sons of the American Revolution

ACCEPTANCE . . . The Hon. William J. Holbrook  
President Massachusetts Society  
Sons of the American Revolution

PURPOSE OF DEDICATION . . . Joseph E. Peirson

GREETINGS FROM THE COMMONWEALTH . . . His Excellency Joseph B. Ely

UNVEILING THE TABLETS

Elizabeth Bowen, Barbara Jean, and Catherine Ann Delaney

SERVICE OF DEDICATION . . . The Rev. Charles O. Rundell

PRESENTATION OF TRIBUTES

Hoosuck Chapter D.A.R., Adams, Mass.	Mrs. Susan Whipple Haff, Regent
Fort Massachusetts Chapter, D.A.R., North Adams, Mass.	Mrs. Grace E. Getman, Regent
Peace Party Chapter, D.A.R., Pittsfield, Mass.	Mrs. Clara Whitney, Regent
Ausotummoog Chapter, D.A.R., Lee, Mass.	Mrs. Elouise Myers, Regent
First Resistance Chapter, D.A.R., Great Barrington, Mass.	Mrs. Maud F. Frein, Regent
Massachusetts Chapter, S.A.R., Boston, Mass.	William J. Holbrook, President
Geo. Washington Chapter, S.A.R., Springfield, Mass.	Richard H. Stacy
Berkshire County Chapter, S.A.R.	Irving H. Gamwell

DECLARATION OF DEDICATION . . . President William B. Browne

ADDRESS . . . The Hon. John Spargo  
Vermont State Historian

BENEDICTION . . . The Chaplain

TAPS

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EVENING PARADE—Immediately following the exercises

Massachusetts National Guard

# Stafford Hill Memorial - 90th Anniversary

1933 Memorial Tablet Dedication program

## INSCRIPTION

ON THE FREEMASONRY TABLET

Erected in the Bicentennial Year of Constituted Freemasonry in Massachusetts  
By Berkshire County Chapter Sons of the American Revolution

THIS TABLET IS DEDICATED  
IN MEMORY OF THOSE PIONEERS OF FREEMASONRY  
IN WESTERN MASSACHUSETTS  
WHO ORGANIZED FRANKLIN LODGE A. F. & A. M.  
ON STAFFORD HILL  
IN THE TOWN OF CHESHIRE


CHARTER GRANTED JUNE 9, 1794

Witness the hands of us officers and brothers

Jona Remington, Master	Charles Fish	Apolus Cushman
Joseph Jarvis	Nirum Wildman	Manley Padelford
Felig Green	Chad Brown	Wm. Platt
Calvin Hall	Oliver Green	Andrew Cornish
Tho. Allen	Allyn Humphreys	Wm. H. Tyler
Robert Walker	Ephriam Durwin, Jr.	Simon Burrough, Jr.
Elijah Sprague	Peckham Barker	Joel Carr
Chilliniow Foster, Junr	Nathel Crossman	Ebenezer Hunt
Stephen Potter	Charles Converse	David Cushing
John Lyon	Amasa Trowbridge	Jabez Hall
Samuel Walker	Ephriam Mead	Oliver Pool
Jenks Seamans	Joseph Butler, Jr.	Rufus Braley
Perley Phillips	Asa Dickinson	Richard Briggs
Johnathan Allen	Abel Kittridge	Dix Wellington
Giibert Jenne	Daniel Brown 2nd	William Wilbur
Hezh Clark	John S. Young	Samuel McClarand
Azariah Root	Kaleb Barton	John Howland
Curtis Hinman	Syrus Stowell	Otis Hodge, Jr.
Stephen King	William Stephens	Daniel Baker
Kaleb Fisk	Thomas Lyon	Wm. P. Briggs
Elisha Baker	Asahel Potter	Samuel Brown
Denison Robinson	Caleb Mead	Johnathan Lapham
Lyman Hall	Ebenezer Squire	Stutley Weaver
Ezra Hall	Barney Read	Samuel Brown
Glading Waterman	Stephen Mead	Eseck Pain
Tno Dow	Elnathan Gregory	Robert R. Briggs
Silas Snippey	Alva Southworth	James Jilson
Joshua Smith	Asahel Rust	Thos. Robinson
Timothy Whitney	David Powell	Erastus Willey
Asa Willmarth	Philander Fobes	Jeremiah Allen
Samuel Bacon	Jno Safford, Jun	Robert C. Robinson
Tho. Hill	Mason Whiting	Joseph Bryant
Samuel W. Church	Henry B. Williams	Valentine Goodman
Wm. Brown	Anthony Burton	Ames. Negus
Stephen Mead, Junr	Wm. Stephens	Alpheus Smith
Orrinwill Fanning	John Waterman	Briggs
Nicholas Brown	Duty Sayles	Ezra D. Whitaker
John Bennet	Jesse Whipple	Robert H. Smith
Benjn. Lathrop	John Fisk	Johnathan W. Childs
Ward Cotton	Wm. Otis	John L. Baker
Adrian Fitch	John Fobes	Isaac Hodge
Ephriam Brown	Joseph Look	Daniel D. Robinson
Walter Fitch	Staddard Williams	John A. Farnum
John Burghett	John W. Fobes	Jacob Baker
Benja Brown	Aaron Barnes	M. M. Cheesebrough
John Burton	Joseph Williams	Geo. Hill
Nathan Baxter	Absbeh Grosvenor	Reuben Whitman
Asa Bigelow	Danforth White	Warner I. Hodge
Ezra Baker	Nathaniel Luther	Henry Jenks
Consider White	Samuel Cole	Waterman Brown
John Fisher	Francis Cobert	John Caswell
Joshua Mathewson	Hatch Noyes	Wm. H. Richmond
Daniel Brown	Liscom Phillips	

# Stafford Hill Memorial - 90th Anniversary

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

Coordinates:  42°34′28″N 73°6′59″W

The **Stafford Hill Memorial** is a stone memorial on Stafford Hill Road in Cheshire, Massachusetts. The memorial was built in 1927 to commemorate the grave site of Joab (also spelled Jorab) Stafford, who settled in what is now Cheshire in 1767. The stone structure was designed as a replica of a stone tower in Rhode Island, where Stafford came from.[2] The memorial was listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1986.[1]

## Description and history [edit]

The Stafford Hill Memorial stands in a rural setting, set back over 400 feet (120 m) from Stafford Hill Road in northeastern Cheshire. It is located near the crest of the Stafford Hill ridge, where there are dramatic views of the surrounding countryside. The memorial is a rubblestone structure, 25 feet (7.6 m) in diameter and in height. It is capped by a flat roof on which a flagpole is mounted. The lower level of the memorial consists of eight arches, with a mausoleum containing the remains of Joab Stafford in the center. The interior is finished in concrete. Above the south arch a marble plaque is set in the stone; it bears the legend "1777, Erected in Memory of the Pioneers and Patriots of New Providence, 1927." [3]

Joab Stafford was a native of Newport, Rhode Island, who was sent to the area to survey the land that was then known as New Providence, but later incorporated as Cheshire. Stafford surveyed the land in 1766, and purchased three lots the following year. He built his house on this property (then 200 acres (81 ha)), and it became the early center of the community. None of the buildings from his occupancy survive.[3]

Stafford formed a militia company that fought in the Battle of Bennington in August 1777. Stafford later moved to Albany, New York but returned to Cheshire in 1800 and died there in 1802. In 1927, the local Sons of the American Revolution raised funds by subscription to construct a memorial to Stafford. The memorial tower was constructed of fieldstone in that year, and Stafford's remains were reinterred in a mausoleum. The memorial incorporates Stafford's grave site, the tower, and a variety of commemorative plaques. In the years since, some of the plaques have been stolen, and others have been removed to Cheshire Town Hall for safekeeping. The memorial and its surrounding land are owned and maintained by the town.[2]

**Stafford Hill Memorial**

U.S. National Register of Historic Places




Show map of Massachusetts  
 Show map of the US  
 Show all

**Location** Stafford Hill Rd., Cheshire, Massachusetts

**Coordinates**  42°34′28″N 73°6′59″W

**Area** 1.3 acres (0.53 ha)

**Built** 1927

**Architect** Eugene B. Bownern, Newton C. Bond

**NRHP reference #** 86000260 <sup>[1]</sup>

**Added to NRHP** February 14, 1986



*Tomb Stone on Sarcophagus of Col. Jorab Stafford*



*Limestone Plaque in Tower Wall*

# CHESHIRE, MASSACHUSETTS



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### TOWN REPORTS

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### UNI-PAY

**UniPay Online**  
Your Online Community Payment Center

[Click here to pay](#)

### CONTACT

**80 CHURCH ST.  
P.O. BOX 647  
CHESHIRE, MA 01225**

[Click for MAIN CONTACT LIST](#)

### POSTS

#### CHESHIRE ANNUAL TOWN ELECTION

Monday, May 7th Polls open: 9:00 am to 7:00 pm  
Cheshire Community/Senior Center, 119 School Street.

#### DOG LICENSES

2018-2019 Cheshire Dog Licenses are available. Licenses are due **April 1st**. Proof of current rabies vaccination must be shown. Male/Female \$20  
Neutered Male/Spayed Female \$10.  
Fine of \$25 is added to the Late Fee \$15 (effective June 1st) and the cost of the dog license. (The license runs from April 1st to March 31st each year.)

#### CHESHIRE TOWN BY-LAW

"No person shall shovel, plow, push or throw snow out into a public way." Subject to a \$50 fine for the first offense, \$100 for each subsequent fine.

#### COMMUNITY CHOICE POWER SUPPLY PROGRAM

The Town of Cheshire is pleased to announce that Public Power has been selected as the supplier for its Community Choice Power Supply Program ("Program"). Public Power will provide electric power supply for all consumers participating in Cheshire's Program. [PDF]

#### CHESHIRE WILL BE 225 IN 2018!

Cheshire will be celebrating 225 years in 2018. A committee is being formed for this celebration. Anyone who is interested in serving on this committee, please contact the Cheshire Board of Selectmen...read more ....

## OUR TOWN

### CHESHIRE, MASSACHUSETTS

Cheshire is one of several smaller Berkshire County communities in Western Massachusetts that is seeing its population grow! Come and visit and you will see why! Walk the Ashuwillticook Rail Trail; take a boat out on our beautiful lake and hike the Appalachian Trail which crosses through the center of our town! These and so much more are what makes the town of Cheshire so special!

### THE ASHUWILLTICOOK RAIL TRAIL

The Ashuwillticook Rail Trail is a former railroad corridor converted into a 10-foot (3.0 m) wide paved universally accessible scenic rail trail path. The Ashuwillticook (ash-oo-will-ti-cook) Rail Trail runs parallel to Route 8 through the towns of Cheshire, Lanesborough and Adams, Massachusetts and has become a popular resource for biking, walking, rollerblading, and jogging. The trail is managed by the Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR) ... more

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## Cheshire Information

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### Telephone Numbers for Town of Cheshire Services

Cheshire Board of Selectmen	743-1690 ext 11
Town Administrator	743-1690 ext 18
Town Clerk	743-1690 ext 22
Accountant	743-1690 ext 14
Treasurer	743-1690 ext 15
Water Department	743-1690 ext 16
Board of Health	743-1690 ext 17
Building Inspector	743-1690 ext 19
Tax Collector	743-2826
Board of Assessors	743-3929
Cheshire Highway Garage	743-3376

### EMERGENCY 9-1-1

<b>Cheshire Police</b> (non-emergency)	743-1501
<b>Cheshire Fire Department</b> (non-emergency)	743-3387

Cheshire Library	743-4746
Cheshire Community/Senior Center	743-9719
Cheshire Elementary School	743-2298
Hoosac Valley High School	743-5200
Cheshire Post Office	743-3184

Cheshire Town Website: [www.cheshire-ma.net](http://www.cheshire-ma.net)

Voice Mail is available for all of the above.

**REMINDER: The Cheshire Town Hall and Annex are NOT open on Fridays.**

**Weekly Hours of the Cheshire Town Offices  
are posted at the 80 Church Street entrance of the Town Hall**

**Assessors  
Town Clerk**

**Tax Collector  
Water Department**

### Tuesday Evening Hours

Board of Selectmen/ Conservation Commission .....6:30 to 8:30 (Adjournment when business is concluded)
Board of Health, Water Department, Tax Collector and Town Clerk .....6:30 to 8:30
Building Inspector at Annex .....6:00 to 8:30
Cheshire Police at Police Department .....6:30 to 8:30

### Cheshire Library:

Phone: 413 743 - 4746  
Visit us on: Facebook  
Web: [cheshirepubliclibrary.wordpress.com](http://cheshirepubliclibrary.wordpress.com)  
Town Website: [www.Cheshire-ma.net](http://www.Cheshire-ma.net)  
**Look for notices  
on the Fire Dept. digital sign**

(HOURS ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE)

## Town of Cheshire - Dogs, Taxes and Trash Info

### DOG LICENSES ARE DUE FOR RENEWAL APRIL of EACH YEAR.

Cheshire Town By-laws state that **all dogs must be licensed by June 1st** or a late fee of \$15 goes into effect; if the dog is not licensed by **August 1st** a fine of \$25 is added to the \$15 totaling \$40 plus the license tag fee.

Cheshire Town By-laws state that **all dogs must be restrained at all times.**

A **pooper-scooper** By-law is also in effect.

A **barking dog** (outdoors) for more than 15 minutes is subject to a fine.

**Real Estate Taxes** are semi-annual due May and November.  
Tax Collector's hours are printed on bills.

**Water Bills** are quarterly  
Water Collector's hours are printed on bills.

**Town Compactor Site:**  
Mon., Fri. & Sat. .... 8:00 to 5:00  
Wednesdays ..... Noon to 5:00

**CHESHIRE COMPACTOR STICKERS**  
are renewable **JULY 1st.**  
Stickers are only available through the Board of Health.

